Ground breaking in Grove for NEO higher learning facility

James O'Neal
Managing Editor
Over 50 people were on hand last Friday at the Grove Business Park for ground breaking ceremonies for the NEO/Grove Higher Education Center. The 10,000 square foot facility is expected to be under construction for 286 days, at the estimated cost of $800,000.

The City of Grove will be providing approximately $300,000 to build the facility, coupled with a $500,000 legislative appropriation secured by Senator Rick Littlefield. The construction contract was awarded to Crossland Construction Company of Columbus, Kan.

According to the general contractor, there has been a setback in competition time from the original date, because of high ground moisture of the area. If delays in weather and production of the site arrangements have been made with Grove High School to teach additional classes until the project is completed.

The center will contain a computer lab, a double classroom with theater-type seating, three traditional classrooms, and access to interactive television courses. "This will be the education center that will certainly provide a boost in the future economic possibilities of the area as well as making higher education accessible to those in the area who have not been able to pursue a college education up to this point," Sen. Littlefield said.

Officers from NEO will be conducting a survey in the Grove area in order to get an idea of what courses and programs will be best for the communities needs.

Local businesses, high schools, and adults interested in continuing their education are to be the focus group for the survey.

“We want to get a better feel for what those in business and industry need in the way of employee training as well as what the general public of Grove and the surrounding communities feel would be good academic programs to offer,” said NEO President Dr. Glenn E. Maye.

Some speakers at the ground breaking ceremony included Glenn E Maye, NEO president; State Sen. Rick Littlefield, and Gary Clark, president of the Board of Regents for Oklahoma State University and A&M Colleges.

GROUNDBREAKING

Those participating in the NEO/Grove Higher Education Center groundbreaking include: left, Joe Nicely, GIDA; Charles Perry, Grove Mayor; Marcus Cox, Crossland Construction; Dennis Grover, architect; Dr. Glenn Maye, NEO president; Sen. Rick Littlefield; Dr. Jim Lovett, Vice President of Academic Affairs; Richard Vail, Grove city manager; Gary Clark, OSU A&M Regents; Sen. Joe Hutchinson, and Dr. Betty Brock, Grove.

Native American students to hold fundraiser today

James O'Neal
Managing Editor
The Native American Student Association is holding a special fundraising event today in the Bruce G. Carter Student Union. Those participating in the NASA group will be selling raffle tickets in the student union to help raise money for the organization. The winner’s name and number will be posted on the marquee located in the center of the marquee.

The winner is to report to DeMoss Games office located in room 113 in the Music Hall building. The funds will go towards various activities that will be held by the Native American Student Association later in the year.

The funding will allow the organization to immerse its members in the Native American Culture by holding a pow-wow, showing films, and listening to various speakers share their knowledge of their heritage.

Students may call 540-6320 for more information.
Iraq needs message

By Billy Bury
Editorial Editor

Once again our nation is embroiled in a battle, one for democracy, one for freedom, one for world wide sanity.

It seems that Saddam Hussein has decided to defy the United Nations by not allowing them to inspect sites that may be used for production and or housing of chemical weapons. This is not a big thing of the U.N. to ask of Hussein, because he said seven years ago that he would allow U.N. inspections as part of the cease-fire from Desert Storm. It seems now that he only meant for a while and that only at a select few sites. He must not be allowed to pick and choose the terms of his defeat, and that's the bitter line of all of this mess.

Saddam is not a man in touch with reality. He still insists that he won the Gulf war, and he had his own son-in-law killed. How can any sane man have his daughters husband killed? The men was a part of his family. Saddam is also the same man who tortured his own people and even used chemical weapons against them.

Do you honestly think that this man will not hesitate to use these same weapons against us? The U.S. position is that he must not be allowed to manufacture or stockpile these or any weapons. But that consensus seems to be shared by less than we would hope for.

Russia says that we should not use military action but diplomatic action to solve this problem. There is also evidence that Russia may have sold the Iraqis materials that could be used in the production of chemical weapons. Think we've got terror out there in the desert, wrong sign say that some desert nations might be angered by our actions thus straining diplomatic actions.

How is this possible? How can we be the good guys but still look bad? Its the image given to the rest of the world. Hussein says that they are just a little country trying to defend itself and we are a big bad superpower trying to control them and the world.

Saddam is trying to tell the world that Americans don't care about the will of the world, that we will continue to do what we choose no matter the circumstances.

The man is trying to save his regime by making a war, he knows that a war could possibly give him the sympathy he needs to lift his improvised nation out of U.N. sanctions. America is simply asking that he live up to his promises and not be allowed to stockpile deadly weapons.

We simply state that he is dangerous, and that given time he will use those weapons against someone. He could possibly start selling chemical weapons to terrorists and let them unleash the terror. Nations like Iraq cannot be allowed to continue to thumb their noses at the world and tell them that they will do whatever they wish because we can't back up our demands.

Video just sapped the charm out of sock puppet teaching aids.
Regents approve $388 million capital improvement plan for higher learning

James O'Neal
Managing Editor

A total of $387.7 million for upgrading and repairing state colleges, universities, and higher education center campuses was recently outlined in a plan approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

The plan, which was approved by the regents on Feb. 6, was submitted to the State Facility Capital Needs Committee.

The legislative committee oversees the maintenance and expansion of state facilities for consideration during the state's legislative session.

The funding for the plan is targeted to specific top priority projects. It is expected that the projects will generate more than $175 million in matching funds from other sources, bringing the total improvement sum to an estimated $504.7 million.

"With the assistance of college and university leaders, we have put together a plan that addresses specific, high priority capital needs on our campuses," said Chancellor Tom Bunch.

"And since some of the projects are eligible for matching funds, the plan also includes a new $1.5 million in capital improvement needs on state college and university campuses, $505.5 million of that sum has been identified as requiring state funding. The plan will address the highest priority capital projects.

"The projects directly support enhancement of library services, renovation of existing space for academic or research use, and will address health and safety concerns involving disabled students.

"Specifically, the request includes $50.3 million for use in technology and library renovation projects. For instance, institutions have requested funding to automate student services, upgrade computers and information networks, and purchasing interactive teaching systems.

"There have been requests for funding to be used towards upgrades on computerized card catalog systems and multi-media equipment in their libraries.

"Oklahoma higher education has made significant progress over the past few years in incorporating technology into the state's colleges and universities," Bunch said.

"But we must continue to invest in technology if we are to meet the changing needs of Oklahomans.

"Demographic projections for the next decade indicate that Oklahoma will experience a shift in population and an increase in older, place-bound students," said Bunch.

"Technology is the key to providing convenient access to higher education programs and services in a cost-efficient manner.

"In addition, $75.5 million is planned for renovations of existing space to accommodate classrooms and laboratories.

"The request also calls for $177.7 million to be used for construction of new classroom and laboratory space, such as facilities needed for science and technology in agriculture.

"Higher education is enhancing its role as a lead partner in economic development efforts," said state Regents Chairman Robert L. McCormick.

"We must have the classroom and laboratory space necessary to support the creation and expansion of programs that support high tech industries," McCormick added.

"An estimated $330 million is planned for use in infrastructure improvements, such as upgrading central plant systems, improving efficiency and energy savings.

"Additional projects include structural restoration, repair of the repair of streets, parking lots, and sidewalks. Also requested is $18.9 million for use in critical maintenance and repairs to electrical, plumbing, and heating/cooling systems.

"Additional funding will be used to meet Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.

"In addition, the plan will allow $16.3 million to be used for other capital needs such as equipment for support services.

"If we put off investing in our campuses, we will face not only the much higher costs of replacement in the future, but also the very likely possibility that we will not have the equipment and facilities to adequately prepare Oklahomans for the 21st century workforce," McCormick said.

"The capital improvement plan was a result of ongoing interaction between the State Regents Chancellor and staff, a council of the 25 state colleges and universities, and other institutional representatives.
Blacks tamed west

By Billy Buoy
Corresponding writer

Blacks played an important role in the development of America, and the American Frontier.

One of the groups most instrumental in this development was black military regiments known as the "Buffalo Soldiers".

These regiments consisted of the 7th and 9th and the 24th and 25th infantry.

Blacks serving in these regiments were the first to serve the U.S. Army in peace-time, before blacks only served in war.

Between July 1866 and April 1867, six regiments of blacks were enlisted, these regiments were the 9th and 10th cavalry and the 24th and 25th infantry.

Because their fighting spirit reminded them of the buffalo, their duties on the frontier were to protect civilians from Indian tribes.

While the early 1900s blacks consisted 20 per cent of all cavalry forces on the American frontier.

Their adventures consisted of protecting settlers, fighting with the Comanches, and participating in the Spanish-American War.

Buffalo Soldiers participated in the charge that secured San Juan Hill, along with future President Theodore Roosevelt.

After the Spanish-American War wars they participated in多次国家公园的巡逻，包括约塞米蒂国家公园，包括约塞米蒂国家公园，以及在Fort Sill的联合任务。

Rucker has NEO history

James O’Neil
Managing Editor

Placing the highest priority has been the search for Jack Rucker, head of the Communications Department.

Rucker began his education at Adelphi University, where he received a Baccalaureate in English.

Rucker has a long history with the school, serving in various capacities.

In 1954, Rucker was hired as an English instructor.

Rucker was also in charge of the school’s newspaper, the "The Bead Closet".

"I took over the men's basketball team when Red Robertson, the head basketball coach had a heart attack."

"I was the track coach from 1956 until 1960, as well as coaching tennis for one year."

"I believe that our main objective of NEO is to meet the needs of the students."

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Grant, and the Bead Closet.

They planted the parks until the National Parks Service was created in 1876.

In 1903 the ninth cavalry served as the guard of honor when President Theodore Roosevelt visited San Francisco, marking the first time a black cavalry unit served as escort to a President.

Throughout their existence, black regiments had lower rates of alcoholism, and were three times less likely to desert than their white counterparts.

Throughout their history, 23 congressional medals of honors were given to the "Buffalo Soldiers".

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Lady Norse split Bi-State games

By John Fennell

Failing short on their upset effort, the Lady Norse were defeated for the second time this season by the nationally ranked and undefeated Conners State Cowgirls. With the win, the Cowgirls clinched the Bi-State East Athletic Conference title. Head coach Randy Gibson's Lady Norse fell to 3-4 in conference and 15-12 overall.

The Norse travel to Northpark on Feb. 23 to take on the twenty-third ranked Lady Pioneers. The Lady Norse return home on Feb. 26 to close out the regular season schedule against Bonacci.

Conners St. Vs. Lady Norse St.

Playing even with Conners State, the Lady Norse only trailed 10-9 through the first five minutes, on 3-point field goals by Americia Floyd and Adrienne Everett, along with two free throws by Kaisha Battle. Later in half the Cowgirls pulled out to a 16-18 lead with 6:31 until halftime.

A pair of 3-point field goals by Everett along with four points by Americia Floyd relayed the Lady Norse to a 28-32 deficit with 2:12 before intermission.

Going into the half, the Lady Norse trailed the Cowgirls 36-28. Helping to maintain the lead the Lady Norse contributed 24 turnovers in the first half along with 13 in the second half to give NCO 36 in the game.

Out scoring the Lady Norse 30-11 over the first 10 minutes of the second half, the Cowgirls constructed a 66-39 advantage.

Four points each by Melissa Throughgill and Rachel Mahmara along with three by Chris Edwards increased the Conners lead to 73-45 at 6:17 remaining in the game.

Battle led the Norse in scoring, with 10 points before Americia Floyd started a lady Norse rally.

Four Norse scorers went over 10 points each.

The Cowgirls pulled away and held off the Lady Norse in the Cowgirls 76-55 win.

Norsemen knock off Conners State

By John Fennell

Sport Editor

Clutch free throw shooting down the stretch helped the Norse hold off a second half Conners State rally as NCO pulled out a 63-59 victory from the 23rd ranked Cowgirls.

The Golden Norsemen improved their record to 4-3 in conference and 14-13-1 overall.

The Norse are hitting the road for a two game stretch before they return home on February 26 for their final regular season game of the year before the Region II tournament.

NEO 83- Conners 78

In the opening minutes of the game the Golden Norse jumped out to a 5-0 lead on a 3-point field goal by Brent Porter along with a free throw by Stephen Green and a put back by Funchy Parker. Putting a small run on their own together, the Cowgirls took a 4-6 lead on the Norse with 16:30 left in the first half.

Over the next seven minutes the lead changed three times before the Golden Norse received field goals from Porter and Todd Green to grab a 21-17 lead at the 8:58 juncture.

Three points each by Porter, Parker, and Rod Soster along with field goals by Stephen Green, LaCross Lee and Martin Green lifted the Norsemen to a 36-26 lead with 4:47 left in the first half.

Going into the intermission the Golden Norsemen took a 43-30 lead.

The Norse maintained a 9-point lead through the first 11 minutes of the second half at 61-51 on six points by Stephen Green and four points each by Jaigier Allen, Porter, and Corey Cipri, along with two free throws by Parker.

Soster and Cipri connected on back-to-back 3-pointers and Parker sank two free throws along with one by Beau Wallace and a basket by Martin Green to give the Norsemen a 72-56 spread with 3:30 showing on the clock.

As time was running down the Cowgirls rallied to a 81-78 deficit and set the stage for a Norse rally to pull out the victory. Parker paced the Golden Norsemen with 17 total points while Porter and Stephen Green contributed 12 points each and Cipri added nine points.

The leading scorer for the game was Kenny Dye who scored 29 total points.

NEO 75- Carl Albert 87

Playing like an undefeated team Carl Albert pulled an upset against the Golden Norsemen, last Thursday in the NEO field house.

The Lady Norse outscored Carl Albert 21-4 through the remainder of the half to take a 33-22 lead into the locker room.

Returning from the break the Lady Norse clung on to a 36-25 lead until Cadey Dowling hit a three to ignite the team on a 24-5 run.

The out burst gave the Lady Norse their biggest lead of the night at 60-35 with only 1:30 remaining in the game.

Battle led Lady Norse scorers with 10 points and 11 other Lady Norse contributed in the scoring.

Heather Bolles paced Carl Albert with 19 second half points to get him going on eight total points and six rebounds.

Oceanside, California where she averaged 12 points and 12 rebounds as a senior while guiding El Camino high to a 25-3 overall record.

"I set the record at my high school for most rebounds with 1,296 for a career," Clendening said.

Tina chose NEO over several junior colleges including one in New Mexico, and colleges across California.

"I liked it out here, I liked the school and the people," Clendening said.

As a freshman last year for the Lady Norse, Clendening averaged 7.4 points and 7.2 rebounds a game, while recording 29 steals.

"The playing time I got last year helped prepare me for this year, because it showed me the level of competition that I needed to be at," Clendening said.

With most of the season played, Tina is averaging 7.2 points and 7.1 rebounds while helping the Lady Norse search for a Regional playoff berth.

"Anytime you can have someone with Tina's abilities in the paint, it frees up our outside shooters because of the fact a team has to place on her," said Head Coach Randy Gibson.

Inside the paint is where Tina excels using her size and abilities to grab rebounds and guard opponents centers allowing the defense to focus on other players.

"Tina is just a real fundamentally sound player, she gets good position on the inside which allows her to get to the ball," Gibson said.

At six feet tall, Tina is the tallest girl on the lady Norse basketball team and taller than most women on campus.

"Being taller than everyone really doesn't bother me because I've always been tall," Clendening said.

Tina worked hard in the offseason to improve her game and get in better shape.

"I've done a lot of running and weight lifting to improve my game," Clendening said.

"Tina has consistently held her own in paint keeping opponents from scoring and taking up shots for her teammates.

"I like playing the inside because its a challenge, and like challenges," Clendening said.

Clendening has developed a type of "lay hook" shot on the offensive side of the court making her hard to defend.

"I first started using the shot my freshman year in high school after my coach encouraged me to," Clendening said.

Tina is currently being recruited by several colleges including Wichita State.

"Some of the great players that NEO has put out has helped me get recruited because they know that NEO has quality athletes," Clendening said.

"I've learned the most from coach Gibson and I'll take that knowledge with me on the next level," Clendening said.
**Golden Norse sign promising class**

By Josh Mason

The Golden Norsemen have brought in a tremendous football recruiting class and is still looking for more out of state help.

Head coach Dale Patterson is pinning his hopes on the in-state talent.

NEO has signed 36 players overall and 35 in-state. With five of those having co-signed with Division I teams.

"I feel good about the class that we recruited," said Patterson.

In junior college, you've got to recruit every position and I think we did a good job getting the positions we needed.

NEO went 5-4 last season, playing in the Southwest Junior College Conference which has produced the National Champion the past four seasons.

Players co-signing are wide receivers Lawson Giddings (6-3, 185, McLoud) and Kent Ellis (6-0, 260, Ada) with Oklahoma State.

Patterson said NEO would sign five out-of-state in accordance with SWJCFC rules.

So far the only out-of-state signee is Keven Sharp (6-4, 240, Morrison, CO). NEO signed Brent Steele (5-11, 180, Spiro) with Arkansas. While picked up commitments from Willie Ponder (6-6, 250, Claremore, OK), Nick Gingles (6-2, 240, Broken Arrow), Eric Avrett (6-3, 240, Chickasha).

Buckhead Forest (6-5, 260, Farland), Jason Cook (6-3, 250, Brown), Adam Butterfield (6-2, 250, Wynadotche) and Phil Laxton (6-1, 250, Wynadotche). At the skill positions the Norsemen landed five quar- terbacks Kekem M subgroup (6-1, 195, Dalhousie), Brian Madden (6-1, 215, Lawton), Jason Harris (6-1, 190, Tulsa Central), Matthew Dutton (6-2, 205, Western Heights) and Cody Rodel (6-2, 185, Mustang).

Along with Steele at running back NEO signed ball (5-10, 180, Drumright), Joey Ballard (5-10, 185, Muskogee) and Matt Howard (5-10, 180, Wynadotche).

"We could have the four best wide receivers in the country," said Patterson. "They could be as good as anybody in the state has. I know we signed better receivers than OSU and OU have signed, and probably Tulsa has."

Along with Giddings and Poster NEO signed Rockwell Armstrong (6-3, 174, Carthage) and William Johnson (5-11, 175, Tulsa McLain). On the defensive side of the ball NEO got signatures from seven defensive line.

Kyle Paul (6-1, 300, Altus), Rene Torres (6-3, 250, Broken Arrow), Steven Torres (6-2, 245, Broken Arrow), Chris Bills (6-1, 220, Lawton), John Bruch (6-3, 235, Moore) and Calvin Wilson (6-3, 230, Tulsa Hale).

NEO received five commitments to reinforce the line-backing corp, Bobby Hoover (6-3, 240, Tulsa Hale), James Washington (6-1, 195, Hobart), Roderick Pickett (6-2, 225, OKC Northwest) and Pete Timmel (6-2, 230, Tulsa Hale).

Covering the wide receivers will be defensive backs, Charles Mahan (5-10, 170, Tulsa Hays), Kendrick Brown (6-1, 175, Eufaula), Greg Smith (5-10, 175, Carl Albert) and Matt Carmel (5-10, 190, Broken Arrow).

"The one positive thing about the out-of-state rule is that it gives us a chance to hit the state of Oklahoma really hard," Patterson said. "We've had excellent sup- port from the high school coaches around the state of Oklahoma."

"I think they really want to see this program survive," said Patterson.

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**Learning experience for Soooter**

By Josh Mason

Sophomore safety guard Rod Soooter has had to rele- nce back to basketball over the past two seas- ses.

The Miami native, Soooter is 3-point specialist who averag- ing 10.3 points a game. He has also displayed out assist on the year and pulling down 2.1 rebounds a game.

"Playing ball at NEO was different, but I think playing AAU ball in high school helped me get used to the speed of the game," Soooter said.

Soooter spent a lot of time learning from them.

"Everyday in practice last year I had to play against guys like Nathan Brian, Brann Williams and Reulue Turner who were quicker and stronger than me," said Soooter.

"The big difference was strength and quickness. It also helped having coach Spencer playing on me and not letting me slack off on defense," Soooter said.

"Rod was always one shot away or on one defensive pos- session away from being on the floor more minutes last season," said NEO head coach Lonnie Spencer.

Soooter spent many hours in the offseason fine tuning his game and trying to improve his strength and quickness.

"I played a lot of pick-up games and lifted weights to try and get stronger. I also added a lot of leg work to try and get quicker." Soooter said.

"It also helps having Brent (Porter) and Beau (Watson) who can beat their man to the outside, that helps me out a lot because their man will collapse down leaving me open," said Soooter.

"The improvements Rod has made this year is that he is able to be on the floor more and he is mentally tougher than last season," Spencer said.

"Experience is the biggest thing for a young man, knowing how to get your shot off and playing defense." Soooter was sometimes the forgotten man on the floor for the Golden Norsemen but that now changed.

"After a couple of big games this year, teams have tried to keep me from shooting those wide open threes and are making me put the ball on the floor more," Soooter said.

Soooter enjoyed a success- ful high school career at Miami under coach Joel Hill. His achievements include Oklahoma All-State, Academic All-State, Metro- Lakes All-Conference three years, and he made the Joplin Globe All-Area team.

"I'm happy in school I saw a lot of box-and-one defenses and everyone layed on me," said Soooter.

The transition from high school basketball has resulted in some new challenges for Soooter.

"Last year and early on this year I still got out a few open looks, but now I have to work a little harder to get my shots off." Soooter said.

"It helps getting great picks from Corey (Cross), Puncty (Parker) and Todd (Gleener), they do a good job of getting me open."

"I also have to figure out how to play with Porter and Beau (Watson) who can beat their man to the outside, that helps me out a lot because the man will collapse down leaving me open," said Soooter.

"I have to hit the open shots whenever I have them, and play solid defense." Soooter said.

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**Tough Shot!**

Rod Soooter (24) goes over Westark's Ryan Koett (10) for an impressive bucket during a Golden Norsemen victory.
The Norsewind – the NEO A&M College Newspaper

Digital copies of The Norsewind, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College's student newspaper, are available in .pdf format on the NEO website for non-commercial purposes only. Scans were created using the best available editions through the assistance of the Oklahoma Higher Education Historical Society from microfilmed images. Where stains, color-fading, contributed marks or ripped pages were visible on the original, they also appear in the digital copy. NEO newspaper editions that do not appear on the website are not part of the collection at present. If you would like to donate a missing, damaged or incomplete copy of The Norsewind, please contact the NEO Library.

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