

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PIONEER

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Fresh air: Humanities major Alexis Van Swearingen and Diversified Studies major Ethan Dettlaff sit at a table in the courtyard, near the Bursar's office. "I just came outside because it's nice and I needed a place to study," Van Swearingen said. "And I came out here because I saw her here," Dettlaff said. Clayton Mitchell/Pioneer

College says all students must be informed of rights

Profs told to add pregnancy wording to course syllabi this semester

KATIE AXTELL
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When student Samantha Harris encountered issues with her pregnancy while attending OSU-OKC eight years ago, she dropped out of school. The business major said she felt she had no choice. "I had all the morning sickness problems and other issues, and I dropped out because it was too much to handle," she said. Harris may have made a different choice had she known

she could take time off from school under Title IX requirements that all state-funded schools must follow. Enacted in 1972, the "Pregnant and Parenting" portion of Title IX makes it unlawful for schools to discriminate against pregnant or parenting students of any gender. "Equal treatment and support for pregnant and parenting students is critical to ensuring that all female students have equal access to educational opportunities. "It is also important for helping young fathers stay engaged in their children's lives, remain in school, and complete their education," according to the National Coalition for Women & Girls in Education website. Harris said she didn't have that information.

"With that act, it makes people willing to come back," she said. "It's like a safety feature [because] there are professors who aren't willing to go that extra mile." OCCC's Equal Opportunity Director and Title IX Coordinator Regina Switzer said beginning this semester, OCCC faculty were told to give students this information either verbally in class or by adding a new notification to the class syllabi. "Title IX has certain things it requires that we do and getting that information out there is just a piece of it," she said. Title IX is a part of the Education Amendments of 1972. It was renamed the Patsy Mink Equal Opportunity in Educa-

See ACT page 9

Textbook options include renting

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Textbook prices can break student bank accounts at the start of the new semester leading some to look for other options — such as renting those books. At OCCC's bookstore, a majority of the books are available for rent instead of purchasing, said Bookstore Director Brenda Reinke. "About 90 percent of our books are for rent," she said. "The pricing varies as far as what the rental savings are." Renke said students will need a debit or credit card to secure the rental. "... Just take them over to the kiosk and if they're available ... you rent them and you return them the last week of the semester," she said. Diversified Studies major Mary Suthann said she prefers to rent her textbooks rather

“With the price of textbooks and tuition almost matching for the semester, having the option to rent makes a big difference.”
—MARY SUTHANN
OCCC STUDENT

than buying. "With the price of textbooks and tuition almost matching for the semester, having the option to rent makes a big difference," she said. Reinke said students who damage or fail to return rented books are charged the difference between the rental price and the cost of the new or used book — which ever way they rented it. Suthann said the risk of losing or damaging rented books is one she happily takes at the

See OCCC page 9

Students can still drop with W, but no refund

SPENCER GRANT
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The last day for students to drop a 16-week class and receive a full refund has passed. However, students who need to drop a class can still do so and receive a W — but no refund. The deadline for that is Nov. 6. Financial Aid Assistant Director Angela Leal said it's always a good idea for students to check with Financial Aid to see how they would be affected before dropping a class.

ECON 2123 TR02F Principles of Microeconomics	C
JB 1133 TC01F News Writing I	B
PHIL 1123 TR02F Critical Thinking	A
PHYS 1013 TR01F Physical Science	W
SCL 1001 EW17F Success in College and Life	W
JB 1133 TR01U News Writing I	W
ENGL 1213 TR09S English Composition II	A
GEOG 2603 TR08S World Regional Geography	B
STAT 2013 TR04E Introduction to Statistics	C

See DROP page 9

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

PRODUCT REVIEW | Dunkin' Donuts dessert coffee a winner

Finally — the perfect dark brew

In the film “Kicking & Screaming,” Will Ferrell said of coffee, “It’s the lifeblood that fuels the dreams of champions.”

I could not agree more.

In my previous coffee career, I overdosed on

French vanilla creamer to the point of coffee degradation. It was a poor man’s cappuccino.

I’m cleaning up my act, though. I have been drinking coffee black or adding only unsweetened almond milk. I’ve always liked a dark brew, but finding coffee good enough to use minimal extras has proven difficult.

While I’ve discovered some delicious dark roasts, I have recently found the holy grail of dessert coffees.

Dunkin’ Donuts has managed to make coffee, the miracle of mankind, even better.

The chain’s variety on the beverage aisle drew my attention with flavors like Pumpkin Spice and Coconut. However, I wanted to make sure they weren’t one of those brands that sells weak, tea-colored water so I went to the Edmond store to test out their offerings.

When I walked into Dunkin’ Donuts, I was greeted by two workers who sincerely seemed to enjoy their jobs. They were cracking jokes and smiling as they



took my order.

I got a blueberry muffin-flavored coffee that was so delicious I didn’t need to order anything else. It was smooth, deep and unmistakably muffin-flavored. I was

surprised at the dark brew, which was matched by the taste of a fresh-baked, crumble-topped blueberry muffin. I felt like I had indulged in a delicious pastry and I didn’t even need to add creamer. The price wasn’t bad, either.

I purchased a bag of it to brew at home and I’ve already had to buy a second bag.

Dunkin’ Donuts has a variety of flavors on grocery store shelves, such as Chocolate Glazed Donut, Cinnamon Roll and Caramel Coffee Cake. They run about \$8 per bag, which is the price I am willing to pay for a coffee and dessert all in one.

The stuff’s so good, I kind of wish I could carry around a gallon of it. Well done, Dunkin’ Donuts. Now I want to try them all.

Rating: A+

—DARLA KILHOFFER
ONLINE EDITOR

CAMPUS REVIEW | Summer students learned to communicate in a variety of fun ways

OCCC prof makes class a treat

This summer, an Interpersonal Communication class I took with Speech Communications Professor Julie Corff was one of the greatest and most unforgettable moments I’ve ever had.

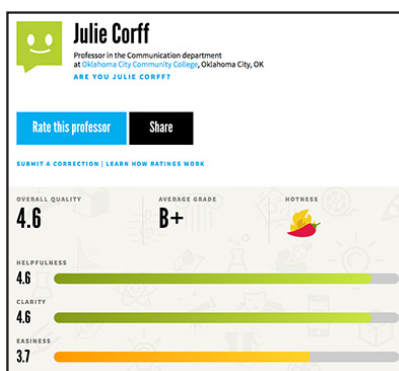
I thought it might be like some normal communication classes I’ve had before; however, that impression changed immediately on the first day in class.

Our first lesson was to learn each classmate’s name. We sat in a circle and took turns introducing ourselves and telling of our biggest accomplishments.

As we went around the circle, each person would also say the name of the student who went before.

At the beginning, everyone seemed to feel really awkward and weird, including me.

However, after three rounds, I felt more relaxed and connected to this class because I could easily say every classmates’ name — some-



thing I could not do in other classes where I only know the name of the person sitting next to me.

During each class, we had “Talk Time” — 10 minutes to share our thoughts and opinions about anything — so that each passing day, we had a better understanding of each other.

Professor Corff is a helpful, well-organized and knowledgeable professor.

She knew exactly what she would teach each day and did her best to help students comprehend every lesson completely through games

like “finding clues.”

She made the class feel secure, comfortable and confident to speak up about our problems, what experiences we’ve been through, even embarrassing moments.

The one thing I will never forget was when everyone knew that I never tried pizza before because I did not like it.

On the last day of the class, one of my classmates brought pizza for everyone and convinced me to try it.

That was an awesome and special feeling, especially to me, someone who has been in the U.S. for a short time, and is still trying to get used to this new country and the people here.

One more aspect I enjoyed is that my classmates are still in contact and are planning to have a forthcoming reunion.

Rating: A+

—HUNG TRAN
STAFF WRITER



Control Xbox through iPhone application

I’m not afraid to say that I spend way too much of my free time playing video games. I’m a big fan of the “FIFA” franchise (not the organization, however), “Grand Theft Auto V” and “Destiny.” These games have come to be far too much a part in my life, shaping how I schedule my days and becoming the themes of my dreams.

However, thanks to the handy capability of the Xbox One, there is so much more that I can do instead of just playing games.

I can watch sports on the ESPN app or TV shows through Hulu plus and even get on the web with Internet Explorer.

The apps I find myself using the most on the Xbox One are YouTube and Netflix.

YouTube videos look great on a nice television, and Netflix is my source of movies and TV shows.

However, if I am watching a lot of videos or episodes of a show, my wireless Xbox controller powers down after just a few minutes.

Since I definitely don’t feel like moving to turn it on, there is an iPhone app that works with my laziness. That app is the “Microsoft Xbox One Smartglass.”

The app works as a direct companion to your Xbox One console. It has a controller function, so you can navigate through menus and apps without having to deal with your controller. However, it’s not a viable option to use for playing games.

The app also works for navigating the main menu when you are in the middle of playing a game. This allows the user to send messages to their friends and see what they are up to, as well as check their achievements and even browse the Xbox Store.

This app is extremely handy, but not without its faults. Sometimes the functions just have a hard time working, and voice chat or game invitations cannot be sent through the app.

Still, it is a free app and is way more useful than it is useless.

—CLAYTON MITCHELL
PHOTOGRAPHER/VIDEOGRAPHER

Do you have an idea for a review? Send it to the Pioneer editor at editor@occc.edu

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

PRODUCT REVIEW | Music outlet not quite the game-changing innovator it initially promised to be

iTunes fails when it comes to playlists

When Apple Music was first announced, it seemed like it was going to be a game-changer in the ever-so-popular and talked-about world of music streaming.

It entered the music streaming game with a ton of interesting features such as the 24/7 radio known as “Beats One,” that comes complete with guest DJ shows from some of the world’s biggest artists like Drake, Dr. Dre and St Vincent.

For me, personally, that’s an awesome feature.

It’s really fun to see what my favorite artists are listening to and it’s a really different way to find new music.

Just from listening to Drake’s radio

show alone, I’ve started listening to things I never would’ve found otherwise, like British hip hop and dancehall music.

Other things like curated playlists from different magazines and music labels are good, too, but they aren’t anything that other streaming services don’t do.

The biggest feature to me was the ability to upload my entire music library to Apple’s iCloud, giving me my entire library of 7,000 songs on my



phone at once.

Not only was this what Apple was advertising, but also it allowed me to have my 7,000 songs combined with the songs that Apple has to offer, which is every song on iTunes.

Unfortunately, though, this is where my problems with Apple

Music begin.

After uploading my music, I only had 500 or so songs on my iPhone, with no way of adding any more.

I spent hours upon hours trying to figure out the issue, but ultimately, like a lot of other people, I was left in the dark.

It also became a very big hassle to create playlists with the music from Apple, too.

A lot of times it wouldn’t even show up that I added their songs to my library, which was the reason I wanted Apple Music.

While I do think that Apple Music has some really innovative features, the bugs and issues are holding it back from being the be-all, end-all for streaming services like it was advertised.

Rating: C-

—IAN MANERA
SPORTS WRITER

RESTAURANT REVIEW | Raising Cane’s a bit pricey but worth every penny

Chicken fingers nothing to squawk at

Raising Cane’s chicken fingers are some of the best in the state. The restaurant has various delicious items on the menu, but if you go there, you know the menu items revolve around their chicken fingers.

On the occasion that I have dined there, Cane’s chicken fingers and service did not disappoint.

My favorite order, the Caniac Combo, is served with six of Cane’s delicious chicken fingers, a best crinkle-cut fries, a good-sized cup of coleslaw and a piece of Texas Toast. The combo also includes two of Cane’s sauces and a



large

drink. It costs \$9.98 plus tax.

The Cane’s sauce complements their chicken fingers to the utmost degree, adding a sweet, but slightly tangy, taste. For the accompanying large drink, I highly recommend filling your 32-ounce cup with Raising Cane’s sweet tea. Their tea is one of the best compared to all other fast food

chains.

What satisfied me most is that Cane’s offers various sizes of chicken finger orders — from a small individual order to enough to feed a large crowd — amounts that would be enough for tailgating at an Oklahoma Sooners football game, for instance. You can order a 25-piece, 50-piece, a 75-piece, or even a 100-piece chicken finger serving.

Those start at \$27.49 for the 25-piece to \$84.99 for the 100-piece.

The only downfall is the prices are a bit high for someone with a limited income so I wouldn’t recommend eating at Raising

Cane’s every night.

However, if you have the money to spend and you can’t decide where to eat, I recommend taking yourself and your money to Raising Cane’s.

RATING: A
—ZACH SCOTT
STAFF WRITER

TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of Aug. 28
through Aug. 30

www.newyorktimes.com

1. Straight Outta Compton
2. War Room
3. Mission: Impossible — Rogue Nation
4. No Escape
5. Sinister 2
6. The Man From U.N.C.L.E.
7. Hitman: Agent 47
8. Ant-Man
9. Jurassic World
10. The Gift
11. Minions
12. American Ultra
13. Fantastic Four
14. We Are Your Friends
15. Ricki and the Flash
16. Trainwreck
17. Vacation
18. Pixels
19. Inside Out
20. Shaun the Sheep Movie

Do you have an idea for a review, a comment about a story you’ve read in the Pioneer or want to write a letter to the editor? We’re interested in what you have to say!

Email the Pioneer editor at editor@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7675.

College shows students the way via interactive map

HUNG TRAN

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Feeling lost on campus? Having problems understanding OCCC's grid system? Wondering where to park?

Web Development and Social Media Supervisor John Richardson said the college aims to help by providing students and campus visitors with an interactive online map of the entire campus —inside and out.

The project, My Way, is being implemented in phases, Richardson said.

He said the current MyWay website is only the first phase of the project where users can use an online map to zoom in and find campus classrooms and offices.

"[Marketing and Public Relations has] been working on this project probably a year now —from the point that we identified the need to have a better way of representing the campus on online maps for students and other visitors," he said.

He said work has begun on the second phase with hopes to have it finished sometime this semester.

That phase will allow users to get directions from one area on the campus to another area on campus — "like the direction from one classroom to another specific classroom," Richardson said.

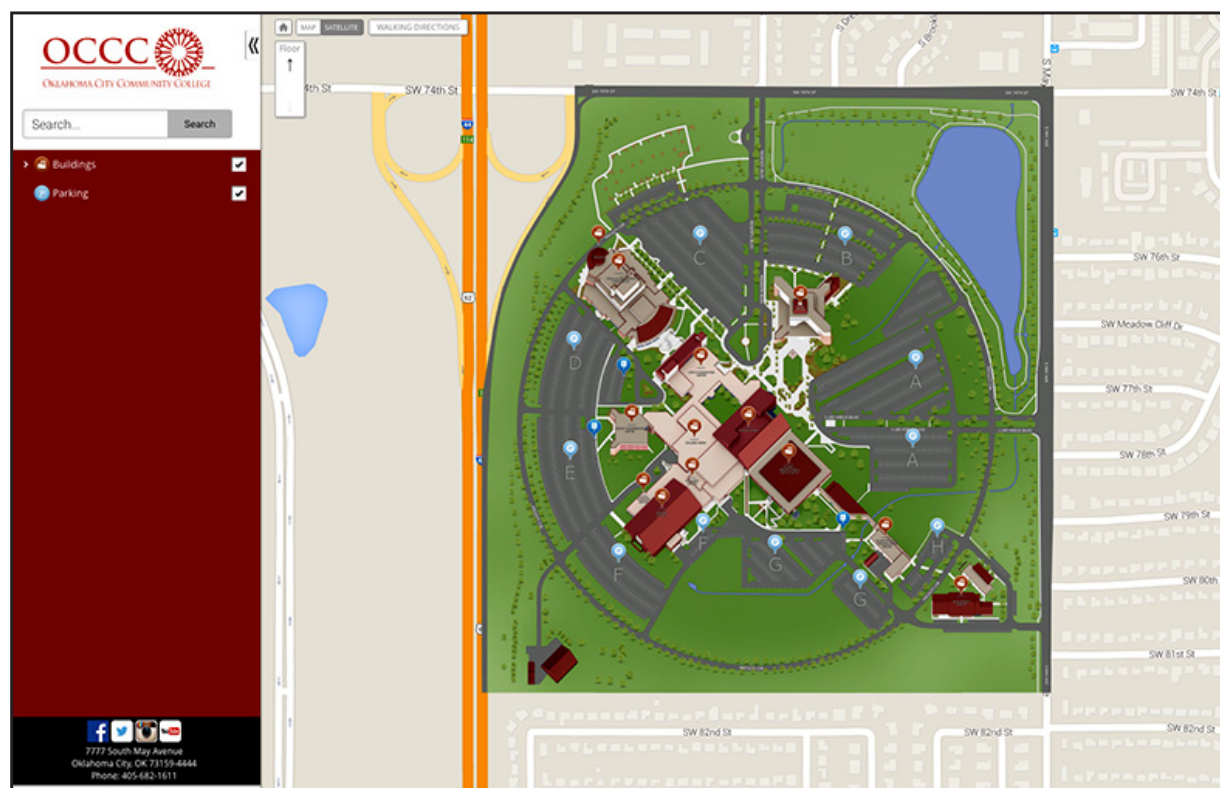
And, he said, the map is user friendly across a number of devices.

"The system is easy to use on any electronic devices like laptop, computer, tablet or smartphone.

"However, this mapping system has nothing to do with GPS technology so it will not tell you [your current location]."

Richardson said the project has been very involved, requiring hundreds of photos of different areas of the college in order to be able to show the different perspectives.

Chris Snow, Facilities Management Director, said the My Way idea was initiated by former OCCC President Paul Sechrist and work began prior to the



Students now have more help in finding their way around campus with the creation of an interactive mapping system located at www.occc.edu/myway.

actual website development.

Snow said the main task his office undertook on this project had to do with procuring and placing the actual physical signs on campus that show students where different areas are.

He said those signs were used in the creation of the online project.

"The project was probably about a two- to three-year process," he said.

Snow said his part of the project received a lot of support and praise from students and visitors on campus.

He said it was exciting to be part of such a helpful project.

Richardson said he feels certain everyone will find the map helpful.

"I hope the new mapping systems will meet everyone's needs," he said.

"We are always looking for improvement, things to add to the website — different approaches we can take to make it more usable."

Richardson said there will always be those who prefer to hold a map in their hands.

"There are always some advantages when holding a piece of paper and I don't think we ever really throw away the paper maps," he said.

"... But we think the interactivity of the My Way system is a vast improvement over what we had in the past."

MyWay can be found at www.occc.edu/myway.

For more information, email jrichardson@occc.edu or csnow@occc.edu.

Student reports being struck by moving car's mirror

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A student hit by a car mirror, a small dog left in a hot car, and a controlled substance incident were reported to campus police recently.

Officer P.T. Solinski was called to take a report around 3 p.m. Aug. 20 after Student Carson Hopkins reported being struck by a car's mirror as he crossed Regents Boulevard on his way to the library. The car did not stop.

Hopkins was able to partially identify the tag number of the car and describe it, but said he did not see the driver.

He requested an ice pack but declined EMSA transport. An investigation is ongoing.

On Aug. 26, Officer Daniel Piazza responded to an animal welfare call in parking lot A.

A chihuahua was reported to have been left inside a gray 2004 Dodge Durango with the windows barely rolled down.

When Piazza arrived, the owner of the SUV was sitting inside with the dog. Her name was redacted from the report.

The owner told Piazza the dog had been left in the SUV for 45 minutes. Piazza said the dog appeared to be OK.



According to the report, Piazza explained to the woman that "possible legal actions could be taken against her."

He said the woman apologized and was released with no further action taken.

Around noon on Aug. 24, a small bag with possible marijuana remnants was found on the base of a hand sanitizer dispenser in the Library by employee Taylor Atherthon.

Sgt. Jeremy Bohannon examined the bag, but said he couldn't detect any specific odor. He said security cameras in the area don't show the dispenser, so a suspect could not be identified.

Bohannon said the substance was removed with a tissue, photographed, and sent to the OSBI to be destroyed.

Names were redacted on some reports under the direction of Marketing and Public Relations Director Cordell Jordan who said names are redacted "according to OCCCPD Standard Operating Procedures involving information released and information withheld."

To obtain a copy of the procedure, email cjordan@occc.edu.

To contact campus police, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7747.

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

Library study rooms provide all students need

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Students looking for a quiet place to study with friends should consider using the study rooms in the OCCC library, said Circulation and Reference Librarian Ann Raia.

The library has eight study rooms — two on the first floor and six on the second floor, she said. The second floor encourages students outside the rooms to remain quiet.

Raia said the rooms are built to accommodate anywhere from two to eight people studying at any given time.

Different types of rooms are available as well, Raia said.

“We also have a collaboration room.

“The collaboration room has equipment that allows you to

hook up your device of choice to a screen.”

Raia said students are provided with a cable kit for the collaboration room that enables them to hook up their different devices.

Some rooms also come equipped with dry erase boards, she said, with erasers and markers available at the circulation desk.

While all of the rooms are first-come, first-served, Raia said, the library also accepts reservations for up to two hours. Students can call in those reservations, she said.

“If no one else is scheduled after you, then, you’re free to hang around as long as you want,” she said.

For more information, contact the Library Assistance Desk at 405-682-1611, ext. 7251.



Math major Everett O'Neill and education major Piotr Kiev use one of the study rooms on the second floor of the library to prepare for their College Prep Math IV class. The library has eight study rooms — two on the first floor and six on the second floor. The rooms will accommodate up to eight people. *Clayton Mitchell/Pioneer*



OCCC employees test out a collaboration room in the library. This is just one type of study room available in the area said Circulation and Reference Librarian Ann Raia. Students who use this room are provided with a cable kit to be able to hook up their electronic devices. *File Photo/OCCC Library*

it's a small world

Hometown violence prompts move to U.S.

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After his mother was terrorized on the streets of his hometown of Baghdad, and then, his best friend was kidnapped right before his eyes, international student Mahmud Sadik said he felt he had no choice but to sell his family's belongings and come to the U.S.

Like many foreign students, Sadik is no stranger to adversity. Although he has a stable life now in Oklahoma, he said his past is anything but.

For Sadik, living day-to-day in Iraq was a challenge.

He said because his brother worked for Time magazine, others considered his family "bad people."

"If you work for any American company, people [in Iraq] say you're working for the American military," Sadik said.

He said it was because of that, that his mother met with trouble.

Sadik said the car in which

she was riding was stopped and she was thrown out onto the street.

He said the two men in the car weren't so lucky and were killed.

Sadik said his family's house was then sprayed with machine gun fire at 3 a.m. one morning, with his entire family inside.

"Everything was horrible," he said.

After that, Sadik's family moved to the U.S. but he decided to stay in Baghdad.

It wasn't long after that he lost his best friend to the ongoing struggle between Sunni and Shiite groups.

"My friend Omar and I were clothes shopping once and stopped by some terrorists."

Sadik said the men who stopped them were Shiites.

"They looked at our IDs, and saw my friend's name, which is very offensive to them — they dislike it," he said.

Omar, a Sunni, was thrown in a car and, Sadik said, he hasn't seen him since.

After Omar was kidnapped, Sadik's family — now living in

"If you work for any American company, people [in Iraq] say you're working for the American military."

—MAHMUD SADIK
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

Washington D.C. — told him to sell their house, cars, and come to America.

Despite his grueling past, Sadik is optimistic about the chance to live his own American dream and work in an office, he said.

"I want to get my [education] and maybe get some sort of job," he said.

"For me, Oklahoma is amazing."

Sadik has been in the States for only about 10 months, but said, so far, he is loving every minute of it — especially the milder weather.

"In Iraq, it's very hot, hotter than here," he said. "It's also dusty everywhere, so that's not very nice."

What most Americans



CLAYTON MITCHELL/PIONEER

Mahmud Sadik

probably take for granted, Sadik considers a blessing.

"Even the roads over here are so nice and organized," he said.

He said he likes Oklahoma more than being in the bustling

city of D.C.

He also has family here, he said.

"Everyone there is so busy, looking straight ahead. Here, it's southern hospitality."



Iraq

Capital: Baghdad

Population: 35.42 million (2014)

GDP: \$220.5 billion USD (2014)

Size: 168,754 sq. miles

Official Language: Arabic

Currency: Iraqi Dinar

Government: Multi-party system with the Prime Minister having executive power

Religion: Islam

Details: Iraq, officially the Republic of Iraq, is a country in Western Asia. The country borders Turkey to the north, Iran to the east, Kuwait to the southeast, Saudi Arabia to the south, Jordan to the southwest, and Syria to the west.

—www.google.com



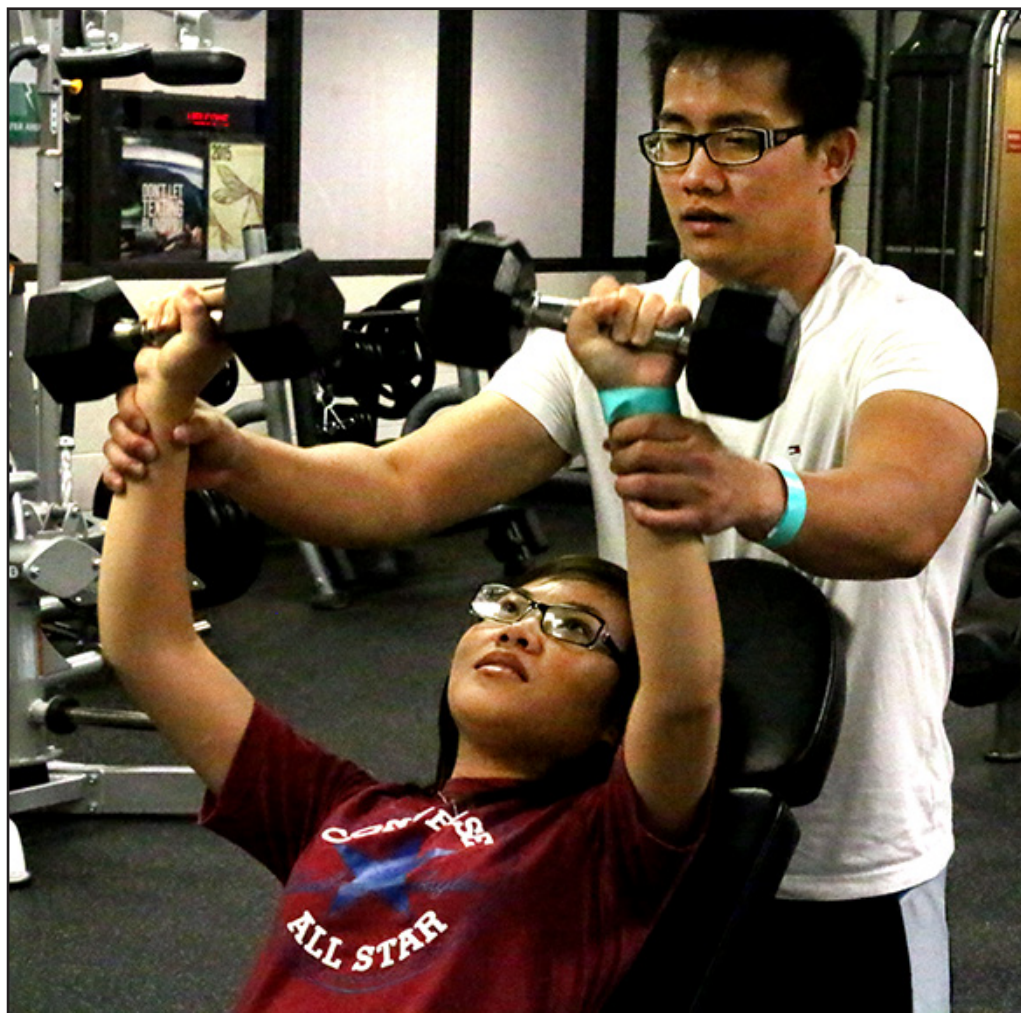
SPORTS

Workout Partners

Engineering major Tobi Nguyen helps nursing major Tien Nguyen as she lifts weights in the OCCC Wellness Center.

"We work out together every Tuesday and Thursday," Tien said.

For more information about the area, contact Recreation and Fitness at 405-682-7860, or visit www.occc.edu/RF.
Clayton Mitchell/
Pioneer

**GETTING TO KNOW:**

MICHAEL SHUGART
RECREATION AND FITNESS DIRECTOR
SINCE 2009



Q: What is your job description?

A: "I pretty much oversee everything that has to do with Rec and Fit. On a day-to-day basis, we want to make sure all of our customers are getting good service and, of course, in the past few months, it's been pretty crazy with renovations and changes that we've done."

Q: What do you like most about working at OCCC?

A: "I was always involved in some type of athletics. This, for me, is a perfect fit. I get to do, for my job, what I'm really interested in. I work out in the gym every day."

Q: What are some of your hobbies?

A: "My wife and I have a lake house, so I like to fish, we have a boat, ski and wakeboard at the lake house."

Q: Are you currently involved in any sports or have you ever been?

A: "The sports I do now are all water related, at the lake. I've been doing triathlon since the 1980s. I played football in high school, as well. Growing up in California, I was more interested in the extreme sports like skateboarding, surfing and motocross."

Q: What are your favorite teams?

A: "I like MMA and I watch motocross. They have an indoor season and an outdoor season for motocross. I try to watch that on TV or online."

Q: What is your favorite thing about sports/fitness?

A: "Teams. [It] builds relationships. ... The feeling of helping somebody else achieve their goals is really important."

Q: Do you believe that people should keep up a healthy lifestyle?

A: "The renovations of the Wellness Center. We're just trying to get the word out and let people know what we have to offer here. I think that people are starting to see it more and more. This has been very, very well-received."

New classes use expanded facilities

IAN MANERA

Sports Writer

sportswriter@occc.edu

OCCC's Recreation and Fitness Department is taking full advantage of the new facilities and equipment by offering a few new fitness classes in addition to their old programs, said Wellness Center Manager Brooke Dresel.

"We have classes that everyone is familiar with like Zumba, Yoga and Pilates," Dresel said, "but there's also new, more rigorous classes like TRX (Total Body Resistance Exercise) and HIIT (High-Intensity Interval Training) which focus on suspension training and interval training, respectively."

"TRX is something that even soldiers in the military use to train."

Recreation and Fitness Director Michael Shugart said the TRX class will be exciting.

"We just got this TRX equipment in and once people start hearing about, I think it will be really big," he said.

Dresel said after being the recipient of an equipment overhaul, OCCC's Recreation and Fitness Center is becoming an even more viable place for students to get exercise.

She said students should be taking full advantage of the

area, free to all students.

She said she encourages students to try any of the 17 different programs being offered, regardless of their experience levels or what time constraints they feel they may have.

"Because of different schedules of students, a lot of the classes involve people working at their own speed," she said. "Students who are weight training can train at the own speed and do what's best for their bodies."

And, Dresel said, the department adjusted the schedule to add classes during lunchtime to allow students with congested availability to still have time to get active, making it a very flexible program.

Dresel said tired and stressed-out students could benefit from these classes.

"If you don't have enough oxygen running through your body, it can cause you to become very tired," she said. "A lot of people don't get enough exercise and this can be one of the reasons why they're so exhausted."

Dresel said classes begin Sept. 8. However, she said, students can join the classes at anytime during the semester.

For more information about the various classes and class times, visit <http://www.occc.edu/rf/> and choose Wellness Center, contact Dresel at 405-682-7860 or email bdresel@occc.edu.



Drop: Students can still drop and receive a W but no refund

Continued from page 1

“For example, if you drop an 8-week class before it starts, it may affect the amount of money you get from a Pell grant,” she said.

She said many students don’t realize that if they withdraw before a certain date, they might owe back a certain portion of their financial aid.

Leal said that date this semester is

Friday, Oct. 23.

“If a student withdraws before [that] date, we have to calculate how much to send back to the Department of Education,” she said.

Leal said many students don’t realize this policy exists.

She said this can be particularly troublesome for students who have already spent the money.

“It’s a big problem when students

don’t know this.”

Students who don’t meet satisfactory academic progress during the semester also may lose some of their financial aid if they can’t keep up their GPA.

“We receive a lot of questions recording satisfactory academic progress and how to get financial aid back from that, and how to fill out an appeal,” Leal said.

When it comes to financial aid, Leal said, the most common question asked

is when student loans will be disbursed.

Disbursement days are listed on the college website calendar at www.occc.edu.

She said they also receive various questions about how to fill out FAFSA, how to get financial aid in the first place, and if they’re eligible in the first place.

For more information, contact the Financial Aid office at 405-682-7525, or at financialaid@occc.edu.

Act: OCCC parents, soon-to-be parents covered by Title IX

Continued from page 1

tion Act in 2002 after the death of the U.S. Congresswomen who authored the act and fought for its passage.

It states, “no person should be denied benefits, subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity on the basis of sex.”

Switzer said the notification has been in the planning stages for about a year.

“That process started in the spring of last year and even before that when we first started getting the information from the Office of Civil Rights.

“I met with the deans and it was decided that I would send that notification to faculty so they could be aware,” she said.

“It was important to get the word out to students as well. We asked that it be in the handbook.

“It’s not a new policy. It’s a notification of what Title IX provides.”

According to the act, “Within Title IX, expectant and parenting students have the right to excused absences for pregnancy-related issues, reasonable time to make up work missed from excused absences,

“I met with the deans and it was decided that I would send that notification to faculty so they could be aware. It was important to get the word out to students as well.”

—REGINA SWITZER
TITLE IX COORDINATOR

and maternity leave. If their schools provide temporarily disabled students with at-home tutoring, expectant and parenting students are also legally entitled to the same.

“Students cannot be kicked out of school for being pregnant or parenting and do not need to bring in medical notes to continue their education or continue participating in extracurricular activities.

“Additionally, parenting students have the right to privacy, and no school official can share their pregnancy information with anyone without full consent.

“And regardless of parenting status, students have the right to continue their learning with-

out being shamed. As Title IX clarifies, harassment because of pregnancy is a form of sex discrimination and a violation of the federal law.”

Switzer said not every pregnant woman will require time off but those who do will receive it.

“It’s not just every pregnancy,” she said. “It’s a pregnancy that may require bedrest or time away or if there are complications.

“It’s for situations where there’s an extraordinary need.

Switzer said the college will work with faculty to ensure students are accommodated.

“... Sometimes it takes a coordinated effort to get the professors to provide a little bit of flexibility and that they work with [students] to get caught up so they’re not disadvantaged.”

If a student needs to miss school for a long period of time, Switzer said, OCCC officials may require a doctor’s note upon returning.

“We do require that especially if it’s a situation where we have to go back and fix something — if it’s a late withdrawal or something — we’ll need some documentation,” she said.

“If they’re going to need to miss for an extended amount of time, a doctor’s note is going to be helpful and usually not hard for them to obtain because they are under a doctor’s care. We have to make sure that pregnant student status is preserved.”

The Department of Education website states, “Your school also must not require a doctor’s note from you after you have been hospitalized for childbirth unless it requires a doctor’s note from all students who have been hospitalized for other conditions.”

Switzer said there are other alternatives students may want to consider as well, such as the option to switch to online classes if there are any available for the on-campus courses the student is taking.

“Sometimes if a student finds out they’re pregnant, they’ll make a decision — especially if they’re in the entry-level courses — to shift to the online courses for the semester so they can still work even if they can’t make it to class.

“They can continue on at their own pace. That’s an ac-

commodation that we sometimes will try to shoot for if it’s possible.

“It’s one of those things where we have to look for the best solution for that particular person and they have some say in it. They help shape the solution we arrive at.”

Switzer said Student Life and Student Support Services also are available to help pregnant and parenting students with accommodations.

“If the student has a complication like gestational diabetes, then that’s going to take it into a disability realm,” she said.

And, Switzer said, the law doesn’t only pertain to women.

“The law extends to new fathers too, and new same-sex partners,” she said. “It does extend to the other parent.”

Switzer said any student who encounters a problem that falls within Title IX or who wants additional information, can contact her at 405-682-7540, or at regina.a.switzer@occc.edu.

For a complete listing of rights, visit www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/dcl-know-rights-201306-title-ix.html.

OCCC: Renting books often better

Continued from page 1

beginning of each semester.

“The small chance of me not being able to return [my books] at the end of the semester is completely overshadowed by

the hundreds of dollars I save by renting.”

Book rental availability can be searched at <http://bookstore.occc.edu/SelectTermDept.aspx>.

The site also offers the option

to print a list to bring to the bookstore at <http://bookstore.occc.edu/SelectTermDept.aspx>.

For more information, contact the bookstore at 405-682-1611, ext. 7510.

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CAMPUS COMMUNITY



Campus clubs reach out to students: Students sign up for the Black Student Association during the Student Club Fair on Aug. 26. For more information about BSA or any other campus club, visit www.occc.edu/studentlife/clubs.html. *Clayton Mitchell/Pioneer*

Nursing fair to bring state universities

KATIE AXTELL
Editor
editor@occc.edu

Later this month universities across the state will crowd into the College Union for the RN 2 BSN fair at OCCC to recruit nursing students.

"The RN 2 BSN is a fair where universities from the state who have bachelor degree programs in nursing or bachelor of science nursing programs are going to be here to talk to our students who are in the nursing program," said Transfer and Graduation Coordinator Javier Puebla.

"The focus of the fair is for our three- and four-semester nursing students to prepare for their eventual completion of their RN and transfer to a BSN program even if they haven't decided yet whether or not they want to pursue a BSN.

"Anyone interested in a nursing career can go to this event and get information about the traditional nursing programs and admission process."

Students who are interested in nursing programs who are not already enrolled in one also can find information at the RN 2 BSN fair, Puebla said.

"With as many students that apply for our program,

a lot of students don't get in not [because they aren't] eligible, but for the limited space we have," he said.

"We want them to take advantage of other programs around the state. It's for everyone."

Puebla said the fair will have information available on how to apply to other universities and nursing programs as well as information about the schools to help students be more prepared when they apply.

"When [nursing students] complete their RN at OCCC they can make sure they have the required course work and know how [to] transition to a university to complete their bachelor's of science in nursing.

"They also have information about their traditional programs for students who are interested in [other] stuff, but it's really tailored for those fourth semester nursing students."

Scholarship information for the BSN programs also will be available, Puebla said.

The RN 2 BSN fair will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 16 and 17 in the College Union.

For more information, contact Puebla at 405-682-1611, ext. 7567, or jpuebla@occc.edu.



CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Student Life to host volunteer fair

Various OCCC partner volunteer agencies will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9 in the General Dining Area lobby. Students who are interested in volunteering at organizations such as the Regional Food Bank and Habitat for Humanity can get information at this come-and-go fair. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523 or visit occc.edu/studentlife.

Register to vote Sept. 15 and 16

Students can register to vote at a Campus Impact registration booth from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 15, and Wednesday, Sept. 16, inside the College Union. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523 or studentlife@occc.edu.

Transfer workshop and job session

AGET Transferred Workshop will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 8, in CU3. Students who intend to transfer to a four-year university will find helpful information about the transfer process at the workshop. A "GET a Job" session to help students connect with potential employers will be held at noon on Wednesday, Sept. 9, in CU2. For more information, contact the Graduation, Employment and Transfer Office at 405-682-7519, or visit occc.edu/get/events.html.

Club to host Disbelief Discourse

The Agnostics, Atheists and Freethinkers club will host a Disbelief Discourse at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 18, in room 1C5 of the Main Building. All students, faculty, and staff are welcome to attend. For more information, email aaf@my.occc.edu or kgrayson@occc.edu.

Pharmacy Tech enrollment open

Enrollment is now open for the Pharmacy Technician course, which will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, Sept. 14 through Nov. 11 at the Professional Development Institute, 7124 S. I-35 Service Road. Cost for the course is \$480, due at the time of registration. That includes two textbooks approved by the American Pharmacists Association. For more information, contact Francine Gissy at 405-682-7586 or visit <http://www.occc.edu/pdi/pharmacy.html>.

Christians on Campus to host Bible study

Christians on Campus will meet for the Solid Ground series 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Mondays in room 3P0 in the Main Building. The study will focus on the Gospel of John. For more information, call or text club sponsor James Kennedy at 405-314-7739.

All Highlights are due Monday by noon for inclusion in the next issue. Email your event to editor@occc.edu or drop by the Pioneer office located in AH 1F2.

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: Bed liner and camper shell that will fit a full-size truck. Good condition. \$100 for both. Text 405-818-0083 for more information or photos.

FURNITURE

FOR SALE: 19" CRT television in fair condition. Great

for a gaming TV or in a child's room. \$25. Text 405-818-0083 for more details.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: "The Complete Film Production Handbook - Fourth Edition: \$28.99. "For All Practical Purposes Mathematical Literacy in Today's World- Ninth Edition": \$58.99. Call 443-812-0917.

MISCELLANEOUS

FREE: Your ad here. Students can place non-business classified ads for free. No more than 7 lines. Submit your ad to adman@occc.edu with your name, student ID and valid phone number.

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE
for ONLY \$32 a week!

—get your advertisement message to 5,000 prospective customers with a business-card size ad—

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


Nothing Will Ever Be the Same.

Smoking gave me throat cancer at 39. Now I breathe through a hole in my throat and need this machine to speak.

—Rosaldo Martinez

QUIT SMOKING TODAY
FOR HELP CALL 311

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor. Thomas R. Frieden, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner.



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WEEKLY CROSSWORD

Across

- 1. Pillow cover
- 5. Transmit
- 9. Potato state
- 14. Roman emperor
- 15. Locality
- 16. Modernize
- 17. Liveliness
- 19. Frequently
- 20. Drink cooler
- 21. Property claims
- 22. Armstrong and Diamond
- 23. Inferior
- 25. Urgent abbr.
- 26. Made
- 30. Bath powder
- 33. Shoe spike
- 36. Songstress ____ Turner
- 37. Briny deep
- 38. "____ we forget"
- 39. Lady's title
- 40. "A ____ Is Born"
- 41. Naval officer (abbr.)
- 42. Actor ____ Baldwin
- 43. Gleamed
- 44. Enemies
- 46. Tell again
- 48. Moniker
- 50. Halts
- 54. Wood spinner
- 56. Midwest airport
- 59. Key near Ctrl
- 60. Assumed name
- 61. Noteworthy
- 63. Lions' sounds
- 64. Purple flower
- 65. Whole bunch
- 66. Hold up
- 67. Turner and Williams
- 68. Animal enclosures

Down

- 1. Slow mover
- 2. Therefore
- 3. Zodiac sign
- 4. Dad's spouse
- 5. Sarcastic writing
- 6. Ohio lake
- 7. City light
- 8. Aykroyd and Rather
- 9. Shackles
- 10. Vanquish
- 11. Italian appetizer course
- 12. Foot part
- 13. Has
- 18. Vigilant
- 24. Scram!
- 25. Eden resident
- 27. "____ of Two Cities" (2 wds.)
- 28. Ocean currents
- 29. Put into effect
- 31. Slender
- 32. Show concern
- 33. Musical sign
- 34. Letterman's rival
- 35. Most important
- 39. Foal's mom
- 40. Mets' bygone home
- 43. Guide
- 45. Largest desert
- 47. Crossword direction
- 49. Untidy
- 51. Costly fur
- 52. Actress ____ Barkin
- 53. Hearty soups
- 54. Fat for frying
- 55. Burn-soothing plant
- 56. Exclude
- 57. Not there
- 58. Among
- 62. Egyptian cobra

Don't Text And Drive

Drivers who use cellphones are 4 times more likely to get into crashes that could be fatal

Using a cellphone while driving delays a drivers reactions as much as having a B.A.C. level of 0.08

"Don't Drive while inTEXTicated. Driving while inTEXTicated kills."

Drunk driving costly to all involved

CODY COYLE

News Writing Student

For \$10,000 you can ride with Uber from Oklahoma City all the way to Alaska — and back.

For drivers who are arrested for Driving Under the Influence of alcohol, the cost of the ticket and all of its added expenses could total close to \$10,000.

THE COST OF A DUI

About 1.2 million people are arrested annually for DUI, driving under the influence of alcohol, also known as drunk driving.

The price of driving under the influence can range anywhere from \$5,000 to \$12,000, according to the website sponsored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving. But the consequences of driving under the influence can sometimes be much more.

Getting a DUI cannot only be measured by this large amount of money, but also by the emotional toll and hours of community service and court appearances, said Oklahoma City Police Public Information Officer Gary Knight.

Knight said he has made hundreds of DUI arrests and freely gives his advice to those who decide to drink and drive: Don't do it.

"It's truly frightening to see how fast your life can change," Knight said. "By choosing to drive drunk, you're putting yourself at a high risk to become a convicted felon."

"If you become a convicted felon, you cannot become a teacher, lawyer, doctor, police officer, and many more."

"Almost all good jobs are then out of the question."

For a DUI to be considered a felony in Oklahoma, it usually has to be your second offense in 10 years, Knight said.

But even for a misdemeanor DUI, the total cost can run \$10,000 or more, Knight said.

Costs related to a first-offense non-injury or non-property-damaging DUI can include court costs which average anywhere from \$200 to \$1,500.

Substance abuse classes will cost up to \$500.

Legal fees generally start at \$2,000, but much of the time run near \$5,000, Knight said.

An ignition interlock system (breathalyzer) for your vehicle costs at least \$100 to install, and a rental fee of around \$50 per month, according to attorney Rich Stem, writer for Drivinglaws.org.

Increased auto insurance will run \$1,000 to \$1,500 annually, according to Stem's website.

And finally, to get your license reinstated, it costs anywhere from \$250 to \$500.

FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE

OCCC student, Jacob, who asked that his real name not be used, said he learned all this the hard way.

He said, in the summer of 2014, he just wanted to go to a party down the street from his apartment in Norman. That's how Jacob got his education in the cost of a DUI.

"The party was at an apartment complex literally a five-minute walk from mine," he said. "My buddies and I had been drinking a few beers at my place before the party."

Jacob agreed to drive them over.

"On the last turn into the complex where the party was, I saw the flashing lights," he said. "I failed the sobriety test and they took me to jail. My friends just walked to the party."

Jacob's friends then spent the rest of the night trying to find a way to bail him out of jail. He said, luckily, he comes from a family who had the means to pay the \$2,000 bail.

Because Jacob and his friends decided to drive instead of walk, he had to spend thousands of dollars, perform community service and attend classes.

He said he learned some things attending DUI classes, which cost \$250 and lasted four weeks.

"They showed many eye-opening statistics and it taught me to be more cautious," he said.

"Everyone should also know that the class is at 9 a.m. on Saturday, so say goodbye to going out on Friday nights."

While DUIs have consequences for the driver who gets arrested, accident victims of drunk drivers should not be overlooked.

AN EXPENSIVE LESSON

What can \$20 worth of beer and one bad decision cost you?

OCCC student Thomas had to learn this answer the hard way. He agreed to tell of his experience, but also asked that his real name not be used.

His story began one Saturday night in 2011 when he was 18. He was at a party with a few friends, playing drinking games and having a good time.

All of a sudden, someone screamed "cops," and everyone began to scatter, he said.

Thomas told his three friends to wait out back as he went to get the car.

Once he picked them up and began to drive away, he said, he barely noticed someone run out of some bushes and try to stop the car.

With his decision-making impaired, Thomas said, he panicked and slammed on the gas.

As he drove over the person's foot, Thomas looked into the man's eyes and realized it was an Oklahoma City police officer.

As Thomas kept driving, he ended up going in a complete circle around the block, meeting the officer at gunpoint back at the location of the party. The officer threatened to shoot if Thomas didn't stop the car.

He and two of his friends were taken to Oklahoma County jail.

Thomas was charged with several felonies: hit-and-run, assault on an officer, fleeing the scene of a crime, and DUI.

His bail was set at \$15,000 and he remained in a cell for almost 24 hours.

He said, with the help of a very expensive attorney, he was able to get the felony charges dropped and was only charged with a misdemeanor DUI.

When asked about the cost of the entire incident, he replied: "Too much money for someone my age to even comprehend."

"I had to sell my new Jeep Unlimited. For Christmas my mom just gave me the attorney receipts and said 'be happy you're not in prison.'"

EACH YEAR, NEARLY 10,000 PEOPLE DIE ON OUR ROADS DUE TO IMPAIRED DRIVING



THAT WOULD BE EQUAL TO ABOUT **20 JUMBO JETS** CRASHING EACH YEAR

NHTSA.GOV/DRIVESOBER

His fees alone — those related to the misdemeanor DUI — cost upwards of \$4,000, he said. That didn't include attorney costs.

Although his case is somewhat unusual, Thomas wants to warn other students about the toll it takes.

It's been four years now, he said, and he is just beginning to recover — both financially and emotionally.

"Don't think this can never happen to you," Thomas said.

"When you are intoxicated, your decision-making is off. What I did could have cost me my entire life. It all could have been avoided by not getting behind the wheel of a car (after drinking alcohol)."

Thomas said he is fortunate that his family could afford to cover the costs without making serious sacrifices. For someone from a less affluent family, he said, the situation could have ended much differently.

Since that time, Thomas has had to make some simple but crucial changes.

For quite some time after, he said, he didn't even drink alcohol because he was on probation for a year after his DUI.

Since he was under 21, one drink and he could have violated his probation and been required to serve prison time.

After not drinking alcohol for almost a year, he explains how he now carefully plans out his social life.

If he goes to party, he starts early in the day planning his rides. He says he also uses Uber and Lyft quite often.

THE NUMBERS

Although the number of DUI fatalities have dropped in half since 1980, drunk driving still accounts for almost one-third of traffic deaths each year, according to a study done by Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

That is 28 deaths each day, the MADD website shows.

Drunk driving in Oklahoma is defined as 0.08 blood alcohol content, which can be caused by just three 12-ounce beers in one hour.

Impaired driving is classified as between 0.05 and 0.079 blood alcohol content.

Impaired driving (DWI) still results in a ticket up to \$500, according to the Oklahoma Department of Motor Vehicles website.

If drivers are above this legal limit and cause one of the 28 deaths each day, they will then face second-degree murder charges, Knight said.

Before getting behind the wheel while intoxicated, Knight would like to offer words of caution: "Think about the consequences and your future. It could all change in an instant."