Figures indicate enrollment drop

By Tonya Crowell

Enrollment figures for the spring semester indicate a decrease in both the number of students enrolled and the number of students living on campus, according to David Patterson, director of admissions and financial aid.

Figures released for the spring semester indicate 2,200 students attending classes and 1,864 students enrolled in 12 credit hours or more.

"The Full Time Equivalency count is the lowest since the spring of 1984 and the headcount is the lowest since spring of 1980," said Patterson.

"Due to the decrease in enrollment and the number of students over the age of 21 who choose to live off campus, the number of students living on campus has shown a large decrease since last year," said Jones, housing clerk.

The number of students living in the dorms has dropped from 6,709 last year to 5,656 this year. The total number of dorm rooms is 1,000 with only 55 percent of those being occupied.

At the same time last year, 63 percent of those rooms were full, according to Jones.

While the fall dormitories on campus are at 56 percent occupancy, apartments are at 98 percent occupancy. Fifty-one of the 52 apartments are occupied compared to 24 out of 52 at this time last year.

"The number of students living in dormitories has decreased while at the same time, the number of students living in the apartments has increased," said Jones.

"The new fall applications for the 1994-95 school year are indicating an increase in students wanting to live both in the dorms and in our college apartments," said Jones.

During the 1992-93 school year the headcount for the spring semester was 2,279 students with 1,908 full time students.

The Mavora Band has scheduled a concert for Wednesday, according to Raylon Belew, coordinator of the events.

The high school instrumental will be the first of the two festivals on Wednesday, Feb. 3. At 7:30 p.m., the high school band will be the school band vocal on Thursday, Feb. 17.

"Conservatively, we'll probably have 2,500 students on campus in these two periods representing high school bands and choirs throughout the four-state area," said Belew.

"Many surrounding schools use our festival as a spring board into their regional festivals in early March," Belew said.

"The festivals on campus have a fine reputation and we are working hard to continue that. Many bands look forward to the festival because of that reputation."

"I am always surprised at how many students on this campus at present, not just part of our music performance organizations, were on our campus during their high school years and participated in our high school vocal and instrumental programs," said Belew.

"Thank you to faculty for allowing us to meet up your schedule and to the band directors, principals, and all of which you will put up with the students for these two days," said Belew.
Day of Love had humble beginnings

St. Valentine’s Day, celebrated on Monday, is the day when lovers, or good friends, send cards, flowers, candy or gifts. First observed in the middle ages, the Catholic Church martyred St. Valentine. The most important one is known only through the martyrology which he is rated with a group of believers. The other two, a priest of Rome and a Bishop of Interamna, are both said to have been beheaded by the Emperor Claudius II in A.D. 268.

The most plausible theory for St. Valentine’s Day traces its custom back to the Roman Lupercalia, a feast celebrated in honor of the god, Lupercus. The festival was important for the Romans. The names of young women were put into a box. Young men would then draw names and the match would be considered permanent for the year.

Other strange customs included plucking boy’s knees to each corner of a pillow with a faithful one placed to the center. You were then dream of your sweetheart.

The results?

You were either married to your “dream lover” within a year, or you had faithful, steady friends.

Oh, you might boil an egg, take out the yolks, fill it with salt, and before bedtime you would put the egg shell and all. I wouldn’t suggest this custom either. We’ve come a long way. We now have the custom which revolves around cards and many innovations, like chocolates and black boxers with little red hearts.

Seriously, it could be disastrous to not surprise your little darling with a little bit special. Something you have written yourself, like salt chocolates, something little and easy, or maybe even something made of lace.

A gift idea is to call a person and say, “Would you like to do dinner tonight?” The person may be your friend, a potential friend, or even your love interest. You can always hire someone else to clean the kitchen later.

Whatever you decide to do, dinner, dancing, whatever, have a safe and loving St. Valentine’s Day!

Kathy Wyrick

Red Cross issues thank you

Dear Editor:

The Ottawa County Chapter of the American Red Cross sends its warmest thanks to the students, faculty, and employees of NEO A&M College for their support in the Red Cross Bloodmobile Blood Drive held Jan. 27, in the Carter Student Union Ballroom.

You have made a huge contribution to the people who need it. Those who continually support the blood drives deserve special recognition for their donations; thank you to the volunteers who keep each station running smoothly. The Norse Wind for the advance publicity.

The Club for the sandwiches and homemade cookies. Vicki Coca-Cola and Wonder Bread for the refreshments that were served. Shirley Peterson for her time in coordinating the blood drives.

And to NEO for the use of their sign for advertising and the use of the Student Union Ballroom.

Congratulations to the winners of our T-shirt drawing held during the blood drive: Mark Kruse, a sophomore from Miami, and Andy Sexton, a freshman from Miami.

Barbara Reeves, Chapter Manager
Ottawa County Chapter
American Red Cross

Secret admirers languish in pain over Valentines

Governor Walters faces impeachment controversy

It seems that the walls of impeachment are slowly closing in on Oklahoma Governor David Walters.

House Democratic leaders began some behind-the-scenes polling last Monday to determine where the majority stands on the impeachment resolution going before the House.

The impeachment resolution comes despite one of the best State of the State addresses in Governor Walters’ tenure.

In his speech, Walters praised the lawmakers for their dedication and loyalty to the state.

Walters said, “Oklahomans would be so pleased. If I could somehow show them how many people there are in this chamber and in the government who are good and courageous and who only want to do great things for our state.”

Despite the best efforts he probably has ever made, House members are still wanting the impeachment resolution to pass.

The current polls show a slight lead for those against the impeachment than for those for. The only problem is that Walters may be losing road project funds to two lawmakers in his side, according to a published report in The Daily Oklahoman.

Whatever is to happen, the whole thing should be handled within the first 10 days of February.

The people of the State of Oklahoma deserve to have this issue brought to a close, one way or another.

Chris Frankse

Norse Wind

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Student copes with adversity

By Tina Spurgeon

In spite of a physical difficulty, Thompson has a great outlook on life. "I have cerebral palsy. I've been this way all of my life. I don't look for help from others because I am the way I am, but if someone offers their help, that's great!" Thompson said.

"I don't turn them down. I don't like pity and I don't expect people to give it to me," said Thompson.

He is a member of N.O.R.'s Physically Challenged Student Association, which started last year.

We meet once a week to heighten awareness and to try to make things more consistent for the physically challenged," Thompson said.

With the help of the Physically Challenged Student Association, N.O.R. should become more sensitive of the inaccessibility of the campus for the physically challenged.

February features President's birthdays

By Kathy Wyrick

February might hold the distinction of being the shortest month of the year, but more importantly it features the birthdays of four American presidents.

Our names first president, George Washington, was born Feb. 22, 1732 in Westmoreland County, Va. He served as president from 1789 to 1797.

In 1775, the American Revolution began, and Washington was named Commander-in-Chief of the American Army.

After the war was over, men from various states met and drew up a plan for governing the colonies.

The plan was the Constitution of the United States, which called for a strong central government and a president to represent all the people.

Washington was elected to this office.

He served two terms as president and is known as "the Father of Our Country." He died Dec. 14, 1799.

The sixth president of the United States was William Henry Harrison, born Feb. 9, 1773, in Berkeley, Va.

He served as president for one month in 1841.

The newly elected president refused to wear an overcoat at a cold and rainy inaugural, and as a result, he came down with pneumonia and died on April 4, 1841.

He was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He fathered 17 children. His grandson, Benjamin, became America's 23rd president.

Our 16th president was Abraham Lincoln, born Feb. 12, 1809 in Hardin County, Ky.

He was president from 1861 to 1865. He was born as one of the "great presidents."

By the time Lincoln took office in March of 1861, several southern states had left the Union. Southern soldiers fired on Fort Sumner in Charleston, S.C., on April 12, 1861.

The American Civil War was the bloodiest in our history and lasted four years.

On Jan. 1, 1863, Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation giving freedom to the slaves in the South.

While serving a second term, Lincoln attended a performance of "Our American Cousin" at Ford's Theatre in Washington. A shot rang out and the president slumped in his chair.

He had been shot by well-known actor, John Wilkes Booth. He died the next day, on April 15, 1865.

The 40th president of the United States was Ronald Reagan, born Feb. 6, 1911, in Tampico, Ill.

He was president from 1981 to 1989. Reagan was known for his talent on the football field and his acting career.

On the day of his inauguration in 1981, the nation also celebrated the release of 52 Americans who had been held hostage by the Iranian government for 444 days.

The Learning Center adopts tutor hours for students

If you are one of the many students who are having problems in any of your classes, it would be a good investment to check into the free tutoring services offered at The Learning Center.

The Learning Center offers drop-in tutoring Monday through Thursday, and Sundays beginning Feb. 13.

Math tutoring is from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

Psychology tutoring is from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday.

Chemistry tutoring is from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Monday and Wednesday.

The Learning Center computer lab is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

The Friday hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Single mothers taking the fall

By Kathy Wysocki

According to a recent USA Today article, "End Welfare for Single Women Having Child- ren," William Bennett, co-director, and Peter Wallach, policy director of Empower America, belas that any welfare should be dropped for single mothers.

They feel the system is a complete failure and all we have to show for it is a larger underclass, more violence, more poorly educated Americans and more single-parent families.

I agree that the system is being abused by a few who are stupid enough to just keep having kids so they can collect even more welfare, but I feel the above paragraph is totally under the mercy of welfare recipients.

Instead of picking on single women who are raising children, maybe these people should spend time in our shoes and examine why some women need the help.

The only way to get out of abusive relationships is not only to get the woman, but her children. Also, it’s not only abuse from spouses, but from employers who practice humiliating and harming single women.

If not for the help of the welfare system, many women and children would still be living with a man who beat them or child or have a female or child under their power.

A female who works hard to stay off of welfare, often has to put up with overbearing employers who are not very tolerant of her because she knows she needs the job.

This is not right! A woman should have a choice and a way out if this is happening to her.

I don’t understand why people think the welfare is to blame for the increasing single parents birth rates.

I feel a lot of it is due to the way the current system is set up. Kids are influenced by what they hear and see. Poor pressure has a lot to do with it, also.

Most single mothers are devastated to find they are pregnant. They are not jumping up and down, clapping their hands because they will get an extra dollar or two a month. It takes more care for a baby than the little extra you get from welfare.

Many women who have children go through a lot of abuse and embarrassment before deciding they’ve had enough and turn to the welfare system.

These women are trying to get themselves and their children off of a bad situation. They go back to school and try to get on their own two feet with better paying jobs.

If these laws that want to take welfare away from these families had their way, many women and children would suffer.

As long as there are promiscuous men telling loving little white lies, there will be single mothers.

It’s not all the woman’s fault, but more often than not the women and child will be the one who suffers. Not the fathers and not the "come with something stupid" people in higher offices.

I’ll even admit there are someDesperate, upstanding men who take responsibility. But I feel the majority of men will do whatever and say whatever to "score another notch on his belt."

Why don’t all these big wigs take a look into this type of situation? Male pride and ego are carried too far in this country.

The psychology of this great country to work on the people [men] who actually need it, and the birth rate, among, and the amount of welfare handed out might drastically decrease.

I’ll even admit there are some women who are stupid enough to think it’s easier to go through childbirth and hand out food stamps, at the local market than it would be to take a job or keep a job.

But that has to be a much lower number than what these men are trying to make it sound like.

President Clinton agrees with the article, but did ask if it would morally right to carry it out.

The article states: "Republicans should propose in this coming formal session to end welfare for anyone having a child out of wedlock."

"Our preference is to end, once after the legislation is passed, all forms of economic support for single mothers who have new children, including AFDC payments, subsidized housing and food stamps."

To end subsidized housing, means these people would have to go back to living in rundown, dilapidated homes because organizations like HUD wouldn’t be making sure the houses were safe and kept up.

Bad electric wires would cause more fires, bad plumbing would cause more disease, and dirty bathrooms would cause more sickness.

This would develop into more hospital bills, higher heating bills, and other negative possibilities.

Taking away AFDC payments means a lot less of everything a family needs. Welfare recipients aren’t getting for free accounts, they’re barely getting by.

It would make a lot of women drop out of school and suffer through low paying jobs or going back to abusive relationships for little or no help.

Doing away with food stamps would mean families who can’t or won’t get as well as or as often.

The abortion rate would go up.

Do you honestly think sex is going to stop just because welfare is reduced? AIDs hasn’t stopped it. We find more newborns in trash bins than we would ever see in our hospitals.

This society would more fully accept these jocks than they would a woman who is trying to do better for herself and her children.

Public television covers Black History awareness month

As part of the observance of Black History Month, PBS and cable stations are offering some quality programs.

These programs could be helpful to students who are taking history or government classes.

HBO will air Spike Lee’s, Malcolm X, black comedy specials and parts of acclaimed memories, Law and Order.

Cinemax has a line up of black directors’ films, including Mario Van Peebles’, New Jack City.

PBS programs include a movie detailing the legal struggle of the Supreme Court’s Brown v. the Board of Education: A Question of Color, which explores the impact of physical features on class systems, Feb. 15; the documentary Against the Odds: The Action of the Harlan Renaissance, Feb. 16; and a tribute to composer Jilly Bell Morton, Feb. 21.

Race to Freedom: The Story of the Underground Railroad, an original movie about blacks who fled the South in the mid-1850s, will air Feb. 19, simultaneously on Black Entertainment Television and the Family Channel.

Showtime will present several programs, including the original movie, Assailant at West Point Feb. 27.

TBS will present in South annual panel discussion featuring black leaders, Feb. 26. The topic is youth violence in a black community.

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Editorial

Basketball squads need your support

Once a Norman. Always a Norman.
If that's the motto this college was built on, then why don't we (the student body) make that motto come to life.
Backed by a tradition unsurpassed by any junior college in the nation, it is time for NEO students to start carrying on the same tradition.
With the successful athletic programs that we have, it is a shame that we can't get more people to attend the home games.
We have the number-three ranked women's team and fourth-ranked men's team in the country.
It doesn't take that much effort to walk 500 yards to the gym for three to four hours of basketball, and you never know, you may even enjoy yourself when you get there.
When we took a trip to Warner on Jan. 27, a game which the guys who were ranked number-one at the time happened to lose, Connors State had a packed house.
After that game I talked to some of the players about how the hostile crowd affected them. The reply was it was hard to concentrate and it would really be nice to see some of our fans turn out like this.
I would hope that in a game that is in all probability will be for the conference championship for both teams, we will support them by being vocal and showing some school spirit.
A hostile crowd that yells for the Golden Norse in good times and bad will probably help them out more than a crowd that just yells when you see a good dunk or when the band plays the fight song.
Special arrangements have been made to accommodate 5 A's so that everyone can go to the game. Why don't you take advantage of your student activities fee money. Put it to good use and support NEO basketball.
So on Monday night at 6 p.m. why don't we get over and support our team in their final home game of the year.
Let's show them that we do want them to do well and carry on that once strong tradition that seems to be fading more and more.
The admission is free with a valid ID, so let's Go Go Norse.

Baseball schedule features variety

Coming off a season that ended in a trip to the Junior College World Series, the Golden Norse hope to improve with a solid nucleus of sophomores coming back.
Coach Rick Ritchel's 1993 squad won 12 of their last 14 games and finished third in the Junior College World Series with a 30-27 overall record.
Improved team speed and a good recruiting class of pitchers should help the Golden Norse this season.
"I feel we should be solid both offensively and defensively because of our improved team speed," said Ritchel. "We picked up a couple of hard-throwing right-handers," Ritchel said.
The Norse open the season in the annual Texas State Tournament at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas on Feb. 28-29.
The remainder of the schedule is as follows:
March-Jr Western Oklahoma: 3-Coffeyville, 7-Bacon, 10-at Western Oklahoma; 12-at Texarkana, 13-at Texarkana, 14-at Texarkana, 15-at Texarkana, 16-at Texarkana, 17-at Texarkana, 18-at Texarkana, 19-at Texarkana.
May 1: Junior College World Series.
New Bulbs

LET'S TALK

First base coach Eric Verrier has a discussion with baserunner Robert Nutting during a game at Horn Thomas Field. Weather permitting, the Golden Norse would like to get out side for some workouts before the start of the 1994 season. Coach Rick Ritchel's Norse finished fifth last year in the Junior College World Series in Grand Junction, Colo.

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Men extend streak to five games

By Chad Greidt
Sports Editor

With the end of the regular season two weeks away, the fourth-ranked Golden Norse basketball team has posted five straight victories.

Prior to Thursday's conference game at Eastern Oklahoma College in Wilburton, coach Lonnie Spencer's Norsemen stood 22-3 on the season and 5-1 in the Eastern Division of the Bi-State Conference.

The Norsemen will close out the home portion of the schedule Monday by hosting tenth-ranked Comron State College at 8 p.m. in the NEO Fieldhouse.

NEO travels to Fort Smith, Ark. Thursday for a rematch with Western Community College. Golden Norse 76-Falcon 59

Taking advantage of almost 60 percent shooting from the field, the Norsemen gained a 70-59 victory over the Owls in Muskogee last Monday. Backed by a three-pointer by Ron Bass and two by Shane Williams the Golden Norse built a 26-15 lead with 8:17 to go in the half. However the Warriors cut the halftime deficit to 16-28 for an eight point halftime Norse lead. Those straight 3-Point goals cut the lead to four at 43-45 with 11:06 left.

Kevin Joseph led the Golden Norse with 21 points while Ray Agueda had 18. Charles Scott had 16, 13, and 11 points respectively. Malcolm Patterson led all scorers with 25 and Sedal Nceippighad added 10 points.

Golden Norse 62-State Fair 54

NEO put on one of its worst offensive showings of the year but hung on with good defense to defeat State Fair Community College 62-54 last Saturday in Sedalia, Mo.

Ladies slip one spot in NJCAA rankings

After sustaining only their second loss on the season, the Lady Norse slipped from second to third in the weekly National Junior College Athletic Association poll.

Coach Randy Gibson's Lady Norse stood 21-2 on the season prior to Thursday's game at Eastern.

The Lady Norse will host Crowder College, Saturday, for a 7 p.m. non-conference game. The Lady Norse return home Monday for a 6:30 p.m. rematch with Comron State before traveling to Fort Smith, Ark. Thursday for a conference game with number one ranked Western.

Lady Norse 76-Bacon 67

Backed by 30 points from Latcha Byars the Lady Norse held off a late Bacon rally to earn a 76-67 win over the Lady Warriors last Monday in Muskogee.

The Lady Norse jumped out to a 13-2 lead with Latcha Byars firing for seven points and Lashai Gainer four.

By halftime Byars had scored 25 points to boost the Norse lead to 43-28. Besides Byars 31, Gainer had 15 and Tonya Williams had 13 points. "We lost to the best team in the state but they are not unbeatable, people need to realize they had a win on the board," said Gibson.

Guarda Norisha Willis and Allison Marris led four Norse players in double figures with 13 points each. "Our kids have a lot of heart," added Gibson.

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The Golden Norse shot just 31 percent, while holding the Roadrunners to a 32 percent shooting night.

Williams led the Golden Norse with 17 points while Pendexter and State Road added 16 points each.

Chuck Johnson led all scorers with 19 points.

Golden Norse 64-Car Albert 70

With 12 players scoring, the Norsemen rolled to a 64-50 victory last week over Carl Albert Community College in Bi-State Conference play.

Williams scored 21 points and Scott, Pendexter, and Lanchford added 15 points each and Brian Morgan produced 11 points. Patrick Lee led Carl Albert with 25 points.

GOING TO THE HOOP

Sophomore guard Shane Williams studies the defensive alignment as he drives past the lane by State Fair's Doug Barr. Williams is a vital part of the Golden Norse team which has compiled a 23-2 season record and currently ranked fourth by the National Junior College Athletic Association.

Photo by Alexa Cline

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The Norsewind – the NEO A&M College Newspaper

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