Parents needed for annual Children's Christmas Party

By Kristen Bradley

Sign up for potential "adoptive parents" for the 2001 Adopt A Child Christmas Party continue, according to Shirley Patterson, coordinator of the event.

"Students can still sign up until 3 p.m. Monday, so let's hurry up and get those children adopted," said Patterson.

Sponsored by the Student Body Government, the party is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 4, at 6:30 p.m., in the Bruce G. Carter Student Activity Center.

Area grade schools have provided the Student Body Government with approximately 150 less fortunate children in grades kindergarten through the third grade. NEO students that "adopt" a child will need to contact the child's parents before the party and make the necessary arrangements.

"We advise the "adoptive parents" to locate the child's name in the parking lot. The party begins at 6 p.m.," said Patterson.

Everyone invited to have a traditional Christmas meal and visit with the children. "We want to encourage everyone on campus to participate," said Patterson.

"It's a great way for students to create a bond that can last for years," said Patterson.

Applications due for Who's Who

By Kristen Bradley

Applications forms for the prestigious Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges are currently available from the registrar's office, according to Carol F. Smith, coordinator of the selection committee.

Students interested in making application can get a procedures and qualifications sheet from any faculty member, academic advisor, or myself in room 315 of Shipley Hall," said Smith.

Deadline for completion of the forms is noon, Friday, Dec. 7. Forms can either be returned to Smith's office or sent to box 380 at the campus post office.

"Because there is a national deadline, it is imperative that this information is sent to the national office as soon as possible," Smith said.

Previously the deadline was March 15, 2002.

In some cases, the student must pay a non-refundable processing fee of $25.

Along with the Who's Who application, applicants are required to submit an essay on leadership, service, loyalty, and character.

Other criteria used in the selection process include:

- Cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher
- Minimum of 12 college credit hours
- Participation in extracurricular activities
- Admission to the Jr. College program
- Minimum of 12 credit hours

Each type of activity may count up to two points with a maximum of five points in this category.

Examples of extracurricular activities would be band, theatre, choir, varsity athletes, Student Senate, cheerleading, livestock judging, equestrian judging, student newspaper and student yearbook.

"We want to encourage anyone with at least 4.0 GPA to make application because this award has a lot of fringe benefits," said Smith.
Beliefs can change

By Danielle Boyd
Managing Editor

Because of the recent events in the United States, one would think that our eyes would be open to what kind of people we really are, and that maybe we should be more open-minded. I couldn't be more wrong.

Sitting in class on Wednesday, the people around me were discussing homosexuality.

Keep in mind, it is the year 2001.

I should of known that the mentality has not changed in the town of Miami, and that no matter what happens, this town is going to be full of the brim with racist, homophobe people.

In class, there were some that argued that homosexuals choose to be that way, and all they need to do is change their minds.

I'm sorry, what century is this?

There were others who said that it doesn't matter how it happens, it's just wrong because the Bible says it is.

You know, the Bible says a lot of things.

Things like working on the sabbath (Sunday) is wrong, and if your neighbor has the right to kill them.

Things like selling your daughter into slavery when she turns 13.

Things like making a sacrifice of a goat or cow every year to God.

I don't see anyone knocking on my door wanting to see my sacrifice to God.

But when it gets to sexuality, everyone has to be in the middle of it.

And when the Bible was written, the world's population was a lot smaller than what it is now. Procreation was one of the biggest needs, and that's why the law was that men could only have sex with women.

It wasn't morals, it was needed for survival of the human race.

I've got news for the people who drive around town with Confederate flags stuck on their cars and trucks, and for the people who think that homosexuals are just confused. You better never leave Miami.

It's not like this in New York, or California, or Florida, or almost everywhere else in the United States.

You can't just go around saying things like "Homosexuals are just confused. They'll come around."

Being a Homosexual isn't wrong. It isn't a disease, or genetic. Neither is falling in love with a person of a different race.

It's just different than what the old-fashioned people of the Bible Belt of America are used to.

Some people go through life alone, never to fall in love, or even experience the feeling.

I'm going to be 20 in December, and I'm yet to fall in love.

If someone is lucky enough to find somebody that they want to spend the rest of their life with, no matter what sex, race, or religion, why would the community tell them it's wrong?

Why should someone hide their feelings for someone else?

Falling in love, and losing another is what we're here for.

We're not here to separate ourselves, to divide into groups.

Don't get me wrong. Not everyone in this town thinks that being a homosexual is wrong, or that falling in love with someone despite their race is not the right thing to do.

It just seems like there are just as many Confederate flags around town as there are American flags.

I'm sorry to tell you guys, but that war was about 100 years ago, and the South lost. Big time.

There is only one flag that represents America, and it doesn't even have an "X" on it.

Going to college, I have been lucky enough to meet many different people, of all races, religions, and backgrounds.

It has made me a better, well-rounded person.

If students, or anyone, tries to tell me that the Bible says it's wrong to be a homosexual, I want to remind them that the Bible also says that there are two things that we, as Christians, should do.

Love God, and love our neighbor.

That's it. No where is that sentence does it say to segregate the community, or to judge each other.

Look at yourself. Decide what kind of person you would like to be, and the kind of person you want your children to be.

And when we can all truly come together, we can stand up and sing the words of that old Negro spiritual "Free at last, free at last, thank God Almighty, we are free at last."

-Martin Luther King, Jr.
MUSICAL FOR CHILDREN
Popular web sites provide valuable university scholarship information

By Danielle Boyd
Managing Editor

High school students are increasingly turning from printed materials to the Internet for advice on picking a college and shaping their career futures.

Many college require students to take a computer course, so approximately 90 percent of college students are computer literate. Students still rely in part on brochures mailed out by colleges and universities, though. They also peruse popular print guides such as Princeton Review's "Best 33 Colleges," Barnard's Profiles of American Colleges, and Peterson's Four-Year Colleges.

But as more students become more wired to the Internet, they are using interactive Web sites as never before. These sites enable them to research career orientation with colleges and universities that will further them.

Harrriet Brund, Princeton Review's director of public relations in New York City, said, "There is a definite need for students to use the Internet to research colleges and universities. They have access to a wealth of information that is not available through traditional means." The Princeton Review is a well-established publisher of college and university guide materials.

The Web site for the "Best 33 Colleges" is www.princetonreview.com.

This site provides students' information on various options and with schools that offer majors leading to degrees in those fields. This site will also evaluate the students' ability to get into a school.

A group acquires several donations

A group of college students have worked on a special project to promote patriotism and unity after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The communications director of the Business Leaders of Tomorrow Ernest Hart, inspired by the Sept. 11 disaster, formed with N.E.O. Institute's Ethel Haye and Ronnie Lawson, about an idea to send local sentiments to the victims and heroes of New York and Washington, D.C., with their consent and support of the club, Hart was appointed as chairman of the project. He solicited everyone in the club to assist as they had time. The club overwhelmingly supported the effort.

The concept was to construct a 16-foot by 5-foot hand-drawn United States flag. Hart was specific about why the flag had to be hand drawn.

"It will reflect the human spirit and feeling for our nation and demonstrate that we sincerely care," Hart said. His theory proved successful as the idea gained momentum. Everyone in the B.L.T. that had time, colored and fused over making certain the flag was prepared in proper order.

Once the flag was finished the last step was to have as many students and faculty sign the project with their personal sentiments and support, which was an overwhelming success.

The banner was placed in the window of Copen Hall and approximately 90 signatures were penned by students and faculty.

On the night of N.E.O.'s Homecoming football game, the task was to take the banner to the football field.

"With the impromptu assistance of Mr. Lawson, we transposed "O! Glory" to the football stadium.

"We set out contribution cans at the concession stands, gave a script to the N.E.O. announcers," said Hart.

Hart, manned a contribution station and solicited the help of H.T. Clark.

As the crowds flowed in, there was much pride and feeling as people gave and penned their sentiments. The announcer cited the banner and contribution opportunities periodically throughout the game.

The banner gained approximately another 200 plus signatures and $175 dollars in contributions for the relief effort.

"It was such an outstanding support of that members stopped collections about five minutes past kickoff and resumed for 20 minutes during halftime.

"Members were all given laundry remarks and felt quite proud," Hart said.

"It is the hope and aspiration of the Business Leaders of Tomorrow club to foster a spirit of community and business unity as we develop ourselves as a club."
Ladies win holiday classic

Ranked number one in the nation, coach B.J. Smith's Lady Norse have won seven straight games to start the season. After hosting Coffeyville (Kan) Community College last night, the Lady Norse will take a five-day break before hosting Crowder (Mo.) College at 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 3.

Four members of the Lady Norse basketball team were selected to the All-Classic team during the Lady Norse Thanksgiving Classic last Saturday in the NIBS Fieldhouse. The 2nd-ranked Missouri Lady Greyhounds of Moberly, Missouri, gained a hard-fought 77-76 victory in double overtime against the Lady Greyhounds of Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College in the first game on Saturday. Moberly is 5-4 on the season and Fort Scott 3-5 for the year.

Two free throws by Ebony Hughes with three seconds left in the second overtime provided Moberly with the victory. Moberly outscored Fort Scott 26 to 14 in the free throw line including 6 of 8 during the extra five-minute period compared to only 1 of 2 by Fort Scott. Hughes led all scorers with 27 points while DeWanda Holiday added 22 points for Moberly. Kia Dowell paced Fort Scott with 25 points and Neu Wharama scored 21 points.

Holiday and Wharama were named to the All-Classic team along with Raesh Petie of Mid-America Nazarene. Representing the Lady Norse on the team were Brandi Russia, Marie Villamor and Mobsh Shellford. Lady Norse point-guard Nabilah Lai was selected Most Valuable Player of the classic.

Ladies Win Missouri Valley

All 14 members of the Lady Norse squad contributed points in the victory over the Mid-America Nazarene Lady Pioneers. Freedom guard Sam Jo Cotton led the point parade with 20 while Villamor added 18, Lucimaria Silva 14 and Lai, Shellford and Carole Sosa each scored 12 points.

During the first five minutes of the opening half the Lady Norse constructed a 22-0 advantage on eight points by Sosa and four by Cotton along with baskets by Jade Lamb, Emily Evans, Shellford and Lai. Missouri's lead ballooned to 44-15 with 8:15 until halftime as Lai canned a 3-pointer and Shellford, Cotton, Villamor and Sonja Helley added four points each.

Another 29-11 spurt by the Lady Norse enabled NEC to carry an overwhelming 73-26 lead to the locker room at halftime. Those points were by Shelby Hardren, 1, Evans, Cotton and Helley - 9 of the run.

Mid-America Nazarene to only six points in the first eight minutes of the second half, the Lady Norse built a 99-32 margin. Villamor tallied 12 points during the outburst while Cotton canned three 3-pointers.

Petit paced the Lady Norse with 17 total points. Lady Norse 114-Moberly 65

Eclipsing the 100-point plateau for the first time this season, the Lady Norse gained a 114-65 victory over Moberly Community College, last Friday, in the opening round of the Lady Norse Thanksgiving Classic at the NEC Fieldhouse.

Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College opened the round-robin classic with a 63-37 win over the junior varsity from Mid-America Nazarene College of Olathe, Kan.

Sophomore forward Noni Wharama scored 18 total points and grabbed seven rebounds as Fort Scott defeated Mid-America 74-63 in the first game. Veteran guard Kia Dowell added 17 points and nine rebounds as the Lady Greyhounds built a 27-22 lead at halftime. Sophomore guard Leah Bouchart paced the Lady Pioneers with 13 total points.

During the first seven minutes of the opening half the Lady Norse constructed a 22-7 lead as Lai sank two 3-point field goals. Russia and Villamor accounted for six points while Sosa and Russia added four each and Lai hit her fourth 3-pointer. Russia led both teams with 20 total points while Villamor scored 19, Lai 18 and Sosa added 11 points for the Lady Norse.

DeWanda Holiday scored 16 points to lead Moberly while Shanelle Stewart added 12, Romae 11 and Ebony Hughes 10 points.

Lady Norse 113-NEC 47

Paced by the 26-point performance by Villamor, the Lady Norse cruised to a 113-47 victory over the Oklahoma Baptist University Junior Varsity, mostly in the Moberly Center at Shawnee. Villamor scored six straight points and Russia and Sosa both added four each in the Lady Norse opening up a 14-point lead in the first five minutes of the first half.

Alternating players from the depth on the bench, Lady Norse coach B.J. Smith received two 3-point baskets from Sam Jo Cotton along with two free throws to give NEC's 31-12 margin with 8:45 until intermission.

Lady Bison center Jennifer Green scored seven points inside the paint and guard Sam Lach added three points as NEC held the Lady Norse to 36-22 with 2:50 before half.

A jumper by Kasey Karns along with four points by Villamor and field goals by Anika Harden, Russia, Lai, Lamb and Shellford enabled the Lady Norse to construct a 51-22 advantage at halftime.

During the second half the Lady Norse put together two 3-point scoring bursts to bury the Lady Bison. Villamor tallied 16 points during the half while Cotton added 16 as the Lady Norse used their superior bench strength to hold NEC at bay.

Villamor led both teams with 26 total points while Cotton contributed 20 and Russia and Sosa both scored 14 each.

Green tallied 22 points to lead the Lady Bison while Jacylin Jones added 11 points.
Norsemen bury Bison

Following a 10-day break for the Thanksgiving holidays, coach Lonnie Spencer’s Golden Norse will play six games before the long Christmas break.

Continuing a four-game home stand, the Norsemen hosted arch-rival Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College last night. Entering the Coffeyville game, the Golden Norse were 2-2 on the season. The Golden Norsemen will host ninth-ranked West Plains, Mo., Saturday at 7 p.m. in the NEO Fieldhouse.

NEO will have a rematch with Independence (Kan.) Community College next Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 8 p.m. in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Norsemen (10-Oklahomaspoke, JV) 73

After a rather sluggish start, the Golden Norsemen scored 66 points during the second half to en route to a 103-73 victory over the Oklahoma Baptist University Junior Varsity, recently in the NEO Fieldhouse.

“We used the break to iron out some things that are still giving us trouble,” said Spencer.

“We are still struggling at the start of the game. We’ve got to learn to come out and establish ourselves from the opening tipoff.”

Two-point field goals by Steven Smith and one by Richard Spear along with a regular field goal by Smith propelled the Norse to an 11-3 lead in the first five minutes of the opening half.

“When we got untracked, we took care of business. We started playing more aggressive on defense and more patient on offense and it paid off,” Spencer said.

George West scored 18 of his game-high 21 total points in the second half.

Along with the 25 points from West, the Norse received 22 points from Uzimel Nwachukwu, 15 from Brandon Daniels, 13 from Rick Bruner and 10 points from Jason Mayes.

LADIES WIN THREE GAMES

Photos by Monty Franks
The Norsewind – the NEO A&M College Newspaper

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