Shakespeare set in Orange County offers suprise for audiences.

Page 4



"Mass Effect 3" does the franchise justice.

Page 4



St. Patrick's Day is a pain in the pinch-attracting butt.

Page 5



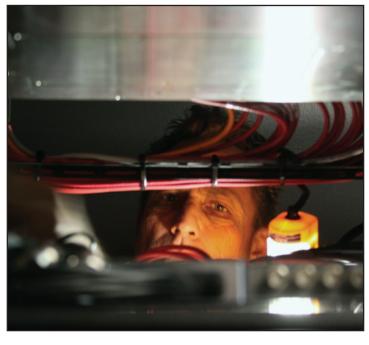
OAST REPORT

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Studio freshens up

OCC's TV production lab gets a hi-def facelift





Photos by Lindsay Peters

Above, system renovator Mike Quiroz working with wires under the mixing board during the renovation process of the TV studios. Left, Tom Ewer installs new HD equipment during the renovations on the TV studio. Below, a 10-year-old switch board taken out of the TV studio to make room for a state-ofthe-art switch board.

BY JAMES DELAHOUSSAYE

The Film/Video depart-■ ment at Orange Coast College is undergoing an extreme home makeover after receiving a \$277,000 federal grant and help from a local video technologies company.

Although the college's TV studio was head and shoulders above many four-year universities when it moved into the Art Center, more sophisticated technology needs for the broadcast industry recently made the department in need of an upgrade.

"Back when we opened up, our facility was state-of-the-art," Robert Lazarus, professor and chair of the Film/Video department, said. "Here we are 10 years later and we're very far behind the technology. For the students to not be working in high definition

when the whole world is, well. it's limiting.'

The studio will be outfitted with new HD switchers, hard disc recorders, routers and cameras. Lazarus said that because HD equipment doesn't work with the department's older standard definition counterparts, almost everything had to be replaced.

"That was one of my biggest fears. When we got the grant, I was really nervous – it sounds very greedy. I thought I might have to say, 'Thanks for the money, but we can't use it because it's not enough.' We couldn't just upgrade the camera or switcher, it had to be all high definition or nothing," Lazarus said.

Department officials expect the new studio to be completed sometime this spring.

Lazarus said the department approached Sony to outfit the studio for free, and in return, the facility could be a showcase for the company's high-end video production equipment.

"We were going to call it a Sony regional production center," Lazarus said. "They could use it as a place to bring in prospective clients like other colleges and big-budget churches."

Initially, talks were hopeful between the two parties. However, the economy took its toll on almost all businesses, including Sony. They offered to create a price-matching deal where they would donate some of their products if OCC could contribute \$400,000.

That was more than the college could handle, Lazarus said.

Eventually, the department was introduced to Trident Technologies, a Los Angeles-based company that specializes in outfitting video production equipment in educational districts. The OCC faculty was able to provide a list of what upgrades were needed, and Trident made recommendations that would best suit its budget.

There had to be sacrifices when picking out the pieces that would eventually make up the new HD studio. Sony cameras and switchers had to be substituted for less expensive Panasonics.

However, there was a silver lining in trimming costs. With enough money set aside, Trident suggested a camera that the faculty

See **STUDIO** Page 6

A healthy boost for students



Photos by Lindsay Peters

Left, Chung Le, 19, studies a damaged organ. Below, Glasses show a standard drink unit. Right, Ashley Lang, 21, monitors the OCC Dental Booth at the Health Fair, held on Tuesday in the Student Center.





Coast offers free tax help

Campus volunteers make filing taxes easier for students on the weekends.

BY IRIS OROZCO STAFF WRITER

It is too late to enroll in Orange Coast College's federal income tax class but it is not too late to get your taxes done for free by OCC accounting students.

OCC accounting professor Arabian Morgan has been overseeing the Voluntary Income Tax Assistant (VITA) program being held at OCC in conjunction with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

VITA is offered by the IRS to generally aid those of low to moderate income or, as specified on the IRS website, those earning less than \$50,000 annually.

"I got involved with the program here about six years ago, although it's been around for nearly 10 years at OCC," Morgan said. "You can find almost 20 different sites alone within Costa Mesa that have these VITA programs."

Morgan has a widespread background including being a certified public accountant for nearly 10 years before having begun his teaching career.

"Working with Professor Morgan has been amazing," Natalie Amsse, accounting major and

first-year volunteer, said. "It has been rewarding since I enjoy giving to and helping the community."

Participation in the VITA Program is voluntary and does not count as any credit to the Accounting 111 federal income tax class. Volunteering requires you to learn basic tax laws and pass specific IRS exams before being qualified to aid in filing taxes.

"A large portion of the volunteers are primarily students seeking to get experience but you also have a lot of retired people with an accounting background," Morgan said.

Returning OCC student Yvette Bell also passed the two exams that enabled her to be a volunteer in the VITA program.

"I graduated with a B.A. in psychology from Cal State Long Beach but was always doing book-keeping and accounting," Bell said. "I feel it's always important to be learning new things so I came back to OCC, took a random class and ended up with such great experience to add to my resumé.'

Bell currently files her own taxes and occasionally takes the time to do those of her friends and family as well.

With two of five remaining dates left, visit Business Education room 109 on March 24 or April 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is no appointment needed. Service is on a first come, first served basis.

Volunteering on campus increases

Despite a drop in volunteering nationwide OCC and GWC see a rise.

BY ASHLEY LITWIN STAFF WRITER

While the number of college students who volunteer steadily declines nationwide, Orange Coast College and sister school Golden West College continue to see an increase in the number of students who volunteer.

The study published by USA Today reports a decline from 31.2 percent of students volunteering in 2004 to 26.1 percent in 2010. Despite the nationwide decline, OCC stands apart.

"I've noticed an increase in volunteer work," Jaime Edge, president of the Extended Opportunity Programs and Services club, said. "Students realize the importance of giving back,"

Golden West College also reports the same increase.

"Overall we have approximately 500 students who participate in clubs at GWC either full time or partially. We're very happy with this number because it shows we have a vibrant student populace who wants to be engaged," Sean Tierney, GWC club consultant,

OCC has 36 active clubs on campus this semester alone and eight of them are community-service based. The campus only had 22 clubs in the spring of 2011, only five of which were geared toward community service.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported a decline from the 64.5 million people who volunteered in September 2003 to September 2004, to approximately 63.4 million people who volunteered from September 2008 to September 2009.

"I think it's really important that if you have something to share that you share it ... I want to share with someone else so that they can have the same opportunities that I have," Orizbeth Cortes, president of Hispanics Organized to Promote Education, said.

See **VOLUNTEERS** Page 6

Multimedia and Online



Check out coastreportonline.com for all your up-to-date campus news.



CRIME



Bathroom bandit

A male Orange Coast College student reported his cell phone stolen from the men's restroom in the library on March 1.

The male student reported to Campus Safety that he was checking his email in a restroom stall and placed his phone on the toilet paper dispenser, according to Chief of Campus Safety John Farmer.

The male student returned to his class after using the restroom and five minutes later realized he did not have his cell phone in his pocket.

He went back to search the restroom but his phone wasn't there, Farmer said.

The student said his phone had been turned off by the alleged thief so he couldn't use its tracking program.

No one has turned in the cell phone and there are no suspects, Farmer said.

Drip tip dipped out

The proprietor of the Drip Coffee cart in the Quad area reported a petty theft to Campus Safety on March 5 that happened at 10:45 a.m.

The victim reported that there was \$11 in the tip jar. He said he turned to make a drink and when he turned back, all of the money from the jar was gone, Farmer said.

The victim said that there was a male in a flannel shirt with reggae hair and a blonde female wearing pink, both in their mid-20s who were standing there before the victim turned to make the drink, Farmer said.

The victim confronted the couple but they denied taking the money.

Campus Safety checked the video cameras but nothing was discovered from the videos, Farmer said.

Skateboard

be goneA male student reported a petty theft that occurred on March 1 at 6:10 p.m. in the library.

The student went to his class at 7:10 p.m. leaving his skateboard in the open study room in the library, Farmer said.

He returned after his class to retrieve his skateboard finding the room to be closed and his skateboard missing.

The skateboard was a summer short board that is multi-

colored and valued at \$200. There are no suspects, Farm-

Intoxicated student

An Orange Coast College student was reportedly intoxicated on campus Monday and became aggressive with cafeteria employees when he was told that he could not leave the building with his lunch tray.

"The student was irate and agitated," Farmer said.

Campus Safety officers were called to the scene and were concerned when the student's breath smelled of alcohol.

The Costa Mesa Police Department was contacted and officers decided that the student was not intoxicated enough to be considered drunk in public.

The student was advised to leave campus and to not return until an appointment with the dean of students was made.

—The Crime Blotter was compiled by Andrea Dinh and Ashley Litwin from Campus Safety reports.

Engineering the future

OCC's Engineering Club hopes to win in a 2012 robotics championship.

BY JENNIFER LANE STAFF WRITER

When robot overlords conquer Earth, we may have Orange Coast College's Engineering Club to thank for it.

The club, which was reinstated three semesters ago, has several past and present projects, a recent win at a robotics tournament and is working its way toward the 2012 VEX Robotics College World Championship.

We want to promote science in general and develop minds because the world needs those minds," Jason Graessle, 32, a geology major

While Graessle's major is not directly related to engineering, he said he enjoys being in the club because it helps him develop a more analytical mind. He was also a participant in the last tournament.

"It was our first time as a group competing," he said of the competition. "I wasn't nervous but it felt like controlled chaos."

Graessle said that the competition involves two teams that have two robots. Using the robots, each team has to pick up its colored objects and place them in the goal.

He said they feel pretty confident

"From what I understand we are progressing well and fixed the bugs we found in the first competition," he said.

While the robots took from 100 to 200 hours to build, they are not the only focus of the club.

Tung Phan, 20, a mechanical engineering major and club president, said they are involved in several projects. "We are working on Pete the

Pirate, the pirate robot that is supposed to act as a mechanical mascot for the school, and trying to improve him," he said.

He also added that last semester they helped host and build testing apparatuses for the Jet Propulsion Laboratory Invention Challenge.

They are also working on a steam or heat engine and setting up a LAN party so the club can play games together before the end of the semester, he said.

Nima Maghoul, 20, a nanoengineering major, said the club helped him see other opportunities in the field.

The OCC Engineering Club meets Fridays to create robots and ideas for the Jet Propulsion Lab Invention Challenge. about their next competition.

"The goal of the club is to give students a feel of what it is like in the industry," he said.

Phan said they just want to teach people about engineering.

"It is not about using advanced mathematics, physics or engineering to solve problems," he said. "This is an entry-level club."

Andres Vourakas, 19, a computer science major, agreed.

"I didn't know anything about engineering or programming before I joined," Vourakas said. "I learned everything I know from the club."

He also said that the club looks great on transcripts and resumés. Phan said that there was a robotic

engineering club three to four years ago, but it disbanded when the leadership for the club transferred out of OCC.

"After freshman year I wanted to join a club and I couldn't find any interesting ones," Phan said, "so I made my own.'

He said during its first semester there were only 10 members, and three semesters later there are 80.

But he doesn't want history to repeat itself.

"We are working on holding an election at the end of this semester because several of our officers are transferring," Phan said. "We will decide on new leadership so that the club doesn't die out again."

The club receives most of its funding from the Associated Students of OCC, but it also has received grants from the International Society of Automation and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, both Phan and Maghoul said.

'We established contacts with the ISA and IEEE and received \$1,000 from each," Phan said. "Some of our funds also came from the old club."

The club meets every Friday between noon and 4 p.m. in Technology Room 226 and they are always seeking new members.

'You don't have to know anything about engineering," Phan said. "Just show up and if you are interested, then welcome.'

Coast EOPS helps needy and homeless students

ASHLEY LITWIN STAFF WRITER

Orange Coast College's EOPS Honors Club will hold its Caring S.H.O.S. event at the Student Center Lounge on campus Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Every semester the club partners with local food banks and charities to provide students in need with food, books, clean clothing and shoes. This semster they are receiving help from OC Food Bank, Mika and Project Rytmo.

"Anyone who shows up can have whatever they want. We don't need your name or your I.D. number. It doesn't even have to be a student, you could be friends or family of a student," Jaime Edge, president of the EOPS Honors Club

Edge became involved with the event after being given aid when she needed it most.

"There is a fair population of students here who don't know where they're sleeping tonight and I was one of them," Edge said. "I walked into this room and the people that were there were so nice and open-armed.

It was at a point where I didn't know if I would finish school and they made me feel like if I was going to fall, they would just catch me," she said.

For anyone who would like to donate there will be collection bins set up around campus until Friday.

For more information on receiving help or on donating visit www.CaringSHOS.com.



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PARKING LOT DIARIES

There are thousands of parking stalls on campus and each day they are packed with students. This week the Coast Report found out a little bit more about ...



Rina Haney

CONSUELO TOLENTINO

Rina Haney, 18, may be a typical Orange Coast College student most of the time, but during the Renaissance Pleasure Faire she becomes a queen.

A Queen of the May, to be exact.

The fair, which runs from April 20 through May 20 in Irwindale, will celebrate its Golden Jubilee this year.

The fair started in 1963 in Agoura in an effort to create living history for schoolchildren and their families. The Original Renaissance Pleasure Faire has grown into an annual interactive playground and gallery with more than 200,000 participants and

Since its inception, more than 5 million people from around the world have visited Southern California's Renaissance Pleasure Faire, averaging approximately 20,000 each weekend.

Haney said the job allows her to meet interesting people and she has fun working at

"I get to run around and make money doing it," the undecided major said.

Haney said she has a lot of fun fundraising for the fair because she can get creative with ideas to use to bring in money. Last year Haney had a great idea.

"I dressed up one of the guys as a girl on gay day and tried to sell him as a wife. It went really well actually. We sold him a couple times and made \$300 doing it," Haney

She said that while working at the fair she has met eccentric people who have left her with memories.

"We had a girl come in a leather bra kind of thing and a leather bikini bottom that had a belt with bullets on it. She was on a chain dog leash walking on all fours and this scary-ass looking guy in studs was just walking her," she said.

Another one of Haney's memorable experiences was when she got to shoot a cannon at the fair, she said.

"I got to shoot a cannon. It was a real cannon but it was empty, but I got to light it and shoot it and poof," Haney

No debating their potential

Hopes are high for OCC speech and debate at state championships.

BY ERIC GANDARILLA

After placing second overall at the Pacific Southwest Collegiate Forensic Spring Championships, the speech, debate and theater team is en route to compete at the state championships.

Apart from the team placing second, the program's novice team placed first and many of their individual members also received gold and silver medals.

There were 40 different schools, both community and four-year colleges, which competed at the spring champion-

There were many newcomers to the team this year.

"We started the year with a less experienced team so there

was a longer learning curve," Ben Lohman, director of forensics, said. "But I think we still did really well."

Although they did well at their spring championships, the speech and debate members are looking forward to seeing how they will perform at the state championships in Concord.

"I think we have a solid team. State is definitely going to be interesting and it's going to be fun," Christiaan Pipion, 20, a communications major, said. "We are reigning champions after all."

The state championships, which consists of only community colleges, will begin today and end Sunday. The teams that Lohman sees as OCC's biggest competitors are Mt. San Antonio and Moorpark.

"This is going to be a long tournament and it's going to be a lot of work, especially since this has been the best season for pretty much all the community colleges," Lohman said.

Lohman added that while he



Speech team members Samantha Abraham, Alejandro Ramirez, Matt Rodriguez, Julia Krausman, Lisa Love, Hannah Haghighat, Cara Holmes (from left) at a 2011 holiday party.

definitely believes that OCC's rently the reigning champion current team has the capability of doing very well at state, he would love to say that they were going to place first again but is also a bit hesitant to flat-out say, "We're placing first."

Considering that OCC's speech and debate team is cur-

at state, Lohman said that there is a great chance of OCC winning.

"I would like all the individuals on the team to reach their personal best. If that happens, then the rest will take care of itself," Lohman said.

The ugly side of makeup

OCC alumni finds passion in horror cosmetics and costumes.

BY AVA AMIRI STAFF WRITER

When Mario Cisneros' name is brought up, one of the first words out of his teachers' mouths is "fear.'

As a 24-year-old former OCC student, Cisneros knows his way around the Theatre Arts department, having been in almost every aspect of theater until finally finding his calling in film and stage makeup.

"When I began to dream about the theater arts, I was an animator in high school and I would make little scary monsters in the movies for the media arts classes. No one understood it, but to me it came naturally," Cisneros said.

Cisneros attended OCC from fall 2008 until 2010 and earned his associates of arts degree in theater arts.

"When I came to OCC, I found costume designing and I fell in love with it and that opened the doors to other aspects of theater," Cisneros said.

The makeup artist said he was never interested in the romantic and comedy productions at OCC. He was more interested in the plots with horror and thrill.

His passion with theater arts began at OCC in costume design classes and was later directed toward the art of theater

Cynthia Corley, a theater arts instructor, described Cisneros as a creative student with original ideas.

"Once, we were doing a production involving clowns and when Mario had finished with the makeup and prosthetics of the characters and they came onstage, the whole audience gasped in fear at how real and scary the characters looked," Corley said.

Cisneros' passion for the scary aspect of theater and film doesn't surprise many anymore, as it has been his goal to do



Mario Cisneros demonstrates his makeup skills on himself.

something different and outside of the box.

See MAKEUP Page 6

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THE UNIVERSITY OF VALUES

Save the galaxy in Mass Effect

Making love, war and sacrifice

BY JAMES DELAHOUSSAYE STAFF WRITER

On the eve of March 5, a long line grew outside the Irvine GameStop, full of people anxious to save the world.

I went with my receipt in hand and as the hour struck midnight, I giddily grabbed my long-awaited copy of Mass Effect 3, the epic conclusion to one of the most popular video game series in history.

If you have only dipped your pinky toe into the waters of video game culture, then you are certainly aware of Mass Effect's significance, and if you haven't, then you need to go for a swim.

The franchise is a role-playing game and a third-person

The game is similar to if Final Fantasy and Gears of War had a baby, and then that baby met the spawn child of Star Trek/Wars and those two pushed out Mass Effect.

The whole universe is set in, the universe, or rather a distant future fictional universe where humans and aliens make war, trade, and love.

The basic plot revolves round the imminent attack of the Reapers, a race of giant spaceship sized aliens that appear every 50,000 thousand years to destroy the entire galaxy and everyone in it.

You control Shepard, a ba-

recruits an eclectic crew of humanoids to take on this seemingly unstoppable force.

The developer Bioware knew they had already struck a beautiful balance between story and gameplay in Mass Effect 2, and so the third installment is all about polish.

Leveling

a battle delivers more options for weapons, armor, and power manage-

The enemies are varied with a greater ability to flank you during an attack.

The story arch is better intertwined with mission and

dass spaceman/woman who character development to remind you of the billions of digital lives at stake.

The epic battles between you and reapers the size of skyscrapers are grander then anything previously deliv-

In fact, my complaints with Mass Effect 3 seem quite minuscule in comparison.

The unreal engine the game runs on is showing its age, with stagnant facial expressions and jagged textures. Memorable characters from

the second game, including the alien babe I romanced, make only guest appearances in the third iteration.

> This game in my opinion receieves four out of

Campus **Events**

For information on most campus events, call (714) 432-5880 or toll free at (888) 622-5376.

Music

"OCC Symphony Or-chestra," March 17: The OCC symphony performance will include Brahms Symphony No.1 and Bruch Violin Concerto No.1. Ricardo Soto conducting. Curtain at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

Art

"MOPLA-Month of Photography," Collaboration with OCC School of Photography April 7 through April 27: Photo gallery exhibit with an opening reception and artist. Lecture on April 7, from 4-8 p.m.

"I'm a Fraved Knot," an exhibition featuring fiber and mixed media, through March 17: In the Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion, open from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday. Closed Friday, Sunday and Monday. Special tours and events can be arranged on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays by appointment by calling (714) 432-5102 to schedule a visit. Admission is free.

Theater

"The Final Countdown," March 17-18: Coordinated by Sean Wellengard.

Six writers, six directors, and a team of actors and technicians are given 24 hours to write, rehearse, and stage a play based on a theme. March 17 at 7:30 p.m. and March 18 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Tickets \$5 advance \$7 at the door. Go to: http://occtickets.com



"Student Dance Concert," April 27 and 28 at **8 p.m.:** Directed by Amelie Hunter. OCC students perform original choreography in a variety of dance styles.

Advance admission tickets are \$10, and admission at door is \$15.

Eclectic food

On-campus dining at a low price presented average quality.

BY AVI SEGALOFF

Orange Coast College's Eclectic Café opened March 2 to offer a \$6 full-course meal to students.

This is the fourth semester Eclectic Café has been open at OCC.

A student chef runs the Café and a number of the servers are student volunteers.

The food is prepared and arranged from leftover meat and bread used in culinary classes.

grown more and

on Friday to sample the cuisine and get a look at the menu. When I arrived, I was sur-

prised to see the restaurant was just a curtained-off area of the college café.

However, the service was

excellent, courteous and fast.

The menu featured bread and caesar salad to start with and a selection of entrées including veal pot pie, lobster and pancetta risotto and beef paillarde. The dessert was a fresh flan.

I ordered the beef paillarde and was presented with thin slices of beef with tortillas, grilled onions, peppers and a sweet corn tamale on the

The beef was dry and the flan was too syrupy for my taste, but I thoroughly enjoyed the caesar salad and the sweet bread.

Although the food wasn't great for what would be considered a fullcourse restaurant, for only \$6 Photo by Avi Segaloff it is worth the

The food is

Beef paillarde entree being money. The café has served at the Eclectic Cafe.

cheap, the sermore popular, so I went there vice very good and I would recommend it to anyone wanting to try something new on campus.

> All tips go to a foundation to provide food for OCC students in need and the café is open every Friday from 11:30 a.m.



Actors performing in "The Merry Wives of Windsor" performance over the weekend. Coast play with an (

Performance with a Shakespeare script created comedy and romance.

BY RANA GHIASSI

As the curtains rose in the Robert B. Moore Theatre Thursday night, the audience waited to see the characters of "The Merry Wives of Windsor" take their places and put on a performance with an Orange County twist.

And it was an unforgettable, and in some cases an unexpected, performance.

The costuming was one of the contributing factors that made it unexpected. The fashion and outfits of the characters were very 21st century, yet the story was written more than 400 years ago. "The Merry Wives" is one of

Shakespeare's classic comedies, but it differs from other Shakespearean plays in that it is his only work to deal individually with modern, middle-class life.

The play maintained its Shakespearerean language, but the world and impression of the actors was set in Southern Californian, which created amusement.

The play starts with mistaken identities and throughout the show there are multiple plot lines, which added suspense and maintained audience attention.

"The Merry Wives of Windsor" is filled with characters who perform scenes that one can compare to everyday life scenarios.

The play ignites with young lovers hassling to overcome ob-

Mistress Ford, played by Stephanie Geranmayed, and Mistress Page, played by Katelyn Sonetti, play tricks on a nonsensical Sir Hugh Evans, played by Steve Jacobs, who attempted to take advantage of them.

The play consists of teenagers, local businessmen, husbands, wives and even servants who follow their demands.

During the show, there were some pauses that occurred to change the atmosphere during the performance.

There was music played during scene changes and the lighting went dim before the actors would take their places for a new scene.

Things you see daily on the reality television were brought to us in this performance and also helped make Shakespeare more attainable.

"It was the normality that drew me to the play. You'll find no royalty in Windsor," Glendele Way-Agle, the director of "Merry Wives," said.

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Orange Coast College Re-Entry Center

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Managing the Mean Math Blues

This workshop is designed to help fearful and reluctant students overcome their negative perceptions about math. Workshop leader Cheryl Ooten combines a wealth of class-tested learning strategies with an effective illustration program to help students achieve a new level of confidence in their math abilities in the classroom and beyond.

> March 20, 2012 Tuesday 1 pm - 2:30 pm

For more information call the Re-Entry Center, 714/432-5162 or come to the Center in Watson Hall, Room 433



EDITORIAL

Sun should set on Senior Day

Coast College to attract new students to our economically devastated campus, which fails to support the students it currently has enrolled, is "We'll help you get there."

Every March, OCC invites thousands of local high school seniors to the visit the campus for its annual Senior Day event in an attempt to get them to enroll.

According to the OCC Atlas, a catalog of yearly statistics, the enrollment numbers for this year or any year dating back to 2008 which marked the beginning of the nation's economic hardship, hover around 25,000 students.

With that number not decreasing any time soon and the college constantly dropping courses, reducing part-time faculty and cutting funding to almost every department, why does the college continue to promote itself to new students?

The answer is simple. During the fall 2011 semester The Coast Report interviewed history instructor Susan Smith who said the college simply holds Senior Day because it has history of hosting the event. It is a tradition that needs to end.

Not only does the school not need Senior Day to bring in

AB IMO PECTORE

There is a

pretty big list

of things that

I don't care

about. But, as I

grow older and

learn more, that

list gets shorter.

what of a hypo-

chondriac and

at times a bit of

combination.

a pessimist. This makes for a cruel

If my big toe itches for more

than a couple minutes I start

looking for canes on eBay in case

they have to amputate. On top of

that, I have no health insurance.

So, when I'm not feeling well I

contact my medical advisors Web

M.D. and Yahoo answers. I find

it comforting to see when people

who have my symptoms are still

For the past couple of years I

have had a stomach problem that

I have diagnosed as a plethora of

things and have taken the proper

steps to heal. I still have said ill-

So this past week I decided it

was time to try something new,

and after an extensive 10 min-

ute research session, I decided I

needed to be on a gluten-free diet.

For those of you who don't know,

gluten is a protein found in wheat

as well as other grains and it is in

alive after a few months.

ness.

I am some-

The motto used by Orange enough students to fill every class on campus but the school also spends money to fund the event which does nothing more than makes false promises to incoming freshmen. Even if the school spent as little as a dollar on the event, it would still be too much.

> "We'll help you get there... in three, four years possibly, but don't get too optimistic," should be the real slogan.

OCC is the number one transfer school in the state when it comes to the Cal State system, however, it only transfers around 10 to 15 percent of students. Although many students receive associate and associate in science degrees from the college, the total percentage of students who either transfer or receive some type of degree is still only around 17 to 18 percent of students.

With numbers that low, even at the number one transfer school in the state, it is time for the college to end their Senior Day tradition and instead advertise other community colleges in the area. If students consider other educational options, it would lessen the overcrowding on our campus which is already one of the most popular community col-

thing was that the shopping cart

was really small — like regular

height but not very much basket

area. So I did what any normal per-

son would do, smile and pretend

I found a few gluten-free items

that I decided would give me an

idea of what to expect from the rest

of the food, then I grabbed some

fresh vegetables and meat and I

It was \$90. I say again — \$90.

was, my first reaction was, "Um,

how much if I put back this bell

When the checker told me this

I didn't want to look like an

I no longer felt like a giant.

Then it hit me. That's why

Well, actually I did but a very sad,

the shopping carts are so small.

That way you think, "Well \$90 is

fair. I did get a whole cart full of

The more serious and sad thing

about my new diet is that it wasn't

the food that left a bad taste in my

mouth — it was the whole experi-

ence of trying to find out what food

There are a ton of names gluten

can go by like bulgur, semolina or

spelt just to name a few. I spent two

hours in a big chain grocery store

trying to find allergen information

on the packages of food, before I

with serious food allergies go

through. How hard is it for a

company to put that type of in-

formation by the nutrient facts?

Especially considering what could

I can't imagine what people

gave up and left empty handed.

idiot so I paid and walked out

proceeded to the check out.

pepper?

the door.

broke giant.

groceries.

I could eat.

to be a giant shopping.

leges in the state.

Eating healthy could

be the death of me

Collard

St. Patty can suck it

Oh the woes of St. Patrick's Day.

As a 20-yearold guy who's right on the cusp of being able to legally drink but who's far too afraid to even think of

Gandarilla breaking any laws by drinking before 21, St.

of a holiday for me. I'm not too sure why we celebrate St. Patrick's Day but what I do know is that we're supposed to wear green and if you don't you get pinched. This tradition is a big reason why I don't care much for this holiday.

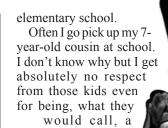
Patrick's Day isn't really much

After a quick Google search, I found that a day of remembrance for an Irish St.'s death later turned into an Irish day of celebration which somehow became the day of excess drinking and partying we all know as St. Patrick's Day.

You know who doesn't know that though? Children.

All they care about is how much fun it is to pinch people who aren't wearing green.

I live in a house with a bunch of kids, two of whom still go to





little kid waiting for their mommies afterschool pinches me with their little pincer hands ceived that day. when I pick my cousin up.

It hurts. A lot. You may be thinking, "Eric why don't you just wear green

then?" Well, there are two reasons why. The first is I forget. I don't really have any green clothes and I

to buy a green shirt. Also, I am a grown ass man, and I'm not about to succumb to some second grader's you-needawear-greentoday-orima-pinch-u totalitarian

never re-

member

regime. Maybe next year when I can legally drink and can go to a bar on St. Patrick's I'll like the day more. Maybe I'll cry to

the barkeep about how my arm hurts from the onslaught of pinches I re-

As for this year, since I'm still going to be under age, I'm going to definitely remember to wear green when I go pick up my cousin at school.

At least util next year, I'm still going to have to say screw St. Patrick's Day.

REPORT

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Is race still an issue?

Pro: A counter measure in an unjust world

Fisher v. University of Texas is electrifying the nation with its upcoming decision on affirmative action admissions poli-

cies.

The case involves Abi-

gail Fisher, a white woman who claims she was rejected from the university after affirmative action policies denied her admission.

Avi

Segaloff Staff Writer

Many college students would agree with Fisher and would want to be treated as equally as

But what people don't consider is most minorities don't

have the advantages their white counterparts do.

According to the American Psychological Association (APA), it is more likely for Latinos and African-Americans to go to schools in high poverty areas where there are less resources, often with less challenging classes and teachers who are paid less.

In fact, in a study done by the Education Department it was found many teachers are paid about \$2,500 less a year in higher minority districts than in districts with a higher Caucasian student population.

Money is disproportionately spread among school districts. In a survey done by the Education Trust it was determined that in California, \$684 more is spent per student on schools with a

low minority population than on those with a high minority population.

The APA said African-American children are three times more likely than white children to live in poverty. This means less of a chance for educational amenities some of us take for granted.

As much as we all want to consider our country to be a fair and equal place, it isn't. And until it is, we need a balancer to help those who don't have the opportunities some of us enjoy.

Maybe one day these disparities won't exist. Maybe one day we won't think of race at all and finally treat each other as human

Until then, affirmative action is a necessary program for our

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Con: Can't fight racism with more racism

recently been talk of the U.S. Supreme Court dilberating the use affirmative action. The catalyst for this potentially history-making

decision is the case Fisher v. University of

Fisher's premise is that the University of Texas deprived her of her 14th Amendment right, which is the right to equal protection. In addition to her allegation of this violation, she said other constitutional rights were also violated – her right to equal consideration and her right to be rewarded based on a person's talent, character,

choices and abilities.

Affirmative action supporters argue that minorities deserve preferential treatment as a form of compensation for exclusion and mistreatment in the past. By awarding special treatment to previously abused minorities, we are punishing those who are denied admission or jobs for something that they personally did not do.

Should we treat all human beings equally? Absolutely. Should we perpetuate discrimination in some flawed attempt to undo the mistakes of generations past? No.

Any selection that is based on race, and not on talent, character, or intelligence is considered racism. Just because affirmative action was intended to help minorities, it does not classify it as "good racism." By enabling minorities to succeed it disables the other party, in this case the majority. You can't fight fire with fire.

The only solution to racism and discrimination is education. Admission should be granted to those students who have proved to be academically deserving. If students of certain races are scoring lower on SAT and ACT tests, and are therefore prevented from being admitted to certain colleges, then we should focus on improving sedondary education in geographic areas with a high concentration of minorities. Improving education in lower-income school districts eliminates the need for affirmative action.

It doesn't make sense to wait until poorly educated students reach the collegiate level, only to be given a handout because of their race. This not only negatively impacts the deserving applicants who are denied admission, but also our society because we are sacrificing intelligent and talented people that could be making significant contributions in order to meet a race quota.

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darn near everything. Going into this diet I realized that the food wasn't exactly going to be five-star quality, but I mentally pre-

pared myself and thought I would just need to do a little extra praying before each meal. So I set out to my local health

food market to buy some taste free food. I mean gluten-free. When I walked into the store I

grabbed a shopping cart. The only

and so we're going to have an Irish feast

because we're both Irish."

QUESTION

happen to people. Contact the writer: brianscolumn@gmail.com





Texas, which involves a white woman named Abigail Fisher suing the university claiming she was denied admission because of her race.

What are you doing for St. Patrick's Day?

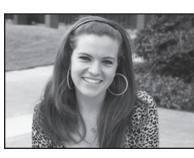


Amelia Gabriel 19, speech pathology "My boyfriend is taking me out to dinner "I celebrate at home with friends."





John Roche 21, undecided "I wish I could celebrate, but I work on St. Patty's Day."



Sarah Rosenfeld 20, biology

"My family is having like a little party. I have family coming in from Las Vegas, so we are just going to hang out."



Trevor Lane

21, communications

"It's the day before my birthday so I usually have a cigar and drink beer."



Ten times the training

OCC student competes in 10 events as a top decathlete.

BY PATRICK PHAM STAFF WRITER

Orange Coast College decathlete Andrew Cruikshank pushes himself in his quest to be like his idol, two-time Olympic champion Trey Hardee.

And by pushing himself, he means six to seven-hour training sessions each day along with workouts at the Sport Science Lab.

The extreme training is required, Cruikshank said, because of the demands of the decathalon. The competition includes 10 events: the 100-meter, the long jump, the shot put, the high jump, the 400-meter, 110-meter hurdles, the discus throw, the javelin throw, the pole vault and 1500-meter.

And while an Olympian may be Cruikshank's idol, the person who introduced him to the decathlon was former OCC track decathlete Keegan Cooke. Last year, when Cooke was still a student at OCC, he took Cruikshank on a trip to Africa.

"I went to Africa with Keegan, who was also on the track team last year, and it was a really good experience to see where he came from. The trip was more like a decathlon legacy or a decathlon friendship, which was pretty cool," Cruikshank said.

During their stay in Africa, he and Cooke were able to explore Cooke's homeland in Zimbabwe, but they were also able to train and discover the other side of the world. Cruikshank said that that experience is one of his favorites because he loves to travel and couldn't think of a better way other than to spend it with a good friend.

Cooke was equally enthusiastic about the trip.

FROM CAMPUS REPORTS

The Orange Coast College

men's tennis team came up on

the wrong end of a 6-3 decision



Photo courtesy of Andrew Cruikshank Andrew Cruikshank (right) poses with his track and field

idol Trey Hardee.

"That time of year was not only great because I could spend it with him, but I was able to visit my homeland,"

Coming from Foothill High School, Cruikshank played basketball and football along with running track. In fact, he has been participating in track for eight years.

During his senior year of high school, he broke the high school discus record set in 1981 at a mark of 176-feet, 8-inches.

Track is nothing extraordinary for Cruikshank because his whole family has been involved in it. His dad was his throwing coach while his older sister was an All-American heptathlete for Chico State and his older brother was a thrower at Cal State Fullerton. Now his sister is a jumps coach at the University of Central Missouri.

Cruikshank said he is training so hard so he can bring his competition to the next level. His goal is to break the decathlon record at OCC and pursue decathlon at the four-year university level and beyond.

"OCC has really set me up for my future more than I expected it to and it's opened a lot of doors and opportunities for me," Cruikshank said.

In addition to his six to seven hours-a-day training, he also does training at the Sport Science Lab in San Juan Capistrano with the help of head trainer Gavin MacMillan.

Last year his decathlon record



Photo by Patrick Pham

Decathlete Andrew Cruikshank runs daily as part of his multihour workouts.

was 5,746 points and head track coach John Knox said Cruikshank is making progress.

"He is maturing into a decathlete and as of right now he's developing into a better one, whether it's in the discus, pole vault or running," Knox said.

When he's not practicing, Cruikshank enjoys spending his free time outdoors going boating, fishing, rock climbing or just hanging out with friends. Other than that, he loves to dance, especially at family weddings, and will dance to any type of music.

"Dancing is in my genes," Cruikshank said.

On the weekends, he has a part-time job as a referee at National Junior Basketball league in Tustin. He has been doing it for four years and enjoys that he is in charge.

Right now, he's still an undecided major, but he has taken a wide variety of classes and is leaning toward business.

If the track career doesn't work out for him, he plans to move into the business field and said real estate is a possibility. He said he likes the idea of buying and selling new houses.

As for now, he hasn't decided what school he wants to attend, but he's keeping his options open.

OCC's first decathlon competition starts this week at Saddleback College.



of the season in Thursday's game against Fullerton College.

Coast stung by Hornets

Upset victory puts the Pirates at 1-3 in Orange Empire Conference play.

BY VINH NGUYEN STAFF WRITER

Orange Coast College's baseball team lost to Hornets of Fullerton College Thursday afternoon at Wendell Pickens field.

The Hornets pulled off a 5-3 upset to get a victory over No. 1ranked Coast and improved their record -6-10 and 1-3 in Orange Empire Conference, while Coast's record is 16-2-1 and 3-1.

Coast starting pitcher Brandon Brennan suffered his first loss of the season (5-1). Brennan gave up four runs (three earned), eight hits, one walk and one strikeout over 7 2/3 innings.

Coast catcher Trent Woodward broke up a potential no hitter with a single in the third inning thrown by Hornet's starting pitcher Richard Lucas. Lucas carried a 4-0 Hornets lead into the bottom of the eighth inning, finishing his afternoon allowing just two runs, two hits, two walks and eight strikeouts.

"We didn't play our best but you have to tip your caps to the other club," said Woodward, a 20-yearold communications major.

In the eighth inning Boog Powell (2-for-4) reached base on an infield single and advanced to second on a walk by Joel Licon. Chris Carlson followed with a single to load the bases and Stefan Sabol drove in two with a double, scoring Powell and Licon to make it 4-2.

Pirate signings:

Stefan Sabol Oklahoma State

Brandon Brennan University of Houston

Chris Carlson New Mexico State

Joel Licon Liberty University

Keegan Yuhl New Mexico State

Trent Woodward Fresno State

Andrew Bynum Valparaiso '

OCC added a third run in the inning when a Fullerton error scored Carlson to make it 4-3 but Hornet reliever Dylan Denker retired the next batter to end the threat.

"We had a pretty good game. We struggled hitting today, we didn't have the best approach but the team never gave up," said Brennan, a 20year-old kinesiology major.

In the bottom of the ninth, Coast managed to put the tying runs on base with their top RBI hitter Carlson at the plate with two out, but Carlson hit a grounder to first to end the game.

"The team goal for this season is to win a state championship," head coach John Altobelli said. The team will return to action Thursday against the Lasers of Irvine Valley College at 2 p.m. at Wendell Pickens field.

MAKEUP: Former OCC student and makeup artist finds thrill in dark design.

Men's tennis team doubled up by Irvine Valley College

From Page 1

"My ultimate goal, I'm not sure if I have one. I'm a really dark person. I love to see fear created in people's eyes after they see my makeup come to life Singles wins for the Pirates

in the character," Cisneros said.

Cisneros plans to return to

OCC in April to do an infor-

mal photo shoot of select cur-

rent OCC students and alumni

dressed up as the Joker for his

He said that the dates for the

personal portfolio.

(3-7, 2-2 in OEC) came from

vine Valley College in an Orange and Andrew Pham (6-3, 6-0) and Sharp. Empire Conference matchup. No. 5. In doubles, the team of Pat Wright and Rex Miller posted an 8-4 win over the Lasers' team

photoshoot are tentative.

David Scaglione, a film and

stage makeup instructor at OCC

said that while Cisneros' cos-

metic effects tend to be very

dark, he is fantastic at what he

"Mario is a different and

on Thursday against visiting Ir- Chad Meyer at No. 4 (6-2, 6-2) of Rafael Da Paz and Michael

Tuesday at home against Saddleback College at 2 p.m.

scary-looking guy, but once you get to know him he's nice and I could see him blazing his own trail and doing well," Scaglione

More examples of Cisneros' makeup designs can be found online at flikr.com/rebirthmxd.

VOLUNTEERS: Students help others.

From Page 1

The amount of persistent volunteers at OCC has been attributed to the large amount of students that come from disadvantaged backgrounds.

"Many of our students have received help at one point or another in their lives and they recognize the importance of giving back," Edge said.

Regardless of the motivation Edge said.

OCC CLASSIFIEDS

behind volunteering, students and faculty cannot stress the importance of student volunteers enough.

"Volunteering is important because most of us, no matter how much money we have or how wonderful things are, have points in our lives when we feel like we're in despair. It doesn't matter how much money is in the bank, it's the human condition,"

STUDIO: Renovations will improve Coast's technical capabilities for television.

does.

From Page 1

hadn't yet considered.

Department coordinator Scott Broberg described this favorite

addition. '[We are] replacing one of our

existing cameras with a new PTZ (Pan, Tilt, Zoom) camera, which will offer students yet one more skill that is used in the indus-

try. Being able to operate these cameras is an important skill for [people] wanting to get into television," Broberg said. "Plus it looks really cool.

The PTZ and all other renovations were made possible by the Carl Perkins VTEA IV Program, a collection of grants that are rewarded to vocational programs around the country.

OCC offers six technical studies that allow students to earn certifications that can translate into careers. The circulation of these funds is limited, so the department had to wait several years for the opportunity to submit an application.

Lazarus joked about the pressure the department faces in a technological world that refuses

"I have to say, I'm very jealous of the general ed instructors. The history professor that teaches the Civil War and World War II, that's never going to change. I don't think that geometry is ever going to change. We have to constantly be updating our technical abilities to then pass on to the students,' he said.





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