Almost Paradise arrives for Spring Fling week

By Kellie Blount

Students, faculty, staff and administrators are invited to participate in the annual Spring Fling Weekend starting Monday and continuing through Thursday. Sponsored by the Student Body Government, the Almost Paradise activities are free and open to all students.

The annual event will begin outside on Monday, with the Human Yo-Yo Exhibits. The yo-yo's will be available on the main area from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. These toys will include oversized yo-yos, human dart board and yo-yo wrestling.

A live dance will highlight Tuesday with the Wild Video Dance Party beginning at 9 p.m. at the intramural gym.

The dance will feature a giant video screen which will display various kinds of current videos, said Chris Davis, organizer of the event.

Student Body Government officers will take place between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the Carter Student Unionoyer on Wednesday.

Filing for the offices of president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and two senators-at-large was completed just prior to press time.

Anyone interested in attending the annual Student Body Government banquet scheduled for 6 p.m. Wednesday should make reservations by 7 p.m. on Monday. Cost for the meal is $5 per person. Reservations can be made by calling ext. 6893.

The banquet will feature local and regional food and refreshments. The event will be held at 6 p.m. in the intramural gym. The banquet is open to all students.

The Student Body Government officers will be elected during the banquet.

Highlight of the banquet will be the introduction of newly elected officers. The banquet will feature chicken club salad.

The Almost Paradise festivities will conclude Thursday with a free bowling alley at the Miami Placid Lane located at 555 N. Hurricane Street.

"We're proud of the annual bowling alley, which is open continuously from noon to 2 a.m. during the week. And if you're looking for a good time, you're certain to have one!

Students make trip to Washington D.C.

By Kellie Blount

Eighteen members of the Mu chapter of Phi Beta Kappa will be leaving Wednesday to attend the PEO International Conference in Washington, D.C.

"Along with attending sessions focused on academic information, some of the students will participate in international competition," said Carol Smith, chapter advisor.

Entering the debate category are Chris Davis, sophomore,conomics; and Julie Prince, sophomore, Woodruff.

Entering the writing category are Tony Harris, sophomore, Grove; Donna Pearson, sophomore, Fairland; and Joe Don Roey, sophomore, Picher.

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Entering the writing category are Tony Harris, sophomore, Grove; Donna Pearson, sophomore, Fairland; and Joe Don Roey, sophomore, Picher.

Entering the music category are Kerri Blount, sophomore, Woodward; and John Jones, freshman, Woodward.

Entering the art category are Tony Harris, sophomore, Woodward; and Joe Don Roey, sophomore, Picher.

Entering the musical category are Kerri Blount, sophomore, Woodward; and John Jones, freshman, Woodward.

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Entering the musical category are Kerri Blount, sophomore, Woodward; and John Jones, freshman, Woodward.

Special thanks to Emily Tyson, senior, Miami; and Stephanie Wood, freshman, Miami.

Job Fair scheduled

All students are invited to participate in the annual Career Day Job Fair scheduled for 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, April 19, in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Students interested in employment should have a resume and be prepared to fill out applications.
Survey shows public support for higher education still a priority

Oklahomans believe in the value of public higher education, but are concerned about the funding for higher education.

Those are the findings of a survey that assessed the public’s perception of and satisfaction with Oklahoma public higher education. The survey results show 95 percent of the respondents believe college education helps prepare people for a better job, but only 95 percent think that Oklahoma public higher education is adequately funded.

The statewide telephone survey, conducted for the Higher Education Alumni Association of Oklahoma, also revealed how Oklahomans rank the importance of five state services.

Respondents ranked public schools first, Oklahoma colleges and Universities second, human services and welfare third, highways fourth, and corrections fifth.

The survey shows Oklahoma believes higher education benefits communities, business and industry and the state. Of the 700 respondents, 94 percent said Oklahoma benefited from having college graduates in their communities. 91 percent said Oklahoma benefited from having college graduates in the workforce. 85 percent said Oklahoma colleges and universities help advance the state economically, and 79 percent said Oklahoma businesses benefit by hiring Oklahoma graduates as opposed to hiring graduates from other states.

According to the survey, Oklahomans are concerned about the cost and affordability of higher education even though two-thirds of the respondents believe it is a wise investment. The survey found 84 percent of the respondents believe Oklahoma colleges and universities are adequately funded.

Shyly more than half said Oklahoma public colleges and universities offer adequate financial aid. Thirty percent of the respondents believe Oklahoma colleges and universities offer too little financial aid. According to the survey, the $43 million in higher education funding that the State Regents proposed to increase educational funding by $43 million.

Thirty percent of the respondents believe Oklahoma colleges and universities offer too many financial aid opportunities. Forty percent of the respondents think Oklahoma colleges and universities have worked to bring down administrative costs. Helton said, “The results of these efforts, administrative costs in a percentage of higher education’s budget have been reduced 55 percent over the last three years and are now 78 percent of the national average.”

Survey responses did not differ significantly by respondents’ income level, education level, gender or area of the state.

The telephone survey, conducted by Jordan Associates of Oklahoma City, contacted 750 adults, ages 18-65.

The results of the survey were made available to the general public through the offices of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

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Offensive line lacks experience

Editor’s note: This is the third of five articles concerning spring football drills by the Golden Norsemen.

By David Beckham

Meloney through spring football drills, coach Mike Loyd is confident that he has two players who will step up and become leaders on an otherwise young and inexperienced offensive line.

Last season the Golden Norse offensive line averaged 425 yards per game. The team also averaged 255 rushing yards per game, in addition to 168.4 passing yards per game.

"Right now we’re expecting big things from Chad Felts and Mitch Minnick. Felts started several games for us last year and Minnick received quite a bit of playing time also," said Loyd. Felts (6-2. 283) Perry, Minnick (6-3, 308), irrigating, and Eric Thompson (6-3, 308), Raleigh, N.C.) are expected to compete at the tackle positions.

Ryan Delgadillo (6-1, 272), McNair, who is making the transition from defensive tackle, and Eric Rhodes (6-2, 215), Miami, who was a medical red-shirt last season due to a knee injury, will be at the guard positions. Senior ferry (6-3, 298), Conway) will handle the center duties.

"We feel like we have six or seven kids over there right now doing a pretty good job and we will be adequate in the spring," Loyd said. "We’ve got eight freshmen coming in this fall who we’ve got high on. When it all said and done, the offensive line could be one of the strong points of our football team." "If you can come out of spring workouts at this level with your top five or six, and hopefully they’re sophomores, or kids who have been in the program going into their second year, I think that’s beneficial. That’s what we’re trying to do.

"I think the only thing that could be considered a weakness on our line is the experience factor in playing an actual game is the overall weakness." "At the tackle position, in addition to Felts and Minnick, Eric Thompson is really coming on strong. He’s showing good spring. We also expect Delgadillo, Ferrin, and Rhodes to become good players.

The Golden Norse continue spring drills through the first week of May.

Rodeo team competes in sanctioned events

By David Grace

During the last three weeks the college rodeo team has competed in National Inter-High School Rodeo Association-sanctioned events in Fort Scott, Kan., Atoka, and last weekend in Weatherford.

Although the team did not have any individual placers during the Fort Scott rodeo, several team members were down amongst the top three.

Among the individuals of the Western Oklahoma College rodeo in Atoka were Cody Broom, a sophomore from Woodward, placing third in the breakaway in the long go, and third in the average; in the team spring breakaway, a sophomore from Sweet Springs, Mo., and Scott Dively, a sophomore from Folsom, ranking third in the long go.

The team’s next competition will take place in the Panhandle State University rodeo in Garden City. The rodeo will come to an end Sunday.

Next weekend the team travels to Garden City, Kan., for the Garden City Community College invitational rodeo.

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**Norse Wind**

**SPORTS**

**Lady Riders hand Lady Norse two losses**

Running into the exceptional pitching of sophomore right-hander Dyer Lanning, the Lady Norse suffered a double-header loss to Crowder Community College, Monday afternoon, in Neosho, Mo.

Facing with playing four consecutive double-headers, coach Eric Berron’s Lady Norse went 1-4 following the sweep at Neosho. The Lady Riders improved to 19-6 on the season.

The Lady Norse returned home for double-headers with Matteo on Tuesday and Eastern Oklahoma on Wednesday before traveling to Shawnee on Thursday to face St. Gregory.

After winning Tuesday’s two games over Nebraska, the Lady Norse came home Thursday for a 2:30 double-header withCornell State.

The Lady Norse journey to Tula on Thursday for a double-header with Northeastern State.

“We didn’t play well at Crowder. Their pitcher was throwing in the 60s all day and we just couldn’t catch up to her. We surrendered hitting the bases but nothing seemed to work,” said Berron.

During the first game, Lanning struck out 10 batters while giving up just one hit to NEOS’s Alex Schmitt.

The Lady Norse had a runner reach third base in the top of the fifth inning for their best scoring opportunity. Shonn Kerr reached on an error and was sacrificed to third by Dana Hubbard and Mary A. Fiddler. But Corn State struck out to end the threat.

Freshman right-hander Stacey Versland held Crowder scoreless through five innings on one hit with two singles with six strike outs. A leadoff walk to Stacey Brown in the bottom of the sixth inning started the Crowder rally. After a sacrifice bunt by Casey Dugger, Tina Ritch reached on a throwing error by McGuire as Rosier scored. Lanning followed with a single as Dugger reached around to score. Hubbard pitched the second game for the Lady Norse and gave up a run in the bottom of the second inning on a single by Kathy Shoff. A walk to Dana Copeland and an RBI single by Karen Pemberton.

With one out in the top of the fourth inning, the Lady Norse tied the score. McGuire singled to right. After stealing second and third, McGuire scored on a sacrifice fly by Dana Copeland. Lanning tripled to start a two-run sixth inning for the Lady Riders. Shoff reached on an error as Lanning scored. Pemberton walked before Shoff scored on an RBI single by Linda Hunter.

Along with singles by McGuire and Fiddler, the Lady Norse scored on an error by Kelly Parks.

Hunter paused the Lady Riders with two singles.

**HERE IT COMES**

Freshman right-hander Stacey Versland delivers a pitch from the mound on the NEOS diamond. Versland leads the Lady Norse pitching staff with a 12-2 record.

**Norsemen suffer three straight setbacks**

After exploding for 8 runs in the opening inning during an 8-4 drubbing of St. Gregory’s College, the Norsemen pitching staff surrendered 35 runs during a three-game losing streak.

Prior to a double header on Wednesday with Coffeyville, Kan., coach Rich Rookies’ Norsemen stood 10-10 on the season and 4-4 in the Kansas State Athletic Conference.

Following St. Gregory’s last Thursday at Homer Thomas Field, the Goka Norse dropped a 14-4 decision to the Cougars. Traveling to Warner on Saturday to face the B-A ranked Connors State Cougars, the Norsemen collected 12-4 and 9-0 doubleheader losses.

The Golden Norsemen started a three-game road trip Thursday in El Dorado, Kan. for a double header with Butler Community College.

NEOS will visit Midwest City on Sunday for a noon doubleheader with Rose State. Returning home on Monday, the Norsemen are scheduled to make a double-header with the Cougars.

The Norse enter Eastern Oklahoma College in a 1 p.m.

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