Eight instructors named Who’s Who

By Sara Livingston
Managing Editor
Eight faculty members from NEO received notification recently that they have been selected to the prestigious 1998 Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers list.

Shirley Coker, a business instructor, has been at NEO for 35 years and Mrs. Maxwell is currently on medical leave. Dr. George Largen, a government instructor, has been a member of the social sciences department for 23 years. Ruth Ann Maxwell, an English instructor, has been at NEO for 30 years. Mrs. Smith is currently on medical leave. Carol Smith, coordinator of the honors program and a member of the English faculty, has taught at NEO for 15 years. Dr. Pete Smith, an agriculture instructor and coordinator of the college farm, has been a faculty member for 25 years. Marcia Tyson, early childhood development instructor, has taught at NEO for 12 years.

These nominees were selected by being selected to the list of nominees and honors educators who have displayed their dedication, enthusiasm, and concern for students. Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers selects those teachers who are nominated by their students.

Eight instructors named Who’s Who

Math students attend

By Sara Livingston
Managing Editor
Numerous small high schools and large high schools from the surrounding area will be participating in the 11th annual Math Day next Thursday, according to Vicki Berry, coordinator of the event. Approximately 500 to 700 students will be participating from Oklahoma, Kansas, and Missouri in the day-long event. Students will be allowed to compete in one of the five mathematical areas: algebra I and II, geometry, trigonometry, and calculus.

There will be 25 questions on each exam. Awards will be presented to the first, second, and third place individual in the large school, and the small school categories. Also an award for the most outstanding school will be presented.

Math students attend

TOP-NOTCH BOWLERS
Several members of the Mu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society display some of the books they collected during a recent service project for the organization.

AROUND CAMPUS THIS WEEK

MONDAY

Students are invited to attend the free "Student Social" held on campus. The event will be held at 7 p.m. in the Student Center. Students are advised to attend with a valid student ID card.

TUESDAY

Officers of the Mu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society will host a reception at 7:30 p.m. in room 209 of the Fine Arts Center. The event will be held at 7 p.m. in the Student Center. Students are advised to attend with a valid student ID card.

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

The Baptist Collegiate Ministry will host a "Student Night Out" beginning at 12:15 p.m. in the building located just north of the main campus. The event will be held at 7 p.m. in the Student Center. Students are advised to attend with a valid student ID card.

Instructors are reminded that mid-term grades are due by noon. Student grade cards are due.

The Baptist Collegiate Ministry will host a "Student Night Out" beginning at 12:15 p.m. in the building located just north of the main campus. The event will be held at 7 p.m. in the Student Center. Students are advised to attend with a valid student ID card.

Several hundred high school students will be on campus for the 11th annual Math Day activities and awards.

Instructors are reminded that mid-term grades are due by noon. Student grade cards are due.
State higher regents adopt Brain Gain plan

By Sara Livingston
Managing Editor

Noting that Oklahoma's future prosperity rests more on its intellectual capital than on its natural resources, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education approved today an aggressive plan to increase the proportion of Oklahomans holding a bachelor's degree from 20 to 28 percent by 2010. The plan also calls for doubling Oklahoma's proportion of associate degree holders from 5 to 10 percent.

Regents said they were undertaking the plan, called Brain Gain 2010: Building Oklahoma Intellectual Power, in an effort to help more Oklahomans from the bottom to the top-one-third of all states for its educational and economic performance.

Essentially, the plan would place Oklahoma slightly ahead of the projected national average for degree attainment.

"National figures show that states with the greatest economic success have the highest percentage of college educated citizens," said Chancellor Hans Brosch. "Oklahoma currently ranks in the bottom one-third of all states for the educational attainment of its citizens, and, consequently, for its economic performance.

"Although Oklahoma has made some progress in recent years to increase the educational attainment of its citizens, the state is not keeping pace with increases national," Brosch added. Noting that the proportion of Oklahomans who held associate degrees or higher rose from 25.5 percent in 1996 to 28.3 percent in 2001, he said that the state would have to increase its rate of educational progress to 4.3 percent for 2010.

"If Oklahoma is to secure a place in the knowledge-based economy of the 21st century, the state must build its intellectual power," Brosch said.

Regents reported that the most current data show 20.1 percent of Oklahoma's population age 25 and older held a bachelor's degree or higher in 1996, while 5.3 percent held an associate degree. Naturally, 23.6 percent held bachelor's degrees or higher and 7.2 percent held associate degrees.

To meet the projected national average by 2010, Oklahoma will need to double its expected growth rate of college degree holders. At the bachelor's degree level, that means Oklahoma will need to add 203,000 degree holders to its population, 94,000 more than what is projected at Oklahoma's current rate of growth.

At the associate degree level, Oklahoma will need to add 160,000 degree holders, 50,000 more than what is projected.

Regents will seek to add more college degree holders to the state's population by focusing on three areas: increasing the proportions of Oklahomans who earn a college degree, keeping more Oklahomans graduates in the state and attracting college degree holders from outside the state.

To increase the number of Oklahomans earning a college degree, Brain Gain 2010 focuses on increasing the number of students who go to college directly from high school and improving Oklahoma college and university graduation rates.

"As part of this effort, the State Regents will focus on helping high school students better prepare for college, both academically and financially, and ensuring that once students get to college, they have the support they need to stay in school and complete a degree," Brosch said.

Noting that new strategies will likely emerge as the plan unfolds, Regents announced several strategies today:

- Strengthening admission standards, offering incentives to teach high demand subjects.
- Expanding efforts to distribute information on preparing for college.
- Increasing scholarship opportunities that are based on students' academic performance.
- Offering incentives and services that encourage students to stay in college and graduate.
- Developing more flexible programs that are needed to make the need for working adults, strengthening academic advancement and enhancing the transfer of students from two-year colleges to four-year universities.

Under the plan, Regents will also work with other state leaders to develop and implement strategies to keep more college graduates in the state and ensure they are appropriately employed.

A recent Oklahoma employment report shows that 63 percent of the majority of our college and university graduates are staying in the state to work.

However, bachelor degree holders who prepared for high demand, high-paying jobs in areas such as computer technology, computer science and engineering are among those least likely to stay in the state," said State Regents Chairman John Massey.

"To keep more of these graduates in the state, Oklahoma must focus on attracting and developing the high-growth industries that offer the jobs," he said.

As a foundation for this effort, Regents have added new employment outcomes reports so that the state can examine more closely which colleges and universities are producing graduates that leave.

The Regents will also continue to develop a web site designed to link Oklahoma college graduates with Oklahoma Jobs.

Located at www.ok-jobs.com, the site is currently undergoing beta testing and is scheduled to go fully online in early March.

Regents noted that the site has the potential to be of some value to students.

"We are excited about the opportunities this plan offers our state and fellow citizens," Massey said.

All Oklahomans benefit from higher education, even if they do not take a college course.

Studies show that states with the greatest levels of educational attainment enjoy the highest per capita incomes, as well as the lowest unemployment, teen births, crime and divorce rates.
Drug found to be a cause of major memory loss

By Mindy Fleming
Lifestyles editor

Heavy use of the drug Ecstasy, or MDMA, can lead to persistent problems in remembering what is seen and heard, according to a study appearing in the December issue of Neurology, according to researchers from Johns Hopkins University, Bayview Medical Center, the memory impairment increases with the amount of drug taken and lasts at least two weeks after stopping the use. These memory problems appear to be related to the damage Ecstasy does to particular brain cells in the area of the brain responsible for communication. These findings follow closely on a study published in the Oct. 31 issue of "The Lancet" by some of the same scientists showing that frequent Ecstasy use damages the brain ability to use serotonin, and that this brain change lasts at least three weeks after stopping use. Then, for methylenedioxyamphetamine, MDMA is an amphetamine derivative long known to be neurotoxic in animals. In recent years use of the drug has been on the rise. MDMA use has been reported more frequently among young adults and adolescents. Rates of use remained relatively stable from 1990 to 1997. In 1997, 6.9 percent of 8th graders had used MDMA at least once in their lives. NSDA supports more that 9% of the world’s research on the health aspects of drug abuse and addiction. The foundation also carries out a large variety of programs to ensure the rapid dissemination of research information and its implementation in policy and practice.

Piercing causes several problems

By Mindy Fleming
Lifestyles editor

Ears, tongues, and eyebrows are just a few of the many parts of the body that can be pierced. For years, people have decorated their bodies with piercings. Recently there has been a resurgence in popularity of piercings, particularly among people in their teens and early 20s. While much of this self-decoration is harmless, there are precautions to avoid some of the dangers of this trend. According to "Health Beat," September 1994, the most important thing to remember is that all of these procedures are invasive techniques and pose the potential for infection and possibly blood-borne diseases. While pierced ears are the most common example of body piercing, mouth, nose, eyebrows and even genital piercings are becoming much more popular. The result is particularly good at handling germs, however, the nose and eye areas tend to be less effective at clearing germs. The genital area also has good blood flow, but a person must be scrupulous about personal hygiene to avoid infections. Some people believe that piercing by a professional is more expensive or has been forbidden by significant others. They often attempt to pierce themselves with all manner of implements. There are many dangers in self-piercing, according to the Health and Wellness Center of the Riverside Community College. One risk is infections. Unsterile instruments and techniques can lead to infections from bacteria and viruses including Hepatitis B and HIV. Scarring is another problem. This can happen to a piercing that is too shallow, which can cause it to rip right out the body. Some people scar more than others and develop keloids. PLunging silver, gold-plated or filled jewelry, and any type of ear stud are not appropriate for body piercing. Inferior materials will corrode as they break down in the body, causing ugly infections and even large holes in the tissue. Jewelry that is too thin can create a serious cartilage effect and tear through tissue. For many reasons, such as inappropriate jewelry, cleaners, or care. Some piercings are simply more prone to rejection, such as the eyebrow and the nose. A failure of a piercing is also important and determined by the area. Piercings above the neck require different care than piercing below the neck. From ear piercings to nasal piercings, take care and precautions of the "tells" that deal with your body and health.

STUDENT PSYCHOLOGY ASSOCIATION

Members of the Psychology Student Association are: standing, from left: Amanda Garnett, freshman, Miami, Katherine Blount, sophomore, Grove, Kathleen, freshman, Miami, Rachel Muxon, freshman, Miami, Katrina West, sophomore, Jay, and Cynthia Corral, freshman, Miami. Seated are: William Morgan, freshman, Commerce; Andrew Farmer, freshman, Miami, Ray Johnson, sophomore, Jay, and Derek Greging, freshman, Miami.

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A SERVICE OF BAPTIST REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER
Hatter struggles with lack of time to help

By Karl Cline

People’s Editor

Just when you think that you are the busiest person on campus, you need to watch Mary Hatter for a day and your assumption will change.

Hatter is a sophomore from Claremore, Oklahoma and is majoring in secondary education. She is full of energy that she puts to good use by helping people.

She is involved in many important organizations and she isn’t just a member; she plays significant roles in all of them. She is the vice president of Fellowship for the Phi Theta Kappa, secretary for the student body government, captain of the Norse Stars, and holds down two jobs within the school. She also has to go to class and maintains a high GPA.

“I take my academics very seriously. I work hard to keep my grades up,” Hatter said.

“I am involved in so many organizations because I enjoy being busy, it keeps me from becoming bored. Being involved makes life interesting because I have to deal with different people and situations,” said Hatter.

“I have learned so many things from having to handle so much,” said Hatter. “One of the most important things that I have learned is how to better manage my time so that I can get everything done.”

“It is hard sometimes to handle the stress but the secret is to find time for myself. I just take a break, read, and relax,” said Hatter.

Besides being involved in so much, she is a happy person with such a positive attitude. She looks on the good side of things. She tries to be kind to everyone and smile.

“I am happy because I like to think that when I am happy it makes someone else happy,” said Hatter.

After graduating from NEO this spring Hatter plans to attend Northeastern Oklahoma State University and continue studying her major of secondary education.

Plan on being involved in one specific organization at NEO that deals with my major and I will put all of my energy into that one thing. That sounds like a good plan but I will probably still be busy with my whole life because that is the person that I am,” said Hatter.

“I think that being involved in so much is going to help me in the future because it has taught me things that I will always use. I have learned people skills, how to handle conflict, how to handle stress, and it has built my character.”

“I am not involved in different organizations to be remembered but I would like to think that some of the people at NEO that I have worked closely with will not be able to forget me. I want people to remember me as a good kid who worked hard, followed through with things, happy, caring and a good student,” said Hatter.

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The OWLS Center is for any student of any age. Membership is $1 per year. Drop in and join the fun. Located in the Bruce G. Carter Student Union, the OWLS Center meets at noon every Friday.
Ladies lose two league games

Regular season ends in Muskogee

With one week left in the regular season, coach Randy Gipson's Lady Norse are in hot pursuit of a higher seeding for the Region II Tournament scheduled for March 4-7 at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee. Before last night's conference game against Southwest Community College in the NEO Fieldhouse, the Lady Norse stood at 3-4 in the Eastern Division of the Bi-State Athletic Conference and 18-7 overall.

The Lady Norse closed out the home portion of the schedule Monday by hosting NorthPark College at 6 p.m. in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Traveling to Muskogee on Wednesday, the Lady Norse concluded the regular season with a 68-67 overtime win over Bacon College.

Coenos 75, Lady Norse 69

Allowing a nine-point lead to evaporate over seven minutes of the second half, the Lady Norse suffered a 75-69 loss to third-ranked Coenos State College.

Monday night in Warner,

Coenos jumped out to a 6-2 lead in the first 48 seconds before McCain hit three free throws and a 3-point field goal in the first 2 minutes of the opening half.

Freshman forward Amanda Thompson carried a 3-pointer and a regular field goal while Kovana Battle and Carolyn Weirick each sank two free throws and Cicely Downing added a basket to give the Lady Norse a 14-9 margin with five minutes gone in the first half.

Over the next 10 minutes the lead changed hands seven times before back-to-back 3-pointers by Rosalind Ross and Thompson produced a 33-31 Lady Norse lead at the five-minute juncture of the first half.

Three-point field goals by McCain and Billie Jo Kountz gave the Coenos a 3-9 lead at 3:48 before intermission.

Consecutive field goals by Battle, Joyce Cheney and five points by Ross propelled the Lady Norse to a 42-38 halftime lead.

Four points by Battle along with a free throw by Weirick increased the Lady Norse lead to 47-38 at 17:56 left in the game.

Sparked by six points each from Melissa Thredgold and Kristina Jones the Cowgirls nailed off 12 unanswered points to grab a 50-47 lead midway through the second half.

Sophomore center Suzanne McKenzie scored six points along with baskets by McCain and Thredgold to give Coenos a 63-57 lead with 5:47 remaining on the clock.

Freshman center Latasha White scored four straight points and Battle added a basket as the Lady Norse trailed 65-60 with 2:36 left in the game.

McCain hit three free throws while Nakia Mitchell added one as the Cowgirls held the Lady Norse at bay in the final two minutes.

With 14 points while Ross scored 11 and Thompson added 10 points.

McKenzie led all scorers with 21 total points while McCoy scored 15 and Thredgold added 10 points.

Carl Albert 70, Lady Norse 69

Poor shooting from the free throw line cost the Lady Norse during a 70-69 loss to the Carl Albert State College Lady Vikings, last week in the Viking Fieldhouse at Poteau.

With 13:06 left in the game against Carl Albert, the Lady Norse trailed 70-67 and sophomore center Kovana Battle was felled by Kate Stevens. Battle missed both free attempts, but responded by hitting a short jump shot with 31 seconds left to cut the final score.

Even though Battle led all scorers with 21 total points, the 5'-11" junior arched at the free throw line sinking only 3 of 14 attempts.

The Lady Norse connected on only 11 of 26 free throw attempts for 42 percent compared to 10 of 15 for 67 percent for the Lady Vikings.

Carl Albert took advantage of a 3-for-3 performance from 3-point range by D'Kay Keith and 3-point field goals by Andrea Billings and Lacey Johnson along with 10 points by Stevens to build a 34-29 lead at the end of the first half.

The Lady Vikings pulled away to a 46-32 advantage with four minutes gone in the second half as field goals by Billings and field goals by Kristi Durant, Johnson and Stevens.

Six points each by Battle and Downing along with three points by Ross and baskets by Thompson, White and Latunsick filled the Lady Norse to a 60-54 deficit with 7:38 left in the game.

Trailing 68-56 the Lady Norse moved five points from Battle along with a 3-pointer from Thompson and a free throw from Weirick to cut the deficit to 66-65 with 4:17 showing on the clock.

Both field goals by the 6-2 Stevens gave the Lady Vikings a 70-67 margin with 3:08 left in the game.

Along with the 3 points from Battle, the Lady Norse received 12 points from Ross and 11 points from Downing.

The Lady Norse connected on 26 of 62, including 6 of 14 from the 3-point area, for 42 percent from the field.

Stevens paced the Lady Vikings with 20 total points while Billings hit 11 of 17 and Keith scored 11 points.

The Lady Vikings went 26 of 51, including 8 of 18 from 3-point range, for 51 percent from the field.

Georgiana Brown grabbed six rebounds as Carl Albert held a slim 29-27 edge on the boards.

Battle grabbed 14 rebounds to lead NEO.

LOOKING FOR A SHOT

Sophomore center Kovana Battle (40) looks for a shot against Coenos players Melissa Thredgold (22) and Sevann Hill (40).
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Norsemen build streak entering post-season

Entering the final week of the regular season, such
Lorrie Spencer's Golden
Norsemen are locked in a three-
way battle for the lead in the
Eastern Division of the Big-State
Athletic Conference.

Prior to last night's contest
with Westark in the NEO Fieldhouse, the Golden Norse
were tied with Westark and
Bacone College for the confer-
ence lead with a 6-1 record. The
Norse are 19-8 overall.

NEO concludes the home
portion of the schedule on

Monday by hosting North Park
College at 8 p.m. The Norse
traveled to Muskogee on
Wednesday for a 8 p.m. show-
down with the Bacone Warriors.

Parent for the Region II
Tournament scheduled March
5-7 in Shawnee will be deter-
mined during a coach's meeting
on Thursday in Shawnee.

Norsemen 74, Connors 71

Competing a two-game sweep of defending Big-State
East champion Connors State
College, the Golden Norse
earned a 74-71 victory over the

Cowboys, Monday night in
Melvin Self Fieldhouse at
Warner.

Veteran point guard Boe
Wallace scored six points and
freshman guard Shon Robinson
added five as the Golden Norse
built a 13-11 lead in the first nine
minutes of the opening half.

Marlon Green also contributed
a field goal.

All-American guard Kenny
Dye rallied the Cowboys, with
seven straight points while Nick
Cook and Troy Moon added
baskets to cut the deficit to 28-27
with 1:14 before halftime.

During the first 10 minutes of
the second half the Norse outscored
Connors 21-11 and scored 52-48 lead.
Tiggs led the Norsemen in
scoring with 23 total points while
Robinson contributed 15 points
and Wallace added 12 points.

Dye led all scorers with 29
total points while Corey
Mangum and Moore added 12
point each.

Norsemen 86, Carl Albert 82

Playing without the services of
head coach Lorrie Spencer, the
Norsemen gained a come-
from-behind 86-82 victory over
Carl Albert State College, last
week in Ponca.

Assistant coach Chris Wains
assured the Golden Norse head
coaching duties after Spencer
was sidelined by a bout with the
flu.

Robinson led the Norsemen
with 19 total points while Tiggs
scored 18, Anderson 15 and
Marlon Green added 12 points.

Dayton Silver led all scorers
with 22 points while Steve Grady
scored 17 and David Wall added
13 points.

PICTURE THIS!

You....

in the 1999 edition of
the Viking Yearbook

Individual mug shots will be taken from
9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday, February 22
through Friday, February 26, 1999 in
the Bruce G. Carter Student Union.

All students * Faculty * Staff * Administration
(This is the only time period these shots will be taken)
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.