

Ward and Bratcher named Maverick king and queen

Montrez Ward and Lauren Bratcher are the NOC Tonkawa Homecoming King and Queen for 2023.

Ward, a sophomore from Jackson, Tennessee, and Bratcher, a sophomore from Del City, Oklahoma, were crowned Thursday night at halftime of the men's game against NEO.

The following were the finalists for king and queen:

Lexie Boyer represented NOC Women's Basketball. She is a sophomore from Harrah majoring in Elementary Education. She is the captain of the Maverick Women's basketball team.

Boyer was escorted by Cash Jay. Jay represented NOC Maverick Baseball. He is a sophomore from Chickasha majoring in Physical Therapy. Cash is an active member of NOC Maverick Magic, FCA, Athletic training and Maverick Baseball.

Lauren Bratcher is a sophomore from Del City majoring in Business. Bratcher represented NOC's Softball team. She is actively involved on NOC's Softball team and Maverick Magic. Bratcher was escorted by Montrez Ward.

Ward is a sophomore from Jackson, Tennessee majoring in Physical Education representing

NOC's Men's Basketball. He is a member of the NOC basketball and Maverick Magic.

Samantha Smith represented Phi Theta Kappa. She is a sophomore from Medford and is majoring in Athletic Training. She is an active member of the PTK, PLC, athletic training, social media club and is a student tutor.

Smith was escorted by Rhylan Wright. Wright is a freshmen from Jenks majoring in Business Administration representing NOC Business Club. He is a member of the NOC Baseball team, PLC and the Business Club.

Emma Valgora is representing NOC President Leadership Council. She is a sophomore from Ponca City majoring in Musical Theater and Elementary Ed. She is active in NOC Choir, Madrigals, Phi Theta Kappa and NOC's President Leadership Council.

Valgora was escorted by Casey Clemo. He is a sophomore from Forney, Texas, majoring in Criminal Justice representing NOC Maverick Magic. Clemo is a member of the Men's Soccer team, Student Senate and the president of Maverick Magic.

The king and queen's crowns were presented by Miss NOC Tonkawa Kira Pendleton.



Montrez Ward and Lauren Bratcher



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Story and or photo submissions should be sent at least five days before publishing date

All submissions must be signed and are subject for approval by The Maverick prior to publication and may be edited before publication

Student Editor:
Savannah Chenoweth

Writers:
Sharon Park and Leon Finn Schmitter

Advisor:
Scott Cloud

Submissions may be sent to Scott Cloud at scott.cloud@noc.edu or to his office in Creative Arts 100. His office phone is 580.628.6444.

Member:
The Oklahoma Press Association

NOC Calendar

Feb. 4

Home Mavs Baseball vs. Des Moines Area CC, noon

Away Mavs and Lady Mavs Basketball vs. Western, 3 p.m.

Teaching Artists Exhibit Artist Reception, KPAC, 3 p.m., Tonkawa

Feb. 5

Home Mavs Baseball vs. Des Moines Area CC, noon

Feb. 6

Begin Late 12-Week Courses

Away Mavs and Lady Mavs Basketball vs. NOC Enid, 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 7

Final Day to Add Late 12-Week Courses

Free Lunch, BCM, 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m., Tonkawa

Feb. 8

Free Student Lunch, Wesley House, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tonkawa

Feb. 9

VITA Tax Preparation, CEC, 5 p.m. – 8 p.m., Tonkawa

Home Mavs and Lady Mavs Basketball vs. Seminole, 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 10

Home Mavs Baseball vs. Arkansas-Mountain Home, 2 p.m.



Homecoming Queen Lauren Bratcher pictured with candidates. Pictured (L-R): Samantha Smith, Lauren Bratcher, Emma Valgora, Lexie Boyer. (photo by John Pickard)



King Montrez Ward with homecoming escorts. Pictured (L-R): Rylan Wright, Montrez Ward, Cash Jay, Casey Clemo. (photo by John Pickard)

Roustabout Homecoming Show



The Roustabouts held their annual Homecoming Show Wednesday night at the Kinzer Performing Arts Center. (photos by John Pickard/Northern Oklahoma College)



Eleanor Hays Art Gallery

Kinzer Performing Art Center, NOC Tonkawa

Teaching Artists

Viewing Hours:
1-5 pm, Monday - Friday
and during performances

EXHIBITION

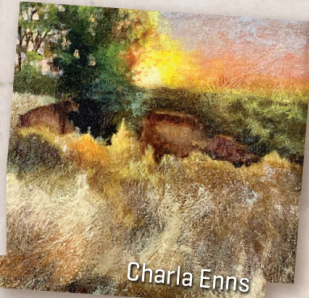
Feb. 1-28, 2023



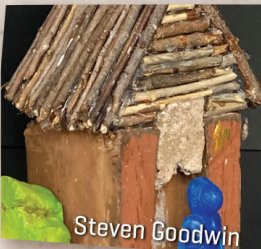
Brandon Beichler



Betty Hancock



Charla Enns



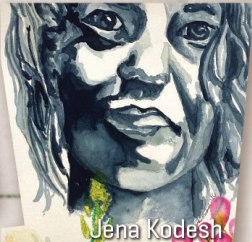
Steven Goodwin



Ashley Heitschmidt



Alena Jennings



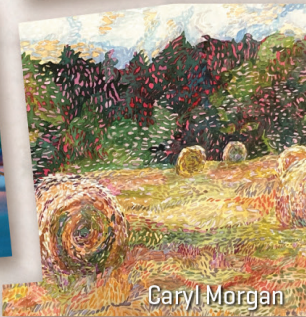
Jena Kodesh



Mindy LittleCook



Jason McNaughton



Caryl Morgan



Leah Pappan



Theresa Sackett

Artist Reception

Saturday, Feb. 4 • 3 pm-4:30 pm

NOC hosting free income tax service

Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa is providing free basic income tax return preparation for students, NOC employees, and area residents starting Feb. 2 at NOC Tonkawa.

Singles or families making less than \$60,000 per year qualify for the free service.

Trained tax preparers from the NOC Business Division and area volunteers will be available for tax assistance beginning Thursday, Feb. 2. Taxpayers also have an option to prepare their own basic federal and state tax return using the free e-filing software.

Cara Beth Johnson, Business division chair said, "This is a great opportunity for our students to provide a community service and gain tax preparation experience."

The Cultural Engagement Center (CEC) is hosting the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program every Thursday through April 13. The CEC will be closed March 13-17 for spring break and for inclement weather. The CEC is located in the library in the Vineyard Administration/Library building.

Interested parties need to bring a photo ID for all filers; Social Security cards and birthdates for taxpayer, spouse, and dependents; W-2 forms; 1099 forms; receipts for childcare costs, education expenses, and other deductions; checking account and routing number for refund; and 1095-A, -B, or -C healthcare coverage or exemption.

Tax preparation is done by appointment only. Please contact Cara Beth Johnson at 580.628.6340 or carolyn.johnson@noc.edu. Tax preparers are available from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. No drop off's will be accepted, individuals must be present during tax preparation.

Barbara Nickles is the VITA site coordinator and NOC students Haley Merhoff, Graeme Rios, and Rhylan Wright will assist her in preparing the tax returns. All have taken and passed all the required IRS tax preparer coursework.

Northern Oklahoma College and the IRS are sponsoring the program.

Scholarship deadline set for Feb. 21

Northern Oklahoma College is continuing to accept scholarship applications for Fall 2023.

Applicants applying for the Presidential Leadership Scholarship, the NOC/OSU Gateway Ambassadors Scholarship or the State Regents Academic Scholarship must apply by Feb. 21, extended a day due to federal holiday on Feb. 20.

Priority deadline for all other scholarships is Feb. 21 with scholarships awarded to qualified applicants on a first come, first serve basis until Aug. 25. To apply, simply apply for admission to NOC, apply for financial aid and then fill out the scholarship form online.

According to Sheri Snyder, Vice President for Development and Community Relations, "PLC and State Regents scholarships will

be awarded based on the upcoming Feb. 21 deadline. However, priority deadline for all other scholarships, which will begin Feb. 21 is ongoing with scholarships awarded to qualified applicants on a first come, first serve basis until August 25."

To be considered for scholarships, applicants are required to complete the Free Application for Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA) at studentaid.gov (Northern's Title IV Institutional Code is 003162) within 30 days of accepting a scholarship award.

For a complete listing of all scholarships available, please visit our website at www.noc.edu/scholarships. For more information contact the NOC Scholarship Office at 580-628-6760 or scholarships@noc.edu.



Nominate a Nursing Instructor

Deadline for Consideration: April 3, 2023

DAISY Award finalist must attend the May 6, 2023 Nurses' Pinning for consideration.

Honor the inspirational influence our Nursing Faculty provide their students everyday.

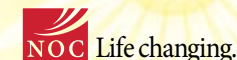
**THE DAISY AWARD FOR
EXTRAORDINARY NURSING FACULTY
at NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE**

The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nursing Faculty was established by The DAISY Foundation in memory of J. Patrick Barnes who died at age 33 from Immune thrombocytopenia (ITP), an auto-immune disease. The Barnes Family was awestruck by the clinical skills, caring and compassion of the nurses who cared for Patrick. They created this international award to demonstrate appreciation to faculty for their commitment and inspirational influence on their nursing students and to say thank you to nursing faculty everywhere.

To Nominate a Nursing Faculty Member, visit:

<https://www.noc.edu/academics/academic-divisions/nursing-division/daisy-award/>

Or scan the QR code below with your smartphone camera.



Teaching Artists exhibit opens, reception Saturday at 3 p.m.

“Teaching Artists Exhibition,” featuring the work of twelve area educators who also make art is currently on view in Eleanor Hays Art Gallery on the Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa campus, according to gallery director Audrey Schmitz.

A reception with the artists is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 4 from 3 p.m. – 4 p.m. and it is open to all.

Schmitz curated the exhibition with a vision of recognizing and celebrating the quality and diverse styles of art being produced by educators. A “teaching artist” is defined as a practicing professional artist who has a dual career as an educator and who may work in many settings, from schools and art centers to hospitals and online venues.

Participating artists are Brandon Beichler, Charla Enns and Steven Goodwin of Enid; Betty Hancock, Cushing; Ashley Heitschmidt, Blackwell; Jena G. Kodesh, Red Rock; Alena Jennings, Mindy LittleCook and Theresa Sacket of Ponca City; Carol Morgan and Leah Pappan of Newkirk; Jason McNaughton, Norman.

Over 65 works of art include oil, watercolor and acrylic painting, digital imagery and photography, monoprints, pastels, mixed-media sculpture, ceramics and jewelry. Styles range from realistic subject matters to fantasy and expressive abstract works. All of the artists demonstrate technical mastery and experimentation with media and reveal a shared celebration of color. Viewers will find the diverse works strategically grouped to create visual experiences capitalizing on related properties of color, line, shape and composition. The majority of the art is available for purchase.

“Teaching Artist Exhibition” remains in the gallery through Feb. 28. The gallery, located in the Kinzer Performing Arts Center, is open 1 to



“Hey, Foxy Lady” Acrylic on canvas by Theresa Sacket who teaches 2nd grade at Woodlands Elementary, Ponca City.

5 p.m. Monday through Friday and during evening and weekend events in the KPAC Auditorium. Admission is free. Contact gallery director Audrey Schmitz at 580-628-6670 or audrey.schmitz@noc.edu for more information.



February 2-April 13, 2023

**closed March 13-17 and for inclement weather*

THURSDAYS 5-8 PM
by appointment only

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for Students, NOC Employees
and the Public

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Business Division
Income limit of \$60,000



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PREPARATION

Call 580.628.6340
or email
carolyn.johnson@noc.edu
to schedule
an appointment.

PLEASE BRING

- Photo ID for both spouses
- Social Security cards and birthdates for taxpayer, spouse and dependents
- W-2 forms
- 1099 forms
- Receipts for childcare costs, education expenses and other deductions
- Checking account and routing number for refund
- 1095-A or healthcare coverage or exemption

Spring into the new semester at NOC

by Sharon Park

The Maverick Staff Writer

After a long, winter break away, students might be looking for ways to get back into the rhythm here at Northern.

Why not spring into the new semester with some of the numerous activities going on? For those of you fond of live music, this semester is packed with musical performances to enjoy.

The Oak Ridge Boys are set to appear on Feb 16. Northern is this country music hall of fame bands next stop on their 2023 Front Porch Singin' Tour.

The theatre department will finish the music theme with their performance of Sweeny Todd. The musical will take place March 2-4 at 7:30 p.m. and March 5 at 2 p.m. in the KPAC. This

free event is a must see.

For students prefer bleachers and concession stand popcorn, do not fret, the NOC women's basketball and the baseball departments are geared up for some knock-out home games.

Be sure to not miss the Mav Basketball Homecoming Feb 2. The Mavs and Lady Mavs Basketball team has four home games left of their season on Feb 2, 9, 13, 20 at 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

As for the Maverick Baseball team, they take the field here Feb 4 for their home opener. Maverick Softball opens their home season Feb. 16 against Mid-America JV at 1 p.m.

So, whether it is music or sports there are plenty of ways to venture out on the campus and show some school spirit.

International students adjust to American life

by Leon Finn Schmitter

The Maverick Staff Writer

Northern Oklahoma College is not only a college with regular students. It is a colorful mix from people all over the world, which is beautiful, like myself!

My name is Leon Finn Schmitter, I'm 21 years old, part of the Soccer program and from Switzerland, which is a country located in Europe. My accent of course, is extremely magnific, so people in a regular basis, ask me where I am from.

After answering this specific question, I always get a smile back, with an answer like, "Oh, Sweden is beautiful!" It got so bad that I actually questioned myself, if I am from Sweden. Unsure why, but for almost all Americans, Switzerland and Sweden are the same country.

Not to forget the time zone change, which meant dozens of sleepless nights until my body got used to the American time zone, since Switzerland is seven hours ahead.

Although, one of the most drastic changes for my teammates and myself is the food.

Don't get me wrong, I absolutely love fast food a fancy drink or a good Dessert. But sometimes it just feels like a little too much. I asked one of my best friends Lewis Albert, teammate and great soccer player from our soccer program, what does he miss the most about food from Europe? Lewis Albert said "Well, in England where I am from, the food is not near perfection than I would wish for but two things I miss the most. A good cup of tea and a normal crusty bread. I am just not a big fan of toast. I would also like to see more fresh vegetables."

What I have to say very clearly, is that all people in this small community are extremely friendly and courteous. Everybody helps everyone, with all means available.

In Switzerland, people are way more reserved. I am really happy about the environment and thankful to all people which helped me to feel so welcome.



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We recognize how important it is for single parents to get an education. Being a college student and a single parent is difficult. Often times students will think about dropping out because of unexpected events or financial strain.

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Kayla Kelso
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kayla.kelso@noc.edu
Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm

NOC Life changing.

Mavs Baseball opens Saturday

The NOC Mavs Baseball Team opens the season this weekend hosting a four-game series against Des Moines Area Community College.

First pitch is noon Saturday and Sunday.

Coach Ryan Bay enters his ninth season at the Maverick helm.

“There’s a lot to like about this team,” Bay said. “We’ve got good balance offensively with several quality hitters from both sides of the plate and some guys with some pop that will hit for power as well as some speed guys that can set a table for us.”

“Our pitching staff continues to improve each week. If we can stay healthy on the mound we’ll be very competitive in Region 2.”

What does Bay see as his team’s strengths in 2023.

“We’re pretty balanced at the plate and on the mound in terms of lefty/righty matchups. That should give us an advantage matching up with how teams try to line up with us this spring,” he said. This will be one of the better hitting teams we’ve had in the past 2-3 years.”

As with any team, health is a key concern.

“We have to stay healthy, that’s always my biggest concern,” he said. “With good health, we can be a very competitive team that can beat anyone on any given day.”

Traditionally, Region 2 is one of the toughest in the nation and 2023 is no different.

“It’s the best Region in all of NJCAA D2. Every series is tough...but it’s also a lot of fun.

Bay said he plans to use a number of position players in 2023.

Handling the catching will be Mitchell Lucero and Nate Windle with Bradley Castillo in the mix after he recovers from shoulder surgery.

The first base and designated hitter duties will start with Cade Tucker and Enrique Alvarez, Jr. seeing duty at both. Second base will start 2023 with a Jorge Olive and Matt Stancliff platoon.



Cash Jay

Darian Duhon starts the season at third base with Cash Jay handling duties at shortstop. Elijah Laus provides depth at both spots.

Vying for playing time in the outfield are Preston Knott and Garrison Brandt in left field, Jaylin Bennett and Thomas Dunn in centerfield though Bennett is out this weekend with injury. Brandt and Kelly Yancy will man right field for the Mavs.

The current weekend rotation includes Graeme Rios and Eli Cartwright on Saturday and Brenden Kamnick and Caleb Lunnon on Sunday. Cade Fiveash will return to the rotation in mid-February.

The back end of the bullpen includes Windle, Rios, and Gage Norvell.



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come from within you.
When you are involved at
school you feel a sense
of belonging to our
college community.

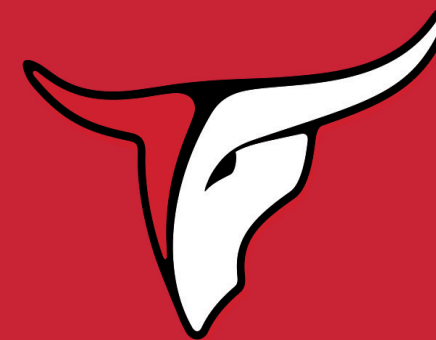
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**For more
information
contact**

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pam.keeler@noc.edu

Denise Bay
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denise.bay@noc.edu

Northern Oklahoma College



**MAVERICK
MAGIC**

**Show your school spirit by
getting involved!**

- Attend sports games and cheer them on
- Attend plays and musicals
- Wear your Maverick gear
- Work hard in all your classes
- Be the BEST because we are the best
- Participate in community service projects
- Attend meetings
- Enjoy fun activities



FRIENDSHIP • SERVICE • MAVERICK ATHLETICS • OTHER CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Mavs softball opens Feb. 14

The NOC Mavs’ Softball team opens the 2023 softball season Feb. 14 at Cowley County in coach Tori Green’s fourth season at NOC Tonkawa.

Green is excited for the 2023 season. “Our 2023 Maverick softball team is diverse and versatile,” she said. “We have speed and power offensively that should keep opponents guessing. This group has a great opportunity to be successful offensively.”

Green said the strength of the team will be their team speed and experienced pitching. “We have added a lot of team speed from our freshman,” she said. “I also think our sophomore pitchers will keep us in games and compete at a high level.”

Green added that the 2023 Mavericks are a young team and could have some growing pains. “We are young,” she said. “If we can perform consistently at the level we are capable then we should be successful.”

Region 2 has improved over the years but Seminole remains the region’s top team. “Our region is tough,” she said. “Seminole is always a power house but I feel like we should compete really well. If the girls compete and want it, we could be in the running for a conference championship.”

With the season still two weeks away, Green said she is experimenting with different lineups but is counting on returning sophomores Emma Enderud, Savannah Chenoweth, Teagan Honer, Haiden Huster, Alexandra Griffin, Jayden Looper, Kyla Storts, and Madalyn McNac. Green said to watch for freshmen Ryllie



Haiden Huster

Shipp, Hannah Endicott, and Morgan Meyer. In the circle, the Mavs return lefthander Emma Enderud and added transfer Lauren Bratcher as starters. Alayna Long will also make an impact in the circle as a freshman closer. Ashlyne Roblyer is a great offset for all three Maverick pitchers and will pitch in relief for the Mavs.



Life changing.

WELLNESS CENTER

Join! us.

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NOC Tonkawa

YouTube Yoga

Mondays | 12 pm
Wednesdays | 6 pm



Power Pilates

Tuesdays | 12 pm
Thursdays | 6 pm

*Must be a member of the Wellness Center to participate.
Classes will be held in the dance studio in the Wellness Center.*

*These will be videos from YouTube and other sites.
There will not be someone teaching the class in person.*

Through the end of the Spring 2023 semester.