Orange Coast College UPDATE

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OCC Men's Basketball Earns Ticket to State Championship

The Orange Coast College men's basketball team - a team that went 8-19 last season - is moving to the big dance after shocking third-seeded Citrus, 80-77, on Saturday night in the third round of the Southern California Regional playoffs, played at Citrus College.

With the win, the sixth-seeded Pirates (22-7) — champions of the Orange Empire Conference and winners of 13 straight games — advance to the Elite Eight of the California Community College Athletic Association Men's Basketball State Championships next weekend at Ventura College. It is the first trip back to the State Tournament since the Pirates won the whole thing back in 1979!

If the seedings stay the same, the Pirates will be the No. 3 seed out of the south and will take on the north's No. 2 team — Fresno City College — in the opening round on Friday, beginning at 5 p.m.

Lloyd Wright led the Pirates with 23 points. Joshua Davis added 21 points and 15 rebounds and Kupaa Harrison tossed in 16 points. Coast needed others to step up against a team like the Owls (27-5) and freshman Colin Pipkin did just that. He came off the bench and in 16 minutes, he scored 14 points on 4-of-5 shooting and a perfect 6-for-6 from the free-throw line.

Citrus, which entered the game as the state's top 3-point shooting team, was held to just 6-of-17 from downtown as the Pirates' defense cooled off the Owls as a whole from the floor. Coast on the other hand, made the Citrus College Gym feel like Peterson Gym North, shooting over 50 percent from the floor, using strong post play to dominate most of the game.



Calendar

- March 8 Baseball vs Santa Ana
 - Wendell Pickens Field, 2 p.m.
- March 9 Chinese-English Language Exchange Literature and Languages, 5 p.m.
- March 10 Softball vs San Bernardino Valley Softball Complex, 9 a.m.
- March 10 Invitational Dance Concert
 Robert B. Moore Theatre, 7:30 p.m.
- March 13 Baseball vs Cypress Wendell Pickens Field, 2 p.m.
- March 13 Senior Day OCC Main Quad, 9:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.
- March 14 Men's Volleyball vs Golden West Peterson Gymnasium, 6 p.m.
- March 16 Coast Classic Invitational LeBard Stadium, 10 a.m.
- March 16-18 Rowing to America: The Immigrant Project
 - Drama Lab Studio, 7:30 p.m.
- March 19 The Box Grand
 Opening
 Literature and Languages
 courtyard, 10 a.m. until 8 p.m.
- March 20 & 21 Banff Film Festival
 Robert B. Moore Theatre,
- March 23 & 24 Rowing to America: The Immigrant Project
 Drama Lab Studio, 7:30 p.m.
- March 24 Brahms' Ein Deutsches Requiem
- Robert B. Moore Theatre, 7:30 p.m.
- April 10 Career Fair OCC Main Quad, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.



It was a ragged game that "featured" a combined 47 fouls (OCC 27, Citrus 20) and 61 free-throw attempts (Citrus 33-37, OCC 19-24). Both teams struggled to find any type of rhythm or flow due to the constant stoppages by the officials.

Citrus made its move about eight minutes into the second half. With Coast holding its biggest lead of the game (60-44), Davis pulled down a big rebound, but an outlet pass didn't connect, giving the ball back to the Owls, who promptly drained a 3-pointer. After another turnover, the Owls quickly drained another trey to trim the deficit to 10 in less than 30 seconds of play.

From there, the Pirates tried to keep their distance from the Owls, but numerous early fouls put Citrus to the line, where the Owls chipped into the deficit. From their biggest deficit, Citrus went on a 16-4 run to get back to within four at 64-60, with 7:11 remaining in the game.

Wright came back and drained a big 3-pointer to make it 67-60, but Citrus refused to go away. Citrus turned up its interior defense and the lay-ups garnered by the Pirates early on were not as easy to come by down the stretch. Finally, with 1:10 left in the game, a 3-pointer got the Owls to within a point at 78-77, sending the Citrus side of the stands into a frenzy.

After an OCC turnover, the Owls had one final possession to grab the lead and steal the victory away from the Pirates. A drive by Citrus guard Kyle Gray missed its mark and after a frenzied scramble for the rebound, the ball bounced out of bounds, giving OCC the ball back with 3.4 seconds remaining. Wright was fouled and the sophomore standout calmly nailed both free throws to put Coast up, 80-77.

One final 3-point attempt by the Owls came up short and it was party time on the OCC side of the gym, where the Coast players run up to and celebrated with the strong supporting cast that made the trek up the freeway to see the game.

Theatre for Social Justice Takes on Immigration Issues with Short Plays

Orange Coast College's theatre department is staging a collection of one-act plays titled "Rowing to America — The Immigrant Project" on the weekends of March 16-18 and March 23-25 in the Drama Lab Theatre. Performances are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, with a 2:30 p.m. matinee scheduled for Sunday, March 25.

Rowing to America is a collection of nine one-act plays that delve into the topics of immigration, emigration, and the migration experience in general. The plays are written by a culturally diverse group and feature characters from many different areas around the world.



Some of the stories include "Oh Wild West Wind" a take on the forced march of Native Americans during the infamous "Trail of Tears," and "Dead Bolivians," a farce about an immigrant Mexican family whose playwright son wants to put his family in a play about immigrants.

OCC's Social Justice Series was launched in 2016 in an effort to raise public awareness, educate and engage audiences on issues related to societal injustice and human rights. Tables with information about the Deferred Action on Childhood Arrivals program and other campus clubs and groups will be set up before and after each performance.

Pirate's Plank

Orange Coast College
Business Pitch Competition

Submissions Sought for Second Annual Pirates Plank Business Competition

OCC is hosting its second annual Pirates Plank Business Pitch Competition, and all students are encouraged to submit their ideas by Sunday, March 11, with the competition scheduled for Thursday, April 5.

The purpose of the Pirates Plank is to encourage OCC students to solve problems and inspire their entrepreneurial spirit. The event is modeled after the popular ABC "Shark Tank" television show, but with an emphasis on encouragement and advice.

Students will present their business ideas to a panel of judges who are also local business leaders and owners. The judges will listen to the presentation and ask questions regarding the viability of the product in the marketplace. Judges also will offer advice on how to improve the product and presentation. Two winners will be selected and will receive cash prizes of \$500 each.

OCC Chamber Singers Set to Perform Johannes Brahms' German Requiem

Orange Coast College's Chamber singers will join forces with the Long Beach Chorale and Chamber Orchestra to perform Johannes Brahms' "Ein Deutsches Requiem" on Saturday, March 24.



The performance will take place in the College's Robert B. Moore Theatre at 7:30 p.m. and will feature a full orchestra, as well as guest singers, soprano Marlissa Hudson and baritone and OCC alum David Stoneman.

Brahms' Requiem is one of the most personal of all the great Requiems, or masses for the dead, in the choral-orchestral repertoire. Unlike the others, "Ein Deutsches Requiem" doesn't use the traditional Latin mass text; Brahms opted instead to use Bible verses that were particularly significant to him, and to set them in his native language.

"The Brahms Requiem is one of the undisputed monuments of the choral-orchestral literature, but it's also a completely approachable, personal piece — it's beautiful and exciting the first time you hear it, but you can spend your entire life exploring its depths, too," says OCC Choral and Vocal Activities Director Eliza Rubenstein.

OCC's Chamber Singers are the top choral ensemble at OCC — a group of approximately 40 auditioned students dedicated to performing the best choral music in a wide range of styles and genres. The group has made four trips to New York and Chicago to perform at Carnegie Hall and Orchestra Hall in the last several years, and will be returning to New York in 2019 to perform another major choral-orchestral work.

For those who can't make the Saturday show, there will be a second performance on Sunday, March 25 at 4 p.m. at Grace First Presbyterian Church (3955 N. Studebaker Rd., Long Beach). Tickets are available at www.occtickets.com and www.longbeachchorale.org

Speech and Debate Team Nabs 2nd Place at Spring Championship

The Orange Coast College Speech, Debate, and Theatre team continued its tradition of excellence at the PSCFA Spring Championship tournament hosted by California State University, Long Beach.

The Pirates placed 2nd in the overall sweepstakes award just behind Moorpark College at the tournament, which concluded Feb. 25. The tournament was the last regional competition before programs head off to their respective state and national tournaments; therefore, the more than 30 teams in attendance brought out their strongest events and competitors to this regional tournament.

Schools in attendance ranged from Azusa Pacific University and Eastern Michigan University to Northern Virginia Community College and Santa Monica College.

"Our students have been working continuously all throughout the competitive season. They are doing a fantastic job of upholding the legacy of the Orange Coast speech team," said Director of Interpretive Events, Shaw Davari.

Debate Coach Nate Wensko was excited to hear the results of OCC's competitors in both National Parliamentary Debate as well as International Public Debate. "We moved several of our second semester students into Junior and Open levels of competition for the first time as well as bringing our spring

semester recruits to their very first debate tournament. Even though this was a new experience for many of our students they proved more than capable of handling the increased rigors of the upper division," Wensko said.

OCC also had an excellent showing in Individual Events. Director of Platform Events Sean Connor stated: "Not only did we earn first place awards in several categories of speech but we also won the Interstate Oratory bid. The Interstate Oratory is the oldest and most prestigious oratory tournament held in the United States. Every year each state will send only two students to Interstate where they will compete in Persuasive Speaking. In order to receive the Southern California bid you must win first place in Open Persuasive speaking at the Spring Championship tournament. With 34 students entered into consideration for this prestigious award our very own Bryan Davis was able to clinch this important opportunity."

Not only was this a special tournament for all of the awards won; but also, because the tournament was named in the honor of OCC's Communication Studies Professor and former Director of Forensics Felicia Coco. "The coaching staff was so happy to see our students rise to the occasion at a tournament where the entire Southern California forensics community was recognizing Professor Coco for all of her contributions to the activity," said assistant coach Thuy Pham.

The Orange Coast College Speech, Debate, and Theatre team will host a Reader's Theatre Showcase on Tuesday, March 13 at 5 p.m. in the College's Science Hall. The team's next tournament will be the California Community College Forensic Association State Championship Tournament held on March 8-11.

News from the Coast Report:



Fashion Program Partners with Local Brands to Open Pop-Up Shop

n a nod to a Los Angeles fashion trend, Orange Coast College's first pop-up shop featuring brands like Volcom and Sister LB will soon be open to the public.

The Box, located between Writers Row and Mathematics Business & Computing Center, will be part of a larger space called The Village, which will include a seating area and an open space for presentations from guest speakers.

"We're hoping that students from all over campus will come over, check out and learn as well," fashion instructor Michelle Craner said.

According to Craner, the brands will be bringing their lead of merchandising, lead of product development and lead of product design to The Box in order to connect with the students at OCC. Craner also said a lot of the brands may offer a student discount.



"It's a collaborative learning environment," Craner said.

A majority of the classes from the fashion department were involved in the creation of The Village, even creating the logo for The Box. The classes decided which brands to include, studied media events and promotions, assisted with trend reports and were fully involved with the development of The Box.

Each brand will create a different look for the space by bringing in their own furniture, decorations and with some even painting The Box.

The Box is a one-year project provided by Doing What Matters, a state funded program that allocates funds for community colleges in order to innovate and help students succeed in the workforce, Craner said.

"It's a one-year project from spring semester to fall," Craner said. "For the fall, we'll have a whole new calendar."

The grand opening will initially feature the brand Tavik on March 19. Some brands that will be featured later include RVCA, Publish, Sister LB, and Volcom.

The pop-up store will be open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. May 14 is the last day it will be open.