

The Eagle

Ozarks Technical Community College Student Newspaper

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OTC College Fulfills Founders' Dreams



Board member Jackie McKinsey christens the Cox North facility. Photo courtesy of Steve Arnold.

By Steve Vert

Ozarks Technical Community College is the second largest institution of higher learning in the Ozarks. It offers 23 technical programs, an Associate of Arts degree, customized training for businesses and a continuing education program. Ozark Technical Community College's total enrollment of 9,500 students, concentrated at the Graff Career Center, Cox North and North Town Mall campuses is a diverse group. The student body is composed of traditional college students, high school students seeking technical job training and older non-traditional students completing degrees, changing careers or updating existing job skills.

Despite the growing pains associated with a relatively new institution with a diverse student population, OTC's future is bright. Planning is underway to break ground in January 1996 for a permanent new campus to the east of the Willard J. Graff Career Center, to be completed in the summer of 1997. Forecasting continued growth, experts are predicting a combined enrollment of more than 10,000 students at OTC by the beginning of the next century.

The outlook for southwest Missouri residents seeking technical job training or an Associate of Arts Degree for transfer to a four year college has not always been so bright. Not long ago, students without the money for tuition at local private colleges or the desire to attend a large university, were forced to look to College of the Ozarks at Point

Lookout or Crowder College in Neosho. A technically oriented community college in Springfield was the brainchild of the late Dr. Willard J. Graff. After reviewing an Excellence in Education study of the Springfield R-12 schools commissioned by the Reagan administration in the mid-1980's, Mr. Graff envisioned a technical community college for southwest Missouri.

As late as 1985, central southwest Missouri, third largest area in the state, was a region of 250,000 inhabitants without a community college. In 1987, a 22-member steering committee, under the leadership of Bill Schweikert, began a two-year study. This study culminated in the fall of 1989 with the Missouri State Coordinating Board of Higher Education approving the formation of a technically oriented community college in Springfield. Fifteen area school districts were invited to join the proposed college district. Fourteen agreed to take part.

With state recognition in hand, local voter approval was required. A board of trustees was elected to oversee the creation of a technical community college and guide the fledgling institution. On April 3, 1990, voters approved the creation of the Junior College District for Central Southwest Missouri and elected the first Board of Trustees.

Under the direction of the Board of Trustees' first chairman, Dolores Brooks, priority was given to the selection of a President to head the new organization. More than 140 applications were received for the position. From that distinguished group, the Board unani-

mously selected Dr. Norman K. Myers as the first President. In July 1990, the new community college was named Heart of the Ozarks Technical Community College.

With the opening of the Graff Career Center and Cox North facilities in September 1991 and enrollment of more than 1,200 college-credit students, 650 students in secondary programs and approximately 3,700 continuing education students, OTC became the only local college emphasizing technical training programs and general education courses with open admission. To residents of southwest Missouri, that meant they had a place to learn about diesel engines, computer networking, auto body repair or to receive training for the medical and dental fields. At OTC, young students could complete general education requirements for transfer to a four-year college, and older, non-traditional students could return to school to complete a degree or make a career change.

Immediately successful, OTC's programs provided combined total instruction during the 1991 school year for more than 7,000 students. Growing quickly, by fall 1994 OTC college credit enrollment surpassed 3,100. With all available classroom space at the Graff and Cox North locations filled, new classrooms and office spaces were opened in the North Town Mall.

First in the minds of the founders of OTC, according to Frank Farmer, current Chairman of the Board of Trustees for OTC, was the creation of educational opportunities for those not necessarily college bound: "Those kids who may not want to go to college, and just want to be great mechanics or put a roof on your house that won't leak" Painfully aware of the cost of higher education and the trauma of rural students entering large colleges, Farmer says the founders, "were also thinking of the kid who doesn't want to face the culture shock that comes with attending a university with 18,000 students, or simply can't find the money to attend the bigger schools."

Analysis of OTC's current enrollment indicates the school is filling the needs of the local community exactly as the founders hoped it would. Of current OTC students, 61 percent are employed at least part time and 45 percent are over the age of 25.

Vo-Tech Pioneered By Educational Visionary: Dr. Willard J. Graff

By Steve Vert

The evolution of vocational-technical training in the Ozarks has been a long and difficult struggle. Many of the pioneers of Ozarks Technical Community College have been in the forefront of the fight to make affordable technical training available to the residents of southwest Missouri. Valuable training ensures the area's ability to compete in the workplace of the future. From that list of OTC pioneers, one name stands out above all others: Willard J. Graff.

The late Dr. Willard J. Graff was a visionary in the field of education. As Superintendent of Springfield's Public Schools in the late 1950's, Graff engineered the creation of a superb vocational-technical program. Using Springfield's vocational-technical program as a model, a committee led by then -Lieutenant Governor, Tom Eagleton, planned a statewide system of vocational-technical schools. Under legislation proposed by that committee, which passed in 1963, Springfield became the first of three area vocational-technical schools.

Growth of vocational-technical education in Springfield continued throughout the 1960's. The year 1972 brought the dedication of what is today known as the Graff "B" building and the opening of Zenith's Springfield plant. Graff and the vocational-technical training offered there were instrumental in Zenith's decision to locate a large manufacturing plant in southwest Missouri.

Superior vocational-technical training programs demanded by Graff made the formation of a technical community college like OTC inevitable. The general education classes needed to support technical training programs made expansion to a community college a possibility, as four year colleges began to recognize the quality of education provided to OTC students. Don Simmons, Dean of Instruction at OTC said, "I believe it's (OTC) is exactly what Dr. Graff had in mind; he would be proud of the institution we've become." The result of those years of evolution is the OTC of today, a blend of vocational-technical training programs and college credit classes, offering education and training to students and high quality employees and citizens to the communities it supports.

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-Jesse Jackson
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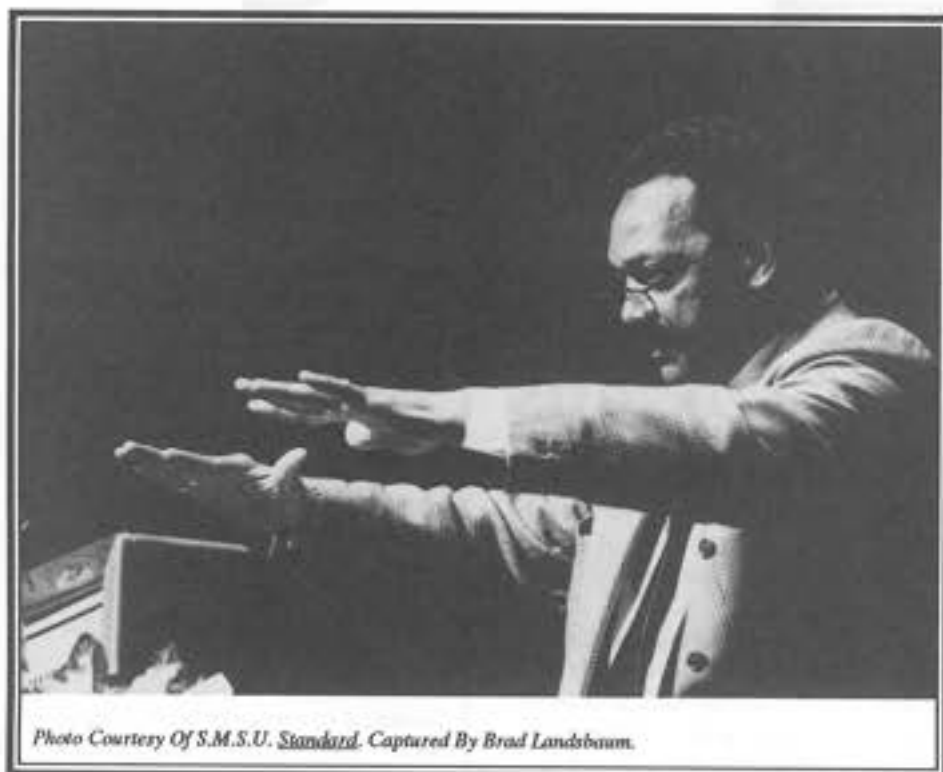


Photo Courtesy Of S.M.S.U. Standard. Captured By Brad Landsbaum.

Jesse Jackson: Let us Heal, Let us Build

By Steve Vert

Speaking to over 2,000 enthusiast supporters at Juanita K. Hammonds Hall for the Performing Arts on March 14, the Reverend Jesse Jackson delivered a powerful message of hope, healing and concern for the future of our nation in these tight fiscal and often mean, political times. "Let us heal, let us build and make our nation better...keep hope alive," was Jackson's theme throughout.

When asked about plans for a third presidential bid in 1996, Jackson said he would prefer to lead a "coalition of conscience" that could push Congress and the White House to "put America to work, put together a national health care plan and get fair wages for workers."

President of the National Rainbow Coalition, Jesse Jackson urged members of all minorities, women and the handicapped to unite in support of affirmative action and social programs being attacked by the GOP's Contract for America.

Commenting on "government that isn't working", Jackson reminded students that they receive quality education at institutions of higher learning subsidized by the government. In his words, "Government IS working, our job is to make it work BETTER."

Citing the civil rights movement and successful protests against the war in Vietnam, Jackson praised the effectiveness of young Americans in creating change. He emphasized the need for "moral involvement" with political issues on the part of young Americans.

Reminding students in the audience of low voter turnout in the November elections and the small margin of defeat for many Democratic incumbents, Jackson stressed that registration and voting by students are the only way to ensure that vital issues, like student loans and grants, are not trampled on by powerful special interest groups and ignored by political leaders in the rush to balance future budgets.



SMSU And OTC Join Efforts To Meet Students' Needs

By David S. Kolarik

Southwest Missouri State University and Ozarks Technical Community College are working together in a joint planning project. Since December 1994, both Presidents of their respective institutions Dr. Kaiser (SMSU) and Dr. Myers's (OTC), along with five officials from each, have been working collaboratively to promote programs that benefit students, faculty, institutions, and the taxpayers.

SMSU, over the course of the next five years, will be increasing its admission standards. Currently a student must have an ACT score of 17 to be admitted to SMSU. The ultimate goal is for entering freshman to have a composite score of 21. In the fall of 1995, Southwest Missouri State university will raise its ACT standard to 18. Mr. Simpson, SMSU Assistant Vice-President of Enrollment Management, estimates that freshman enrollment, over then next five years, will decline approxi-

mately ten to twenty percent because of the increased requirements.

As a community college whose mission, in addition to providing technical/vocational training, is to provide development education, OTC will serve as an alternative source of education for these college-bound students unable to gain entry to SMSU. These students can come to OTC, take general education requirements and after completing 24 hours will be able to transfer to SMSU. The student will also save an estimated 60% in tuition.

Working together OTC can help meet the general and developmental requirements of SMSU's present and future students. OTC will benefit from the enhanced enrollment and growth brought to the college by its newly registered students. Ty Patterson, OTC's Dean of Student Development, stated: "Working with SMSU would be very beneficial to the growth and recognition of OTC and even for SMS."

Vocational Students Get Ready For State Competition

By Bill W. Medley

Numerous students from Ozarks Technical Community College participated in district and state-wide competition this spring. Members of the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) competed in March, and the Vocation Industrial Clubs of America (VICA) competed in late April. OTC students made an excellent showing, receiving a total of 38 medals. These clubs offer secondary and post-secondary students an opportunity to compete in their desired field for bronze, silver, and gold medals and the chance at a Presidential Scholarship. Experience and knowledge can be gained through interacting with other competing vocational/technical students from across the state. By using their skills, these students will have a chance to become eligible for National competition.



Congratulations to those students who placed in this year's District VICA Competitions:

High School (Secondary) VICA Gold Medal:

Justin Brewer	Everton, MO	Welding skills
Jerimiah Conway	Central (Spfd, MO)	Electrical trade skills
Elaine Ford	Parkview (Spfd, MO)	Food Service Mngt skills
Jason Franklin	Kickapoo (Spfd, MO)	Food Service Mngt skills
Cody Graham	Ash Grove, MO	Welding skills
Greg Libbee	Hillcrest (Spfd, MO)	Graphic Comm. skills
Gabe Page	Willard, MO	Precision Machining skills
Kelly Phillips	Hillcrest (Spfd, MO)	Health Occ. skill
Jesse Rafferty	Hillcrest (Spfd, MO)	Air Condition/Ref. skills
Joe Saxon	Nixa, MO	Drafting - Interview
Rick Tabor	Strafford, MO	Precision Machining skills
Jarrod Williams	Strafford, MO	Air Condition/Ref. skills

High School (Secondary) VICA Silver Medal:

Mark Enterkin	Rogersville, MO	Air Condition/Ref. skills
Jason Ross	Hillcrest (Spfd, MO)	Carpentry skills
Marcus Savitterre	Parkview (Spfd, MO)	Electronic skills
Regina Schinek	Nixa, MO	Health Occ. skills
Scott Taylor	Ozark, MO	Precision Machining skills
Carvel Wisenbaker	Rogersville, MO	Graphic Comm. skills

High School (Secondary) VICA Bronze Medal:

Whitney Bennett	Glendale (Spfd, MO)	Health Occ. - essay
Renee Estep	Willard, MO	Basic Health Care skills
Howard Garton	Fair Grove, MO	Precision Machining skills
Tammy Morlen	Walnut Grove, MO	Health Occ. skills
Gabe Page	Willard, MO	Precision Machining skills
Scott Phipps	Rogersville, MO	Welding skills
Tim Welker	Strafford, MO	Welding skills
Marcus Savitterre	Parkview, MO	Electronic skills
Edna Spradling	Central (Spfd, MO)	Graphic Comm. skills
Jarrod Williams	Strafford, MO	Air Condition/Ref. skills
Krista Cirello	Hillcrest (Spfd, MO)	Health Knowledge Bowl
Charolette Dishman	Kickapoo (Spfd, MO)	
Jennifer Ellerbee	Glendale (Spfd, MO)	
Renee Estep	Willard, MO	
Keesha Gist	Hillcrest (Spfd, MO)	

Students Approve New SGA Structure



By David S. Kolarik

Student's recently had the opportunity to vote on a newly proposed Student Government Association structure. April 13-14 students voted 19-13 in favor of changing the existing structure. "Low voter participation has plagued Student Government form its initiation and is one of the reasons for the structural changes," said Ty Patterson, Dean of Student Development. Students are encouraged by faculty and staff to take part in Student Government and to get involved in their functions. The guidelines governing the new structure are:

Student Government Association Proposal: New Structural Guidelines

I. Qualifications

In order to be appointed to a Student Government Association (SGA) position, a student must meet the following qualifications:

- Enrolled for six (6) credit hours per semester.
- A 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) each semester and a 2.0 cumulative GPA.
- Attend all SGA meetings.
- Serve on at least one OTC committee.
- Must be willing to spend at least four (4) hours per week on SGA Activities.

II. Participation in SGA Class

Participation for those appointed to SGA positions will be held for two hours each week during the fall and spring semesters. Students who are selected to an SGA position are required to enroll and attend this class.

III. Grant-In-Aid for Appointed SGA Member

Those individuals appointed to an SGA position will, upon satisfactory completion of their responsibilities, be awarded a \$200 grant-in-aid at the conclusion of each semester of SGA service.

IV. Selection of SGA Members

A. Students who are interested in being appointed to one of the six (6) SGA positions will be required to submit an application for an appointed SGA position. Applications will be available in the office of the Dean of Student Development. Applications will be submitted by a deadline date.

B. The Student Services Committee will appoint a sub-committee of its members of two faculty/staff and two students. This sub-committee, chaired by the Dean of Student Development, (a non-voting member) will review all applications for the appointed SGA positions.

C. Following review of the applications, including academic credentials, letters of recommendation, and other pertinent information including interviews of applicants, the sub-committee will recommend four (4) individuals to be appointed to SGA positions for the fall semester of 1995. The remaining two positions will be filled at the end of the fall semester 1995 to bring to six (6) the total filled positions.

Note: In the event any appointed position is vacated, that position will be filled from qualified applicants as soon as possible.

V. Evaluation

The Dean of Student Development will evaluate the performance of the appointed SGA members on the following criteria.

- Hours of enrollment
- Grade point average.
- Participation in meetings.
- Participation assigned committee(s).
- Participation and enrollment in SGA class.
- Overall contribution to SGA.

This evaluation will be completed prior to the end of each semester with a recommendation for payment of the SGA Grant-In-Aid (\$200) or recommendation for non-payment of the Grant-In-Aid based on the student's failure to meet the requirements of the appointed SGA position. The recommendation will be reviewed and approved or disapproved by the Student Services sub-committee.

VI. Student Withdrawal From the Appointed SGA Position

If circumstances dictate, a student who has been appointed to an SGA position may withdraw from his or her appointed position by submitting notification in writing to the Dean of Student Development. Such withdrawal will result in a forfeiture of the SGA Grant-In-Aid for that semester. When a student has withdrawn from an appointed SGA position, for whatever reason, the student must reapply for a position as an appointed SGA member in any subsequent semester.

VII. SGA Involvement During Summer Term

Individuals who are continuing in their roles as appointed SGA members, along with individuals who wish to be involved with SGA, may be provided an opportunity to meet periodically during the summer term for planning of activities which would occur in the following fall semester. Such meetings would be determined by the Dean of Student Development who is the sponsor of the Student Government Association.

News Briefs

Computer Virus May Be Eating Your Disks For Breakfast



Chris Marr, computer technical consultant for the OTC, has discovered, and removed, a computer virus that has been causing some students problems in both Graff building computer labs. The virus, known as Stealth-C, first appeared in the CADD lab, in the Graff B building. "The virus appears to attack the boot sector of the disk," says Chris Marr, "If it will not boot by itself, you may have the virus." Although it appears that the introduction of this virus into the labs was unintentional, students who think they may have this computer virus, or who use the Graff computer labs on a regular basis, are encouraged to have their disk scanned by either Chris Marr or Joe LaReau.



OTC Alumni Association

OTC's Alumni Association membership consists of 95 OTC graduates and 78 associate members (OTC faculty and staff). The Association supports the college and promotes its image. It also enables OTC to keep in touch with its graduates and graduates to keep in touch with each other. A one-time fee of five dollars provides lifetime membership to the Alumni Association. The Association is currently in the process of electing new officers and planning events. On the calendar for this spring are: representation at the Student Picnic on April 27; a reception for graduating students, May 7, 2:00-4:00 P.M., at the Student Center; greeting students at Commencement on May 9; and the OTC Alumni Association's second annual picnic, in August.



Financial Aid

Students are reminded that applications for Federal Student Aid for the summer term must be in the hands of the Department of Education by May 1, 1995. Applications forms for federal aid are available from the OTC Financial Aid office, second floor, Cox North. Students must also file for financial aid needed for the 1995-1996 school year as early as possible. Some students are under the impression they have to wait until they've registered for classes to file financial aid requests. Not true. If you've filed state and federal income tax returns for 1994, you can submit a request for financial aid. Get your application for Federal Student Aid for next year in early and make sure that grant check is there when you need it!



Continuing Education

OTC's Continuing Education (C.E.) program serves a large adult population in the community by providing courses and activities designed to enhance vocational, avocational, and basic skills or simply for personal enrichment. Working in conjunction with local school districts, Continuing Education offers over 300 courses in both Spring and Fall semesters at many different sites throughout the college district. Classes are held primarily at OTC campuses and area schools, but the C.E. schedule is independent of OTC's regular course schedule. Times and length of courses vary. The 1995 summer schedule includes 20 non-credit courses in areas such as computer technology, floral design, language and nurse assistance. Registration for summer will begin May 2, 1995, with most courses beginning the first week in June.



Allied Health

Demand is high for OTC's Allied Health programs. Currently offering Degree or Certificate programs in Dental Assisting, Respiratory Therapy, Surgical Technician, and Licensed Practical Nursing, in Fall 1995 OTC will introduce a program leading to an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA).

Specific courses and curriculum for the new program are currently in the process of being approved. As with all Allied Health programs, admission will be selective and is expected to be very competitive. Alan Stone, Physical Therapist Assistant program instructor, said they are anticipating the application process will begin this summer. Only 20 to 24 students will be accepted, and more than 260 students have already expressed interest.

The PTA program will consist partly of class time and partly of clinical lab time conducted at various sites in Springfield. "There is," said Stone, "a tremendous potential for placement of program graduates." Stone can be contacted at 895-7156 for additional information.

Allied Health is also conducting Health Information Sessions as a forum for questions and answers between the Allied Health Department and interested students. Admissions requirements and program curriculum will be addressed. These sessions will be held in the Fountain Plaza Room at Cox North on Thursday, May 4, from 6:00 to 7:00 P.M.; Tuesday, June 6, 3:30-5:00 P.M.; and Wednesday, July 19, 3:30-5:00 P.M..

OTC's Own Are Among the Best and Brightest

By Amy Farmer-Long

Two of OTC's spring graduates were recently named among Missouri's best and brightest.

Virginia Shaw and Amy Smith were honored at a special ceremony in Jefferson City on March 28 and recognized by OTC's Board of Trustees on April 10. Both were mentioned for their achievements of academic excellence as well as being mothers of small children.

Shaw, 32, is studying to become a physical therapist. A single parent, laid off from her job, she said, "My existing skills could not provide the financial stability I wanted for me and my son." Thus, Shaw enrolled at OTC in the Associate of Arts degree program. She maintains a 4.0 GPA and plans to attend Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar this fall.

Smith, 21, is also graduating with an Associate of Arts degree and plans to be a doctor practicing rural medicine. She briefly attended colleges in Illinois and Missouri before coming to OTC. She carries a 3.5 GPA and will attend a four-year university in Fort Hood, Texas, where her husband is stationed with the army.

Smith attributes some of her



Amy Smith and Virginia Shaw were recognized for academic excellence. Photo courtesy of OTC's Public Affairs Office.

success to the faculty at OTC and their willingness to help students. To fellow students, she says, "Take it (school) slow. School will be too much if you go too fast. Do one thing at a time and you'll succeed."

The Missouri Community College Association, Phi Theta Kappa,

and the *Springfield News-Leader* co-sponsor the All-Missouri Academic Team. This team consists of 26 community college students from across the state.

Self-Study Leads the Way to Accreditation

From Our Staff

Faculty, staff and students of OTC are conducting a self-study of the school's strengths and concerns. A Steering Committee and 12 subcommittees have been at work throughout the spring semester, gathering and analyzing information about OTC's educational, financial, and community service goals and performance. The process, continuing through fall 1995, will culminate in an on-site visit by a team of consultant-evaluators from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA) in March 1996.

Dr. Nancy Kalman, associate dean of academic services, is the self-study coordinator. Kalman describes the process as having two purposes: to demonstrate OTC's qualification for NCA accreditation and to gather recommendations for educational and institutional improvement. According to Kalman, both outcomes are vital to the continued growth and strength of OTC as an institution of higher education: "Accreditation gives the school and its students official recognition as full-fledged members of the college community."

As a newly organized community college, OTC qualified in 1992 as a candidate for accreditation, a designation which acknowledges quality education and facilitates transferability of courses. The next step in the sequence is to acquire initial accreditation.

CREW Members Prepare to Enter a Non-Traditional Work Force



CREW members head off to the job site. Photo By "The Eagle" Staff

By Sarah Frye

Project CREW or CREWzers, as they are known, are non-traditional college students training to enter a non-traditional job field. CREW (Construction Readiness Education for Women) is an innovative program offered through Ozarks Technical Community College. Last year it was under the direction of New Perspectives, a program which provides assistance to single parents, displaced homemakers, and non-traditional job seekers. This year the program is under Lee Pulis, Assistant Dean of Technical Education. It is funded by a grant in cooperation with Ozarks Techni-

cal Community College, Missouri Women's Council, and the Job Council. Public Donations also help support the program.

In its second year of operation, CREW is a comprehensive program. Accepting 15 women a year for its two semester program, CREW helps women with "barriers to education." Kathy Brazeale, program coordinator, describes these "barriers" as being anything from long-term reliance on AFDC to displaced homemakers.

Attendance is required Monday through Thursday. Beginning at 8:00 a.m., the women start their day with a program of physical fitness. Focus is

concentrated on upper body because this is an area where women usually fall behind men in strength. Three to four hours are then spent on personal development and life-skills. A wide variety of topics are covered during this time including self-esteem, team work, personal image, substance abuse, stress management, etc. The rest of the day consists of college credit courses and hands on training.

The CREWzers have done work at Graff Career Center and North Town Mall facilities, United Way of the Ozarks, Family Violence Center, The Discovery Center and other non-profit organizations. They are currently working on preparing the Lurvey Plaza space for OTC's new faculty offices. Some of the women also work part time for area construction companies. CREW student, Stephanie McNew, works for a local bricklayer on Fridays and weekends.

CREW also works making improvements to the house, provided free of charge by Drury College, in which the program resides. The house, located just south of Cox North on Jefferson street seems an unusual place for a college program. Brazeale feels that this is an asset: "The women feel more comfortable to change in an area they consider safe." The house presents a "safe area."

"Why construction?" one might ask. Simply put traditional jobs for women pay too little. Many of the women in the program are single parents and the head of their household. "Women with children cannot afford to live on minimum wage," stated Brazeale. Many of the women are hoping to join a union apprenticeship program because of the job security and benefits involved.

Student Stephanie McNew had always enjoyed the outdoors but, "didn't think of construction work as an option." "I didn't know how to break into construction" McNew stated. She didn't feel that she was gutsy enough to just walk onto a construction site. "CREW has

"CREW has given me, through book knowledge and hands on training, the freedom to be comfortable in construction."

- Stephanie McNew

given me, through book knowledge and hands on training, the freedom to be comfortable in construction."

The women are aware that they must conquer barriers of sexism in order to be successful in construction. The book knowledge that gives the women confidence makes some men uncomfortable. "Some men say: 'We didn't need book knowledge'" commented McNew, "but women need the edge it gives them in able to break into construction."

Community support for CREW has been strong. The placement rate for last year's graduating class was 86%; only one woman was not placed because she was pregnant. The best key to the programs success, though, is "the women to getting out and proving themselves" said Brazeale.

Feature

OTC Expands Its Boundaries

Lurvey and Graff Complex Provide Needed Space for Faculty, Students

By Sarah Frye and David S. Kolarik

Ozarks Technical Community College is expanding in number of students and need of adequate space to house these students and programs. Attempting to meet these needs, OTC has taken two major steps to acquire adequate facilities.

Most immediately taking effect will be an expansion at North Town Mall. OTC has leased 2400 square foot of space in the Lurvey plaza, located directly east of the mall. This space will be used as faculty offices. Dr. Frank Shepard, Assistant Dean of General Education, said: "It will give adjunct [part time] faculty a place to call home." The vacated 2400 square foot at the mall will be turned into two additional classrooms bringing the number of classrooms at NTM to fifteen. The Lurvey facility is scheduled to be ready for the summer session.

The second and most important step was a decision to establish a permanent OTC campus. In a 1993 election, a bond issue to fund an OTC campus in the vicinity of I-44 and Highway 65 was defeated three to one. OTC held a series of community forums to reach out to voters and identify their concerns. Three main themes surfaced. The community felt that OTC 1) had tried to go too big, too fast; 2) must spend its money wisely; and 3) should utilize existing facilities. Building on these themes, OTC decided to base its campus around Graff Career

Center.

A Public Building Corporation (PBC) was formed in 1995 to issue bonds to pay for the OTC Complex, as it will be called. A real estate consultant has been hired by the PBC to secure contracts on the property east of the existing Graff Career Center. The OTC Complex will extend east to Hampton Street, west to Sherman, north to Central, and south to Chestnut Expressway. The acquired land will encompass 2 blocks and 36 parcels. According to OTC Public Information Office Steve Arnold, 80 percent of the parcels are already under contract and less than five families have expressed no desire to move.

In dealing with these families, OTC could exercise its right of Eminent Domain (meaning that, because it is a state institution, OTC has the legal right to force people to vacate). However, negotiations are still underway with those families, and a compromise may be possible in which the Complex would be built around these houses, some of which are on the edge of the proposed boundaries.

Using the \$500,000 a year OTC currently pays in rent, a technical building to house classrooms and labs will be constructed near Graff. Design, size, and square footage of the building is as yet undecided. But a timeline sets the completion of the building in the summer of 1997.



Lurvey Plaza will house offices for adjunct faculty. Photo by David S. Kolarik.



The new OTC Complex will be centered around the existing Graff Career Center, pictured here. Photo by Sarah Frye



OTC's North Town Mall campus was renovated during summer of 1994. Photo by David S. Kolarik.



Cox North provides headquarters for administrative offices. Photo courtesy of Steve Arnold, Public Information Officer.

Single Parents Get Second Chance Through New Perspectives

By Sarah Frye

For many single parents, the challenge of getting an education seems overwhelming. With unique concerns and needs, the single parent may be bewildered about how to begin, where to

as easy as possible for these women to make positive changes."

Traveling to area Vo-Techs, New Perspectives counselors conduct workshops on a wide variety of topics including sexual harassment, job interviewing, and self presentation. "OTC instructors or students can request that New Perspectives conduct a workshop in a class or on a particular subject," said Carla Cooper, New Perspectives counselor.

New Perspectives counselors utilize MO-VIEW, which allows them computer access to job information such as wage ranged, job outlooks, and job descriptions. MO-VIEW can customize the information for specific areas of the state to provide information useful to career counselors.

"We primarily serve women in transitional times...to make it as easy as possible for these women to make positive changes."

-Karla Gregg

begin and how to succeed in a college or vocational education program. New Perspectives is a government assisted program, independent of OTC but housed at the Cox North offices. "We primarily serve women in transitional times," says Karla Gregg, Director of the New Perspectives program, "...being widowed, going through a divorce, or receiving welfare. We'd like to make it



Intramural Sports Promotes Student And Community Involvement

By Amy Farmer-Long

If there is one thing that brings a school and community together, it is sports.

Gymnasiums, stadiums, and ball fields are a gathering place for students, faculty and community members. Sporting events offer the opportunity for all to mesh through the support of a common goal. That goal is cheering a team to victory.

However, other community goals are met as well. Sporting events are ideal times for discussion of the school-community relationship and ways to achieve solutions to problems within that relationship. The varied perspectives that can be expressed from a diverse gathering of school and community supporters is invaluable.

When OTC originated, it was not necessary for intramural sports to play a part in the school's development. But as enrollment has increased, so has the need for the student body's social growth. Although several extra-curricular clubs and organizations exist, none encompass a significant portion of the student population. Intramural sports is one way to promote school pride and involvement. They increase the strength of student involvement by providing everyone the chance to participate in a positive environment. Team sports such as basketball, softball, volleyball, and soccer bring a group together and encourage working as one. This is an idea beneficial in the classroom and business world as well.

Although OTC does not have facilities readily available to house an intramural sports program, several area colleges do. Just as educational partnerships with SMSU and Drury have been successful, so might a proposal for use of basketball and volleyball courts, softball and soccer fields. With successful introduction of team sports, individual sports will follow. Tennis, bowling, golf, and track and field are a few individual sports which focus on individual effort that an intramural program would support effectively.

Of course, sporting equipment is needed to begin a program of this nature. Initially, participants would pay a sign-up fee. This would cover the cost of balls, bases, nets, and team shirts. A small admission fee for spectators would be charged at each event to offset the sign-up cost.

As participation and attendance at games grow, so would OTC's ability to utilize some funds for other areas of the school. Excess monies might be distributed equally to all academic departments. Or, each year one department in particular might be designated to receive the benefits from the Intramural Sports Program. In this way, all students at OTC would benefit from sports—not just the athletes.

The benefits of the Intramural Sports Program would be increased student and community involvement withing OTC, funding for equipment and facilities, and promotion of and for the school. Implementation of this type of program is the next step in OTC's successful growth.

Students Speak Out:

What kind of impact do you think intramural sports would have in promoting student interaction?



"I think it would be a good idea for possibly a summer softball league for it may foster cohesion among students, which I feel is lacking at this time."

- Terre Nossaman
Sophomore, Nursing

"Intramural sports would be a positive thing. Sports brings the students together and promotes a sense of community. I think initially individual sports would be less costly, and then go to team sports."

- Rob Patterson, Continuing Education



"Intramural softball and basketball would be great and cost efficient. Seperate and co-ed teams would also promote interaction."

- Gary Brown,
Freshman, Associate of Arts



"I think it (intramural sports) would be great. It would enhance involvement with all departments of the school."

- Patrick Krapfl,
Sophomore, Associate of Arts



"I like the idea of incorporating intramural sports into OTC. It's the type of extra-curricular activity I would like to take part in."

- Mark Charlton, Sophomore,
Health Information Technology

The Eagle

Editorial Staff

Amy Farmer-Long Editor-In-Chief
Sarah Frye Managing Editor
Steve Vert Associate Editor For Copy
Bill W. Medley Associate Editor For Production
David S. Kolarik Business Manager

"THE EAGLE" MISSION STATEMENT

The Ozarks Technical Community College newspaper will continuously provide accurate and objective information to the students and faculty of Ozarks Technical Community College. Members of the Editorial Staff of the Ozarks Technical Community College newspaper will adhere to the highest standard of excellence in journalism; maintaining complete honesty, integrity and objectivity as they present all sides of the many complicated issues that face the student body, faculty and community in which the school exists.

Viewpoints expressed by editorials are not necessarily the opinion of Ozarks Technical Community College. Letters to the editor may be addressed to "The Eagle," in care of OTC-North Town Mall facility. "The Eagle" reserves the right to edit any and all material submitted for publication to ensure accuracy and clarity.



Feature

Leaders Fuel the Fire for Excellence in Education

By Steve Vert

Dr. Norman K. Myers is President of Ozarks Technical Community College. Named to his current position by a newly elected Board of Trustees in September 1990, Myers was given the difficult task of bringing to life a technical community college for the Junior College District of central southwest Missouri. Drawing on a lifetime of experience in the field of education, Myers immediately began to assemble the team of professionals that has worked diligently to provide quality, affordable, technical and general education to the residents of the 14 area school districts supported by Ozarks Technical Community College. Prior to assuming the position of President of OTC, Myers was President of Southwestern Community College in Sylva, North Carolina from 1981 until 1990. Myers holds Bachelor of Science, Masters and Doctor Of Education degrees from the University of Missouri-Columbia. A former United States Army personnel officer, Myers is married to Pat Myers, a teacher in the



Springfield Public Schools' WINGS program. They have two children: Jon, a doctoral candidate in Columbia, Missouri, and Julie, who recently received a master's degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Frank Farmer is the current President of the Board of Trustees for Ozarks Technical Community College. Instrumental in the creation of a technical community college in the Ozarks, Farmer served as a member of the 1987

Steering Committee responsible for securing approval for a local junior college district. Elected as one of the original members of the Board of Trustees in April 1990, Farmer's efforts have been an integral part of the continued growth and success enjoyed by OTC. Under his leadership as chairman, efforts to acquire property and build a permanent home for OTC to the east of the Graff Career Center have moved ahead rapidly.

Not afforded the opportunity to attend college as a young man, Mr. Farmer was able, through a tough self education program, to prepare himself for a highly successful advertising career. As a freelance writer, he was published in *Colliers*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *Life* and *Look* magazines. Starting as a reporter with a local newspaper in 1957, he moved up through the ranks in the newsroom and became the editorial page editor in 1980.

Farmer served on the Willard School Board for fifteen years, the last ten years as president. He also held the post of president of the Greene County Board of Education. Farmer is a founding mem-



ber of the Ozarks Food Harvest and past president of the Good Samaritan Boys Ranch. Farmer is the author of *Prairie to Progress*, a book commemorating Willard's bicentennial celebration.

Farmer was the first recipient of the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce's Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award. In addition, he was the first recipient of the Missouri Dairy Hall of Fame's Distinguished Service to Dairy Industry Award.

Dedication and Hard Work Bring School and Community Together: The Eagle Has Landed



Access to objective, accurate, and timely information is critical for continued learning and active student participation in the school and surrounding community. In an institution with a curriculum and student body as diverse as Ozarks Technical Community College, providing information about upcoming events can be an impossible task. A student newspaper is an excellent way to inform students about school and community happenings, as well as an outstanding opportunity to close gaps between departments and campuses.

A motivated group of student volunteers attended a series of meetings to plan the establishment of a student newspaper early in the spring 1995 semester. A steering committee was organized and tasked with researching and reporting on organization, layout, facilities, and budget requirements. Based on this research, a mission statement and constitution was prepared, as well as a recommended editorial staff organization, newspaper layout, and lists of facilities and budget requirements. Following these long hours of preparation, the editorial staff chose a name for its fledgling project: "The Eagle".

The editorial staff presented



Eagle staff members: Bill W. Medley, Amy Farmer-Long, David S. Kolarik, Sarah Frye, and Steve Vert.

"The Eagle" proposal to Dr. Myers and the Board of Trustees on April 10 for approval to proceed. After the administration expressed much enthusiasm about the formation of a student newspaper for OTC, production began.

The five-member "Eagle" core dedicated itself to researching, writing, layout, and photography. These tasks were made all the more difficult because the editorial staff spent much of its time acquiring space and supplies for production. With the help of many members of OTC and the community, "The

Eagle" gained a home at the North Town Mall facility, as well as needed incidentals.

The editorial staff would like to recognize Dr. Myers and the Board of Trustees for their unending enthusiasm and encouragement in the development of "The Eagle". Dean Patterson and Dr. Shepard have been instrumental in helping "The Eagle" staff find a home as well as supplies. Student Government provided funding for the first issue as well. "The Eagle" also found friends among businesses in the community. One Hour Photo

in the North Town Mall provided film and developing for photos, and Total Compliance Consultants allowed the staff the use of its computer facilities.

The editorial staff would like to express its thanks to "The Eagle" faculty advisors: Steve Arnold, Public Affairs; Wayne Bruffey, Production; Brian King, Legal Affairs; Julie Ruengert, Journalism; Ty Patterson, Student Services. Their advisement and cooperation are appreciated.

Finally, "The Eagle" staff would like to say thank you to Vicki Hopper. As Chief Faculty Advisor, she has donated much of her time and energy to the newspaper's success. Ms. Hopper, her aid and enthusiasm are greatly appreciated.

Planning for the establishment of "The Eagle" has been painstakingly thorough. From the first meeting, the editorial staff has shown a sincere desire to serve its fellow students and publish a newspaper that everyone at OTC can look to with pride. The staff believes "The Eagle" will be read and enjoyed by everyone connected with the institution and community it serves.

Summer

On-Going Events

March 1 - August 31
"SELECTIONS FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION"
SPRINGFIELD ART MUSEUM

March 13 - May 13
"S.V.A.A. MEMBER'S EXHIBIT"
NEARLY FAMOUS DELI & PASTA HOUSE

April 7 - May 20
"VOICES IN THE WIND"
STAINED GLASS THEATRE

April 14 - July 13
"SPRINGFIELD VISUAL ARTS ALLIANCE MEMBER EXHIBIT"
CITY UTILITIES

May 1995

May 1 - May 31
"MONTHLY FEATURE DISPLAY"
FRISCO RAILROAD MUSEUM INC.

May 1 - June 22
"SPRING THEME 1995;
BARRIERS-JURIED EXHIBIT"
IMAGE POINT GALLERY

May 2 - June 25
"FOR THE VISUAL ARTS;
SOLO ARTIST SERIES"
JUANITA K. HAMMONS HALL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

May 4 - 21
"LOST IN YONKERS"
SPRINGFIELD LITTLE THEATRE
LANDERS THEATRE

May 6-7
"ARTFEST ON WALNUT STREET"
SPRINGFIELD AREA ARTS COUNCIL

May 8 - 10
"MONOLOGUE MANIA"
SMSU- BALCONY THEATRE IN CRAIG HALL

May 8- August 31
"WINNING THE WAR AT HOME"
SPRINGFIELD -GREENE COUNTY HISTORY MUSEUM

May 9
OTC COMMENCEMENT
CENTRAL ASSEMBLY OF GOD

May 12- May 13
"PLUMB NELLIE DAYS"
DOWNTOWN BRANSON, MISSOURI

May 12 - 13
"SPRINGFIELD BALLET SCHOOL GALA"
VANDIVORT CENTER THEATRE

May 13
"HURRAY FOR HOLLYWOOD"
JUANITA K. HAMMONS HALL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



May 13
"PET-A-THON"
NIXA, MO CITY PARK

May 14
MOTHER'S DAY

May 20
"REEDS SPRING OPEN HOUSE"
REEDS SPRINGS MO DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

May 29
MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED

May 30
OTC SUMMER SEMESTER
FULL TUITION AND FEE PAYMENTS DUE

May 31 - June 3
"GREATER SPRINGFIELD CHARITY HORSE SHOW"
OZARK EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS

June 1995

June 3 - July -30
"WATERCOLOR U.S.A '95"
SPRINGFIELD ART MUSEUM

June 5
OTC SUMMER SEMESTER
FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

June 7
OTC SUMMER SEMESTER
LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH 100% REFUND

June 12
OTC SUMMER SEMESTER
LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH 50% REFUND

June 14 - Aug 5
"SMSU SUMMER TENT THEATRE '95"

SMSU CAMPUS

June 16
OTC SUMMER SEMESTER
LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH 25% REFUND

June 18
FATHER'S DAY

July 1995

July 1
"FIREFALL '95"
SPRINGFIELD SYMPHONY/SPRINGFIELD PARK BOARD
SPRINGFIELD REGIONAL AIRPORT

July 3-7
OTC SUMMER SEMESTER
INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY - NO CLASSES

July 4
INDEPENDENCE DAY

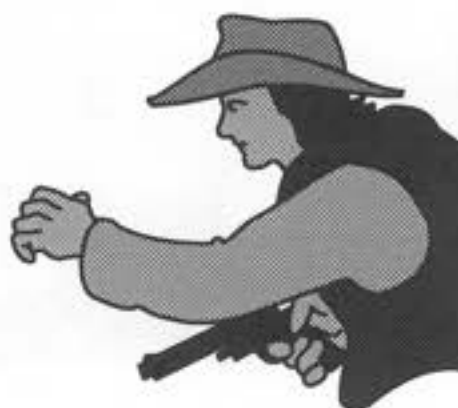
July 5 - 8
"CHRISTIAN COUNTY FAIR"
CITY PARK /FAIRGROUNDS
OZARK, MO

July 7 - 8
"GREENE COUNTY 4-H FAIR"
OZARK EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS

July 8
"SECOND ANNUAL ICE CREAM SAFARI"
DICKERSON PARK ZOO

July 14-16
"MONSTER TRUCK THUNDER DRAGS"
OZARK EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS

July 21
OTC SUMMER SEMESTER
LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW FROM CLASSES (WITH A "W")



July 21-23
"WILD WEST DAYS"
PARK CENTRAL SQUARE

July 28 - Aug 6
"OZARK EMPIRE FAIR"
OZARK EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS

July 7 - 16
"UNITED STATES TENNIS ASSOCIATION
MEN'S PRO TENNIS CLASSIC"
COOPER TENNIS COMPLEX

July 19 - 22
"OZARK BOOSTER CLUB RODEO"
BOOSTER CLUB ARENA
OZARK, MO



August 1995

August 4
OTC SUMMER SEMESTER
LAST DAY OF CLASSES

August 8 - 11
"COLLEGIATE CHRISTIAN CHEERLEADING CAMP"
EVANGEL COLLEGE CAMPUS

August 10
"MOONLIGHT TOUR"
WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

August 12
"ZOOlympics"
DICKERSON PARK ZOO

August 24 - 27
"FALL HUNTING CLASSIC"
BASS PRO SHOPS OUTDOOR WORLD

August 25 - 26
"BULL RIDER'S SPECTACULAR"
BOOSTER CLUB ARENA
OZARK, MO

August 26
"KINETIC KONTRAPTION RACES"
FINLEY RIVER IN OZARK PARK
OZARK, MO

Summer Jobs and Where to Find Them

By Bill W. Medley

Are you tired of flipping burgers? Do you wonder where that job is that college is suppose to be getting you? OTC job placement center, located just inside the Graff A building, can assist you. Sue Lawson, the job placement coordinator, encourages all students who are looking for work to stop by and talk to her about job openings for this summer. The placement office can help you by providing current job openings, contacting a desired employer, sending resumes to employers, setting up on-campus interviews, providing wage and labor market information, registration with Job Service, and many other services for job-bound students. OTC job placement services are absolutely FREE, with no finders fee. To contact Sue Lawson by phone, call (417) 895-7208 for more information.

