

# UCO forensic institute collects world-class minds

BY MARK SCHLACHTENHAUFEN  
THE EDMOND SUN

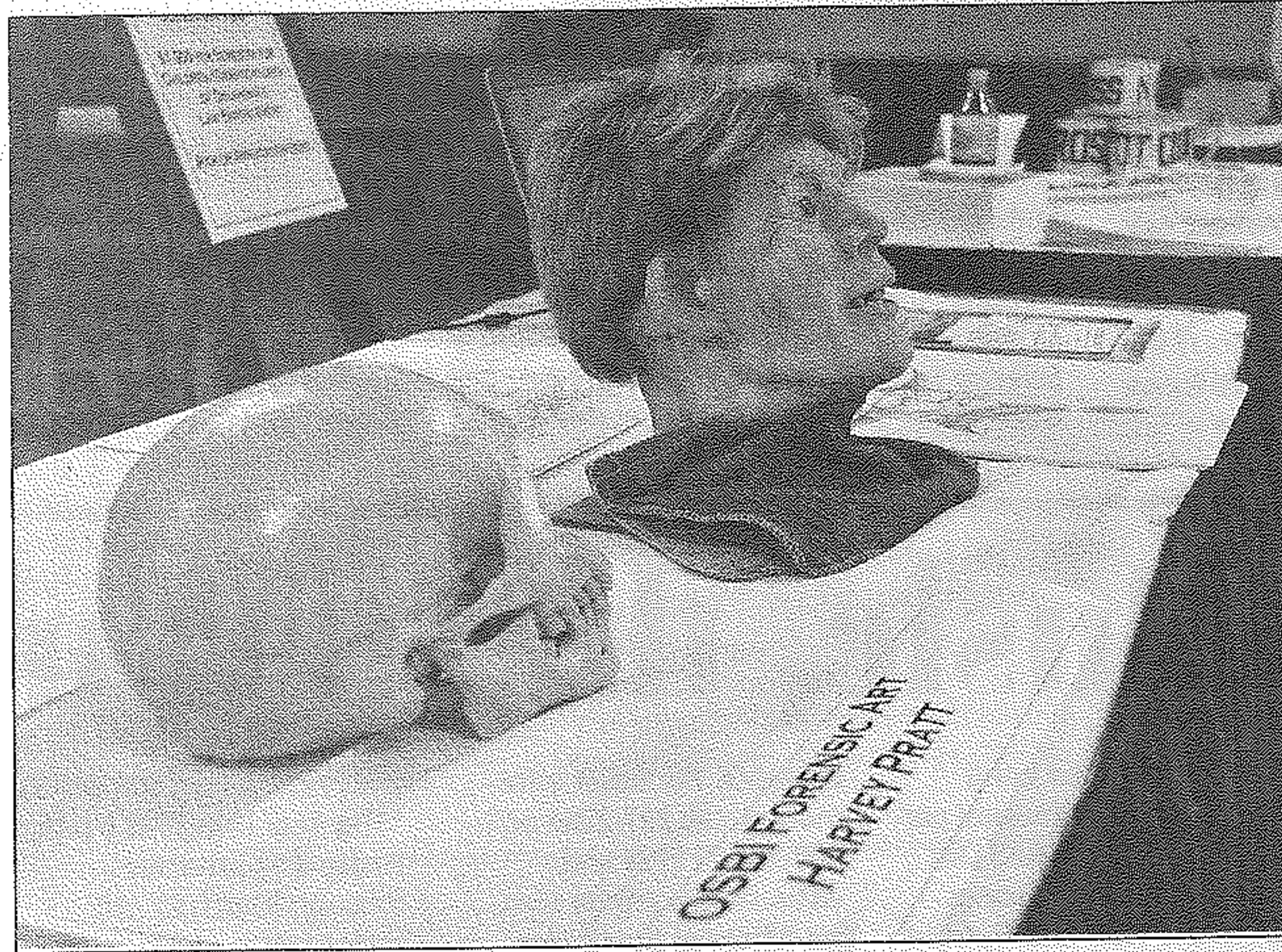
Students at the University of Central Oklahoma's Forensic Science Institute are learning from some world-class minds.

Associate Chemistry Professor Thomas Jourdan, the institute's assistant director, assisted in FBI bombing investigations including the World Trade Center, Atlanta's Olympic Park, the Unabomber and Oklahoma City Murrah Federal Building.

Associate Biology Professor Wayne Lord directed an FBI unit supporting investigations into complex crimes involving child abductions, child homicides, mysterious child disappearances and child sexual victimization.

Other faculty members bring experience in areas including digital forensics, child abduction, serial killer investigations, domestic and international terrorism and firearms evidence.

Dwight Adams, the institute's director, former director of the FBI Laboratory in Quantico, Va., talked about his colleagues and their impressive résumés Thursday morning during the two-day Oklahoma Law



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Work by Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation forensic reconstruction artist Harvey Pratt was on display at the University of Central Oklahoma law enforcement summit on Thursday.

Enforcement Summit, hosted by the UCO Forensic Science Institute.

Adams, a pioneer in DNA evidence, said Oklahoma is fortunate to have a facility like the UCO Forensic Science Institute, home to some of the best training in the field where law enforcement professionals can come for continuing education. UCO President W. Roger Webb has been a

great help in assembling faculty from around the country here in Oklahoma to lead the institute, Adams said.



Webb

bringing on board some outstanding talent," Adams

said.

Webb, who began his professional career in law enforcement with the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, told his peers that judgment is what will determine their success.

"Your success in your field, in the future, more than anything else, will be based upon the quality of your judgment," Webb said.

Individuals who have long careers in law enforcement are those who exercise good judgment, who have a spot-on moral compass and high ethical standards, Webb said.

"And that's the key. It's that simple," Webb said.

The Edmond Police Department is one of the institute's in-state partners. Police spokeswoman Glynda Chu said the department is proud to be a partner agency, and the department applauds the efforts of those who worked to bring the institute to Edmond and UCO.

Chu said forensic science is cutting-edge technology that helps close cases and provide justice for victims and their families.

"To have a Forensic Science Institute in our own city, and to be able to work in partnership with the facility, will prove beneficial for years to come, not just for Edmond, but for many cities statewide that will come to depend on the institute," Chu said.

For more information on UCO Forensic Science Institute, visit [www.uco.edu/forensics](http://www.uco.edu/forensics).

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