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Oh, Christmas Tree

Noonan's opens its doors to the season across at its lot across from OCC.

BY JULIAN MUNIZ
STAFF WRITER

The Coast Community College District will be sharing its parking lot with Noonan's Christmas Trees across the street from the Adams Avenue Parking Lot up until Christmas Eve.

Noonan's paid \$2,500 to rent out the lot and opened its gates on Friday. The tree lot will be open seven days a week Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Doug Noonan, owner of Noonan's Christmas Trees, said that his father started the business back in 1944 and he took over when he was at the proper age.

"This thing's been going on for 71 years now," Noonan said, "so you know it's something special when the holidays come around." Noonan also said that having the Christmas trees on display for the public to see makes it more exciting for the family and kids.

"Just the smell of these fresh trees will get you excited to find the right one for the family," Noonan said. "This is way more exciting for kids instead of buying a boxed one in a boring store."

The tree lot will be selling an extensive variety of Christmas trees from grand firs to plantation Douglas trees. According to Noonan, the noble and Norman firs will be the most popular trees among the bunch as they have a reputation of being the top-sellers.

Right now the trees are going for \$29.95 and up. The price range will vary depending on the size and the tree type selection.

The trees are coming from Oregon and Washington. In fact, the trees are farm grown specifically for this time of year so that they are ready to go by the holiday season.

Noonan said he plans to donate 25 percent of the profits to local Costa Mesa community organizations such as churches, elementary schools and Costa Mesa High School.

"I've always believed in giving back to the community," Noonan said. "It's just the mentality that I've always had."

Noonan also said that the leftover trees will be donated to needy families who would appreciate one. The trees themselves are biodegradable and will be easily recycled for mulch and other purposes.

Some people are already looking forward to purchasing their own Christmas tree. Ian Matthews, 42, a geography major, said that he wants to bring his son with him when he buys one.

"My mom used to let me choose a tree when I was a kid," Matthews said, "so why not let my son do it this time."

Senate votes to add a seat

An election will take place next semester to pick a new senator.

BY NATHAN RUSINIAK
STAFF WRITER

The Student Government of Orange Coast College decided to elect a ninth senator position to be filled next semester during its Nov. 18 meeting to prevent potential tie votes when making decisions on student matters.

Senators said a campus-wide vote will take place early next semester to elect the new member.

Currently there are an even number of eligible voters from the Student Senate and the Executive Board who are the governing student bodies on campus that vote on student matters. The addition of the new senator will bring the number of eligible voters to 15 and alleviate any chance for a tie vote.

The issue arose last year when the Senate approved giving voting rights to the executive board. The executive board is made up of the student senate president, student body president, InterClub Council president, SGOCC regional delegates, and the vice presidents of Fiscal Affairs, Diplomatic Affairs, Communications and the College Life Committee.

The student senate is voted in by the student body and the executive board's members are elected by the student senate.

"A quorum is considered half the members of a meeting plus one to make it official, because the executive board can vote, it brings the total number of members to 14 which offsets quorum," Devin Smith, student body president said.

An equal number of members would give the chance of a split tie vote and then the senate

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Taking a tough path to success

OCC basketball standout says education is key to everything.

BY LOGAN CARTER
NEWS EDITOR

Jamaal Lee says up until now he has followed a "squiggly path in life."

Despite a tough start, the 32-year-old kinesiology major and Pirates basketball team captain said he understands now that education and basketball are the avenues that will lead him to his purpose in life — helping others.

Lee said he was confronted with adult responsibilities even as a child as his single mother struggled to provide for him and his older sister.

"I was the youngest and the oldest at the same time," Lee said. "I had to choose to starve or to survive, and survival came at its own expense."

Lee has faced hardship but has accepted that he never had a true childhood or adolescence. Maybe because of that, Lee, who is black, focuses on activism to better the lives of minorities who face adversities in their homes.

"I never gave myself an opportunity to appreciate education and what it could do for me," said Lee.

Lee says basketball has gotten him through the tough times and credits it for where he is today. He started at OCC last spring after contacting coach Steve Spencer about opportunities to play.

"It (basketball) brings diversities together and sets a common

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Photo courtesy of Orange Coast College

Captain of the OCC basketball team, Jamaal Lee, is carving his own path, on and off the court.

Emerson goes out and executes big

Second-year coach puts his stamp on the Pirates with a winning season.

BY KODY DODIER
STAFF WRITER

Whether he's at home with his three kids or on the field coaching 70 plus young men, head football coach Kevin Emerson expects excellence and hard work and won't settle for anything less.

Emerson, in just his second season as head coach at Orange Coast College, was able to lead the Pirates to their first playoff berth in nine years and lead the team to its first seven-win season in 28 years.

"I still look at the season as a major success despite the loss to Ventura. We still accomplished a lot of our major goals for the season," Emerson said.

When Emerson took the head coaching job in 2014 it wasn't exactly a glamorous position. The Pirates were in an eight-year playoff drought and had lost five straight years to their biggest rival Golden West College.



Kevin Emerson

"I knew it would be a challenge taking this job, but I was determined to put my own stamp on it," Emerson said.

Emerson brought 12 years of head coaching experience to OCC after serving as head coach at San Bernardino Valley College from 2009-13 and at Citrus College from 2001-07.

"I wanted to use my experi-

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ON THE INSIDE

Flower power

Poinsettias galore will be for sale Friday in the Horticulture Garden.

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Cheap eats

Burgers, fries and other yummys are budget friendly options on campus.

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Gen ed debate

Students bicker over whether general education classes are a benefit.

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Surf and turf

Laird Hayes teaches a surf class at OCC one day and refs for the NFL the next.

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**CRIME
BLOTTER**



Mean scratches

According to John Farmer, chief of Campus Safety, a female student driving a 2014 white four-door Toyota Corolla parked her vehicle around 2 p.m. on Nov. 24 in the Adams Avenue Parking Lot.

She went to class and returned to her car and noticed damage on the passenger side, from the rear door to the back bumper.

The damage consisted of paint scratches on the rear door. There are currently no suspects.

Still parked

A yellow Chevrolet Cobalt with Montana license plates was impounded in the Adams Avenue Parking Lot around 7 p.m. on Nov. 19.

The vehicle had six citations totaling \$242. The owner was cited on Nov. 18 and was told if he was parked there again it would be towed.

The owner parked there again and the vehicle was towed, Farmer said.

Thumbs up

A male student was cutting a metal pipe in the Skill Center room 101 at 7:45 p.m. Nov. 18.

The victim was working on a 4-inch wide and 20-inch long pipe.

He wasn't paying attention and a piece of pipe fell on his thumb.

He had minor swelling, was given an ice pack and went back to class, Farmer said.

He bailed

A male skateboarder fell on his arm Nov. 17 at 3:55 p.m. at Pine Creek Drive coming

into the Adams Avenue Parking Lot.

Paramedics treated the student. He had fracture of the right arm and was transferred to the Fountain Valley Regional Medical Center, Farmer said.

Cold metal

A male non-student received medical aid at the John R. Clark Computing Center around 11:10 p.m. on Nov. 16.

The man has a titanium rod in his hip and the cold weather caused his leg to become immobile.

Paramedics responded and took the man to Hoag Hospital, Farmer said.

Middle finger

A male student cut his hand and received medical aid on Nov. 16 at 2:35 p.m. inside Chemistry building room 124.

The student broke a test tube and cut his middle finger on his right hand and was transferred to the Student Health Center, Farmer said.

Red in the face

A male staff member was standing near the Le Bard Stadium field house on Nov. 20 at 8 p.m. during a high school football game.

The man went to open the door to the field house for the referees. As he was standing behind the door, one of the referees hit the door and hit the man in the face.

He had a red face and denied medical attention, Farmer said.

—The Crime Blotter was compiled by Jake Olquin from Campus Safety reports.



Photo by Mallory Sullivan

Four OCC greenhouses are currently housing six varieties of poinsettias to be sold during the annual poinsettia sale Friday.

Planted with love and care

The OCC Horticulture department supervises thousands of poinsettia plants 24 hours a day, every day of the week.

BY SARAH FERNANDEZ
FEATURES EDITOR

More than 11,000 poinsettias are resting inside Orange Coast College's greenhouses and being nurtured with the soothing sounds of classical symphonies and a perfectly climate-controlled environment.

The OCC Horticulture department first started incorporating poinsettia plants nearly 39 years ago, when it went in search for a plant that students could have hands-on exposure to and experience what it is like to grow a crop from beginning to end.

"It just so happens that the time it takes to get from a poinsettia cutting to a full product, is just about 16 weeks, and that's just about how long our semester is,"

Rick Harlow, the program coordinator said.

The red-hued blossoms were the perfect plant to teach and challenge students.

"Poinsettias are incredibly difficult to grow, so we figured, if you could grow that, you could grow anything," Lori Pullman, an ornamental horticulture instructor said. "We wanted to grow a crop that students would get challenged at. All the issues that one could come up against with a crop were possible with poinsettias, so anything else they encountered at a nursery in the future, would be easy."

These plants, which are native to Central America, not only allow students to get hands-on experi-

ence but see what it's like to see a crop from a cutting, which is the form in which poinsettias are typically acquired in — a three-inch cutting from a previously grown plant, to a full grown rich-red poinsettia that is finally sold at the annual poinsettia sale on campus.

"They see the labor that goes into it and then they see the products going out into our marketplace — there's value in that because it's real and not theoretical, so that's why it's been such a mainstay for us," Harlow said.

The OCC Horticulture department is home to four greenhouses which are currently filled to the brim with thousands of poinsettias. The plants are supervised nearly 24 hours a day, seven days a week by Harlow and Joseph Stead, the lab coordinator at OCC Horticulture.

"[Stead] mothers these plants," Harlow said. "He's good at knowing when things change with the plants and that takes a really keen eye — to recognize changes before they become a big problem."

The poinsettias are kept under close surveillance with the department's Poinsettia Cam which is available to the public through the OCC Horticulture website.

"It's a lot of work, but we've got a group of about 20 to 25 volunteers that have been helping out anywhere from two to 20 years," Pullman said.

The OCC Horticulture Club has also been an active participant in

helping care for the poinsettias.

"There are several planting days at the beginning of the fall semester where club members, students and other volunteers help plant the poinsettias," Carrara Onody, president of the Horticulture Club said. "The average amounts of poinsettias planted on these days is between 1,400 to 2,800."

There are six varieties of poinsettias kept under guard inside the OCC greenhouses. Each one of these plant varieties requires constant upkeep, as they're known to be quite problematic plants, according to Harlow.

"This year we had a subset of the club called the Poinsettia Patrol where a small number of students helped with the general care and maintenance of the plants, with the Horticulture department staff every week," Onody said.

The poinsettias, besides being kept around as an academic tool, are also a source of notable income to the department.

First, \$5,000 of the money from the sales goes to a scholarship fund for horticulture students and the rest goes toward the next semester's crops and any facility upgrades, Harlow said.

The poinsettia sale is open to the public on Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the OCC Horticulture garden.

"It's a huge amount of work, but it's really rewarding because you get a lot of happy people at the end of it all," Harlow said.

COACH: Emerson leads with passion.

From Page 1

ience and things I learned from my previous jobs and apply them to this job to try and bring the program back to being respectable again," Emerson said.

It wasn't exactly the greatest start for Emerson as the Pirates only managed to go 3-7 in his first season, but that was with the old coaching staff's players. Emerson said he was determined to put his stamp on the team by going out and recruiting his type of players.

"We actively recruited all over the county and the state to try and find the best talent out there and bring them in to our program" Emerson said.

Emerson said he was determined to bring a winning culture back to OCC football and he expected hard work and dedication from each of his players.

Emerson's players say he has high expectations but they appreciate his guidance.

"Coach expects a lot out of us and when we don't do what he wants he will let us know, but he also cares deeply about us and wants only the best for us," free safety Zoauntarrious Brunt said.

Emerson has been able to bring OCC football back to where it hasn't been in a long time, leading it to its first seven-win season in 28 years. The team also earned a huge victory over rival Golden

West and brought back the victory bell which ultimately led them back to the playoffs where they haven't been since 2006.

The team ended its season with a loss to Ventura College 53-39 on Nov. 21 in the Beach Bowl.

"We had some great moments this year and I want to keep this program headed in the right direction so we can enjoy moments like this every year," Emerson said.

In addition to the great moments Emerson and the Pirates enjoyed on the field, there were many great moments off the field as some of Emerson's players were able to draw attention from division one schools such as Oregon State, University of Colorado and San Diego State.

"A big part of my job here is to prepare these men for the future and that's not only on the field but also in the classroom, and it is always a huge thrill to see my players getting noticed by bigger D-1 schools," Emerson said.

Emerson said he plans on bringing the same intensity from this year to every year he works as head coach, and now that he's tasted success he will expect it in the future.

"Coach has high expectations of us and believes that we can beat any team on our schedule every year and that's what I love about him," cornerback Jo Jackson said.

ASOCC/College Life Committee Presents

Angel Tree

NOV 9th - DEC 11th

Donate gifts to senior citizens and children in need. Drop your gifts in collection boxes around campus or the ASOCC Office.

For more information, contact ASOCC Office at (714) 432 5730.



Black Friday frenzy leads to broke

A Coast Report staffer goes out on craziest shopping day of the year.

BY MICHELLE MENDEZ
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

After eating about four pounds of spaghetti for Thanksgiving dinner, my blood was probably 85 percent marinara sauce. That aside, I knew it was time, so I quickly made my way out the door and ended up at Target on Black Friday.

The best thing after a delicious Thanksgiving dinner is being able to line up for hours and see people trample over each other just to get great deals. Black Friday had finally come.

The night was cold — so cold that I could see my breath when I spoke. The line was getting longer at Target. The time was 5:52 p.m. and Target would be opening its doors in eight minutes.

Finally, people were being let in and the fun began.

People were shoving each other trying to get the 52-inch televisions and the Uncharted PS3 bundle, which is a PS3 console bundle that includes the “Uncharted 4” video game.

I heard someone yell “get off of me, I got this first” and then

saw Target employees rush over to try and stop the madness.

I had no idea what I came there for but just being there made me feel excited. I began to put stuff in my cart for fun.

After minutes of wandering and putting random stuff in my cart, I began to think about what I actually needed and a vacuum came to mind. I found a Dirt Devil on sale for \$25, which was originally priced at \$50. What a deal.

Eventually I realized I didn’t need all the stuff in my cart, so I left it in a random aisle, then watched as people scavenged through it after realizing it didn’t have an owner.

At the end of my trip I left with a vacuum, oranges, “Selena” on DVD and I only paid \$32.54.

After I left, I went home and took a power nap and woke up at 4 a.m. and headed over to GameStop.

The doors opened around 4:58 a.m. Once I was inside I was looking around the whole store to see what I could get.

The most popular item of the night was the Nintendo Wii-U but I already own one so I didn’t have to fight anyone for it.

I did end up purchasing “World of Warcraft” because it was on sale for \$4.99 and the original price was \$19.99. My brother got “Guitar Hero Live” for \$69.99



Photo by TravelersToday.com

Shoppers scramble to grab the top deals which included 40-inch HD LED television sets during last year’s Black Friday sale.

and the original price was \$99.99.

Now the best part of Black Friday was when I went to PetSmart. Mostly everything was 50 percent off so I went crazy. I bought dog clothes, dog

treats, dog food, a dog bed, a new rabbit cage, rabbit bedding, rabbit toys and treats and ended up spending around \$160 but I saved in total over \$200.

It was honestly worth it be-

cause my dogs look so cute in their new jackets.

After that I went to work but after I got out I rushed over to Hot Topic because T-shirts were \$10 so I bought 14 shirts —

most were of Twenty One Pilots and the rest were video game related or anime related.

That was my fun Black Friday. Now I’m broke but I can’t wait until next year.

OCC Foundation manages donations for Coast

Campus financial hub provides over \$350,000 a year in scholarships.

BY HAVA CASTANEDA
STAFF WRITER

Orange Coast College has untapped resources that are managed through the OCC Foundation office and have yet to gain wide recognition among students.

The Foundation office is non-profit and basically the financial hub of the college, according to Ann Marie Hoang, an office staff member. Since 1985, it has raised more than \$50 million to support programs and activities, and also help fund building development and renovations for the school.

The Foundation manages cash gifts, alumni donations and coordinates the process for scholarships. Sometimes funding comes from wills or members of the community and industry professionals interested in funding an industry-related department.

The Foundation provides over \$350,000 a year in scholarships, and some of those funds are acquired through donations given specifically as a scholarship in memory of someone who has died.

That donated money is then invested into an endowment, said Doug Bennett, executive director of college advancement at the Foundation. Each year, five percent taken from those endowments creates a scholarship basically forever in memory of the person who died. Over the long

haul, it means the Foundation doesn’t have to keep going out and raising that money, he said.

And funding doesn’t only come from outside the district.

“We had a donor. She was a retired faculty member and she left us about \$800,000 in her will,” Bennett said.

That money was invested in an endowment that generates about \$40,000 per year which is used to buy books. Additionally, nearly \$25,000 goes to book grants, Bennett said.

Apply for a book grant at the Foundation at the start of the semester and a decision is usually made in a few days once financial need is determined. The office determines need by looking at grades and a student’s class load.

There is also a free book loan program at the Library for stu-

dents. If a student can’t afford books, he or she can go into the Library and check out a book for two hours but must use it in the Library.

“If you have two hours to study and you know you have two hours, you’re not going to go home or get distracted,” Bennett said.

In the Library there’s also a machine in the reference area called Book Eye which is a Foundation-sponsored tool.

Students can set their book on the platform and the device takes a picture of each page, creating a single PDF to be put on a flash drive to take home.

Luana Silva, 23, a math major,

said she found out about the Book Eye through a friend who volunteered at the library.

“It helps because school costs a lot of money. You can borrow books from classmates and copy it and save maybe some hundred dollars. It’s very good that OCC helps students to save money,” she said.

Sharing can help you grow

An interpersonal communications class at Coast offers students life skills.

BY SARAH FERNANDEZ
FEATURES EDITOR

Since college can definitely teach students a thing or two about pretty much everything — it doesn’t hurt to learn about oneself along the way.

Orange Coast College offers a wide array of communications courses, but a handful of those courses aim to teach students about relationships and life. Informal communications courses, as described by communication instructors, differ from other more business oriented communication courses.

These courses provide skills based and centered on relationships, self-awareness and perception of oneself, according to Kat Carroll, a communications professor at OCC.

“Any class you take can be transformative. Ours are very skill based — in this case, life skills,” Carroll said.

These classes, specifically interpersonal communications, are lectures that are similar to support meeting-esque environments.

“Interpersonal communications should present an open environment for students to grow as individuals. At the same time, it should present an open environment where they learn to accommodate others, compromise and take ownership of their weaknesses and strengths,” Jennifer Peters, a part-time com-

“I’ve had people make decisions on being transgender, all based on life decisions we talk about”

Jennifer Peters
Communications instructor

munications instructor said. In some ways, communications is a non-traditional skill-based course, the objective really stands to personal awareness of oneself.

“I’ve had people come out, I’ve had people make decisions on being transgender, all based on life decisions that we talk about. I feel very honored to teach these courses,” Carroll said.

An integral part of many of these courses is the idea of self-disclosure. In the setting of these courses, self-disclosure is essentially when students reveal information about themselves. According to Peters, self-disclosure can be a technique for students to better understand who they are.

“Self-disclosure is imperative to personal growth. In order to move forward in any relationship, we must be able to be open and active in our relationships. As our relationships change and develop, they do so because we have decided to self-disclose and trust,” Peters said. “I do my best to start this process in the classroom.”

Students are encouraged to self-disclose but it isn’t a requirement. If they do choose

to however, each professor has a strict set of rules that create a protective barrier around the classroom — what happens in the classroom stays in the classroom, basically.

“We have very specific behavioral expectations of how we teach this in the classrooms. There are set guidelines. We build in respect in the syllabi,” Carroll said. “It helps create that feeling of being more comfortable.”

The point of the course remains, whether students choose to self-disclose publicly or not, to allow students an environment for personal growth and self-realization. Some instructors allow students’ self-disclosure on a more private scale, where they can still reap the benefits of the class just as much.

“I have found that some students are more comfortable self-disclosing on a much smaller scale, such as in a paper assignment that I only read,” Peters said. “I also self-disclose myself. I cannot expect my students to open up to me and the class if I don’t start the process.”

These communication courses look to help students and go further than the academia that one would expect. These skills are useful and can be applied to those sticky situations life is always sending one’s way.

“The goal is to learn tools to improve friendships, committed relationships and work relationships,” Peters said. “The most important concept I want my students to take with them is the ability to identify and demonstrate awareness of who they are and the role they play in each of their relationships.”



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Tight budget? Try the combo

A variety of foods are available to students watching their pennies.

BY JAKE OLGUIN
STAFF WRITER

Even if you are on a budget and low on funds, students at Orange Coast College have a number of snacks and food options to choose from and all for under \$4 a meal.

The Student Center Cafe offers a wide variety of food options including Mexican, pho, deli sandwiches and a salad bar. For breakfast, students can get a breakfast burrito with scramble eggs, cheese, salsa and potatoes for \$3.75.

For lunch and dinner, you can get a slice of pepperoni pizza for \$3.75. For the same price, students can also opt for the budget combo which includes a choice of cheeseburger or hot dog, French fries and a soda.

Ethan Peschansky, 19, a communications major, said the budget combo meal at the cafeteria is a great deal.

"I pretty much get the budget combo every time I eat here. It's

definitely the cheapest and most cost effective thing on the menu," Peschansky said.

The cafeteria also offers a half turkey, ham, tuna or veggie sandwich for \$2.75.

Kevin Pryor, an OCC campus public safety officer, said he likes the quesadillas at the Student Center Cafe. Chicken or beef quesadillas cost \$3.95.

"When I'm on a budget I get the sandwiches. Maybe the wraps because they're a little bit more and the pizzas too," Pryor said. "My favorite is the quesadilla with some Tapatio sauce on it."

However, the Caesar chicken wrap is over budget at \$6.75.

The Coast Snack Shack also has some solid under \$4 meals. For breakfast, it has an English muffin sandwich and a burrito called the Rip Curl for \$3.25. For lunch, it has a grilled mahi mahi fish taco called the Surfer, a hamburger called the Impact or a bowl of soup for only \$3.75.

The Coast Snack Shack also offers beef, chicken or vegetarian tacos for \$2.75 each.

"The burritos at the Snack Shack are pretty good and the French fries," Pryor said. "They are really good and even look like



Photo by Jake Olguin

The combo at the Student Center Cafe offers budget-minded students a low-cost food option that will also fill them up.

In-N-Out fries."

French fries and sweet potato fries are \$1.75 each at the Coast Snack Shack.

Moeka Onose, 20, a film major, said the food at the Student Center is OK but she likes the budget combo meal because it's cheap.

"I recommend the budget combo cheeseburger and the pepperoni pizza. They make me full and taste good," Onose said.

Personal, thoughtful art creates mystery

Gallery exhibits offers insight into dreams and personalities.

BY ALLIYAH HILL
STAFF WRITER

The Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion is currently hosting two acclaimed artists and is housing their unique work.

Thea Robertshaw and Don L. Thomas gave Orange Coast College students and faculty as well as the surrounding community two collections that are personal and thought-provoking.

Robertshaw's "Memories, Dreams, and Visions" is a selection of oil paintings that represent a journey through her dreams and her personal experiences during the second world war, while Thomas showcases a series of famed artists through his elaborate and technically challenging portraits.

"It's been really good, people really love it," Assistant to the

Interim Director Brian Ball said. "The students are coming out every day and they seem really receptive to the gallery."

Two separate artist talks were held so the designers could discuss their inspirations, intent and process behind their creations.

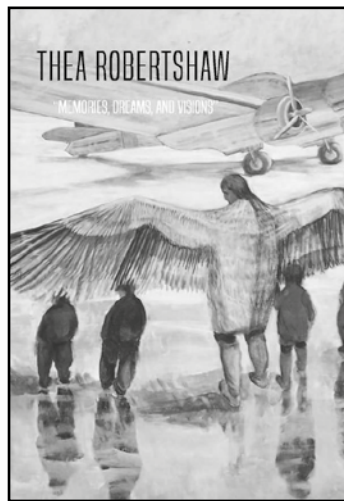
Robertshaw, who immigrated from the Netherlands, has been heavily dedicated to art her whole life. She studied at California State University at Long Beach and has worked at Long Beach City College for the past 26 years.

The exhibition, that began on Oct. 28, displays pieces that are expressive due to their bold coloring and are typically fitted across large canvases.

The elements and nature included in these works are almost a character within themselves as they create an air of mystery, while still staying true to her abstract and theatrical story telling.

Robertshaw has taught at both the Long Beach Museum of Art and the Bowers Museum and currently gives lectures and workshops about her profession.

Thomas, a Sacramento-based

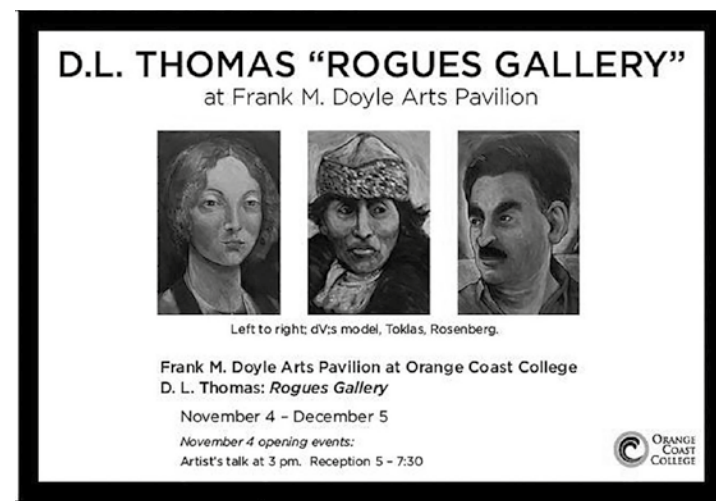


Two exhibits on display in the Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion explore the artists' dreams and interpretations. The exhibition closes Saturday and the gallery will be open from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

artist, released his work to a packed house at OCC on Nov. 4.

His "Rogues Gallery" is a conceptually based portrait series installation project. The grid-like arrangement of these complex pieces form a lineup that boasts a total of 76 haunting portraits of prominent modernist figures.

Thomas' subjects share a similar dazed expression and unlike



Photos courtesy of Orange Coast College

Robertshaw, his collection consists of somber coloring. His selection of works showcases both men and women from different eras and artistic professions in abstract form.

Thomas has exhibited regularly since 1969 and his most recent showcases were at St. Etienne d'Albagnan, France and at the Winters Participation

Gallery in Winters, Calif.

The arts pavilion is located by the Art Center Parking Lot on Merrimac Way. The gallery is open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and closes at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Admission is free and both installations are expected to run until Saturday when the exhibit will be open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

'Hunger Games' leaves audiences starving

Slow, dimly lit film has A-list actors but lacks intensity and thrills.

BY SCARLETT LOBO
HERRERA
STAFF WRITER

"Hunger Games Mockingjay - Part 2" will leave you hungry for excitement.

If you are a loyal fan craving more action in the Hunger Games series, be prepared to starve.

Released on Nov. 20, the final Hunger Games franchise was expected to pick up on the void of action that left moviegoers deprived in "Hunger Games Mockingjay - Part 1."

The slow beginning of the movie seemed like an appetizer meant to entice people and make them emotionally connect. The

pacing of part 1 was already frustrating to watch and the beginning of part 2 was not an exception.

Director Francis Lawrence gave just another bland tease to the drama of the love triangle and the emotion seen in the previous movie directed by Gary Ross.

The cast is filled with A-list actors. Jennifer Lawrence does a great interpretation of a calm, quiet Katniss who is exhausted from fighting.

Donald Sutherland in his character of President Snow plays a convincing role of a sinister dictator that captivates the audience into despising his every action.

Though Snow's actions are despicable, Sutherland makes the audience feel compassion for him with obvious signs of his character struggles throughout the film.

Jena Malone shows once again how talented she is by entertaining the crowd with her role as Johanna Mason that adds a feisty flavor to the movie.

The set design and costumes are impressive at times but lack

the representative colors of the first and second movies because the majority of Mockingjay are filmed with a dark and eerie perception.

The ending of the movie is another mixed of slow-to-digest scenes that were unnecessary and that should have at least been cut by half.

In general, "Hunger Games Mockingjay - Part 2" is poor in action and another victim of the current popular Hollywood habit of breaking blockbuster movies into two parts.

There was no need for the two-part split finale since both Part 1 and 2 lacked intensity.

Campus Events

For information on most campus events, call (714) 432-5880.

Theatre

"An Old Fashioned Melodrama and Ice Cream Social," Friday and Sunday and Dec. 11-13: Rick Golson directs the classic Christmas melodrama and sing-a-long in the Drama Lab Theatre. Curtain is at 7 p.m. on Fridays, 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturdays, and 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. Adult tickets \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door. Children, students and seniors \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door.

Music

"OCC Guitar Ensemble" Sunday: Directed by Adam Pettit, students from the guitar program share the stage with special guest William Kanengiser of the grammy award-winning Los Angeles guitar quartet. Curtain is at 3 p.m. at the Robert B. Moore Theatre. Admission is \$10.

"OCC Wind Ensemble" Dec. 9: Directed by Dana Wheaton, the 12th annual Christmas concert. Curtain is on Dec 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the OCC Student Center. Free.

Art Shows

"Thea Robertshaw: Memories, Dreams and Visions," through Saturday: A selection of works in oil by the renowned Long Beach painter. In the Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion. From 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. Free.

"Portraits" by Don L. Thomas, through Saturday: Conceptually based portrait series installation project. In the Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion. From 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Wednesdays and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Free.

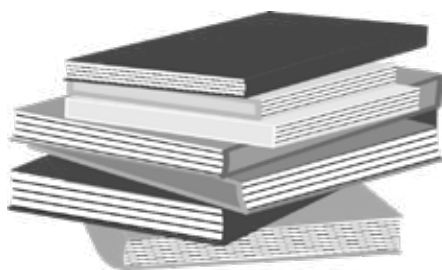
Dance

"Studio Hour" Today: OCC's Dance department is hosting a studio hour that show cases the departments wide range of dance styles including jazz, modern ballet, tap, hip-hop, middle eastern, African, Latin and flamenco. Curtain is at 7 p.m. at the Robert B. Moore Theatre. Admission is \$6.

Dining

Captain's Table restaurant, Thursdays through December: The instructional on-campus restaurant features different regional menus every Thursday. Lunch at noon and dinner at 6 p.m. Thursdays. Reservations at 714-432-5876, ext. 22. \$14 per person.

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SENATE: Student government adds seat.

From Page 1

president would have to make a decision on the matter which is not generally granted in that particular seat of power, Smith explained.

"I don't want to decide on a heated meeting and exhibit a bias," Alex Rojas, student senate president said. "If I were to break a tie it would create a disconnect between the body and my only role is to facilitate these meetings."

The senators had two other options to choose from besides the winning option of adding a ninth senator. The first was to take away voting rights from the executive board or to do nothing.

Smith said that if the executive board had its voting rights

taken away, it would solve the quorum issue but students who sacrifice much of their time would no longer have any input.

"I do like to have my voice heard at that level especially with the amount of time and effort I've put in," Smith said. "I care about students and being stripped of that power means I lose a voice to advocate for them."

A ninth member will solve quorum issues while retaining a respect between the student senate and executive board. Although this is a long term fix, it will take some time to implement, Smith said.

Applications for the new student senate position is now open. For more information contact the Associated Students of OCC at (714) 432-5730.



The general education debate

COAST REPORT

Member:
California Newspaper Publishers Association,
Journalism Association of Community Colleges and the College Press Service.

Many college students here in America are not able to perform at a high level in every subject their school requires of them.



Tyler Hylton
Staff Writer

At this time in my academic career I have already pinpointed my strengths and weaknesses when it comes to school subjects.

This is why I think that college students should only have to take classes that pertain to the major they have selected.

If I am a journalism major, I don't think that it should be required for me to take math or science classes. I have seen over the years that I do not perform well in those subjects and that is why I am not interested in making those subjects a part of my future career.

I do understand that there are students that come into college without having a clue about the career they want to pursue but I do think these same students know about their strengths and weaknesses.

As long as students come into college knowing what subjects they are not interested in, it will allow them to take more classes that may spark one of their interests.

I believe a major benefit to having a system

like this in place will make sure that everyone is a true expert in their field of work. It ensures that the individual devoted all of their schooling to becoming the best they can be in their field.

This sort of system does not exist in the United States but it has proved to be effective in the European school system.

I think an employer would value a degree like this more than the degree that students at American universities receive.

A problem that we have with today's system is that our grades and performance are being judged as a whole by other schools or companies that we are interested in and not just our performance in our major.

I believe if we had this system in place in the United States we would see students becoming more passionate about what they are doing at school. I think they would show up to their classes more often and take pride in all of their work.

There will always be people on both sides of this argument but I do believe that there are enough benefits to convince someone on the other side that this system can exist and work well in this country.

Students moving from high school to college rejoice at the thought of leaving behind general education classes they are required to take.



Zach Law
Staff Writer

Being able to focus on classes that will aid them in their desired career path seems exciting until they actually get to college. It is then they realize general education courses are required and they haven't escaped quite yet.

These general education courses benefit students through the broad knowledge base they provide. Taking these general ed classes can develop or improve skills students may not have been able to learn in classes more focused on their careers.

Whether it's an English class improving writing and critical analysis skills, a science class teaching students about the physical world we live in or a social science class helping students better understand their fellow beings, they all provide something valuable that makes them even more prepared for their future field.

Taking these classes also give students an understanding of various subjects that will

benefit them in their desired career.

A journalism major taking an algebra class would be able to write a better story on a mathematics professor because of their deeper knowledge of the subject or a science major could make their findings much more engaging after taking an English class and developing better writing skills.

Many students also change their minds after they learn more about their desired field or after discovering a new passion for a different subject.

According to NBC News, 50 percent of college students who declare a major end up changing it.

Taking general education classes, even if you believe you know what you want to do, will allow you to experience other fascinating pursuits.

Taking these classes and choosing whether to change course or continue with your major will allow you to live with fewer regrets, knowing that the field you are pursuing brings you greater joy than others would.

While students hope to land their dream job after college or at least something that will eventually lead to that job, this often is not the case and the field they enter is not what they went to school for.

Having a general knowledge of other topics will allow students to flourish in other areas where they may find jobs.

General education classes create better, well-rounded students and create more opportunities than a degree without these classes would.

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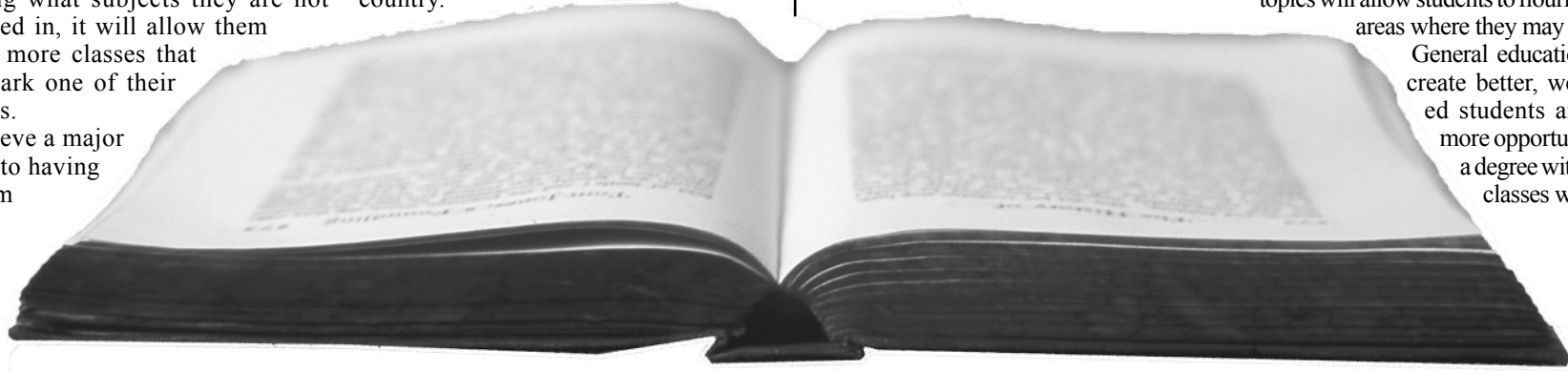
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OCC Free Speech Zone is concerning

College censorship today is worse than I could have ever imagine. Freedom of speech is under continuous threat at many of America's campuses.



Jake Olguin
Staff Writer

According to the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, or FIRE, 65 percent of the top 392 colleges maintained speech codes and other restrictions on expression that violated the First Amendment right.

The student government at Wesleyan University in Connecticut, voted to cut funding for the 150-year-old campus newspaper after it published a conservative commentary.

According to the Washington Post, "In September, sophomore Bryan Stascavage — a 30-year-old Iraq veteran and self-described 'moderate conservative' — wrote

an opinion column for the Wesleyan Argus, the student newspaper. In it, he criticized the Black Lives Matter movement — not the movement's mission or motivations but its tactics and messaging, particularly those of its more anti-cop fringe elements." The article said "the essay was provocative, but it contained neither name-calling nor racial stereotypes."

After the commentary was published, students were stealing and destroying newspapers around the campus. Stascavage was called a racist and while at a café, a student walked up to him and screamed in his face. Soon after, students circulated a petition to defund the newspaper and the student government voted unanimously to halve funding for the newspaper.

OCC has a designated Free Speech Zone located in the Quad walkway between the Student Center, Counseling Center and Admissions building. Free speech zones are concerning. We are losing freedom of speech in America

and it kind of reminds me of China.

It seems like if you have a bad opinion you have to stay off campus. "Free speech zones" which confine free speech to tiny areas of campus are administrators' attempts to punish or repress speech.

The government can't decide what is offensive to the public and what is not. You should be able to say what you want and no one should tell you different.

Censorship is stupid and I censor myself all the time because society tells me too. But doesn't anyone remember their parents saying sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me?

When you censor someone, you potentially censor their ability to freely express themselves. Do we really need to be censored in a country that allows us the freedom of speech? Students are being shut down over debates on some of the most important issues we have today.

According to FoxBusiness,



Photo courtesy of msnbc.com

com, "students today are kept away from words and ideas they may find disturbing." Kirsten Powers, the author of "The Silencing" said "colleges are 'ground zero' in the fight for free speech." Powers argued that "leftists have gone from opposing censorship to supporting it. They even attack their own for stepping outside left-wing

orthodoxy; people who say the wrong thing lose jobs."

I know a fellow United States marine who was spit on while in uniform because of the war in Iraq and he wanted to fight the civilian. I told the marine that this is what we fight for and it's about freedom to express yourself and to respect a person's beliefs even if you don't agree.

There's no place for reporters in the locker room

Recently an old argument has been brought up again and that is whether media members should be allowed in locker rooms after a game has finished up.



Kody Dodier
Staff Writer

After a game on Oct. 19, Cincinnati Bengals cornerback Adam Jones was being interviewed in the Bengals' locker room and the Bengals' offensive lineman Andrew Whitworth was caught on camera changing in the background. This led to replays of the video on YouTube and Facebook which embarrassed Whitworth.

"This is my office space. I shouldn't have to change in front of people I don't know," Whitworth was quoted as saying.

The episode brought the topic back into the national public eye and will fuel the movement to keep the media out of locker rooms.

In the past, relations between the media and professional teams was so out of control that it led to teams taking drastic measures to keep the media out. In October, 2011, the Philadelphia Eagles locked the media out of the locker room saying that they only report negative news about the team.

As an aspiring journalist who hopes to be a big time sports writer one day, I tend to agree with the players on this issue. I believe players are entitled to

their privacy and the locker room should be a private place where only players, coaches and other team affiliates should go. Not the media.

Some professional leagues have tried to make rules to give the players some privacy but also let the media have access. The NFL has a 10-minute rule where players have 10 minutes after the game to change and shower before the media enters.

This rule is a good try, but 10 minutes is not nearly enough time for a player to get changed, showered and be ready to go on camera.

Media members in locker rooms after games while players are changing can be uncomfortable for players. It can also be uncomfortable for the reporters — particularly those of the opposite sex

who are just trying to do their job while someone might be half or fully naked.

That is another reason I think the media should not be allowed in locker rooms after games.

However, sometimes the only way for a reporter to get a story before deadline is to go into the locker room and get the player quotes they need to get the best story for their network or publication.

There could be some simple solutions that professional and collegiate organizations can make. One is that after the game, before the players begin changing, the media can ask for the players they want to interview.

Also, if the stadiums and arenas had a small separate room where the reporters can take players to



ask them a couple questions before they change, it would be a huge help to the privacy and comfort of the players.

Even with these simple solutions, it will take something embarrassing like what happened to Whitworth before we finally see the separation of the media and the locker room.

QUESTION

of the WEEK

What do you want for the holidays?



Austin Diaz
20, mathematics

"I just want a good snow season so I can go skiing."



Juan Bedoya
19, construction management

"I want a really good bass guitar."



Melissa Flores
20, fine arts

"I want more likes on my art page and a Surface Pro."



Camille Cronhite
20, anthropology

"I'd like books related to my major and to spend a lot of time with family."



Delaney Beach
19, psychology

"I love dresses and bakeware, so either would be great."



In the water, on the field

OCC's surf teacher doubles as an NFL side judge and has a passion for sport.

BY SCARLETT LOBO HERRERA
STAFF WRITER

If you missed seeing Laird Hayes paddling the Newport Beach waves Friday morning, you may be able to watch him on NBC on Sunday night.

Hayes is the Orange Coast College instructor who switches from wearing wetsuits and teaching surfing to officiating NFL games on the same weekend.

"I just loved it (sports) since I was a little kid," Hayes said.

Even though he did not professionally play sports, his determined personality drove him into coaching, teaching and refereeing. Based on his passion for sports, Hayes was able to build his career and get paid doing what he enjoys.

"I was always pretty good at everything, I was never great at anything," Hayes said. "I was a good enough athlete but I was not a great athlete. But I liked playing sports and that is how I got into officiating and refereeing football."

Hayes has been an NFL side judge for almost 21 years and has refereed three Super Bowls during this time.

He said one of the most important moments of his career was during Super Bowl XLVI when the New England Patriots played against the New York Giants and he made a sideline call with 3 minutes and 46 seconds left in the game.

The call, which was challenged by the Patriots' coach, called a 38-yard pass to Mario Manningham complete because he had both feet inbounds. The Giants went on to win the game 21-17.

"Hayes made a very difficult call in real time," former NFL director of officials Mike Pereira said to Fox Sports about the call. "I believe Hayes made the toughest call in a Super Bowl since edition XLIII," Pereira said.

Even though Hayes said he enjoys his job, he thinks about

maybe retiring after one more season.

"I'll probably go one more year after this one. I'm 66 and I know I can do it for a couple more years," Hayes said. "You get kind of addicted to it and it has been a lifestyle."

He was the side judge Sunday for the Pittsburgh Steelers versus Seattle Seahawks game and will fly to Washington D.C. for the Giants versus Redskins game this weekend.

Hayes may be on TV on a regular basis but he does not like watching games at home since he likes to go to bed at 8:30 p.m.

"I don't really watch that much sports on TV. It's kind of a waste of time," Hayes said. "You can read on the paper next day kind of what happened. And I usually go to bed early."

Hayes has always liked to stay active. He played baseball, basketball and football during high school and some surfing during summer time in Santa Barbara where he is originally from. Then he went to Princeton University in New Jersey where he continued playing baseball and football.

It was after he finished his master's and doctorate in higher education at UCLA that he started working as the assistant dean of student affairs for OCC in 1976 and then in 1985 became the director of community relations for the entire Coast Community Colleges District.

In 1987 Hayes was asked to coach the OCC men's soccer team. He said he had great assistant coaches who helped him understand soccer.

"They needed a soccer coach for one year but I never played soccer in my life," Hayes said. "[The assistant coach] did all the coaching and I just kind of managed everything."

Hayes said the administration wanted someone full-time who was enthusiastic about OCC and he did not know about soccer but he had the other two.

"I wasn't a soccer guy. I didn't grow up with the sport," Hayes said. "They wanted someone who really cared about Orange Coast and I'm passionate about Orange Coast."

Kevin Smith, the current athletic director of OCC and the coach of the men's and women's



Photo courtesy of Laird Hayes

Surf instructor Laird Hayes is also an NFL side judge and a long-time OCC teacher, administrator and coach.

soccer teams, was one of Hayes' assistant coaches and worked with him for a long time.

Hayes coached the men's soccer team for 25 years until he retired in 2011. The team won two state championships during that time. He said he loved to coach soccer but he definitely doesn't miss the bus rides they had to do.

During his time coaching soccer at OCC some students contacted Hayes for help to start a Surf Club that later became a class and eventually a surf team that went to competitions.

"It just seems to make sense because of where we live," Hayes said. "Hurley and Quick-silver were started in this town so it really made sense to have surfing as a G.E. class."

Mechanical engineering major Anh Tran, 21, took the surf class in spring and is taking it again now. He said he signed up again for the class not just because he loves surfing but because he likes listening to the personalities that come to class.

"Very often we get informative and inspirational speakers," Tran said. "I came back because Laird is a very cool teacher and I met many cool people at the surf class."

But if you think about taking the surf class just to get a feeling of "The Endless Summer" movie, you may need to think it twice. On the first class you will probably hear the three words "be

on time" at least every half hour together with Hayes saying that he is not "a dude type of guy."

You can ask Robert Engelhard, 29, better known as Bobbi Cutback. He is an OCC alumni who has been volunteering for the surf class for six semesters. Engelhard said he made the wrong assumption of what a surf professor would be like.

"I was not expecting someone so strict and specific with his schedule," Engelhard said.

However, Engelhard said Hayes is probably the number one reason he still come back to the class.

"He is super outgoing but super compassionate and kind," Engelhard said. "I really appreciate how he gets involved with the community."

Hayes said he likes to teach not just about riding waves but also about ocean safety. He said he had a 68-year-old student take the surf class once.

"I try to teach the right way. I try to teach about respect for the ocean and for the environment and for other people," Hayes said.

Hayes is currently the instructor of the surfing and ocean safety class which takes place every Friday morning at 8 a.m. in Newport Beach near the life guard tower at the Newport Pier.

He also volunteers in policing for the city of Newport Beach where he lives with his wife, son and pets.

TYLER'S STEAMS



Playoffs are here so keep it steady

Some fantasy leagues are entering the last couple weeks of the regular season and others are just starting the first week of playoffs. Either way, these are the weeks that can be the most thrilling or disappointing depending on the end result.



Tyler Hylton
Staff Writer

If you make the playoffs, don't try to do anything differently from what you have been doing all season. There is a reason that your team made the playoffs and now it's time to sit back and hope your team can outlast everyone else. Here are my week 13 picks.

Quarterbacks

START: Cam Newton is my number one quarterback for week 13. He is matched up against a weak New Orleans defense and is playing at a very high level this year.

START: Andy Dalton has proven to be a very reliable fantasy quarterback this year and should continue his solid play against Cleveland this week.

SIT: Philip Rivers has been a good fantasy quarterback this season but is matched up against Denver this week. Denver's defense is one of the top in the league and San Diego's offense is battered from injuries.

SIT: I do not like Drew Brees this week against Carolina. Brees plays well against weaker defenses but has not

proven himself against a top defense this year.

Running Backs

START: DeAngelo Williams had a very quiet performance last week but I do believe he will bounce back this week against Indianapolis.

START: Doug Martin has looked very good the past couple weeks and I expect him to continue his good play. He is matched up against Atlanta this week.

SIT: The Patriots' backfield is always up in the air and that should make fantasy owners very nervous. LaGerrette Blount is a risky play this week against a tough rushing attack in Philadelphia.

SIT: DeMarco Murray has bust potential written all over him this week as he is matched up against a tough New England defense.

Wide Receivers

START: Mike Evans has looked very good in recent performances and should continue his streak of good games. He is matched up against Atlanta.

START: Michael Crabtree has proven himself to Derek Carr and they are matched up against a weak Kansas City secondary.

SIT: Brandin Cooks has some serious bust potential this week strictly because of the tough matchup. He is matched up against a top defense in the league in Carolina.

SIT: Sammy Watkins has been a very solid play in recent weeks but Houston's defense has found their stride and will give Watkins a tough time.

LEE: Basketball helps in student's life.

From Page 1

goal. It tells you how to overcome adversities and how it can bring you out of a stronghold and be in a place where you can be at peace," Lee said.

Even though he was the active captain of the team after enrolling at OCC last spring, Lee found out a week before the season started that he was academically ineligible to play so he buckled down and earned a 4.0. This is his first semester playing for OCC and he is setting the court on fire.

Lee leads the state in rebounds with an average of 15 rebounds a game. His personal best was recently set at 22 rebounds in one game. He hopes to break the current OCC record of 28 rebounds.

In his effort to do better, Lee has embraced opportunities at OCC to boost his resume. In addition to classes and basketball, he works in the administration office and acts as a part of the new Student Equity Program at OCC.

Lee hopes that this mentorship

in the Student Equity Program combined with his leadership on the basketball team will support his resume with positivity.

He's eager to share his story with other minorities who may feel like the world is against them.

"The perception is that minorities are set up to fail, but if things are thoroughly explained to us, more minorities will appreciate education and give it a bigger and better chance," Lee explained. "The negatives will always be there, even with the positives. You need to want to live so that the positives overshadow the negatives."

He sets a solid example for people who may have been led in a bad direction but are seeking change. He is passionate about his causes, and he is confident that he will make a difference through this passion.

Lee said his ultimate goal is to become a college professor and collegiate basketball coach.

He expects to transfer to Vanguard University to play for them and to complete his kinesiology degree.

Golf phenom goes to state

BY JUSTIS ZIMMERMAN
STAFF WRITER

After spending a year and a half at UC Davis, 19-year-old Emily Lewis found a home at Orange Coast College and its golf team.

Growing up in Los Alamitos, Lewis said she didn't have many options for a college that offered a women's golf team. After giving up golf to go to UC Davis, Lewis said she knew she needed to be at a college that offered her a chance to play golf.

That brought her back to Orange County and to OCC.

After a strong season at OCC, Lewis qualified for regionals based on her season average of

83. A part of that average was her best score of the season — a three over par 75 at Sycuan Country Club on Sept. 9.

Following regionals, where she placed 14th, Lewis headed to the state competition in Morro Bay where she scored 84 the first day and 88. Lewis placed 16th at state.

And her teammates were right there with her — something Lewis said was one of the greatest moments of her season. The team unexpectedly showed up for her two state games.

"They surprised me. My teammates came all the way up to Morro Bay," Lewis said. "It definitely meant so much to me for them to come all the way out to see me."

Lewis starting playing golf only six years before coming to OCC and said she has never had a real golf lesson. She learned the sport from her older brother.

"Family is so important to me. Their support, plus my brother being the one to teach me how to play means so much to me," Lewis said.

September Mirghanbari, one of Lewis' teammates and the only other golfer to make regionals, said Lewis is great.

"I'm so proud to have been on the same team as Emily. She represents women's golf so well, and OCC too," Mirghanbari said. "I was once told that golf isn't a sport — watch Emily play

and you will definitely have to eat those words. She is just amazing."

Golf isn't the only thing that Lewis focuses on — she is a 4.0 student who hopes to double major in business and economics.

Lewis hopes to transfer to Chapman University and play on its newly started women's gold team.

Head coach of the women's gold team at Orange Coast College Sean Collins said Lewis is not only a great golfer she is also a great student.

"Emily doesn't ever say much, she leads by example. Not only in the way she has played golf but also her academics," Collins said.

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