

## 2021-22 FAFSA filing underway

High school seniors and current college students looking for federal and state financial aid to attend college next fall should complete the 2021-22 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible.

Call the NOC Financial Aid Office at 580.628.6595 for more details or in person at the Vineyard Library/Administration Building Room 105 (Tonkawa).

The FAFSA is used to determine how much financial aid a student may be able to receive to help pay for college. In addition to serving as the gateway to apply for all types of federal financial aid, a completed FAFSA is also required for some state aid, including the Oklahoma's Promise scholarship and the Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant Program. Many students underestimate their financial need or assume they won't qualify for financial aid, but every student should complete the FAFSA as soon as possible after Oct. 1 of the senior year of high school and every subsequent year that financial aid will be needed during college.

"Students who complete the FAFSA have access to numerous state and federal scholarships and grants, workstudy programs and, if needed, federal student loans," said Chancellor Glen D. Johnson. "It is vitally important that high school seniors and our current college students complete the new FAFSA as soon as it becomes available, as some types of state and federal financial aid are awarded to eligible students on a first-come, first-served basis."

Students can complete the 2021-22 FAFSA online at FAFSA.gov or by using the myStudentAid mobile app.

The online FAFSA features skip-logic technology that eliminates irrelevant questions based on the applicant's previous answers, and applicants can choose to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, which will automatically transfer their 2019 tax return information to their FAFSA. To complete and submit the FAFSA online, students and one parent will each need to create a Federal Student Aid ID at FSAID.ed.gov. The FSA ID serves as an electronic signature on the FAFSA and certain student loan applications, and allows students to access other federal student aid websites. It is beneficial for families to create FSA IDs before starting the FAFSA to speed up the application process. The U.S. Department of Education estimates the form will take most families less than an hour to complete.

Campus financial aid offices can confirm school-specific deadlines and provide assistance to families during the application process. There's no charge to complete or submit the FAFSA, so students and parents should be wary of organizations that charge a fee for these services.

The Oklahoma College Assistance Program (OCAP), an operating division of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, offers free FAFSA materials, tools, and workshops to support school- and campus-based FAFSA education for families across the state. For more information about the FAFSA process and to access free educational resources, including tutorial videos in English and Spanish, visit OCAP's FAFSA completion website, startwithfafsa.org.

Life changing.





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### Spring calendar changes

Northern Oklahoma College is making several adjustments to the 2021 Spring Academic Calendar.

Wednesday, October 14, 2020

"Based on consultation with local health officials along with a Memo of Understanding with a partner institution, NOC will adjust the start date of the spring semester in order to match schedules as required with our partner and to give us the best chance to finish the spring term in-person," said NOC President Dr. Cheryl Evans.

Evans said that Winter Break will be extended and spring classes will start on Tuesday, Jan. 19 and NOC will not have a traditional spring break in March 2021 in order to avoid another possible surge in COVID cases due to student and employee travel. This approach should allow NOC to finish the semester as originally scheduled.

More details of the spring schedule and important dates will be shared after approval at the Oct. 21 Board of Regents meeting.

NOC had previously approved the transition to online instruction and final exams after the Thanksgiving break for the Fall 2020 Semester.

### Top alumni sought

Northern Oklahoma College is seeking nominations for the 2021 NOC Distinguished Alumni Award.

Nominations are due Nov. 2, according to Kim Ochoa, alumni relations coordinator.

Selected honorees will be inducted into the NOC Hall of Fame at the Alumni and Friends Reunion to be held in the Renfro Center, March 27, 2021. In addition, since the 2020 Alumni and Friends Reunion was canceled due to COVID-19, we will also be inducting the 2020 inductees, Risha Grant, Jon Kissinger and Marta Sullivan with the 2021 inductees.

The Distinguished Alumni Award has been established to recognize the achievements of former students whose personal lives, professional achievements and community service exemplify the objectives of NOC. This award is the highest honor that Northern bestows upon an outstanding alumnus/a.

Contact Ochoa at 580.628.6473, kim.ochoa@noc.edu or visit the NOC website at www.noc.edu/alumni.

## Spring 2021 enrollment underway

Spring Enrollment for Northern Oklahoma College begins Oct. 12 on all three campuses. The spring semester begins Jan. 19.

NOC will continue to offer multiple course formats for Spring 2021 with options to match the students' learning style while continuing to follow CDC guidelines for a safe learning environment. Course options include traditional in-person classes, live online, and completely online.

Students may enroll in-person from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. on all three campuses.

Dr. Pam Stinson, Vice President for Academic Affairs said, "Classrooms are set up to follow social distancing guidelines for in-class sessions, and campuses are being further equipped with technology needed to expand distant education options should safety guidelines require a transition to online. Keeping our students and employees safe will be our top priority."

For a complete listing of courses, students should refer to the NOC Live Course Availability on NOC's website. Students may enroll for spring courses by either contacting their advisor or NOC at 580.628.6220 (Tonka-

wa), 580.548.2275 (Enid) and 580.628.6910 (Stillwater). NOC is delaying the Spring semester one week, now set to begin Jan. 19. Late 12-Week courses begin Feb. 15, and Late-8 Week courses begin March 15. NOC has eliminated Spring Break; the semester will end May 6.

Summer 2021 enrollment will be held at a later date.

All NOC students, staff, faculty, contractors, vendors, suppliers and guests must continue to wear a face covering (mask) on campus property.

Please contact NOC at 580.628.6200 for additional information or visit www.noc.edu.

Plans for the operation of Northern Oklahoma College in preparation for, and during the Spring 2021 semester are subject to change based on current COVID-19 conditions. Announcements and updated information will be posted when they are available on the college website at <a href="http://www.noc.edu/emergency/">http://www.noc.edu/emergency/</a>.







Madrigal singers peformed last Sunday afternoon on the steps of Crowder Science Hall. They performed renaissance songs such as "Alleuia." The singers were conducted by vocal instructor, Shannon Varner. Pictured (left to right) Krista Johnson, Chandler Brown, Aleah Taylor, and Justin Burnett. (photo by: Mariah Moberly)

### NOC Northern Encounter set for Oct. 28

high school students for Northern Encounter Oct. 28 at students will also experience campus tours. the Renfro Center on the NOC Tonkawa campus.

- 3 p.m.

High school juniors and seniors interested in NOC Tonkawa will have an opportunity to hear from admissions, financial aid, testing and scholarship departments as well as the different degree programs, clubs,

Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa will be hosting organizations and housing opportunities. Prospective

The students will receive a free t-shirt along with bro-There will be two sessions, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. chures with information for all three Northern Oklahoma College campuses.

> Contact Blair Turney at 580.628.6668 for additional information. Students may pre-register at www.noc.edu.

> There will be a second Northern Encounter at NOC Tonkawa on Dec. 9.

Life changing.





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## Struggles of hearing impaired during the Pandemic

### by Sierra Perkins

After the pandemic ensued, many people with hearing impairments are struggling because the face masks people have to wear not only block their mouth from being seen but it also muffles their voices.

Although various hearing devices are helpful to people with hearing impairments, many still lip-read when people talk to them because the hearing device will not pick up everything the other person is saying.

Mariah Moberly is a sophomore majoring in Mass Communications. She is very passionate and always has a smile on her face. However, she still has many struggles and the mask requirement is quite troubling to her at times. She agreed to this interview in order to give others an inside viewpoint on these matters.

Due to COVID-19, all students and faculty of Northern Oklahoma College have to wear masks on campus. This rule was put in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and ensure the health and safety of everyone on campus.

This requirement has some setbacks for the hearing impaired as Mariah states that she has had more issues during the semester, "especially with everyone wearing a mask. As someone who has a hearing impairment," she said. "It makes it quite difficult for me to

understand people with a mask on. It makes the person sound muffled and unclear, causing me not to be able to understand what the person is saying."

After talking about her struggles in class and on campus, she added "it would be helpful for the teachers to wear either face shields or a face mask that has a clear opening. These allow for hearing impaired to better understand now that the lips are visible."

She also talked about the ITV classes being extremely frustrating.

"They cause a huge amount of interference with my implant which is extremely frustrating," she said. "However, the teachers have specifically adjusted to each class when I ask, which is extremely helpful."

When asked if there was anything other students or teachers should keep in mind when speaking to hearing impaired people with a mask on, she replied, "it would help if they could speak clearly and try to enunciate their words more."

Please be considerate to others and keep people with impairments in mind as we go through this pandemic together. Yes, everyone is struggling but many people like Mariah are having an even tougher time because of these requirements.

### Blackwell Municipal Golf Course review

### by Cole Weiberg

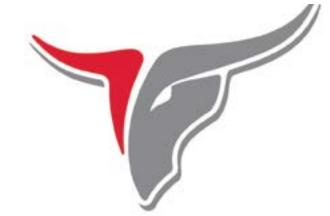
Blackwell Municipal Golf Course provides golfers a well-kept 9-hole course, driving range, and putting green at a good price.

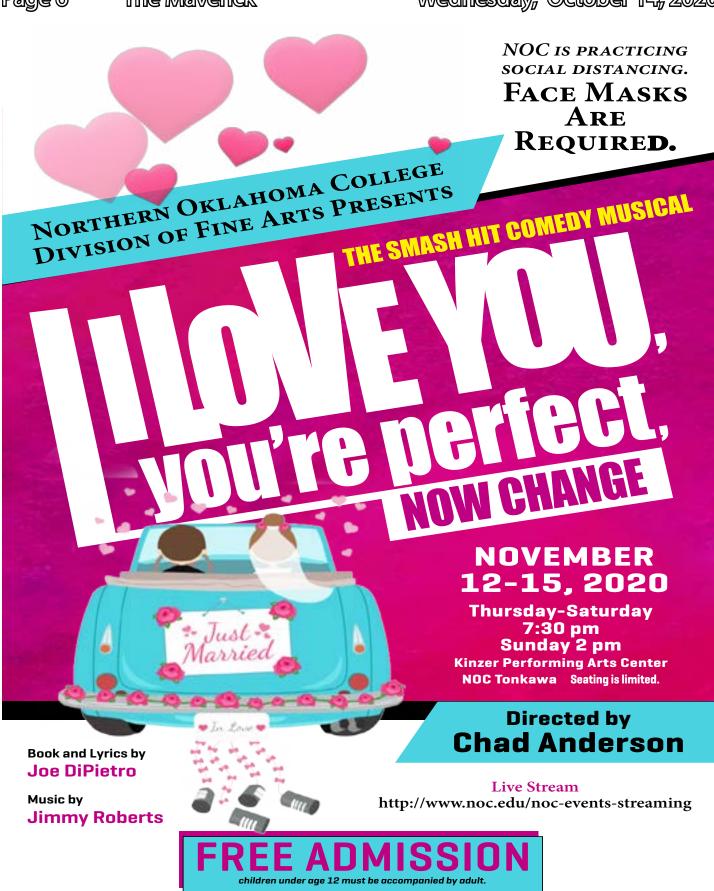
The course played a little tougher than normal with the fairway and rough lengths being taller than usual. Greens were in good shape and they played faster than what you would think they play.

Blackwell has a few challenging holes on the course including a long par 5 on the 7th hole that's dead straight, but if you hit a slice your ball will go over the highway. Sand traps are along the sides of some of the greens on the course making approach shots challenging, especially with most of the greens being smaller. There have been a few times I have lost many strokes in the bunkers, but golf wouldn't be fun if it was easy.

Overall, I give the course a 7/10. The course is fun

and in better shape than it has been in the past. It poses some challenges to golfers which makes the experience more fun. Staff is friendly and I have never had any issues on the course. I would recommend trying to figure out what days they mow so you can play on days the fairways are cut shorter.





Parental guidance suggested for adult themes and language. Presented through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals, 235 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10003.



Wednesday, October 14, 2020

Free 2021-22

# FAFSA is now available!

Priority Sate of Oklahoma Deadline: December 1

### GATHER. CREATE. COMPLETE



### **Gather Materials**

Social Security Card, drivers License, W2 Forms, You (your parents) 2019 Income Information

Create FSA ID

www.fsaid.ed.gov

## Complete FAFSA

www.studentaid.gov. NOC School Code: 003162

### Need Help or have questions?

Contact a NOC Financial Aid Office Tonkawa 580.628.6595 | Enid 580.548.2261 | Stillwater 580.628.6917 Financial.aid@noc.edu

Three locations. ONE FOCUS. Life changing.

## Day in the life of a day trader

### by Jackie Robinson

When people think of junior college baseball players they often don't think of how smart they are or how intellectual they might be. Over the years at Northern Oklahoma College we have come to find out that this is of cryptocurrency tradnot always the case.

People like to spend time in different ways. Some like to the market for trading hunt in their free time, some like to work-out, and then there is some that are always looking for opportunities to make money, like Maverick baseball player, Kirby Lohren-

Kirby Lohrengel is one of those guys who you could hand \$1 million to and he would still be looking for ways to make money. He's one of the most business minded people that that has ever walked this Earth. He is one of those people that isn't the most book smart person you have ever met, but he is one of the most street-smart.

His most recent source of income? Day Trading. When most people think of trading they think of the Stock Market and Wall Street and things of that sort, but now it is 2020, Cryptocurrency is the new market to be trading.

"I've made over \$6500 in the last month day trading, I have never made that much money at any of my previous jobs," he said.

There isn't a ton of difference between trading stocks and trading cryptos, except for all ing is done online and cryptos is open 24 hours a day. A person can trade cryptos on many different platforms. Lohrengel often trades on a website called binance.com. Traders scroll through the many different types



Kirby Lohrengel

of cryptos and choose one to invest in and hope the market turns in their favor.

Some may think this seems pretty advanced for a JUCO baseball player and for the most part you that would be right. It took Lohrengel months of watching the market and how it trends before he was confident enough to buy a sustainable amount of stock. Cryptocurrency is something anyone can get into and learn about, but just like anything in today's market nothing is guaranteed.

## **Education during Covid-19**

### by Jessie Atkins

Education has changed in many ways during the Covid-19 pandemic. My mom, Denise Tyson, is a teacher in a small rural school. One of the major things that have changed is even the small schools have gone electronic. Some schools had already gone electronic before Covid-19. The smaller schools are struggling finding the money to get the proper equipment for the classes and the teachers rotate in and out of the classkids so school can go on.

Tyson said "one of the struggles is attendance" the bigger school districts can have more kids out sick than the response was she hated it. smaller schools.

Tyson's school has right at 100 students so when someone comes down with Covid-19 and they must quarantine a class she said they just about don't have enough students to count the day as a school day. One way they her classes in it and rolls the tote from class to class.

are getting by with the attendance is that when the students are quarantined, they have to log onto their computer and do the assignment by a certain time so they can be counted as part of the attendance.

Another way teaching has changed in some schools is the teachers do not have a classroom to themselves. The different grades stay in one room for all the different rooms. I asked Tyson how she liked rotating classes herself instead of having the students come to her. Her

Tyson said, "I don't have a desk where I can keep all my stuff, I have to make sure that I have everything I need for the class with me so I can teach the kids the lesson." She has a rolling tote she puts everything she needs for