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# PIONEER

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

APRIL 19, 2013

[WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER](http://WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER)

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

## Smile!



CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

Nursing Professor Kay Wetmore positions nursing students for a graduation photo on April 9 in the forum area between the VPAC and Arts and Humanities Building. Nursing students were having photos taken in different locations around campus. Nursing Pinning Ceremonies for graduates will take place May 16 in the General Dining Area starting at 6 p.m. A reception will follow.

## OCCC looks at ways to raise completion rate

### President Paul Sechrist says college benefits those who graduate

**BUFFIE RICHARDSON BROWN**

Senior Writer  
[seniorwriter@occc.edu](mailto:seniorwriter@occc.edu)

OCCC has a new plan to raise the number of students who complete a degree or certificate by 50 percent.

The plan, "Roadmap to 2018: An Indispensable Pathway," was approved March 11 at the OCCC Board of Regents meeting.

President Paul Sechrist said the overall impact of the plan will be a more highly educated workforce, improved quality of life and a prosperous community.

Sechrist said he sees the future of OCCC as defined by how many students graduate, not just how many attend OCCC.

He said the benefits of going to college are only fully realized if

the student completes a degree.

The three "Big Goals" of the plan according to the draft are to:

- Increase the number of ... students who complete a certificate or degree by 50 percent
- Close the academic achievement gaps that persist with ... low income, first-generation, and some racial and ethnic groups.

- Double annual giving to support student scholarships, community events, and the endowment.

Planning and Research Executive Director Stu Harvey said the main goal of the plan is student success as defined by the completion of a degree, either here or at a transfer institution.

"Credentials are what help people improve their standard of living and allow them to get better jobs," he said.

Harvey said the plan will likely be enacted this fall.

Accounting Professor Tamala Zolicofer said the plan

sounds wonderful.

"If we have a higher degree of completion rates then I think that it helps everyone — not only the college but the community and society as a whole," she said.

Several students support the plan but believe many OCCC students don't take it seriously,

causing the low completion rates.

Jacob White, psychology major, said he feels a lot of younger students don't take college seriously and abuse their financial aid.

See **ROADMAP** page 9

## All-female cast to act in 'Top Girls' play

**REBEKA MORALES**  
News Writing Student

An all-female cast will perform "Top Girls" at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 25 through 27, in OCCC's Bruce Owen Theater. The play captures the feminist ideals and politics of women in England during the 1980s.

When guest Director Rachel Irick took on the project, she said,

she invited actresses from around Oklahoma to audition.

She chose seven from OCCC and the metro area to make up the cast, Irick said.

The main character, Marlene, strives to find the balance between being a businesswoman and living up to the traditional British gender roles that dictate a woman must live for her husband.

See **PLAY** page 9



# OPINION

**EDITORIAL** | All students should be treated equally

## Writer questions OCCC attitude

As a student, I am shocked and surprised at the treatment I sometimes receive on campus.

Faculty and staff are supposed to be here to assist me in making the most of my educational and career goals. Yet, many times, after finding out my degree field is journalism, the shutters go down and unhelpful becomes the mantra of the day.



**BUFFIE  
RICHARDSON  
BROWN**

My reception as student Buffie Brown is good. I can have questions answered quickly and in a kind manner. At the other end of the spectrum, as student reporter Buffie Richardson Brown, I am often treated with extreme rudeness.

I have even been compared to the Nazis, something which deeply offends me. I fail to see how being a thorough reporter, dedicated to my student work position likens me to those who blindly followed a brainwashing leader in the murder of people based on their race.

Even as a News Writing student, I noticed once I introduced myself as a reporter I often received glares and clipped answers.

I strive to tell each story in its entirety with all the

facts, but doing this has earned animosity from faculty and staff who have never even met me face to face.

Renowned journalist Paul Miller said, "Substance ahead of form; balance ahead of speed; completeness ahead of color; accuracy ahead of everything."

My chosen career goal is to one day report the news to the world. At OCCC, at the Pioneer I am learning the skills needed to reach this goal. Somehow, this makes me a social pariah?

Why would anyone treat a student so condescendingly? News flash: I am a person just like everyone else and I deserve to be treated as such.

As a community college, OCCC is here to help students prepare for their future careers through training and education.

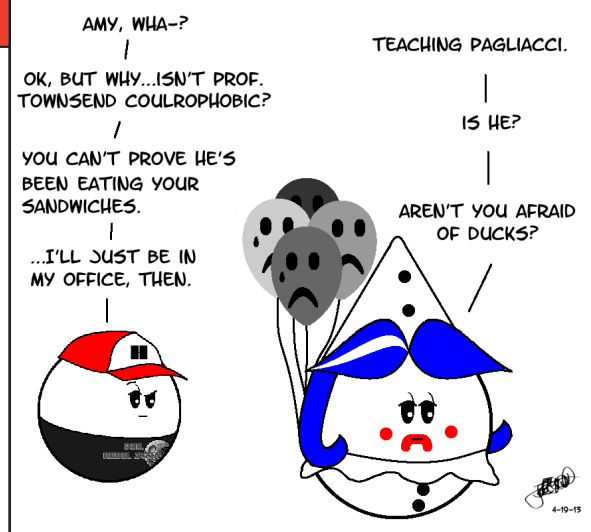
The college webpage boasts OCCC as "a supportive and close-knit community." Apparently, that support and closeness does not apply to journalism students.

One of the mission/values listed on the OCCC website is, "Integrity: honest, ethical, and respectful to all."

Again, I guess I do not fall into the category of "all" as I have been ridiculed in person and probably behind my back by those who are employed to assist me as a student.

As a reporter on campus, I have met some very uplifting and wonderful people employed here. Sadly, I also have met some who are rude and hurtful.

### BALLIARD BILL



Students are encouraged not to label others on this campus but I find many employees do just that. So in closing, let me introduce myself.

My name is Buffie. I have been married for almost five years to a wonderful man. I have two beautiful boys, ages 2 and 4, who are my pride and joy. I love to read and write — go figure. I have a dog named Gatsby after one of my favorite books and a cat named Chandler that we adopted from the humane society.

I am a full-time member of the children's ministry at my church. I am scared of bugs. I make good grades. I love to learn new things and meet new people.

Lastly, I'm a person who doesn't like when people judge me before they've had the chance to get to know me.

—BUFFIE RICHARDSON BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR** | Taking precautions key to surviving emergencies

## Oklahomans need to be prepared — even for earthquakes

### To the Editor:

Oklahoma has had an increased number of earthquakes in recent years, including the record-breaking 5.6 magnitude earthquake that occurred Nov. 6, 2011. To stay safe before, during and after an earthquake, take the following precautions:

#### Before an earthquake:

- Assemble an emergency preparedness kit for your home and your vehicle.
- Have a family emergency plan and identify a safe place

to take cover, such as under a sturdy table or desk.

- Teach your family how to "Drop, Cover and Hold" during an earthquake.
- Check for hazards inside or outside your home or office. Heavy objects and falling hazards such as bookcases, hanging picture frames and other items can be dangerous if they are not anchored securely.
- Know emergency telephone numbers.
- Sign up for Earthquake Notifications on the USGS site.

#### During an earthquake:

- "Drop, Cover and Hold."

Drop to the floor; take Cover under a sturdy table or other piece of furniture. If there isn't a table or desk near you, seek cover against an interior wall and protect your head and neck with your arms. Hold on until the shaking stops.

- Stay away from glass or bookshelves, mirrors or other items that could fall.
- If outside: stand in an open area away from underpasses and overpasses, buildings,

trees, telephone and electrical lines.

- If on the road: drive away from underpasses and overpasses; stop in a safe area; stay in your vehicle.

#### After an earthquake

- Check for injuries and provide first aid if necessary.
- Do a safety check for gas, water, downed power lines and outages. Turn off appropriate utilities. Wait for the gas company to check for leaks and make repairs.
- Turn on the radio and listen

for instructions on safety or recovery actions.

- Use the telephone for emergencies only.
- When safe, follow your family emergency plan.
- Be cautious when opening cabinets.
- Stay away from damaged areas.
- Be prepared for after-shocks.
- If you are able to, log onto the USGS site and fill out a "Did you feel it?" form.

—WWW.OK.GOV

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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

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

**STORE REVIEW** | Buy-one, get-one program helps shoppers on a budget

## Payless Shoes scores with BOGO

I went to Payless Shoes last weekend with several things in mind to buy, with a limited amount available to spend. I was able to purchase everything I need for less than what I had expected thanks to Payless' BOGO program — BOGO being an acronym for buy-one, get-one.

As a mother of two growing boys, I greatly appreciate any way to save a buck.

I can buy one pair of shoes for full price and the other pair for half price. Who can beat that?

In addition, they have already discounted items, which are not included in BOGO but help a person on a budget.

On this occasion, I went to the store at Penn Park shopping center, 1413 W I-240 Service Rd. in Oklahoma City. This location had friendly and helpful staff. The employees were attentive and welcomed me as soon as I walked in the store, asking if I needed



help finding anything.

I was directed immediately to the items I was looking for and then was left alone to browse the store which I prefer.

I am the kind of person who generally likes to be left alone when shopping unless I can't find an item.

I was able to browse unbothered at this location while knowing someone was around to help if needed. The store was clean and organized, no shoes lying on the floor or in the wrong boxes. It was easy to find the right sizes, thanks to the orderly condition of the store.

If you are wanting to buy shoes, jewelry, or any accessories on a budget and don't care about name brands, Payless Shoes is a good place to go for a great deal.

**Rating: B+**

—BUFFIE RICHARDSON BROWN  
SENIOR WRITER

**MOVIE REVIEW** | Screen adaptation of Jodi Picoult book stays true

## 'My Sister's Keeper' a tear-jerker

While in high school a few friends and I would read Jodi Picoult's books because we loved how she wrote and the way she unfolded every story. However, there was one book I never quite got the chance to read: "My Sister's Keeper."

I would always tell myself I would read it but never quite got the chance to get very far into the book. What I did instead was watch the movie a few weeks ago and come to

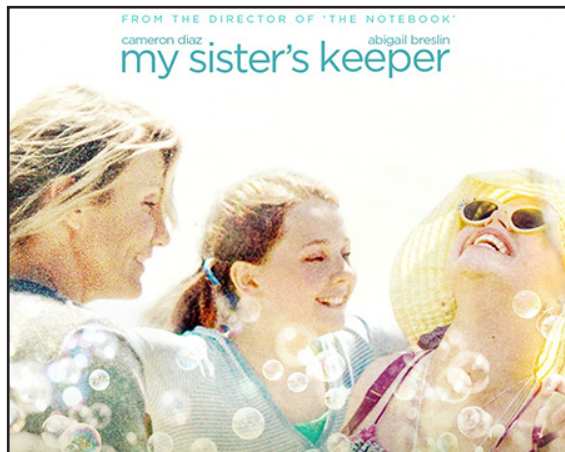
find out, the movie, based on the book I longed to read, brought tears to my face instantly.

This movie is about a teen girl, Kate Fitzgerald, who has had leukemia since a very young age. Her younger sister Anna Fitzgerald is procreated with the purpose of saving her sister Kate's life.

Kate is not able to heal completely but still lives for a longer period of time than what her doctor had initially said she would.

The movie follows the Fitzgerald family through every hard moment they go through with Kate's illness. If you have ever lived something like this in person, you can tell the script was perfectly written with every little detail cancer patients and families go through.

The movie is a bit difficult to understand at first because it builds slowly; one must keep watching to understand the process through which Anna



Fitzgerald is put.

However, as the movie progresses, a lot of details start to become clear and the audience is entangled in a story they will shed many tears over.

Mainly, because the acting from each of the actors is very fresh and vivid, it is impossible to watch this film and not feel a part of it.

If you are up for watching this film, make sure you have a box of tissues nearby because they will be needed — especially if you have ever lived something like this in person. It hits all the soft spots that were once hurt.

Picoult has a way of getting messages across to her readers and in this case, viewers. With this film it is very important that the audience see and value the family he or she may have and maybe even do a few things differently.

Some of the major actors in this film are Abigail Breslin, Sofia Vassilieva, Cameron Diaz, Jason Patric, Heather Wahlquist, Evan Ellingson and Alec Baldwin.

Picoult also wrote other books like "The Pact," "Perfect Match," and her most recent "The Storyteller."

**Rating: A**

—REYNA OTERO  
COMMUNITY WRITER

## COUNSELOR'S Corner

### Learn correctly to retain facts

*"Energy and persistence conquer all things."*

—Benjamin Franklin

We are entering the phase of the semester where energy reserves are beginning to run low. Those who have successfully experienced the marathon of working through a semester's worth of college probably have strategies and coping skills in place to help them endure the remaining weeks. Some others may not, and the stress of not having these skills might be causing you to feel overwhelmed.

In the time that is left in the semester, sit down with a calendar and plan a strategy that blocks out adequate amounts of time to complete the required tasks. Don't underestimate how much time these tasks take. As the old saying goes, "If you don't have time to do the task right the first time, how will you have time to do it again?"

With limited time in each day, we have to learn to employ those strategies that help focus our attention on the knowledge and processes we must develop in order to be successful.

Some of you may interpret this to mean you should multitask or increase the amount of time you multitask. However, trying to do multiple things at one time splits our attention, and prevents our brains from receiving and processing all of the information we may need to get from any single activity. As your attention moves from task to task, there will be gaps in your knowledge where your attention is focused on a different body of knowledge. Multitasking can be appropriate when you're doing routine, mundane tasks you've already mastered but it is ineffective if you are trying to learn new skills and information.

Remember that learning is an interactive process. Some of you may confuse reading — or actually, identifying words on a page — as studying. So, you read a chapter over and over only to feel frustrated and lost at the end when you still don't know what you've read. That's because you are employing surface-level word recognition and are not studying. Studying is fairly slow and tedious, and it makes you tired. You should actively interact with the information and ask questions about what the information means and how it fits into what you're supposed to learn.

Adequately processing information as you read it means you may only be able to cover a couple of pages at a time before you feel tired. Give yourself a brief break and begin again. Just as you cannot eat a large pizza in one bite, you cannot learn large amounts of information in one session.

Memorize what you need to memorize. Too often, students tell me they do well on homework but not on exams. The difference in tasks is the ability to look at an external memory source (text, notes, etc.) and follow the steps to solve the problem. On tests, your memory source is your brain. Take the time to memorize the steps, rules, definitions and so forth that you will need for the tests.

If you need some help to become a better student, remember that your friendly Learning Support Specialists are here for you.

—MARY TURNER  
LEARNING SUPPORT SPECIALIST



# SMART program offers hope to single parents

ANNIE ROACH

News Writing Student

One OCCC program is working step-by-step to make campus an encouraging, open and helpful place to single-parent students. The program is called the Single Mothers Academic Resource Team or SMART.

"I feel the SMART Program offers single parents hope and encouragement through their journey of balancing work, going to school and raising their children," said Keisha Williams, SMART coordinator.

Although the SMART program's acronym says "Single Mothers," the program is determined to help all single parents, dads included, Williams said.

The goal is to be an encouraging force in the students' lives.

Jessica Green is a college student in the program. She is a single mother who goes to the school for college level courses as well as working in the FACE center.

"The SMART program has impacted my life because I know I am not alone in my struggles of being a single mom and student," she said. "It has helped me to find resources I never knew existed on campus."

"Without the program I would feel like I was the only one facing struggles like being a single mom, being a student, and working."

"When I want to give up and I feel alone, it's nice to have friends to talk to

who I can relate to."

SMART was created out of concern for some troubling statistics in this state. Oklahoma ranks high in single mothers incarcerated, child abuse and neglect, and single-parent families living in poverty. The group who began SMART believe strongly that education is the means for systematic change in the lives of single-parent families, Williams said.

The single mothers meet monthly to get to know each other and make friends with others in the same situation.

"The monthly meetings make the program successful because it brings mothers together in a supportive setting. They can share their stories with one another and realize there are others in similar situations and they are not in this alone," Williams said.

SMART offers parenting skills, finance training, housing tips, stress relief techniques and more, Williams said.

The program received its original

funding through a grant from the Women's Foundation of Oklahoma. The program's main goal is to make sure parents at least finish high school.

According to the SMART program website, their goal is to encourage the students to begin taking college courses to obtain a degree at OCCC or complete a certificate of mastery, which could lead them into a good job in the workforce.

In some cases, participants are working to acquire a GED.

At this time, there are approximately 22 SMART students, 12 who have finished high school and are at OCCC for courses and 10 working on their GED. The program is located in the FACE Center, located about one mile north of campus at 6500 S. Land Ave.

To apply, contact Keisha Williams at 405-682-1611 ext. 7117.

For more information on the SMART program, visit their website at [www.occc.edu/smart](http://www.occc.edu/smart).

## Bullying subject of movie, discussion

NIKI LACKEY

News Writing Student

Students can expect expert advice on how to respond when confronted with bullying during a screening of the feature documentary "Bully."

The film will be presented from 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 23, in room CU3.

"Bully" is being presented as part of Excellence in Cultural Education and Leadership (Excel), a program started last fall by Student Life Director Erin Logan along with Student Life Coordinator Brittany Carradine.

The film will be the sixth event of the program.

"This program was developed to help raise awareness for people who struggle with bullying," Logan said. "You can hurt people and not even know it because of all of the slang terms people use today."

OCCC student Brenda Vaencia said bullying can take many forms.

"Bullying can be anything: harassment, verbal abuse, and even non-verbal abuse," she said.

Logan said the film also will demonstrate conversations and environments where people can express who they are.

A student discussion over the theme of the film will follow the screening.

Logan said one of the people por-



trayed in the film, Alex Libby, is a resident of Edmond, which brings the matter close to home.

Logan said students need to realize bullying can occur anywhere, to anyone and often, with no intent.

"Students can be surrounded by a group of people and say something that offends another without even knowing it because words are so careless these days," she said.

Student Redman Brown said he has witnessed bullying.

"People stereotype different nationalities and say racial slurs towards them," Brown said.

Logan said she hopes everyone will come with an open mind and a will to participate.

"Come join us for a wonderful film experience and great talk to help make OCCC have a better environment," Logan said.

For more information on Excel or other Student Life programs, contact Erin Logan at [elogan@occc.edu](mailto:elogan@occc.edu) or 405-682-7596.

## Logo T-shirts offered at affordable prices

BRITTAN ALLEN

News Writing Student

\$9.99. That's all.

The \$9.99 T-shirts are all the rage this season in the OCCC bookstore, said Brenda Reinke, bookstore director. The OCCC bookstore is now offering T-shirts at a low price to prompt sales and encourage school spirit.

"T-shirts have always been a popular item," Reinke said. "People come in and want a souvenir, and \$9.99 is a good price."

From electric orange to heather gray, OCCC T-shirts come in a variety of colors and sizes to fit everyone's preference.

Although the customers don't seem to have a particular favorite, T-shirts are the bookstore's number-one seller, Reinke said.

Student Kiersten White said she buys and wears the T-shirts all the time.

Another student, Lindsey Baldwin, said she doesn't own any OCCC logo wear.

"I see more people wearing OCCC T-shirts than I would have guessed," Baldwin said.

To further encourage students to show their school spirit, the bookstore has come up with a few new T-shirt designs they hope will bring in more customers.

New T-shirt designs should be arriving within days, Reinke said.

"About 1,200 to 1,400 T-shirts come in every year and we sell just about all of them," she said.

To get a glimpse of the new T-shirt designs, stop by the OCCC bookstore, located on the first floor of the Main Building.

Hours are 7:45 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, 7:45 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday. The bookstore is closed Saturday and Sunday.



STUDENTS CAN GRADUATE IN 12 MONTHS AND GET A JOB

# College to offer fast-track auto certificate

GRACE ANNE  
MARCUM  
News Writing Student

A 12-month certificate degree program in automotive technology will be offered at OCCC in the fall, said Professor Richard Steere, automotive department chair.

Steere said, currently, there is the greatest shortage of auto technicians there has ever been, which is why this year-long program could not come at a more convenient time.

Steere said the current two-year General Motors associate degree graduates eight to 12 students each year with every student graduating with an employment opportunity after college.

Some dealerships in Oklahoma are offering sign-up bonuses and giving additional bonuses to employees who recruit new staff members, Steere said.

An average technician will make between \$28,000 to \$35,000 annually starting out.

OCCC's Transportation Technology Department is one out of four programs in the U.S. selected to offer GM's cer-

**“It’s a great honor to be selected for the program. It will be a lot of hard work but we are looking forward to it.”**

—RICHARD STEERE  
AUTOMOTIVE PROFESSOR

tificate of master at a faster pace as a pilot, Steere said.

He said there are about 60 GM programs across the U.S. where associate degrees are generally completed in two years.

However, the upcoming certificate program will allow students to begin their work at car dealerships sooner than ever before, Steere said.

He said as cars and trucks become more computerized, mechanics who are up-to-date with the advancing technology are becoming harder and harder to find.

Automotive guys are the new information technology guys, Steere said.

With the new GM program this fall, Steere hopes to recruit a lot more students.

“It’s a great honor to be selected for this program,” he said.



CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

Automotive Service Education Program student Taylor Cole checks the fuel pressure of a 2003 Chevrolet truck in the automotive department. General Motors has partnered with OCCC to start offering a 12-month certificate program.

“It will be a lot of hard work, but we are looking forward to it.”

For more about OCCC's automotive programs, contact Steere at 405-682-

1611, ext. 7351, or email [rsteere@occc.edu](mailto:rsteere@occc.edu). For more about GM programs, visit [www.gm.com/vision/community\\_education](http://www.gm.com/vision/community_education).

## Who ya gonna call? OCCC campus cops

JAMIE VIRDEN  
News Writing Student

It's 3:30 in the afternoon. You're all alone in the campus parking lot and have a flat tire. Who are you going to call for help?

Your night class is over. It's pitch dark outside and you feel nervous about walking to your car alone. Who can assist you to your vehicle?

A creepy stranger keeps watching you while you work in the science lab, then follows you to your class and waits outside. Who are you going to call to handle the situation?

The campus police hope you will call them.

They urge students to know their direct line, 405-682-7572, even to have it programmed into their cell phone for a quick response.

The OCCC police department is on call 24-hours a day, seven days a week to protect and serve the students and staff of OCCC, said RaeLynn Ortiz, sociology major and daytime dispatcher who has worked in the office for over a year.

“The office is never closed,” Ortiz said. “If someone calls in, they will speak directly to a person and not be transferred to a ringing phone.”

The department offers a variety of services that

include assistance in unlocking a car, starting a car with a low battery, escorting individuals to or from the parking lots when requested, and assisting motorists having car troubles.

In addition, officers are standing by to ensure a safe environment on campus at all times.

Many students are unaware of how to contact the police in a time of need.

Energy Management major Seth Ford admits he wouldn't know the best way to contact the campus police in an emergency.

“I would just call 911 and wait to be transferred to the police,” Ford said.

However, this method will lead you directly to the Oklahoma City Police Department who might not be able to assist you as quickly as campus officers.

Another option for reaching campus police would be the emergency phones and call boxes in parking lots and buildings.

There are two types of calling stations found in the numerous campus parking lots, according to OCCC Police Chief James Fitzpatrick.

One is an emergency phone that will connect you directly to the police office dispatcher and the other is a radio phone.

“The radio phone connects with our radio system,”

**“The office is never closed. If someone calls in, they will speak directly to a person and not transferred to a ringing phone.”**

—RAE LYNN ORTIZ  
CAMPUS POLICE DISPATCHER

Fitzpatrick said.

“Even though only the dispatcher is going to answer or respond to the caller, every officer can hear the conversation that's taking place because it's coming out over the radio.”

Inside the buildings, you may find one of numerous Dial-Direct Emergency call boxes that will link you to assistance quickly.

Within the classroom, you can dial extension 7747 on the campus phones and the police dispatcher will answer with your location already known.

You may also press the “Emergency” button on any classroom phone to connect to the police.

Lastly, OCCC police officers can be found patrolling the campus daily in order to maintain safety.

If you need help, don't hesitate to flag down an officer.



AT 20, OCCC STUDENT ROMAN WILSON ONE OF YOUNGEST OLYMPIC ATHLETES

# Rugby player headed to Israeli games

NICHOLE SHADID  
News Writing Student

Rugby player and OCCC student Roman Wilson, 20, is one of the youngest athletes to play his way onto a team that will compete in the Maccabiah Olympics this July in Israel.

"He's a superb athlete," said Shawn Lipman, head coach of Wilson's Olympic team. "He's very big, strong and fast."

The team is comprised of athletes that have been hand picked from all over the country.

Wilson said his father helped start the University of Oklahoma rugby team in 1975. Roman Wilson said he began playing rugby his sophomore year at Norman High School.

In August of 2012 he tried out for the Maccabiah team.

"The trials were very intense," he said. "It was the fastest and hardest rugby that I ever played."

A graduate of Norman High School, Wilson currently attends OCCC and spends a majority of his time training for the Maccabiah Games. Because the Olympic team is made up of athletes from across the U.S., he sends in weekly reports informing his coaches of his progress.

Wilson also has spent time at the Olympic Training Center in Southern California where his team spent a day training with U.S. Navy Seals on Coronado Island. Their training included rope climbing, relays and carrying 300-pound logs.

Not only do the athletes have to prepare physically but also mentally.

"Visualization is a critical component of high-level performance in any sport," Lipman said.

He compared the competition to war. "In the heart of battle, you have al-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Rugby player and OCCC student Roman Wilson, 20, (left, with the ball) is one of the youngest athletes to play his way onto a team that will compete in the Maccabiah Olympics in July in Israel.

ready been through it many times in your head, and are able to be intuitive in performing," Lipman said.

While Wilson has played many other sports, including wrestling and football, he said rugby is his favorite.

"It isn't an easy sport by any means but it's probably the most fun," he said.

"The continuity that it takes to play the game, the spirit of the guys when they play, it definitely creates a bond that you don't forget."

There are similarities between rugby and football; however, rugby is often considered a hooligan's version of the popular American sport.

"Unlike any other sport, after a rugby game you celebrate with the other team," Wilson said. "It's pure sport. You literally leave it all on the field."

The Maccabiah Games, often referred to as the Jewish Olympics, will host 40 sporting events with more than 7,000 athletes from 75 countries. Wilson will travel to Israel along with his teammates and take part in the Rugby Sevens tournament as well as the Rugby Fifteens tournament. Sevens and Fifteens refer to the number of players on each team as well as the length of each game.

The U.S. team will face opponents from countries such as Israel, South Africa, Chile and a few others.

Wilson and his teammates will be arriving in Israel during a time of continued political unrest, which Wilson admits he is slightly anxious about.

Lipman is less concerned. "Once in Israel, it is remarkable at how settled the country seems and how

normal everything is," he said. "It is an amazing celebration of the solidarity of the world supporting the only democracy in the Middle East."

According to the official website for the Maccabiah Games, the games were established in 1932 by a young boy who viewed the 1912 Stockholm Olympic Games and wished to achieve something just as great.

The Maccabiah games take place every four years in Israel. The opening ceremony will be held in Jerusalem on July 18 at Teddy Stadium with an expected audience of more than 30,000 people in attendance. The closing ceremony will take place in Haifa on July 30 at the new Ofer Stadium.

The events also will be televised via satellite on BBC America.

## Jazz vocal ensemble ready to show off skills

ASHLEY MORGAN  
News Writing Student

The eight members of OCCC's Jazz Vocal Ensemble will be singing a variety of jazz genres and time-period styles in their upcoming show at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 30, in the Bruce Owen Theater, said music Professor Cheryl Taylor.

The free concert will consist of eight pieces and last 45 minutes to an hour, Taylor said.

"We're ... doing some very current Michele Weir, who has

a real cutting-edge jazz style," she said.

They also will incorporate old-time favorites like "Can't Help Loving That Man." The group also will perform Latin American-influenced jazz.

The Jazz Vocal Ensemble is comprised of three men and five women. Alto singer Kelli Smid said this ensemble is different from other choirs.

"There are only eight parts and only eight people so you need to know your part," she said.

"Unlike other choirs where you practice the same song over and over again, with this ensemble, you have to take the music home and practice it on your own time because they only meet once a week."

Taylor said the students have to hold their own.

"It really just strengthens them in a unique way that they don't get in choir," Taylor said.

Taylor said she works hard to give the group a well-rounded musical experience.

"My goal is for the kids to

have a chance to learn all kinds of jazz music," she said. "Some of them will go on to a university and be auditioning for jazz groups. I want them to be as versatile as possible and be ready to go with whatever the emphasis is at that university."

Taylor said she loves finding that unique way to communicate with each student.

"The thing that's so wonderful about OCCC is that you will have kids that have just gotten out of high school or are still in high school, but it goes up

to adults in their 30s, 40s, and 50s," she said.

The Jazz Vocal Ensemble is open to all students, Taylor said. Auditions for all ensembles are held the first week of school in the fall. Taylor said every student is eligible to join. No one is required to be a music major.

"You never know what student has a fabulous voice and a love for doing this," she said.

For more information, contact Taylor at Cheryl.l.taylor@occc.edu.



# OCCC's carbon footprint shrinks by the year

REYNA OTERO

Community Writer

communitywriter@occc.edu

**From Dream Machines to surplus, the college finds ways to reduce, reuse and recycle**

OCCC has many different ways students, faculty, and staff can become involved with recycling on campus — whether it is with plastic bottles, aluminum cans, paper, cardboard, electronics, furniture, fluorescent bulbs, or batteries.

Building and Campus Services Supervisor Gary Phillips said there are two reverse vending machines, known as Dream Machines, that give credit for recycling plastic bottles and aluminum cans.

“What [the students] do is go up and in this plastic bottle or aluminum can slot, you drop [the bottle] in,” Phillips said.

“Then each student has either a pass code or a card they swipe and then it gives them points for each [can or bottle].

“Then you get things from different stores or restaurants. You get so many points and stuff, and that's all done through Waste Management and Pepsi Cola,” he said.

There also are 45 blue recycling containers around the college students can put plastic bottles or aluminum cans in.

Those aluminum cans and plastic bottles are taken by Waste Management and made into other plastics, Phillips said.

The college also has cardboard recycling. Phillips said all the cardboard at the college is taken to a 10-cubic yard container located off campus. He said the cardboard is reused and made into cardboard again.

Phillips said there also are paper recycling bins in some major offices and labs around the building and in classrooms that produce a lot of paper.

“Waste Management takes that paper and sends it to a paper company to either make low-grade paper, envelopes, hand towels or toilet paper,” he said.

Students are allowed to bring paper or bottles to recycle if they want, Phillips said.

The only thing that is asked of students is for them not to put heavy magazines, books or phone books in the containers.

The college also recycles books. The Faculty Association holds a book sale once or twice a year, Phillips said, and sells the books instead of throwing them away.

The money collected goes toward student scholar-

ships, he said.

All desks, file cabinets, computers, TVs, old tables — any college property that is broken or not usable are put into college surplus, Phillips said.

Workers around the college can then have access to them if they need a desk or cabinet, Phillips said.

That way, he said, instead of throwing the items into landfills, they are being reused.

If no one wants it, it is put up for sale on a state surplus site.

The site [www.publicsurplus.com](http://www.publicsurplus.com) is used by state offices and colleges to sell items they no longer use.

“The college is making some money off [the equipment] to put back in to buy more equipment [instead of] putting it into the landfills,” he said.

Phillips said currently, the college is working to start a new recycling program with light bulbs and batteries.

“We are in the process of working with Waste Management to get that started,” he said.

Although the program is not in place yet, Phillips said the college has already started storing light bulbs and batteries so when the program is introduced, they will be ready to recycle.

For more information, contact the Facilities Management Office at 405-682-7554.

## RECYCLING AND REUSING IS SIMPLER THAN EVER SAYS EPA

# Reduce the 1,600 pounds of waste you use yearly

PARIS BURRIS

Editor

editor@occc.edu

The average American produces 4.4 pounds of waste per day, 29 pounds per week and 1,600 pounds per year, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. With resources and technology available, recycling and reusing is simpler than ever.

How can you stop leaving carbon footprints everywhere you go and save money too?

One way is by switching one or more lights in a home to Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs.

If every home in America replaced one single light bulb with a CFL, it would save enough energy for three million homes to be lit for a year, save \$600 million in energy costs per year and prevent 9 billion pounds of greenhouse emissions annually. This is the equivalent of 800,000 cars, according to [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov). CFLs can be bought at most stores, including Target and Walmart.

Plastic bags, which take up to 1,000 years to decompose, can be reused in a variety of ways, according to [www.protectyourcentralcoast.org](http://www.protectyourcentralcoast.org).

Plastic bags can be taken back to the grocery store for reuse. They also can be used as trash bags, food container protectors, packing material, kneepads while gardening and for various crafts, according to [www.greenliving.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.greenliving.nationalgeographic.com). When they are past useful, they can be recycled. To find a



drop-off location, visit [www.plasticbagrecycling.org](http://www.plasticbagrecycling.org).

Instead of throwing away old clothes, electronics, household items or other things, donate those items. That not only reduces landfill waste but also helps those in need as well.

Recycling laptops, cellphones and other electronic devices can help recover thousands of pounds of copper, silver, gold and palladium. To find a recycling store near you, visit [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).

Clothing donations help fund the Paralyzed Veterans of America or the National Children's Cancer Society through [www.clothingpickup.com](http://www.clothingpickup.com). Other clothing charity companies include the Salvation Army, Goodwill, various thrift stores and more. To find locations, visit [www.donationdropoff.org](http://www.donationdropoff.org).

Americans throw away enough plastic forks, spoons, bottles and cups to circle the equator 300 times each year, according to [www.cleanair.org](http://www.cleanair.org).

While most plastics can be recycled curbside or by a recycling center, they also provide material for fun, cute crafts. [www.designrulz.com](http://www.designrulz.com) provides 45 easy ideas for reusing plastic bottles for crafts, including jewelry holders, Christmas ornaments, plant containers, decorations and many more.

Riding a bicycle instead of driving a car every now and then is a healthy way to help reduce pollution to the environment through fuel emissions and saves money by not buying gas. According to [www.youcanbikethere.com](http://www.youcanbikethere.com), each car produces 1.3 billion cubic yards of polluted air, scattering an additional 40 pounds of worn tire particles, brake debris and worn road surface into the atmosphere during its lifetime.

There are many ways to recycle and reuse. Along with these websites, [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com) provides hundreds of creative ways to get involved.

For more information about ways to get involved, visit [www.earthshare.org](http://www.earthshare.org).



## SPORTS

## Water workout



CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

Community member Shirley Freeman works out in a deep water aerobics class on April 15 in the OCCC Aquatic Center. Deep water aerobics classes are offered from 10 a.m. to 10:55 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Morning shallow water aerobic classes are from 7:45 a.m. to 8:40 a.m. and 9 a.m. to 9:55 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Evening shallow water aerobics classes are also offered from 5:30 p.m. to 6:25 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Students, staff and community members can enroll.

**SPORTS** | Both day and evening classes offered at Aquatic Center

# Water aerobics no walk in the park

CHRIS JAMES

Photographer/Online Writer  
pioneerphotog@occc.edu

OCCC's Recreation and Fitness Department offers water aerobics classes intended to challenge all age groups, said Certified Instructor Danielle Mitchell.

"Most people think that water aerobics is really easy. They don't realize how challenging water aerobics can be if used as a high-aerobic workout. I do what I like to call an aqua bootcamp that is really, really energized."

Mitchell has been an instructor for 11 years and has two morning water aerobics classes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The first is a shallow-water class from 9 a.m. to 9:55 a.m.; the second is a deep-water class from 10 a.m. to 10:55 a.m.

Another instructor Peggy Payne also teaches morning shallow-water aerobic classes from 7:45 a.m. to 8:40 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Evening shallow-water aerobics classes also are offered from 5:30 p.m. to 6:25 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

“Most people think that water aerobics is really easy. They don't realize how challenging water aerobics can be if used as a high-aerobic workout.

—DANIELLE MITCHELL  
CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR

Mondays and Wednesdays classes are led by Catherine Wilson. Tuesdays and Thursdays classes are led by Jodie Brister.

OCCC students and community members can take these classes by purchasing a group fitness pass for \$35 or paying a daily drop-in fee of \$5.

The group fitness pass allows access to all of the group fitness classes for a semester, while the daily drop-in fee allows one day of access.

"I would like to see more students and staff come to the class and challenge themselves to see how well water aerobics work," Mitchell said.

For more information, visit [www.occc.edu/rf](http://www.occc.edu/rf).

## UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

**April 20:** Hershey's Track and Field Meet. The Hershey's Youth Track and Field local meet and competition is a national track meet program for boys and girls ages 9 to 14. The local event will be at 9 a.m. April 20, at the Westmoore High School Track and Field facility, 12613 S Western. Volunteers are needed for the local meet. To volunteer, please email [ewatson@occc.edu](mailto:ewatson@occc.edu).

**April 26 through 27:** Disc golf tournament. Registration is until 5 p.m. April 25. For more information, log in to [www.imleagues.com](http://www.imleagues.com).

**Now through April 30:** Sign up for the 3v3 Basketball Tourney. Registration will last until 5 p.m. April 30. Play is May 1 through 3. For more information, log in to [www.imleagues.com](http://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](mailto:sportswriter@occc.edu).**

**GOT SPORTS?**  
**Know of an upcoming event or outstanding athlete?**  
**Let us know what's going on. Call 405-682-1611, ext. 7676, or email [sportswriter@occc.edu](mailto:sportswriter@occc.edu)**

**Comments? Opinions? Story idea?**  
**E-mail Editor Paris Burris at [editor@occc.edu](mailto:editor@occc.edu)**  
**Let your voice be heard!**



# Lost phone, medical calls top police reports

**BUFFIE RICHARDSON BROWN**  
Staff Writer  
seniorwriter@occc.edu

A lost or missing item, medical calls and a non-injury auto accident kept campus police busy the last week of March through the first of April.

Udauk Udo, 48, reported a lost cell phone to campus police Tuesday, March 26. Udo said she noticed around 10 p.m. Monday, March 25 that her Galaxy phone was missing. She said she had used her phone about 4 p.m. at the library and had not used it since then.

Campus police located the phone in

the college's lost and found and returned it to Udo.

At about 9:45 a.m. Wednesday, March 27, Officer Gordon Nelson responded to a call from the OCCC Wellness Center regarding a woman who fell in the locker room.

Carolyn Sigler, 64, said she "just fell over the trash can," in the women's locker room. Sigler suffered scratches and bruises on both knees.

She left the college on her own.

At 1:06 p.m. the same day, campus police received a call regarding a child falling at the Aquatics Center pool. Lifeguard Hannah Decker said a 6-year-

old had slipped and hit her elbow while exiting the pool.

Decker applied an ice pack to the injury. Nelson asked the child's mother if she wanted an ambulance to be called. She said no.

A non-injury auto accident occurred around 7:19 p.m. Monday, April 1, at Keels Boulevard and Faculty Circle on campus. Officer Tim Harris responded to the incident. Upon arriving he noticed a 2014 Honda Accord on Keels with front tire and fender damage on the passenger side and a 2013 Chevrolet Cavalier with damage to the rear of the car. The bumper from the Cavalier was

lying next to the car on the ground.

Harris determined that Tuong Vi T Nguyen, 24, was driving her Honda east on Keels when James Duncan, 25, backed his Chevrolet out into the path of Nguyen's vehicle.

Duncan was issued a campus citation for failure to yield causing an accident. Nguyen's car was towed at her request by Puckett's Wrecker Service. Both parties exchanged 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.

## Roadmap: OCCC striving to help students graduate

*Continued from page 1*

"I pay for my own classes so I take them seriously and I want to do well," he said. "Failing isn't an option."

Business Management Major Christabel Aryeequaye, agrees that age is a factor to the success rate.

"I think it is an age thing because my mom is here at

college and she has a whole different mindset. She is an overachiever at everything," Aryeequaye said.

Kevin Hernandez, chemistry major, said a professor of his said some students come to school, get financial aid, then drop out and keep the financial aid.

"That's why Financial Aid changed their whole process

to try and make students stay in school, not just take the money," Hernandez said.

All three students said they think the plan is a good idea to improve the college and the community.

White said he thinks the college should offer students an incentive to graduate — such as an iPad.

Harvey said the college wants

to improve the community by sending students out into the workforce with degrees.

The majority of those unemployed are those with some college but no degree, a high school diploma, and less than a high school diploma according to the plan draft.

Sechrist said there are some changes and improvements he hopes to see in the next

five years.

"Higher success rates in classes (fewer dropouts), higher persistence rates (coming back semester after semester) and higher graduation rates (more students who complete degrees).

For more information, contact Harvey at sharvey@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7849.

## Play: 'Top Girls' representative of feminist movement

*Continued from page 1*

Marlene is played by Krissy Jones, a community actor and graduate of St. Gregory's University.

The play is written by award winning playwright Caryl Churchill and is meant to be a commentary on feminist ideals, Irick said. The beginning scene of "Top Girls" is a meeting of influential women throughout history.

"She [Caryl Churchill] presents all different types of women from housewives to working class women and tells the woman's experience very well through this show," Jones said. "She shows that there may not be a black-and-white definition of what it means to be a successful person."

Jones said the main character of the play looks up to former

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who died recently. Thatcher was prime minister during the 1980s and became a role model for the working woman.

The cast of seven portrays multiple characters and stays true to the setting by using British accents.

The roles of Dull Gret and Angie are played by OCCC Student Rikki Hileman.

OCCC student Jessa Shinske plays three roles: Isabella Bird, Mrs. Kidd, and Joyce.

Marie Skubic, current student in the OU School of Drama, plays Lady Nijo and Win.

The parts of Waitress, Kit, and Shona will be performed by OCCC student Alexis Ward, who also performed in OCCC's production of "Fences."

OCCC student Tia Lasiter

plays Patient Griselda, Jeanine, and Nell.

It isn't difficult to understand British English because the way the script was written lends itself to that dialect and makes it easy to follow, Skubic said.

"I think of Caryl Churchill as taking her fingernail and peeling the skin back on problems of the ugliness in society, and it's painful sometimes," Irick said. "She is exposing it so that you can think and realize the message yourself."

When asked about the challenges of playing in a production that was so influential and representative of the feminist movement, the cast members all agreed that it is sometimes difficult to relate to the historical characters who view their controversial actions as acceptable.

In preparation for the pro-

duction, Skubic said, the cast and director had a two-week long workshop to read through the script, get accustomed to using a British accent, and ask Irick any questions about their characters.

Irick is an accomplished actor, director, and theater instructor who holds graduate degrees from the University of Oklahoma (MFA, Directing) and Oklahoma City University

(Performing Arts).

Tickets cost \$5 for students and \$10 for adults. The performance on Thursday, April 25, will be free to OCCC students.

Due to strong language and adult situations, this performance is not suitable for children.

For more information, visit [www.occc.edu/ah](http://www.occc.edu/ah) or call 405-682-7558.



**Student Employment & Career Services** 

**OPTIMAL RESUME**

<https://occc.optimalresume.com>

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

Resumes • Cover Letters • Interview Skills



# CAMPUS COMMUNITY

## Weather savvy



CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

KOCO's Chief Meteorologist Damon Lane gives a presentation on April 9 in the College Union. Lane touched on topics such as what severe weather warnings and watches mean. He also talked about advances in technology that help meteorologists inform the public about severe weather threats.

**COMMUNITY** | In its 40th year of publication, literary book takes worldwide submissions

## Absolute reception April 25

ALLEN MITCHELL  
News Writing Student

The 2013 edition of the Absolute literary journal will be released on Thursday, April 25, with a reception to unveil the new edition, and recognize the writers and artists whose works have been chosen for publication.

The event will be from 12:30 until 1:30 in CU1 and CU2, said Marybeth McCauley, faculty adviser and reception coordinator.

The reception will feature readings from the journal and music from the OCCC jazz ensemble, under the direction of music Professor Michael Boyle.

Critics' Choice Awards will be presented for the top submissions in each genre. The winning entries were chosen by a select group of judges, all of whom are OCCC English professors, McCauley said.

Now in its 40th year of publication, the Absolute was designed as a platform to give aspiring artists and writers the chance to showcase their talents. Entry for consideration is not limited to OCCC students but is open to all. Submissions in the past have come from all over the world, McCauley said.

Thirty-one works were chosen from the hundreds of submissions. Three student editors spent hours go-

“We had a lot of awesome artwork which made it really difficult. I was really impressed with how much talent there is out there.”

—LAUREN PARKER  
ABSOLUTE STUDENT EDITOR

ing over every entry and rating each one individually. They would then meet once a week to decide those that would be published.

“We had a lot of awesome artwork which made it really difficult,” said student editor Lauren Parker.

Parker has been published in the Absolute in the nonfiction category. She said she had a lot of fun reading all of the submissions.

“I was really impressed with how much talent there is out there,” she said.

Modern language major Lyndsie StremLOW has won two awards for her works in the Absolute.

“It's exciting to know that my work will be seen by someone [other than] me,” StremLOW said.

Although she has been published five times, StremLOW said it still feels awesome to have her work selected. She encourages aspiring writers to submit their works for publication.

## CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

### Tuition Fee Waiver Deadline

Tuition Fee Waiver applications for the Summer 2013 semester are available in the Financial Aid office. Completed applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. April 20. Students need to attach an academic transcript and be enrolled in at least six hours for the corresponding semester prior to submitting a Tuition Fee Waiver to the Financial Aid Office. For more information, call Student Financial Support Services at 405-682-7525.

### Campus Voices: TEDx talk scheduled

The next TEDx Talk will be from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, April 24, in CU3. TED is a nonprofit devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading. It started out (in 1984) as a conference bringing together people from three worlds: Technology, Entertainment, Design. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

### Student Employment offers video help

Attend the CareerSpots Career Advice videos session from 12:30 to 1 p.m. Thursday, April 25 in the Main Building, first floor, room 1G7. With access to 52 videos on how to: Start your job search; Develop résumés & cover letters; Network & how to develop your personal brand; Internships; Interview-Before; Interview-During; Interview-After; Social media & Job Search; and Salary & Negotiation. For more information, contact Student Employment and career services at 405-682-7519.

### Newspaper Advisory Board to meet

The student newspaper advisory board will meet at 2 p.m. Friday, April 26, in the Instructional Conference room located in the Arts and Humanities Area, room 1B3. The meeting is open to the public.

### ESL Grammar workshop offered April 24

An ESL grammar workshop will be held at 2:30 p.m. April 24 in the World Languages and Cultural Center on the second floor of the Main Building. Center Coordinator Chiaki Troutman said the intent is to give students learning English as a second language more English grammar practice. The workshop will focus on the major grammar problems most ESL students usually have. It will include hands-on activities on correcting run-on errors and other common problems. For more information, email [ctroutman@occc.edu](mailto:ctroutman@occc.edu).

**All Highlights are due Monday by noon for inclusion in the next issue. Email your event to [communitywriter@occc.edu](mailto:communitywriter@occc.edu)**

“Take every chance to express yourself,” she said. “You only get one life to do it in.”

Refreshments will be served during the event.

For more information contact Marybeth McCauley at 405-682-1611, ext. 7405, or email [mmccauley@occc.edu](mailto:mmccauley@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](mailto:adman@occc.edu).

AUTOMOTIVE

**FOR SALE:** 1965 Chevy truck. \$3,000 OBO. Rebuilt motor. Runs. Needs painting. 1962 Chevy car. \$1,500 OBO. Call/text: 405-517-4117 for more info.

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

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

**COLLEGE ALGEBRA TUTOR WANTED:** Will pay up to \$10 an hour. Anyone interested PLEASE message or text 405-496-1920.

**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.

[WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER](http://WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER)

Personal classified ads are free to students and employees. [adman@occc.edu](mailto:adman@occc.edu).

Share your thoughts with us: [Email Paris at editor@occc.edu](mailto:editor@occc.edu)

# SUMMER JOBS

## THE CITY OF EDMOND

There are a variety of jobs available at:

- Pelican Bay Aquatic Center•
- Parks & Recreation•
- Arcadia Lake•
- Kickingbird Golf Club•

For information and an application:  
[www.edmondok.com/jobs](http://www.edmondok.com/jobs)  
—OR—  
7 N Broadway, Room 129

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

# SE&S

Student Employment & Career Services

OCCC

## JOB BOARD

[www.collegecentral.com/occc](http://www.collegecentral.com/occc)

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

Find Jobs • Post Your Resume • Apply for Positions

# 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.


W	E	T	S	A	T	S	R	A	C	E	H	T	R	K	L	I	S
B	R	I	R	R	H	O	K	O	N	T	E	L	E	A	I	V	E
L	A	F	A	E	E	C	N	E	X	C	O	L	D	J	Y	O	L
O	S	F	E	N	P	L	N	I	N	E	E	T	R	A	E	J	G
N	U	A	F	G	O	A	D	I	B	O	T	N	O	G	N	N	N
D	R	N	R	I	L	F	R	A	J	A	A	T	W	O	R	O	A
I	E	Y	O	E	I	P	D	Y	V	E	S	T	E	O	U	B	B
E	K	S	F	R	C	T	L	U	C	I	A	I	N	G	O	E	E
C	T	I	S	O	E	L	O	O	R	L	D	S	L	O	J	U	M
H	H	S	R	F	I	W	Y	I	K	A	C	B	M	O	R	A	Y
I	E	E	A	B	N	L	A	T	R	A	N	A	O	Y	H	T	A
C	F	N	E	B	L	E	A	N	N	T	D	D	T	W	T	Q	D
A	I	E	T	I	E	L	L	D	G	N	E	H	U	E	I	U	E
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ASIA	ERASURE	NENA	THE FIXX
BANGLES	EURHYTHMICS	NEW ORDER	THE MOTELS
BERLIN	FALCO	PRINCE	THE POLICE
BILLY JOEL	FOREIGNER	QUEEN	TIFFANY
BILLY OCEAN	GENESIS	QUIET RIOT	TOM PETTY
BLONDIE	HEART	ROXETTE	TONI BASIL
BON JOVI	INXS	SCANDAL	TOTO
CHICAGO	JOURNEY	SOFT CELL	VAN HALEN
DAVID BOWIE	KAJAGOOGOO	TALK TALK	WANG CHUNG
DEBARGE	MADNESS	TEARS FOR FEARS	WHAM!
DURAN DURAN	MADONNA	THE CARS	

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STILLWATER THE SITE OF OKLAHOMA COLLEGIATE MEDIA ASSOCIATION LUNCHEON

# Pioneer staff takes 26 awards at conference

**BUFFIE RICHARDSON BROWN**  
Senior Writer  
seniorwriter@occc.edu

Pioneer reporters brought home a total of 26 awards from the annual Oklahoma Collegiate Media Association luncheon held Friday, April 5, on the Oklahoma State University campus in Stillwater.

For the 10th straight year, OCCC's student newspaper the Pioneer won first place for two-year newspapers.

A judge said of the paper, "Strong stories, good leads, clear focus, well sourced."

The online paper also won first place in the two-year college category. Judges gave it high marks.

"A clean and easy to navigate site that has a good amount of content for readers."

Pioneer Photographer Chris James

**Pioneer:** First place: Overall Newspaper; Front Page Design, Online Newspaper.

**Chris James:** First, second, third place and honorable mention for Sports Photography; First for Photography Portfolio; Second and third place, and Honorable Mention in Feature Photography; Second place in News Photography.

**Erin Peden:** First place for Reviews.

**Jeremy Cloud:** First place, News Writing; First and second place, Cartoons; Third place, Reviews.

**Joey Stipek:** First and second place in Investigative Reporting.

**Sarah Hussain:** Second place and honorable mention, News Writing; First place in Investigative Reporting.

**Robert Bolton:** Second place in Reviews.

**Yvonne Alex:** Second place for Investigative Reporting.

**Mike Wormley:** First place Investigative Reporting.

won nine of the 26 awards. James said he was surprised so many of his entries had won.

"It was the perfect way to end a good year at the Pioneer," James said.

James' first place entry in Sports Photography was a photo of a synchronized dive at the Mountain West Swimming and Diving Championship Feb. 25.

Former Staff Writer Jeremy Cloud won first place in News Writing for his article "OCCC employees receive first raise in years." A judge commented that the story had good organization.

The Pioneer won both first and second place in investigative reporting.

The first-place award was awarded to former Pioneer staffers Sarah Hussain, Joey Stipek and Mike Wormley for a two-part series on OCCC's handling of open records requests.

Second place went to former Pioneer Staff Writers Yvonne Alex and Joey Stipek for an article on the Aquatic Center budget.

Student Erin Peden won first place for a concert review. Peden said she was glad to be recognized for her work.

"I love going to concerts and writing about them so I was excited when I found out I had won for my Rod Stewart and Stevie Nicks review," she said.

"Writing reviews is my specialty so it was nice to finally get recognized for all the work I've done."

News Writing Instructional Assistant Ronna Austin said she is happy with the results and proud of the students.

"The Pioneer always wins more awards than any other school at OCMA. That is no accident. We have very capable and professional student journalists," Austin said.

She predicted that next year, the Pioneer will win even more awards and continue to place first in the 2-year overall newspaper division.

"We are always striving to improve," Austin said.

The conference was held in the Wes Watkins center on the OSU-Stillwater campus where students were able to attend sessions by professionals such as Kelly Hines, Tulsa World sports writer; Phil Cross from Fox 25; and Student Press Law Center Attorney Adam Goldstein.

Students also had the chance to interview with state newspapers including: Enid News & Eagle, Elk City Daily News, The Chickasha Express Star, Grady County, Oklahoma Watch,

**INSIDE**

**PIONEER ONLINE**

To comment on stories, or to access the latest news, features, multimedia, online exclusives and updates, visit [occc.edu/pioneer](http://occc.edu/pioneer).

**PIONEER**

**EDITORIAL**

**GET IN TOUCH — IN PERSON, NOT ONLINE**

Staff Writer Erin Peden says people have forgotten how to talk to each other without a computer between them. Read her thoughts inside.

**OPINION, p. 2**

**CAMPUS LIFE**

**ARTS FESTIVAL OKLAHOMA**

Those interested in food, music, and lots of artwork will want to attend the annual Arts Festival Oklahoma being held Aug. 31 through Sept. 3 on the OCCC campus.

**NEWS, p. 6**

**SPORTS**

**COLLEGE HAS PLAYED HOST TO OLYMPIANS**

OCCC's Aquatic Center hosts some of the most prestigious events in the U.S. and is where many champions have competed.

**SPORTS, p. 8**

**CAMPUS LIFE**

**STUDENT ORGANIZATION FAIR AUG. 29, 30**

Ready to join a club? Take your pick at the upcoming Student Organization Fair. Turn inside for more information.

**COMMUNITY, p. 10**

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# PIONEER

AUGUST 24, 2012 WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

## OCCC marks 40th birthday

Students pose in front of the college, forming the letters OCCC. Oklahoma City Community College opened its doors in 1972 with only five in its first graduating class. Today, it is the fourth largest college in the state in terms of enrollment, serving approximately 14,000 students each fall and spring semester. For more, turn to page 7 or visit the Pioneer Online at [www.occc.edu/pioneer](http://www.occc.edu/pioneer).

**COLLEGE OPENED ITS DOORS IN 1972 WITH A FIRST GRADUATING CLASS OF FIVE IN 1973**

**JEREMY CLOUD**  
Community Writer  
[communitywriter@occc.edu](mailto:communitywriter@occc.edu)

From its start as a small junior college serving non-traditional students with night classes to being the fourth largest college in the state by annual enrollment numbers, OCCC has changed a lot in 40 years, said OCCC President Paul Sechrist. Sechrist said he believes the biggest change over the last four decades is the increase in scale of the college. "In 1972, the first year, the college had one building and a fall enrollment of just over 1,000 students," he said. "Today the campus is a campus of many buildings and this fall, the enrollment will be well over 14,000 students." He said the large number of students enrolled annually is unusual for a community college "with only one campus." "There are definitely community colleges with larger enrollment numbers," he said. "But their numbers are spread out over several campus facilities, with maybe 5,000 to 6,000 students per campus." The president's Executive Administrative Assistant Janice Phillips offered another view of how the college has changed. She said she believes the biggest change is the level of recognition accorded OCCC. "It used to be that we were just that school on the southside that looked like a barn," Phillips said. "Today, we've gained the respect of not only our local community but also a broader perspective [of recognition] of all of Oklahoma City, of the state of Oklahoma, and even a perspective of national recognition for the quality education and institution that we have." Phillips also said that while she enjoys the growth OCCC has experienced, she misses the small-school environment. "I know it's impossible, but if I could wiggle my nose and bring something back from the college's past, it would be that intimacy of everyone knowing everyone." Journalism and English professor Sue Hinton said she believes the

See OCCC page 9

## Former bursar guilty of embezzling \$400K

**SARAH HUSSAIN**  
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Former OCCC Bursar Brandy Henson, 49, pled guilty Aug. 16 in a federal court to

wire fraud in connection with embezzling nearly \$400,000 from OCCC between 2004 and 2011, according to a court document filed July 10 with the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma. Henson resigned her position on Sept. 30, 2011. At that time, she was making \$60,000 a

See EMBEZZLE page 9

For the 10th straight year, OCCC's student newspaper the Pioneer won first place for two-year newspapers. A judge said of the paper, "Strong stories, good leads, clear focus, well sourced." The online paper also won first place in an open category that included both two- and four year schools. Judges gave it high marks. "A clean and easy to navigate site that has a good amount of content for readers."

Stillwater NewsPress, Wesner Publications and Woodward News.

The 26th Annual Paul Miller Lecture speaker was Lynn Povich, award-winning journalist and author of "The Good Girls Revolt." Povich spoke about her experience as one of 46 women who sued their employer Newsweek

magazine for sex discrimination.

Following the lecture students accepted their awards from OCMA organizer Joey Senat during the luncheon.

For more information about OCMA, visit [www.ocma.okstate.edu](http://www.ocma.okstate.edu). The Pioneer Online is located at [www.occc.edu/pioneer](http://www.occc.edu/pioneer).

