

OLNEY CENTRAL COLLEGE KNIGHTLINE



FEBRUARY 2004

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

19 — College Closed -
Presidents' Day

28 - CTE Day for High School
Students

MARCH

1 — Spring Semester Midterm

4 — No Classes - Pulaski Day,
College is Open

5-8 — No Classes -
Spring Break

6 — Last Day to Enroll in Spring
2024 Tuition Payment (2) Plan

15-16 — OCC Theater Presents
"Fiddler on the Roof," 7 p.m.

17 — OCC Theater Presents
"Fiddler on the Roof," 2 p.m.

College Visits

Feb. 20 — University of
Southern Indiana Representa-
tive Simone Payne will be at
OCC from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

March 13 — University of
Southern Illinois at Carbon-
dale Representative Raeghan
Goins will be at OCC from 10
a.m. to 2 p.m.

March 13 — Eastern Illinois
University Representative Bri
Dominguez will be at OCC
from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tables will be located out-
side Student Services.



Dr. Sarah Bergbower assists OCC Foundation members Sherry Brauer and Brenda Glover as they use the Life Science Department's new equipment.

OCC Foundation members see firsthand new biotechnology equipment in use

Olney Central College students can now perform genomic sequencing and DNA analysis with cutting-edge biotechnology purchased through a \$5,000 OCC Foundation mini grant.

Foundation members Sherry Brauer and Brenda Glover along with Executive Director Beth Miller witnessed these capabilities firsthand as students used the new portable PCR thermocycler and gel electrophoresis to solve a crime.

In the final step of the lab exercise, Dr. Sarah Bergbower's students utilized DNA fingerprinting to analyze DNA fragments in a sample according to their size. The result gives a barcoding appearance that is unique among individuals, and when comparing the unknown sample to known samples, identification can be made. This technique can be used to answer questions of paternity, identify victims of natural disasters and solve crimes, along with other applications.

"I was so impressed with Dr. Bergbower," Brauer said. "Her enthusiasm for the new equipment was contagious and she did a great job of explaining to the class the relevance of these pieces of equipment and their real-world application. She spoke their language, used humor, and was totally available to the students."

A fan of forensics on TV, Brauer found the experiments fascinating and was amazed

See Equipment, Page 2

Equipment *Continued from Page 1*

at how the instruments uncovered DNA matches.

"The students were very engaged throughout the time I was there and excited by their findings," she added.

With the new PCR Thermocycler, OCC students have the ability to amplify small amounts of DNA to create a DNA fingerprint. The size of a brick, it can be moved to student lab benches or taken directly into the field. It replaces the Life Science Department's older, bulkier equipment.

"The new PCR Thermocycler operates much more quickly and will enable students to complete an entire lab exercise within a single two-hour laboratory period," Bergbower said. "In four hours, you can have a trillion copies of the DNA."

Along with the PCR Thermocycler, students also have access to a DNA sequencer. The size of a candy bar, it is used to automate the DNA sequencing process to determine the order of bases.

"Microbiology is quickly moving toward molecular methods, and many hospital labs are finding themselves sending samples out to reference labs for sequencing difficult organisms or specific questions of resistance when culturing takes too long or is incapable of answering a molecular question," Bergbower said. "This will be especially helpful for our microbiology students as they can use it for real-world applications."

Bergbower said the accompanying software is ideal for educational purposes as students can observe real-time analysis on a smartphone.

Together, the new technology will expand lab opportunities for Introduction to Biology, General Biology, Biology II and Microbiology students allowing them to gain experience conducting complex laboratory exercises before transferring to a senior institution.

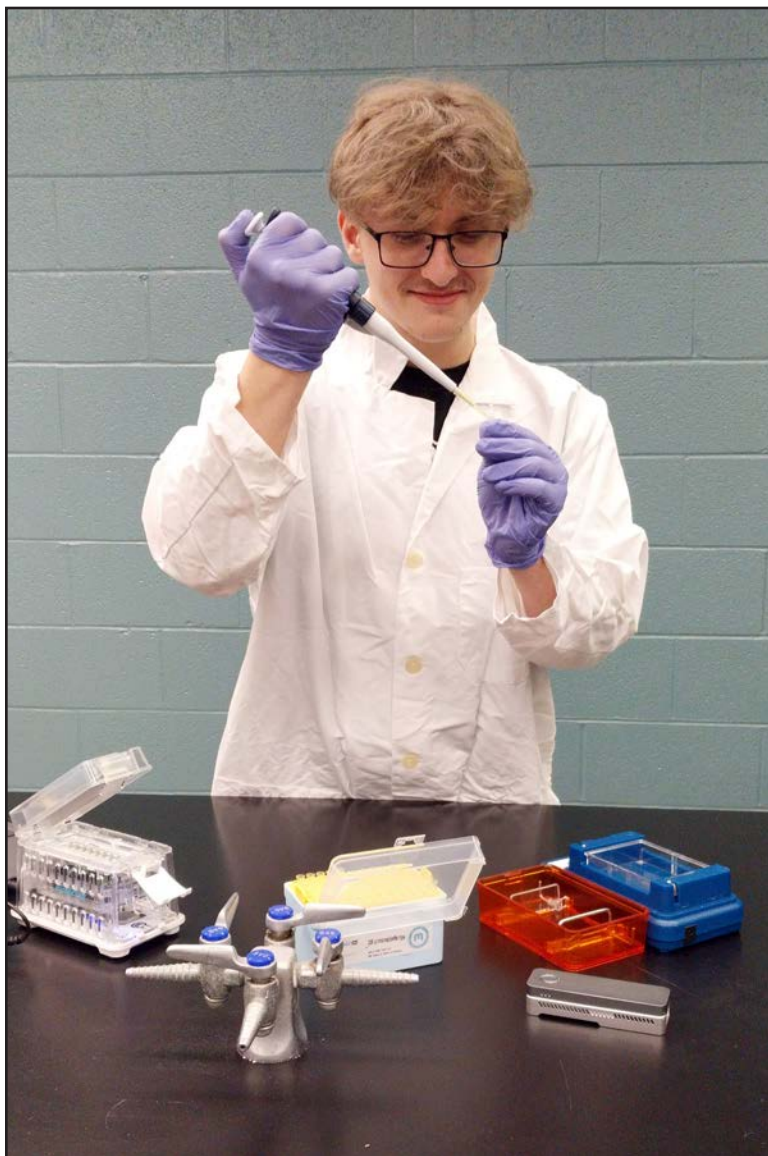
"I don't know any other community colleges that have a sequencer who are using them," Bergbower added. "It's really unheard of for a community college."

Bergbower is grateful for the Foundation's support in making the technology available to OCC students.

"As a prospective student, I wanted to know a college's lab equipment was up to date," she said. "Biotechnology equipment is getting more accessible, but it's not something included in the standard budget. I'm grateful the Foundation saw a need for it. Having this cutting-edge technology puts OCC on the map."

Brauer says providing OCC with these updated resources serves a twofold purpose. First, it enables students to carry out the same types of experiments they will undertake at a transfer institution and second, it can pique the interest of students who are curious about forensics or related fields.

She added, "I am happy that the OCC Foundation can help in any way to provide the tools for education to inspire leaders of tomorrow."



OCC student Elisha Scoles works with the new equipment purchased with the OCC Foundation mini grant.

Welding Program completes fabrication for new batting cages

The OCC Welding Program has completed fabrication of poles for the baseball team's new batting cages.

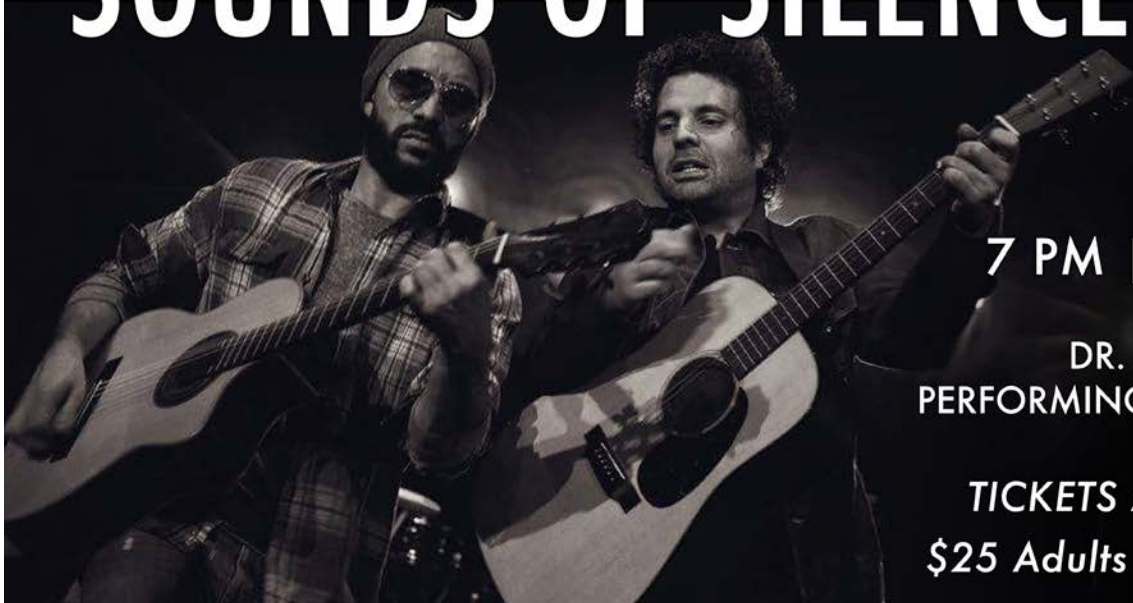
"I think the color looks great and it's really going to add a lot to that side of the campus," said OCC Welding Instructor Curtis Marshall.

Pictured assisting with moving the poles to Dennis Conley Field are OCC baseball player and welding student Brett Kocher and OCC Baseball Coach Phil Britton.



Southeastern Illinois Concert Association Presents

SOUNDS OF SILENCE



7 PM | MARCH 5

DR. JOHN D. STULL
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

TICKETS AT THE DOOR
\$25 Adults | \$5 Students

LEAP INTO LOVE

OCC Love Stories

June and Daryl Roberson As told by June

We first met when we were 10 years old at the wedding of my cousin to his aunt. When a mutual friend reintroduced us at OCC, Daryl was like, "Hey, I used to know you!" I actually remembered his brother better than him.

I knew our connection was special when he was walking me to class and he took my hand. This was 50 plus years ago and holding hands in front of your friends was a big deal!

In between classes, we would meet in the old Student Union. Shortly before graduation, we started to plan our wedding while just hanging out in the Student Union, parking lot or between classes.

I think if we both had not enrolled at OCC at the same time we most likely would not have crossed paths again until his aunt's funeral 30 years later. By then, we probably would have been married to someone else.

We were married for 43 wonderful years before Daryl passed away. We both had good jobs and a good life because of the education we received at OCC. Our daughter also attended OCC and was one of the valedictorians 25 years later.



Julie & Michael Hill As told by Julie

Michael had one class during the week, but most of his classes were on Saturdays. He would sit outside of the library and wait on me to walk in at the same time every week.

Eventually, Michael and I wound up in the same Statistics class. It was one of the only Bs I ever got. He was a flirt! Although, we were both employed at Walmart at the time, we didn't work the same shift so OCC is where we were destined to meet.

Michael is my best friend, business partner, and true love! I'm so grateful that we began dating while we were both at OCC. We have built a wonderful family together, as well as a solid business.

LEAP INTO LOVE

OCC Love Stories

Haley & Wade Coomer

As told by Haley (Baxter)

I saw Wade for the first time at our freshman orientation and immediately thought he was cute. He saw me later on the first day of school. We hung out for the first time later that week and the rest is history.

I knew he was special from the beginning. Wade and I both played basketball for Olney, and many times we would go to the gym to get shots up together. The first time we hung out we went to shoot basketball together and we just clicked. It was awesome doing what I loved with the person I loved.

We spent a lot of time together in the gym, as well as the cafeteria. Really, the entire campus played a role in our love story. One of my favorite dates was going to the city park to see the Christmas lights display.

After Wade and I graduated from OCC, we did a long-distance relationship for three years. He continued his athletic and academic career in Florida, and I continued my athletic and academic career in Kentucky. Once we graduated from those colleges, we got married in June of 2022.

If it were not for OCC, Wade and I would have never met. It is the sole reason we're together. The love I found will last me a lifetime.



Fire will bring new life to Hoffmann Memorial Prairie

OCC Instructor Maverick Fisher, and fellow members of the County Line Quail Forever Club, conducted a controlled burn of OCC's James F. Hoffmann Memorial Prairie on Feb. 3.

Fisher is working with Life Science Instructor Dr. Sarah Bergbower and retired instructor Jim Burnett to help revitalize and maintain the 4.5-acre site. The restoration process began last spring as Burnett assisted Fisher in identifying and eradicating invasive species, which have been overcrowding the native plants.

Controlled burns, like the one conducted earlier this month, are necessary for prairie ecosystems as they help to control invasive species and aid in native plant propagation.



Sports Schedule

Men's Basketball

Feb. 21 — vs. John A. Logan, 7 p.m. at home
Feb. 24 — at Vincennes, 6 p.m.
Feb. 28 — at Rend Lake, 7 p.m.
March 2 — vs. Southwestern Illinois, 3 p.m. at home
March 5 — at Wabash Valley, 7 p.m.

Women's Basketball

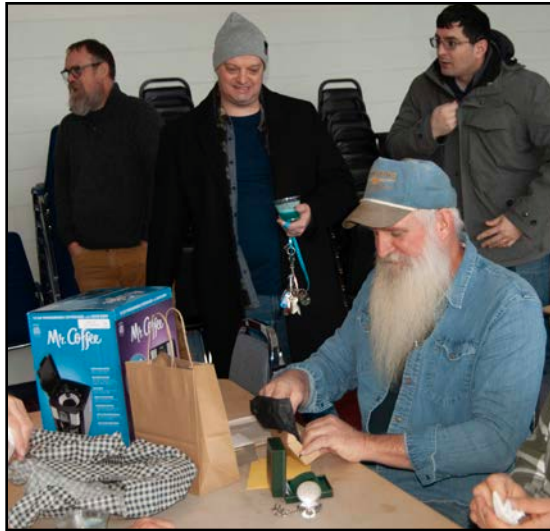
Feb. 21 — vs. John A. Logan, 5 p.m. at home
Feb. 24 — at Vincennes, 4 p.m.
Feb. 28 — at Rend Lake, 5 p.m.
March 2 — vs. Southwestern Illinois, 1 p.m. at home
March 5 — at Wabash Valley, 5 p.m.

Baseball

Feb. 23 — vs. Joliet at Vincennes, 3 p.m.
Feb. 24 — at Vincennes, 12:30 p.m.
Feb. 24 — vs. Morton, 3 p.m. at Vincennes Tournament
Feb. 25 — TBD at Vincennes, TBA
Feb. 28 — at Lewis & Clark noon & 2:30 p.m.
March 2 — vs. John Wood, 10 a.m. & Jefferson, 3 p.m. at Lake Land
March 3 — vs. Olive-Harvey, 1:30 p.m. & Danville, 4 p.m. at Mattoon High School
March 7 — at Lake Land, noon

Softball

Feb. 24 — at Northwest-Shoals, noon & 2 p.m.
March 1 — vs. Vermont, 9 a.m. Myrtle Beach
March 2 — vs. Bay College, 9 a.m. at Myrtle Beach
March 3 — vs. Schoolcraft, 8 a.m. & Harford, noon at Myrtle Beach



Clay Atkins retires from OCC

Clay Atkins was honored during a retirement reception on Jan. 19. Atkins joined OCC in May 2014 and served as the college's O & M Team Leader.



OCC hosts ACES Competition

Students from 11 area high schools participated in the 2024 Academic Challenge for Engineering and Science Competition at Olney Central College. The state-wide event is sponsored by Eastern Illinois University.

Division 300 schools competing this year were: Clay City, Edwards County, Hutsonville, Lawrenceville, Oblong and Palestine. Division 700 schools were: Fairfield Community, Flora, Newton Community and Robinson. Richland County competed in Division 1,500.



RCHS Senior Night Tuition Waiver Winners



OCC hosted drawings for a 3-Credit Hour Tuition Waiver at both the Richland County High School Lady Tigers and Tigers Basketball Senior Recognition Nights. The winners were Seniors Tristan Mitchell (above) and James Benson (at right).



Active Minds elects officers

Active Minds at OCC elected officers during its meeting on Feb. 14. Pictured, from left, are Katie Smallwood, Secretary, Bel Cline, Vice President; and Brody Sharp, President.

Register now! Mid-semester math course starts March 12

Did you drop a math class this semester or change your major and need to complete a math course?

Olney Central College is offering MTH 1103 Liberal Arts Math as an 8-week mid-semester course.

In this hybrid course, most of the homework and exams will be online, while instruction will take place face to face.

Liberal Arts Math will meet from 1 to 2:15 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning March 12 with instructor Lisa Benson.

This course meets the math requirement for graduation.

For more information, contact your advisor, or call 618-395-7777 to register.



Level I Nursing Students

First level nursing students in Anne Hustad's class worked on audio and visual content by using scopes and tuning forks to check each other's eyes and ears. They also created posters related to sexually transmitted infections and diseases.



SNA learns about local homelessness

The OCC Student Nurses Association hosted Bea Gardner as its guest speaker on Jan. 29. Gardner is a full-time missionary making a difference both locally and internationally. She oversees The Unity Project, which collaborates with individuals and groups to provide essential resources in the community. During her presentation, Gardner shared valuable insights about the local homeless community and their needs. SNA presented Gardner with hats, gloves and socks members collected to assist The Unity Project in its outreach efforts.

Massage Therapy accepting clinical appointments

OCC's Massage Therapy Program is accepting appointments for Spring clinicals at the Terry L. Bruce West Richland Center in Noble.

Appointments are available at 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. on Feb. 27 and at 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:45 p.m. and 2 p.m. on March 22 and April 13.

The cost is \$40 for a 60-minute, full-body massage and \$20 for a 30-minute body massage. A 20-minute chair massage is \$15.

Call 618-392-2430 for an appointment. Callers should leave a message with their names, contact information, the services they wish to receive and the date desired. Messages will be retrieved during Monday evening classes and calls returned as soon as possible.