INSIDE

PIONEER ONLINE

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EDITORIAL

CHILDREN IMITATING WRONG PEOPLE

Staff Writer Buffie Brown says parents need to guide their children toward positive role models. Read her thoughts inside.

OPINION, p. 2

CAMPUS LIFE

CHOOSING A MAJOR IS A BIG DECISION

What college degrees are worth more? What professions are hiring? Turn inside to find out those answers and more about top degrees.

NEWS, p. 6 & 7

SPORTS

INTRAMURALS ADDED TO LINEUP

Disc golf, soccer and flag football have been added to OCCC's intramural sports program. To find out how to sign up for the programs, see inside.

SPORTS, p. 8

CAMPUS LIFE

THUNDER UP! SEE OKC VS. HORNETS

Students can buy discounted tickets to see the Thunder starting Feb. 18 from Student Life. See page 10 for details.

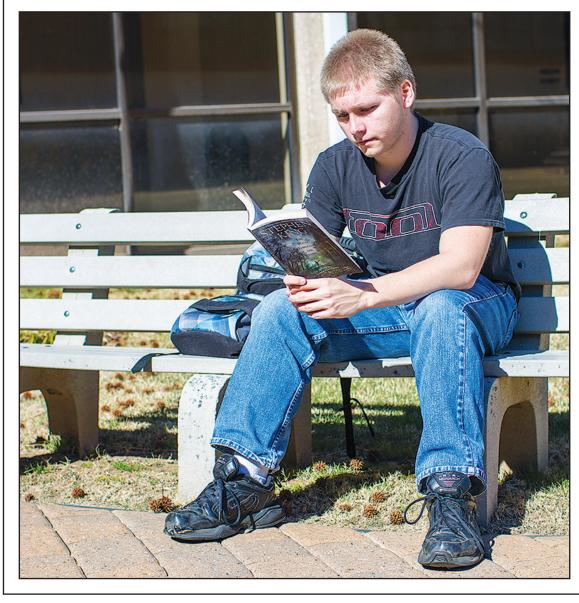
COMMUNITY, p. 10

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE OKLAHOMA CITY COLLEGE

FEB. 15, 2013

WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978



Winter sunshine

Allied health major David Ritchey takes advantage of warmer weather in OCCC's courtyard area.

Oklahoma weather forecaster Damon Lane said the closer it gets to spring, the more likely residents are to see temperature swings.

"We still have a lot of winter left and there will be days that 'look' like winter. However there will be even more days that will likely feel a lot more like spring."

For a look at temperatures — past and present — visit www.accuweather.com.

CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

Diversified studies most sought-after degree

OCCC seeing increase in students getting degrees and certificates

PARIS BURRIS

Editor editor@occc.edu

KATIE THURMAN Staff Writer

staffwriter2@occc.edu

OCCC granted 1,544 degrees last year with more than 60 degree programs to choose from.

Of those, more students are graduated with a degree in diversified studies than any other major, with 300 graduates in 2012, said Planning and Research Executive Director Stu Harvey.

"[Diversified Studies] is a good option for students who may not have a specific idea about what they want to do.

"It allows them to progress in their education until they have a better understanding of the specific area they want to enter into," Harvey said.

Next on the list for students seeking an associate degree at OCCC are business with 140 graduates, 84 in psychology, 76 in science and 48 in liberal studies, he said.

Harvey said the number of Associate in Applied Science degrees increased by 10.6 percent in 2012, with the five top degrees in that area being nursing with 217 graduates, 20 in respiratory care therapist, 20 in physical therapist assistant, 19 in graphic communication and 18 in computer aided technology.

Associate in Applied Science

See **DEGREES** page 7

Income tax filing free for qualified taxpayers

KATIE THURMANStaff Writer

staffwriter2@occc.edu

Until April 15, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance crew will be on campus to assist those who need help filing taxes.

The VITA website shows help

is offered to taxpayers who make \$51,000 or less per year and need some assistance in preparing their tax returns each spring.

Students and the general public can sign up for assistance between 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

See VITA page 9

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OPINION

EDITORIAL I Writer says people need to look for positive, admirable traits to mimick

Role models should be dressed

During Superbowl halftime I am sure many of you watched Beyonce's performance with the former Destiny's Child members. Sadly, I was not surprised



BUFFIE BROWN

but I definitely was upset by the barely-there wardrobe of the female performers. It seems as though this is the norm these days — the more shocking and the less you wear, the better.

I worry for our children who are looking up to celebrities who drink, do drugs and wear risqué attire. Where is our society going when these are the role models for our youth?

We need to become the role models for the children out

there — not leave that job to narcissistic celebs.

As a student at a community college, I have been influenced by Kathy Shiflett, a personal acquaintance who sought higher education and now has her doctorate degree in English. As a child I always admired her. She was smart, dignified and powerful. How many students at OCCC were influenced to attend college by a popular celebrity?

Does each new report of Lindsay Lohan's drama inspire us? Do the rappers and rock stars of the world

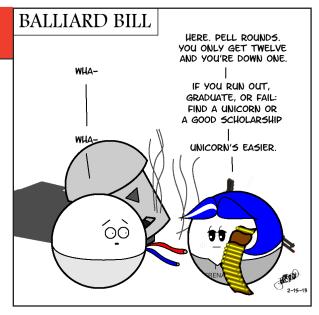
with their drugs and money teach hard work and higher learning? What kind of role models are these?

A role model is a person who serves as an example by influencing others, according to the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Their website also says: "Negative role models, however, may also influence children." Sometimes widely admired public figures make poor personal choices. Young children may assume that the behaviors of negative role models are typical, safe and acceptable.

If a neighbor drinks and drives, would you want your child to look up to him or her? No. Yet we allow our children to see countless celebrities who have done the same thing as a person to aspire to be.

Would I be in college seeking a better future through an education if my role model for life had been Britney Spears? Probably not. Society calls women like Beyonce, and others who shake what they got in scanty clothes, powerful women. And male celebs who abuse and cheat on their wives while selfishly seeking their own happiness are masculine and attractive.

When I hear the word "powerful" I think of hard work, dedication, integrity and education. Powerful is a person who inspires others through their life choices. I don't see those qualities in women wearing lingerie, shaking their rears and having wardrobe "malfunctions."



"Masculine" makes me think of a man who is working at a job that maybe he doesn't like 40 hours a week to support his family. Masculine is a man not afraid to tell his family he loves them. And I see masculine as a character of faithfulness and fidelity who does what he commits to do, including marriage.

Many of us out there are admiring celebrities and coveting their life styles. Will mimicking their lives get us anything but jail and heartache? For ourselves, we need to become what we want — not look toward celebs for direction. For our children we need to become what we hope for them to be.

Give me a Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr., Mother Teresa or C.S. Lewis. These are people to admire as role models.

—Buffie Richardson Brown Senior Writer

LETTER TO THE EDITOR I 'CLICK for Babies, Period of PURPLE® Crying Caps' project meant to reduce infant deaths

Program needs volunteers to knit newborn caps

To the Editor:

More than 3,000 knitted and crocheted purple newborn caps were distributed to 29 Oklahoma birthing hospitals participating in the "CLICK for Babies, Period of PURPLE® Crying Caps" project completed this month.

Frustration with a crying baby during the first few weeks or months of life is the number-one trigger for the shaking and abuse of infants.

The "CLICK for Babies, Period of PURPLE® Crying Caps" program is an effort to spread awareness to parents and other caregivers of newborns about

Paris Burris.....**Editor**

Buffie Brown.....Staff Writer

KatieThurman.....StaffWriter

Reyna Otera.....Community Writer

normal infant crying and the dangers of shaking an infant. Parents of newborns are provided with a DVD and purple hat to take home after their discharge from the hospital. The caps serve as an additional reminder to parents, baby-sitters and other caregivers about the normal "period of purple crying" that some babies may experience and the dangers of reacting with frustration by shaking or abusing an infant.

Our overall goal is to reduce abusive head trauma, also called shaken baby syndrome.

We received great participation from

volunteers across Oklahoma and even from people in other states that knitted and crocheted newborn purple hats as part of this project.

This is one of many projects included in the statewide initiative to reduce infant mortality in Oklahoma.

"We plan to do this project every year and will be adding additional hospitals that want to participate and involve their communities in this effort," said Ann Benson of the Maternal and Child Health Service at the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

"We will be recruiting knitters and

crotcheters all year long to meet the demand.

"There are about 4,500 births per month in Oklahoma and we need all the volunteers we can get to reach all the birthing hospitals that want to participate."

To learn more about the initiative to help reduce infant mortality in Oklahoma, visit http://iio.health.ok.gov. For additional information about the project, call Ann Benson at 405-271-4471 or Rhoades at 405-606-4900.

—LISA RHODES PROJECT CO-LEADER

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PIONEER

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email: editor@occc.edu The **PIONEER** is a student 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, 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.

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

RESTAURANT REVIEW I After 30 years, reviewer ready to takes business elsewhere

Pizza Shuttle fails loyal customer

As a father of four kids I find myself lacking eating-out funds several times per month. Recently I had a few extra dollars and decided to call in an order to my local Pizza Shuttle on Lindsay in



Norman. As a former employee of the Shuttle, I have had the opportunity to actually make my own pizza and therefore, know what I like.

I ordered the pizza pocket, which resembles a large calzone, and requested jalapenos, pepperoni and sandwich onions.

Sandwich onions at Pizza Shuttle are much different than finely chopped onions, which are usually used on a pizza. Sandwich onions are stringy and long, and great for picking off if you do not like onions.

After placing my order I was told that although they had sandwich onions, it is against their policy to use those onions on a pizza product.

"So, it is against your policy to give the customer what they ask for?" I asked the manager. He did not have a response so I told him to cancel my order and I would call the other Pizza Shuttle located on Alameda.

After several rings, someone finally answered. I was once again told by that person it was against their policy. From having worked there in the past, I am

fairly certain the Lindsay Shuttle called to warn ahead. As a business owner and former restaurant manager, I can say not satisfying the customer when it is possible and easy to do so is a horrible policy.

I have ordered Pizza Shuttle myself at least once a week for the past 25 years. My parents also order Pizza Shuttle at least once a week and have since I was in second grade. That is 30 years. I have ordered from this same location since 1995, when I first came to work at Pizza Shuttle.

After speaking to the Alameda manager, I decided to take my business somewhere else. Any business that will not prepare food the way a customer requests — in my opinion — is not worthy of customers.

Customers are the ones who pay bills, salaries and hourly employees as well as keep the company afloat. To treat customers as if they do not matter, is a great way to lose business.

Over the past 30 years I have referred many customers and even conducted business over a Pizza Shuttle pizza. From now on, I am saving my money for someone who would like it.

Rating: F

—SHAWN STAWICKI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

GAME REVIEW I Unexpected twists and turns equal a welcomed challenge

'Resident Evil 6' a lights-on game

In October 2012, Capcom released their sixth installment of the epic survival horror style video game series, "Resident Evil." Being a huge fan of the series, I was thrilled and couldn't wait to get my hands on the game. Not being able to spit out the \$70 to buy the game new, I rented the game from Vintage Stock.



There are two words to accurately describe my game playing experience: holy cow.

While this game, along with all games, has both pros and cons, it is seriously one of the best games I've played on the Xbox 360, hands down. What makes this game worth the money is the fact that players have a choice of playing not one, but four different campaigns. This prevents beating the game within a matter of hours and also gives a variety of storylines.

The downside of that, however, is if you're super into zombies like I am, there is only one out of the four storylines that offers actual zombies and that is Leon and Helena's. The other campaigns, for the most part, offer J'avo enemies.

Constant, unexpected twists and turns thrown in through quick time events make the player stay on the edge of his or her seat. It's hard to expect what is coming next, which is both good and bad: good because it isn't predictable and boring; bad because it does not give much warning, which can result in game failure and frustration. But who plays a game because it's

easy? Not I. I like the challenge.

That brings me into the game's next feature which is battle style. Ammo can be difficult to keep supplied because of having to search for it in boxes and other places. Each campaign offers different weapons from crossbows to shotguns. Each boss-like enemy requires a different strategy to defeat it. The melee combat is a little too effective; however, is highly entertaining.

It would take 1,000 words to accurately describe this game. Overall, "Resident Evil" is guaranteed to serve as a thrilling, entertaining and fun video game with many moments that may just make you want to play with the lights on.

Rating: A

—Paris Burris Editor



Job, health fairs set for March 6

OCCC students and alums: mark your calendars for the fast-approaching OCCC Job Fair & Health Job Fair, scheduled for Wednesday March 6, in the College Union.

This employment event has grown to be the largest job fair in Oklahoma with 100 employers participating. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Greater Dining Area will host 70 general employers. From noon to 6 p.m., College Union Rooms 1 and 2 will host 30 health employers.

Some of the employers who will be participating are:

General Employers:

Association of General Contractors Fort Thunder (Harley Davidson) Frito-Lay, Inc. IBC Bank

ODOT Oklahoma Cit

Oklahoma City Police Department Rib Crib Saratoga Roofing & Construction

Saratoga Roofing & Construction Tinker Federal Credit Union UPS

Vaughan Foods, Inc.

Health Employers:

The Children's Center

Deaconess Hospital
EMSA
Focus on Function/Functional Rehab
Indian Health Services
Integris Hospital
Mercy Hospital
Norman Regional Hospital
St. Anthony Hospital

No pre-registration is required. The event is open to the public.

Visit the office of Student Employment & Career Services to create or update your résumé and to receive updates of newly added employers.

We are located in 1G7 on the first floor of the Main Building, next to Student Life.

Contact the office by calling 405-682-7519 or email employmentservices@occc.edu

—Debra Vaughn Student Employment & Career Services Director 4 · FEB. 15, 2013 PIONEER I OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

OMMENTS AND REVIEWS

BOOK REVIEW I Skip the screen versions for page after page of classic love

Jane Eyre'meant to be savored word for word

"Jane Eyre," written by Charlotte Bronte, has several movie adaptations. With each new version Bronte gains fans who have no idea that the story is not new — that it began as a published book. I give a thumbs-up to each version I have seen but I want to talk about the novel, published in 1847.

Bronte captures the love between Jane and Mr. Rochester, her wealthy employer, in a sweet but realistic way. "Jane Eyre" is a stark contrast to Bronte's sister Emily's popular "Wuthering Heights," a novel full of people who destroy themselves and others with selfish love.

"Jane Eyre" is all about forgiveness and acceptance of love.

being an orphan living on the small amout of mercy,

showed by her uncle's wife.

Constantly bullied by her cousins, and ridiculed by her aunt and the staff, Jane is quite unhappy.

She is called a liar and a horrible child by ev-

eryone in the household so she begins to believe it.

Just when things are darkest for Jane, she is sent to school where more

Main character Jane has a hard life from the start, hardships await her but also the beginning of a new future.

Jane, now a teacher at the school, answers an ad for a governess. Her employer Mr. Rochester is a strange man, not handsome or kind — but Jane begins to fall in love with him. They become engaged to marry but a secret from Rochester's past hinders their relationship and Jane runs away.

Bronte has created beautiful characters and a timeless story that readers can fall in love with. The last chapter is by far the best of the entire story.

While the movie adaptation makes the final scene depressing, the book closes with restoration and hope.

I don't want to ruin this classic for any who have not read it but "Jane Eyre" is a book of worth. I highly suggest you read it as opposed to seeing the film version. You will thank me.

Rating: A+

-Buffie Richardson Brown SENIOR WRITER

MUSIC REVIEW I Writer happy she can get back into the groove of her pop-punk past

Out Boy makes comeback

Fall Out Boy is back.

Weirdly enough, those are words I wasn't ever sure I would be able to find write during my time with the Pioneer, but it seems like the tables of fate have turned in my direction and here I am. Let me say it again, just for posterity's sake: Fall Out Boy is back.

The group had a busy day Feb. 4 when they released

a new music video, announced a date for the release of their new album and published the dates for a North American tour. They've been on hiatus since early 2009, just after the release of their fourth studio album.

My pop-punk past has come back to haunt me it seems and it's probably come back to haunt a few of you as well. I, for one, have decided to

ignore the naysayers and the people who still like to chatter about the band selling out — I'm embracing it. It's not every day that a band bursts back onto the scene after a 3+ year-long hiatus and my interest can be considered sufficiently piqued.

The music video posted to the band's channel on the morning of Feb. 8 is for a new single. The comeback single, "My Songs Know What You Did In the Dark (Light Em Up)," isn't necessarily what I expected from the band but one thing's for sure — it's more than I had hoped for.

There's a level of healthy uncertainty that fans face when something they love goes away for a long time.

No one could've known that if or when Fall Out Boy returned, they'd still be the same band we remembered. However, "My Songs" erased any trace of doubt from my mind and I'm pleased with the song. I think it's a very promising look of what is to come in April from the full-length album it belongs on.

"My Songs" is actually a demo from 2005, reworked and re-recorded to facilitate the band's comeback. It's very much derivative of the band's early work from their first major studio album and that's always nice

As always, the band is experimenting with new sounds (This experimentation has gotten them in

> trouble before. Many fans panned their 2007 release "Infinity On High" for taking too many risks with their trademark sound) but I found it refreshing in the past and I still find it refreshing now.

> The new single is a mix of the best of the old and the best of the new. It's stompy and it's meant to be played loud. It's rousing and the beat

is infectious, lively—this is so much of the Fall Out Boy that I knew and missed. But, at the same time, the song is guitar heavy, tinny and almost dissonant in parts. The grittier sound is something we haven't heard from Fall Out Boy since their debut LP.

All in all, the new single isn't a standout in the band's discography and I don't think I'll be able to mark it down as one of their best songs. But I think it's a good start for the comeback, and I think it's promising. After all these years, one thing hasn't changed — Fall Out Boy are still capable of making tunes that are catchy and the release of their single has me wanting more.

Fall Out Boy's new album "Save Rock and Roll" will be available worldwide April 16.

Rating: B+

-KATIE THURMAN STAFF WRITER

TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of Jan. 23 through Jan. 25 www.newyorktimes.com

- 1. Identity Thief
- 2. Warm Bodies
- 3. Side Effects
- 4. Silver Linings Playbook
- 5. Hansel and Gretel: Witch

Hunters

- 6. Mama
- 7. Zero Dark Thirty
- 8. Argo
- 9. Django Unchained
- 10. Bullet to the Head
- 11. Top Gun
- 12. Lincoln
- 13. Parker
- 14. Life of Pi
- 15. Les Miserablés
- 16. The Hobbit: An

Unexpected Journey

- 17. Parental Guidance
- 18. Wreck-It Ralph
- 19. The Impossible
- 20. Quartet



TEDx talks stimulate dialogue between barriers

REYNA OTERO

Community Writer communitywriter@occc.edu

The first of three talks focusing on technology, entertainment and design, known as TEDx talks, will be taking place from noon to 1 p.m. on March 27 in room CU3, English professor Stephen Morrow said.

The talk will be given by Morrow and Physics professor Tad Thurston, and will focus on Plato's cave and its connection to science, he said.

There are three TEDx talks being offered this spring semester. All talks start at noon and end at 1 p.m., Feb. 27, March 27, and April 27, in room CU3, Morrow said.

The presentations are ten minutes long and have a discussion session afterwards. Morrow said the discussions are as long as they need to be and can last up to 20 minutes.

Each professor will present his talk to the audience. They will not present together.

However, during the discussion time both presentations will be compared and related to each other.

Morrow said TED stands for technology, entertainment and design.

According to ted.com, the official website for TED talks, the x marks the talk as an independently organized TED talk.

"We're doing it at our own college level," Morrow said.

"The original idea behind the TED talks is to create a dialogue between science and humanities."

Ted.com states TED was created in the spirit of its mission, "ideas worth spreading."

"The TEDx program is designed to give communities, organizations and individuals the opportunity to stimulate dialogue through TED-like experiences at the local level," states Ted.com.

Morrow said he and Thurston tried talks during the fall semester for the first time and had a very positive, successful outcome and response from the students.

After a successful outcome, Morrow said Student Life Director Erin Logan asked the two if they might be willing to have more TEDx talks in the future.

The most important thing about TED talks in general, is that they help us all exercise our curiosity for the big questions of life, for the big passions of life."

-STEPHEN MORROW ENGLISH PROFESSOR

The first talk was given in the fall semester by Morrow and Thurston. The topic was the creation of atoms and their connection to humanities and the genome project.

"The most important thing about TED talks in general is that they help us all exercise our curiosity for the big questions of life, for the big passions of life." Morrow said.

For more information regarding this event please contact the office of Student Life at 405-682-7523. For information regarding other TEDx talks, please visit ted.com.

Students with disabilities must notify professors

REYNA OTERO

Community Writer communitywriter@occc.edu

The Student Disability Services are for any student who has a disability.

However, the disability must be included in the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, said Todd Rudat Disability Support specialist.

According to the OCCC Student Guide to Disability Services pamphlet, the Student Disability Services serves students with a variety of disabilities under these two documents.

A few of these disabilities are attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism spectrum disorders, learning disabilities, deafness and hearing impairments, physical, medical, and mobility disorders, psychological and mental health disorders, traumatic brain injury and visual impairments.

Rudat said students must visit with professors regarding their disabilities and needs as soon as they enroll for classes. This way the student can start his or her classes with accommodations on

the very first day.

SDS is not notified when a student with a disability has enrolled at the college.

Therefore, Rudat said, it is very important the student meet with a staff member of the Student Disability Services, preferably with Rudat himself or Tammy Steward, coordinator of services to the deaf and hard of hearing.

"Students need to come and meet with us, fill out an application for services, provide documentation of what the disability is and how it affects them in an academic environment," Rudat said.

Rudat said the Americans with Disabilities Act includes things about physical access. For example, there have to be curb cuts leading to the building, pushbutton access doors and handrails in the bathrooms.

"All these things that are governed in terms of access in a building, is also true about accessing the actual education that is being provided within the physical structure," Rudat said.

"If the student has a visual impairment and he or she cannot access the handout that is being given by the instructor, then the student is not getting the same educational experience or access that other students would get in the classroom," Rudat said.

Accommodations depend on the students impairment situation she said.

Rudat said every bit of help the SDS offers to students is based on a case by case assessment.

"It is all going to depend on the individual students' experience with his or her disability and how it affects the student personally in the classroom."

Correction

A story located on page 1 and page 12 of the Feb. 8 issue of The Pioneer entitled "Textbook frustration an issue for many," incorrectly identified Mathematics

A story located on page 1 Director Tamara Carter as and page 12 of the Feb. 8 isue of The Pioneer entitled Decker.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.

www.occc.edu/pioneer

It is all going to depend on the individual students' experience with his or her disability and how it affects the student personally in the classroom."

-TODD RUDAT
DISABILITY SUPPORTS SPECIALIST

Rudat said.

Rudat said Student Support Services tries to get the word out on this program as best as they can. There is a website with information.

It is on every class syllabus, in the OCCC catalog, schedule book and student guidebook.

For more information, contact Student Support Services at 405-682-7520, or stop by the office located on the first floor of the Main Building, near Student Life.

View staff blogs, streaming media and breaking news only at www.occc.edu/pioneer

PIONEER I OCCC.EDU/PIONEER 6 · FEB. 15, 2013

Two-year degree worth putting in time, effort

Over a lifetime, individuals with associate degrees earn \$593,000 more in salary than those with high school diplomas.

An associate degree provides credentials that increase annual earnings by an average of \$7,200.

Graduates with associate degrees earn up to 23 percent more than high school graduates.

Graduates with additional certifications and licenses in their field earn up to 27 percent more than those with just bachelor's degrees.

-U.S. Census Bureau statistics, 1998, 1999, 2000

Associate degree can lead to lucrative salaries

hose wanting to get a higher education but who may not be interested L in spending more than two to three years doing so, can still bring home a significant annual salary. Below is a list of the top 10 jobs that can be had with an associate degree:

1: Air Traffic Controllers

Median Salary: \$108,040 Coordinate flight paths of planes.

2: Construction Managers

Median Salary: \$83,860 Plan and supervise construction projects.

3: Radiation Therapists

Median Salary: \$74,980 Administer radiation treatments to patients suffering from cancer and other diseases.

4: Nuclear Medicine Technologists

Median Salary: \$68,560 Scan patients, and prepare and administer radioactive drugs.

5: Dental Hygienists

Median Salary: \$68,250 Clean teeth, examine patients, provide preventative dental care.

6: Nuclear Technicians

Median Salary: \$68,090

Assist physicists and engineers with nuclear research and nuclear production.

7: Registered Nurses

Median Salary: \$64,690 Provide/coordinate patient care.

8:Diagnostic Medical Sonographers

Median Salary: \$64,380 Administer sonograms to diagnose medical conditions.

9: Aerospace Engineering and **Operations Technicians**

Median Salary: \$58,080 Operate and maintain equipment used in aircraft and spacecraft production.

10: Electrical and Electronic **Engineering Technicians**

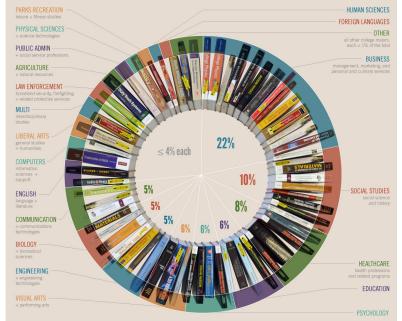
Median Salary: \$56,040 Help engineers design and develop electronic equipment.

-www.Forbes.com

THE MOST POPULAR U.S.

study areas for college undergrads and grad students. The numbers might surprise you!

UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS



WHAT WOMEN AND MEN STUDY MOST

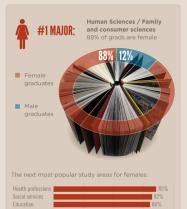


FIG 4: MASTER'S DEGREES AWARDED BY DEGREE GRANTING INSTITUTIONS 2009-20



Q DegreeSearch.org



Students list reasons for choosing majors

A college degree opens doors to a better income and, for some, allows them to get their dream jobs.

PARIS BURRIS KATIE THURMAN

Editor Staff Writer

editor@occc.edu staffwriter2@occc.edu

College degrees help provide opportunity for higher pay, better benefits and jobs some would only dream of having. There are several different factors that are the driving force behind what college majors students choose.

OCCC student Sean Williams is studying Business
Administration.

"I chose it because it's very broad — it opens a lot of doors in life," he said.

OCCC student Stephanie Flores is studying Allied Health.

"I took a science and anatomy class in high school and fell in love with it," she said. "From then on, I knew what I wanted to do."

OCCC student Isis Orduna chose to pursue nursing after an illness deeply affected her family.

"I just want to help people," Orduna said.

OCCC student Noah Leao chose nursing as his major.

"I have a passion for helping people, and I want to follow in my mother's footsteps."

Www.princetonreview.com reports that many students choose majors in order to pre-

pare them for a specific career path while others choose majors solely based on fascination with subject matter.

For more information about degree programs or other academic inquiries, contact the Office of Academic Advising at 405-682-7535.



Sean Williams



Stephanie Flores

Noah Leao



Isis Orduna

Degrees: OCCC sees slight increase in certificate program

Continued from page 1

degrees are designed for graduates heading directly to work while Associate in Art and Associate in Science degrees are designed for students planning to transfer to a four-year university.

"In terms of something like nursing, that's probably driven by the fact that there are a lot of jobs out there for nurses," Harvey said.

"Most of the projections we've looked

at show continued significant growth in health care occupations, technology, business and finance in the Oklahoma City area."

OCCC also offers certificates in a number of areas.

According to the college's website, "[OCCC] offers a wide variety of certificate programs designed to prepare [students] for immediate employment in the workforce upon successful completion of the program."

Harvey said the college saw a 2.4 percent increase in the number of certificates awarded in 2012.

The top five were emergency medical technology with 104 graduates, 39 in computer science, 15 in computer aided technology, 12 in child development and 10 in business administrative office technology, he said.

For students planning to transfer to a four-year university, a recent study by the National Center for Educational Statistics shows business, social sciences, history, health sciences and education top the charts as the most popular college majors for students working toward a bachelor's degree.

Students seeking help with their educational plans can stop by Academic Advising on the first floor of the Main Building or call 405-682-7535.

College grads say: 'Show me the money'

The top 12 lucrative careers that can be had with the right degree

1. Neurosurgeon

Median pay: \$368,000 Top pay: \$643,000

2. Petroleum Engineer

Median pay: \$162,000 Top pay: \$265,000

3. Nurse Anesthetist

Median pay: \$159,000 Top pay: \$205,000

4. Petroleum Geologist

Median pay: \$149,000 Top pay: \$247,000

5. Dentist

Median pay: \$147,000 Top pay: \$253,000

6. Actuary

Median pay: \$136,000 Top pay: \$208,000

7. Software Architect

Median pay: \$119,000 Top pay: \$162,000

8. Pharmacist

Median pay: \$114,000 Top pay: \$133,000

9. Management Consultant

Median pay: \$110,000 Top pay: \$198,000

10. SAP Basis Administrator

Median pay: \$107,000 Top pay: \$160,000

11. Optometrist

Median pay: \$105,000 Top pay: \$149,000

12. IT Security Consultant

Median pay: \$102,000 Top pay: \$156,000

-courtesy of www.cnn.com

SPORTS

SPORTS I Disc golf, soccer added to new sports line-up

OCCC scores with fresh intramurals

ALLEN MITCHELL

Sports writer sportswriter@occc.edu

OCCC Recreation and Fitness has several new programs for intramural sports for the spring semester. New programs offered include 4-on-4 flag football, 3-on-3 soccer and disc golf, said OCCC Intramural Sports Assistant Matt Wright

Flag football is not new to OCCC. Recreation and Fitness organizes a 7-on-7 flag football season in the fall, but for the spring semester they will organize a 4-on-4 flag football tournament.

"It's always been 7-vs-7 in the fall and that's it," Wright said.

He said the format will be set mainly as 'passing only".

The league, which will run Wednesday nights from April 3 through April 24, will add a new option to those wanting to play flag football.

"Everybody loves to play football, so I figured, throw in a different format for the spring," Wright said.

Intramural soccer is also new this spring. Wright said OCCC has had club soccer for some time, however, intramural soccer is a new concept.

"Intramural soccer would be completely different. Club soccer, you know, they gotta pay to play. It's like about \$35, to play in an adult league and all that," Wright said.

Intramural soccer will be set up in a 3-on-3 format, as a two-day tournament March 28 and 29.

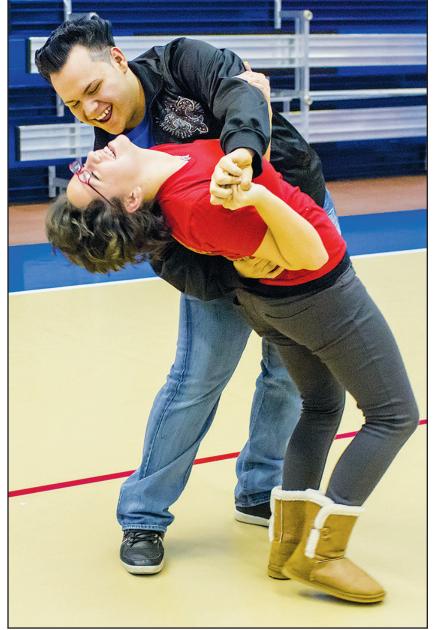
"It's kind of a practice run. I wanted to see to how well it went before doing a full season," Wright said. "If attendance is good for the tournament, then either in the fall or the spring, I'll do a whole season for that."

Disc golf is the third new addition to intramural sports for the spring. It will be set up for individual play, for a one or two-day tournament on April 12 and possibly 13.

"I'm waiting to see how many people we have. It may be one day or two, depending on attendance," Wright. said

Wright wanted to offer a sport that students or other interested individuals could play without forming a team.

We should be dancing



CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

OCCC Pathways students Joey Mayes and Melissa Phillips practice dance moves on Feb. 11 in the Wellness Center gymnasium. The gymnasium is open to students from 6 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information, contact the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

"It seems like here its hard for people to get a whole team together," Wright

"Disc golf, you know, yourself, you just gotta

bring yourself, that's all you have to worry about."

The overall goal of adding the new sports to spring intramurals is to increase participation and attendance, he said.

"I'm just trying to get people interested in coming out and participating in intramurals," Wright said.

To make that happen, Wright is encour-

in coming out and participating in intramurals." -MATTHEW WRIGHT

I'm just trying to get people interested

INTRAMURAL SPORTS ASSISTANT

aging anyone interested to sign up early to spark more interest from other students, faculty and community members.

"Hopefully people will see there are other people signed up and sign up too," Wright said.

For more information about the new intramural leagues or to sign up, visit IM-Leagues.com or call Recreation and Fitness at 405-682-7860.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

Feb. 11 to 16: Recreation and Fitness Open House Week. For more information, call 405-682-7860.

Feb. 8 to March 8: 5-on-5 coed basketball. Registration will last until 5 p.m. Feb. 21. For more information, log in to www.imleagues.com.

Feb. 21: Basketball golf competition. the event will be coed and will take place at 1 p.m. Feb. 21 in the OCCC Gymnasium. For more information, visit www.imleagues.com.

Feb. 23 to 24: EAT Division II Championship Swim Meet. The event will be open but the pool will be closed to the public. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Feb. 25 to March 3: NAIA Swimming and Diving Championship. The event will be open but the pool will be closed to the public. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

March 9: YMCA Winter Swim Meet. The event will be open but the pool will be closed to the public. 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 your news to** sportswriter@occc.edu.

Have sports news to share? **Email Allen at**

sportswriter@occc.edu, or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7676

Woman arrested for tresspassing, police car hit

BUFFIE RICHARDSON BROWN

Police Reporter seniorwriter@occc.edu

Trespassing, a non-injury auto accident, and a student backing into a campus police vehicle were reported the last two weeks of January on OCCC campus.

Officer Patrick Martino arrested Tangela Lynn Bacon, 42, on Jan. 24 for failure to leave an institution of learning as directed after Bacon was spotted and identified in the library. A report shows Bacon was booked into the Oklahoma County Detention Center at 7:32 p.m.

The woman was banned from the campus on Sept. 12 of last year. An open records request for that report had not been filled as of press time.

 $Officials\,confirm\,Bacon\,has\,attended\,OCCC\,in\,the$

past and is still in the system.

A search on www.oscn.net shows Bacon was arrested and convicted of the same charge on two separate occasions last year — in February at the Oklahoma University Health & Science Center and again, in May, at the University of Central Oklahoma.

A few days later, Officer Gordon Nelson was sent to investigate a non-injury auto accident around 10 a.m. Jan 28. The accident occurred near inbound Keels Boulevard and the South A lot exit when OCCC students Brianne Jackson, 19, and LaShayla Steele, 24, collided in the intersection.

Surveillance footage shows Steele exiting South A parking lot at 9:48 a.m., then, stopping at the stop sign before she attempted to cross Keels Boulevard Footage shows Steele's car being hit and spun around after she pulled out in front of Jackson, who had the right of way on Keels. Neither was injured but

Steele's vehicle was undrivable because of the damage. Jackson's vehicle was damaged on the front bumper and right fender.

In another accident at 3:45 p.m. Jan. 30, Officer Tim Harris informed dispatch that his vehicle had been struck by a driver in parking lot G. Officer Nathan Graves arrived on the scene and made contact with Lauren Ashley Hall, 20, the driver of the Toyota that struck the police car. Hall told Graves she did not see the police vehicle as she backed out of a parking spot.

Harris said he was in parking lot G waiting for Officer William Hall to retrieve belongings from his personal vehicle when he felt the police car being struck on the left side.

Both vehicles had minor damage.

To contact campus police, call 405-682-7872. For an emergency, use one of the call boxes located inside and outside on campus or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7747.

VITA: College official says sign up early for tax help

Continued from page 1

All volunteers who work with VITA are certified by the IRS to provide guidance and knowledge about many special tax credits, according to the IRS website.

VITA workers "can inform taxpayers about special tax credits for which they may qualify such as Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, and Credit for the Elderly or the Disabled,."

Student Life Office Assistant Marcy Roll said the history between OCCC and VITA is quite lengthy.

Roll said VITA and OCCC have partnered up to help the community with taxes for at least the 17 years she has worked at the college.

VITA is here to serve the community, Roll said. Those seeking assistance, however, should be aware that the lines can get long and sign-ups can close very early, she said.

"It is first come, first serve," she said.

Roll said the volunteers have already been "crazy busy" during their first week.

Those wanting to take advantage of the free service will need to bring at least the following:

- last year's (2011) filed tax return
- Social Security cards for everyone being claimed
- a valid driver's license or ID
- yearly wage and earning forms (W2s) from employers.

Roll said currently, the volunteers are only filing the old fashioned way, with all of the paperwork done manually.

E-Filing, for those who prefer it, will not be available through VITA until March 1.

Roll suggests that students filing their

taxes through VITA show up early to ensure they get an appointment.

Most importantly, she said, treat the volunteers icely.

"They are volunteers," Roll said, "so be kind to them." For more information, contact Roll at 405-682-1611, ext. 7792, or the VITA hotline at 1-800-906-9887.

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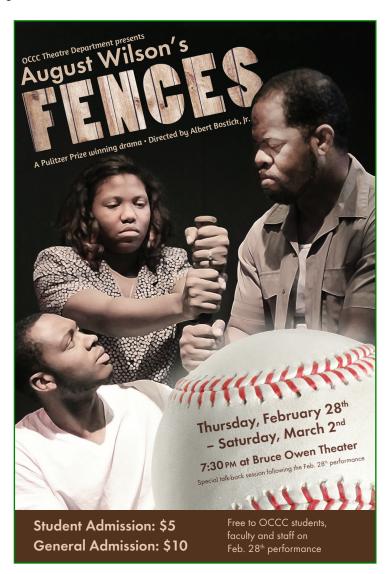


STUDENT EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER SERVICES

OPTIMAL RESUMEwww.occc.optimalresume.com

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

Resumes Cover Letters Interview Skills



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CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Out for blood



CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

Phlebotomist Christa Salazar helps chemistry major Benjamin Chambers donate blood for the first time on Feb. 13 in the College Union. The blood drive, which ran from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, was part of a fundraiser sponsored by the Black Student Association. Chambers said he plans to help cure diseases after college. "This is one way I can help people until then," he said.

COMMUNITY I Student Life Office selling \$10 student passes

Thunder tickets on sale Feb. 27

BUFFIE RICHARDSON BROWN

Senior Writer seniorwriter@occc.edu

Students, faculty and staff at OCCC will have an opportunity to buy discounted Thunder tickets for the 7:30 p.m. Thunder vs. Hornets game on Wednesday, Feb. 27.

"It is a way to promote community within the campus," said Student Life Assistant Marcy Roll.

There are a total of 93 tickets available, which can be paid for by cash or check. No credit cards will be accepted.

The \$10 student tickets will be open for purchase beginning at 8 a.m., Monday, Feb. 18, in the Student Life Office. Faculty and staff tickets will go on sale the following day Tuesday, Feb. 19 for \$25 per ticket.

Students are excited about the opportunity to buy inexpensive tickets.

"I think it makes it seem like the college cares about the students by giving them a discounted price that they can't get anywhere else," Computer Science major Crystal Witt said. "I would buy two or three so my friends can go too."

Undecided major Lindsay Hill said she plans on buying as many tickets as possible.

"

It is a way to promote community within the campus."

-Marcy Roll

STUDENT LIFE ASSISTANT

"I think that is pretty amazing. I will buy the max that I can," Hill said.

There is a five ticket limit for each student, Roll said.

The last time the Thunder played the New Orleans Hornets Dec. of 2012, they won 92 to 88.

Many students said they would go to the game the 27.

"Yeah, I would go," said Nursing Major Nyche Franklin, "Discounted tickets are good."

Other students won't be able to attend due to classes. OU student Jamie Steichen, who is also taking classes at OCCC, said he would not be able to attend

"I would go if my schedule would allow it, but I have a test that night," Steichen said.

For more information about Thunder vs. Hornets tickets, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523, by email at studentlife@occc.edu or stop by Student Life, located on the first floor of the Main Building near the coffee shop.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Workshop: Term Paper, Don't Panic

There is a Communications Lab workshop focusing on term papers scheduled from noon to 1 p.m., and from 6 to 7 p.m., Feb. 18, in CU2. Presenters Lydia Rucker and Nick Webb will discuss how to get started with research, tackling the writing process and citing sources. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7379.

Black History Month luncheon

There will be a Black History Month luncheon from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, in CU2 and 3. The luncheon is a joint project with the Black Student Association and Student Life. Science professor Sonya Williams will be the luncheon speaker. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

University of Oklahoma tour offered

OCCC students can tour the OU campus Friday, Feb. 22. The tour group will leave campus at 11 a.m. and return at 4:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided for students. If students would like to meet with an OU adviser, they will need to bring their transcript and notify Linda Little to make the appointment. To sign up for the tour, contact linda.k.little@occc.edu.

Campus Voices: TEDx

TEDx is a nonprofit organization devoted to ideas worth spreading. There will be a TEDx talk from noon to 1 p.m., Feb. 27 in CU3. The talk is open to all faculty, staff and students. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

Transfer and Graduation Fair

There will be a Transfer and Graduation Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Feb. 27 in the Main Building. More than 25 colleges and universities will be represented at the fair. Students can learn about scholarships, the application process, financial aid, multiple majors and how financial aid works. For more information, contact the Transfer Center at 405-682-7567.

Christians on Campus Bible study

Christians on Campus will be hosting a Bible study on the topic "Unveiling the All-Inclusive Christ in Scriptures," from noon to 12:45 p.m. Mondays in room 3K3 and 12:30 to 1:15 p.m., Tuesdays in room 1C3. For more information, email christiansoncampus@my.occc.edu.

Snapshots! Cellphone Photography Show

A juried exhibition of cellphone photographs taken by OCCC students, faculty and staff will be on display from Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Feb. 4 through March 15 in the Visual Performing Arts Center Room 124.

All Highlights are due Monday by noon for inclusion in the next issue. Email your event to communitywriter@occc.edu

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. Fridays prior to the next publication date. For more information, call the Ad Manager at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or e-mail adman@occc.edu.

AUTOMOTIVE

FOR SALE: 1965 Chevy truck. \$4,000 OBO. Rebuilt motor. Runs. Needs painting. 1962 Chevy car. \$2,000 OBO. Call/text: 405-517-4117 for more info.

FOR SALE: 2001 Dodge Durango SLT 4x4, pearl white. \$2,500. Engine overheated, needs some work. 164,000 miles. Would be great hunting vehicle. Call Cheryl: 405-912-7401.

FOR RENT

ROOM FOR RENT: \$450/mo. Bills included. 3-bedroom located near OCCC. Males only. One friendly dog already, no more pets. No smoking preferred. Call/text Reginald at 405-249-4550.

MISCELLANEOUS

LOOKING FOR A ROOM/ HOME TO RENT: Will share all bills. Call Quinton at 443-812-0917 or email qmmountain@yahoo.com.

BABY ITEMS FOR SALE: Fisher Price infant to toddler blue baby rocker w/ activity bar, barely used: \$20. Slightly used clean Jumperoo with accessories: \$50. Bright Starts baby activity gym, new: \$15. wickitiwack@yahoo.com.

LOOKING FOR RIDE: Need ride from Norman to OCCC. Legally blind student. Will pay for gasoline. Classes Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call: 405-598-5052 or 405-395-2779.

FREE: This classified space is free to OCCC students and employees. Call for details. 405-682-1611, ext. 7674.

FOR SALE: Limited edition wakeboard, still packaged: \$100; new, limited edition Jim Beam bean bag/cornhole toss game, \$100. 405-818-0083.

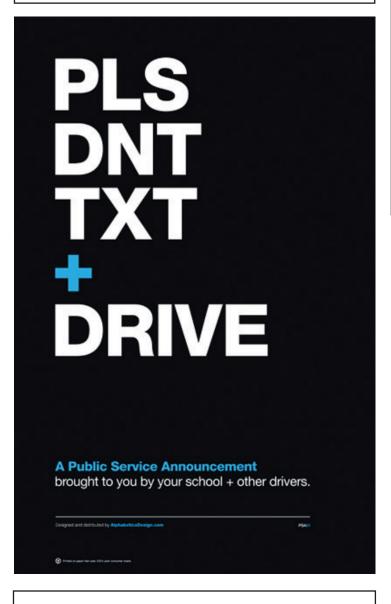
TEXTBOOKS

FOR SALE: English Comp, \$35; TI-83 Plus, \$30. Call 405-209-0308.

Personal classified ads are free to students and employees. adman@occc. edu.

Share your thoughts with us: editor@occc.edu

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THIS WEEK'S PIONEER PUZZLE

USA State Capitals

Find and circle all of the USA State Capitals that are hidden in the grid.

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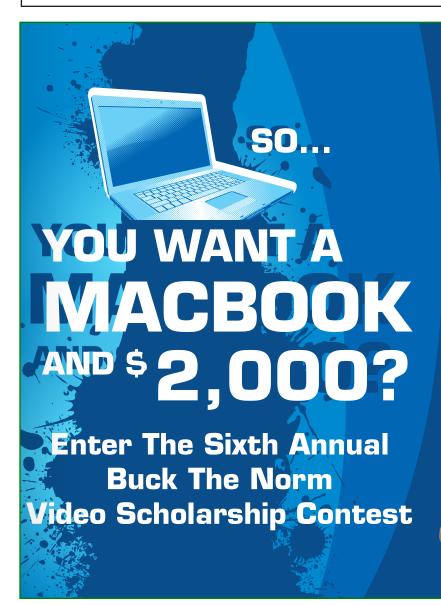
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Snowblind





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