



NORTHERN
Oklahoma College
TONKAWA | ENID | STILLWATER

www.noc.edu

Jets Homecoming week starts Tuesday

NOC Enid Homecoming is set for Thursday, Feb. 5, when the Lady Jets/Jets host Eastern at 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m.

The following are the activities for the week:
Feb. 3: Jet-Fueled Fun, Skits/Laughs, Briggs Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Feb. 4: S'More Fun, Sand Volleyball Courts, 7 p.m.

Feb. 5: Homecoming vs. Eastern, 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m., After Party in Old Gym after the men's game.

Planetarium show set for Tuesday

The Mackie Planetarium at Northern Oklahoma College Enid's February show will be on Tuesday Feb. 3 at 6 p.m.

NOC will show the night sky over Enid during February. The show will be "3000 years of astronomy." Director Fritz Osell will show the

history of the science of astronomy and discoveries from ancient times to the present.

The next two shows will be March 3 and April 7. Show times are 6 p.m.

Admission is free but food donations of non-perishable food is accepted.

NORTHERN

What's Happening January 30, 2026

NOC Public Information Office 580.628.6444

news@noc.edu, scott.cloud@noc.edu

HOMECOMING WEEK ACTIVITIES

Tuesday | February 3
JET-FUELED FUN
7 pm, Briggs Auditorium
Skits and Laughs

Wednesday | February 4
S'MORE FUN!
7 pm at Sand Volleyball Courts
S'mores and Hot Chocolate



*Students may pick up their **FREE HOMECOMING SHIRT** at the Home Basketball Games on January 29. For more information, contact Chance Blackdeer, 580.548.2344 or chance.blackdeer@noc.edu.*

Thursday | February 5 | Mabee Center
HOMECOMING BASKETBALL GAMES
VS EASTERN OKLAHOMA
5:30 pm Women / 7:30 pm Men
Food, Music, Games in the small gym after the game

Tonkawa Homecoming rescheduled

Tonkawa Homecoming activities have been rescheduled due to the winter weather last week.

The following is the new schedule:

Feb. 24 – Homecoming Voting, Student Affairs Office, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Feb. 25 – Homecoming Voting, Student Affairs

Office, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

March 2 – Homecoming Basketball game vs. Eastern, 5th quarter to follow basketball game in East Gym

March 3 – That's No Bull Revue, Wilkin Auditorium, 8 p.m.

Phi Theta Kappa quilt making Feb. 12

The NOC Tonkawa Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society is sponsoring a 'Knot Blanket Making' project on Thursday, Feb. 12, from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Renfro Center.

All students are welcome to participate with blankets donated to the local children's shelter. Students are encouraged to bring community

service forms for hours served.

Donations of 1.5 yards of fabric and fleece blankets are needed. Each blanket will be made with two blankets of the same size or two pieces of 1.5 yard of fabric.

Pizza, cookies, and drinks will be provided

Staculty January/February Birthdays



Bridget Napoli	Jan. 30	Brenda Pennington	Feb. 12
Alene Pitts	Jan. 30	Jeff Ray	Feb. 13
Kathleen Otto	Feb. 1	Lauren Kennedy	Feb. 14
Kayla Kelso	Feb. 2	Bradley Klump	Feb. 20
Jennifer Ray	Feb. 4	Audra Biggs	Feb. 23
Justin Wichman	Feb. 4	Jimmy Dickinson	Feb. 24
Susie Barnes	Feb. 5	Jeremy Hise	Feb. 24
Darrell Frost	Feb. 5	Tony Barnes	Feb. 25
Charmaine Munro	Feb. 5	Harley Morton	Feb. 28

NOC ENID

PLANETARIUM

SHOW

Tuesday,
February 3, 2026 | 6 pm
Mackie Planetarium
Free Admission
(Donated non-perishable food items accepted)

NOC Life changing.



NOC Sheep Production students at the Fort Worth Stock Show featured with the Champion Dorset Ram.

NOC Sheep Production students earn honors at Fort Worth show

The NOC Sheep Production class had an eventful and successful trip to the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo this past weekend. Winter weather made the decision to travel south a cautious one, but the group was glad they made the trip to compete in the FWSSR Open Sheep Show. Nine students and 13 sheep represented NOC in "Cowtown" for the event.

The results were tremendous, as NOC students exhibited the Champion Dorset Ram and Ewe, Reserve Champion Dorset Ram and Ewe, Champion Hampshire Ram, and Reserve Champion Hampshire Ewe. The Champion Dorset Ram, *Mercy*, was also named Supreme Ram of the Show.

Both the Champion Dorset Ram and Ewe were

sired by last year's 2025 Champion Dorset Ram, *Sinatra*, who was also raised at the NOC Sheep Center.

Students attending the FWSSR and preparing and exhibiting the show flock included Alex Black, Red Rock; Otto Cardwell, Lamont; Hayden Groene, Keller, Texas; Brooke Haunschild, Winfield, Kansas; Corbin Lowe, Winfield, Kansas; Rylee Thomas, Douglas; Shea Curtis, Luther; Rosa Mendiola, Kuna, Idaho; and Wesley Lester, Muskogee.

The students' next trip with the show flock will be to Houston, Texas, where they will attend the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in early March.



Life changing.



NOC ENID SPRING 2026 STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Join Us!

January 21	KARAOKE NIGHT	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
January 28	BINGO FOR FOOD	Gantz Center 7pm
February 2-6	HOMECOMING WEEK	Times Vary
February 11	CROCHET NIGHT	Gantz Center 7 pm (Making Woobles)
February 18	MOVIE NIGHT	Gantz Center, Montgomery 7 pm Students pick the movie
February 25	BOB ROSS PAINT NIGHT	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
March 4	CUP PONG TOURNAMENT	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
March 11	BINGO FOR FOOD	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
March 25	TRIVIA NIGHT	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
April 3	GOLF SIMULATOR	Mabee Center Racquetball Courts 7 pm
April 8	BOWLING NIGHT	Oakwood Bowl 7 pm
April 14	BOARD GAME NIGHT	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
April 22	ARTS & CRAFTS NIGHT	Gantz Center, Montgomery Hall 7 pm
April 29	PING PONG TOURNAMENT	Jets Residence Hall Lobby 7 pm

Business division offers tax service

Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa is providing free basic income tax return preparation for students, NOC employees, and area residents starting Feb. 12 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. 12. 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 Feb. 12, Feb. 26, March 12, March 26, and April 9. The CEC is located 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 provided 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.

Winter sports continue, softball and baseball start this week

NOC Enid and NOC Tonkawa continue the winter sports seasons this week with spring sports starting as well.

Basketball teams at Enid and Tonkawa are reaching the halfway point of the 2026 seasons while Tonkawa wrestling is heading down the home stretch with the post season starting in

February.

Baseball and softball start this week for both NOC campuses, the Jets are at home Tuesday against Rose State while the Mavs are at home Friday against Iowa Lakes.

Follow the Mavs at www.nocmavs.com and follow the Jets at www.nocenid.com.

Northern Encounters scheduled

NOC is hosting Northern Encounters on the Enid and Stillwater campuses Feb. 4 and Feb. 11.

The NOC Enid event is Wednesday, Feb. 4, and NOC Stillwater is set for Wednesday, Feb. 11.

The events are set for 9:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

with registration set to begin at 9 a.m.

High school junior, seniors, and their guests can get an up close look at what NOC has to offer. They will discover programs, services, clubs, and organizations and meet with faculty and students.

DONOR CHAMPIONS
More than ice in our veins

NOC Tonkawa
Blood Drive

Thursday, February 12
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Student Union

Get community service hours for giving blood!

STEP UP. GIVE BLOOD. EARN OUR EXCLUSIVE DONOR CHAMPIONS T-SHIRT.*

877-340-8777 • obi.org
Photo ID required. *While supplies last.

Our Blood Institute

NOC Star-Gate

A Weekly Portal to the North Oklahoma Sky

Brought to you by the Bert & Janice Mackie Planetarium at Northern Oklahoma College

This Week's Viewing Conditions:

The Moon: The Moon is still waxing, gaining in brightness until the full Moon on February 1. Then it will start to wane; if the weather holds out, it will be difficult to see some of the dimmer stars.

Weather: Check the forecast! Clear, cold nights are the best for “seeing” as atmospheric stability is often higher in the winter, making the planets look incredibly sharp. The brightness of the Moon is going to hinder our view.

Highlights for the Week of Friday, Jan. 30 – Feb. 6, 2026

This Week – The full Moon on the first is called the “Snow Moon.” This is because it typically coincides with the heaviest, most abundant snowfall of the year in North America. It may also be referred to as the Hunger Moon as it occurs during the lean time of the year. However, the Moon is still our guide, as Jupiter and the Moon will appear very close on Jan. 30 and 31. Additionally, in North America, we will witness the “Regulus Occultation”: the Moon will pass directly in front of Regulus, the brightest star in Leo, making it disappear.

During the week, 45 to 60 minutes before sunrise, you should be able to spot the planets Venus and Mercury, while Mars and Saturn will be visible in the south-southeast as dawn approaches. Mars will be in the constellation Libra, and Saturn will be in Ophiuchus.

Special Note: The four-astronaut crew, Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover, Christina Koch, and Jeremy Hansen, for the Artemis II mission began their quarantine on Jan. 23, 2026. Current reports indicate the mission launch will be no earlier than Feb. 6, 2026. This is scheduled as a 10-day Moon flyby during which the astronauts will test various operations of the Orion capsule.

Astronomical Notes

The constellation Ophiuchus, the “Serpent Bearer”, is not one of the traditional signs of the zodiac. In Greek Mythology, Ophiuchus represents Asclepius, the Greek god of medicine, healing, and rejuvenation. Asclepius is said to have discovered the secret to immortality by watching a serpent, hence the large snake in the constellation.

Pro Viewing Tip

For early morning viewing this week, you want to allow your eyes to adjust so that you can pick out the planets in the east and south-southeast. You will want to keep the Moon at your back so that you can adjust to the increasing light as dawn approaches. Remember, never look directly into the Sun.

(See Star-Gate on Page 6)

Northern Oklahoma College



Discover Programs, Services, Clubs and Organizations.
Campus Tours.

Meet Faculty and Students!



FREE T-Shirt & Door Prizes
Including Tuition Waivers

Registration 9:00-9:30 am
Event 9:30-11:45 am

Event Link to Register or Scan QR Code
<https://d1u0000013v6ouaq.my.salesforce-sites.com/events/#/list>

SCAN CODE
TO REGISTER



NOC Life changing.

Star-Gate

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Photo Credit: Kennedy Center Launch Pad prior to Artemis Arrival. Photo taken 8/26/2024 as part of the NOC Rocket Team Tour of the Kennedy Space Center by Dr. Wood-Black

The viewing platform at Artemis Launch Pad looking back to the Artemis Assembly Building. Photo taken 8/26/2024 as part of the NOC Rocket Team Tour of the Kennedy Space Center by Dr. Wood-Black



FREE TAX PREPARATION

VITA
VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

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

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY THURSDAYS:
February 12th and 26th,
March 12th and 26th,
and April 9th

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

PLEASE BRING

- Photo ID for taxpayer and spouse
- 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

Cultural Engagement Center
Vineyard
Library-Administration Building
NOC Tonkawa

Sponsored by

NOC NORTHERN Oklahoma College **IRS**

NOC Calendar

Jan. 31

Away Mavs Wrestling at NEO's Norseman Open in Miami, 9 a.m.
 Away Lady Mavs/Mavs Basketball vs. Connors, 2 p.m./4 p.m.

Feb. 1

BCM Open House, 8 p.m. – 10 p.m., Tonkawa

Feb. 2

Home Lady Mavs/Mavs Basketball vs. Murray, 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m.
 Away Lady Jets/Jets Basketball vs. Connors, 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m.

Feb. 3

Free Lunch, BCM, 11:15 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tonkawa
 Spring Art Exhibit Opens, Eleanor Hays Art Gallery (KPAC), Feb. 3 – March 27, Tonkawa
 Home Jets Baseball vs. Rose State, 2 p.m.
 Planetarium Show, Mackie Planetarium, 6 p.m., NOC Enid
 Jet Fueled Fun – Skits/Laughs, Briggs Auditorium, 7 p.m., Enid
 The Gathering, BCM, 8 p.m., Enid

Feb. 4

Northern Encounter, Gantz Center, 9:30 a.m. - 11:45 p.m., Enid
 Free Lunch, Wesley House, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Tonkawa
 Free BCM Lunch, Gantz Center, 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m., Enid
 Homecoming S'More Fun at Sand Volleyball Courts, 7 p.m., Enid

Feb. 5

Away Mavs Softball vs. Cisco (TX), 1 p.m./3 p.m.
 Homecoming Lady Jets/Jets Basketball vs. Eastern, 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m.
 Homecoming After Party, Old Gym, After Basketball Games, Enid
 Away Lady Mavs/Mavs Basketball vs. NEO, 5:30 p.m./7:30 p.m.

Feb. 6

Away Lady Mavs/Mavs Wrestling vs. Trinidad (CO), 9 a.m.
 Home Mavs Baseball vs. Iowa Lakes, noon/2:30 p.m.
 Away Jets Softball vs. Weatherford (TX), 1 p.m./3 p.m.

Feb. 7

Home Mavs Baseball vs. Iowa Lakes, noon, 2:30 p.m.
 Home Jets Baseball vs. Northeast (NE), 1 p.m./4 p.m.
 Away Jets Softball vs. Cisco (TX), 1 p.m./3 p.m.
 Away Lady Mavs/Mavs Basketball vs. Eastern, 2 p.m./4 p.m.



Jets softball opens season in Weatherford, Texas on Friday

The NOC Lady Jets open the 2026 season Friday, Feb. 6, at Weatherford, Texas.

The Jets open at home on Feb. 24 against Kansas Wesleyan JV and will play their home games at Kingfisher High School while work on Failing Field is underway.

The Jets are under the tutelage of Steve Kissel, starting his third year at NOC Enid.

"I feel like we have a better team than last season," Kissel said. "We are more balanced in regard to freshman and sophomores. That alone makes us better."

What are the strengths of the is year's Jets squad?

"Our strength is that the returners have put in the work over the summer to get better along with bring the new players up to the level we need to play," he said. "This year we have more depth at every position so everyone has to work harder to keep or earn playing time."

Who will be the key contributors in 2026?
"Of course, nothing is finalized and we have

several players who are very close to starting and sharing time," Kissel said. "It can change as the season goes along. We have a number of players that are working at multiple positions."

Pitchers include KK Harjo, Lilly Ball, Ryan Gamble, Adrianna Wieldman, Trinity Black, Aubrey Miller, and Chloe Dallman-Janski.

Catchers include - Hayden Haulcomb, Carly DeLeon, Jaylynn Jones, Paisley Dyer, Alli Guynes

1B - River Pugh, Ally Neal

2B -Morgan Hayes, Mariah Arenas, Gloria Baker

3B - Addison Cassady, Albany Pritchard

SS - Brylee Davis

OF - Cassidi Cook, Zoie Zachery, Sonia Mena, Amy Cronister, Payge Mayo, and Callie Weber

Kissel commented on the strength of Region 2.

"The region will be tough as it always is," he said. "Rose is coming off a region 2 championship and a great national tournament. The rest of the region teams will all be better. Our



NOC Enid Shortstop Brylee Davis

region is very tough and the winner will do well at the national tournament."

The Jets were 11-38 in 2025.

Mavs baseball opens at home Friday

The NOC Mavs Baseball team opens the 2026 season Feb. 6 at home against Iowa Lakes at noon for doubleheaders Saturday and Sunday.

The Mavs are coached by Jonathan Monk who replaced Michael Keeran. The Mavs were 50-9 and placed 3rd at the Region 2 Post Season Tournament in 2025.

"We are a very new club this year, and that is okay," Monk said. "These boys work hard, they love to compete in everything they do and won't shy away from a challenge. Our guys have punched the card since day one, we want to win in everything we do and they have done that. It's always interesting going into a year with a

new coaching staff but our guys have embraced it."

Monk thinks the Mavs likes the Mavs' offense and the pitching staff.

"Our offense will be a staple of our program," he said. "We will be to score in multiple ways, we avoid being a one-dimensional offense. We have some guys that can play the game a little bit. On the pitching side, we're going to attack the strike zone. We have some guys that can pound the strike with two to three different pitches and get us off the field. We've made it a

(See Mavs on Page 9)



The NOC Mavs open the 2026 season at home Friday against Iowa Lakes.

Lady Mavs open 2026 season at Cisco, Texas on Friday

The NOC Tonkawa Mavs Softball Team opens the 2026 season Feb. 5 at Cisco, Texas

Coach Jeff Ray is starting is second season at NOC. The Mavs were 24-31 last season.

"I'm not quite sure what to expect this season," Ray said. "It all hinges on team chemistry when we get into conference play and how quickly some of these freshmen get rolling. We have all the talent and depth needed to compete for a region title, but it's all about who's playing together and for each other down the stretch."

Ray said depth is a strength of the 2026 Mavs.

"We're at least two- deep at every position and our sophomore group got a ton of great experience last year as freshmen so we think we can lean on them a bit especially in the early going," he added. "We're very athletic and our outfield is deep and extremely strong."

Returnees for the Mavs include Kailey Rich (2B), Faith Williams (SS), Jadison Ackerman (LF), Kaidince Calvert (P), and Kennedy Zook (P)

A tentative line-up for the Mavs includes the following:

C - Paiton Hedges, Madyson Austin/Charley

Carson

1B. - Brooklyn Ray, Paiton Hedges

2B - Kailey Rich, Riley Westmoreland

SS - Faith Williams

3B - Justyce Booker, Saffron Bowie

LF - So. Jadison Ackerman, So. Charley Carson

CF - Fr. Hailey Schutz, Fr. Riley Westmoreland

RF - Fr. Bree Gomez, Fr. Caitlin Cooper

DP - Westmoreland, Austin

In the circle, the Mavs will use the entire four person staff.

"We'll use all four of our pitchers with full confidence but you will probably see Adisyn Peetoom and Kaidince Calvert as game starters most of the time," Ray said. "Kennedy Zook and Angel Franklin will be available to come in to any game at any time. If we can get and stay healthy our pitching staff will be very solid this year."

The region is always challenging but Ray believes the Mavs can compete.

"The region is wide open again," he said. "Anyone can beat anyone on a given day. Three of the top pitchers graduated but a lot of talent returns throughout the region. And, it looks like



NOC shortstop Faith Williams returns for the Mavs in 2026.

everyone recruited well and reloaded. Seminole is bringing back a lot of talent and Coach Flores will have them ready. Rose has a ton of freshmen but their few returning sophomores have World Series experience. And, NEO has

the best pitcher in the region."

The Mavs first home game is Feb. 19 when the Mavs host Independence.

Follow the Mavs at www.nocmavs.com .

Mavs

(Continued from Page 8)

goal to be the best at the little things."

Monk said the coaching staff is working through the line-up options and pitching rotation for 2026 but said, "Our lineup is not set in stone. It is always changes, when you have good hitters, they make it challenge to get a starting nine set and we are continuing to evaluate our arms."

Key returnees include Bodee Mausser, Robert Evans who have starting experience and Collin

Berry returns with experience in 2025.

Monk is excited to meet the Region 2 Challenge.

"Our region is one of the best to play in JUCO D2. Every year it is a challenge to be at the top of the league. We cannot take a weekend off or we are going to get punched in the mouth, we are going to have to play our best baseball every weekend."

Follow the Mavs at www.nocmavs.com .



Follow the Mavs at www.nocmavs.com .

Follow the Jets at www.nocjets.com .

Jets Baseball opens at home Tuesday against Rose State

The NOC Enid Jets open play for 2026 on Tuesday when the Jets host Rose State at 2 p.m.

The Jets, 43-18 in 2025, are coached by Ryan Bay. Bay is in his third season at NOC Enid.

Bay likes the make-up of his squad as the Jets progressed through the fall schedule to prep for the 2026 season.

"I like the overall make-up of our team," Bay said. "The players are working hard to improve daily and have bought in to the things we need to do in order to be successful this spring."

What are the strengths of the 2026 Jets?

"We are balanced, physical, very versatile on offense that have the ability to score runs in bunches or grind out innings and manufacture runs when the pitching matchup and/or weather conditions call for it," Bay said. "We also

have a little more depth on the mound than last year although roles on the mound will continue to get sorted out probably all the way to region play."

Who are some players to watch in 2026?

"We value versatile players and we have several," Bay said. "We'll move guys around early in the season to establish our best line-up by region play. Look for Noah Smith and Lucas Dunn to play a lot at 3B and 1B, with Lucas getting some time at 2B as well. We've got some talented freshman up the middle in Jake Ervin, Brock Boddie, Gunner Sattler with transfer Cade Christensen possibly getting in the mix there as well as playing some outfield. In the outfield we have returners Aiden Kilkore and Ty Wilson along with transfers Bryan Williams,



NOC Enid collecting winter clothing

The NOC Enid Hispanic Heritage Club, Viva la Raza, is collecting gently used winter caps, coats, sweaters, jackets, scarfs, gloves, ear muffs, blankets and quilts for the Enid SOS (Street Outreach Service).

The boxes are located in Harmon Science. Four boxes have already been collected.

Rhonda Stevenson (left), and one of her volunteers, Andrew (right) picked up the boxes this week.

Their mission and more about their community work can be found on their website, Enid Street Outreach Services.



NOC Enid hosts Rose State in the season opener Tuesday at 2 p.m.

Cade Christensen and Connor Schlegel. Freshman Justin Tracy had a very good fall and will be in that mix as well."

On the mound, the Jets return Bennett Percival, Wyatt Rutledge, Maddox Lawson, Cooper Howe and Carlos Lopez. Key transfers include Bryson Kelley, Blaine Davis and Brody Mahan.

"We also have several talented freshman arms that will throw significant innings this spring," Bay said.

Ray looks for another tough year in Region 2.

"It should be another highly competitive year of Region 2 baseball," he said. "Every weekend is a dog fight. I expect all seven teams in the west division to be good enough to earn a play-off spot."

NOC Enid reached the region tournament finals in 2025.

Follow the Jets at www.nocjets.com



Life changing.