

INSIDE

PIONEER ONLINE

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EDITORIAL

BOOK BUYBACK HAS A CATCH FOR STUDENTS

Online Editor Whitney Knight explains why book buyback at OCCC has some pros, but one big con. Read on for more information.

OPINION, p. 2

CAMPUS LIFE

DECKING THE HALLS AT OCCC

The holidays are coming up and OCCC has some events planned in celebration. Continue reading to learn what those are, and how to participate.

NEWS, p. 6

SPORTS

PRO-AM SWIM MEET COMING

Professionals, amateurs to compete for money and prizes at the 20th annual Chesapeake Elite Pro-Am swim meet later this month. Read on for more.

SPORTS, p. 8

CAMPUS LIFE

CAMPUS CLUBS AVAILABLE FOR ALL

The semester is coming to a close, but campus organizations live on in the spring. Get the 411 by reading on.

COMMUNITY, p. 10

PIONEER

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DECEMBER 9, 2011

WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Some college records public

Crime reports, employee resumes can be requested

EMILY SCHORR

Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

Most students probably are unaware of campus police records that should be readily available to them.

As a college, OCCC is required to abide by the Clery Act as a part of the Higher Education Act of 1965. It is a federal law that requires colleges and universities to disclose certain timely and annual information about campus crime and security policies, according to the website www.securityoncampus.org.

In short: Anyone should be able to stroll into OCCC's security office and request information about a crime and receive it in a timely manner. Institutions must also make timely warnings to the people on campus about crimes that pose an ongoing threat to students and employees.

To get this information, it is important that students file correct documentation of a public record properly and get it in the right hands.

Former Pioneer Editor Joey Stipek said the Pioneer staff has encountered a few issues collecting data, specifically the crime reports in the spring of 2011.

"I recall that the Pioneer staff had difficulty obtaining crime reports at certain times," Stipek said.

He also said the Pioneer had several problems obtaining the crime reports from Media Relations Coordinator Cordell Jordan.

"Sue Hinton and I sat down with Cordell Jordan and Chief James Fitzpatrick," Stipek said.

"At the time they explained that the department was undergoing a transition, and this wouldn't become a common problem," Stipek said.

There are many different definitions of "timely," and it can be situational, Jordan said.

The Open Records Act doesn't state a

See **RECORDS** page 9

Going abstract



RACHEL MORRISON/PIONEER

Pre-med major Elsa Tchouambou takes some time to admire a foam board and tempera paint sculpture by art student Joseph Camperson Dec. 7. The OCCC student art exhibit was held in the Visual and Performing Arts Center Art Gallery.

OKLAHOMA CONSIDERED CROSSROADS FOR SEX SLAVERY

Human sex trafficking state issue

MORGAN BEARD

Staff Writer
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In 2009, the U.S. Department of Justice reported America is now the prime destination for human sex trafficking. Due to Oklahoma's central geographic location and major highways such as Interstate 35 and Interstate 40, the state as a whole acts as major transportation routes for one of the world's fastest growing issues.

Roksana Alavi, an anti-human trafficking speaker and OCCC adjunct philosophy professor, recently held a presentation discussing the problem of modern-day sex slavery for students and faculty of the college.

"Human sex trafficking is defined as the harboring, transportation, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act," Alavi said.

Alavi emphasized the issue of awareness regarding human sex trafficking stating that the majority of people aren't aware of the severity of the problem.

According to FBI estimates, there are more than 100,000 victims of sex trafficking in the United States alone. Most victims are minors

“

Oklahoma ranks highly in domestic violence, poverty and child abuse ... That creates a desperate, vulnerable population that traffickers aim for.”

—MARK ELAM

CO-FOUNDER OF THE OKLAHOMANS
AGAINST TRAFFICKING
OF HUMANS COALITION

ranging from 9 to 19 years old who come from broken homes, Alavi said.

Young girls who grow up in poverty, single-parent households or in an alcohol- or drug-addictive family are most at risk. Mark Elam, co-founder of the Oklahomans Against Trafficking of Humans Coalition, said Oklahoma is a prime location for potential targets.

"Oklahoma ranks highly in domestic violence, poverty and child abuse among other things," Elam said. "That creates a desperate, vulnerable population that traffickers aim for."

See **SLAVERY** page 9

OPINION

EDITORIAL | Students are forced to choose between money for books or using them to study for finals

Book buyback schedule unfair

The end of another semester is drawing near, and through all the stress of cramming for last-minute projects and finals, one glimmer of hope remains for students: book buyback.



Whitney Knight

Yes, it's that glorious time of year where students can hurl their cussed textbooks at a smiling bookstore employee and then gleefully turn tail, knowing that they will never see that bloody algebra book again.

But it gets even better: Not only do you rid yourself of your semester-long burdens, you get paid to do so. What could be better than that?

Unfortunately, there is a catch.

Currently, textbook buyback begins during the last week of classes.

That means bright and early on Monday morning, dozens of students will be clamoring to line up in front of the bookstore window, wanting to make sure they sell their books before the book-

store receives too many and can't take anymore.

Although many professors might no longer be lecturing from books at this time, some might be. And even if they aren't, students might appreciate being able to study from their textbooks before their big final.

This presents students with a dilemma: sell back fast and get cash, or hang onto the book a little longer and hope the bookstore can still take it when they're done using it?

The current system is simply unfair.

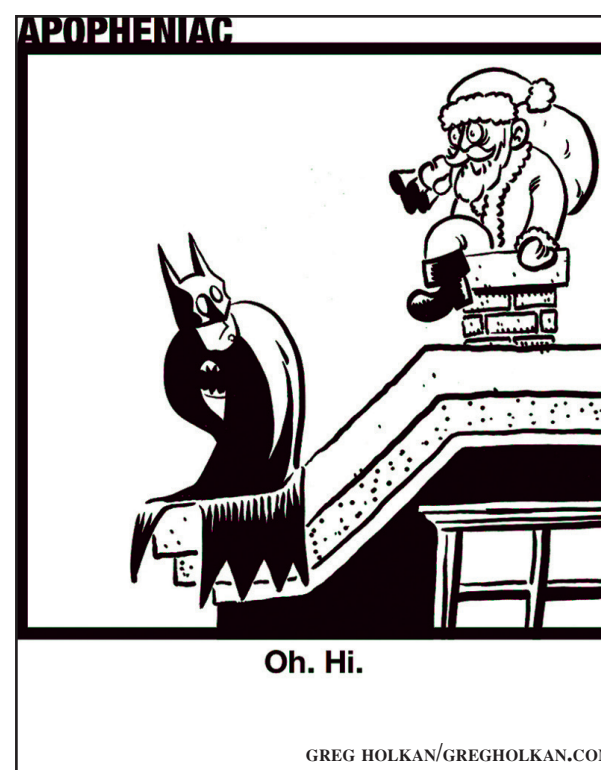
It is unfair that students who have a Monday morning class might get money for their books, while ones with a Friday evening class might not.

It is unfair that a student might have to pick between an extra night of studying and a few extra dollars to put towards new textbooks next year.

OCCC needs to do something about this system. It would make more sense if book buyback were held at the very end of finals week, or even pushed to the week after.

This would level the playing field and make the buyback period a fair game for everyone.

Students could decide when they wanted to go in to sell their books, not be forced to choose



between studying and getting some extra cash.

The college makes a habit of telling us we are in it for ourselves — it's about time they get in it for us.

—WHITNEY KNIGHT
ONLINE EDITOR

DANCE PROGRAM DESIGNER | Wide range of dance classes available to students in Spring 2012

Theatrical dance class coming to OCCC campus

To the editor:

Theatrical Dance is coming to the OCCC campus through a three-pronged curriculum offering dance technique classes, a student performing company and a general education humanities course, Understanding Dance.

The dance technique class initiates the plan beginning spring semester. Theatrical Dance technique classes will be offered from 3 to 4:20 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, through the Recreation and Fitness Department. Utilizing elements of jazz, ballet and modern dance, the class will offer options to accommodate beginning through advanced dancers.

Tights and leotards or stretchy, close-fitting attire is required, as well as ballet or jazz shoes, dance paws,

or dance sneakers.

Athletic shoes are not allowed due to the risk of knee injuries during spinning turns. Bare feet are also allowed, but not suggested.

Designed to burn fat and increase core strength, coordination and flexibility, the class will be included in the department's unlimited class package. However, class size is limited.

The dance technique class will be required for students selected for the performing company.

The troupe will perform initially for a dansical project utilizing elements of not only concert dance, but also historical social dance.

The dance company will be formed in March. More information will be forthcoming.

Understanding Dance will be offered for general education humanities credit beginning in the Fall 2012 semester.

The course is designed to give students an understanding and appreciation of dance as theatre art.

Learning objectives include understanding the role and importance of dance in culture and society, the historical development of dance as theatre art, aspects of various theatrical dance styles, and the art of making dances.

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

—ELIZABETH HOBI
DANCE PROGRAM DESIGNER

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PIONEER

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The **PIONEER** welcomes **letters** to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum. All letters must include the author's name, address, phone number and signature. E-mail letters should include all but the signature. The **PIONEER** will withhold the author's

name if the request is made in writing.

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

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COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

CONCERT PREVIEW | Left To Die to play local concert in December

Local metal band seems more like family

GINNIE P. ESCOBEDO

Guest Writer

"Family" isn't a word often used to describe a metal band, but for local band Left to Die it seems to be what set them apart from other bands.

Formed in 2009, not a young band but fairly new, Left To Die took Oklahoma by storm sharing the stage with many well known rock/heavy metal artists such as Texas Hippie Coalition, Faster Pussycat, Death Angel, Alien Ant Farm and many more.

Originally, Jeremy Waller (lead vocals and rhythm guitar) and his brother Jason Waller (vocals and bass guitar) started out playing covers ranging from Billy Idol to Motley Crue, the heroes that they grew up with.

"We had fun playing our favorite tunes but we were never really good at playing someone else's material, so we started writing our own. We were both in the school band and choir so it came as a second nature," Jeremy Waller said.

After losing two members of the band the Waller brothers met up with two old friends, Tony Bucher (drums) and George Wilkes (lead guitar).

"We have known Tony for 20 years and he has been in some of OKC's founding hardcore metal bands such as Hate&Agony," Waller said. "After a while, he wanted to join a band that was more like family so he hooked up with my brother and me."

Wilkes agreed.

"I was playing in band like 808, Applolylon and



COURTESY GINNIE P. ESCOBEDO

Jeremy Waller of metal band Left To Die plays guitar to a crowd. Left To Die will be playing at The Thirsty Hog Saloon Dec. 17.

A Strand Of Fate, which I still play for, but I was wanting something that felt more like a family than a business and that is when I found Jeremy, Jason and Tony," Wilkes said.

The four grew up in the '80s watching MTV and buying records, but everything changed in 1990 when they saw Pantera play a little club in Bricktown called KINETIX.

"After that show we all went home and took

down our poser posters, and the metal really began to take charge in our music and our lives," Waller said.

"Even though we have a dark and heavy side, we still consider ourselves more hard rock than straight metal, using our background in classical, classic rock and blues to enhance our hard rock/metal sound."

As with most bands in the music industry, taking the stage and sending a message to the fans could be both a thrill and a drug.

"I believe in fate. Sometime when we are killing it on stage and I look around at who I am playing with and how the crowd is doing I feel like we were all meant to be doing this," Waller said.

"Of course with anything that is good, it is very addictive. If we as a band go too long without playing live, we get a little crazy," Bucher said.

Jeremy "Gutter" Wise, the roadie for Left to Die, has worked with the Waller brothers for 16 years.

"I love what I do, I bleed for what I do and I will continue doing it for as long as the Waller brothers continue to play," Wise said.

"We try to connect with every person we can. It doesn't matter if it's 10 or 1000, we play like it's our last stand," Waller said.

Left To Die will be performing at 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17 at the Thirsty Hog Saloon located at 720 South MacArthur Blvd. in Oklahoma City. The Thirsty Hog is 21 to enter and will be charging \$5 at the door. Beer will be free.

Arrowhead Stadium hits target for fan experience

The Kansas City Chiefs warm up pre-game anthem "We Ready" blared through the speakers at Arrowhead Stadium during a cold November Sunday evening, but the Chiefs were anything but ready as the Pittsburgh Steelers defense took advantage of Chiefs' back-up quarterback Tyler Palko's four interceptions in a 13-9 Steelers victory.

Arrowhead Stadium is also considered the loudest place to play football in the NFL as the Chiefs proudly boast on their video screens before the game, and it was when Tyler Palko was in the game at quarterback; however, the crowd noise wasn't all positive.

With injuries to Chiefs starting QB Matt Cassel, running back Jamaal Charles, and safety Eric Berry, the Chiefs need consistency from Palko.

Palko fumbled the ball once due to a mistimed snap and threw for three interceptions during the game.

Palko could have easily thrown another 10 interceptions during the

course of the game.

Many of the Chiefs fans in attendance showered Palko with a chorus of boos and started a loud chant for third-string quarterback Ricky Stanzi, the Chiefs fifth round pick from the Chiefs 2011 NFL draft.

Poor quarterback play wasn't limited to just the Chiefs, Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger struggled against the Chiefs defense.

Roethlisberger finished 21-31 for 193 yards with a single touchdown and one interception. Roethlisberger's touchdown was the only one thrown during the game.

After the game, Roethlisberger told the media he blamed his struggles against the Chiefs on a broken thumb caused in a previous game against the Cincinnati Bengals.

Roethlisberger wasn't the only Steeler banged up from injuries during the game.

Steelers' safety Troy Polamalu left the

game early in the first quarter due to injury after he banged his head against the knee of Chiefs offense tackle Steve Maneri.

Even with Polamalu out of the game, the Steelers had no problem containing the Chiefs offense.

The stadium where the Chiefs play, Arrowhead Stadium, recently has undergone renovations to the cost \$375 million to upgrade the facilities to compete with more modern NFL stadiums such as the new Giants Stadium and the new Texas Stadium where the Dallas Cowboys play.

With an added emphasis on video screens, club suites, restaurants and seating, Arrowhead stadium should be considered again among the premier stadiums in the NFL.

Overall the experience at Arrowhead was excellent. Parking and exiting the stadium were a lot easier than I was anticipating without any lines at all. There were plenty of food options to choose

from such as Kansas City barbecue to sushi to your favorite adult beverage. Everything was reasonably priced compared to most sporting events where it will cost you an arm or a leg.

Even though I'm a Steelers fan, Chiefs fans are a rabid diehard fan base that live and die by their team.

The majority I encountered were friendly and upbeat about their team despite the struggles of the Chiefs' season.

The final play of the game was decided on an interception by Steelers cornerback Keenan Lewis originally intended for wide receiver Dwayne Bowe with 46 seconds left in the fourth quarter.

Coupled with an awesome fan experience while attending the game, anytime you can witness a defensive football battle where the game is decided on the final play, it makes for an exciting time.

Rating: A-

-JOEY STIPEK

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

SERVICE DOGS HELP THOSE WHO NEED IT

Mans best friend in service of others

SARAH MUKIRI

News Writing Student

Jenny entered the room groomed to perfection, with painted nails and a beautiful golden fur coat.

Her traveling companion, Susan Hartman, was clad in a sky blue dress shirt, gray pants and black shoes. Hartman is the executive director of Therapeutics Service Dogs of Oklahoma, the only certified service-dog training agency in the state.

Jenny is a golden Labrador retriever who sat down next to Hartman and quietly surveyed her environment while Hartman spoke. Hartman, and Jenny were guests in Professor Gwin Faulconer-Lippert's Public Relations class recently.

Hartman explained that her organization is responsible for scouting for pups, training them and certifying them as service dogs. Therapeutics Service Dogs of Oklahoma is a statewide organization based in Tulsa that has been in operation since 1992.

Hartman said there are different types of service dogs.

For example, there are medical dogs that respond to an individual having a seizure or an individual who is in distress due to a diabetic condition.

She also mentioned hearing dogs that are capable of guiding individuals who are either completely deaf or hard of hearing.

She also explained that there are service dogs that react to psychiatric distress, such as an individual who has a mental condition, including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

She explained that these psychiatric alert dogs are capable of walking into a dark room and putting the lights on, waking someone up who is experiencing a nightmare or even running to get help.

Perhaps best known, Hartman said, are the mobility assistance dogs that help in-



PHOTO COURTESY SUSAN HARTMAN

Jenny the service dog poses for the camera. Jenny can open and close a door using her nose and paws. She is also capable of picking up keys and handing them to someone if they drop them.

dividuals get around, such as crossing the road.

It all begins with choosing the right dogs. The process of puppy selection is rigorous, Hartman said, and she only accepts puppies from select kennels for training. She also said she takes in puppies when they are two months old and the training starts immediately.

These dogs are in the training program for two years and are evaluated every six months.

Training begins with basic obedience.

"The dogs are trained not to be aggressive or protective, but to become a friend," she said.

Hartman mentioned that some of her clients have benefited from this aspect of the program because their service dogs have helped them to connect better with humans.

Her clients have said: "My

dog opens the door for me both physically and figuratively."

There are unique models in service-dog training. She said that the dogs live with volunteers for two years while in training.

This reduces the cost of training considerably. On average, she said, they can spend about \$25,000 to \$40,000 just to train and keep the dog in the facility.

"The volunteer keeps this figure way below that," Hartman said.

The volunteer and the trainers meet at least twice a week to check on the progress of the dogs in training.

When it becomes apparent that a dog will not be able to perform the service it is being trained for, Hartman said, it is not termed a failure but a "career-change dog."

For example, some dogs can

“The dogs are trained not to be aggressive or protective, but to become a friend.”

—SUSAN HARTMAN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
THERAPEUTICS SERVICE DOGS OF OKLAHOMA

be trained to be mobility dogs but if it happens that they are afraid of vehicles in the streets or just being out in the open, they may do very well in sensing psychiatric distress on the part of the client.

To qualify for a service dog, a client must demonstrate how the dog will impact his or her life in a positive manner.

Every year, 10 dogs are ready for placement. She also said that on average 25 applications are made.

She said that most important consideration for anyone looking for a service dog is the ability to afford that dog.

"These dogs need food, shelter, medical care and grooming," Hartman said.

"You also need to show the ability to be the leader in this team of the dog and you.

"If you do not want the dog to engage in certain behavior, then you have to reinforce this

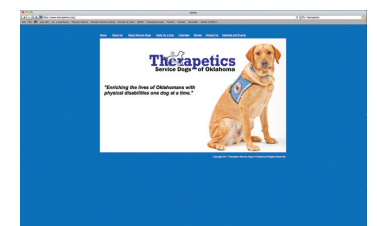
from the onset."

Hartman kept dog-loving students at a distance, explaining that service dogs are not meant to be petted as this distracts them. But she let Jenny do some tricks to the delight of students and teacher alike.

Jenny can open and close a door using her nose and paws. She can also turn the lights on and off in a room. She is also capable of picking up keys and handing them to someone if they drop them.

Jenny can also do the laundry, by loading and unloading clothes from a side-load washer and dryer.

For more information about the Therapeutics Organization you can contact Susan Hartman by phone at 918-270-4226 or by email at shartman@therapeutics.org. You can also visit the website at <http://www.therapeutics.org>, to receive valuable information about volunteering with service dogs, upcoming events, and even to apply for a service dog.



OCCC

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER SERVICES

JOB BOARD

www.collegecentral.com/occc

Students register with their 7-digit student ID number
Alumni enter AL+last 5 digits of Social Security number

Find Jobs Post Your Resume Apply for Positions



COURTESY CHRIS JAMES

A three-day survival kit is recommended for your home. This should include a radio, clean water, non-perishable foods, a blanket, a flashlight, and toilet paper. A “grab and go” kit is important in case of evacuation and may include medications, clothes, a cellphone charger, and a written contact list with phone numbers and addresses.



COURTESY CHRIS JAMES

Community College Citizen Preparedness classes will be available Dec. 13 at 1 p.m. in room CU3. The Community College Citizen Preparedness Program is a national program aimed at training citizens through 125 community colleges on specific protective actions.

Emergency preparedness classes on campus

CHRIS JAMES

News Writing Student

In a state where tornadoes are routine and earthquakes are an occasional event, people need to know how to prepare for an emergency.

“Unfortunately, many people don’t,” said Lisa Teel, OCCC’s director of emergency planning and risk management.

The Community College Citizen Preparedness Program is a national program aimed at training citizens through 125 community colleges on specific protective actions that, following a disaster, help save lives and reduce injuries before first response teams arrive.

Emergency situations to prepare for include terrorist threats or attacks, technological problems like power outages, and natural disasters like floods, tornados, ice storms, and earthquakes.

In light of recent earthquakes, Penny Hampton, director of professional development, said people are advised by the American Red Cross to drop, cover, and hold under a sturdy table or structure.

Teel recommends having a three-day survival kit for your home. The kit should contain a radio, clean water, non-perishable foods, a blanket, a flashlight, and toilet paper along with anything else you think you may need while waiting out the disaster in your home. Teel also said people should keep a utility shut-off tool in the survival

kit, because the gas or water lines may need to be shut off in some situations.

She also said to have a “grab and go” kit in case your home has to be evacuated. This kit should include clothes, medications, toiletries, snacks, a cell phone charger, a flash drive containing pictures, and a written contact list with phone numbers and addresses.

Hampton said people with pets should have pet records in their “grab and go” kit, as that may be needed for admittance into an emergency shelter.

Teel said safety is no accident.

“Make a plan, get a kit, and be prepared.”

Future Community College Citizen Preparedness Program classes will be held Dec. 13 at 1 p.m. in room CU3.

College Democrats active club, leader says

TIM O'DONNELL

News Writing Student

OCCC’s College Democrats took politics from theory into practice this semester.

In October former president of the College Democrats, Kenneth Meador, ran for State Senate on the Democratic Party ticket for district 43. He lost in a special election on Oct. 11, but won nearly 40 percent of the total vote.

Since Oklahoma is widely known as a Republican state, when Meador ran, no one thought he had a fighting chance, said Javier Mabrey, current president of the College Democrats, who served as Meador’s deputy field director during his campaign.

Mabrey said the race was a toss-up to the very end. In his mind, it was about as close to a victory as one could get.

Mabrey said this campaign really helped him as

far as experience goes, toward his goal of going to law school.

Mabrey is a political science major who plans to graduate in the spring. He said he and other members of the College Democrats continue to keep this club one of the most active clubs on campus.

Mabrey said the College Democrats’ ideals are mainly inspired by the belief that government should be helping the middle class and working class more than the wealthy classes.

The College Democrats promote many different drives and seminars for students at OCCC, such as voter registration.

When that time of the year comes around, the College Democrats will help to set up booths around campus for people to register to vote.

They also will work for Democratic candidates.

Mabrey also said the club plans to hold an “Obamacare” seminar.

“This seminar is to basically help people to a better understanding of what Obamacare is all about,” Mabrey said.

The College Democrats also plan on attending Occupy OKC, a small spin-off of the current Occupy Wall Street, which is being held at Kerr Park in Oklahoma City.

Mabrey said he wants the College Democrats to “have solidarity with the people of Occupy OKC and to know that we are there for them and supporting them.”

They plan to bring food and drinks to the people protesting and also picket along with the protesters in an effort to help with the “Occupy Together” movement being held across the U.S., and specifically Occupy OKC, to show the 99 percent of Americans who are taking action against the 1 percent of “greedy” Americans.

For more information, contact Javier Mabrey at 405-212-7058.

LIGHT SHOWS, HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES APLENTY IN OKC

From tubing to light shows, campus and community celebrate the holidays

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There are many holiday activities offered in the metro area to suit the young and the young at heart.

Provided here is a partial list of activities offered in Oklahoma City and surrounding areas. For a complete list and schedule visit the website www.downtownindecember.com.

Chesapeake Snow Tubing: Great family fun at the Red Hawks Field at 2 South Mickey Mantle Drive. Session size is limited and operated on a first-come, first-serve basis. Admission is \$10 per person for a 90-minute session. Go to www.downtownindecember.com for a list of operating times.

Devon Ice Rink: Ice skating for the whole family. The rink will be open noon to midnight, starting on Dec. 12. Admission is \$10 per person with skate rental or \$7 without. For more information, visit the website www.downtownindecember.com.

New Year's Eve: New Year's Eve offers big plans with Opening Night 2012 from 7 p.m. to midnight on Dec. 31 in downtown Oklahoma City. Opening Night is a New Year's Eve celebration with music, dancing, theater and fireworks! Admission wristbands are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the event. Children 5 and under are admitted free. The wristbands are valid for all Opening Night events.

If Christmas lights tickle your fancy around the holidays, here is a list of Christmas lights that will give a thrill to everyone. Visit www.downtownindecember.com to see the complete list of Christmas light displays in the downtown area.

Yukon's Christmas in the Park: Yukon's annual event offers a more than 3-mile drive through 100 acres along Jim Watson Drive with a display of more than 300 incredible Christmas lights, all from your car. Admission is free, but donations are accepted at the end of the drive-through.

The event runs through Dec. 31 in Yukon City Park from 6-11 p.m.

Chickasha Festival of Lights: Take the 45-minute drive south to Shannon Springs Park in Chickasha. The Chickasha Festival of Lights attracts visitors from all over the nation and includes an animated, musically choreographed show. Be ready for some long lines, though, because this is one of the best around. This free event runs to Dec. 31. Bus tours, carriage rides and photos with Santa available for a charge.

Guthrie's Annual Territorial Christmas:

Guthrie celebrates Christmas in grand territorial style! The celebration boasts live performances, trolley tours by candlelight, and Victorian evening walks featuring live window scenes depicting life in Territorial Guthrie. Carolers, peanut vendors and lights galore illuminate the historic district. The festivities run until Christmas. For more information call 405-282-1947 or 800-299-1889.

Free Christmas Dinner: Not everyone has a home — or a meal — for the holidays. If you are looking for somewhere to get warm and enjoy a hearty Christmas meal, help is as close as a trip down to Norman. The dinner will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Christmas Day at Norman High School, located at 911 W. Main Street. For more information or to volunteer or donate, call 405-364-3273.

More OCCC students and staff provided their favorite parts of the holiday season.

OCCC theater major, Stewart

Braud, said lights are his favorite part of the holidays.

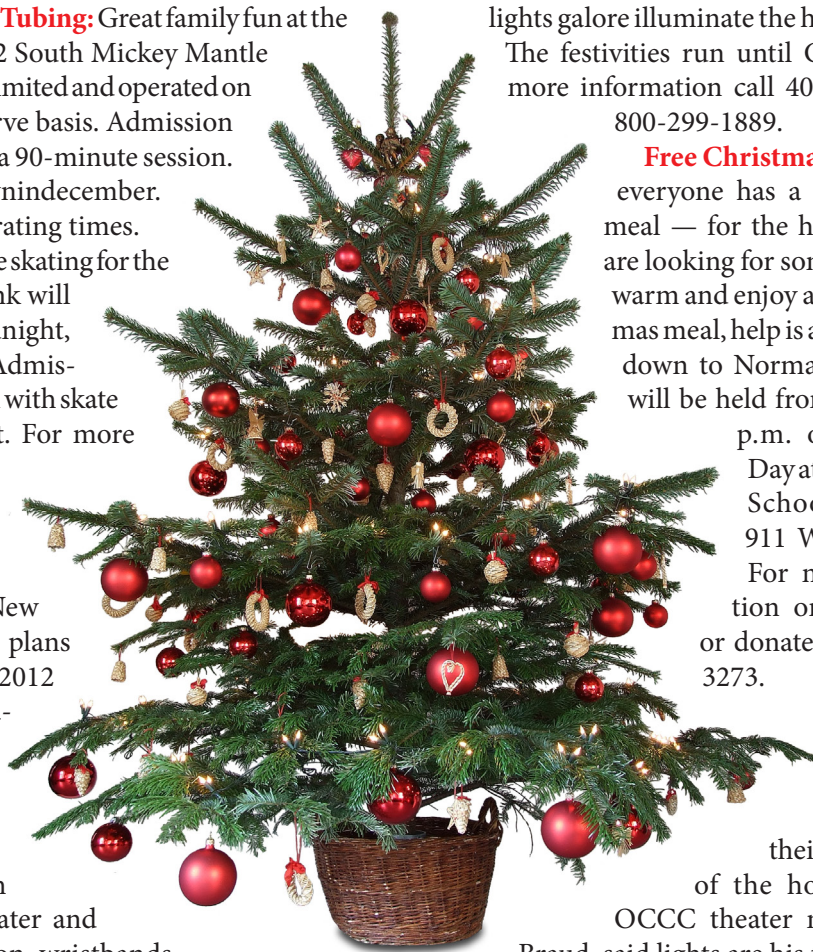
"I like listening to the holiday music," said Tim Seals, literature major.

Stenography major, Kimberly Perez, goes to Mexico for Christmas with her family.

"My favorite part is being around family and the general atmosphere of the holidays," said Michael Cowan, theater major.

Angel Icenhour, business major and OCCC admissions services assistant said "putting up the Christmas tree after Thanksgiving dinner," is her favorite holiday tradition.

Hanukkah, also known as The Festival of Lights, is a Jewish holiday celebrated for eight days and nights. This year, Hanukkah starts at sundown, as all Jewish holidays do, on Dec. 20.



Did you know?

Christianity and Christmas

- In the early Church, Christmas was not celebrated as a major feast. The first evidence of the Church attempting to put a date on the day of Christ's birth comes from 200 AD, when theologians in Alexandria decided it was May 20. By the 380s, the Church in Rome was attempting to unite the various regions in using Dec. 25 as the universal feast day, and eventually that is the day that stuck.
- The famous children's character Santa Claus is actually based on the early Church Bishop Saint Nicholas. He was born during the third century (around 270 AD), in the village of Patara in Turkey, and was known for secretly giving gifts of money to the poor. The modern image of him as a jolly man in red most likely comes from the 1823 poem "A Visit From St. Nicholas," also known as "The Night Before Christmas."
- In the late 1800s, a candy maker in Indiana wanted to express the meaning of Christmas through a symbol made of candy. He came up with the idea of bending candy sticks into the shape of a candy cane. He incorporated several symbols of Christ's love and sacrifice through the candy cane. First, he used a plain white peppermint stick, symbolizing the purity and sinless nature of Jesus. Next, he added three small stripes to symbolize the pain inflicted upon Jesus before his death. There are three of them to represent the Holy Trinity. He added a bold stripe to represent the blood Jesus shed. When looked at with the crook on top, it looks like a shepherd's staff because Jesus is the shepherd of man. If you turn it upside down, it becomes the letter J symbolizing the first letter in Jesus' name.

—Courtesy www.listverse.com

FROM HOT COCOA TO VIDEO GAMES, STAFF MEMORIES ABOUND

Pioneer staff share holiday thoughts

The Pioneer staff recently got together to share favorite holiday memories, songs, movies, and more with our readers.

To share your holiday-related thoughts with us, leave a comment on our Facebook wall at www.facebook.com/OCCCPioneer.

Casey Akard | Videographer

"This year I'm looking forward to spending Christmas with my brother, who just returned from overseas. I am looking forward to listening to my favorite holiday CD, Lorrie Morgan's 'Merry Christmas From London,' and looking at lights with him."

Morgan Beard | Staff Writer

"I'm all about the nostalgia: playing Dreamcast video games and looking at Christmas lights."

Robert Bolton | Online Writer

"My favorite part of Christmas is going and looking at Christmas lights with my mom."

Sean Tolbert | Sports Writer

"My favorite holiday movie is 'A Christmas Story.'"

Aaron Donahue | Circulation Manager

"My favorite part of Christmas is food and family."

Sarah Hussain | Staff Writer

"I love eating peanut butter blossoms and spending time with my family."

Whitney Knight | Online Editor

"When I was younger, I always looked forward to getting presents. But now that I've gotten older I really find joy in giving. I have had so much fun this year going all out on gifts for my friends and family."

Cynthia Praefke | Advertising Manager

"I love eating sugar cookies and drinking hot cocoa. Every year, I take my great-grandchildren to the living nativity and to see the Christmas lights in south OKC. Making memories is my favorite part of the holidays."

Emily Schorr | Senior Writer

"I love being with family, the festivities, and the food."

Jeremy Cloud | Editor

"I'm looking forward to the school break."

Priscilla Colley | Staff Writer

"Every year since I could walk, my dad and I go and pick out the Christmas tree. That is my favorite thing about the holidays."

Mike Wormley | Community Writer

"It was December of 2002. I was in a 'hold' company in the U.S. Army waiting to go into Airborne school. Randomly, another soldier began singing the B.C. Clark anniversary jingle. By the third time through, half of the barrack's bay had joined."



To view a special Pioneer holiday video created by Videographer Casey Akard, follow the QR code with your smartphone! From all of us at The Pioneer, have a joyous holiday.



SPORTS



Engage your core

Chase Nichols, computer science major, works on his lower body in the OCCC Wellness Center.

Nichols said he works out daily in the fitness center.

SEAN M. TOLBERT/PIONEER

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

Dec. 23 - Jan. 3: Christmas break. The Wellness Center will be closed for the Christmas break starting at 8:30 p.m. Dec. 22 and will resume normal business hours on Tuesday, Jan. 3.

Feb. 29 - Mar. 2: NAIA National Swimming and Diving Championships. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

All event news is due Monday by 5 p.m. for inclusion in the next issue.
Email sportswriter@occc.edu.

SPORTS | Chesapeake Elite Pro-Am pits professionals against amateurs in 3-day event

Swim pros to come to aquatic center

MATT WISSON
News Writing Student

Forty-four professional swimmers will share the pool with hundreds of amateurs Dec. 15 through 18 in the 20th annual Chesapeake Elite Pro-Am swim meet being held on the OCCC campus.

The Aquatic Center will host the event in which professionals and amateurs alike compete for money and prizes.

Among the professionals will be British record holder Simon Burnett, Kenyan Olympic finalist Jason Dunford, and Anthony Ervin, the first African American athlete on the U.S. Olympic Swimming Team.

"This is a tournament where people can come and watch a high level of competition they may not find anywhere else," said Pro Athlete liaison Krista Kezbers.

The tournament will have a full meet schedule in which amateurs from college and high school can compete against practiced professionals with Olympic résumés.

Kezbers said she has been part of this tournament since she was an amateur.

“

This is a tournament where people can come and watch a high level of competition they may not find anywhere else.”

—Krista Kezbers
Pro Athlete Liaison

Now that she races on the professional side, she can give good insight into what it is like to race for both.

"The biggest thing for the amateurs is competing against Olympic veterans and getting the experience of a big meet," Kezbers said.

"For the professionals it is all about showcasing your skills and winning some money while doing it.

"Professionals can win \$1200 for winning their event, and up to \$2200 if they can break any meet records," Kezbers said.

Unable to be paid in cash due to their classification as "amateurs," non-professional swimmers will race for prizes such as swim equipment and other items.

Roxy Butler, OCCC director of Recreation and Fitness, said that the college's facility suits the competition well.

"The Aquatic Center has been an

excellent place to have this tournament over the past 20 years, as it was initially built for Olympic competition," Butler said.

"The Aquatic Center was actually built for the 1989 Olympic festival."

Kezbers said she loves competing in the Aquatic Center.

"It's the nicest swim facility in the state," she said.

"I can see how much work the school puts in to make this center a

clean, nice place to swim every day."

Admission is free to all who want to watch the Pro-Am and see professionals and amateurs compete first hand.

The meet starts at 6 p.m. on Dec. 15 and ends at 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 18.

A full list of professional athletes as well as a list of events and start times can be found on the Chesapeake Swim Club website at www.chesapeakeswimclub.org.

Have sports news you wish to share?
e-mail sportswriter@occc.edu
or call **405-682-1611, ext. 7676**



LISTEN TO THE FINAL FALL BROADCAST ONLINE MONDAY, DEC. 13

THE PIONEER SPORTS PODCAST
WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER



Records: Colleges must abide by records laws

Continued from page 1

specific time length for “timely.” However the Clery Act does.

Under the laws of the Clery Act, the report must be available in 48 hours, said Joey Senat, Oklahoma State University media and strategic communications professor

“The police department has to provide the information within two business days under the Clery Act,” said Joey Senat, Oklahoma State University professor.

“It shouldn’t take longer to provide incident reports under the Open Re-

cords Act.”

The consequences of not complying with open records requirements can be a fine or prosecution, according to the website www.splc.org.

President Paul Sechrist said he is unaware of any time the college was not

in compliance with either of the Acts.

“It is the practice of the college to comply fully with the requirements of the Open Records Act and the Clery Act,” Sechrist said.

For more information on the Open Records Act or the Clery Act, visit www.

Slavery: OKC third in state for child porn searches

Continued from page 1

Elam said sex trafficking rings implement recruiters to use tactics such as coercion and brainwashing upon children with limited options due to their unfortunate situation.

“They play games with the victims. They trick them, make them feel special, they wait to talk them out of their home with false promises of a better life,” Elam said.

As the problem of sex trafficking grows both locally and globally, the chances of the average person being able to help increases. Alavi said both sex trafficking victims and establishments are sometimes in plain sight, but most people just aren’t aware.

“For example, a person could see a prostitute on the street and think to themselves that she is doing it on her own accord,” Alavi said. “What they don’t realize is that she is more than likely being put on the street against her will.”

One of the OATH Coalition’s key goals is to change this mindset of the public in order to recognize victims.

“Our purpose is to educate, to help people understand what’s going on and to stop the misunderstandings,” Elam said. “We want people to understand how to identify differences between things like a criminal and a victim to help those who can’t help themselves.”

Another example of sex trafficking in plain sight is the use of immigrant women brought from overseas.

Elam explained that seemingly innocent estab-

lishments such as nail salons and massage parlors are often used for commercialized sex acts.

“Traffickers bring in victims with the impression that they will have a better life in America,” Elam said. “Yet when they get them here, they force them to ‘work off their debt’ by subjecting them to the sex trafficking business.”

Alavi explained to those in attendance that in addition to the forced physical control and selling of minors for sexual acts, another facet of sex trafficking includes the production and distribution of child pornography.

“The United States is the No. 1 producer and purchaser of child pornography in the world,” Alavi said. “On the (statewide) local level, Oklahoma City ranks third for Internet child pornography searches.”

Amy Wilson, OCCC learning skills professor, was actually the impetus behind Alavi’s presentation at the college. She said her class’ interest in sex trafficking grew after she assigned a research paper over the subject.

“What really surprised my students was the fact that a lot of traffickers aren’t caught despite the intensity of the problem,” Wilson said.

As a result, some students from Wilson’s class have decided to take action by getting involved. Biology major Amber Rinestine has since joined the OATH Coalition.

“We’ve got to stop this problem before it gets even worse,” Rinestine said. “There isn’t a lot being done

about it, so we have to step up and do it ourselves.”

However, there is an explanation as to why some trafficking incidents go unnoticed by law enforcement.

“It’s an economic issue,” Elam said. “Law enforcement is understaffed, underfunded and undertrained. They can only handle so many cases, the resources simply aren’t there.”

In the U.S. State Department’s Trafficking in Persons Report for 2011, their findings agreed with Elam’s statement. According to the TIP report, the Department of State recommends “improved data collection on human trafficking cases at the federal, state and local levels.”

Despite limited resources and attention, there have been notable sex trafficking busts. In her presentation, Alavi told attendees about an 18-month sting operation conducted by the FBI.

“Stormy Nights” targeted multiple Oklahoma truck stops where a dozen sex trafficking pimps were arrested. Twenty-three young girls were rescued, including a victim as young as 13 years old.

“Stormy Nights created a completely new understanding on the trafficking of minors,” Elam said. “The more aware people become, the more ability we have to report incidents such as these, so that’s why our focus is on spreading the word.”

For more information about the issue of human sex trafficking and how to raise awareness, visit the OATH Coalition’s website at www.oathcoalition.org or call 800-995-0128.

Take time to
be a dad today.

877-4DAD411
www.fatherhood.gov



CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Pathways to a brighter future

Pre-med major Mayela Slto (right) donates money to Pathways student Edith Tarin for cookies during the Pathways bake sale Dec. 7. The bake sale included Christmas baskets and helped to raise funds for the Pathways program.

RACHEL MORRISON/
PIONEER



COMMUNITY | There are 33 active student organizations on campus

Clubs are an opportunity

MIKE WORMLEY

Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

OCCC has 33 active clubs that a student can participate in. These clubs are divided into categories, on the Student Life website, that include: religious, department, special interest, cultural, and honors.

The Religious student organizations include Baptist Collegiate Ministries, Chi Alpha, Christ Campus Fellowship and Christians on Campus.

Karlen Grayson, the student clubs and organizations assistant in the office of Student Life, said Baptist Collegiate Ministries has the most meetings of any student organization with two meetings

every week.

The department-centered student organizations include the Engineering Club, the Health Professions Club, the Multicultural Business Club, the Nursing Students Association, the Oklahoma Biotechnology Association, the Photography Club, Psychology Club, Sociology Club, Student Emergency Medical Sciences Association, Student Occupational Therapy Association, Student Physical Therapy Assistant Organization, Students In Free Enterprise, and The Art Guild.

The special interest student organizations include Advocates of Peace, College Democrats, College Republicans, Gay Straight Alliance, Moving In a New Direction, Oklahoma Intercollegiate Legislature, and The Gamer Guild of OCCC.

The cultural student organizations include the Black Student Association, Hispanic Organization to Promote Education, International Student Association, and the Native American Student Association.

The honors organizations include Kappa Beta Delta, Phi Theta Kappa and Psi Beta.

Student organization members said they focus on opportunities

clubs make available.

Shawn Perkins, pre-engineering major and College Republicans member, said, "It gives opportunities to get involved on campus and express our beliefs."

Perkins also recommends giving a struggling organization a chance over starting a new one with similar goals.

Samir Howard, business major and member of the Black Student Association and the Gamer Guild of OCCC, said, "It opens doors to opportunities, to have new friends ... meet different majors and faculty members, and meet students from other schools in organizations similar to yours."

Grayson said students interested in joining a club should watch for the Student Organization Fair in the spring, and on www.occc.edu/studentlife.

The spring Student Organization Fair will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 25, in the general dining area.

For more information, visit the Student Life website and click "join a club."

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Christmas for Children

Kappa Beta Delta is facilitating a gift exchange for underprivileged children who are tied in some way to students, faculty and staff members of OCCC. Registration forms are located on the second floor of the main building or at the office for the business division in 2R2. The last day to submit a request will be Monday, Dec. 12. For more information contact the Division of Business office at 405-682-7501.

Play Auditions

"Scapino!" by Frank Dunlop and Jim Dale is casting 10 men and 4 women at 6 p.m., Monday, Dec. 12 in the Bruce Owen Theater. No experience is needed. "Scapino!" follows the misadventure of Scapino as he tries to extract money from a couple of miserly fathers, standing in the way of their sons' true loves. For more info contact Brent Noel at bnoel@occc.edu.

OKC Downtown College Holiday Preview

OKC Downtown College will host a holiday themed preview of upcoming events from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at the Downtown Norick Library at 300 Park Avenue. R.S.V.P. by noon on Monday, Dec. 12 if you plan to attend by calling 405-232-3382. For more information please contact Jimmie Sue Baker at jbaker@downtowncollege.com.

End of Semester Student Party

OCCC student organization officers are hosting a party for club members beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 16, in the College Union. Admission is any donated school supply appropriate for K-12 students. R.S.V.P. with your club's leadership. For more information, contact Mike Wormley at 405-979-0095 or email at michael.j.wormley@email.occc.edu.

Electronic IRS Form 1098-T

Help OCCC's effort to go green by opting-in for the electronic 1098-T. Students can opt-in to receiving this statement electronically by logging in to MineOnline and clicking the link "1098 Electronic Consent" under the financial information heading. The deadline to enroll is Saturday, Dec. 17. For more information contact the Bursar's Office at 405-682-7825.



For a review of OCCC's clubs, read Mike Wormley's post on the Pioneer Blog.



STUDENT EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER SERVICES

OPTIMAL RESUME

www.occc.optimalresume.com

Students' access ID is their OCCC email address
example > john.t.doe@email.occc.edu

Resumes Cover Letters Interview Skills

CLASSIFIEDS

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

AUTOMOTIVE

FOR SALE: 1994 Mazda Protege', over 200,000 miles, but very well maintained, good a/c. Standard. Priced to sell. Call: 405-840-5334.

FOR RENT

SMALL AND QUIET: Nice apartment for computer tech or student. \$385 per month. \$100 deposit. N.W. 21st and Villa area. Call 405-609-9806 or 405-512-9440.

SEVERAL STUDENTS SOLD AUTOS AND OTHER ITEMS THIS SEMESTER BY POSTING IN THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS. ADS ARE FREE TO STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES OF OCCC. CONTACT CYNTHIA AT: adman@occc.edu.

READ THE PIONEER ONLINE FOR ALL THE LATEST IN CAMPUS NEWS!
www.occc.edu/pioneer

TODAY'S PIONEER PUZZLE

We all love puzzles in one form or another. The Pioneer would like to know what the readers prefer, so we are taking a poll. Let your voice be heard by logging on to Pioneer Facebook and casting your vote. www.occc.edu/pioneer and click on Facebook.



Assessments 10 & 24 Hour ADSAC "DUI SCHOOL"

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10-Hour Class-

Dec. 16- 18 F 5:30-8:45p, S/S 8:30a-12
OR Dec. 19- 21 M/T/W 5:30-8:45pm

24-Hour Class- Start anytime, call for times

Assessments- Call for appointment

NW OKC, 3160 N. Portland

Call: 94-DRIVE (943-7483)

AT&E, INC.: check us out at www.okduischool.com



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COMES TO OKLAHOMA CITY
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10
CHESAPEAKE ARENA
3 P.M. AND 8 P.M.

\$1 OF EVERY TICKET SOLD WILL BE DONATED TO THE OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS THEATER.

NICK SANFORD OFFERS COMMUNITY A CHANCE TO PACK THE PENN SQUARE MALL THEATER

Student film set to premiere at local theater

SEAN M. TOLBERT

Sports Writer

sportswriter@occc.edu

An OCCC student film will be screened at 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, at Penn Square Mall's Dickinson Theater.

Speaking about his film "Control-Alt-Destroy," OCCC film major Nick Sanford said he is looking to give moviegoers a chance to rekindle their relationship with what, he feels, movies are suppose to be about: entertainment.

"Movies are a lot different than they used to be," Sanford said.

"We're just trying to get back to a simpler form of filmmaking — we're getting sick of 'goofy, artistic' movies that [only] four people get and that, somehow, still get funding."

"Control-Alt-Destroy" was shot on a budget of approximately \$5,400 over the course of 13 days in June. It follows three peculiar office workers who discover that armed thieves have overrun their offices and taken the staff hostage.

Sanford described the movie as an attempt to return to "the basics" of what films can be for moviegoers: a fun, engrossing escape, peppered with some action and humor.

"It's satirical in a way," Sanford said.

"But for the most part it's a fun 'action' movie that doesn't belittle the intelligence of the audience like a lot of films that are being released seem to do."

The project, a brainchild of Sanford and OCCC Film and Video Lab As-



COURTESY NICK SANFORD

"Control-Alt-Destroy," An OCCC student film will be screened at 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, at Penn Square Mall's Dickinson Theater.

sistant Steven Patchin, had been two years in the making, was captured at a location he knew exceptionally well.

"We have a family-owned office building where we would go after hours and we suddenly thought to ourselves: 'we really need to shoot something here,'" he said.

"But [office] comedies have been done — let's do something like 'Die Hard.'"

Creating a film with a budget and hiring a crew were not luxuries that Sanford had become accustomed to so assigning responsibilities to others didn't faze the experienced filmmaker.

"It was very different from high school — I wasn't used to having a crew," Sanford said.

"But it wasn't hard [to delegate] because I trusted everybody and it took a lot of stress off of me."

Sanford cited some of the key creative elements of the film as the cast and crew themselves.

"The core actors were all improv artists from around here," Sanford said.

"Probably 60 to 70 percent of the dialogue was made up by them on the spot."

Sanford was also helped by fellow OCCC film students behind the camera as well.

Experienced OCCC student filmmaker Shawn Barfield worked as Sanford's director of photography.

"[Shawn] was amazing to work with and brought a lot of experience to the production," Sanford said. "He really helped me to create the look I was going for."

Along with Barfield's work, Sanford was aided on the production side of the film by Patchin.

"Steven really helped organize the crew for us," Sanford said. "There were producers that contributed funds to us but it was Steven who brought the production side together."

One process that took the majority of Sanford's time was editing the film.

"I started editing the film the night after we wrapped shooting and put the finishing touches on it around Nov. 5," Sanford said.

"Most of the time went into constructing sound rather than the actual cutting of the film itself."

The finished product was first sent to the Oklahoma-based Trail Dance Film Festival in Duncan, and Sanford said he hopes to continue to be accepted at other festivals.

"We're going to try and get into as many festivals as we possibly can," Sanford said.

There is one festival in particular that Sanford is shooting for above all others, however.

"We've entered the film into consideration for SXSW (South by Southwest) in Austin; we're not getting ahead of ourselves but we're hopeful," he said.

Before any festivals screen the film however, friends, fans, family and students will have the opportunity to see the film for themselves. Sanford is optimistic about the turnout.

"We're hoping to pack the theater's 181 seats," he said.

"We hope that it's funny and entertaining because we're really happy with how it's turned out."

For more information, visit the film's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/controlaltdestroymovie.

Student says South and North Korea may unite

JAMES KRUMMEL

News Writing Student

South and North Korea most likely will unite again, said South Korean international student Seok-hyun Hwang.

Recently Hwang, who is studying journalism at OCCC, gave a presentation for the Multicultural Business Club about his home country.

With the help of a prepared slide show, Hwang described South Korea in detail, noting some interesting facts that most people don't know.

Hwang described his hometown of Seoul, the capital of South Korea which has a population of 10.5 million.

Hwang said he does not need a car to get from

place to place because the city has a good public transportation system.

In discussing the 20th century history of Korea, Hwang explained that Japan occupied Korea from 1910 to 1955.

As soon as Japan left, the U.S. and Russia became involved and Korea split in the north and south.

Many people understand that North Korea and South Korea are split but most do not know what caused it.

Hwang explained that Korea split when tensions caused the country to embrace two different political systems.

In addition, Hwang pointed out that South Korea has become a manufacturing giant.

"Hyundai, Samsung, and LG are all South Korean companies."

Hwang presented two music videos that showed the audience what youth culture is like in South Korea.

Unfortunately, Hwang said, relations with North Korea are very poor.

Though still in a state of "cease fire" after the treaty that ended the Korean War, North Koreans cannot leave their country at will and South Koreans are rarely allowed to enter.

Hwang admitted he had some misconceptions when he arrived in the U.S.

"I was expecting more modern buildings," he said. He found city life in Oklahoma to be similar to what he was used to — minus good public transportation.