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PORNOGRAPHY MAY REDUCE ASSAULTS

Videographer Jake McMahon says men who view Internet porn are less likely to commit sexual crimes against others. See more inside.

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VIETNAMESE STUDENT LIKES OKLAHOMA

Hang Le says she knew about OCCC long before she made the move to attend college here. Read more about her journey and her home on page 7.

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Out of This World campers spent time playing gym games, watching soccer and going on a field trip. Turn inside for more information.

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PIONEER CONNECTIVE COLLEGE

JULY 11, 2014

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COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

<section-header>

Retired Oklahoma City couple Charles and Teresa Henley feed the birds July 8 at OCCC's retention pond. When asked how often they visit Charles said, "Every day — even when it's icy." Fishing also is allowed at the pond on a catch-and-release basis. The retention pond is located on the northeast corner of the main campus.

Tuition increasing by 5%, no raises

OCCC officials release 2014-15 college budget

BRYCE MCELHANEY

Editor editor@occc.edu

OCCC students should prepare to pull more money from their wallets when the 2014 fall semester rolls around.

Tuition will increase by about 5 percent because the funds from the State of Oklahoma and the local school district will not increase at all next year, said President Paul Sechrist. College regents approved the 2014-2015 budget in June.

Sechrist said mandatory cost increases have left the college with a hole in its budget that can only be filled by asking students to pay more.

"We're raising tuition to cover a portion of that \$1.3 million increased cost.

"The 4.85 percent increase, or \$5 per credit hour, will bring in about an additional \$696,000, helping to offset some of the \$1.3 million in mandatory cost increases we anticipate coming to the college next year."

The mandatory increases will include employee health

insurance, property insurance, software licenses, utilities, accreditation fees, contracts, cleaning services and other maintenance, Sechrist said. OCCC's mandatory costs have risen over the last several years, not because the college

See **BUDGET** page 9

President's salary to remain the same

BRYCE MCELHANEY

Editor editor@occc.edu

President Paul Sechrist stood in solidarity with his faculty and staff by asking the OCCC Board of Regents not to consider a pay raise for him, he said.

The board found that Sechrist deserved a merit increase, but held his compensation at the current level like all other employees,

See SECHRIST page 9

PINION

EDITORIAL | Writer believes a correlation exists between Internet porn and decline in sexual assaults

Pornography has good points

Many people who enjoy pornography also admit it's disgusting. But a lot of things are disgusting, such as reruns of "Step By Step." People tend to make more of a hubbub about porn, which doesn't make much sense.

It seems like the only real problem people have with watching porn is, it's gross. This is true. Real



JAKE

McMAHON

sex, however, is far grosser. No one ever got a disease from watching a video.

However, addiction to pornography can lead to sexual impotence, leading to an even bigger addiction as it becomes the only available outlet.

"A new German study in JAMA Psychiatry found men who watch an excessive amount of pornography tend to have less volume and brain activity in regions linked to reward and

motivation As men continually watch porn to feel stimulated, their ability to become naturally stimulated is severely hampered," Rehabs.com reported on a study on the subject.

OK. And the problem is? It seems the only problems caused by these developments are not problems at all but possible solutions to other problems such as overpopulation or sexual assaults.

The more impotent men in the world, the fewer unplanned pregnancies — and planned — pregnancies. Anyone caught in a traffic jam could confidently say there are too many people being born.

The more impotent men running around, the fewer sexual assaults.

There are worldwide statistics showing areas with more Internet access report fewer sex crimes.

"Since 1993, violent crime in America has dropped by 58 percent. But the progress in this one realm has been especially dramatic. Rape is down 72 percent and other sexual assaults have fallen by 68 percent," according to reason.com.

It just so happens that the '90s is when the Internet became readily available to almost everyone.

Think about it. If a fellow is at home with a bag of jelly beans, he doesn't risk a prison sentence to go out and get jelly beans.

Ladies should be glad that porn exists since it may have already saved them from a horrible incident at some point in their lives. It is possible. An impotent rapist is the only good kind of rapist.

It is a shame that so many men struggle with porn addiction.

The solution, however, is people learning how to discipline themselves — not to just take porn away from everyone. For some men, if they cannot see naked ladies on their computers, they'll look other places.

Another outdated argument is "porn is sexist toward women." Some of it very well may be. However, pornography, like snowflakes, has millions of different



shapes. Lots of it does not even include women. But assuming that it is sexist, why is sexist pornography bad when "Real Housewives" shows are OK?

Pornography may cause damage to people's sex drives. This should not matter, though, since we all seem to have forgotten something. Sex is obsolete. Ever since humankind figured out how to freeze sperm, there has been absolutely no reason for people to have sex.

People still do it, though. Why?

Many who are against pornography will say that sex is still relevant. They say it is still relevant because sex can be a beautiful expression of love. That's a sweet thought. I think I'll watch some beautiful expressions right now.

What can I say? I'm a romantic.

-Iake McMahon VIDEOGRAPHER

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | Get birth records now to avoid long lines in August

Health department says beat the back-to-school rush

To the Editor:

The Oklahoma State Department of Health urges parents to get their children's birth certificates now, rather than early to mid-August, which is typically the busiest time to obtain birth records as parents prepare to get their children back to school.

Birth records are available at the Oklahoma State Department of Health, 1000 N.E. 10th Street.

Birth certificates are issued between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for legal holidays.

To obtain a copy of a birth certificate, qualified applicants will need to provide the child's full name, date of birth, place of birth, parents' full names (ina government-issued photo I.D. Applications, as well as a complete list of authorized applicants, are available online at http://vr.health.ok.gov.

The cost for a birth certificate is \$15. Adoptions, paternities, and other amendment requests may be subject to an additional administrative fee. Checks or money orders must be made payable to the Vital **Records Service.**

Eligible applicants also can apply for birth certificates by mailing their completed application, a copy of their photo ID, and a check for the appropriate fees to: Vital Records Office, Oklahoma State Department

cluding the maiden name of the mother), and furnish of Health, 1000 N.E. 10th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73117. Allow approximately four to six weeks for receipt of the record.

> While the Oklahoma State Department of Health does not accept Internet orders directly, for your convenience, you may submit a request through VitalChek Network, Inc. at www.vitalchek.com or by phone at 1-877-817-7364. An additional fee is charged by VitalChek for this service. All major credit cards are accepted.

> For more information, visit http://vr.health.ok.gov or call 405-271-4040.

> > -Oklahoma State Health Department

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 name if the request is made in writing.

Vol. 42 No. 39

The PIONEER has the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity. Letters should be no more 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 http:// pioneer.occc.edu.

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

MOVIE REVIEW | Film follows lovers through ups and downs

'Endless Love' predictably great

I had a free weekend so I went takes off from there. to the nearest Redbox and rented "Endless Love," the 2014 remake of a 1981 film by the same name.

This sappy love story piqued my interest when I saw it stars Alex Pettyfer as one of the star-crossed lovers.

The movie starts with a dramatic scene of Jade Butterfield graduating high school and the smooth deep voice of David Elliot talking about her from his point of view.

He lets the viewers know that she had lost her oldest brother a few years back and had been a shut-in ever since. She had no friends in school and had spent all of her time with her parents.

The plot line continues with learning that David has a secret past and seeing how privileged Jade is.

Jade invites David to a graduation party she is throwing at her house and their epic love affair

MOVIE REVIEW | Writer's block become storyline for movie

The movie is full of very sappy love scenes that you expect from every chick flick, just with a flare of edge to them.

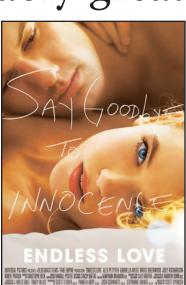
The movie continues with David getting closer to Jade's family and learning about a secret her father is keeping. With Jade's father trying to keep them apart, their love just grows stronger and more reckless.

The movie comes to a head when Jade is forced to stay away from David and then, leaves for college. The viewers see the points of view from both Jade and David during this time and the misery they both feel.

Throughout the movie you see different relationships grow, as well as fall apart, which is refreshing to see in a love story.

As with all romantic films, the ending is predictable, but that's the greatness of these movies.

This movie shows the viewers



what it is like to really fight for love, even if it is a young love. It shows that love can withstand time, but also shows how fragile love is and how letting go can sometimes be for the best.

Rating: A -Mycalyn Blomstrom **ONLINE WRITER**

Coen brothers write what they know

While writing "Miller's Crossing," Joel and Ethan Coen experienced what some may call writer's block. How did the Coen Brothers overcome this ordeal? They wrote "Barton Fink" — a film about a writer who loses the ability to produce new work.

Set in 1941, the film stars John Turturro ("O Brother, Where Art Thou?") as the title character.

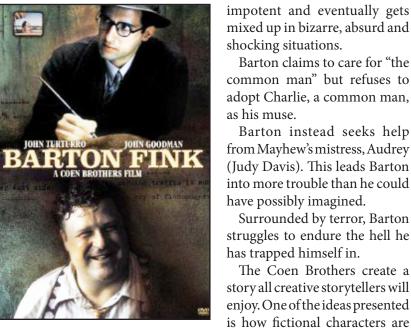
A popular playwright from New York City, Barton is employed to write scripts for a movie studio in Hollywood. John Goodman ("Raising Arizona") plays Charlie. A kind neighbor, Charlie lives next door to Barton in the decaying Hotel Earle.

Hired to write a simple script

about a wrestler, Barton is unable to create anything past a couple of lines.

He eventually seeks advice from W.P. Mayhew (John Mahoney). A popular author, Mahoney tells Barton, "It's when I can't write, I can't escape myself, I want to rip my head off." Even well-respected writers aren't immune to inadequacy.

As the story moves on, Barton begins to feel more



stuck in their world for eternity — the writer is merely a tourist.

"Barton Fink" is a film most people probably won't eniov

Like the majority of the Coen Brothers stories, the film has common characters but stories targeted toward high culture.

Undoubtedly, Joel and Ethan Coen are more than average filmmakers — they're masters.

MapsWithMe invaluable

PPLICAT

Who doesn't love to travel the world? And who doesn't hate the mobile phone bills that follow on the heels of a trip abroad? They can run as high as the plane ticket.

for travelers

Having just returned from leading a two-week study-abroad class to Italy, I know the feeling. The benefit of mobile technology in an unfamiliar city is priceless, especially when you're trying to find your way back to the hostel after a busy day of activities.

However, the cost of using data-roaming for a GPS system is prohibitive in Rome — or just about anywhere outside the U.S.

Luckily a friend alerted me to the value of the telephone app MapsWithMe.

The program costs \$4.95 and allows the user to download maps of destination countries and cities onto multiple mobile devices. I put maps of Italy and Ireland on my mobile phone and my iPad.

This puts city maps in the user's hands, offline, without requiring data-roaming or Wi-Fi.

The street-by-street close-ups can help you find your way back to your hotel or hostel - or to that favorite eating place.

The program offers a number of amenities, including a free guidebook that can be referenced on the phone.

It also allows the user to bookmark points of attraction on the map in the phone with colored stickpins. You can use different colored pins for different days on the itinerary.

MapsWithMe also allows the user to search for restaurants, mass transit points, hotels, ATMs, gas stations, even toilets, on the downloaded maps. These can be invaluable in a pinch.

Using MapsWithMe before traveling allows a person to become oriented to the destination before ever leaving home.

It's well worth the price.

-Sue Hinton **OCCC Professor**

"Barton Fink" itself is art reflecting life. And as the brothers demonstrate movie after movie, two heads are better than one.

Rating: A+

-ETHAN COOPER **WEBMASTER**

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

BUSINESS REVIEW | Numerous problems revealed from the first step in the gate

Six Flags theme park in dire need of facelift

Summer means vacation time, at least in my family. This year, we decided to stay close to home and do a short trip, meaning we were going to the grand ol' Six Flags Over Texas in Arlington.

I've been going to Six Flags since I was about 4, so I'm pretty familiar with the park and rides. This has proved to be both a good and bad thing, but mostly a bad thing, because I have watched the park steadily decline.

When I arrived at the park, I noticed how old the park appeared. Chipped paint, attempts to quick-fix broken things, dirty water spraying from all the fountains, and even a weird odor greeted me after I walked in the gate.

Of course, no one goes to Six Flags for the scenery; they go for the rides. I have ridden all of their coasters and thrill rides at least 50 times each, and while each



time they get a little less exciting, I have to say they were exceptionally disappointing during this visit.

My brother and I were in line for at least three different rides and they all "stopped working momentarily." After about 10 minutes, a mechanic would show up and shine a flashlight and somehow the ride would become magically fixed after a few trial runs.

While I do understand that mechanical or technological errors do occur, it became

annoying that we had to wait so much extra time to ride coasters we were essentially playing Russian Roulette with.

Also, one of my favorite coasters, Batman The

Ride, was closed and has been closed for a while, because they are making it run backwards instead of the normal way.

The food at Six Flags also has become a major disappointment.

Six Flags used to be sponsored by some good companies with quality food like Papa Johns, and Ben and Jerry's.

Now, the majority of their food is little better than cafeteria food quality, which is highway robbery at around \$12 per person per meal.

Overall, my experience wasn't terrible and I did enjoy the quality time with my family. However, Six Flags needs to step up its game, especially when the admission price is more than \$60 per person.

Rating: C-

-LAUREN DANIEL Senior Writer



Norman strip club a cheap thrill

BUSINESS REVIEW | Sugers a fun time out with the 21 and over crowd

It's a warm summer evening, bottles are being emptied all about and there are countless cab services and pre-designated sober folks to pilot the not-sosober folks home.

It's a memorable night out in Norman, arguably the coolest place to live in Oklahoma.

Somehow, you've ended up at a dive bar, watching a gang of local musicians wail exhaustive double-entendres into a microphone while causing the building to shake with indecipherable, blaring computer music.

The place is crowded, but this is exciting. For an Oklahoma town, these people are fun to watch, as they drag puffs from their vapor devices and swing glowing hula hoops around their waists like acrobats in the circus while the lights flash neon motley combinations.

Your friends are shouting for you to come along now — we're leaving — and soon, you find yourself immersed in a different mesh of bodies, a different beat now resounding in your eardrums, and the sight of a pretty blond catching your eye — a blond with a pair of azure blue eyes staring right back.

It's a quick exchange, but somehow, you've both ended up near one another and your buddies are cheering you on from afar.

You're excited and for a minute, you feel like a champion, but before you can solidify your victory and accept your laurels, you are whisked away on another journey away from the mesmerizing stranger.

As the lights around you shift, you find yourself stumbling into an abandoned alleyway.

It's completely vacant, save a tall, metal post flashing an angelic phrase that nearly every man is apt to crave after his first taste — "Sugers." After the man at the door ensures you're of age, you enter a smokey, dark-lit area with chairs and tables littered all about.

You are immediately greeted with unwarranted attention from a woman who resembles your old Aunt Marlboro — oops, Aunt Marla — who keeps refilling your drink cup even though you've only had two sips.

Now you're worried Aunt Marla will tell mom where you are, but your worries are assuaged when you see a familiar pair of pretty eyes flashing blue in the spotlight.

The blond has somehow made it onstage, moving all about and winking those blue eyes at you.

You can't help but be drawn closer, until you are face-to-face, reliving those golden moments you were having before. It's just the two of you now and things couldn't be better. She leans in, and you lean in, but before yourlips can touch, she whispers, ever-so-softly to you: "That'll be 10 bucks, big guy."

You're not sure why the blond has demanded money from you, or why she is now paying attention to the five gentlemen at the table next to you, but no matter — you're in love.

As you ride home in the back of a cab, your buddies are applauding your first taste of "Sugers," Norman's most well-known strip club.

And you can't help but agree with them: it was cheap, it was thrilling and it was the next best thing to what you couldn't have.

Sugers is located at 750 Asp Ave. on Campus Corner. **Rating:** C

—Siali Siaosi Online Editor

Employees speak out about not getting raises

BRYCE MCELHANEY Editor

editor@occc.edu

For the most part, college employees are philosophical about the lack of a pay increase for the next school year. Although not surprised, some said they can'thelp but feel some disappointment.

Academic adviser Robert Graham is one of them.

Graham said there would be no major changes on his finances without receiving a raise.

"I'll be in the same financial situation that I'm currently in," he said. "Certainly most of my colleagues were probably looking forward to having a raise this year, but as for any major changes, I would say there's none."

Graham said he's not completely concerned with the financial aspect of no raise, but rather how it reflects on him as an employee.

"It doesn't look great when you apply for other positions, or internships and certain things like that when your income is stagnant where you haven't shown progress in your income through raises," Graham said.

"It looks like you're doing a mediocre job, so it doesn't appeal in terms of marpositions and that's very frustrating." Graham said the greater impact on employee morale is the absence of a meritorious award at the end of each fiscal year based on employee performance.

ketability for other

He said performance should be rewarded.

"That would encourage a higher quality of work out of your individual employees, [which] doesn't have to be anything substantial, just something that says 'we do notice," Graham said.

"Just some kind of compensation that says 'we appreciate you.' I think that would have a substantial effect in increasing morale."

Graham said verbal confirmation is the main way he and his colleagues receive recognition on their performance.

Communications Lab Supervisor Lynette Leidner said no pay raise obviously affects her on a personal level, but she thinks the greater concern is what it says about the state's priorities as far as education goes.

"Our salaries are just one part of

What's disappointing is that you do work so hard and you do contribute so much." –Lynette Leidner COMMUNICATIONS LAB SUPERVISOR the state's commitment to education," Leidner said.

"What does it say about what they're committing to education, to students as a whole.

"If they don't invest in education and invest in our students and invest in the

people who are teaching these students, then I don't know how they expect the economy to ever change.

"How do they expect for us to better the position of ourselves, of our students, of our communities if the state is not willing to pay back into that system?"

Leidner said she taught before taking her current position.

She said that's when she learned she did not to go into teaching for the money, but for the values of teaching itself.

"I think it's disappointing, because — I think I can speak for everybody — we all work here because we're committed to the vision. We're committed to the mission of OCCC."

Leidner said she and other OCCC and I like my job."

employees are always thinking about what they can do to continually make OCCC a better college for students.

"What's disappointing is that you do work so hard and you do contribute so much — not just what you do here, but we're always thinking about our jobs after we leave here," Leidner said.

"To know that the financial aspect may not always even out ... it can be very frustrating."

Library Public Service Coordinator Jay Ramanjulu said, though there will be no raises, he's happy with his job.

"There are other states that are really suffering, but in this state [the economy] is doing so well, so how come we're not getting any of that money?" he asked.

"Personally, I'm OK. But in general, I can see the morale is going to go down eventually."

Reference Librarian Rachel Butler said she's especially concerned for all the people who have part-time jobs and no benefits.

"It gets harder and harder and it's not just the salary," she said.

"The wages might be at the same level with inflation and everything. But it's really not, it's shrinking.

"I'm OK, [because] I have a good job and I like my job."

Public sex at off-campus site leads to double arrest

SIALI SIAOSI

Online Editor onlineeditor@occ.edu

Two arrests, drug paraphernalia and a man not complying with the Wellness Center dress code were reported the week of July 1 through July 7.

James Dundas,43, and Meir Scheuer, 39, were arrested around 12:30 p.m. Thursday, July 3, after Officer Daniel Piazza found them having sex on a bench outside OCCC's Professional Development Institute, 7124 S. I-35 Service Road, according to a report filed. Piazza said he arrested the pair after finding they both had outstanding warrants.

Piazza said Dundas had multiple aliases, and his warrants were issued to John Dundas for assault and battery with a dangerous weapon as well as trespassing on public property.

Scheuer's warrants included failing to appear in court and offering to engage in an act of prostitution, according to the report. Both were transported to the Oklahoma County Detention Center.

Around 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 2, a glass pipe was found in the women's restroom in the Transportation Technology Center, according to a report filed by Officer David Madden.

Madden said the pipe fell from the toilet seat cover dispenser after a woman tried to remove one. He said the pipe was wrapped in toilet paper.

The pipe was appeared to have been used for drug purposes due to burn marks, odor and residue, he said.

Photographs were taken and the pipe was sent to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation for destruction.

Around 11 a.m. on Tuesday, July 8, Officer Nelson Gordon and Officer Piazza responded to a call regarding a man who was not in compliance with the Wellness Center dress code, according to a report filed.

The officers met with Recre-

ation Specialist Eric Watson, Gordon said, who told the man his shorts, made of an abrasive material, could damage the weight machine's cushions.

The man, whose name was

withheld from the report by campus officials, complied with the request to leave and agreed to wear proper gym attire the next time he visited the Wellness Center. To contact campus police, call-682-1611, ext. 7747.

For an emergency, use one of the call boxes located inside and outside on campus or call 405-682-7872.

OCCC a new base for WIC program

SARAH ZUBAIR

Newswriting Student

As a resource hub, OCCC is now offering another program that will advance the lives of mothers and children in the greater Oklahoma City area. Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), the government supplemental feeding program, is now represented on the OCCC campus and open to the public, said Cynthia Marcum, program nutritionist and registered dietitian.

Not only can all Oklahoma City residents register for WIC, Marcum said, but qualifying participants also can acquire referrals for health care visits, breastfeeding care counseling and nutrition education.

"When there's an appointment scheduled we know people are busy, and they don't have time to be waiting in line," she said. "We work quickly getting individuals registered in about

30 minutes. A family of three or four can be registered in about an hour."

The office is in the Child Development Center and Lab School, in the north hall of the FACE Center, located at 6500 S Land Ave., about one mile north of the main campus.

It is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment Monday through Thursday. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 405-682-1611, ext. 7690.

Individuals can find out if they are eligible for the program by registering with the center or by providing proof of eligibility such as enrollment in SNAP benefits or SoonerCare.

"We even take the Certificate of Degree of Indian blood," Marcum said.

Parents are encouraged to bring their ID and immunization records or birth records for their children.

For more information, call 405-682-1611 ext. 7690.

Nursing booster scholarship offered

MYCALYN BLOMSTROM Online Writer onlinewriter@occc.edu

By 2018, an estimated 581,500 people will have jobs in the nursing field according to research by Johnson and Johnson. Some of those will have graduated from OCCC with a little help from a new scholarship program.

OCCC will offer its first BADNAP Booster Scholarship program starting this fall, said Jana Wade, Admissions adviser. The Booster Scholarship is a tuition waiver that would cover the costs of any required prerequisite courses students would need prior to entering OCCC's Baccalaureate to Associate Degree Nurse Accelerated Pathway program, she said.

"An associate degree in nursing at OCCC requires a minimum of 74 to 75 credit hours, with 38 to 39 of them being general education and support credits," Wade said. "[Those] courses must be completed prior to application to the BADNAP Program. These are the courses that the scholarship will cover." BADNAP is an accelerated program designed for students who have completed an undergraduate degree in a field of study other than nursing but who plan to get an associate degree in the nursing field, Wade said.

The program allows students who have earned a bachelor's degree in a field other than nursing to complete an Associate in Applied Science in Nursing in as little as 10 months.

Recruitment and Admissions Director Jon Horinek said nursing is one of OCCC's most popular majors.

"The BADNAP Program is a great way for students to complete our nursing degree program faster," he said. "Although OCCC has one of the lowest tuition and fee rates in the states, we know that students who are making major degree changes need assistance doing so.

"That is why the BADNAP Booster Scholarship is so important."

Wade said since students about to enter the BADNAP program already hold bachelor's degrees, that makes them typically unable to get financial aid until after they are accepted into the program. She said the college created the Booster Scholarship to encourage students to take advantage of the program and to help reduce out-ofpocket costs.

The BADNAP program is competitive, Wade said, on average accepting only about 72 students annually.

"The program is very successful and it attracts the top qualified students each year," she said.

To qualify for the BADNAP Booster Scholarship, students must:

• Have earned a bachelor's degree in an area other than nursing.

Have held a GPA of 2.50 or higher.Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher on

OCCC coursework. • Complete an application for Federal

Student Aid • Have a diversified studies contract

on file with OCCC.

• Complete at least six credit hours



per semester to maintain the BADNAP Booster Scholarship.

"I really encourage students to find out if they are eligible for the BAD-NAP Program as well as the BADNAP Booster Scholarship," Wade said.

The deadline to apply for fall 2014 is Aug. 1.

An online application and more information can be found at www.occc. edu/health/baccalaureate.html or by calling Horinek at 405-682-1611, ext. 7743.

Psychology prof explains grief, PTSD differences

Satire column prompts some to question if disorders could be connected to NBA team

ASHLEY BROWN

News Writing Student

When the Oklahoma City Thunder basketball team lost in the NBA Western Conference semifinals, many fans in the state of Oklahoma were a little upset. Some thought people were so upset that they should be diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Charlotte Lankard, a weekly columnist for The Oklahoman, published a column talking about fans being diagnosed with PTSD — Post Thunder Stress Disorder.

Lankard has different ways describing this diagnosis, including "Post Thunder Sleep Deprivation," "Pre-Thunder Stress Disorder," "Chronic Thunder Obsessive Disorder" and "Post-Thunder Depression."

"Thunder pathology can vary and increase from year to year and is especially severe during late spring," Lankard said.

Although Lankard thinks this could be an issue, Sheri Jewell-Fleming, an OCCC adjunct psychology professor, disagrees.

"It's funny because it seems like a cross between more of addictive behavior and the stress that comes from the object of your obsession not following through with your expectations," Fleming said.

"I could see how PTSD could be something linked to it because they're called fans for a reason," she said. "Fan coming from the root word fanatic — which

means 'strangely obsessed with."

Fleming did not think Lankard was truly meaning people were being diagnosed with PTSD. She said Lankard's column was intended to be more tongue-incheek. Fleming said she doesn't disagree that it could lead to sleepless nights, anxiety or nightmares — but that it is not severe enough to be PTSD.

She said true PTSD is always connected to a major trauma and she does not see that with this sporting event.

"This seems more like a grief process than a PTSD process."

Fleming said, originally, PTSD was grouped with anxiety but has since been moved to its own category.

"PTSD was originally coined a shell shock condition found in veterans from war," Fleming said.

Even though Fleming does think this is a little "watered down to be in this situation" she wants to make sure that she does not "water down the disorder or the severity of what it means, just to say that it would apply simply to people who are fans of a sporting event."

To help understand the difference between PTSD and more of an anxiety or grief issue, Fleming explained: "If we're talking sporting events, grief would



be connected to the loss, and PTSD would be connected to say someone showed up and shot a player because they didn't win. Then the fans, the players, and who ever was watching could have issues of dealing with PTSD."

Fleming made her final opinion saying it was more a "battle of true mental health or a grief process."

Lankard finishes her column by saying she is "considering putting together a support group for fellow sufferers next season."

To contact Fleming, email sheri.h.jewell-roy@occc. edu. For additional information regarding PTSD, visit www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/ post-traumatic-stress-disorder/basics/definition/ con-20022540.

it's a small world OCCC's reputation entices Vietnamese student

LAUREN DANIEL Senior Writer seniorwriter@occc.edu

r international student and nursing major Hang Le, leaving her home country of Vietnam to attend OCCC has been a great decision.

Le has been living in Oklahoma for one and a half years, coming from Vietnam in December of 2012.

Le said she decided to come to Oklahoma to improve her education and thought OCCC would be the perfect place to do so.

"I heard about OCCC before I came here," she said.

"I think OCCC is one of the best colleges in Oklahoma City," Le said.

" ... Everything is very good — facilities, classrooms, labs, everything, professors, friends."

Le said the cost to attend OCCC is "reasonable for International students."

She said she plans to apply for OCCC's nursing program next spring and is looking forward to a career where she can help other people.



"I love taking care of people and I like social interactions,"

she said. Le said she wants to help those in her own country once

she gets her degree. "...People in my country especially the elderly — they

Vietnam

don't receive adequate health care, so I want to apply all of the information from my study here to come back to my country to take care of people in my country," she said.

Hang Le

After graduating from OCCC, Le said she plans to

continue her studies, get a job and gain experience within the American health care system before returning to Vietnam.

She said she is interested in working in the state for a brief period of time to find out what the differences are between I heard about OCCC before I came here. I think OCCC is one of the best colleges in Oklahoma City." –Hang Le NURSING MAJOR AND INTERANTIONAL STUDENT FROM VIETNAM

healthcare jobs in Oklahoma and in her home country of Vietnam.

Le said she is enjoying her time in the Sooner state — she likes the peace and quiet it has to offer and how uncrowded the state is. She said living in Oklahoma also is easy on the finances.

"The tuition fees are cheaper [compared] to other states in the United States and the living expense is not expensive, so that's why I chose Oklahoma."

Le said other international students should consider attending OCCC.

To find out more about Le, check out the "It's a Small World" video on the Pioneer's website at http://pioneer.occc. edu.



• 1 11 •

Capital: Hanoi Population: 88.7 million (2012) GDP: 141.7 billion USD (2012) Size: 127,881 sq. miles (1.001 million km²) Official Language: Vietnamese Currency: Vietnamese Dong Government: Communist, Socialist, Single-party Religion: Mahayana Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism Details: Vietnam, officially the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, is the easternmost country on the Indochina Peninsula in Southeast Asia.



Shaping up



Undecided major Colin Waldrop busts out some squats in OCCC's weight room. Waldrop said he wants to stay in shape "to look good." OCCC students with a valid ID can use the area for free.

SPORTS | The next all-day camp starts Monday, Aug. 4 Fit Kids camp focuses on fun, joining in

JAKE MCMAHON

Videographer pioneervideo@occc.edu

Children in one popular Fit Kids summer camp -Out of This World – are having a blast, said Coach Rone Tempest.

Tempest said although the name may suggest a space theme, the camp is actually focused on fun and games.

"We play a lot of different kinds of gym games," he said.

"Instead of it being more of an astronomical theme or anything like that, it's more like "Out of This World" is what we declare is fun — fun games."

The class includes swim lessons which, Tempest said, came in handy during a recent trip to Earlywine Family Aquatic Center.

taking swim lessons all summer long and some of them weren't able to swim before," he said.

"So now [they have] confidence about going on the water slides and doing some of the fun things that come along with aquatics." Tempest said the activities

in the camp are fairly flexible. On the day the U.S. played Belgium in the World Cup, he said, the class had a soccer theme and watched the game.

Out of This World is an allday camp, lasting one week. However, campers can sign up at any time.

"You can sign up the day of (a camp)," Tempest said.

"Even if you've missed a day and you sign up on Tuesday, that's fine — with

"A lot of them have been the exception of setting up active. My favorite part is my the swim lessons. If you're going to do swim lessons, that needs to be established the week before."

> Tempest said all campers get involved.

"It's a fun camp, but at the same time, the kids are required to play and participate," he said.

"A lot of times, the kids will be reluctant (to join in on a game) at first. But after they start to play it, it becomes their favorite game."

Campers agree that the class is fun.

Kendall, 12, said he is having a great time.

"I basically do fit stuff like soccer, basketball, catch a flag — all those fun games," he said.

"What I like about it is, it's fun, it's creative, and it's very

teammates."

Zach, 12, also is enrolled in Out of This World.

"The things I like about it is, you can meet new people, play games and not be bored," he said.

Zach said the camp is better than staying at home. He said he especially was excited about the trip to Earlywine.

The next all-day camp — Summer Extravaganza — is Aug. 4 through 8 and costs \$100. It includes a field trip to Andy Alligator's Water Park in Norman.

For a list of summer camps, visit www.occc.edu/ rf/fitkids.html.

To enroll, visit the FACE Center located at 6500 S Land Ave. or call 405-686-6222



• Through Aug. 1:

A variety of Summer Sport Camps will be held for girls and boys ages 6 to12.

Campers enrolled in morning and afternoon camps will have a supervised lunch from noon to 1 p.m. Campers may bring their own lunch or purchase a lunch ticket from the cafeteria for \$5.25/day.

Before Care is offered for parents to allow early drop-offs prior to the 7:45 a.m. camp drop-off time for \$10 per week. Campers must be registered for Before Care services on the Friday prior to the Monday start date of camp.

Sport camp and Before Care registration and payment must be made by 5 p.m. the Friday prior to the start date of camp. The Sport Camp Fee is \$65 per week

For more information, visit www.occc.edu/rf/sport-campschedule.html#sthash.GCkc7E-BQ.dpuf.

• Fall 2014:

OCCC Group Fitness classes are offered at a variety of fitness levels and are spaced conveniently throughout the afternoon and late evening hours. Discounted group fitness passes are available. See more at www.occc.edu/rf/crgroup-fitness.



Scan the QR code with your smart phone to be directed to a list of OCCC Intramural events, complete with the most current updates.

(Free QR code reader apps can be found online or in app stores on smart phones. Follow the directions for the app you download.)

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

Budget: No state funding increase equals a rise in tuition

Continued from page 1

is wasting money, but because of inflation and other factors, said John Boyd, Business and Finance vice president.

"Our electricity cost has gone up, not because we're inefficient, but we've got a brand new 76,000-square-foot theater we now have to heat and cool," Boyd said.

Employee medical insurance has gone up, as well as dental insurance, Boyd said.

He said the Affordable Care Act also has created additional fees OCCC has to pay.

"Our contract services to keep up our landscaping and our cost of waste removal is going up," Boyd said.

"All of those costs over a period of years have continued to ratchet up.

"This is nothing new. I've been in this position since 2008, but actually started preparing the budget beginning in fiscal year 2010.

"Every year since I've prepared that budget, we've gotten little or no increase in state appropriations and our mandatory costs continue to rise," he said.

Sechrist said the college has three primary sources of revenue that cover the operating costs of the entire college.

The total projected revenue for OCCC's Educational and General budget is almost \$60 million. E and G is the college's main budget for funding instructional costs and everyday expenses of running the institution.

The largest source of revenue, at close to \$26 million, comes from state tax dollars allocated by the Legislature, Sechrist said. State revenue in this budget is essentially the same as last year, according to the college budget.

The second main source of revenue is tuition and fees paid by students, he said. This year the college expects to collect about \$22.8 million in tuition and fees, compared to about \$22.1 million last year, for an increase of \$696,000.

"The third and smallest is from the South Oklahoma City Area School District, which helps fund the college," Sechrist said.

Southwest Oklahoma City residents pay a small portion of their ad valorem, or property, taxes to help fund the college. The amounts to \$5 million in the budget, which is the same as last year.

These revenue shortages will not only affect the college as a whole, but also the students and faculty individually.

Although students will see an increase in tuition, Boyd said, he doesn't think the increase in tuition is going to keep students away.

"I think if a person wants something, they're going to pay for it," Boyd said. "I think we have a good equilibrium here and I think we're very competitively priced."

Even with the increase in tuition, OCCC is still one of the most affordable campuses in the state, he said.

Boyd stressed that students will only be paying \$5 more per credit hour. For a resident student, the cost of a credit hour will go from \$77.55 to \$82.55. Non-resident students will

allocated by the Legislature, see the cost per credit hour in-Sechrist said. State revenue in crease from \$160.03 to \$165.03.

College officials prepared the 2014-2015 budget by predicting a decline in fall enrollment between 6 and 7 percent compared to the fall 2013 semester.

Although numbers for fall don't yet show a decrease in enrollment, Sechrist said, this can still change. He said the college has to be careful in projecting how much revenue will come in.

"I definitely understand that any tuition increase impacts students who maybe didn't get a salary increase from their

> We do try to find other ways for our employees to be recognized for their efforts." –PAUL SECHRIST OCCC PRESIDENT

employer this year either and are paying their own way," Sechrist said. "So I understand that it does impact them. Even though it's modest, it's still an increase.

"The good news is, we will remain one of the most affordable two-year colleges in the state, if you count the two OSU technical branches — OSU OKC and OSU Okmulgee," Sechrist said.

"Our tuition will be less than the average of all. Only three colleges have tuition less than OCCC's."

In order to prevent a higher rise in tuition, and to avoid a reduction of faculty and staff, OCCC employees will not be receiving pay raises, Sechrist said. "Both options were rejected," Sechrist said. "Therefore, there isn't really any money left to provide any raises to employees.

"We can't really control what the state gives us, and we can't control what the district gives us. So the only way we could fund a salary increase would be to raise tuition even more, which we're not going to do."

OCCC has what's referred to as a merit-based pay system, which allows employees to get a raise if they have met or exceeded their work expectations, Boyd said.

But this year, not even merit pay raises will fit into the budget – at least given current revenue projections.

Though employees will not be receiving raises, Sechrist said he does not believe employee morale will suffer.

"We do try to find other ways for our employees to be recognized for their efforts. We have generous leave policies, good health and dental insurance, good retirement plans, (which) all support our faculty and staff," he said.

"Talking with faculty and staff, most of our employees are motivated by the mission. And yes, they're motivated by getting paid, too, but they're motivated by the mission of OCCC.

"They enjoy working with students, they enjoy the work and they feel appreciated for what they do."

Boyd said it's great to be in a job that you like doing and also making a lot of money, but sometimes that doesn't always go hand-in-hand.

"It's hard to say, because I

think it depends on the individual," he said.

"I used to be an OCCC faculty member and I went several years ...(without) salary increases and I worked three years straight with no salary increase whatsoever.

"I hate to speak for faculty, but I think just based on the faculty that I know at OCCC, they're not here for the money. That's just my opinion [that] they're not here for the money. They're here for the fulfillment," he said.

This will be the third time in the past six years employees did not receive a raise, Sechrist said.

"The majority of my years as president, we did provide raises," he said. "We did not receive raises in fiscal year 2010 and 2011.

"In fiscal year 2012, a stipend was paid, and we've had increases in the last two years of fiscal year 2013 and 2014."

Sechrist said the push by the Legislature to cut taxes, which is how the state earns its revenue, causes the college to have to plan for small increases in state funding, which would fund increases in salaries.

"We value the contributions and work of our faculty and staff, and I think we're committed to find some ways to do some sort of merit-based increases in the future – they may be modest – and maybe some stipends," he said.

"I think long term, it's our hope that it's not a trend that we just don't ever give raises."

For more information, contact Boyd at JBoyd@occc.edu.

For employee reaction on not receiving a raise, turn to page 5.

Sechrist: President declines regents' salary increase offer

Continued from page 1

according to the Board of Regents Recap of the June 16, 2014, meeting.

Though the Board Recap states that Sechrist deserved a merit increase, Sechrist said he declined the raise before the Board had the opportunity to consider it.

"I wasn't really offered a raise, because I pre-empted it," he said.

"I basically told them before they had the opportunity to consider it that, regardless of what they thought of my performance, that I would not accept a raise, or certainly recommend that they not give me a raise."

Sechrist's current salary is \$236,615 per year.

"I don't think that it's good for me to receive a raise in a year that we're not giving to other employees," he said.

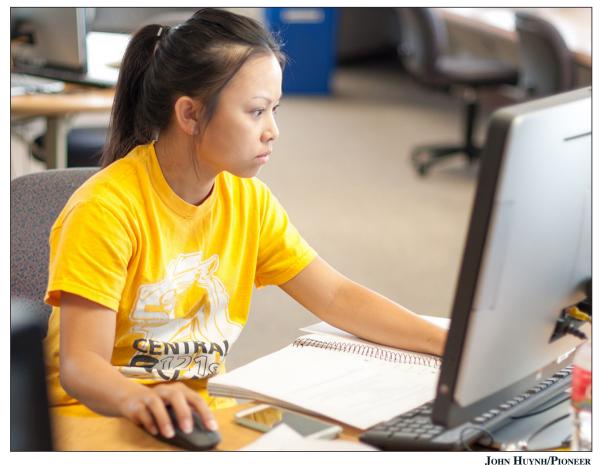
"We have a lot of employees that work very hard, a lot of employees whose performance I would describe as meritorious and worthy of a raise.

"If they didn't get one, in my opinion, the president shouldn't get one either."

To see the 2014-'15 OCCC budget, visit pioneer.occc.edu

CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Concentration



Business major Quynh Truong uses the student computer center on the third floor of the library to research for her public speaking class June 23. To learn more about opening times and other information, visit www.occc.edu/it/scc.html.

COMMUNITY | Requirements listed at www.occc.edu/scholarships

Working student scholarship offered

MYCALYN BLOMSTROM Online Writer onlinewriter@occc.edu

Working students can get some help paying for school through an OCCC scholarship.

The Career Development Scholarship is a tuition waiver that will cover up to nine credit hours, said Jon Horinek, Recruitment and Admissions director.

Horinek said they are looking for students who are working at least 30 hours a week, as well as going to school.

"We are also looking for students who have the support of their employers, not financially, but they know they are attending school and support it.

"Right now we are thinking about 15 or so Career Development Scholarships will be given out," he said. "That number could rise depending on how many applications we receive. We certainly don't want to exclude anybody from getting a tuition waiver if they are deserving."

Horinek said the scholarship was last offered in 2012 but was shelved while needed changes were made. "We have looked over it and

made some adjustments to where this scholarship's main focus is on working students or for students trying to get a better job or a promotion."

Horinek said data from the latest U.S. Census report shows 71 percent of the nation's 19.7 million college undergraduates were working in 2012. Of that number, one in five undergraduates were working at least 35 hours a week, year round.

"Looking at these numbers is the exact reason we decided to make this scholarship about our working students," he said.

Amorie Monreal, diversified studies major, said the scholarship would be a huge help to her. "I work a lot of hours. Not having to worry about paying for some of my school would be a relief."

The requirements for the Career Development Scholarship are admission to OCCC, completion of 12 college credit hours from OCCC, 2.75 GPA or higher, work a minimum of 30 hours a week, enrollment in nine or more credit hours at OCCC.

"Two other requirements for the scholarship are a submission of a 300-word essay, as well as a letter of recommendation from the student's employer," Horinek said.

"These requirements let OCCC know how the scholarship would affect the student, as well as letting us know that their employer is in support of their schooling."

Access the Career Development Scholarship application at www. occc.edu/scholarships.

For more information, contact Horinek at 405-682-1611, ext. 7743.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

WCD-WIC Program now available

Sign up from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday at the FACE Center, 6500 S Land Ave., for the Wichita Caddo Delaware Women, Infants and Children Program. WCD-WIC provides healthy food, nutritional education, and referrals for health care and other services. Pregnant women, breastfeeding women with a baby up to 1 year old, women with a baby less than 6 months old, and infants and children up to 5 years old who qualify are eligible. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7690, or 405-933-3453 or visit www.wcdwic.org.

Total Wellness classes on calendar

Free weight-loss classes meet one hour a week for 8 weeks. The goal of the class is to lose 5 percent of your body weight and become more active. Everyone 18 or older is welcome to attend. Locations include Northeast Regional Health and Wellness Campus: July 9 through Aug. 27; OCCC: July 10 through Aug. 28; and Ralph Ellison Library: July 7 through Aug. 25. To enroll, call 405-425-4422 or email TotalWellness@occhd.org

World Music Camp offered at Kids Camp

Learn to play instruments from around the world including Tubanos, African Talking Drums, Djembe, Xylophones. Instructors Deborah Goodhead and Sarah Mellon will help students explore culture through music by using a variety of songs from different parts of the world. This camp includes a group performance at the end. A grades fourth through fifth class is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 14 through July 18. The class costs \$125. To enroll, call 405-686-6222 or go to the FACE Center located at 6500 S Land Ave.

"Girls Night: The Musical" tickets on sale

"Girls Night: The Musical" tickets are now on sale. The musical will take place at 8 p.m. on Friday, July 18 at the VPAC Theater and will be performed for only one night. Tickets will range from \$35 to \$45. For more information or to buy tickets, visit www. occc.edu/tickets.

Coffee Shop, OCCC Cafe summer hours set

The summer hours of the OCCC Coffee Shop hours are: Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Friday, 7:30 a.m. to noon; closed weekends. OCCC Cafe hours are: Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Closed Weekends.

"Preparing for Retirement" seminar July 23

Experts will provide information on applying for social security, investment portfolios, when to apply for OTRS, retiree health/dental benefits and more on Wednesday, July 23. To register, visit occc. edu/hr, choose Planning for Retirement Seminar and Register.

All Highlights are due each Monday by noon for inclusion in the next issue. Email your event to editor@occc.edu or drop by the Pioneer office located in the Arts and Humanities area in 1F2, just inside AH Entry 2.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

AUTOMOTIVE

FOR SALE: 1994 White Saturn model SC1. Body type CP, 169,000miles. Asking \$800.00. Call 212.6027 for more information

IPPLIANCES

FOR SALE: White gas digital stove. Less than six months old. Super clean. No visible scratches. Call 405-922-0022 for prices and pictures.

URNITURE

APARTMENT SALE: Mathis Brothers king-sized comforter set; dark brown toddler sleigh bed; bathroom decor. Many other items are being offered as well. Call 405-922-0022 for prices and pictures.

FOR SALE: Dark brown sofa and love seat sofa recliner. Both microfiber. Call 405-922-0022 for prices and pictures.

FOR SALE: 40" CRT television in excellent condition. The big screen makes it great for a gaming TV in the kids' room or for the games in the man cave. \$30. Text 405-818-0083 for more information.

MISCELLANEOUS

Across

TV puppet of old

6. GWTW plantation

10. Picket line crosser

15. Served a winner

17. Hidden enemy

26. It's made daily

28. Kind of treat

30. Simon's verb

34. Bud's old pal

35. Pull, as ropes

41. It's better than none

47. Formal affairs, usually

50. Word with "overboard"

59. Paul Hogan's 63-Across

64. Oscar winner Crawford

65. Walks like a tosspot

66. Birds of prey

68. NW French port

67. Hostelries

45. Small amphibian

49. Sigma follower

51. "So that's it!"

55. Vex

58. Black

63. Part

53. On easy street

43. Instruction at many a corner

36. Avocado

42. Big bird

32. Cut

21. Available for retail

27. Collection of stories

20. Sea bird

22. Enmities 25. Tennis period

14. Legendary frontiersman

LOOKING FOR ROOM TO RENT: Male, 23, looking for new roommates to share apartment. Move in on or after Aug. 3. Two rooms close to campus. \$275 a month plus utilities. Call J.D. at 405-291-0597 if interested.

ROOMMATE FEMALE

WANTED: Room with bathroom. Washer/dryer, Internet, cable. Close to OCCC. Big room. All amenities. Nice neighborhood. \$450 a month, all bills included. Honest person, no drugs, no alcohol. Call 405-317-4002.

ROOM FOR RENT: Only female. Includes all services. Near OCCC. Call or text Norma at 405-317-4002.

WANT TO RENT A ROOM: 21-year-old male Looking for a room to rent. Call or text Roman at 770-301-2791 with information and price.

FOR SALE: Bed liner for standard long bed pickup w/ tailgate liner. \$75. GC. Text 405-818-0083 for pictures or more information.

FOR SALE: Neiman Marcus Robert Rodriguez collection size 14 strapless cocktail dress. Never worn. Still has store tags. \$50. Text 405-818-0083 for pictures.

FOR SALE: New size 26 jeans - never been worn. Brands include Vans, Levi's and Zumiez. \$10 per pair. Retail for \$40 each. Text 405-818-0083 for pictures.

16. Verdi's "Caro nome," e.g.

THIS WEEK'S

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Down 1. Broadcasting org. 2. Indefinite period 3. Part of a formal suit 4. Printing press part 5. Ogled 6. "The Hundred Secret Senses" author 7. Deeds 8. Go over again 9. Fred Astaire's sister 10. Warshawski creator Paretsky 11. Testy 12. Nuptial paths Headquartered

18. Enjoy to excess 19. Arises 22. Possesses 23. Role for Jodie 24. Greek portico 29. More baby-faced 31. "...for children of all ---- 11 33. Farm implement 35. Took the trick 37. Completely Melville novel 39. Participant 40. Horse color

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- management
- 52. Muslim pilarim
- 54. Individualist
- 56. Chills
- 57. Vivacity
- Print distances
- 61. Hollow center?
- 62. Time zone





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Call 405-682-1611, ext. 7307, or e-mail: adman@occc.edu

http://pioneer.occc. edu



Business major Kira Hall studies her Mythology textbook outside at OCCC's courtyard on June 25. Numerous benches and tables are available in the courtyard as well as other outdoor areas around the college.

'THE THINGS THEY CARRIED' FILLED WITH FIRST-PERSON ACCOUNTS OF VIETNAM WAR

Author of book about war experience to visit Oct. 28

BRIANA JONES News Writing Student

Award-winning author Tim O'Brien will make an appearance at the OCCC Keith Leftwich Memorial Library in October to lead a discussion of his book, "The Things They Carried."

Thebookisthenewesttitleannounced for the OCCC Reads! 2014 list, said Tricia Sweany, electronic services and reference libririan.

Sweany said "The Things They Carried" is about O'Brien's personal experiences in the Vietnam War.

She said the book chronicles the lives of O'Brien and his platoon back in the U.S., the hardships they had to endure and the toll it took on them, as well as their loved ones.

O'Brien will be on campus on

Tuesday, Oct. 28, to lead the discussion of his book, Sweany said.

"This will not be your average book discussion," she said.

"The book is said to touch on the value of life, friendship, and the expectation of society, leaving the reader with a greater insight into the lives of these soldiers."

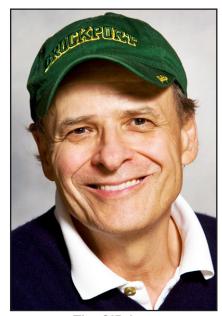
Sweany said "The Things They Carried" also has accompanying learning resources available to add to the experience in the classroom.

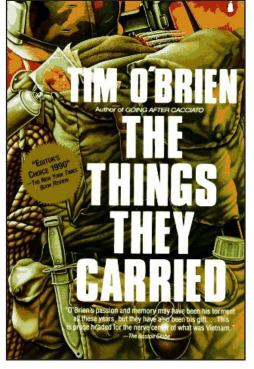
"We encourage faculty to come in and pick up copies for their class," Sweany said.

The goal of OCCC Reads! is to encourage people to pick up a book they haven't read and to bring everyone together to engage during Humanities Month in October, she said.

For more information, visit www.

library.occc.edu or call Sweany at 405-682-7564.





Tim O'Brien