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PIONEER ONLINE

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EDITORIAL

BE CAREFUL OF WORD CHOICES

Staff Writer Katie Thurman says people need to be more positive and careful when choosing words. Read her thoughts inside.

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CAMPUS LIFE

TABLE TENNIS COMES TO OCCC CAMPUS

Looking to engage in a fast-paced game of pingpong between classes? Brush up on your skills in the Wellness Center. It's free. Read more inside.

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NAIA SWIM MEET ON CAMPUS

The NAIA Swim Meet is being held at OCCC's Aquatic Center Feb. 22 through March 2. For admission prices to this public event, turn inside.

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CAMPUS LIFE TRANSFER AND GRAD FAIR TO BE FEB. 27

Students are invited to attend the OCCC Transfer and Grad Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. See page 10 for details.

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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE IONICALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FEB. 22, 2013

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COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

OCCC reps attend Higher Ed Day



Despite snowy day, college presidents and students make way to State Capitol

REYNA OTERO Community Writer communitywriter@occc.edu

S now did not deter 25 Oklahoma college and university presidents and some of their students from converging at the Oklahoma State Capitol to celebrate the annual Higher Education Day on Feb. 12. OCCC President Paul Sechrist was among them.

Sechrist said in an interview that day that an important goal for Oklahoma colleges is to increase the number of graduates. He cited Complete College America as a national initiative to have more students who start college, actually complete college.

"Oklahoma has participated in that nationally and Gov. Mary Fallin has indicated that the state will participate."

Sechrist added that Higher Education Chancellor Glen Johnson encourages all state colleges to have Complete College America goals to increase the number of graduates at each institution.

OCCC has been part of the Complete College America program for two consecutive years, counting this one.

Sechrist said since then, OCCC has had the

See HIGHER ED page 9

Student actors get history lesson via play

BY LORI VALENTINE News Writing Student

Three of the students performing in August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama "Fences" said the play has taught them about a part of African-American history that was new to them.

'FENCES' SCHDULED THROUGH MARCH 2 IN BRUCE OWEN THEATER

They said this has brought them a newfound perspective on segregation. The central character Troy Maxon, played by Brian C. Scott, reflects on his years as a talented baseball player in the Negro Leagues before the integration of major league baseball in the 1950s.

The play will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, and run through Saturday, March 2, in the Bruce Owen Theater on campus.

The audience is being asked to participate in a special feedback and question-and-answer segment after the performance on opening night, said Al Bostick, guest director. This will be an opportunity to let the performers and the director know what the audience thought about the overall performance and the issues it raises.

The production coincides with the end of Black History month, said Theater professor Brent Noel.

Student Jude Floyd plays the part of Cory, one of Maxon's sons. "I didn't realize that I would learn so much from this experience," Floyd said.

Floyd and the other students spoke highly of Bostick, who is directing his first production on campus.

"Al knows what he wants and will try his darndest to get it," said Alexis Ward, who plays the role of Maxon's wife Rose. She said Bostick has taught her to step aside and separate herself from the character.

"When you are on that stage, it's more about feeling, not acting,"

DPINION

EDITORIAL I College is a perfect place to become aware of speech

hoose your words carefully

Language is important.

If you've had a public speaking class or an interpersonal communications class, that phrase is familiar. In all honesty, the value of



words isn't something I used to focus on much. But recently, I've been trying to apply some simple changes in how I use vocabulary and I'm also beginning to notice the way other people say things.

During a recent class discussion about the different teaching styles of professors, a young man a few seats away from me spoke up about an experience he had with an instructor. "We

never knew what kind of mood she was going to be in," he said. "She was totally bipolar."

I cringed — and noticeably so. Our professor noticed the uncomfortable face I made but didn't say anything to the student. After class, I approached him and asked him why bipolar was the word he chose to use when describing his professor.

"I don't know," he remarked, flippant. He shrugged. I dropped the issue and went on about my day.

I don't have doubts about the fact that my classmate's former professor might have been moody, but the chances of her having an actual bipolar disorder

that interferes with her day-to-day life are slim. My classmate's misnomer was simply a poor choice of words, but that doesn't altogether excuse him.

I know there are words I've used without realizing the negative connotation behind them when removing them from their true source or meaning.

The incident in class made me think more about language and the way we use it. We're all trying to communicate something and in a college setting, that can become a point of contention. All people aren't going to see eye to eye and they aren't going to have the same vernacular while trying to explain themselves or express how they feel about something.

But correctness matters, especially in a college setting. Words that register as harmless to us as individuals may not be so benign to our classmates or our professors. A 2011 study done by www.PlosOne. com, a peer reviewed scientific journal, found that words with significant emotional appeal deeply affect a person's memory - words with negative connotations were far more likely to be remembered by subjects of the study, and the stimuli caused by negative emotions led to increased forgetfulness of positive emotions and events.

There are words we immediately recognize as hurtful and, at this point in our lives, most of us are past name calling. We think better of ourselves but the fact remains: we say things that hurt other people and a lot of the time, we don't even mean to. There's simply

AMY, WE GOT ANOTHER GREMLIN INCURSION IN THE TESTING CENTER YOU REALIZE I'M AN ENGLISH PROFESSOR, RIGHT? I'LL GET MY SHOTGUN B

BALLIARD BILL

a lack of consciouness in what we choose to say. How many of us take the time to consider the weight of the words we're saying?

Some words and phrases have become so commonplace that we've become desensitized to them. We've removed their true meaning and made them seem inoffensive. That doesn't mean, however, that people aren't listening and it certainly doesn't mean that people aren't affected by what's being said.

The beauty of a college setting like the one we get to take part in is the diversity. There are people from all backgrounds, all walks of life, and the differing viewpoints we find in our classmates opinions can open our eyes and help us learn. But to keep the channel of communication open, we have to remember to be conscious of what we're saying and the way we're saying it.

> -KATIE THURMAN **STAFF WRITER**

LETTER TO THE EDITOR I Elderly will have opportunity to voice concerns Feb. 25 Oklahomans invited to Senior Day at State Capitol

To the Editor:

Oklahomans are invited to the State Capitol on Feb. 25 for the 2013 Senior Day at the Capitol.

The annual event is a chance for Oklahoma's seniors and their advocates to discuss the needs of the more than 711,000 Oklahomans age 60 and older. The event is free and open to the public.

On-site registration begins at 8:30 a.m. on the first floor of the Capitol.

The program starts at 10 a.m. in the House Chambers.

Speakers will include Speaker of the House Rep. T.W. Shannon, Sen. Frank Simpson, Rep. David Dank, OKDHS Director Ed Lake and OKDHS Aging Services Division Director Lance Robertson.

Following the program, attendees will have the opportunity to visit with lawmakers to voice their concerns,

ideas and needs.

Nonprofit agencies will be on-site to distribute information about their services.

This year's event will also feature activities such as a Tai Chi for Better Balance demonstration and a Senior Voices video project.

Visit www.okseniorday.com for more information. On-site registration will be available.

To contact OKDHS Aging Services Division, call 405-521-2281.

> -KATHERINE MCRAE **OKDHS AGING SERVICES** DIVISION 405-522-4510

All letters to the editor will run in the order in which they are received. Be sure to include a name and contact number. Name withheld upon request.

IONEER

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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

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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

The **PIONEER** is a student publication of

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

BOOK REVIEW I Warsan Shire releases 38-page collection of bliss

Poet captures reader's emotions

Avid poetry-readers may already be familiar with poet Warsan Shire. If you aren't familiar with Shire's work, you're missing out. Recently, she released her first book, a collection of poems entitled, "Teaching My Mother How to Give Birth (Mouthmark.)"

It's a stunning debut from one of the most talented young art-

ists the world of literature has to offer us right now. At only 38 pages, Shire's debut makes for a very quick read. If you're like me, you'll find yourself wishing it were longer.

Shire, a Kenyan-born poet who emigrated to London earlier in her life, has no problem revealing herself in her poetry.

She bares her soul and her mind throughout the collection, unafraid to spill her secrets across the pages with an unbridled honesty that sent chills down my spine on more than one occasion as I was reading.

There's something eerie and haunting about Shire's writing. The pictures she paints with her words can stay in your mind for some time, unsettling in their complete and total clarity.

Shire writes about love, loss, and everything in between; the absence of her father, the hardships of watching her family struggle. Shire writes at length about her home country, war-torn and ravaged to complete desolation and how she sees herself reflected



within the same painful tribulations of her motherland.

The mother mentioned in the title of the collection is both a literal and figurative feature throughout the book. Whether Shire considers herself a product of her parent or a child of her home country is entirely debatable and like most of the themes within the poems, will

make you stop and think.

But even when writing about war, the aftermath of love and the complex struggle of identity, Shire is somehow able to uncover the beauty in the ugliest parts of human circumstance through her words.

Shire's attention to detail demands complete focus from the reader and small nuisances within her writing are captivating. Most of the poems collected within the book become better and more powerful after a second or even third reading.

If you're a poetry enthusiast, then Shire's book is definitely a must-read. Artists like the one I've found in Shire come along maybe once in a lifetime and her first book shouldn't be overlooked or missed.

"Teaching My Mother ..." is available for purchase through www.amazon.com or at Barnes & Noble. At only \$10, it's a bargain for such beautiful work. **Rating:** A+

> —Katie Thurman Staff Writer



Q.: When do summer courses begin?

A.: "Summer intersession begins June 3 and runs through July 26, and August intersession is July 29 through Aug. 9."

—Anita Rhea Academic Affairs Office

Q.: When are the Financial Aid disbursement dates for the Spring semester?

A.: "There is a full listing on our website www. occc.edu/FinancialAid. Students can click on the disbursement dates link to the left and there is a list of dates including the summer semester.

Spring Loan disbursement dates are: Feb. 15, 20 and 22; March 1, 6, 8, 13, 15 and 27; April 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24 and May 1, 3, 8 and 10. Spring Pell disbursements dates are Feb. 15, March 1 and 15, April 5 and 19 and May 3."

—Meghan Morgan Financial Aid Assistant Director

Q.: When does enrollment for summer courses begin?

A.: "Early enrollment for returning students begins on March 25 and open registration begins April 1."

—Anne Gatlin Admissions Services Assistant

Q.: How do I get my transcript?

A.: "The quickest way is if [students] come to Records and Graduation, and present their student ID or driver license and we can print them out an official or unofficial copy. Students can also visit www.mineonline.occc.edu and fill out a transcript request form where they can have [the transcript] mailed to a certain address or pick it up from the Records and Graduation Office."

> —Nhi Nguyen Student Peer Adviser

and a transition shot above two lines of slaves when Django and Schultz get to Mississippi.

My only criticism of the film is its excessive use of a certain racial slur but I know, as awful as it sounds to hear the word today, it was commonplace during slavery. In the end, the word serves to further illustrate the ignorance of the characters using it.

Overall, "Django Unchained" is a very enjoyable movie and I highly recommend seeing it at the theater. Oh, and if you happen to mispronounce his name, Django corrects you with, "the D is silent, hillbilly."

Rating: A+

-Chris James Pioneer Staff

'Django' best viewed on big screen

MOVIE REVIEW I Tarantino delivers with epic tale of love and revenge set in Wild West

Quentin Tarantino's "Django Unchained" is a well-told epic about love and revenge full of Western-style gun fights set during the days of slavery in the deep South.

The story and era are brought to life by a talented cast; Jamie Foxx (Django), Christoph Waltz (Dr. Schultz), Leonardo Dicaprio (Calvin Candie), Kerry Washington (Broomhilda) and Samuel L. Jackson (Candie's senior house servant Stephen).

Waltz recently received a Golden Globe for Best Supporting Actor for his role as Schultz. Tarantino also won Best Screenplay at the 2013 Golden Globe Awards.

Throughout the movie, Django struggles through a land that sees him as inferior and hates him because of his skin color. It shows the brutal truth in a way that makes you feel

incredibly sad that one human could treat another in such a way.

Tarantino's elements of humor keep "Django Unchained" from getting too heavy. At the showing I attended, the entire theater was laughing at those moments.

The gun fight scenes are awesome, complete with blood spewing all over. In one scene Django is hiding behind a fallen enemy for cover and each time the body is hit, blood gushes out.

Aside from storyline and acting, what really impressed me most about the movie is the quality of camera work, and how well it is used with sound and music to establish the mood and setting of each scene.

From a technical aspect, my favorite parts were the shallow depth of field shots



COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

FOOD REVIEW I Jokes, juggling knives, food cooked to perfection stand out at Japanese steakhouse

10gun a great restaurant – mishaps and all

At the south end of Northpark Mall at NW 122nd and May in Oklahoma City is Shogun, a Hibachi-style Japanese steakhouse.

Shogun has been an Oklahoma City staple since the 1980s and has a location in Tulsa as well.

The traditional Hibachi-style cooking offers patrons dinner and a show. Diners watch as their dinner is prepared, cooked and occasionally ignited in the center of the table. The chefs are engaging and interact with patrons, frequently telling jokes, juggling knives and sometimes throwing food.

The versatile atmosphere provides a great place to go for a special date, a unique birthday dinner or a good time with friends.

While we have had a few bad servers, a couple of new, inexperienced chefs and even a drink spilled on my wife once, we enjoy visiting Shogun and almost always have a great time.

The menu offers selections of chicken, fish and filet mignon, as well as a veggie only plate.

The service starts with traditional onion soup followed by a small salad with the signature ginger dressing. While most people love the ginger dressing, I must admit for me it was an acquired taste. I have learned to like it but it has taken me several visits to do so.

After the salad course, your chef will arrive and begin sautéing a selection of onions, squash, mushrooms and sprouts, and cooking the fried rice as you watch.

Each beef selection is cooked to order and the meal is served with unique dipping sauces for the vegetables and meats. Shogun offers a kids menu and also a full-service bar.

While the price is on the high end - \$20 to \$30 per plate — the quality of food, entertainment value



and overall experience definitely makes it worthwhile. Rating: A

> -Allen Mitchell **SPORTS WRITER**



MOVIE REVIEW I Series of mishaps keep viewers laughing in Justin Bateman flick Identity Thief' steals screen

Jason Bateman plays Sandy Bigelow Patterson, a very successful man who does anything and everything for his family — including traveling from Denver to Florida to get his identity back from a woman who is using up all of his money.

Melissa McCarthy plays Diana, the woman who steals Patterson's identity and enjoys his big bucks. Not only does Diana steal Patterson's identity; she leaves him with a bad credit score.

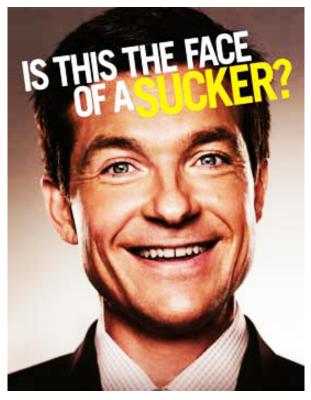
Together, the two are in for a big journey that brings them all sorts of trouble. This movie will bring on great laughter to anyone who watches these two on their cross-country

journey back to Denver. Chaos awaits both of them along the way.

The official website for the movie, www.identitythiefmovie.com, calls the movie an "all-star comedy, in which a regular guy is forced to extreme measures to clear his name."

Bateman is known for his sense of humor in other films such as "Horrible Bosses," "The Change Up," and "The Switch."

"Identity Thief," is just another great film of his, with the same humor — or even better — as the ones he has made in the past.



and won the 2012 MTV Movie Award for Comedic Performance of the Year, according to www.identitythiefmovie.com. Bateman's sense of

humor combined with McCarthy's, make the story even better. Seeing the two act together and get into so much trouble is like watching siblings fight but stick together despite wanting to strangle each other.

A few other actors who star in this humorous film are Amanda Peet, Tip "T.I." Harris,

Genesis Rodriguez, John Cho, Morris Chestnut, Robert Patrick and Eric Stonestreet.

"Identity Thief," opened on the big screen on Feb. 8. The film grossed more than \$34.6 million in just the opening weekend.

The film has been a great success according to IMDb, a website containing information and reviews on films. The film has been the top selling movie on IMDb's box office list. Rating: A

Students learn the power of unlearning

KATIE THURMAN Staff Writer staffwriter2@occc.edu

In an effort to open up dialogue about diversity in a college setting, Student Life hosted a film screening and post-movie discussion on Feb. 19. "Higher Learning," filmed in 1995, is about students encountering tension and adversity in a university setting.

The film highlights what a turbulent and confusing time college can be for many people. It focuses heavily on the lengths people will go to to fit in. It also deals with relationships between students of different races, sexes, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Students who attended the screening were offered candy and snacks, courtesy of Student Life. After the movie, event assessment and opinion cards were given out so students could rate the quality of the experience.

Business major Quynh Nguyen attended the screening.

"I thought the movie would be boring, but lots of

things happened," Nguyen said.

Although she found parts of the movie scary, Nguyen said she saw the value of the film's lesson: Although people are different, they have to be willing to learn from one another.

When the movie ended, Brittany Carradine, Student Life coordinator, sat with students to discuss parts of it.

Carradine stressed one word that the film teaches in particular — unlearn. She said since college is mainly thought of as a place where knowledge is gained, the notion of unlearning may seem counterproductive.

However, she said, valuable knowledge can be gleaned from it.

She said unlearning means letting go of stereotypes and prejudices by opening yourself up to experiences and situations you might have never encountered before.

"OCCC is a good place to unlearn because you can get to know other people and let go of some of your own deeply regarded beliefs and open yourself up to something new.

"There's a lot of diversity here at OCCC," Car-

radine said.

"There are so many different people from different walks of life. It's a great mix of people. There are young and old, married and unmarried — people from across the entire spectrum are well represented here.

"College can really be a place of higher learning where, instead of holding onto the things that you once knew, you can open yourself up to different experiences, new things and new people," Carradine said.

"If you want to, the opportunity is definitely here to meet different people and learn new things."

Carradine urged students to join clubs in order to find what they're passionate about and to meet likeminded individuals that they may not have had the chance to come into contact with otherwise.

She said meeting and getting to know people who are different from you is one of the most important lessons students can learn at college.

"College is a great time to explore," she said. "Whether it's taking a class you never would have ... or joining a club that you don't know much about: it's all about being open to different things."

College Prep Math book being replaced

BUFFIE RICHARDSON BROWN Senior Writer seniorwriter@occc.edu

OCCC is changing textbooks used for some College Prep Math courses this fall, according to an email from the Math Department.

Currently, students use one book for CPM II, III and IV. The new material will be contained in two textbooks — one specifically for CPM II and one for CPM III and IV, said Mathematics Department Director Tamara Carter.

Carter said the new books were chosen because they come with additional supplements the current book does not have.

She said the downside is that the new books are more costly but said there also will be an upside in terms of the material being expanded.

"We always keep cost in mind but having the appropriate material for the students outweighs the cost issue," Carter said.

That decision has some students who are enrolled in the current program worried they will have to buy expensive new textbooks.

Nursing major Stephanie Gonzalez is one of those students. She said she feels the college should foot the bill for those who won't complete the program by the end of the year.

"If you are currently in the CPM classes and haven't finished, the college should provide the new books for us ...," she said.

Gonzales said she believes students who are already in the program should be able to finish all of the courses with the current text, no matter when they complete the program.

"They definitely should let us finish with the current books on our own time," Gonzalez said. "Everybody learns at a different pace."

Student Desiree Wolf, currently in CPM II, agrees.

She said although she plans to finish the CPM courses this year, she realizes there is a chance she could encounter an obstacle along the way.

"I think you should be able to finish the CPM courses with the current material," Wolf said.

Carter said the deadline wasn't created to cause hardship but rather, to avoid confusion.

Having multiple textbooks that differ from one another "causes confusion for new students coming in," Carter said.

In addition, she said, OCCC would have to offer more classes if there weren't a cut-off date because each of the books is classroom specific.

However, Carter said, it's entirely possible for someone enrolled in CPM II or later to finish the sequence with the current textbook.

She said anyone who completes CPM II, III or IV by the end of the spring 2013 semester would be able to complete the program with the current book "assuming they pass all of their (CPM) classes."

Students who can't complete CPM IV by the end or email Carter at tcarter@occc.edu. of the fall semester will be required to buy the new textbooks for the courses they still need to complete.

Carter said students must enroll in CPM IV at the beginning of the fall semester, at the latest, to use the current book. Students who enroll in the second 8-week CPM IV course will be required to buy the new textbook for that class, she said.

She gave the following examples as to who would need the new textbooks:

• All CPM II and III classes will change to the new texts for Fall 2013.

• CPM IV classes will change to the new text beginning the second 8-week class of fall 2013. Those who take CPM IV the first eight weeks or as a full 16-week class can use the current CPM IV textbook in

the fall.

• Those currently in CPM I will need to purchase the new CPM II textbook for fall classes but can use the current book for the summer CPM II class.

Carter said students in the CPM program are encouraged to take the classes back to back, but it is not required.

For instance, if a student in the sequence decides to take the summer off between two of the classes, it would not negatively affect that student. However, she said, it's not recommended.

"In any course — but especially math — consistency is important so you don't forget what you have already learned and you can continue progressing," Carter said.

She said students currently in the program would not be required to retest when switching to the new textbook.

For more information about the classes and textbooks, contact the Math Department at 405-682-7508 or email Carter at tcarter@occc.edu.

Job Fair workshop set

Student Employment and Career Services will hold a workshop to prepare students for the upcoming March 6 Job Fair.

The workshop Job Fair Success Strategies is from 12:30 to 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, in room 1G7.

During the workshop, Student Employment and Career Services will help students build or refine their résumés, print copies of those résumés for students and show students how to dress professionally for the Job Fair.

In addition, a list of registered employers who will attend the Job Fair will be provided so students can research those employers.

STAFF AND STUDENTS CAN CHALLENGE EACH OTHER INDOORS

Pingpong now being served at OCCC

AMY HERRINGTON News Writing Student

Both staff and students can now enjoy a new pastime on campus. The Recreation and Fitness office has purchased a Gopher Advantage pingpong, table and placed it in the college gym.

Eric Watson, sports and recreation specialist, was in charge of selecting the table.

"I chose a very well-made table," he said. "I hope people take good care of it." The pingpong table had its inaugural game the end of January.

English Professor Michael Snyder said he and two of his librarian friends, Ann Raia and Rachel Butler, had the honor of taking the first swings.

Snyder admitted the women played better than he did.

Snyder, in fact, is in some ways the person responsible for the table.

"I just wanted to bring pingpong to the people," he said jokingly.

He said he has hopes that table tennis might promote more of a sense of community between both the students and the staff.

"It would be nice if we could we could eventually add more games, like foosball," he said.

His request for the table came during a Faculty Association meeting last fall. "It was great to ask for something and have it followed through with so quickly," Snyder said.

He said he hopes the games will not take away from study time, but will do the opposite.

Perhaps the students will be more apt to study on campus, and spend time here if there are fun options for study breaks, such as a game room, Snyder said.

The table is available for use from noon to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, in court 1 of the gym.

Watson said anyone can play at any time, on a first-come first-serve basis.



CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

English professor Michael Snyder plays pingpong on Feb. 15 at the OCCC Wellness Center. The pingpong table is the newest addition to the center's recreation equipment and is available for use from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Use of the equipment is free, but players must leave a \$1 deposit which will be returned when the equipment is checked back in, Watson said.

Wellness Center open house highlights programs

CHRIS JAMES

Photographer pioneerphotog@occc.edu

The OCCC Wellness Center hosted a week-long open house event from Feb. 11 to 16 to help students learn more about the services they offer, Sports and Recreation Specialist Eric Watson said.

"The open house was offered for students to have awareness of the Wellness Center and Aquatic Center areas, the programs that we offer, the access that they are allowed during the semester as far as using the cardio and weight room, and also participating in intramurals," Watson said.

He said information was available to students to generate interest in the intramural sports program. However, Watson said, intramural sports were not the only activities being promoted at the open house.



CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

Biology major Brandon Burt does pull ups during open house Feb. 15 in the Wellness Center weight room. The Wellness Center hosted a week-long event from Feb. 11 to 16 to help students learn more about the services offered.

"It was also to promote the Group Fitness Pass, so students can purchase and attend the classes during the semester," Watson said.

The pass costs \$35 and allows students access to all fitness classes for the semester, he said. Watson said those students who do not wish to purchase a fitness pass can attend classes for a "daily drop-in fee" of \$5 per day.

intramural sports online at www.imleagues.com.

For more information about programs and activities offered or to purchase a Group Fitness Pass, pick up a copy of the Recreation and Fitness Programs Catalog near the Wellness Center, call 405-682-7860, or log in to www.imleagues. com to view intramural events.

Pingpong balls and paddles may be checked out from the equipment room.

Student use of the the Aquatic and Wellness Centers is covered by student fees, he said. This allows students to use those areas at no cost.

However, Watson said, students must have a current student ID to use the facilities.

The Wellness Center is open from 6 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

According to the Wellness Center catalog, the center offers a variety of fitness classes, including Zumba and cardio kickboxing.

For sports-minded students, the Wellness Center offers intramurals such as dodgeball, disc golf and flag football, Watson said.

The area also holds an intramural basketball tournament every semester, Watson said. He said students can sign up for

ART SHOW HIGHLIGHTS STUDENT, STAFF EVERYDAY PICTURES

Cell phone photos showcased in gallery

LAUREN ALLEN News Writing Student

The underside of a yard mushroom, captured by a student's cell phone, is just one of the many photographs taken by cellular devices, framed and currently on display in the art galley. The mushroom photographer is Ashlie Mowdy.

Two-dozen cell phone photographs ranging from nature scenes to architecture comprise the exhibit in Room 124 in the Visual and Performing Arts Center.

The exhibition will be open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday until March 15.

Another image shows a panoramic view of a mountain range in Utah. Student, Chelsey Oliver, took it using an iPhone 4.

One browser, Arianna Derr, looked through the photographs in the gallery and said her favorite is an image capturing a young boy's first museum visit.

Douglas Blake, Visual Art professor,

and Randy Anderson, Graphic Communications profession, worked together to produce the exhibit. Blake said he wanted to create an idea broader than just art and graphic communications majors by introducing cell phones as the medium and accepting entries from the entire college community.

Blake generated the idea from an art gallery, "[Artspace] at Untitled" in downtown Oklahoma City, after talking with the gallery's director who had put together a series of cell phone photographs, as well.

To submit an image in the competition, Blake said, the photograph had to be taken with a mobile phone by a current OCCC student or staff member. He and Anderson judged all of the entries and narrowed it down to the final 24.

"We have trained eyes," said Blake, about the judging done by Anderson and himself. The two men judged purely on a "visual basis," stripping the names from the photographs during judging to ensure fairness, Blake said.

The phones include all iPhone generations, as well as phones such as the Samsung Galaxy. Blake also asked the participants

to make special note of any editing programs used, such as Instagram and Adobe Photoshop.

Anderson printed and framed the photographs, which were submitted electronically to the contest, Blake said. The prints will be given to the contestants at the conclusion of the exhibition.

No specific winner will be chosen.

"The contest is getting into the show," Blake said. Admission is free.

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





TOP: "Black Walnut" by Brenda Breeding with an iPhone 3 and Photoshopped.

LEFT: "Intricate," by Ashlie Mowdy with an iPhone 4 using Hipstamatic.





ABOVE: "Foreboding Springtime Sky" by Cheryl McGuire using Samsung Focus I, model SGH017.

LEFT: "Stairway" by Tamesha Chamberlain using a Huawei Android.

RIGHT: "The Great Pollinator" by Beau Baker using an iPhone 3GS.



SPORTS

SPORTS | National Swimming and Diving competition will draw crowd

NAIA meet at Aquatic **Center for** second year

ZAK WHITE News Writing Student

For the second straight year, some 300 athletes will compete in a collegiate national title event at OCCC's Aquatic Center.

From Feb. 27 through March 2, the Aquatic Center will play host to the 57th Annual Men's and 33rd Annual Women's National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Swimming and Diving National Championships.

The top NAIA swimmers and divers from across the country will dive in with hopes of claiming a national championship.

Oklahoma Baptist University, the lone Oklahoma school in the event, is ranked number one in the nation in both the men's and women's NAIA Swimming and Diving Coaches Polls, according to the NAIA website.

The Bison are looking to repeat as men's champion and improve on their women's second place finish last year.

In 2012, Fresno Pacific University took first place in the women's division.

Last year, 33 men's and women's teams competed, coming from as far west as California and as far east as Kentucky.

Along with the swimmers and coaches, numerous fans and family members will make their way to OCCC for the event.

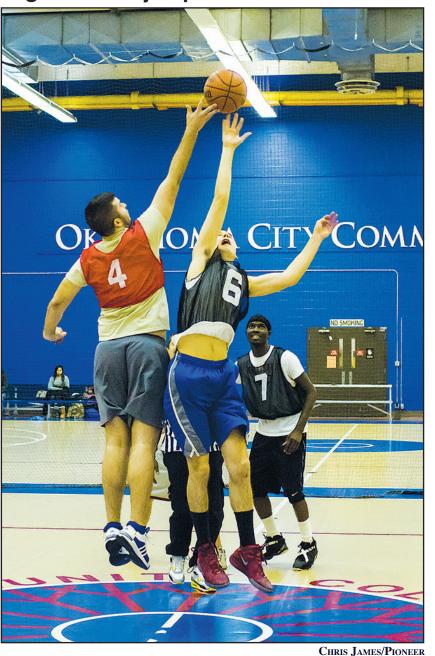
"It gets our name out there," said Roxanna Butler, OCCC's Recreation and Fitness director.

"The event has a huge

economical impact on the city of Oklahoma City and it does wonderful things for Oklahoma City Community College in particular."

OCCC and the Oklahoma City Convention and Visitors Bureau have placed a bid to serve as the host site for the 2014 and 2015 NAIA Swimming and Diving Championships.

Might as well jump



David Russell of Balls Deep tips off against Jon MacNeill of Get Buckets on Feb. 15 in the Intramural Basketball Tournament held in the Wellness Center gym. The Wellness Center offers a variety of sports and activities for students to partake in, ranging from disc golf to dodgeball. For more information or to sign up, go to imleagues.com or call the Wellness Center at 405-682-7860.

The event has a huge economical impact on the city of Oklahoma City, and it does wonderful things for Oklahoma City Community College in particular." -ROXANNA BUTLER **R**ECREATION AND FITNESS DIRECTOR

"We do not know where the event will be held next year, but we would love to have it here again," Butler said.

She said single day tickets for the event can be purchased for \$15. Full event passes are \$45.

Butler said OCCC is looking for volunteers to help with timing the swimmers, taking tickets, and serving food and beverages.

To learn more about how to volunteer, purchase tickets or to see a live stream of the event, visit www.occc.edu/ naia.

Twitter fans can also keep up at #NAIASWIM.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS **EVENTS**

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. 25 to March 3: The pool will be closed to the public. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

March 4 to April 1: Dodgeball tournament. Registration will last until 5 p.m. March 1. For more information, log in to www.imleagues.com.

March 12: Badminton tournament. Registration will last until 5 p.m. March 11. For more information, log in to www.imleagues. com.

March 28 to March 29: 3-on-3 soccer. Registration will last until 5 p.m. March 26. For more information, log in to www.imleagues. com.

March 9: YMCA Winter Swim Meet. The pool will be closed to the public. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

April 12 and April 13: Disc golf tournament.Registration will last until 5 p.m. April 11. For more information, log in to www.imleagues.com.

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 or stop by the Pioneer office located in 1F2 Arts and Humanities

Threatening texts, car collision keep cops busy

BUFFIE RICHARDSON BROWN Police Reporter seniorwriter@occc.edu

An angry boyfriend's text message threatening a student tops recent crime reports.

Student Kaitlin Stransky's mother Julie Stransky called the campus police around noon Tuesday, Jan. 29.

Stransky's mother told campus police that Brandon Gradl, her daughter's boyfriend, was sitting outside of Kaitlin's classroom at 1C4 SEM, sending her threatening text messages. According to the reports, she gave officers a description of Gradl and what he was wearing.

Officers Jimmie Watts and Gordon Nelson immediately went to the classroom and observed a white male seated outside of 1C4 who appeared to

be texting and matched the description given by Stransky's mother.

Nelson reported he called Gradl by name and the man looked up. Nelson then asked Gradl to accompany him to the Campus Police Department.

Gradl told officers he couldn't because he has to wait for his girlfriend to come out of her class and talk to her.

Eventually, Watts and Nelson escorted Gradl to the office without force.

In another report, at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5, Officer Nathan Graves was flagged down by Randall Beavers while patrolling in Parking Lot D.

Beavers said he was driving his Ford Mustang without clearing the condensation from his windshield. After driving several spaces toward the south, he said, his vehicle struck a 2009 Hyundai Sonata.

The Sonata had damage to the driver's side quarter

panel. Graves copied Beavers' license and insurance information, and gave him a copy of the case number and campus police contact numbers.

The license plate of the damaged car was not registered to a student or faculty member.

Graves left a OCCC Police Deptartment courtesy card under the windshield wiper to inform the driver of the accident and to contact the Campus Police.

Around 10 p.m. Graves noticed the damaged Sonata leaving parking lot D, so he turned on his emergency lights to stop the driver.

Graves verified the driver Jamal Paige Williams was aware the vehicle had been struck. Graves then copied Williams license and insurance information and gave Williams a copy of Beavers insurance information.

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.

Passover traditions to be explored March 5

BUFFIE RICHARDSON BROWN Senior Writer seniorwriter@occc.edu

OCCC students can get an inside look into a Jewish family's Passover traditions from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 5, in CU1.

Student Mary Newcome-Hatch will present a Brown Bag luncheon that focuses on the traditions of Passover.

This will be her second presentation in as many years.

"I came up with the idea last year and presented it to Erin Logan at Student Life and she liked it," Newcome-Hatch said. "I was very happy they asked me back this year."

Www.history.com shows that Passover is one of the Jewish religion's most

sacred and widely observed holidays. It commemorates the story of the Israelites' departure from ancient Egypt, which appears in the Hebrew Bible's books of Exodus, Numbers and Deuteronomy, among other texts.

"I want to show a glimpse into the traditions of what it is like for people," Newcome-Hatch said. "I do it so people can be informed.

"Every family has their own version of the Passover Seder or meal. I present a lot of how my personal family celebrates."

Newcome-Hatch said she will bring Judaic items from home and give a brief overview of each.

She said some of those items include her family's Torah scroll, their Shofar - which is a ram's horn, and their Sabbath candles.

"I make a few items from the Passover meal to bring to the presentation and discuss the preparation for Passover," Newcome-Hatch said.

"What you would call spring cleaning, well, we do Passover cleaning, which is removing all the leavening out of our house.

"I have already started my cleaning since Passover is early this year on March 25 from sun up to sundown."

Newcome-Hatch said there are many blessings throughout the service.

"I will go over the blessings in Hebrew and English, and I may sing the Shema," she said.

Newcome-Hatch said she hopes to enlighten students about Passover so "it won't be so mysterious."

"I hope the students will develop a curiosity to ask me more information on our beliefs," she said. "It is one of the few times I get to state my religious beliefs and to bring scripture into it, because there is scripture involved in the presentation."

Newcome-Hatch said last year's presentation was well received.

"... Amazingly, 10 students came. I did not think anyone, other then my family, that anyone would come," she said. "Even if I speak to an empty room, I am happy to do this for OCCC."

She said any students who come to the Brown Bag lecture on Traditions of Passover will be informed and blessed.

For more information, contact the Student Life Office at 405-682-7523.

Higher Ed: President Sechrist looks to the future

Continued from page 1

largest number and the largest percentage of increase in the first year of participation.

"It is my understanding we will have another very good year in terms of having more of our students actually complete a degree at OCCC," he said.

Speakers who addressed students at Higher Education Day included President Pro Tempore Brian Bingman, who spoke on behalf of the State Senate; Speaker T.W. Shannon, on behalf of the Oklahoma House of Representatives; Chair Ike Glass and Chancellor Johnson, on behalf of the State Regents; and Chair John Feaver, on behalf of the Council of Presidents.

Due to the weather, carpool rides offered to OCCC

students who planned to go to the Capitol for Higher Ed Day were canceled. Student Life notified the 12 students that had registered to attend via email.

Unfortunately, this year there were no student speakers from OCCC, Sechrist said. He said in previous years OCCC has had students speak at Higher Education Day.

OCCC Executive Vice President Jerry Steward said in an email interview he was unable to attend Higher Education Day at the State Capitol because he was in Washington, D.C. He said he talked to members of Oklahoma's congressional delegation about the importance of higher education there.

"It is unfortunate that the Oklahoma City area experienced such bad weather on such a significant day," Steward said. "The priority of elected officials is to serve their constituents, so it is vital that they hear from their constituents.

"OCCC plays an important role in higher education and economic development, and it is critical that our voices are heard."

Student speakers from other schools were Elizabeth Larios from Rose State College, Flint Holbrook from Oklahoma State University, Dexter Nelson II from the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, and Katy Crocker from Tulsa Community College.

The Higher Education Day webite www.okhigheredday.org says the purpose for the event is "to promote the value and importance of higher education in Oklahoma."

CAMPUS COMMUNITY



COMMUNITY I Students can get valuable advice from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 27

Transfer fair not just for grads

REYNA OTERO Community Writer communitywriter@occc.edu

A Transfer and Graduation fair is being held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 27, in the Main Building lobby, said Transfer and Academic Advising Coordinator Linda Little.

The fair will provide students who plan to transfer the opportunity to visit with admission representatives from more than 25 col-

leges. Students also can check on their progress toward a degree and even apply for graduation while there.

"[This] is a good time to talk to the different universities about transferring and about admission requirements, tuition, what the college has to offer, and what is more special [about that college] than other colleges," Little said.

Students attending the fair will have the opportunity to compare colleges and help decide where to attend if they are still undecided. Little said it is more convenient to be able to talk to several colleges at the same event.

She said students who plan to transfer should be prepared with questions to ask the college representatives.

"There is actually a list of questions on the Transfer Center website," Little said. "[These] are questions transfer students should ask."

Among those are questions about admission requirements, scholarship opportunities, tuition and fees, degree programs, and even housing, she said.

Little said the graduation services office will be there as well.

Graduation Services Assistant Director Amanda

[This] is a good time to talk to the different universities about transferring and about admission requirements, tuition, what the college has to offer, and what is more special [about that college] than other colleges."

TRANSFER AND ACADEMIC ADVISING COORDINATOR

Williams said she will have access to the student record system to perform on spot degree checks. Students also can fill out paperwork at her table.

"[There] will be graduation applications at the table as well," Williams said. "So, if we find someone who is nearing graduation [he or she] can fill out the application right then and turn it in."

Little said students do not have to be close to graduation to attend the fair. She said all OCCC students who think they might transfer in the future can attend. She said those who have completed 30 or more credit hours and plan to transfer should make plans to be there.

For more information, contact the Advising office at 405-682-7535 or the Records and Graduation office at 405-682-7512. Students also can visit www. occc.edu/transfercenter to view questions and for other information.

Do you have news you'd like to share? If so, contact Paris at editor@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7675.

A meeting of mind and machine

Civil engineering major Aron Ontiveros examines a studentconstructed wind turbine generator on Feb. 7 at the first meeting of the Engineering Club for the spring semester. Professor Gary Houlette said the club will have guest speakers and pizza.

CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Workshop: Evaluating Credible Sources

The OCCC Communications Lab will hold a worskshop on how to find reliable information on the Internet, from noon to 1 p.m. and also from 6 to 7 p.m. Monday, Feb 25, in CU2. Presenters Nick Webb and Lydia Rucker will explain how to write a research paper and how to document sources. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7379, or go to www. occc.edu/comlab.

"Fences" on stage Feb. 28 through March 2

As part of a celebration of Black History Month, there will be a special presentation of "Fences" directed by Al Bostick Jr., at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 28 through March 2 in the Bruce Owen Theater. Student admission is \$5 and general admission is \$10. Tickets will be available at the door. For more information, email bnoel@occc.edu.

Workshop: Recognizing Rhetoric

Students will learn strategies for analyzing arguments using rhetorical appeals, from noon to 1 p.m., and also 6 to 7 p.m., March 4, in room CU2. Communications Lab presenter Brandon Isaak will explain how to analyze arguments and understand logical fallacies. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7379.

Campus Voices: TEDx

TEDx is a non-profit 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. Wednesday, 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 host a Bible study on the topic "Unveiling the All-Inclusive Christ in Scriptures," from noon to 12:45 p.m. Monday in Room 3K3 and 12:30 to 1:15 p.m., Tuesday 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., 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 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.



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

TELEVISIONS FOR SALE: Both are 40" CRT. One is a Sony and the other is a Magnavox. They both were recently repaired and are in excellent condition. \$35 each. Call or text 405-667-0101.

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.

Ad

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

Advertising rates start at \$8/week. Call 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or email adman@occc.edu for details and to request an ad rate booklet.

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

It's a connected world. Do your share.

For 30 ways to help the environment, write Earth Share, 3400 International Drive ,NW, Suite 2K (AD4), Washington, DC 20008.



THIS WEEK'S PIONEER PUZZLE

80's Radio Hitmakers

Find and circle all of the 1980's music artists that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell the name of a hit song by the Bangles.																		
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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

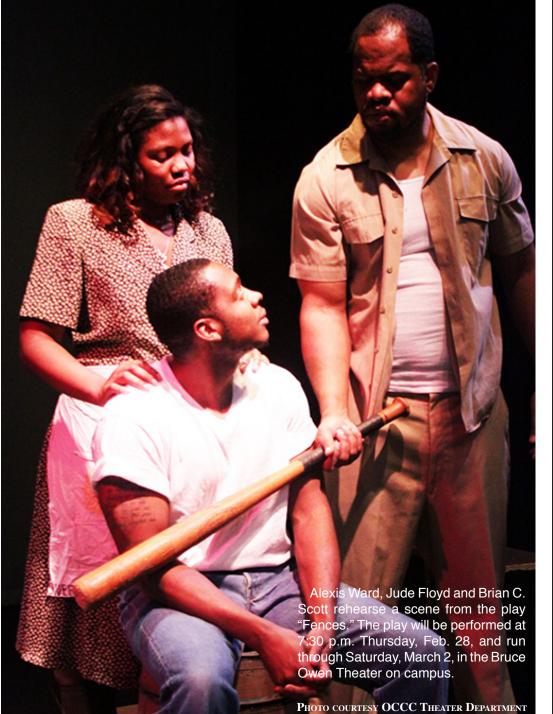
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Run your classified ad online with photos. Call for details: 405-682-1611, ext 7674





OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Wednesday, March 6, 2013 College Union Dining Area

> General Employment 10am–2pm

Health Professions 12noon–6pm

For information call 405-682-7519 or email <u>employmentservices@occc.edu</u>

Play: 'Fences' explores 1950s segregation issues

Continued from page 1

Ward said.

Bostick's 30-year drama career in Oklahoma includes serving as the artistic director for the Black Liberated Arts Center and being a recipient of the Governor's Arts Award for Arts in Education and a Commendation for Arts Excellence from the state.

Bostick said he encourages the student actors to take themselves seriously.

"I want them to understand that theater is a profession," he said. "It requires a great deal of the individual. It requires excellence, not mediocrity."

Set in 1957, this play explores

the ever evolving African-American experience. The NegroLeagues provide a depiction of American segregation through the country's most beloved pastime: baseball.

"[My goal is] to register the ambiguous presence of white folks in a segregated black world, the way you see them nowhere and feel them everywhere," playwright Wilson said on a web site entitled Famous People Quotes.

This story is infused with murder, infidelity, poverty and intrigue.

The pressures of life are a central theme in this story and the struggle to overcome

Don't be left in the dark. Follow us for instant news and updates!

www.twitter.com/ OCCCPioneer www.facebook.com/ OCCCPioneer those same pressures in a time of segregation for an African American family give the audience a different insight on a universal theme.

The antagonistic relationship between father and son and destructive relationship between husband and wife will keep the audience on edge, anxious for resolution until the bitter end.

Opening night admission is free to OCCC students and staff. Admission on March 1 and 2 is \$5 for students and \$10 for general admission.

