Music auditions held

By Jon Owens

The first of three try-out sessions for scholarships in the NEO music department for the 2001-2002 school year is being held today and Saturday in the music hall located in the north end of the intramural gym. The second try-out session will be March 10 and the final session will be April 21. Scholarships are based on need as well as talent. Students need to prepare a selection from their solo or band repertoire," said instructor Brian Smith. "It is recommended for students to enroll in a private lesson in studying the instrument or voice lessons for the vocal student." Whaley stated.

Scholarships can range from $50 to $100 tuition fee waiver a semester. Returning musicians will also need to audition. An accompanist will be provided on a need basis. For more information or to set up an audition time contact Brian Smith at 580-4792 for instrumental auditions or Whaley at 580-4791 for vocal auditions.

Speech-debate team captures awards

By Sara Livingston

Outstanding college students who are preparing for careers in public service are now eligible to win $1,000 scholarships and training opportunity to participate in the speech and debate leadership skills, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education announced.

The scholarships will be awarded through the George and Donna Nigh Scholarship Fund and administered by the George and Donna Nigh Public Service Institute.

The scholarship program— which was established by the Oklahoma legislature—will provide not only scholarships, but also opportunities to attend a two-week leadership seminar with members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and Senate.

The first scholarships will be awarded in spring 2000. "George and Donna Nigh have been an instrumental force in Oklahoma education," said Chancellor Jim Broch. "Through political, charitable and personal dedication, they have boosted education at all levels by supporting vocational, technical and higher education programs and helping establish the first school for science and mathematics on Oklahoma." "As leaders at the University of Central Oklahoma, they forged ahead, building key infrastructure and adding programs and energy to the academic University," Broch added. "George and Donna Nigh have meant a lot to Oklahoma education and through the scholarship, Oklahoma higher education can honor their achievements by supporting tomorrow’s great achievers."

Students receiving the scholarship must be residents of Oklahoma and enrolled full-time in an undergraduate program at a state college, university or technical branch of one of Bacone College, Bacone College Western Campus, Oklahoma Baptist University, Oklahoma Christian University, Oklahoma City University, Pun Creek College, Rogers State University, Southern Nazarene University, St. Gregory’s University or the University of Tulsa.

Students must also be enrolled in a degree program leading to a career in public service, as determined by the Nigh Institute. The college administration will review the qualifications of students. Participating institutions will submit a resume for consideration of the award prior to the beginning of the spring semester.

An advisory committee appointed by the Nigh Institute will review and approve the nominations and make announcement of the awards. "Because of the vision and commitment of the leadership of the Oklahoma’s George P. Nigh and Dorothy C. E. Nigh, college students will benefit from this extraordinary award," said Carl homer, executive director and vice president of the George and Donna Nigh Public Service Institute.

State Regents Chairman Bill Bargas Jr. said, "This scholarship is a great opportunity for helping our students to college and develop their leadership potential."
Some states adopt unusual laws

By John Coby

This time of year, new bills and legislation are being debated all over the country. Some of these laws are outrageous:

Lexington, Ky.: It is illegal to carry ice cream cones over in your pocket.

St. Louis, Mo.: It is illegal to eat on a street curb and drink beer from a bucket.

Arkansas: It is illegal to drive the Arkansas River to rise higher than the Main Street Bridge in Little Rock.

Pocatello, Idaho: The carrying of concealed weapons is forbidden, unless some are exhibited in public view.

Winnebago, Ill.: It is illegal to ride an ugly horse.

Jackson, Ga.: It is illegal to say "Oh Boy!"

Devon, Conn.: It's illegal to walk backwards after sunset.

Hawksworth, Okla.: It is illegal to put a hopscotched person in a display window.

Frankfort, Ky.: It's illegal to throw off a policeman's hat.

Zion, Ill.: It's illegal to grow a beard.

Bedford, Ohio: It's illegal to put a slot machine in an office.

These are some dumb bills that are proposed, but Mississippi was the darndest. It is illegal for a man to have a sexual encounter in public, even though he is fully dressed. Violators will be punished by serving a term of one year in prison. This is outrageous, I think Mississippi is listing below the belt there.

Are male emasculation, while fully clothed, so frequent there must be an underwear police force? There must be a lot of problems popping up for politicians in being there time for things men sometimes cannot control. This law may be a good one for the citizens who are sick of the Clinton Administration and the Oval Office.

It's a good thing the Federal Government did not propose this bill, otherwise Americans would have to pay more taxes for the Federal Emasculation Commission.

SPEAR CLEANING: IT CAN HIT THE MOST DEDICATED OF Slobs - A PHENOMENA THAT DRIVES US TO RE-ARRANGE; SCRUB; AND THROW AWAY ALL THINGS IN OUR ROOMS - BUT SOMETIMES IT CAN GO JUST A LITTLE TOO FAR.
Foundation director leaves

By Jon Owens

After seven years of serving the NEO community as director of the Wesley Foundation, Robert Forrest is off to other calls in his ministry work.

The Wesley Foundation is located just west of the Dalby Chemical Library/Administration building and is open seven days a week for all students. The Wesley Foundation is sponsored by the United Methodist Church.

Forrest is a native of Elmore, New York. In high school he was active in music, drama, and the National Honor Society. He graduated with honors.

Out of those high school years, developed the relationship of her future husband and high school sweetheart, Bill Forrest.

Bill Forrest is currently the pastor of First United Methodist Church of Quapaw, Picher, and Commerce. Following their marriage, the Forrests moved to Miami, Fla.

"This is where we felt the call to God's ministry. We were active in the Methodist church and our church hosted a Lay witness month. It was that weekend event God spoke to our hearts about going into the ministry," said Forrest.

"A couple years after that we felt God lead us to Knoxville, Tenn. There, we ministered to all churches of all denominations. We did this by owning our own Christian bookstore," Forrest said.

"After three years in Knoxville we felt God had us sell our bookstore and moved to Tulsa.

"There we attended Rhema Bible College. This campus is a ministry training campus. You find this bible college to be about as charismatic as they come," said Forrest.

"It was wonderful. It was a time to build faith. It was a time to learn and build on the concept of ministry."

After Mr. and Mrs. Forrest received their two-year degree at Rhema, they went back to New York.

They went to the Adirondack Mountains and pastored an independent church community. "Living in the mountains we learned about all sorts of winter sports and to deal with 40 inches of snow," said Forrest.

Later the couple founded another independent church in Saratoga, New York. It was in this city that two of her three children graduated high school.

After three years of being in Saratoga, the couple packed up and went back to Tulsa. There Bill became a deacon at Grace Fellowship Church.

"We felt God lead us back to the Methodist church and to serve the people, Forrest said."

In 1993 the Methodist church transferred the couple to Welch. While Bill was pursuing the community of Welch, Roberta went to minister to NEO as director of the Wesley Foundation.

In 1995 the couple moved onto the Methodist churches of Quapaw, Picher, and Commerce. This is no way to change Mrs. Forrest career at the Wesley Foundation.

"I have seen God develop a beautiful carpet of people at NEO," Forrest said.

"No year is over the same. I have seen God develop relationships as friends and some leading to marriages at the Wesley Foundation. I have come to know and love a lot of students," said Forrest.

"The point of campus ministry is to keep students in touch with God. I think all the campus ministers do a good job with that. I am proud of the strong community that supports NEO," Forrest said.

"I have been impressed with how NEO has dealt with the events that have affected the school over the years, especially the most recent deaths in the fall. Being a small school makes it more personal," said Forrest.

"The time has come for the couple to move on. Bill will pastor at a church in Alex and Nitaeka.

In the Methodist church, moves for a pastor can happen at anytime as appointed by the church.

"It has been a great blessing personally and professionally to have served at the Wesley Foundation at NEO," Forrest said.
LIFESTYLES

President’s honored on Monday

All leaders recognized

By Mindy Fleming

February 12 and Feb. 22 were observed as federal public holidays to honor the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and George Washington.

In 1971, President Richard Nixon proclaimed one single federal public holiday, the President’s Day, to be observed on the third Monday of February, honoring all past presidents of the United States of America.

Of all the presidents in history of the United States, Abraham Lincoln is probably the one that Americans remember the best and with the deepest affection.

His childhood in the frontier of Indiana is the core for character and motivation later in life. Lincoln is remembered as " Honest Abe."

Lincoln was born on Feb. 12, 1809, in Kentucky.

Nominated to the Republican Party in 1856 as a candidate for the Presidency of the United States, Lincoln won by a small margin.

But with his election, the country began the process of "dividing against itself." South Carolina had seceded from the Union before he was even inaugurated.

Other states followed to form the Confederate States of America. The North and South were divided, a Civil War began. The war was not only over the abolition of slavery, but also the rights of individual states to make their own choices on other issues.

Lincoln would not live to see the end of the Civil War. He was assassinated in New York’s Ford Theatre in April, 1865.

George Washington, born Feb. 22, 1732 in Virginia, was a natural leader.

Washington, known as the "Father of Our Country," was instrumental in creating a union nation out of a confederation of struggling colonies and territories.

The first president of the United States of America is remembered as a strong, determined leader.

While in office, Washington held a contest for the best architectural design of a "President’s Palace."

Among the competitors was Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence and the architect.

Washington died on Dec. 14, 1799, one year before the White House was completed during the Presidency of John Adams. Washington is remembered for his honesty after declaring that he chopped down the cherry tree.

Various communities observe the holiday of two important presidents in the United States history. The particular day has a purpose to remember what has been done for our country years ago.

Stock Market
at the center of economy

By Mindy Fleming

The center of our Nation’s economy does not rest at Fort Knox with its millions of dollars worth of gold, or even the treasury that prints the money that one sees.

As the center of the United States economy is Wall Street. Almost every large company in the United States and around the world is traded on a Stock Exchange, from McDonald’s to The Olive Garden.

Many people wonder why they should even care about the stock market. Maybe one believes that they are too young to be investing or that it is too complicated to be understandable.

The fact is even if one does not have money in the stock market, we are all in school, the stock market does affect us or not. It affects everything in our daily lives, from going to the mall, to buying that new outfit that one has always wanted.

After all, Calvin Klein has to get money to make those outfits.

The first step when buying stock is to decide what company to buy stock in. One can buy stock in any publicly held corporation, which means that he public can control the corporation.

One cannot buy stock in a privately held or closely held corporation, which are corporations that are controlled either by a small group of individuals or by close friends and family.

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JOHN A. McFERRON, O.D.
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Golden Norse upset Cowboys

By John Pettit

With three Bi-State Athletic Conference Eastern Division games left in the regular season, each of the Norsemen are searching for a playoff berth.

Pairings for the Region 11 Tournament scheduled to be held Mar. 5-5 at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee will be decided next Friday.

The Golden Norse are 14-12 on the season and 3-4 in the Bi-State East entering Saturday’s 4 p.m. rematch against Westminster in Fort Smith, Ark.

Norsemen at 8:00, well-travel to Harrison, Ark., Monday, for a 8 p.m. clash with North Arkansas before closing out the regular season at 8 p.m. on Thursday against Bacone College.

Norsemen 69-Comets 60

After building momentum at the end of the first half, the Golden Norse rallied to gain a 69-60 upset over Comets State College, Monday night in the NEO Fieldhouse.

The loss dropped the Comets to 5-2 in the Bi-State East and 21-6 overall.

“The difference in the game was turnovers and the one we had at Western last weekend, was the way we closed out the first half,” Norse Manager David Bostad said.

We went down by 10 points with three minutes to play and we fought back to trail by one at halftime,” said Bostad.

The Norsemen take over their scoring momentum that carried over to the second half.

We came out and took the lead back and forth for a while before our bench stepped up and helped us get the lead for good,” Spencer said.

Shawn Robinson made the Norsemen with 22 total points while Junior Blount added 17 and Antonio Anderson contributed 12 points.

In game history scoring with 25 points and Junior Blount added 15 for the Cowgirls.

Western 64-Norsemen 56

Unable to maintain a seven-point lead early in the second half, the Norse dropped a 64-56 decision to Western College East Saturday before a partisan crowd in Wyatt Gymnasium at Altus.

Mitchell led the Norsemen with 17 total points while Mark Elmore contributed 10 points.

Allen Rigby posted the Norsemen with 16 points while Dennis Wilson added 14 points.

Norse 182-Carol 94-00

Despite struggling offensively in the first 50 minutes, the Golden Norse scored 13 total points in the final overtime period to gain a 182-94 victory over the 15th-ranked Carl Albert State College last week in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Mitchell led the Norsemen with 20 total points while Junior Low scored 19. Jon Belo, Anderson 15, and Robinson 14 points.

The Norsemen 16 of 9, including 8 of 13 from the 3-point area, for 61 percent from the floor and 29 of 39 (76.2 percent) from the free throw line.

Gorby paced the Vikings with 28 total points while Nokas scored 23 and Ritter 15 points. The Region 11 leader, senior Duran Seby was held to 12 points.

Carl Albert connected on 17 of 45, including 5 of 23 from 3-point area, for 44 percent from the floor and 12 of 28 for 43 percent from the free throw line.

LOOSE BALL

Golden Norse center Bryon Mitchell (22) battle three Comets defenders for a loose ball.

Sophomores receive scholarships

Twenty-two sophomore members of the Golden Norse football program have transferred to four-year colleges or universities, according to head coach Dave Paterson.

American linebacker Josh Scooby (6-1, 215, Del City) has transferred back to Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, after originally signing with the Wildcats out of high school.

Scooby joined the Norsemen at the start of the 1999 campaign.

The transfering all-Southwest Junior College Football Conference honors two years ago.

Scooby became the first receiver in NEO history to top the 2,000-yard rushing plateau.

After leading the Norse with 1,171 yards as a freshman, Scooby led the conference with 1,335 yards this year. His 180 total points were also an NEO school record.

Three members of the Golden Norse squad joined the Cowboys of Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

Offensive linemen Kent Ellis (6-6, 265) from Ada, cornerback Michael Cooper (5-11, 180, Oklahoma City) and wide receiver Lawson Gladney (6-1, 175, McAlester) transferred to OSU. Ellis played out last year after seeing limited action as a freshman.

Gladneys, called all-conference honorable mention both as a receiver and kick return specialist.

He caught nine passes for 251 yards and two touchdowns while returning 21 kicks for 423 yards and six punts for 45 yards.

Cooper earned all-conference honorable mention after recording 45 unassisted tackles, 18 assists and 12 deflected passes and one interception.

Four players transferred to Southeast Missouri State University as Springfield Offensive tackle Bucked Turner (6-6, 240, Fort Zumwalt South) and Senior Bates (6-5, 250, Branson High) and free safety Kendrick Simon (5-10, 170, Tahlequah) all joined the Bears.

Bates, primarily used for his blocking skills, gained 99 yards on 35 carries while catching 17 passes for 242 yards and two touchdowns.

Pickett, all-conference honorable mention selection, led the Golden Norse defense with 72 solo tackles, 24 assisted tackles seven pass interceptions for minus 43 yards, three deflected passes and three fumbles recovered.

Sweatt, also an all-conference honorable mention choice, led the Norse secondary with three pass interceptions while recording 48 tackles, 34 assists and 17 pass deflections.

Four Golden Norse sophomores signed with Southeastern State University in Durant. All Conference offensive lineman Erik Aslett (6-2, 266, Chickasha), center Chris Prock (6-1, 257, Loyola), defensive tackle (two brothers) Renee (6-1, 225, Broken Arrow) and Steven Thomas (6-1, 250, Broken Arrow) all signed with the Bearcats.

Bates found 24 sacks and 31 tackles and Steven made 17 sacks and 28 tackles.

Veteran tight end John Cook (6-3, 236, Shawnee transferred to Oklahoma State University in Tahlequah. Cook caught one pass for 27 yards as a sophomore.

Wide receiver Rockwell Armstrong (6-3, 192, Midwest City transferred to Oklahoma State University in Tahlequah. Cook caught one pass for 27 yards as a sophomore.

Wide receiver John Cook (6-3, 236, Shawnee transferred to Oklahoma State University in Tahlequah. Cook caught one pass for 27 yards as a sophomore.

Defensive tackle Kevin Sharp (6-4, 238, Moore) transferred to Middle Tennessee State University. Sharp recorded 10 tackles, 17 assists and one fumble recovery.

Defensive end Chris Bills (6-1, 220, Lawton) joined the Gorillas of Pittsburg (Kansas) State University.

Sharp marked his 28 unassisted tackles, 38 assists and eight pass deflections.

Linebacker Randy Asutt (5-10, 205, Morris) joined the Red Raiders of Texas Tech University in Lubbock. Asutt has an all-conference honorable mention selection, recorded 60 solo tackles, 18 assists, six sacks for minus 31 yards and six fumble recoveries.

Defensive tackle Kevin Sharp (6-4, 238, Moore), contributed to Middle Tennessee State University. Sharp recorded 10 tackles, 17 assists and one fumble recovery.

Defensive end Chris Bills (6-1, 220, Lawton) joined the Gorillas of Pittsburg (Kansas) State University.

Sharp marked his 28 unassisted tackles, 38 assists and eight pass deflections.
SPORTS

27 straight...

Lady Norse break another school mark

By Nickie Blanket

With an eye on the prize of competing in the Region II post-season tournament, March 2-5 in Shreveport, the Lady Norse enter the final three games with a firm hold on first place in the Eastern Division of the Bi-State Athletic Conference.

After traveling to Fort Smith, Ark., Saturday for a 2 p.m. rematch with Westark College, the Lady Norse visit Barton, Ark., on Monday for a 6 p.m. divisional contest with North Alabama College.

The Lady Norse will conclude the regular season on Thursday by hosting Biscoe College at 6 p.m. in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Pairings for the Region II Tournament will be decided Friday at the coach’s meeting in Shreveport.

Lady Norse 102-Comets 69

Establishing a new school record for most consecutive wins, the third-ranked Lady Norse created a 102-69 victory over arch-rival Cotton State College, Monday night in the NEO Fieldhouse.

While winning their 13th consecutive home game, coach B.J. Smith’s Lady Norse own a perfect 27-0 season record and a perfect 7-0 mark in the Eastern Division of the Bi-State Athletic Conference. The loss dropped coach Mose Mabry’s Cowgirls to 15-9 on the season and 1-3 in the Bi-State East.

With the win the Lady Norse reached the 300-point plateau for the sixth time this season which is a new NEO school record. The previous record was once during the 1995-96 season. The previous school record for most consecutive wins was 26 set in 1990-91.

“This was a great night all the way around. Not only was this a tremendous accomplishment for our players, but our fans came out and really gave us a boost. When Joyce Cheney came off the bench and hit the three to put us over the 100-point mark, it was a very emotional time for our kids,” said Smith.

Cheney, a 5-6 sophomore guard from Catoosa, had missed 10 games with a knee injury. She returned to the team this week wearing a knee brace and could require surgery at the end of the season.

“Our girls did a great job of protecting their guard and directing where they were going to go with the ball. They also did a tremendous job of creating turnovers that led to easy baskets,” Smith said.

Taking control from the opening tipoff, the Lady Norse never trailed in the game.

The fourth 3-pointer of the half by Rosalind Ross along with a basket by Crystal Bennett and a free throw by Emma Reilly enabled the Lady Norse to carry a 39-25 cushion to the locker room at half.

Outscoring the Cowgirls 23-14 over the first five minutes of the second half, the Lady Norse maintained a 62-39 margin.

“Our players did a good job in the second half of keeping them off the boards. This was a real team effort where everybody made major contributions,” said Smith.

Ross led the Lady Norse with 17 total points while Latasha White scored 16, Sonja King White 12 and Leslie Lee 11 points.

Sophomore center Valerie Monecke paced the Cowgirls with 20 points while Katrina Jones scored 17 and Reynolds by adding 12 points.

Lady Norse 96-Westerns 51

With three players scoring over 20 total points each, the Lady Norse squelched the NEO school record for most consecutive wins with a 96-51 victory over Western Oklahoma College last Saturday at Wyatt Gymnasium in Altus.

This was a great win for these girls to be able to do the school record for most consecutive wins because of the amount of work and effort they’ve put in this year. Ultimately our goal is to win the division, win the regional and have a chance to go to Salina, Kan., as the national tournament,” said Smith.

Against Western Oklahoma, the Lady Norse received 17 total points each from sophomore Rosalind Ross, Latasha White and along with freshman Crystal Bennett to complete the two-game sweep of the Lady Pioneers. The loss dropped Western Oklahoma to 16-11 on the year.

Exploding for 14 straight points, the Lady Norse grabbed a 20-4 cushion with 11:46 until half-time on five points by Bennett and four by Charlotte Nelson along with a basket by Kalita McFadden and a 3-pointer by Ross.

Outscoring the Lady Pioneers 21-8 over the next nine minutes, the Lady Norse pulled away to a 41-16 cushion. Ross ignited the rout with nine points while April Ponds added four.

The Lady Norse balanced scoring continued through the final 11 minutes of the second half as NEO outscored Western 25-11 to open up a 56-31 margin. Bennett sparked the run with eight points while Lee added six.

Along with the 17 points each from Ross, Latasha White and Bennett, the Lady Norse received 11 total points from Lee. Jessica VanZandt led the Lady Pioneers with 12 total points.

Lady Norse 60-Carl Albert 68

Continuing to use a tenacious defense and balanced offense, the Lady Norse cruised to a 31-16 victory over Carl Albert State College last week in the NEO Fieldhouse.

“Against Carl Albert, we struggled a little bit in the first half against their zone defense. Nicki (Durant) did a good job of getting them ready and they came out and really put it on us,” Smith said.

“But we made some adjustments at halftime and our kids did a good job of getting out and sticking their shots in the second half. We controlled the tempo in the second half which is what we wanted to do.”

During the first 10 minutes of the opening half, the two teams battled to a 21-21 draw before a field goal by April Ponds and a 3-pointer by Stephanie Amy gave the Lady Norse a 26-21 margin with 3:45 until halftime.

Freshman center Emma Reilly scored on a put-back with 1:45 seconds left in the Lady Norse carried a 38-34 lead to the locker room at halftime.

Outscoring the Lady Vikings 26-15 in the final five minutes of the second half, the Lady Norse constructed a 58-45 cushion Ross sank two 3-pointers and added a field goal to fuel the outburst by the Lady Norse. Lisa Song added a 3-pointer and Rachel Lee sank three free throws during the rally.

Ross led the Lady Norse with 16 total points while Ross scored 15, McFadden 13 and Bennett 10 points.

Lucy Johnson paced Carl Albert with 13 points while Coachinho scored 11 points each.
The Norsewind – the NEO A&M College Newspaper

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