

What's Happening February 28, 2025

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College names KPAC auditorium after Dineo Heilmann

The Northern Oklahoma Board of Regents regents the process for renaming the facility. renamed the auditorium in the NOC Tonkawa Kinzer Performing Arts Center, "The Dineo Heilmann Auditorium" at Thursday's regents meeting in Enid.

NOC President Diana Morris Watkins explained that NOC had received a letter requesting the name change and then explained to the

"Dineo has done so much for this institution," Watkins said. "I think it would be very appropriate."

Vice President for Financial Affairs Anita Simpson added, "I think is well deserved, he has dedicated his life to fine arts at NOC."

"He was instrumental in the building of the Chapel inside the Marshall Building.

KPAC," said Vice President for Development & Community Relations Sheri Snyder. "He worked closely with Dr. Kinzer providing valuable input. His 32-year career at NOC has touched so many students."

Watkins added that he provided input at the commemorat-NOC Enid campus especially at the Bivins

Snyder added that a plaque would be placed inside the KPAC ing the honor.

In 1985, Dineo Heilmann started teaching career as the band director for the Chelsea Public School system Chelsea, Oklahoma. sea in 1988 to



Dineo Heilmann

NOC officials laud staff, city for water response

Northern Oklahoma College officials applauded NOC Tonkawa staff and city officials for their efforts during the current water outage at Thursday's board of regents meeting in Enid.

Vice President for Student Affairs Jason Johnson described for the regents the school's efforts to provide for Tonkawa students.

"We (executive council) were in constant communication during the situation and doing the best we could to provide for our students," he hour. I appreciate them for their hard work." said. "It was truly a team effort from the executive council and our staff at Tonkawa."

During the water crisis, NOC provided portable bathrooms, water and to-go food service for students starting Sunday. Then, on Tuesday the residence halls were closed so college staff worked to find students a place to stay for those who could not go home. Those students were

offered dorm rooms/food service at the NOC Enid campus.

"I want to give a shout out to Ryan Paul (dean of students), Renna Bowers (resident life coordinator), and Stacey Burns (director of maintenance)," Johnson said. "They were very proactive in making decisions quickly and effectively. We have 250 students we had to accommodate and the water situation was changing by the

"I also want to thank Sheri Snyder's team (emergency communications) for their efforts in getting the messaging out to our NOC community providing the information needed," he

Johnson also applauded city manager Nick

"Nick was giving us all the information he had

when he had it," Johnson said. "We were always in the loop getting information which allowed us more time to make the decisions we had to make. I appreciate the relationship we have with Nick and the city."

NOC President Diana Morris Watkins added, He left Chel-"The handling of this crisis is a huge testament to this team (executive council) and our staff. There was a lot of pivoting happening and I appreciate this group of leaders so much."

"Also, I cannot overstate the value of Stacey Burns (director of maintenance)," she added. "He has so much knowledge from when he worked for the city of Tonkawa and his role as mayor in guiding the city and NOC through this crisis."

become the Instrumental Director at Northern Oklahoma College and to later serve as Fine Arts Division Chair from 1990 to 2017.

He received his Associate degree from Northern Oklahoma College, his Bachelor of Music Education from Oklahoma State University where he was named Outstanding Music Student his senior year. He then received a fellowship to complete his Master of Music Education

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Heilmann

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degree at Wichita State University.

Young Bandmaster for the state of Oklahoma by Phi Beta Mu. He has had the honor of working with famed conductor Eugene Corporon, renowned composer Jack Stamp and has performed in a master class for Richard Stoltzman.

Heilmann has been honored twice by the Northern Oklahoma College board of Regents, the first with a "Resolution" of outstanding conwas honored along with his father with a "Resolution" for the 50th anniversary of the Roustabouts for "50 years of inspiring performances". In 2014, the city of Tonkawa named him "Citizen of the Year." In 2015 Tonkawa High School named Mr. Heilmann as a "Friend of Education" for raising money to purchase a Steinway in the Caribbean grand piano for their Events Center.

Orchestra since its inception in 1996, under the sociation of Schools of Music. He has been a baton of Conductor Gerald Steichen, performing traditional clarinet literature. Dineo has been so lucky as to have performed with New tion, and Phi Beta Mu.

York Philharmonic Violist Dorian Rence and Heilmann was named 1991's Outstanding such soprano artists as Loraine Ernst, Julie Mc-Coy, and Janet Gray.

> In 2000 he participated in the Higher Education Leadership Academy.

Through his years at NOC he organized, managed, booked and directed the performances of "The Roustabouts." Booking over 20 performances per school calendar with special performances including three tours to Nashtribution to music culture and the second he ville, Tennessee, for studio recording sessions. In 1999, he took the group on a performance tour of England and to tour Paul McCartney's School for the Performing Arts. Throughout the 2000's and 2010's he led the "Roustabout" group on "Performance At Sea" tours through Performing Arts Consultants on Cruise Lines

He has served as the representative for Junior/ He appeared annually with the Northern Gala Community Colleges for the Oklahoma Asmember of the Music Educators National Conference, Oklahoma Music Educators Associa-

Wrestling send-off set for Wednesday

A send-off will be held for NOC men and women wrestlers heading to the NJCAA National Tournament in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

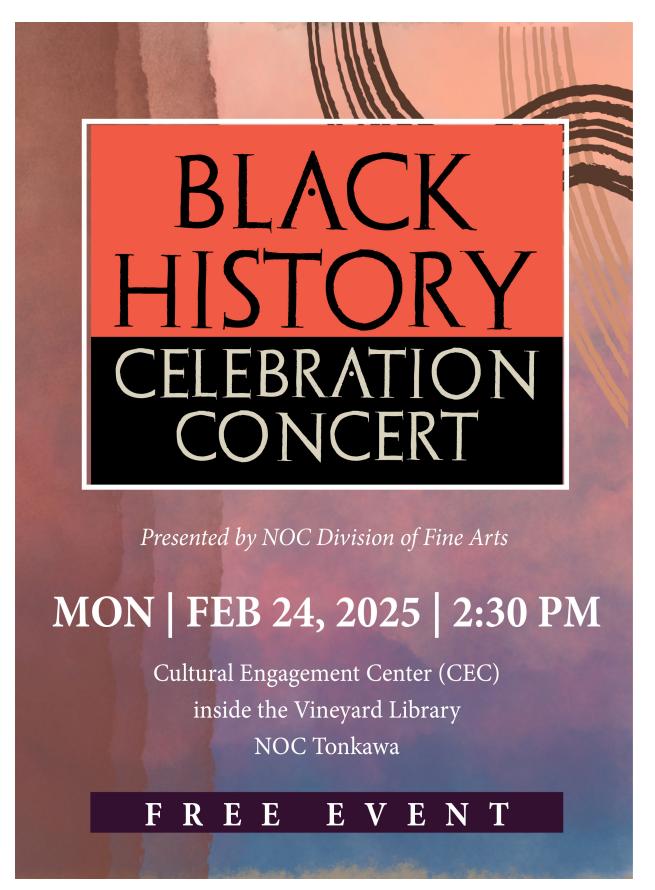
This will be the first time in 41 years that NOC will be represented in the men's tournament and the first time for NOC women.

The send-off will be at noon at Foster-Piper Fieldhouse.

Qualifying for the Mavs are Kanden Young (197) and Christian Clark (285) pounds while the following have qualified in the women's tournament.

Since NOC is an entry program, all women qualify. They are Bridget Bailey, Harley Brower, Mia Cabrera, Leanna Espino, Mya Galey, Carlaeona Hockert, Miah Kenny, Porscha Kreger, Addison Polk, Natalie Puentes, Leila Rosas, Adelina Valencia, Madison Welch, Carla West, Lyndey Wilda, Jordan Williams, and Alayla Watson.

The tournament is March 7-8.



Rock of Ages set for March 6-9

The Northern Oklahoma Division of Fine Arts presents "Rock of Ages" Mach 6-9 at the Kinzer Performing Arts Center in Tonkawa.

Showtime is 7:30 p.m. March 6-8 and 2 p.m. on March 9.

The musical features music from the musical groups Poison, Journey, Def Leppard, and more.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Admission is free for NOC students, faculty, and staff with ID.

The production is based on the book by Chris D'areienzo. Arrangements and orchestrations by Ethan Popp. This production is through special arrangements by Concord Theatricals.

Fine Arts student recitals March 3

The Northern Oklahoma College of Fine Arts is presenting a Black History Month Fine Arts Student Recital on Monday, March 3.

The recital will be held at the Vineyard Library Cultural Engagement Center at 2:30 p.m.

The choir, vocal, instrumental soloists, and the jazz band will perform songs in African American traditions or by African American composers.

The event is free and open to the public.







Northern Oklahoma College Stillwater Blood Drive

Sponsored by PLC

Tuesday, March 4 & Wednesday, March 5

10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

2nd Floor Commons

To make an appointment, call 877-340-8777 or visit obi.org.

Walk-ins Welcome!



877-340-7777 · obi.org



Planetarium Show March 6

campus will present their next show on Thursday, March 6. The show will begin at 7 p.m.

Planetarium Director Fritz Osell will present the night sky over Enid and show prominent constellations and planets in the early evening sky as Mars and Jupiter will both be visible in the early evening sky. Mars will be in the constellation Gemini and Jupiter and Uranus are in Tarus. Osell will also show where Uranus is but binoculars to see it. He will also show you a star factory in the constellation Orion the hunter.

The feature show will take visitors on a journey from the Earth to the edge of the universe. There will be a show for children before the main show.

There is no charge, but we do accept donations of non-perishable food items for Our Daily Bread.

Osell added that a total lunar eclipse will be

The Mackie Planetarium on the NOC Enid visible from the entire continental United States on the evening of March 13-14.

> The eclipse, the first on Earth since 2022, but only the night side of the planet will get to see it. During this global event, which will occur at the same time across the world, the lunar surface will turn reddish for 65 minutes — a phenomenon often dubbed a "blood moon."

> Although the point of greatest eclipse will be in the Pacific Ocean, North America and South America will get the best views. Some areas of Europe will get a slight view of the moonset, and East Asia will glimpse the spectacle at moonrise.

> Viewers can keep up with all the lunar eclipse action on our lunar eclipse live blog. We will also stream the eclipse live on Space.com. More details on how to watch online will be released closer to the event.

Nursing app deadline March 31

Be a nurse in 2027.

Applicants who begin the Northern Oklahoma College Nursing Program this August (2025) can be employed as registered nurses making an average of \$64,000 annually (according to Salary. com) by 2027.

The deadline for NOC nursing applications is March 31, 2025 to begin nursing courses in Fall Semester 2025.

Applicants must meet minimum program requirements for admission and be accepted to Northern Oklahoma College prior to acceptance in the Nursing Program. Applicants are selected based on qualifications and space availability.

NOC offers a high-quality nursing program close to home with a low student-to-faculty ratio that allows for personalized instruction. NOC Nursing graduates have achieved 100% first time NCLEX-RN pass rate since 2023.

NOC has nursing programs at Tonkawa, Enid, and Stillwater locations with a clinical cohort in Tulsa.

Please call 580.628.6679 or apply at https://bit.ly/3sg1QB8.



Business division assists with tax prep

Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa is providing free basic income tax return preparation for students, NOC employees, and area residents starting Feb. 13 at NOC Tonkawa.

Singles or families making less than \$75,000 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 on specific Thursdays starting Feb. 13. 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 sponsoring the program.

hosting the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program March 13, March 27, and April 10. The CEC is located in the Vineyard Administration/Library building.

Interested parties need to provide a photo ID for all filers; Social Security cards and birth-dates 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.

Northern Oklahoma College and the IRS are sponsoring the program.

Distinguished Alum Banquet March 29

Northern Oklahoma College alumni Marcus Chapman, Dineo Heilmann, and Marshall Reigh will be inducted into the NOC Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame March 29 at NOC Tonkawa. The three inductees will be honored in ceremonies during the NOC Alumni and Friends Reunion Dinner in the Renfro Center at NOC Tonkawa at 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 29.

The public is invited to the event and all NOC Alumni and Friends of the college are encouraged to attend, according to Kayla Wooderson, Director of Alumni and Community Relations. The deadline for reservations is March 14. Reservations are required; Tickets for the Dinner and Banquet are \$25 per person.

NOC will present the Alumni Legacy Scholarship as well as recognize the Class of 1975.

For reservations or for more information, contact Wooderson at 580-628-6473 or e-mail kayla. wooderson@noc.edu. To make reservations online, visit www.noc.edu/alumni and then click on "Alumni and Friends Reunion Form."

The event registration will be held from 4:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. in the Renfro Center lobby with dinner at 5 p.m. in the banquet room. The NOC Division of Fine Arts is hosting a "Play in a Day" event at the Kinzer Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. The event is free to the public.



Life changing.



Board of Regents approve 'Guns on campus' resolution

lution supporting the current gun law on guns on campus at Thursday's board of regents meeting in Enid.

of the NOC Board of Regents support maintaining the current law regarding weapons on campus, in which the President (Diana Morris Watkins) has the discretion to allow individuals to carry wa. weapons on campus when the individual circumstances warrant it. We strongly oppose any changes to state law regarding weapons on college and university campuses."

service fee requests, a workplace wellness policy, and the monthly financial reports for December and January.

The board also approved two purchases including roof repairs at Maverick and Threlkeld Residence Halls in Tonkawa at a cost of

Northern Oklahoma College approved a reso- \$117,390.00 and a wellness track replacement at the NOC Tonkawa Wellness Center at a cost of \$97,390.00. Williams Construction earned the roof replacement bid while Performance The resolution states that the "members Surfaces earned the track resurfacing contract.

> In administrator updates, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Shelly Mencacci reported that faculty had pivoted well to virtual learning at NOC Tonkawa due to water issues in Tonka-

> "We are prepared for moments like this," she said. "I appreciate our division chairs for their work in leading our faculty."

She added that the NOC Tonkawa Ag/Science Division recently hosted an Interscholastic In other business, regents approved academic Contest, the Business Division is hosting a tax preparation service in Tonkawa, and Nursing hosted a Health Career Day in Tonkawa.

> Vice President for Development and Community Relations Sheri Snyder reported on

> > (See **Regents** on Page 7)

NOC February Employee Birthdays



Feb. 28 Ionie Johnson Feb. 28 Harley Morton



Derwin Norwood cites African American Labor at NOC Enid event

City of Enid Ward 2 Commissioner Derwood but I did get up here to tell you the truth," he Norwood spoke for Black History Month at Northern Oklahoma College Enid Wednesday at the Gantz Center.

Norwood started his talk joking that he took a tomorrow." long time, about 10 years, to earn an associate's degree at NOC but added, "I hope people realize that if you don't give up, you can accomplish anything. It's not about the amount of time, it's about the perseverance and the willingness to succeed by not giving up."

"I didn't get up here today to offend anyone

said. "No one should be offended by something you are not responsible for. It's our responsibility to be the best we can be today and also for

Norwood discussed the Black History Month National Theme for 2025 is "African Americans and Labor." He discussed their contributions, the impact of education, and their contributions.

(See **Labor** on Page 8)

Regents

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upcoming events including a Donor's Recognition Dinner (March 10), Alumni & Friends Reunion/Distinguished Alumni Banquet (March 29), Renfro Spring Lectureship (April 3), and Business Partnership Event featuring the Enid Public Schools (May 6).

Jeremy Hise, Vice President for NOC Enid, reported that work is starting on the Failing Field Renovation Project. He said that construction on the lights should be starting soon. The lights are the first phase of the project funded by the \$230,000.00.

Vice President for Enrollment Management Foster-Piper Fieldhouse in Tonkawa. Dr. Rick Edgington reported that Spring Enrollment is up 8% over last spring and credit hour production is up 10% over last spring.

Anita Simpson, Vice President for Financial Affairs, provided a list of deferred maintenance projects that NOC is currently involved. Deferred maintenance money was provided by the state legislature to assist Oklahoma higher edu-

cation entities in facility management.

"We appreciate our legislators for providing this funding," she said.

Dr. Marsh Howard, Vice President for Stillwater, said that NOC is working on a parking lot fundraiser for the upcoming "Boys from Oklahoma Concert" April 10-13. He said that more information will be available next week.

Vice President for Student Affairs Jason Johnson reported that men and women wrestlers will be at the NJCAA Championships March City of Enid/Enid Public Schools at a cost of 7-8 in Council Bluffs, Iowa. He said a sendoff will be held Wednesday, March 5 at noon at

> President Diana Morris Watkins reported that she will be attending legislative events over the next week as legislators continue work on the 2025 legislative session.

> The March BOR meeting is set for Wednesday, March 26 in the Brown Room at NOC Stillwater at 2 p.m.



Labor

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"African Americans played a significant part of the labor movement by advocating for higher wages, job security, and working conditions. The theme for this year emphasizes the profound ways that work and interact with the collective experience of black individuals highlighting their contributions."

He added that the African American work experience has been often under harsh working conditions that would shape the labor movement and reflect on the history of those conditions.

Norwood said that African Americans are Americans of African descent adding that his specific DNA shows he is from 14 different nations and ethnicities other than Nigerian.

"Science has proven that we are not just descendants of Africa but of many ethnicities," he said. "And science has also proven through DNA that we were all created by God, often and after his likeness and after God's own image. We are all derived from two people, Adam and Eve, and after the days of Noah, eight souls were saved walking from that great ark."

"Since then, we have labored to transform what we know as civilization today," he said. "The

(See **Labor** on Page 9)



NOC Vice President for Enid Jeremy Hise and Derwin Norwood



FEBRUARY 6-APRIL 10, 2025

*closed March 17-20 and for inclement weather

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY THURSDAYS:

February 13th and 27th, March 13th and 27th, and April 10th

FEATURING

Certified tax preparers provided by Northern Oklahoma College Business Division Income limit of \$75,000 or less

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



Cultural Engagement Center

Vineyard Library-Administration Building NOC Tonkawa

Sponsored by





FREE TAX PREPARATION

FREE E-FILING for Students, NOC Employees, and the Public

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

Labor

(Continued from Page 8)

key element that keeps us divided in laboring for equality to fight against systematic racism is driven simply by fear. We fear what we don't understand and we fear the unknown."

"It's time that we come together and that we persevere over this theme that alienates and divides us, called fear," he added.

"We are all the children of God, no matter how you look, no matter what your dialect, no matter how you formulate your words, no matter how they may sound, we are all God's children. We are the human race, that's who we are. When we fight against one, we fight against ourselves because of the fear of the unknown. We are truly a melting pot," he added.

made contributions in labor including those who provided labor without pay saying that million slaves from Africa were transported all over the world from saying that many died in Ann McCoy for her work in bringing these prothe name of hatred and greed.

Norwood's answer as to why this happened is, "When you turn your back on God, God will turn his back on you. It seems today we are turning our backs on God and I fear God will turn his back on us."

Norwood then talked about Benjamin Banneker, an African American social activist in the 1700's who helped survey and design Washington, DC. He also designed what we know now as the "American Clock," and later became an architect, engineer, almanac creator, and astronomer. He added that Banneker would use his influence to create social change in his day.

"I owe it to our ancestors who were not allowed a choice," he said. "I owe it to them to

keep the doors of opportunity open with God's help. Education is important, our future depends on it. It's not just a sheet of paper but a lifelong achievement."

NOC Vice President for Enid Jeremy Hise provided a gift to Norwood saying, "I appreciate you being here today, what a fantastic message and thank you for your leadership. The City of Enid, Northern Oklahoma College, and our students have directly benefited from your leadership. You have worked directly with our students for many years now through the 'Day of Kindness' program in Enid and we thank you again for your work in our community."

College president Diana Morris Watkins add-Norwood then gave examples of Africans who ed, "We are so proud to call you (Norwood) an NOC alum and thank you for speaking truth in the room. We always appreciate hearing truth."

She also thanked NOC instructor Dr. Mary grams to Northern Oklahoma College.

Norwood currently serves on the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission, President of Chisholm Trail Metropolitan Planning Organization, Community Development Services Agency, Enid Noon Ambucs, Community Development Block Grant President, and City of Housing Study Committee.

He formerly served on the City of Enid Walk of Fame Commission and City of Enid Sales Tax Revenue Commission.

Attendees were treated to a Soul Food lunch prepared by Great Western Dining Service, Inc., NOC's food service. The lunch was funded by anonymous NOC donors.

Life changing.



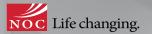
For NOC Students That Are **Graduating or Transferring**

Wednesday, March 5 10 am - 1 pm **NOC Enid, Zollars Memorial Library Lobby**

Several universities will be present to answer questions and help with the transfer process!

Autry Technology Center Northwestern Oklahoma State University

Oklahoma State University **OSU Institute of Technology** The University of Oklahoma University of Central Oklahoma Wichita State University and More!





NOC Calendar

March 1

Away Jets Softball vs. Murray at Branson Showtime Classic, 8:30 a.m. Away Jets Softball vs. Kirkwood (IA) at Branson Showtime Classic, 10:30 a.m. Away Jets Baseball vs. Pratt (KS), 1 p.m./3 p.m. Away Mavs Baseball vs. Missouri West Plains, noon/2 p.m.

March 2

Away Mavs Baseball vs. Missouri West Plains, noon

March 3

Away Mavs Softball vs. Neosho (KS), 2 p.m./4 p.m.

Fine Arts Student Recitals, CEC, 2:30 p.m., Tonkawa

Away Mavs and Lady Mavs Basketball vs. Redlands, 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m.

March 4

Free Lunch, BCM, 11:15 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tonkawa

Away Jets Softball vs. Carl Albert, 1 p.m./3 p.m.

Home Mavs and Lady Mavs Basketball vs. NOC Enid, 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m.

Away Jets and Lady Jets Basketball vs. NOC Tonkawa, 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m.

Bingo for Food, Gantz Center, 7:30 p.m., Enid The Gathering, BCM, 8 p.m., Enid

March 5

Sophomore Transfer Day, Zollars Library, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Enid

OBI Blood Drive, 2nd Floor Commons, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Stillwater

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

Free BCM Lunch, Gantz Center, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., Enid

Mav and Lady Mav Wrestler Send-Off, Foster-Piper Fieldhouse, noon, Tonkawa

Home Mavs Softball vs. Hesston (KS), 2 p.m./4 p.m.

Bingo for Food, Student Union, 7:30 p.m., Tonkawa

The Gathering, BCM, 7:30 p.m., Tonkawa

March 6

OBI Blood Drive, 2nd Floor Commons, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Stillwater

Away Jets Baseball vs. Rose State, 1 p.m./3 p.m. Home Jets and Lady Jets Basketball vs.

Redlands, 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m.

Home Mavs and Lady Mavs Basketball vs. NEO, 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m.

Planetarium Show, Mackie Planetarium, 7:30 p.m., Enid

Rock of Ages, KPAC, 7:30 p.m., Tonkawa

March 7

Away Mavs and Lady Mavs Wrestlers at NJCAA Tournament in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Away Jets Softball vs. Coffeyville (KS) at Branson Primetime Classic, 8:30 a.m. Away Jets Softball vs. Parkland (IL) at Branson Primetime Classic, 10:30 a.m. Away Mavs Baseball vs. Hesston (KS), 1 p.m./3

Rock of Ages, KPAC, 7:30 p.m., Tonkawa







