

The MATRICK

Miss NOC Tonkawa Crowned

Telara Day of Owasso was named Miss Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa 2018 at the dual Miss NOC Tonkawa-Miss NOC Enid Scholarship Pageant at NOC Tonkawa Oct. 26. She is the daughter of Rebecca and Jerry Day, Owasso.

Crowned by Miss NOC Tonkawa 2017 Kristen Hooper of Ponca City, Miss Day received a \$1000 scholarship expense award, Miss America crown and pin, sash and a bouquet of long-stemmed red roses. She will advance to the Miss Oklahoma Scholarship Pageant in Tulsa next June, according to Shannon Varner, director of the Miss NOC Pageant.

First runner-up Taryn Pruett, Ponca City, received a \$600 scholarship expense award, and second runner-up Malerie Davis, Blackwell, received a \$400 scholarship expense award. Others vying for the title were Kady Bonifield, Newkirk; Shelby Cosby, Kingston, and Kristin Phelps, Tonkawa. Each received a \$250 tuition waiver participation award.

Miss Day entered the pageant, her first, because “I wanted to have a voice and stand up for what I really believe needs to be talked about. The Miss America Pageant [system] gives you that voice. Being named Miss NOC Tonkawa means being a voice for something that matters to me and having that influence.”

Participating in the Miss Oklahoma Pageant will allow her “to be an inspiration for so many girls and boys that don’t feel they belong—showing them anyone can be successful.”

When she heard her name announced as the winner, the 22-year-old sophomore was “shocked. It didn’t quite hit me they were saying my name. I was happy and terrified at the same time.”

Contestants were judged in lifestyle and fitness in swimwear, artistic expression, presence and poise in evening wear and on-stage question. Earlier in the day they were individually interviewed by the judges.

In the artistic expression portion of the pageant, Miss Day, a music theatre major, performed a hip hop dance to Demi Lovato’s “Really Don’t Care”.

During her reign as Miss NOC Tonkawa, she will promote her platform issue, “Inspiring Acceptance through the Arts,” sending a message of gaining self-love and confidence in those who might be considered “different”. She chose the issue because “I personally saw the impact the arts had on my life and on my friends. I think it’s incredibly important.”

To promote her platform issue, she plans to use the social media, “incredibly effective for short term communication,” and to speak before school boards and various organizations about the positive impact of arts programs on students. She would also like to create Expressions clubs. “Education is the key to destroying prejudices and hate,” she believes.

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The new Miss NOC Tonkawa hopes to pursue a career in theatre and communication education. She credited her friends, especially best friend Shelby Cosby, and her “amazing, wonderful” mother for encouraging her to enter and recognized her “amazing support system—Mom, sisters Aubrey and Zoetta, Dad and the rest of



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Scott Haywood's office at:
NOC Central Hall, Room 305
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TheMaverick@noc.edu

Haywood's office phone number is
580-628-6329.

Adviser
Scott Haywood

Editors
Kaelie Swenson

Contributing Editor
Scott Cloud

Photojournalist
John Pickard

Writers
G. Josh Dickinson III, Hannah Forman, Holly Mayfield, Kris Perez, Michael Gilmore, Josie Baker, Raegan Mach, Nick Bocanegra Collyn Combs, Jennifer Zimmer
Member:
Oklahoma Press Association

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my extended family.”

She encourages others to participate in the Miss NOC Pageant because “it doesn’t matter what you look like or what other people tell you you are, if you believe it and work hard enough, you can do it. Don’t be afraid to chase your dreams no matter who you are.”

Edward Dixon, NOC Fine Arts Division chair, served as master of ceremonies for the evening. Miss Oklahoma 2017 Triana Browne spoke about her platform, “Bridging the Great Cultural Divide,” emphasizing the importance of nurturing cultural compassion by motivating, empowering and educating children and young adults about other cultures. She entertained the audience by singing “Summertime” from the musical Porgy and Bess.

Special entertainment was by Miss NOC Enid 2017 Tarren Land, singing the Eagles’ hit “Desperado,” and Mr. Dixon, singing “Waving through a Window” from the Tony Award-winning musical Dear Evan Hansen. NOC alumnus Taylor Varner, Blackwell, teamed with Mr. Dixon to sing “Those Magic Changes” from the Broadway musical Grease.

Contestant escorts were NOC sophomores Jordan Wise, Kingston, and Christian Searle, Ponca City. Escorting the Miss NOC 2017 royalty as they made their farewell walks were Oklahoma Stars Hope Bradford, Tonkawa, and Lanie Ginder, Cherokee, with Miss Hooper, and Morgan Crenshaw, Enid, with Miss Land. NOC President Dr. Cheryl Evans presented official portraits to Miss Hooper and Miss Land.



Miss Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa 2018 Telara Day of Owasso receives her crown from Miss NOC Tonkawa 2017 Kristen Hooper of Ponca City. (photo by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)



29th Annual Miss NOC Scholarship Pageant
By Jennifer Zimmer

Northern Oklahoma College its 29th annual Miss NOC Scholarship Pageant Oct. 27, 2017. The pageant showcased six women from both Tonkawa, and Enid.

The six contestants from Tonkawa were Kristin Phelps, Taryn Pruett, Malerie Davis, Kady Bonifield, Telara Day, and Shelby Cosby. Contestants from the Enid campus included Kylee Smith, Loren Decker, Veronica Fuxa, Lexi Neahring, Chanley Young, and Brianna Crosswhite.

The winners were; for NOC Tonkawa, Telara Day and for NOC Enid, Lexi Neahring. The girls showcased their talents in four different categories: lifestyle and fitness, talent, evening gown and on-stage question.

During the outfit changes for the contestants, Edward Dixon, Taylor Varner, and Tarren Land performed. They even had a special guest, Miss Oklahoma 2017, Triana Brown. Brown came out and speak.

Overall, the evening was a special treat for everyone involved, including the audience that attended.



Miss Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa 2018 and her court, from left, are Kristin Phelps, Tonkawa; Shelby Cosby, Kingston; Kady Bonifield, Newkirk; Second Runner-up Malerie Davis, Blackwell; First Runner-up Taryn Pruett, Ponca City; and Miss NOC Tonkawa Telara Day, Owasso. Shannon Varner, pageant director, is at far right. (photo by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)



Lack of Proper Parking

Jennifer Zimmer, Maverick Reporter

A recurring problem on many college campuses appears to be adequate parking. Students who commute have more of an issue with parking rather than the students that live on campus. On a campus such as ours, we have a multitude of parking lots. However, some commuters still find it difficult to find a good parking spot, especially in the winter time. Understandable that with budget cuts, it would be out of the question to even think about expanding and making another lot.

However, an intriguing idea would be to make a single lot dedicated to the on-campus students, making them walk around campus instead of driving to classes and making the other lots for commuter students. Obviously this is not just a small campus issue, as larger universities struggle even more. For instance, at Oklahoma State University, there is next to nowhere to park. Many students that live in Stillwater ride bicycles around campus. That way, they can make it to class on time without worrying about finding a parking spot.

Either way, parking should be made a priority among other things when building or renovating college campuses.

Coming To Terms with and Combatting Freshman Homesickness

Michael Gilmore, Maverick Reporter

Six months ago, I was finishing up my final year of high school. I was so happy to finally be done with my classes, and I could focus on getting out into the world and making something of myself. I had a scholarship on the horizon at NOC for the fall semester, and a summer full of working and saving up ahead of me. In a blink, it was August, and I was moving into my dorm before classes started. The first

out into the world and making something of myself. I had a scholarship on the horizon at NOC for the fall semester, and a summer full of working and saving up ahead of me. In a blink, it was August, and I was moving into my dorm before classes started. The first few days were the fairly normal experience of getting my feet wet in the college life. However, after the first week, I started really missing home.

In all of the preparation for college, I didn't take into account that maybe living an hour and a half away from all of the connections in my life might mean my friends might do things without me, and that I wouldn't have family to keep me company, like at home. This isn't a new experience by any stretch. UCLA has found that 69 percent of freshman feel homesick. That's why various news articles have been written on the topic, giving many forms of advice to college freshman who are dealing with this issue.

Back in 2015, Kristen Wong of NBC News wrote an article specifically about this. From the people she was able to talk to, freshman homesickness can be dealt with by getting involved on campus, making new friends, and having an extra push from your family back home. Erika Martinez, a psychologist from Florida, says that parents shouldn't bombard their children with phone calls saying how much they miss them, since it usually makes the student feel even worse about being away from home.

To get more perspective, I talked to my friend Kyle Griffith, who is also a freshman this year, and who went to high school with me. "I'll probably be scheduling times to go home every so often," he says. This is the tactic that I've adopted, spending the weekends back in town to take care of housekeeping and non-school matters. While experts suggest against this, I find that it helps me, since it reassures me that the people I enjoy spending time with still like me, and still want me to be around them.

In the end, there really are many different ways that college freshman can combat homesickness in their first semester. Get involved on campus, ask your advisor and your instructors about different things that are happening, find a group of people to catch up with at lunch and dinner, and occasionally check back home to see how people are doing. Never forget that you're not alone in this, and that there are always people who are willing to help you.

Bah Humbug!

Josie Baker, Maverick Reporter

Whenever someone learns that I absolutely detest the Christmas holidays and why I'm not in the Christmas spirit, they never believe me when I tell them that the only reason is because I lived in a little town called North Pole, Alaska.

Hard to believe, I know. Yet North Pole is a real place and I really did grow up there. When someone thinks of a place called North Pole, they would usually think about Santa Claus and his helpful elves living in a Wonderful Christmas town. What they don't know is that they aren't wrong.

North Pole, Alaska is a town where the literal motto is, "Where Christmas lies Year Round." The light posts are shaped like candy canes and are colored the same way, too. The trees in the roundabouts and in the park were always decorated with Christmas lights.

In North Pole, the streets are given names such as "Santa Claus Lane", "St. Nicholas Drive", and "Rudolph Road". To top it all off, there's a tourist site that everyone just HAS to visit when they go to Alaska known as the Santa Claus house.

In the front of the two-story cottage-turned-gift shop, there's a literal 40 foot Santa Claus depicted holding a list of names overlooking the people coming into town on the major highway. Behind him is a fence with four magnificent reindeer, all with the names Dasher, Blitzen, Prancer, and Donner. Inside the house, you can enjoy a nice hot cup of cocoa while browsing Christmas gifts for friends and family, enjoy a Christmas movie that is always playing, and enjoy a talk with Santa, who is always sitting in his chair and listening to what kids want for Christmas.

I grew up in a Christmas town where Christmas was taken WAY too seriously. The only thing I have to say about the whole thing is BAH, HUMBUG!

I prefer Halloween.

Poverty in Local Elementary Schools

By Jennifer Zimmer

Poverty, although overlooked, is a major issue often misunderstood by many. What most do not realize is just how harsh the reality is for local grade school students.

Families with children who have a lower income cannot always provide the necessary elements the family needs, such as food, personal hygiene supplies, and even new clothes.

At Tonkawa Elementary School, there are an estimated 200+ students in need of these basic necessities. That is just at the local level. On a state level, almost 1 in 4 children live in poverty in Oklahoma.

Many organizations and groups in the US, such as United Way, March of Dimes, Operation Blessing and other organizations specialize in and manage rallies, office and school donations, and other large opportunities for the public and businesses to donate money and these basic needs to schools, churches, shelters, and more. Children all over the world are dealing with this issue and it is time to make a change.

Northern Oklahoma College and Student Life

Hannah Forman, Maverick Reporter

Northern Oklahoma College is known to be an excellent starting point in academic careers in higher education. While NOC has prided itself on being able to set people up for the work field, transfer students are what takes up the majority, with 71% according to a 2017 spring exit survey.

These students also surveyed that when it comes to overall experience satisfaction, 53% agree and 35% strongly agree. A survey in 2013 also showed that the graduation rate was 19% and the transfer out rate is 24%.

A former student from the spring exit survey said, "NOC is close to my hometown, and was a great opportunity to jump start my college education. I chose NOC, because of the location, affordability, relatively small class sizes, and helpful teaching staff," which seems to be a common tone heard on campus.





Why Do College Students Stress?

Kris Perez, Maverick Reporter

There is no secret to understand the root of 70% of college students' stress: money. Surprising, right? Money is something extremely difficult to come by, especially when a busy schedule does not allow for a job, such as athletes or those involved in extracurricular activities.

Traditional students that lack a job while attending college have limited sources of income. Those sources of income are either allowances from parents or are being drawn from the students' savings accounts. Regardless of where the income stems from, it diminishes quickly and is not equivalently replenished.

There are two main issues more specifically that regard the lack of income: not possessing enough money to pay for college and spending too much money on random necessities. The stress induced by these problems are also quite harmful.

It is a known fact that stress reduces overall productivity and combines for an unhappy lifestyle. The combination of increased stress and decreased wealth drives many students to conclude their higher education. It is also proven that citizens without a college degree earn less, which means it takes longer to repay the loans acquired during their college sojourn

Higher Learning Commission Visit

Northern Oklahoma College is seeking comments from the public about the College in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency, the Higher Learning Commission. The College will host a visit February 26-27, 2018, with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Northern Oklahoma College has been accredited by HLC since 1948. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet HLC's Criteria for Accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the College to the following address:
Public Comment on Northern Oklahoma College
Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604-1411

The public may also submit comments on HLC's website at www.hlcommission.org/comment.

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing.

All comments must be received by January 19, 2018.



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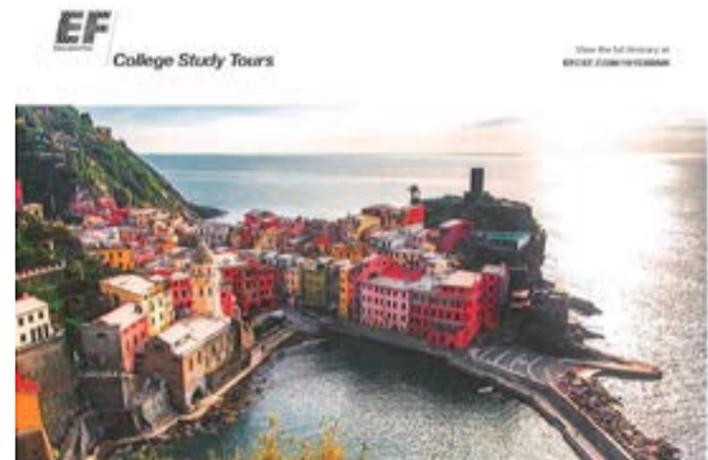
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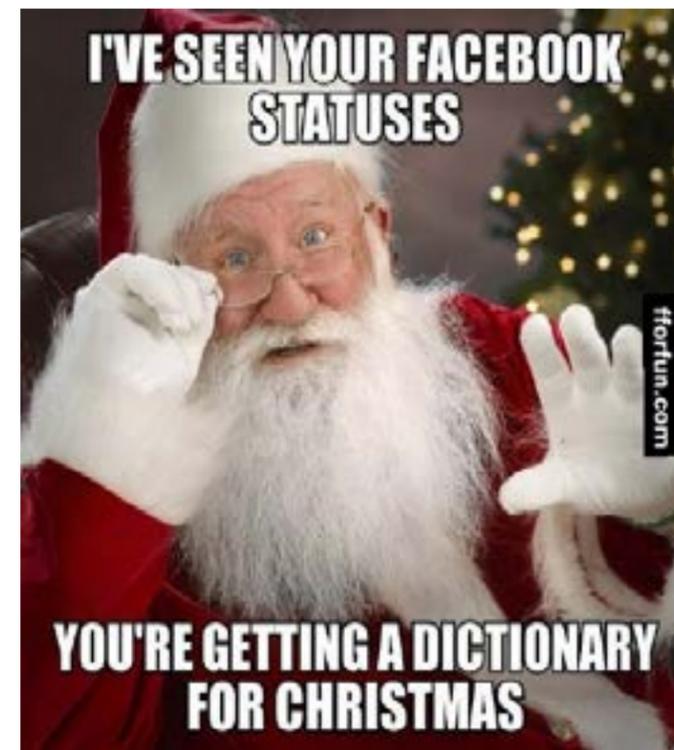
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Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness

Editorial by Stephanie Ellis

What is up with the Oklahoma Legislature these days?

When it comes to home health care, some people have no one else to stop in and check on them. Some of these caretakers are these clients' only friends or contact with others outside of the house.

How many will move out of state because of these cuts?

How many more will snap without the help of others that come to their houses and make sure they are taking their medicines and not overdosing?

How many may snap—murder, rape, and the suicide rate going up. This is just a small part of what could happen.

This does not even include the families that take care of mentally challenged people. I have worked with these wonderful people. What I have learned is that most do not like change.

Some cannot talk or communicate like you and I. They are just like a two-year-old who can't put the words to what they are trying to say. They get frustrated. At times, the only way these wonderful people show that something is bothering them is acting out. So think about what you are doing when you are taking the easy way out to fill the holes in the debt.

What about all the caretakers and others in health care and DHS? All the jobs coincide together. Family is not just blood, and all these cuts to health care are cutting that blood line off to so many. When you lose your lifeline, you will look elsewhere to find a new. All we want is to live and try. Just like these wonderful people who are able to work and do, but then you take that joy away from them.

With all of these costs, you are going to have more needing help from the state to feed their families until they can get a new job, or they get thrown out on the street because they cannot pay rent, on and on and on. Really, you people are not stupid, ARE YOU??

We are all human just as you.

Here is a shout out to everyone who this bull will affect. Those who live with family or friends who need help daily.

Everyone flood all the legislature and the jerks in politics that think they know what is right for all of us.

Show them the harm that could happen, show them how wonderful you all are, and how much these health services help you. For example, Meals on Wheels. I have helped deliver meals. Some of the people have a hard time to walk but they are still trying, they still need a hand. I hope you understand what I am trying to say. Go after big business, even if it is for a short time, to get the state back on track and out of the hole that our government and politicians have dug.

How much more will it cost the state and the people that live here and call this home? How much more is this going to cost in one shape or form. Really, just think about it!!

There is a reason why it is called health, mental, fiscal safety for children taken out of harmful homes and so much more. Teachers buy school supplies for kids, still no raises. Really, they put up with so much in a day, let alone the school year. REALLY!! Think at what you people are doing to the state, the children, the little people who, without us, may have never gotten those buildings and business that we helped build. How many people with disabilities, in one kind or another, helped you build your dream with their sweat and blood? REALLY!!! THINK ON IT!

Stop trying to through all of us under a bus. We may not have a lot, but we still give are best day in and day out. Trying, trying, trying, trying, and never good enough. Baaaahhhh, what a bunch of bull. Get you heads out of your butts and realize the damage you are doing.

“To give you shall receive,” meaning to help others see their hope their gratitude, how grateful they are. How would that make you feel? Maybe you would want to do more, when you're not looking down your noses at us, us, the blood and lifeline. We do jobs you would be to afraid to do.

Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, a gift our forefathers gave us and you are trying to steal away.

There is always another, just not the easiest to fine. Are you willing to find and look for that road? You know not one else but you!!

God Bless and Thank you.

FINAL EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

❖ Fall 2017 ❖

Tonkawa and Enid

MONDAY, DEC. 11	TUESDAY, DEC. 12	WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13	THURSDAY, DEC. 14
A If Course is MWF 8:00 am EXAM is 8:00—9:50 am	B If Course is TR 7:00 or 8:00 am EXAM is 8:00—9:50 am	C If Course is MWF 9:00 am EXAM is 8:00—9:50 am	D If Course is MTWRF 7:00 am EXAM is 7:00—8:50 am
E If Course is MWF 10:00 am EXAM is 10:00—11:50 am	F If Course is TR 11:00 or 11:30 am EXAM is 10:00—11:50 am	G If Course is MWF 11:00 am EXAM is 10:00—11:50 am	H If Course is TR 9:30 or 10:00 am EXAM is 9:30—11:20 am
I If Course is MWF 12:00 or 12:30 pm EXAM is 1:00—2:50 pm	J If Course is TR 2:00 or 2:30 pm EXAM is 2:00—3:50 pm	K If Course is MWF or MW 1:00 or 1:30 pm EXAM is 1:00—2:50 pm	L If Course is TR 12:30, 1:00 or 1:30 pm EXAM is 12:30—2:20 pm
M If Course is MWF or MW 2:00 or 2:30 pm EXAM is 3:00—4:50 pm	N	O If Course is MWF or MW 3:00, 3:30 or 4:00 pm EXAM is 3:00—4:50 pm	P If Course is TR 3:00, 3:30 or 4:00 pm EXAM is 3:30—5:20 pm
Q If Course is MW 5:30 pm EXAM is 5:30—7:20 pm	R If Course is TR 5:30 pm EXAM is 5:30—7:20 pm	S	T
U If Course is M or MW 7:00 pm EXAM is 7:30—9:20 pm	V If Course is T 7:00 pm EXAM is 7:30—9:20 pm	W If Course is W 7:00 pm EXAM is 7:30—9:20 pm	X If Course is R 7:00 pm EXAM is 7:30—9:20 pm