Internet replaces printed materials

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 99 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 311 Colleges,” Barron’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 much career interests with colleges and universities that will further their Harriet Brand, Princeton Review’s director of public relations in New York City, said, “There is a definite trend for students to use the net over print.” They have grown up on the net and are used to getting a library of content right on their computer screen,” Brand said.

Using the Internet is useful for Universities, too. Applicants can apply online, and Admissions officials only have to upload applications directly into their databases saving time and energy from going through regular mail-in applications.

The Princeton Review is a well-established publisher of print materials for the college bound. The web site for the “Best 311 Colleges” is www.review.com.

Facility members Mike Mayfield, Lisa Lewis and Jeri Douglas received the coveted “Mr. Goodbar Award” for their contributions to the party. Clubs and organizations are reminded to have a representative present at the next Student Body Government meeting scheduled for Jan. 22, 2002, at 5:30 p.m. in the Bruce Carter Student Union Ballroom Lounge.

Party provides loads of smiles

Providing “adoptive parents” for more than 150 area underprivileged children, the annual Children’s Christmas Party last Tuesday proved to be quite successful. “The student body did a really good job in this activity,” said Student Body Government president Michael Deering. “I knew our mission was complete when I saw the bright smiles on the children’s faces.”
Video games help

By Jerry Williams

Editorial Editor

The United States Air Force is looking for a few good video game players. That’s right; you joy-stick jockeys, everyone thought all those hours you’ve logged in front of the computer screen have been wasted, but boy were they wrong.

That dashing figure, the fighter pilot, with his white scarf and faded leather bumber jacket, may be a thing of the past.

Some in the defense industry believe that the days of the fighter pilot are numbered. Trained pilots in the future may be controlling an unmanned aircraft while sitting back at the base in front of a computer.

We’ve seen evidence of this evolution even now in the form of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, or UAV’s, in action over Afghanistan.

Advantages of unmanned aircraft over manned vehicles are that they’re much less expensive to operate and they do their jobs without risking pilot’s lives.

Unmanned vehicles, or drones, have been in use since the early 1960’s for intelligence gathering and propaganda purposes over Vietnam.

The newest version of UAV’s is the X-45 UCAS. This unmanned aircraft is designed to fly a 650 mile round trip mission and is capable of carrying 3,000 pounds of guided bombs.

Because these planes don’t have to incorporate expensive life-support systems and visual instruments, their cost will be in the $10-$15 million range rather than the $45 million price tag on a manned fighter.

Capable of flying at altitudes of 30,000-40,000 feet and at speeds of near 600 mph, the X-45 will be much harder to shoot down than its predecessor, the General Atomics Predator.

The X-45 is manufactured by Boeing Corp. and according to Todd Bieker, Boeing spokesman, the aircraft carries an artificial intelligence computer that allows it to track, identify and bomb targets on its own, if humans permit.

“At least initially,” Bieker said, “it would rely on a human in the loop. But theoretically, you could do it another way. You could program it to drop its weapon when it finds the target, using artificial intelligence.”

Captain Brad Smith, an F-15 fighter pilot out of Langley Air Force Base, believes that killing people with a flying robot is beyond the range of acceptable warfare.

So far, the unmanned aircraft have been deployed over Afghanistan, but they have yet to find a place in the regular military.

In order for Texas to get the water, the plan would have to be approved by the Oklahoma legislature, the Caddo and Chickasaw nations and the U.S. Department of the Interior.

The plan is a pending water sale compact between the State of Oklahoma, two Indian tribes and the State of Texas.

Texas is a water poor and wants the excess surface water from 22 southeastern Oklahoma counties.

In order for Texas to get the water, the plan would have to be approved by the Oklahoma legislature, the Caddo and Chickasaw nations and the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Oklahoma and the two tribes would split equally the revenue from the water sale with the states half going back to the 22 counties.

The two parties have yet to agree on a price that is acceptable.

Environmentalists, worried about changing river flows, claim there will be damage to bottom land hardwood forests.

A solution is at hand however, and I’m surprised that no one has thought of it before now.

I’m talking about Tar Creek. There’s enough water right there to provide a good portion of north Texas requirements.

The State of Oklahoma would do anything to get rid of the Tar Creek problem, while the EPA and the Department of the Interior.

The Indians around the area don’t want anything to do with it either.

Ditto the environmentalists.

When all those greedy hands are shoved away from the pie, you can sell the pie, or the water, for a lot less and still make a lot of money.

Texas will be better off for the deed too. The taste of Tar Creek water is probably a good deal better than Dallas’ drinking water.

Plan that orange color is a whole lot prettier.
PARENTAL HELP
Two unidentified coats "adoptive parents" try to help their "adoptive son" unwrap a present during the annual Student Body Government Children's Christmas Party held last week in the Bruce G. Carter Student Union Ballroom.

TURN IT ON RIGHT HERE
Sophomore Amber Cockrell demonstrates how to use a toy.

WHAT THUMB
Niki Watkins holds a child.

Tots Toyland
PHOTOS BY DANIELLE BOYD

FIXING A NAME TAG
"Adoptive mom" Amy Gillespie removes a name tag for her "adoptive daughter" during the Children's Christmas Party.

MAIN ATTRACTION
Santa Claus enters the ballroom and greets more than 350 participants in the annual Children's Christmas Party.
MEDIEVAL FUN FOR ALL

PHOTOS BY DANIELLE BOYD
NORSE WIND
Wednesday, December 12, 2001

LIFESTYLES

Christmas centers around love

By Kateryna Babay

Christmas is for joy, for giving and sharing, for laughter, for coming together with family and friends, and for feasting and decorated packages. But most importantly, Christmas is for love. It was this love for which Jesus came to this world and sacrificed his life.

The word Christmas comes from the Old English Christes Messe or Christ's Mass. Thus Christmas is a celebration of love and mirth symbolized by the Nativity, the Santa Claus, the carol, the mistletoe, and the evergreen. Places like Rome, Europe, Scandinavia and many others have celebrated the peak winter days with a grand feast even before the birth of Christ.

It was regarded as the perfect time for the celebrations as the period had a good wine, meat for the feast. The winter celebrations revolved around the hope of the coming spring, after the long cold days.

While Christianity was still in its infancy, Easter was celebrated by the Holy Church in every country in the world. It was celebrated in different ways at that time. While the Christians decided to celebrate the birth of Jesus and observe the holiday.

Surprisingly enough, the Bible has no mention of the actual birth date of Jesus Christ. According to some evidence, Jesus is supposed to have been born in spring, though this fact remains disputed with controversies.

According to the historical records available, Christmas was first celebrated in January 6 according to the old calendar. Christmas day was also observed as an official Roman holiday starting from A.D. 354. The practice was continued until the different disputes or other reasons, the celebration of the day was shifted to the Gregorian calendar in 1753. This resumed the date for Christmas celebrations, which fell on December 25.

It is said that Pope Julius I chose December 25th to celebrate Christmas. According to the popular belief, the church decided this date in an effort to adopt and absorb the pagan Saturnalia festival on the Feast of the Nativity. The celebration of the day gradually spread all across the world, where the followers of the Christian community had spread to Egypt by 452 and to England by the end of the sixth century. By the end of the eighteenth century, Christmas had spread all the way to Scandinavia.

In the early nineteenth century, a wave of religious reform threatened to change the way Christmas was celebrated. In 1845 Oliver Cromwell and his Puritan forces took over England and vowed to rid England of decadence.

They used the celebrations of Christmas as a step to achieve their goal. But, Charles Dickens wrote to the throne and this resumed the popular holiday.

Christmas had a late arrival in America, and was even feared with some hostility. In the years 1659 to 1688 Christmas was actually outlawed in Boston. The Christmas spirit was fixed. As an immediate result of the Anarchy, English customs fell out of favor and celebrating Christmas was among them. Though some places did celebrate Christmas with all the related gaiety, they remained an exception.

But with the beginning of the nineteenth century, the need for a festival to have some commemorative time embraced Christmas as a perfect family holiday.

Christmas was declared as a national holiday for celebration on the 25th of December. But that was not all. Americans even reversed the celebration of Christmas and transformed it from a season of sorrow and joy to one of festivity.

Within hundred years, the nation had built traditions in the Christmas celebration that was all of its own in every green tree, sending Christmas cards and presenting gifts. The festival also fulfilled the cultural needs.

With the passage of time, Christmas celebration became a part of life for the Christians all over the world. It is one of the other holidays to everything related to the celebrations. Santa Claus, an important part of Christmas, has an interesting story behind him.

The custom of Santa Claus signifies the life of Saint Nicholas, who was a missionary to the poor. He was a Roman Catholic bishop, who lived during the fourteenth century in Asia Minor.

As the story goes, Saint Nicholas once helped a man's daughter with her dowry by anonymously dropping a bag of gold in the chimney. After helping the man's second and third daughters in similar manner, he was caught in the act.

As a result of his generosity, the practice of dropping gifts down the chimney was established. With the passing of time, St. Nicholas became known as Santa Claus—an important figure for the Christian, who is expected to bring gifts to all and even drop them through the chimneys.

The year 1841 was a significant in the Christmas celebration in England. Prince Albert, the German husband of the queen Victoria, brought the first Christmas tree from Germany to the royal castle of Windsor. In 1842, Dr. Charles Frederick Morgen rode, professor of Greek, brought the first Christmas tree from Germany to Richmond, Virginia, the United States of America.

The green tree has a military impact on the world. In Britain, for the pagans, the Yule log figures used to decorate the homes were believed to bring back its warmth at the time of the solstice. Moreover, in Europe, green trees were considered to be the talismans for good luck.

Christmas time is regarded as the ideal time to get away from crazy hustle and share some good times with friends and family. The present day Christmas celebration is the result of the conscious or unconscious commemoration of the birth of the Jesus Christ—very likely the holiest event ever to take place anywhere on the Earth, and an entirely worthy occasion to celebrate.

Attending the church for prayers and later having a feast time is the most necessary part of Christmas celebration. The celebration of Christmas also includes a number of aspects that involve different kinds of decoration as well as pieces of gum with a Christian background, holy shrimp and its red betes, songs of Carols in every house of the locality are epitome of the important part of Christmas. Besides, blood-red betes Americans also treasure Hollywood's bleeding death and his crown of thorns. The significance of Santa Claus is also notable in the Christmas celebration. According to popular belief, Santa Claus brings toys to everyone on this very day.

Like Santa Claus in the States, Santa Klaus in Holland and Saint Nicholas in Germany are a big part of Christmas celebration. Although, children in these countries are reputed to have been born in spring, through this fact remains disputed with controversies.

Hanukkah celebration special

Danielle Boyd
Managing Editor

No matter how you spell it, the story of this holiday is familiar to all. The Hebrew word Hanukkah, or "dedication," refers to the eight-day Jewish holiday of Hanukkah, which is celebrated in accordance with the Hebrew calendar.

The story of Hanukkah, eight days and nights of joy and rejoicing, can be found in the second Book of Maccabees, the last historical book of the Old Testament. For thousands of years, the Jewish people have struggled to retain their homeland and traditional way of life.

In 332 B.C., Alexander the Great took control of Jerusalem, their sacred city. Alexander wanted to unite all people into a Greek state, and he was successful. This was known as hellenization.

However, 125 years later, a Syrian king named Antiochus III resisted even more strongly on the hellenization of all surrounding peoples. His dream included the worship of his gods.

Unrest grew between the Jews and the Syrian and many people were killed. A civic priest, Mattathias of Modin, along with his five sons, decided to stand as a champion of Jewish people willing to resist the Syrian. The Jewish fighters became known as the Maccabees after Mattathias' youngest son, Judas Maccabaeus, who proved to be a brilliant fighter and an inspiring leader.

The Syrian army outnumbered the Jews and could not gain the upper hand as a war began. The Syrian army surrounded the town of Modin. In time, the powerful army took control of the Temple in Jerusalem.

As the Temple symbolized the Jews’ rights to worship freely, the Jews were forced to leave the Temple. This was a terrible blow—after centuries of years of freedom, the Jews had been forced to worship freely now.

Determined to regain control of the Temple at any cost, the Maccabees took back Jerusalem and their Temple after four costly battles. It would take many more years of fighting to gain religious freedom.

Judas and his men began building and rebuilding the Temple. After a great deal of work, the Temple was finished. It was completed on the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kisle.

They planned a special celebration to rededicate the Temple. But they only found one jar of the special lamp oil, which was washed and broken away. It was just enough oil to light the Temple menorah for only one day. However, miraculously, the lamp remained burning for eight days and eight nights, giving Judah and his men the time they needed to find more oil.

Hanukkah means "dedication." To celebrate the great miracle of light in 168 B.C., Jewish families have since then gathered around a special menorah which contains nine candles. Ever night of the holiday the menorah is lit.

The helper or server candle, the shamash, is first. From this candle, the Hanukkah candles are lit on each night. The candelas should be added to the menorah from the right to the left, but they are placed from left to right.

The candelas symbolize light, truth, and the Jewish people's love of liberty.

Gifts are exchanged and children receive Hanukkah "gifts," or gelt.

Gelt are given using a candelabra shaped like a dreidel. On this dreidel are four Hebrew letters, Nun, Gimel, Hey, and Shin, which represent "Hanukkah gelt.

The stand for the box, Gelt, Sham, which includes "Hanukkah gelt."

Although the holiday is created by the Torah, Hanukkah has been celebrated from random dates of the year by special activities and special foods. The most popular themes throughout the Hanukkah dishes are the use of oil and cheese.

The olive oil, which is used during the holiday, is considered to be a symbol of good luck.
Two baseball players sign with major universities

By Don Slapa
Sports Editor

Two baseball players have signed national letter of intents with Division I universities.

Nate Griffin, a 5-11, 190,
sophomore catcher from
Tulsa Union High School,
signed with Oral Roberts University.

"Griffin has been touted as
one of the best JUCO catchers
available," said Golden Norse
baseball coach Roger Ward.

Griffin led NEO with 18
doubles as a freshman. He fin-
ished with a .337 batting aver-
age.

"Defensively, there is none
better! Nate threw out 56 per-
cent of base stealers last sea-
son and he has gained a great
deal of muscle which will
help his numbers this spring," Ward
said.

Griffin collected three dou-
bles, 11 runs batted in and hit
.300 during last years Region
II Tournament in Fort Smith,
Ark.

Right-handed pitcher Rory
Coppening, 6-1, 215, from
White Rock, BC, Canada,
signed with former Golden
Norse and OSU head coach
Gary Ward at New Mexico
State University.

As a freshman Coppening
led the Norsemen with a 6-2
overall record and a 2.97
cared run average.

"Coppening is a control
pitcher, with an above average
fastball and great stuff," said
Ward.

Coppening recorded 67
strike outs and only 23 walks
in 62 innings of work as a
freshman.

"During the regional last
year, Rory beat number two
tranked Corners State in the
first game and left with a two-
run lead after seven innings in
the semi-final game," Ward
said.

Three players receive honors

Three members of the ninth
ranked Lady Norse volleyball
team received post-season hon-
ors recently.

Sophomore setter Crissie
Cusha, 6-1 from Rio de Janeiro,
Brazil, was named Most
Valuable Player of Region II.

Cusha and sophomore
teammate Priscilla Souza, 5-10
mid-setter from Rio de Janeiro,
represented the Lady Norse on
the All Region II team.

Freshman Lillian Bonito,
6-4 from Rio de Janeiro, record-
ed 27 blocks during the na-
tional tournament and received
All-Tournament recognition.
Lady Norse extend streak

Opening action in the Region II, the number one ranked Lady Norse host Western Oklahoma College, Saturday, 2 p.m., in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Coach B.J. Smith’s Lady Norse enter the final game of the fall semester with a perfect 11-0 season record.

The Lady Norse will enjoy a three-week Christmas break before returning to action Saturday, Jan. 5, by playing at Odessa, Texas, at East Central State University in Ada.

Entering the final game the Lady Norse are led by sophomore guard Maria Villarreal with a 23.5 scoring average. Villarreal also leads the team with a 6-4 rebounding average and 5.3 assists.

Four members of the Lady Norse squad are averaging in double figures. Along with Villarreal are Brandy Russell 15.3, Lucima Silva 10.7, and Pabitria Lacz with a 10.3 average.

NEO is averaging 108.4 points per game while holding opponents to 57 percent from the field in a team.

Lady Norse 108-Gothenburg 99

Fending off a second half rally by Coffeyville Community College, the Lady Norse gained a 108-99 victory over the Lady Ravens last Saturday in Coffeyville, Kan.

During the first half against Coffeyville the lead changed hands 12 times as the teams traded baskets throughout the 20-minute period.

Maria Villarreal led all scorers with 27 total points while Pabitria Lacz added 21, Lucima Silva 19 and Brandy Russell 15 points for NEO.

April Jean tallied 25 points to lead the Lady Ravens while Desire Thomas contributed 21 and Jocelyn Smith added 20 points.

Thomas grabbed 10 rebounds as Coffeyville held a 36-31 edge on the boards. Villarreal and Smith collected eight rebounds each to lead the Lady Norse.

Lady Norse 122-Independence 88

Superior depth and balanced scoring carried the Lady Norse to a 122-88 rout of the Lady Pirates of Independence (Kan.) Community College, last week in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Sophomore guard Maria Villarreal scored 29 total points as all 13 members of the Lady Norse squad contributed points. Villarreal canned 11 of 13 from the field and a perfect 5 of 5 at the free throw line.

Cotton contributed 17 points, Silva 15, Russel 14 and Lacz 10 as the Lady Norse smashes the 100-point plateau for the sixth time this season.

During the first seven minutes of the opening half the Lady Norse constructed a 21-3 lead on eight points by Russel, a 3-pointer by Cotton and baskets by Viola Cooper, Malia Shepler, Jade Lamb and Lacz.

A 3-point field goal by Silva boosted the Lady Norse over the century mark. Down the stretch Cotton scored eight points and Cooper and Lacz added four each.

Courtney Frager, Reinae Hutchenson and Alexis Campbell each scored eight points to lead the Lady Pirates.

Lady Norse 87-Crowder 55

Continuing to dominate the opposition at both ends of the court, the Lady Norse gained a 87-55 victory over Crowder College of Neosho. Mo., recently in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Crowder’s only lead of the game occurred in the first five minutes of the opening half at 5-2 on three free throws by Jenny Dwyer and a field goal by former Miami Lady Warding Kassie McCoy.

Three-point field goals by Lacz and Emily Eaves along with a basket by Shepler gave NEO a 10-5 margin with 1:41 remaining until halftime.

Over the next 11 minutes the Lady Norse outscored the Lady Riders 25-10 to construct a 35-15 cushion. Eight points by Russel and six by Villarreal fueled the Lady Norse.

Villarreal led all scorers with 21 total points while Russia scored 19 and Eaves added 10 points for the Lady Norse.

Kassie McCoy scored 20 points to lead the Lady Riders while Julie Dwyer added 16 points. Lacz grabbed eight rebounds as NEO held a 33-28 advantage on the boards. Dwyer collected 13 rebounds to lead Crowder.

DENY THE PASS

Photo by Dermo Averd

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Norse host Pioneers

After hosting Cowley County, Kan., on Monday in the final non-conference game of the season, the Golden Norsemen conclude the fall portion of the schedule Saturday against Bi-State Athletic Conference foe Western Oklahoma at 4 p.m.

Coach Lonnie Spencer’s Golden Norse were 4-4 on the season prior to the rematch with Cowley County.

Following the Christmas break the Norse begin a four-game road trip in West Plains, Mo., on Jan. 2 against Southwest Missouri/West Plains.

Coffeeville 81-Northern 84

Falling victim to 24 turnovers, the Norsemen sustained a 101-84 loss at Coffeeville (Kan.) Community College last Saturday.

Obviously we must have made Coffeeville mad when we beat them 89-86 in Miami because they jumped on us early and took us out of our offense from the beginning,” said Spencer.

“Early we had a chance, but 15 turnovers in the first half created a big deficit to have to overcome.”

Coach Jay Herkenet’s 14-ranked Red Ravens ran their record to 11-1 by scoring 12 points in the first three minutes of the opening half.

Seven points by Steve Smith and a 3-pointer by Wilfred Antoine along with a basket by Marvin Black gave the Ravens a 12-1 lead.

Four points by George West and field goals by Rick Broner and Brandon Daniels rallied the Norse to a 14-10 deficit with 16:10 left in the first half.

Another 3-pointer by Antoine and four straight free throws by Steve Smith along with baskets by Tommie Eddie and Lechon Traimer gave Coffeeville a 25-16 margin with 9:41 remaining before halftime.

Outscoring the Norsemen 15-6 over the next five minutes the Ravens pulled away to a 40-22 margin. Devin Smith scored six points and Black and Steve Smith added four points each to fuel the rout.

During the final four minutes of the game the half the Smith brothers tallied four points each along with five points by Griffin Walker to provide Coffeeville with a 53-31 margin at halftime.

“For the most part we battled hard during the second half. But we had to go too long with our starters on the floor and we didn’t finish some shots that were at crucial times,” Spencer said.

Sophomore center Brandon Queen scored nine points along with West and Jaimal Mays combined for six points each as the Norse trailed 71-53 with 12:14 showing on the clock.

Pace, by a 13-point performance by Fred Marshall over the next seven minutes the Red Ravens opened up a 99-72 lead with five minutes left in the game.

Four points each by Rafael Franco and Fabio Teixiera along with baskets by Myers and Trevor Replogle accounted for the remainder of NEO’s points.

West and Daniels each scored 13 points to lead the Norsemen in scoring. Queen contributed 11 points while Franco added 10 points.

Marshall led the Red Ravens with 23 total points while Devin Smith scored 20, Steve Smith 19 and both Black and Eddie added 10 points each.

West grabbed 13 rebounds as NEO held a 48-45 edge on the boards. Black pulled down 11 rebounds to lead Coffeeville.

Norse 84-Independence 75

Junior point guard Jaimal Mays scored a career-high 28 points to lead the Golden Norsemen to a 84-75 victory over Independence (Kan.) Community College last week in the NWC Fieldhouse.

“I thought we did a good job in the first half of keeping it close after they jumped out to a 12-point lead. Then, the game going back and forth in the second half, we came out and established a defensive mentality down the stretch that enabled us to win”, said Spencer.

Mays (5-7 from Toledo, Ohio) scored the first six points as the Norsemen finished a 6-2 lead in the first three minutes of the opening half.

Two field goals by George West and baskets by Myers and Rick Broner gave NEO a 14-9 margin with 12:20 remaining until halftime.

Independence netted 14 unanswered points to take a 23-14 lead with 8:48 showing on the clock. Four points by Parker McKee along with field goals by Chris Meeks, Alvin Dockery and Marcus Walker fueled the Pirate rally.

“We did a much better job in the second half of knocking down the 3-pointer (5 of 8 as opposed to 1 of 10 in the first half). I knew if we could get a couple of consecutive defensive stops, then we would get control of the game,” Spencer said.

Four straight points by West and a field goal by Brandon Daniels increased the Norse lead to 69-62 at the 5:27 juncture in the second half.

Along with the 28 points by Mays the Norse received 14 from Queen, 12 from West and 10 points from Steele.

Meeks led the Pirates with 16 points while both Dockery and McKee added 12 points each.
The Norsewind – the NEO A&M College Newspaper

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