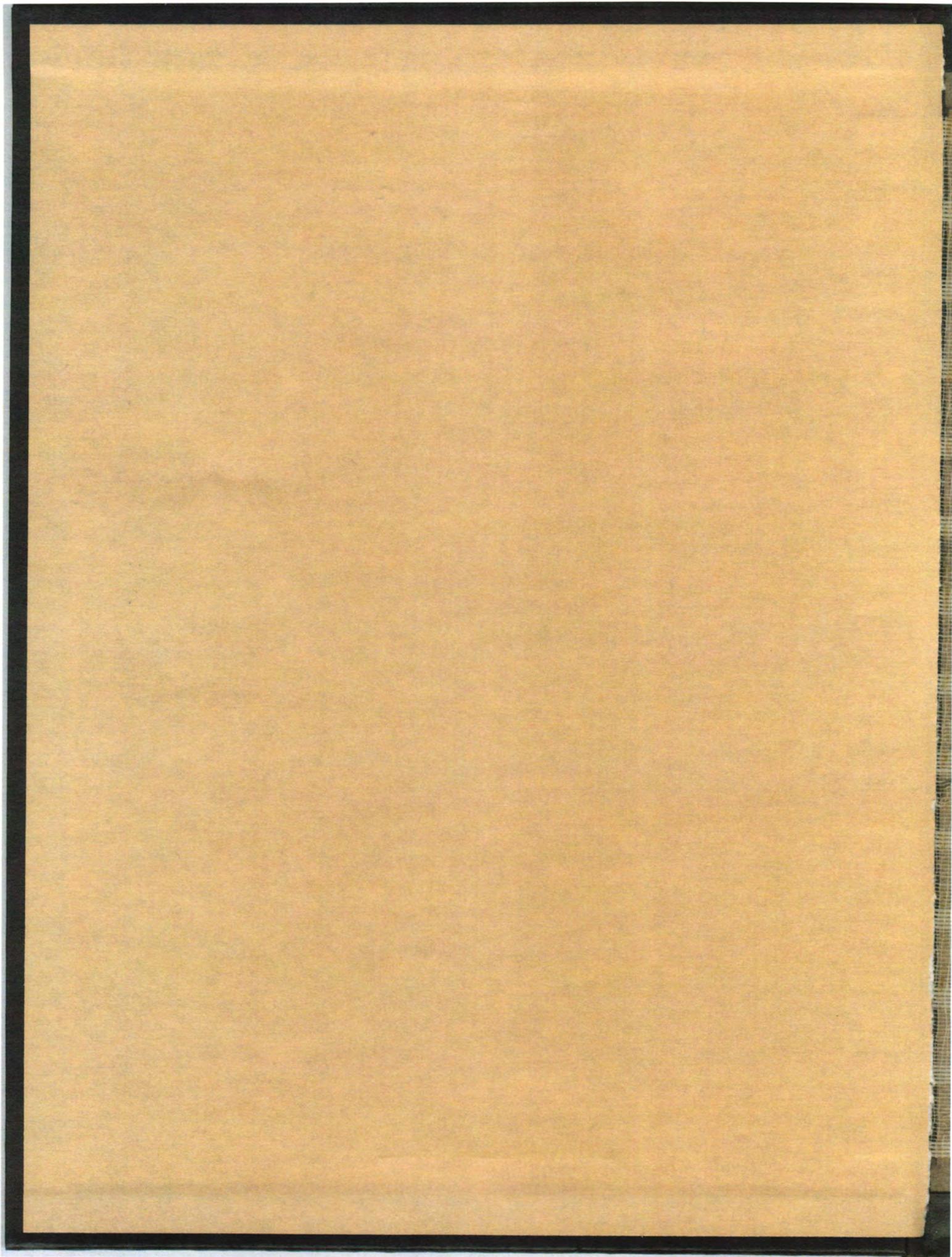


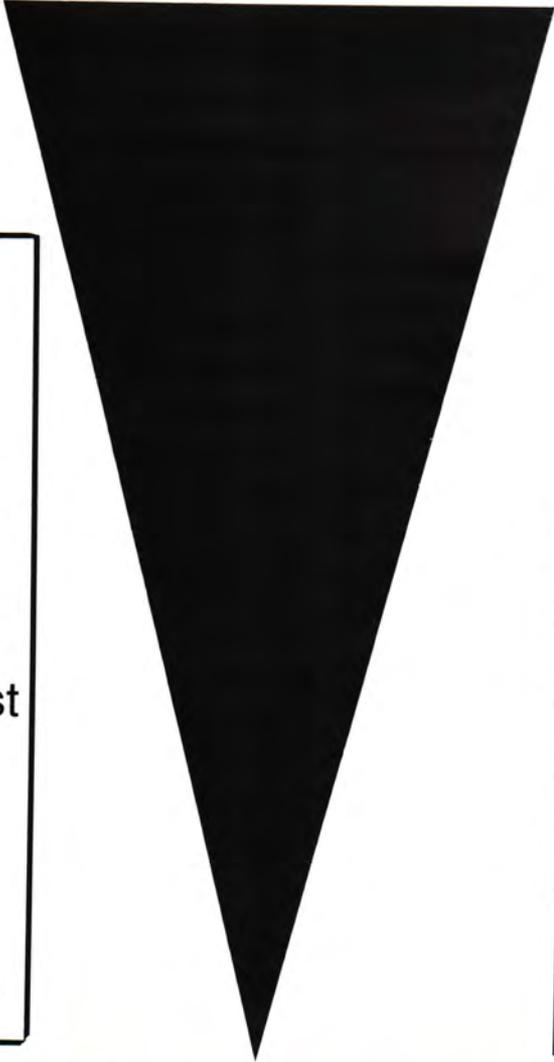
THE VIKING



GET THE POINT

NOTHING AS SIMPLE AS KNOWING YOUR POINT OF VIEW





1997

VIKING

**Northeastern
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A&M College**

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Volume 55
2,250 students

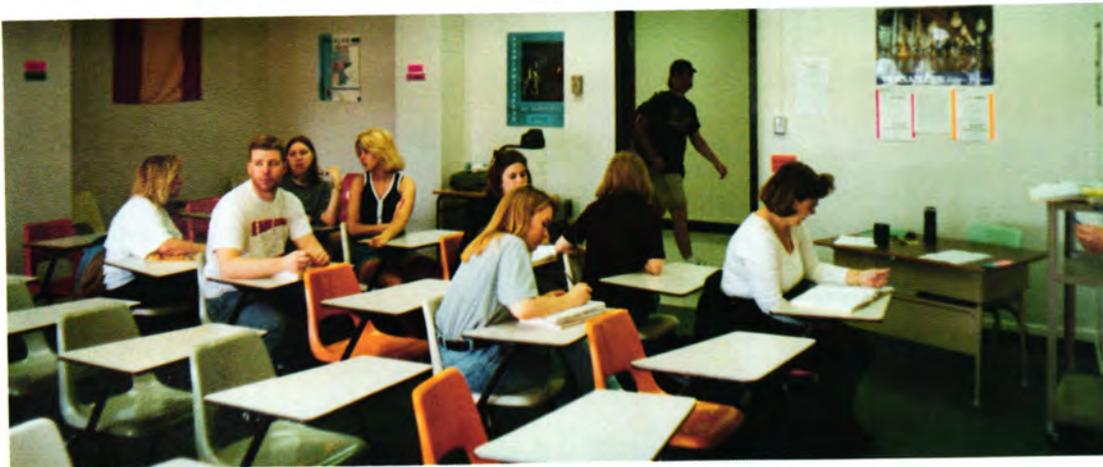
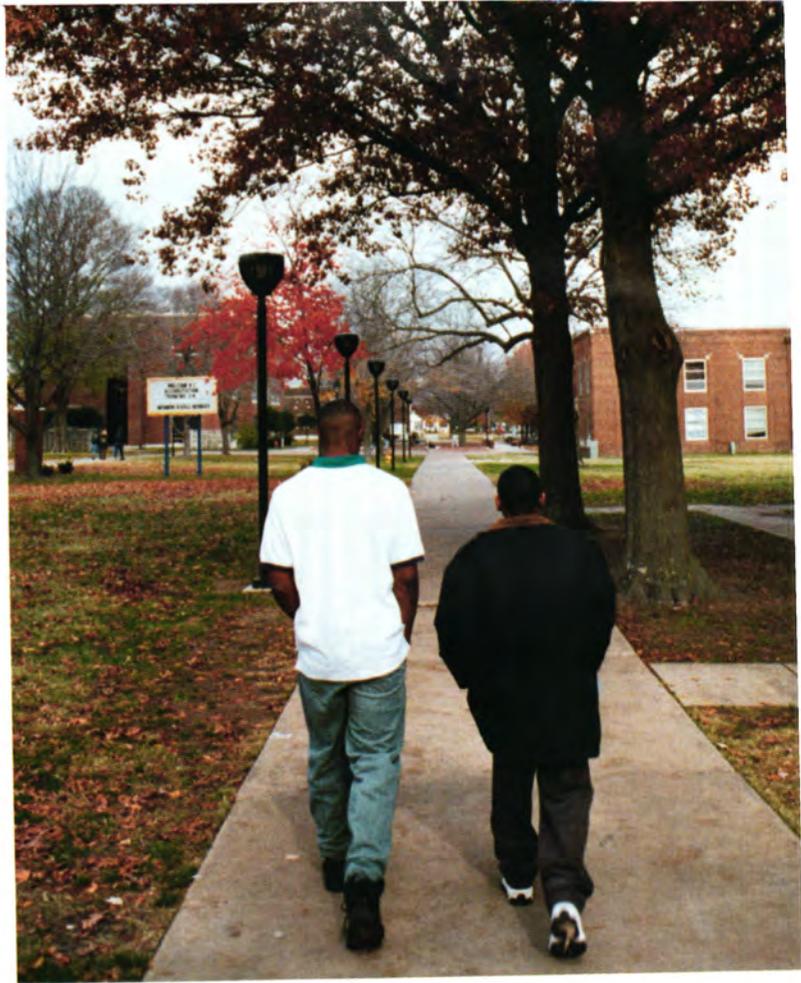
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Get a life...at NEO

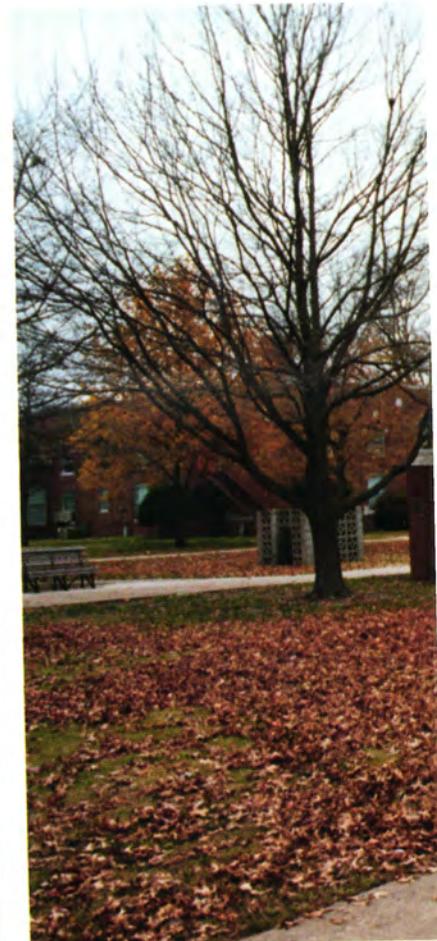
Two coeds enjoy a game of eight ball in the game room of the Bruce G. Carter Student Union during a break from classes. The game room featured several different video games as well as eight ball and snooker pool tables.

Taking a relaxing stroll down the main mall area of campus were Mahcoe "Punchy" Parker, a freshman from Coweta, and Reubin Turner, a sophomore from Hugo. The two were on their way to the cafeteria located in the Bruce Carter Student Union.



Students enter a classroom to begin the daily routine of attending one of the more than 144 different courses offered on campus. Classes started as early as 7 a.m. and continued into the evening in some cases.

Trying to find a seat during lunch in the snack bar area of the Bruce G. Carter Student Union was quite a chore, especially during one of the many special events held on campus to attract area high school kids for Aggie Day or Band Day.



A change of pace..

One of the first observations that a first-time student might make when visiting the campus of Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College is how much the campus resembles that of a four-year college or university.

Not only do the facilities feature dormitories for women and men, but the college also offers a wide variety of extracurricular activities for students to enjoy.

The campus is beautiful-landscaped with flowers, shrubs, trees, a chimes tower,

and a lighted fountain and is easily within walking distance of downtown Miami.

Covering approximately 140 acres, the campus is arranged in a mall concept which allows easy access to all facilities.

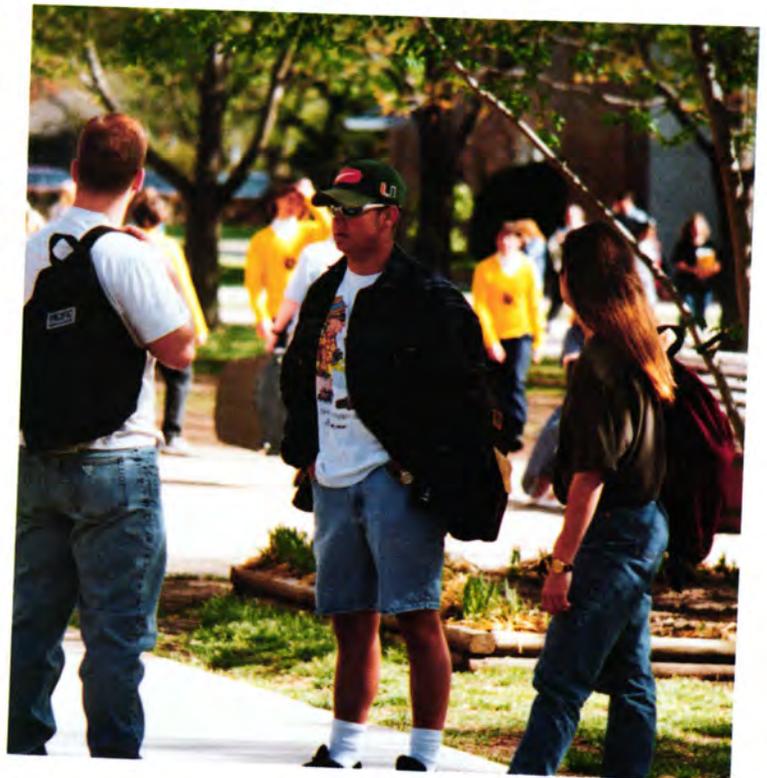
Serving as the central point of the campus is the Dayle Creech Library/Administration Building which includes the registrar's and business offices. The building also contains the Learning Resources Center.

Stretching from the north

end of the campus toward the south are several classroom buildings, the Bruce G. Carter Student Union and the Fine Arts Center.

Also included in the facilities are five residential halls designed to provide housing for 800 students and four apartment complexes for married students.

The college also features a multi-purpose arena for a rodeo, equine and livestock judging programs along with a modern 200-acre farm and outdoor rodeo arena.

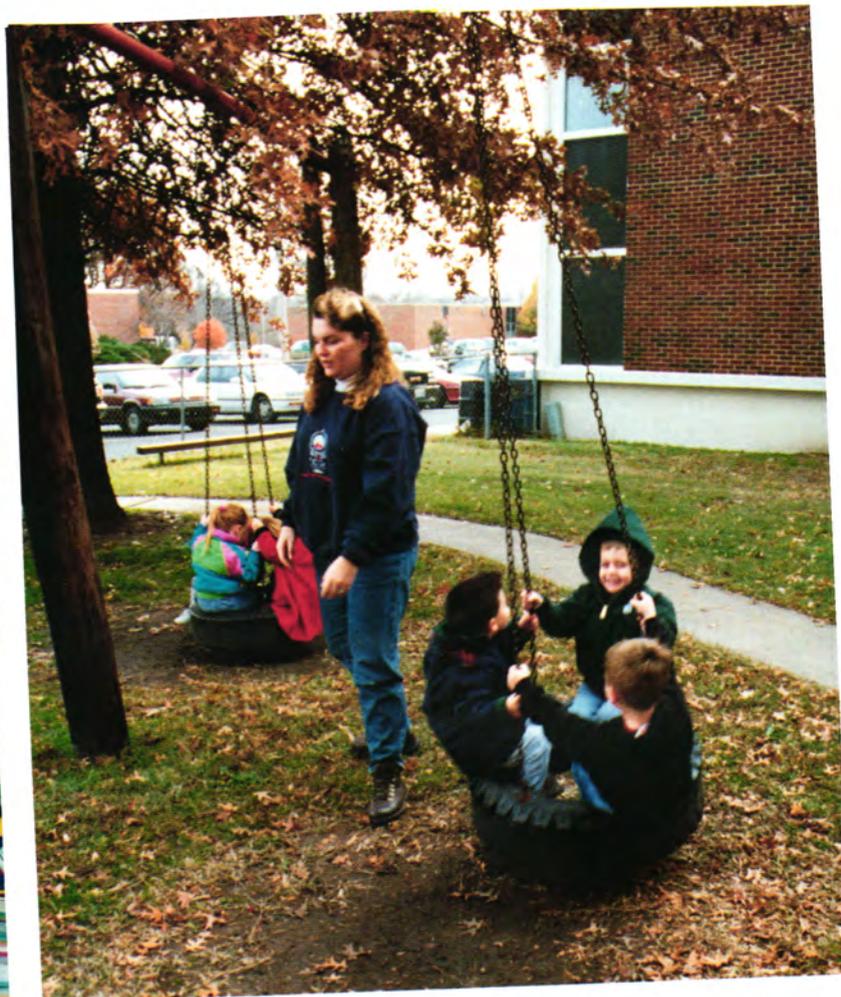


Mally Fronterhouse, a freshman from Watts, makes her way back to Harrill/Dobson dormitory after classes.

Several students gather on the mall outside Shipley Hall between classes to discuss the days events.

Looking for a good buy on some stationary in the college bookstore located in the Bruce G.C Carter Student Union is sophomore Kassie Hamlin of Choctaw. The bookstore offered several different kinds of personal items for students to purchase.

Lee Ann Barnett, a freshman from Grove, provides guidance for several pre-schoolers that participate in the college-operated lab school. The children play in a playground area located between Dyer Hall and Commons Hall



Two coeds walk across the vast expanse of the Harrill-Dobson lobby enroute to exit the building. The lobby area was the scene of numerous dorm meetings for residents throughout the year.



Kimberly Bell, a sophomore from Jay, gets a drink from the fountain on the second floor of Dobson Hall before proceeding to class. Each floor had a drinking fountain for student use.



Home sweet home...

With the nation-wide trend at the two-year college level aimed at developing a commuter-based student body, Northeastern A&M has been able to maintain the largest residential population in the United States.

During the 1996 fall semester more than 455 students resided in the five residence halls and four apartment complexes.

Almost 54 percent of the residential population were females. The largest group of women living in campus housing were the 133 residents of

Harrill Hall with 85 women residing in Dobson Hall and approximately 25 female students living in the college apartments.

Women living on campus had the luxury of sharing a dormitory that was joined in the middle by an extensive lobby area which featured comfortable furniture and a cable-ready television set.

The Harrill/Dobson Hall also served as home to the campus safety and security department and the college staff nurse.

Also located in the base-

ment of the dorm was a Subway Sandwich Shoppe that was open from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

Along with the creature comforts, each individual dorm room contained outlets for both cable television and telephone service.

Cost for a room also included a private box at the college post office and most residents took advantage of the two college meal plans in the cafeteria.

The dormitory also featured a laundry located in the basement.

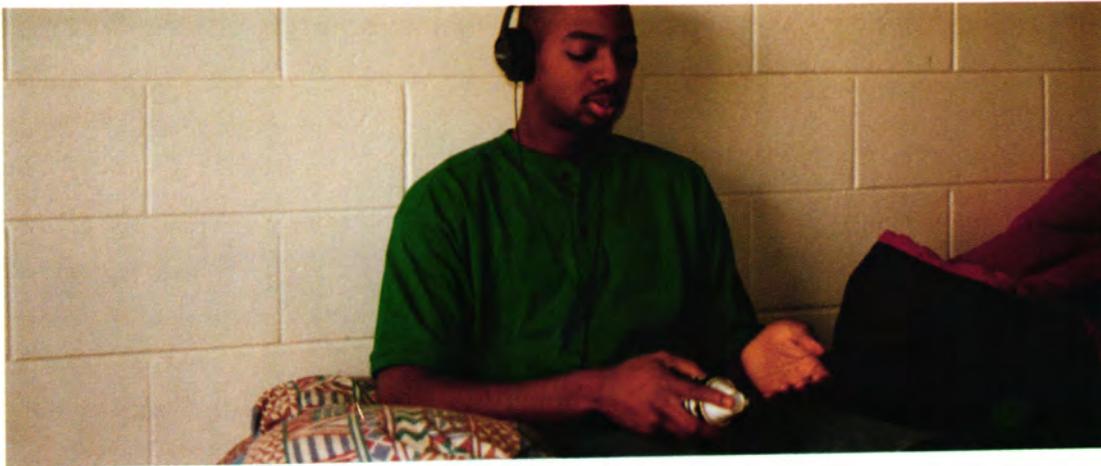
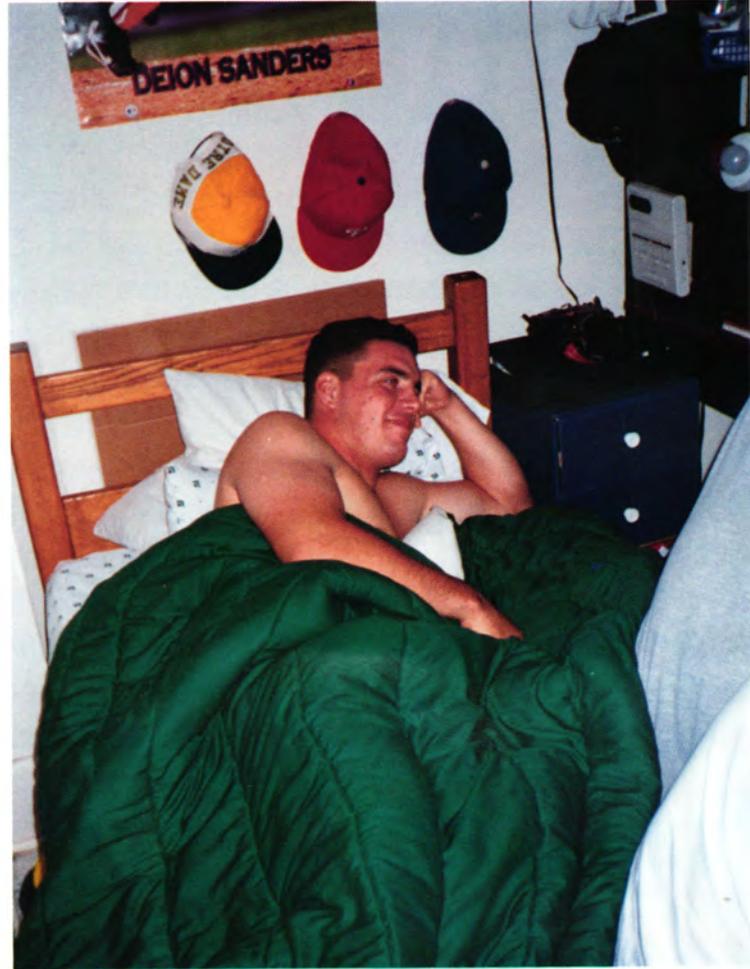
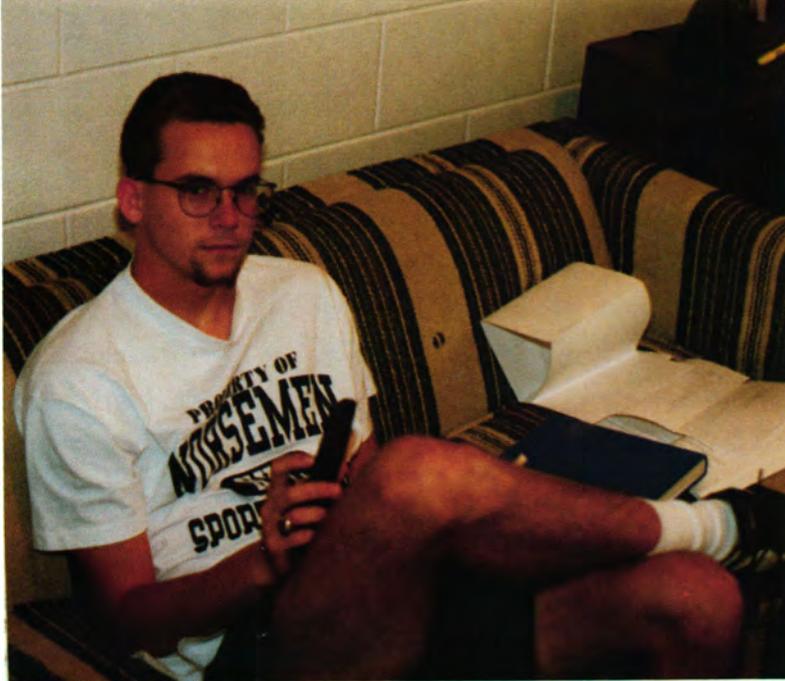


Rick Ritschel (far right), baseball coach at NEO, waits as Melissa Walker, a sophomore from Chelsea, gets her food during breakfast in the cafeteria.

Tish Baker and Nichole Bradford, both sophomores from Tulsa, consider a pillow fight during a lighter moment in Dobson Hall.

Brandon Powell, a sophomore from Healdton, relaxes with his remote control on a couch in his dorm room at Russell Hall. Students were allowed to decorate rooms to fit individual tastes according to college guidelines.

Enjoying television from the comfort of his bed is sophomore Derrick Roberts of Tulsa. Roberts, a member of the Golden Norse baseball team, moved from Commons Hall to Kah-Ne and back to Commons.



Getting ready to shave while listening to his favorite music, Johnny Mitchell, a sophomore from Greenville, S.C., sits on his bed.

Making a list and checking it twice was the responsibility of dorm proctor Jeremy Havens, a sophomore from Bolivar, Mo., in Russell Hall.



Life at the crib...

Residential living for the more than 212 male students on campus was spread across four dormitories and the four apartment complexes.

Newly remodeled Dyer Hall served as home for approximately 90 members of the Golden Norse football team. After being closed for almost three years, the east side of the dorm was renovated to house the football team while the west side was utilized for Student Services and the journalism and child development programs.

Dyer Hall featured new heating and air conditioning units along with renovated bathroom and shower facilities.

Members of the Golden Norse baseball team were housed in Commons Hall, before being moved to Kah-Ne Hall for a brief stay while the boiler system in Commons was replaced during the Christmas break.

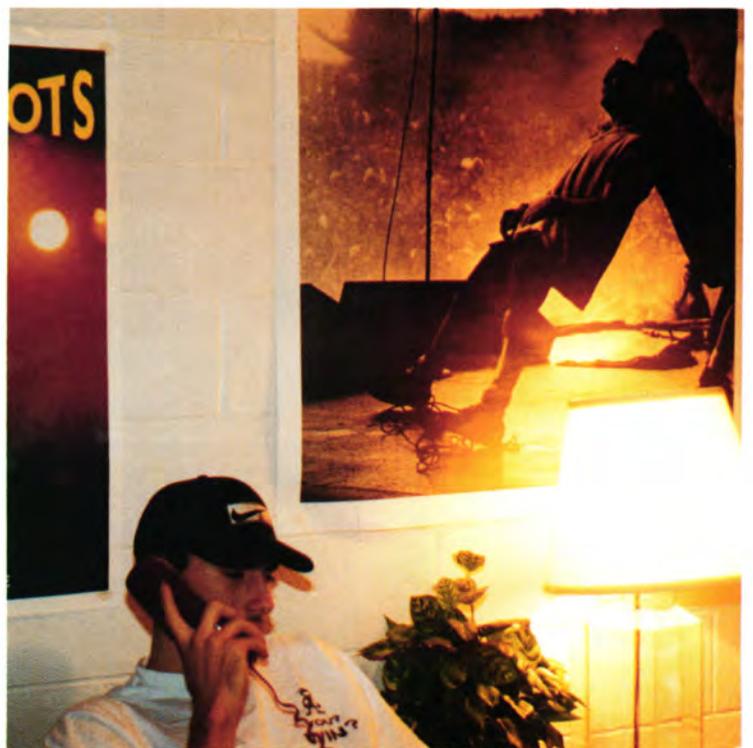
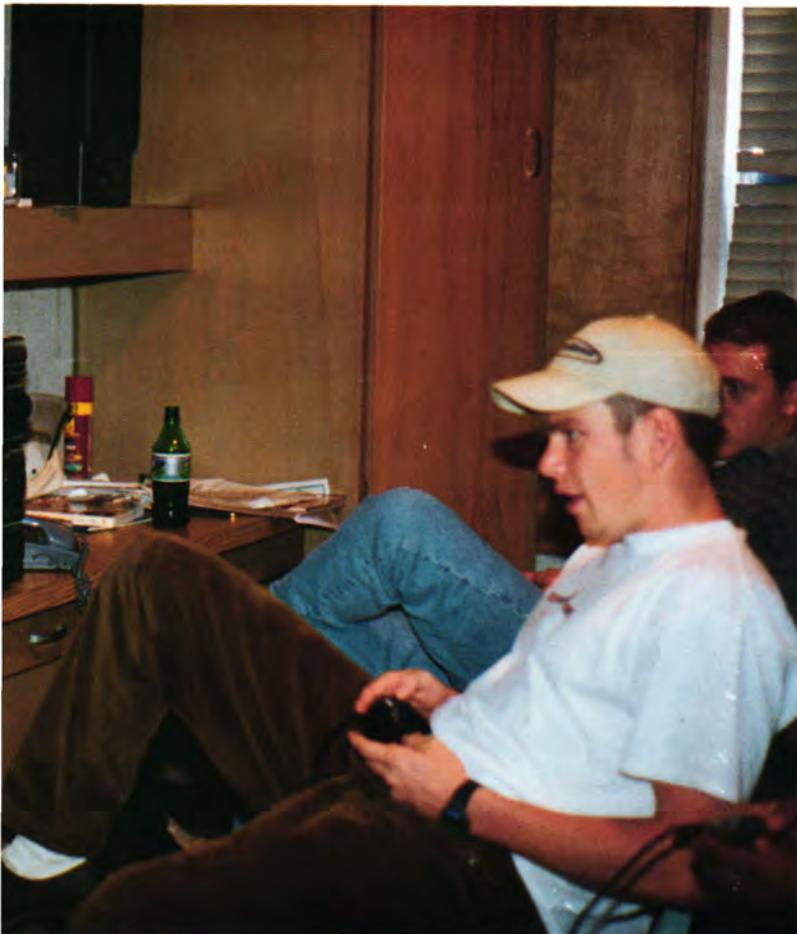
Remaining male students were housed either in Russell Hall or Vann Hall.

Residents of the dormi-

tories were treated to a well-rounded intramural sports program which was also available for commuters.

The program featured such sports as flag football, softball, sand volleyball, basketball, pool, tennis and several other individual and team sports.

Residents were also given an opportunity to become active in the Resident Life Council. Representatives on the council were responsible for establishing guidelines for campus living.



Caught up in the super Nintendo craze while lounging in their Russell Hall dorm room were sophomores Lance O'Roark and Jason Scott, both of Tulsa.

David Burkham, a sophomore from Hugo, receives a phone call in the luxury of his own room at Russell Hall. Most rooms contained phones.

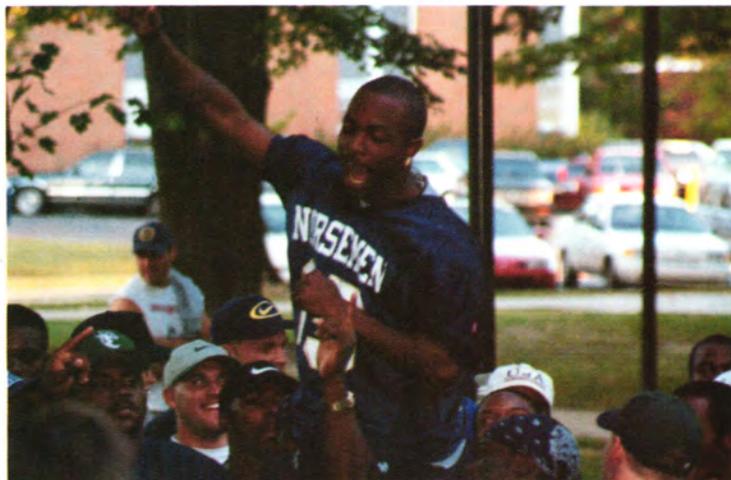
Lighting up the night sky was a bonfire set between Homa Thomas baseball field and the softball field. The blaze ended a week-long celebration of Homecoming activities and featured cheers from the crowd.

Brandy Trolinger, a freshman from Watts, and Cheryl Koger, a sophomore from Adair, join other members of the Norse Stars to present a unique routine during the all-college cookout on the main mall.



Several members of the college faculty and their spouses sit along the reflecting pool at the chimes tower to enjoy some hamburgers.

A member of the Golden Norse football team is hoisted into the air to provide some added spirit during a pep rally on the main mall.



Party-time...

One of the largest events impact the campus during the fall semester was the annual Homecoming Week activities.

More than 30 campus clubs and organizations entered queen candidates and other submitted decorated floats or constructed floats to be paraded in the traditional parade down Miami's Main Street.

The week-long festivities started with a dinner for the 29 queen candidates on Monday evening at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Jerry Carroll, NEO presi-

dent. Also attending the dinner were the judges for the event.

Throughout the week several campus buildings were decorated. Finishing first in the building decoration was the Engineers Club followed by Alpha Epsilon Rho in second and the Norse Stars and Cheerleaders in third place. The Christian Student Fellowship captured honorable mention.

Members of the College Ambassadors captured the Norse Spirit Award trophy.

The awards for building

decorations were presented during a pep assembly on Friday morning in the main mall.

More than 400 people participated in an all-school cookout and pep rally on Friday evening.

Along with great hamburgers prepared by the college food services staff, participants were treated to music by the Golden Norse Marching Band.

Members of the Norse Stars and Cheerleaders generated school spirit.



Making sure that all of the awards were in order for presentation during the "Yell Like Hell" contest was Shirley Patterson (far right), event coordinator.

Showing school spirit with a "Blue and Gold" checkered head was Robbie Heath, a freshman from Tulsa and member of the Golden Norse Band.

Emily Tynon, a sophomore from Miami, smiles as she rides down Miami's Main Street during the Homecoming parade. Tynon represented Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society and was selected second runner-up.

Displaying a pillow football during her ride down Miami's Main Street was Marlo Hamilton, a sophomore from Gravette, Ark. Hamilton, representing the Masquers Club, was named first runner-up.



Acknowledging the crowd as she proceeded down Main Street was Dana Haywood, a sophomore from Welch. Haywood was selected third runner-up.

Gregory Hawkins of Miami reacts unfavorably to the sound of approaching bands during the Homecoming Parade on Miami's Main Street.



Her Majesty...

Following a week of apprehension on the part of the 29 queen candidates, the final phase of selecting a queen involved participation in the traditional Homecoming Parade down Miami's Main Street.

Serving as queen candidates were Casey Adkins, sophomore, Tulsa; Emily Tynon, Miami, sophomore; Heather Bennett, sophomore, Owasso; Shelia Keithley, freshman, Kearney, Neb.; Billie Jo Case, freshman, Quapaw; Stacy Venable, sophomore, Choctaw, and Angela French, freshman, Miami.

Other queen candidates

were Tara Lee Mead, sophomore, Jay; Amy Elzo, freshman, Tulsa; Kara Stidham, sophomore, Galena, Kan.; Shannon Roark, freshman, Bartlesville, and Renae Johnson, freshman, Vinita.

Also serving as a candidate were Laura Sorrels, sophomore, Kiowa; Carla Kirby, freshman, Jay; Cathy Quick, freshman, Commerce; Lisa McCaslin, freshman, Tulsa, and Marlo Hamilton, sophomore, Gravette, Ark.

Other candidates were Jessica DeShazer, freshman, Drumright; Amy Crutchfield,

sophomore, Coweta; Darlene Dodd, freshman, Westville, and Amanda Bailey, sophomore, McAlester.

Also serving were Amanda Marshall, freshman, Fairland; Katie Norbury, freshman, Carthage, Mo.; Shannon Calvillo, freshman, Frederick; Katrina West, freshman, Jay; Joncia Jeter, freshman, Tulsa; Nakita Montgomery, freshman, Okmulgee; Dayna Hayward, sophomore, Welch, and Crystal Scott, freshman, Tulsa.

After the parade the candidates participated in halftime activities at the football game.

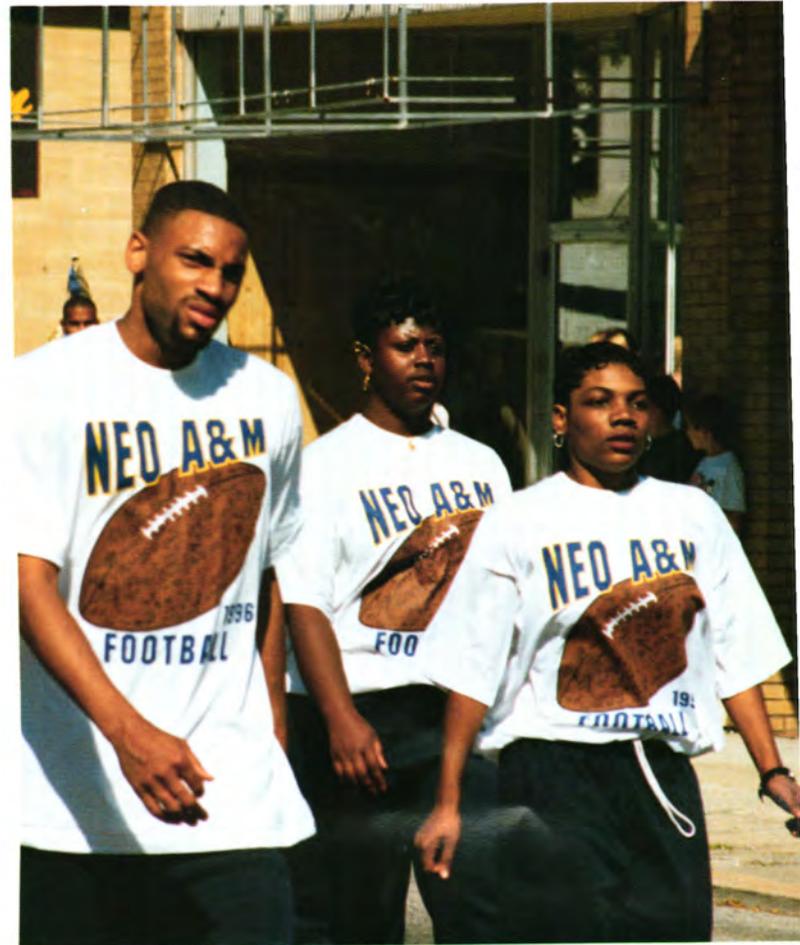


Twenty-nine candidates representing various campus clubs and organizations were vying for 1996 Homecoming Queen during a week of activities.

Stacy Venable, a sophomore from Choctaw, waves to the crowd during the annual parade down Miami's Main Street. Venable was crowned queen.

Poised to fire a pass over the Navarro defense, the Golden Norse quarterback launches a throw from the third place float built by the Child Development Club. The float was one of several in the Homecoming parade.

Members of the Afro-American Society pause during a routine they performed during the annual Homecoming parade. The group worked for weeks to perfect several routines they presented during the parade.



Mary Largent (left) co-sponsor of the Young Republicans organization joins members of the group on a float which received the second place trophy.



A member of the Miami Police Department descends on Robertson Field to deliver the game ball for the Golden Norse contest with Navarro, Texas.



Queen for a day.

After a week of interviews, dinners and luncheons, the selection of the 1996 Homecoming queen and her accompanying royal court was announced during halftime activities of the NEO/Navarro, Choctaw football game.

Amid much pomp and circumstance, Stacy Venable, a sophomore from Choctaw, was crowned Homecoming Queen.

A pre-medicine major, Venable was representing the Homecoming Language Club and escorted by Nathan Hamilton, a sophomore from

Claremore. Venable was a pitcher for the Lady Norse softball team and a member of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society.

Marlo Hamilton, a sophomore from Gravette, Ark., was selected first runner up. Hamilton represented the Masquers Club.

Emily Tynon, a sophomore from Miami, was chosen second runner up. A political science and economics major, Tynon represented the Mu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society.

Dana Hayward, a sophomore from Welch, was named third runner up. Hayward represented the Engineering Club.

Amy Crutchfield, a sophomore from Coweta, received the Norse Spirit Award which was voted on by the student body during a pep rally on Friday.

Leslie Keithley, a sophomore from Kearney, Neb., was selected to the Candidate's Choice Award. Keithley represented the Older, Wiser Learning Students (OWLS).

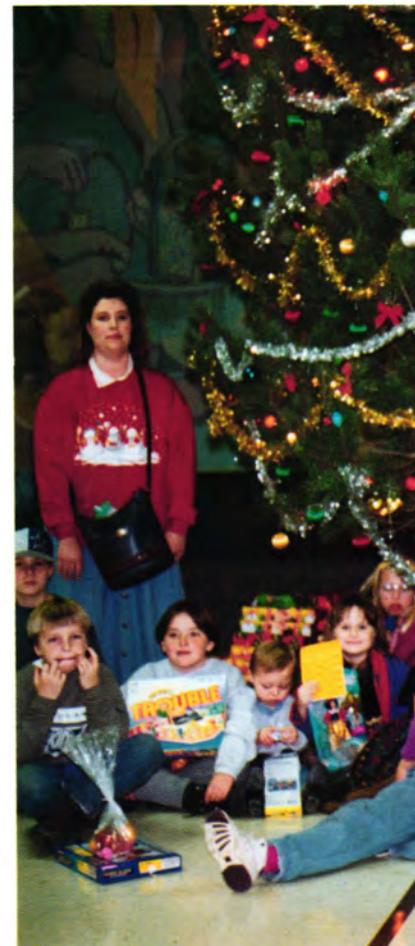
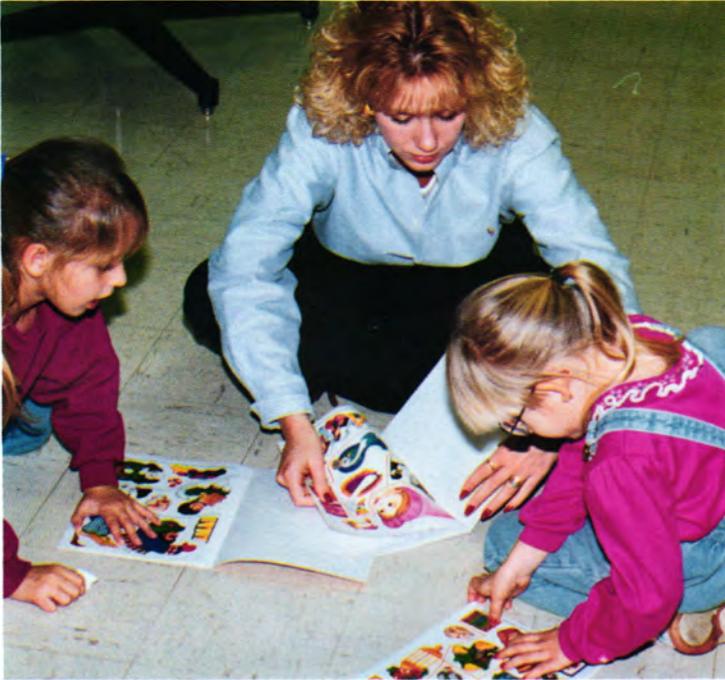


Dusty Billy (right), president of the Native American Student Association waves to the crowd while riding atop the first place float in the Homecoming parade.

Kellie Bland, 1995 Homecoming Queen, places the crown on the head of the 1996 recipient Stacy Venable during halftime ceremonies at Robertson Field.

Wendy Stephenson (center), a sophomore from Pierre, S.D., unwraps a present as her "adoptive daughters" play with the stickers they received as part of the presents from the annual Children's Christmas Party.

Providing a helping hand for Santa as he distributes presents to children during the Christmas Party were members of the Student Body Government along with several "Adoptive parents".



Students and their "adoptive children" wait with anticipation as Santa prepares to distribute presents during the annual Children's Christmas Party.

Santa Claus receives a big hug from a child as he prepares to hand out presents during the Children's Christmas Party held in the union ballroom.



Santa appears...

Another long-standing tradition at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College that touches the lives of most students is an annual Children's Christmas Party.

Sponsored by the Student Body Government, the party allows college students the opportunity to "adopt" an orphaned child for a traditional party featuring Santa Claus.

Armed with names of orphaned children provided by the Social Department of Human Services, members of the Student Body Government

encourage and enlist the help of college students to "adopt" more than 250 children each year.

Once a student has selected the age and sex of their "adopted child", the college student makes contact with the child and their parents to make arrangements to pick up the child for an evening of fun and excitement.

Generally, the evening of the party the "adoptive parent" picks up their child and either treats the child to a meal at a local fast-food restaurant, or

take them for a pizza in the college cafeteria.

Following dinner the "adoptive parent" and their child go into the Bruce G. Carter Student Union Ballroom to open presents and visit with a "special guest".

Gathered together in a large group, the crowd sings Christmas carols and enjoys opening presents provided by the "adoptive parents" for the children.

Highlight of the evening is the appearance of the Jolly Ol' Elf to dispense presents.



Officers of the Student Body Government, from left; Russell Fent, vice president; Stanton Ingram, president, and Becky Hill, secretary, pose with Santa.

Too much excitement caused one young party-goer to crash while waiting for the arrival of Santa Claus and the distribution of presents.

Mama Pig, played by Alene McDonald, listens as the Three Little Pigs, Ziggy, played by Adria Lightle; Twigg, portrayed by Andrea Browning, and Regina Pig, played by Tami Morgan explain their next move.

Listening to an description from Roger, played by Rod Bible, a sophomore from Vinita, of where he had been during a scene from **Noises Off** is Mrs. Clackett, portrayed by Alene McDonald, a ~~sophomore~~ **sophomore from Miami**.



All of the cast members from **Noises Off** gather on stage during a rehearsal of a scene from the comedy which focused on the backstage of a touring group.

Dottie, portrayed by Marlo Hamilton, a sophomore from Gravette, Ark., reacts to a phone call during a scene from the first production of the season.



Free tickets...

Included as part of the student activity fee was free admission for students to any of the four Theatre NEO productions during the school year.

The thespian group staged two productions during the fall semester. The season opened with the presentation of **Noises Off** followed by the children's story of **The Smoke-free Little Pigs**.

Opening the theatrical season in the Fine Arts Auditorium, the group presented **Noises Off** which was a

production by Michael Frayan. The light-hearted play focused on a backstage view of a touring company's dress rehearsal.

Presenting a new musical version of an old tale, **The Smoke-free Little Pigs** was written by Kevin Reese and performed for more than 500 area grade school children just before the Christmas break.

Following the month-long break, the troupe undertook the task of staging the Broadway musical **Man of La Mancha**.

Under the direction of former professional actor David Froman, the musical also called upon the instructional talents of vocal instructor Mary Susan Whaley and instrumental instructor Rabon Bewley.

Sophomore drama students Tami Morgan and Michael Lowery stepped off stage to co-direct the final Theatre NEO production of the season. The two one-act plays **Hello Out There** and **Pastiche** were scheduled to be presented in April.

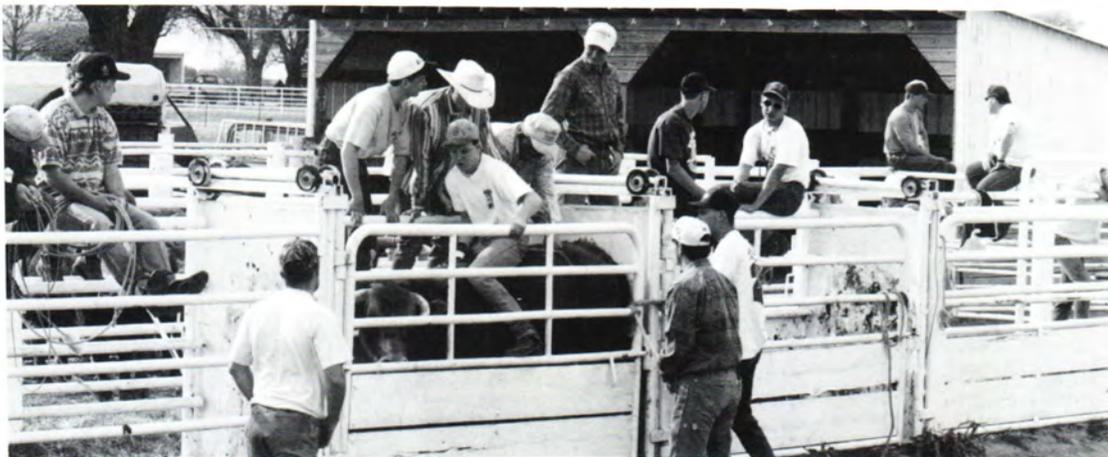


The Wolf, played by Michael Lowery, puffs on a cigar before trying to blow down the house of the Three Pigs in a scene from **The Smoke-free Little Pigs**.

Asking for directions from the Merchant, played by Shane Shoaf, after leaving Home is Twiggy Pig, portrayed by Andrea Browning.

Getting a good grip on the horns of a steer during a National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association steer wrestling contest was sophomore Matt Dethridge of Fairland. Dethridge was a member of the NEO rodeo team.

Golden Norse rodeo coach Lawson Essex rides around the arena to check for potholes or debris prior to the start of rodeo practice at the NEO arena located just east of the campus on the college farm.



Patrick Freeman, a freshman from Wann, makes certain he cinches the rope tight before coming out of the shoot during bull riding practice.

Working to improve their goat tying technique are sophomores Tanya Swalley, from Copan, and Dusty Debolt of Council Bluff, Iowa.



Head 'em up...

One of the most integral parts of Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College is the agriculture department which has served a community rich in agricultural heritage for more than 60 years.

Along with outstanding academic programs, the NEO agricultural department also features a wide variety of extra-curricular activities to appeal to anyone interested in agriculture.

Mainstay of the agriculture extra-curricular activities is the nationally-known livestock

judging Team. The team, under the direction of Jary Douglas captured four top team titles in 10 contests during the 1995-96 school year. Over the past six years the NEO livestock judging team has won Championship Team honors in 40 contests.

Another extra-curricular activity provided by the agricultural department is the equine judging team.

Under the direction of Kevin Pool, the equine judging team competed in six horse judging contests and also par-

ticipated in the nationals.

The agricultural department also features a rodeo team which travels around the country competing in 10 National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association sanctioned events each year.

Under the guidance of Lawson Essex, the rodeo team featured competition for both men and women.

Members of the rodeo team trained both at the outdoor arena at the college farm and in the enclosed Multi-purpose Arena.

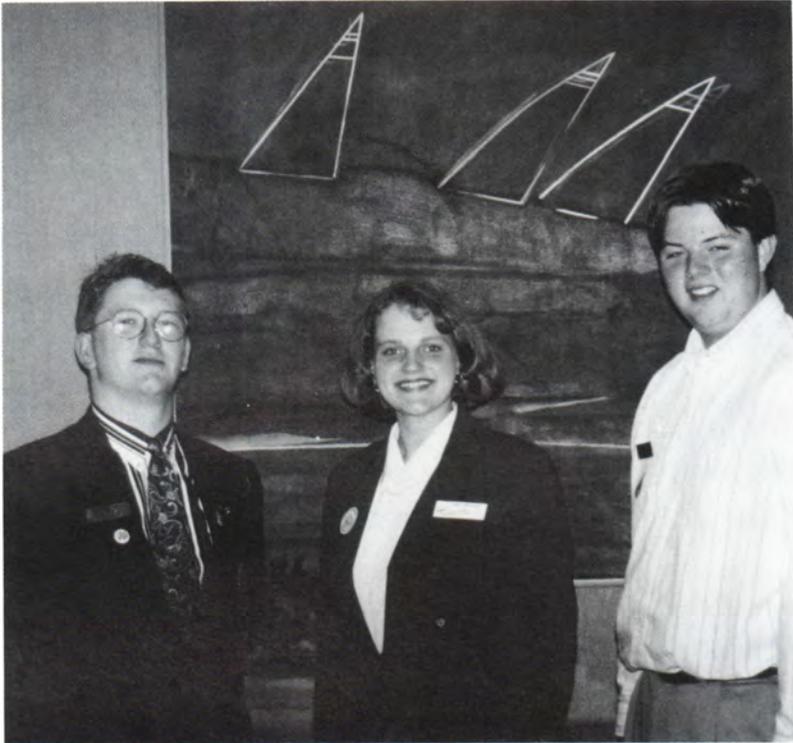


Matt Detheridge, a sophomore from Fairland, gets a good break out of the shoot and lands properly during a steer wrestling practice session.

Holding on for a full eight seconds remains a goal for Kevin Shoemaker, a sophomore from Columbus, Ohio, during bull riding competition.

Three members of the NEO chapter of Phi Beta Lambda were selected as officers of the Mountain/Plains region were, from left; Michael Hayes, secretary; Holly Wigger, president, and Kevin Gant, regional aide.

Officers from the NEO Phi Beta Lambda Chapter attending the national conference in Kansas City were, from left; Paula McCoy, Sherrie Garrison, Angela French, Kevin Gant, Candace Epperson, and Michael Hayes.



Enjoying dinner during the Phi Beta Lambda National Convention in Kansas City, Mo., were, from left; Candice Epperson, Jan Stukey and Paula McCoy.

Jan Stukey, co-advisor for the NEO chapter of Phi Beta Lambda, is caught unpacking her clothes at the national convention in Kansas City, Mo.



Group competes

While intercollegiate athletics, intramural athletics and several extra-curricular activities thrive on the Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College, Phi Beta Lambda exists for students interested in business-related competitions.

Phi Beta Lambda is a national business fraternity that was created to give business students a chance to build confidence, improve personal communicative skills, and instill leadership qualities.

Not only did members have a chance to compete in

state conventions, but the NEO group also was quite active at the national convention in Kansas City, Mo.

Areas of competition for the students included accounting, business communications, economics, business law, computer concepts, finance, management and other business-related fields.

Along with competing in these various categories, students also had an opportunity to improve their political skills by competing for several state and national offices.

Members of the NEO chapter of Phi Beta Lambda competed in the state convention in Oklahoma City in October before traveling to Kansas City for the National Phi Beta Lambda Convention in November.

The NEO chapter was scheduled to host the Regional Mountain/Plains Officers Retreat. Officers from 10 states were slated to participate in the two-day retreat.

NEO's officers were slated to attend the spring national conference in Anaheim, Ca.



Relaxing in between individual competitions at the national convention were, from left; Kevin Gant, Sherrie Garrison, Paula McCoy, and Angela French.

Members of Phi Beta Lambda held a car wash as one of several fund-raising projects to finance their trip to the National Conference in Kansas City, Mo.

A member of Crossland's Construction Company applies a coat of paint to the exterior of the Dayle Creech Library/Administration building as part of a campus-wide beautification and renovation project.



Tom Bain (top) serves as director of the Learning Resources Center located in the north wing of the Dayle Creech Library/Administration building.



One of the many new facets added to the Learning Resources Center was the addition of an Inter-Net computer system which links state colleges together and enhances the communications.

John Turner, a member of the college maintenance crew puts some finishing touches on a new ramp outside the Dayle Creech Library/Administration building. Several sidewalk areas around campus were included.



Special recognition...

Following 10 years of hard work and preparation, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College was awarded a 10-year accreditation with no stipulations during a visit by the North Central Accreditation Team.

A regional accrediting body that makes site visits to institutions across the 19 member states, the accrediting team visited the NEO campus for three days during the first week of December.

The visiting team consisted of five educators from different colleges across the

Midwest and an accreditation team won't return to NEO until the year 2007.

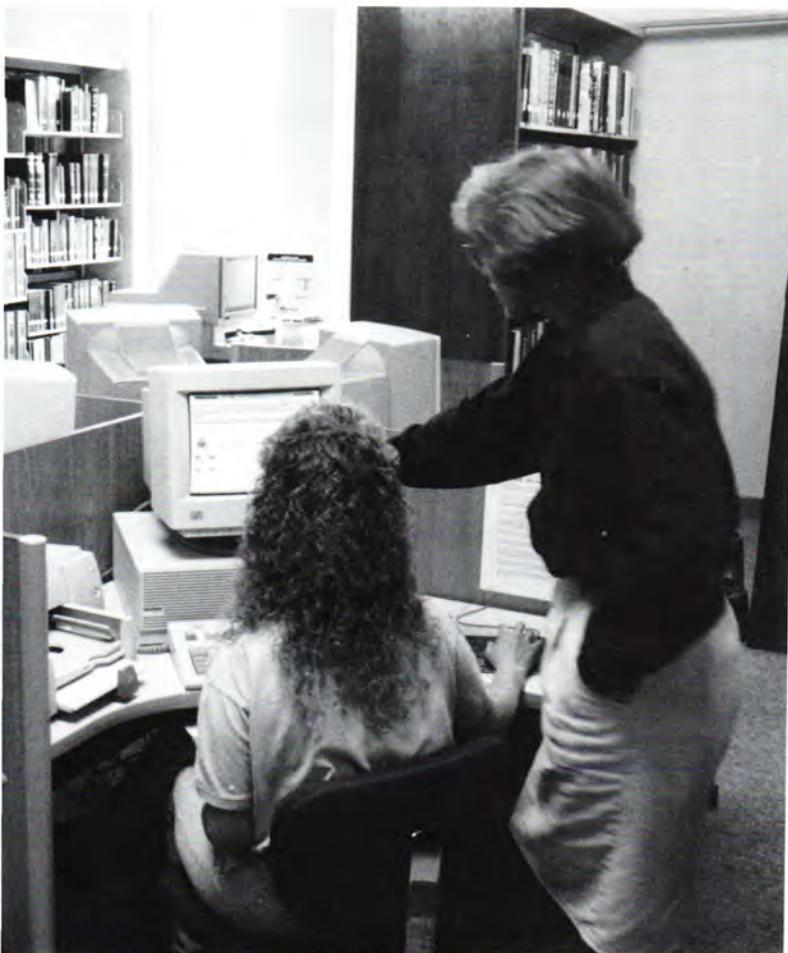
The job of the NCA was to provide a comprehensive review of all activities and programs offered by colleges to ensure programs are meeting the needs of students and the educational entities they serve.

Along with site visits, the college must also be able to provide a full array of documentation to provide evidence that certain programs were in place and how the institution managed those areas.

Among the strengths the

visiting committee recognized was the state-of-the-art quality of the Learning Resources Center located in the Dayle Creech Library/Administration building.

Other strong areas of the college included the creation of a local citizen's advisory board, the agriculture program's history of quality instruction and award-winning livestock judging, the tutorial program established by the OWLS program, the academic support center which assists students with deficiency courses, and NEO's unique tradition.



One of the college librarians assists Donna McNabb, a freshman from Owasso, with finding information on the newly installed Inter-Net computer system

Thomas Collins of the Crossland Construction Company checks the ceiling of the Dayle Creech Library/Administration building before attempting to complete a painting project

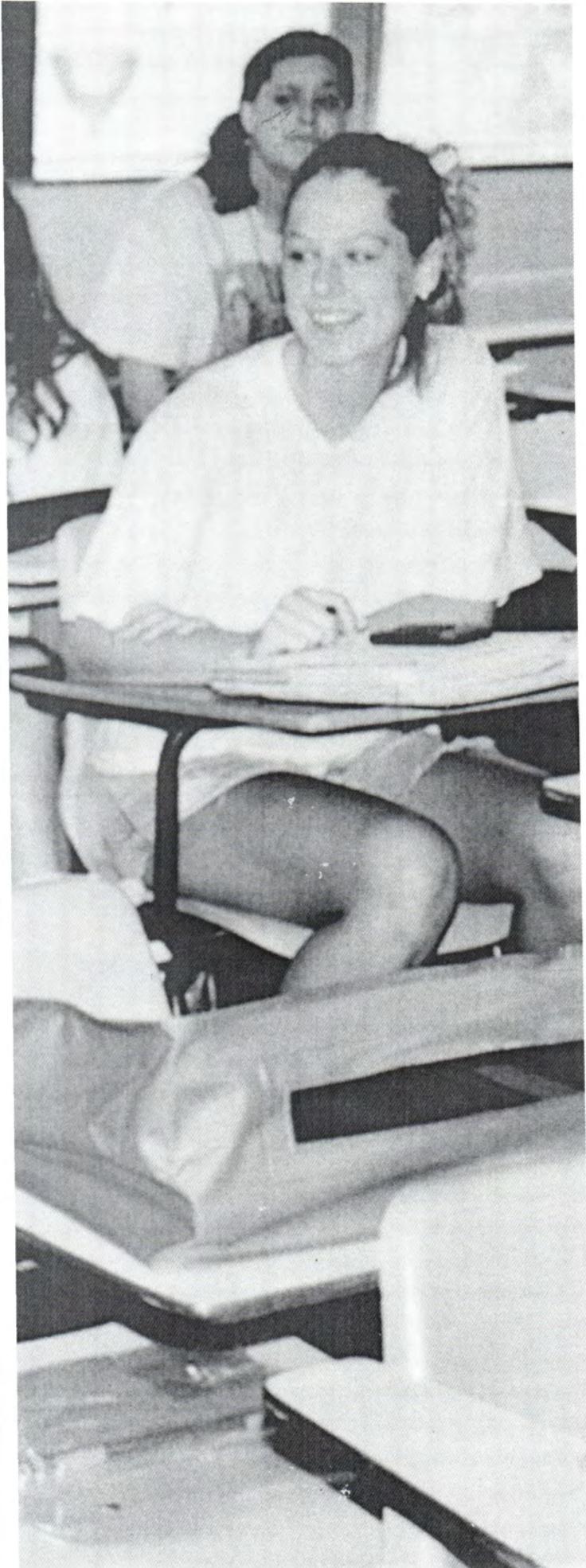


ACADEMICS



Get a head start

Math instructor Greg Dlabach, uses an overhead projector to present a lecture during a college algebra class. Mathematics is part of the Science and Engineering Division, which is one of six academic divisions within the college.





Dr. Jerry Carroll resigned

President left after four and one-half years

Dr. Jerry D. Carroll announced his resignation as president of NEO during a press conference March 24, in the lobby of the Dayle Creech Library/Administration building.

Dr. Carroll notified the more than 50 faculty, staff, and journalists that he was accepting a position as provost of Oklahoma State University/Oklahoma City and vice president at OSU.

The OSU/Oklahoma City campus features more than 4,500 students.

Dr. Carroll was scheduled to begin the new position July 1.

"This was a very difficult decision for both myself and my family. It has been a very stressful last few weeks," said Dr. Carroll.

Dr. Carroll completed four and one-half years as the 13th president of NEO. He became president in January, 1992 after succeeding interim president Dr. Clyde Jenson.

Prior to becoming president at NEO, Dr. Carroll served two years as provost of the Metro Campus of Tulsa Community College which featured an enrollment of more than 9,000 students.

A native of Muskogee, Dr. Carroll spent 22 years as an administrator at the former Tulsa Junior College.

From 1982 to 1990, Dr. Carroll served as dean of instruction at TJC.

Over a five-year period Dr. Carroll served as dean of student personnel services from 1978 to 1982 at TJC.

Dr. Carroll served as director of admissions from 1972 to 1978 and as director of counseling from 1970 to 1972 at TJC.

During his tenure as president of NEO, the college has undergone major renovation projects on all existing buildings, experienced an upgrade of computer technology campus-wide and started creating outreach educational programs in Vinita and Grove.

"In the past four years so many friendships have been made. Our roots went very deep in this community," said Dr. Carroll.

Dr. Carroll's wife, Jan, was a computer instructor at Grove High School while his son Justin was attending veterinary school at OSU and his daughter Jamie graduated in May from Miami High School and was expected to attend NEO.



Dr. Jim Lovell
VP for Academic Affairs



Dr. Jim Atkinson
VP for Student Affairs



Tom Poole
VP for Fiscal Affairs



Lloyd Ogle
Director of Auxillary Services



Tom Bain
Director Learning Resources



Tim Ingram
Director Public Information



Mike Watson
Director of Campus Safety



Howdy White
Director of Admissions

Administrative Staff

President left after four and one-half years

Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. James Lovell serves as vice president for academic affairs. Dr. Lovell oversees six academic divisions. These divisions offer 26 associate of arts degree programs with 75 majors or areas of emphasis. Dr. Lovell is also responsible for 20 associate of arts degree programs in applied science. These programs feature 37 majors or areas of interest. Dr. Lovell also oversees the Learning Resources Center.

Vice President for Student Affairs

Dr. Jim Atkinson serves as vice president for student affairs. Dr. Atkinson is responsible for all of the non-academic aspects of student life which includes housing, counseling, student government, job placement, student health, student activities, campus safety and intramurals.

Vice President for Fiscal Affairs

Tom Poole serves as vice president for fiscal affairs. Poole directs the day-to-day functions of the campus such as building maintenance, auxiliary enterprises, accounting, purchasing, financial aid, preparation and supervision of the college budget and computer services.

Director of Records/Admissions

Howdy White serves as director of admissions, records and recruitment. White is responsible for admissions/retention, enrollment/scheduling, veterans, testing and recruitment.

Director of Auxiliary Enterprises

Lloyd Ogle is responsible for the auxiliary enterprises on campus which includes food services.

Director of the Learning Resources Center

Tom Bain serves as director of the Learning Resources Center which includes acquiring and using materials to support classroom assignments and educational research, producing classroom materials, supporting off-campus classes and informing faculty and administration of new educational technology.

Director of Campus Safety

Mike Watson is responsible for the campus safety department which provides an atmosphere for a quality living/learning environment on campus.

Director of Public Information

Tim Ingram serves as director of public information and is responsible for providing information on academic programs and student activities.

Lycreatia Cunningham, a sophomore from Locust Grove, adjusts her saddle sinch while practicing horse judging techniques in the Multi-Purpose Center.



Jary Douglas
Division Chair



Lawson Essex
Rodeo Coach



Roger Fent
Agriculture



Dr. Jim Gleckler
Forestry/Wildlife



Kevin Pool
Equine Judging



Dr. Pete Smith
Agriculture

Agriculture Division

Features 18 courses of instruction



A member of the college rodeo team bulldozes a steer during practice at the college rodeo arena. The agriculture department also features a nationally-renowned livestock judging team and an equine judging team as extracurricular activities.



Bob Maxwell
Division Chair
Bob Anderson
Philosophy
Jeff Birdsong
Political Science
Nancy Bishop
Physical Education



Katherine Blundell
Psychology
Carol Calcagno
Physical Education
Diana Collings
Sociology
Randy Gipson
Psychology
Rod Kramer
History



Alan Lauchner
History
Dr. George Largent
Social Science
Leon Manning
Criminal Justice
Dale Patterson
Social Science
Marcia Tynon
Child Development

Behavioral Science

Features 10 academic majors



Members of the college Native American Student Association display their costumes during one of the two annual powwows held on campus. American Indian Studies is a program within the behavioral science division.

Dr. Fred Patrick
Division Chair
Jeff Aldridge
Industrial Sciences
Shirley Coker
Business



Ron Combs
Industrial Sciences
Jeb DeHanas
Industrial Sciences
James Grover
Computer Science
Edwin Hammons
Computer Science
Joy Hearon
Business



Sharon Johnson
Business
Douglas Lee
Industrial Sciences
Steve Leonard
Computer Science
Chuck Levo
Business
Janice Stukey
Business



Business/Computer Science Division

Features 42 academic programs



Relaxing in a restaurant after attending the national Phi Beta Lambda business fraternity convention, members of the college chapter enjoy dinner.



Jack Rucker
Division Chair
Robert Bayse
English
Rabon Bewley
Music
Anthony Bickham
English
Carla Brummet
Reading



Betty Caskey
English
Dr. Hank Coiner
Humanities
Kristen Couch
Art
Monty Franks
Journalism
David Froman
Speech and Theatre



DeMaris Gaines
Music
Brian Hauck
Speech and Theatre
Brian Inbody
Television
Cheryl Jones
English
Ruth Ann Maxwell
English



Steve McCurley
Speech and Theatre
Carol Smith
English
Dr. Sue Stidham
English
James Webster
English
Mary Susan Whaley
Music

Communications/Fine Arts Division



Golden Norse band director Rabon Bewley works hard to get the band ready for both the marching season and the concert tour.

Bethene Fahnestock
 Division Chair
Travis Carlton
 Physical Therapist Assistant
Liz Follis
 Nursing
Judy Hancock
 Surgical Technology/Nursing



Kay Harris
 Medical Lab Technology
Pat McConnell
 Nursing
Barbara Taylor
 Physical Therapist Assistant
Peggy Wood
 Nursing
Roberta Wood
 Nursing



Health Science Division

Features 9 academic programs



Members of the first graduating class from the physical therapist assistant program pose with their instructor Travis Carlton (center on the back row).



Dr. Mark Grigsby
Division Chair
Orland Aldridge
Mathematics
Vickie Berry
Mathematics
David Dallas
Biology



Greg Diabach
Mathematics
Janie Jacks
Mathematics
Randy Jones
Physical Science
Mary Kirkpatrick
Physical Science
John Lomax
Mathematics



Matt Mayfield
Physical Science
Jeremy Radebaugh
Mathematics
Karen Rogers
Mathematics
Betty Spradlin
Biology
Sam Wells
Physical Science

Science/Engineering Division

Features 16 academic programs



Students, parents and other visitors wait in the area between the Bruce G. Carter Student Union Ballroom and Commons Hall as judges prepare ribbons during the annual Science Fair sponsored by the college science/engineering division.

Jeff Alexander
Counselor
Carolyn Anderson
Library Assistant
Flo Atkinson
Staff Nurse



Vern Bass
Recruitment Secretary
Carolyn Berry
Data Entry Clerk
Shirley Blair
Computer Support
Sandra Blevins
Business Office Clerk
Cheryl Butler
Counseling Coordinator



Joan Clapp
Bookstore Manager
Elaine Collard
Reading Lab Assistant
Grace Ann Combs
Assistant Bookstore Manager
Tammy Corntassel
Admissions Clerk
Kathy Crownover
Business/Computer Secretary



Support Staff

Provides a variety of services



Jonathon Middleton (left), president of the NEO Staff Association, presents Verna Bass, secretary in the recruiting office, a plaque and certificate as Employee of the Month.



Kevin Eifert
Print Shop Manager
Terry Eifert
Composition Coordinator
Marcia Enyart
Data Control Coordinator
Richard Frizzell
JOBS Program Math Tutor
Laura Gray
Communications Division Secretary



Sharon Grigsby
Business Office Clerk
Kim Grimes
Business Office Clerk
Kathie Hulsey
Physical Education Secretary
Dana Hurley
OWLS Program Coordinator
Alberta Hutchings
Library Assistant

Support Staff

Provides a variety of services



Richard Frizzell (standing) offers some plants to biology instructor David Dallas during the annual campus-wide Clean Up Day.

Darin Grover
Head Resident Vann Hall
Dustin Grover
Head Resident Vann Hall
Karen Key
Assistant Financial Aid Director
Gary Lair
Chief Accountant
Mary Largent
Assistant Director LRC



Glenda Longan
Development Foundation Assistant
Rosemary Maloney
Postmistress
Jan Mathis
Maintenance Department Clerk
Jackie Matthews
Computer Center Programmer
Jonathan Middleton
Media Technician



Billie Minson
Science/Engineering Secretary
Connie Molder
College Recruiter
Donna Patterson
Staff Assistant/ VP Academic Affairs
Mary Patterson
Staff Assistant/VP Fiscal Affairs
Shirley Patterson
Staff Assistant/VP Student Affairs



Support Staff

Provides a variety of services



Rosemary Maloney (right), postmistress of the college post office, is dressed as Old Mother Hubbard for Halloween as she greets customers.



Bill Pfannenstiel
Reference Librarian
Judy Poole
Testing Center Secretary
Rayma Redden
Bookstore Clerk
Peggy Rhine
Staff Assistant to the President
Rick Ritschel
Counselor/Head Baseball Coach



Teri Rogers
JOBS Program Academic Tutor
Jo Rooney
Switchboard Operator
Melvin Simmons
Campus Safety Officer
Lonnie Spencer
Counselor/Men's Basketball Coach
Keith Sutton
Testing Center Coordinator

Support Staff

Provides a variety of services

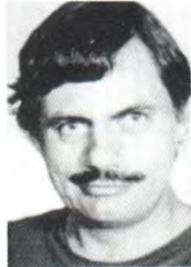


Business office clerk Gale Ogle attempts to conduct daily business despite the fact that all of the furniture has been prepared to move in preparation for the installation of new carpet throughout the Dayle Creech Library/Administration building.

Barbara Orcutt
Auxiliary Services Office Manager
Sue Williams
Auxiliary Services Secretary
Donna Stephens
Cafeteria Manager
Joyce Blair
Cafeteria Worker



Jerry Calvin
Cafeteria Worker
Cathy Capansky
Cafeteria Worker
Ron Capansky
Cafeteria Worker
Elizabeth Durborrow
Cafeteria Worker
Todd Fletcher
Cafeteria Worker



Bernice Grayson
Cafeteria Worker
Joyce Hayworth
Snack Bar Worker
Ron Howerton
Groundskeeper
Clifford Hulsey
Cafeteria Worker
Alfreda Kelly
Cafeteria Worker



Support Staff

Provides a variety of services



Members of the college cafeteria staff make a special request of Santa during the annual Children's Christmas Party in the Bruce G. Carter Student Union Ballroom.



Helen King
Cafeteria Worker
Lloyd Mahurin
Groundskeeper
Hazel McCoy
Cafeteria Worker
Jack Phillips
Cafeteria Worker
Geraldine Sherwood
Cafeteria Worker



Eula Tindell
Cafeteria Worker
Bonnie Tyler
Cafeteria Worker
Delores White
Snack Bar Worker
Bobby York
Groundskeeper
Marcia York
Cafeteria Worker

Support Staff

Provides a variety of services



Cafeteria cook Bonnie Tyler unloads a tray of fried chicken from one of the stoves located in the college cafeteria located in the Bruce G. Carter Student Union.

Rollie Williams
Supervisor of Maintenance Department
Darrell Blevins
Custodian
Francis Burleson
Custodian

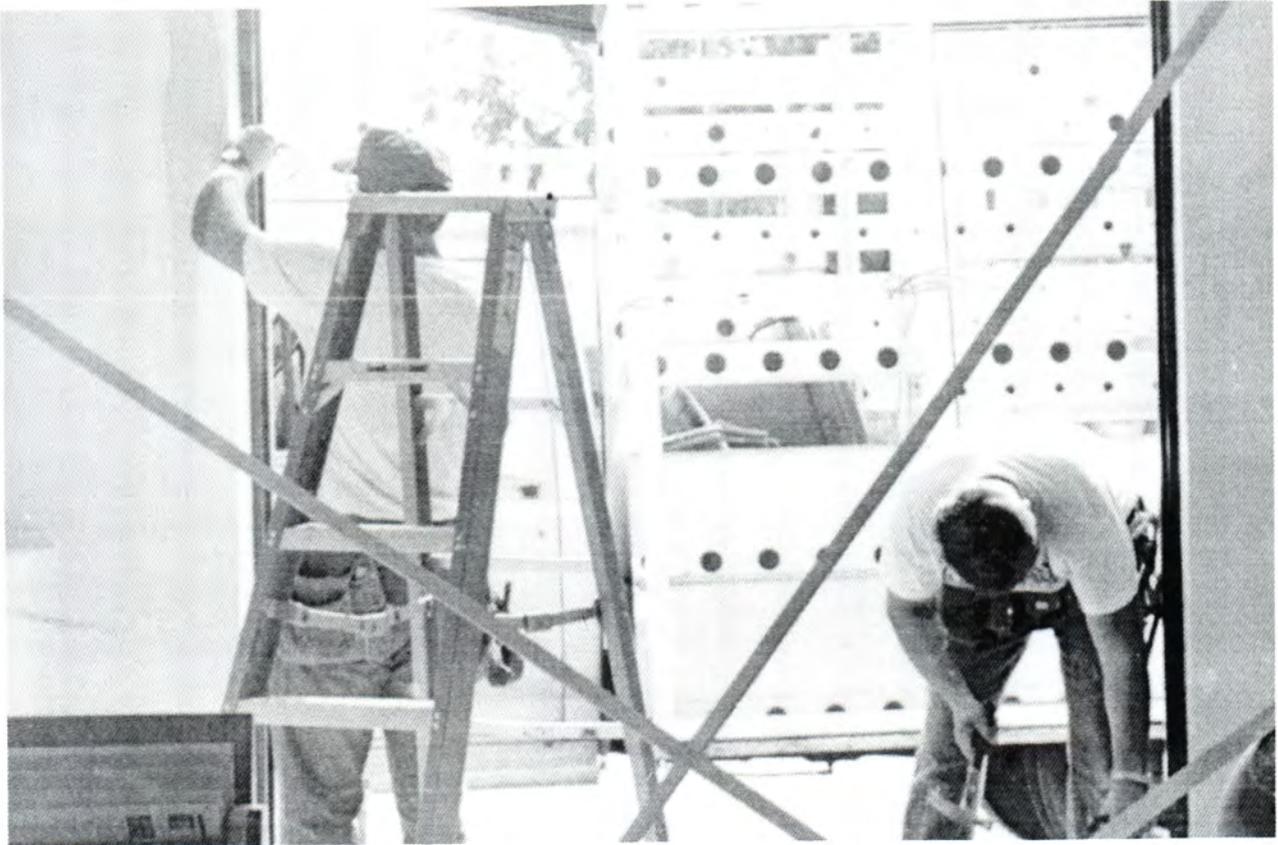


Donald Fields
Mechanic
Steve Grimes
Mechanic
Wanda Hawkins
Custodian
Gary Hodge
Custodian



Support Staff

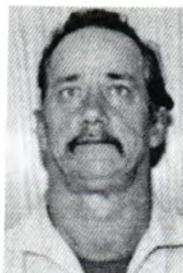
Provides a variety of services



Maintenance workers replace the doors in Shipley Hall during a major reconstruction project which lasted more than two years on campus.



Jerry Marshall
Maintenance Worker
Herb Morris
Custodian
Wendell Rooney
Electrician
Ruby Sanez
Custodian



Helen Shelton
Custodian
John Turner
Mechanic
Doug Wells
Custodian
Toby Woodworth
Plumber

Support Staff

Provides a variety of services



Workers clean bricks and paint the facing on Shipley Hall as part of a major renovation project which included several phases of construction and relocation.



CLUBS



Get what's coming to you

Members of the Golden Norse Marching Band proceed down Miami's Main Street during the annual Homecoming Parade. The band was one of 48 clubs and organizations that were active on campus during the 1996-97 school year.

Phi Theta Kappa MU Chapter



National Honor Society chapter
Serving as officers for 1997-98 year were,
from left; Mike Brunger, Jodie Able, Greg
Lippe, Karen Rhine and Misty Moreland.

**Phi Theta
Kappa
MU Chapter**



Phi Theta Kappa officers

With more than 80 new members inducted each year, the MU Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa represents the academic area.

Norse Stars Dance/Drill Team



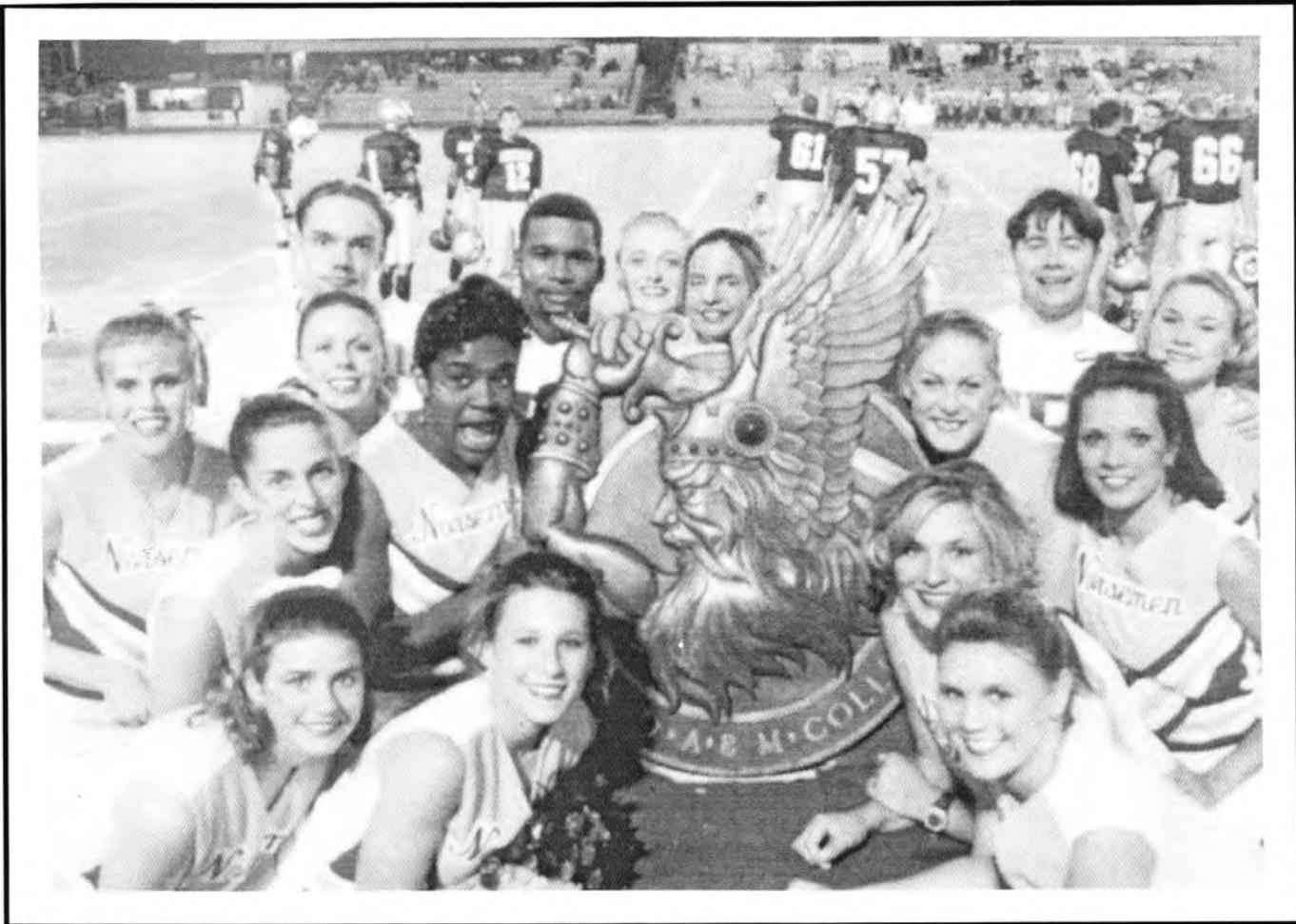
Under the direction of Nancy Bishop
The squad performs routines at all home football and basketball games as well as participating in several area parades.

Norse Stars Dance/Drill Team



Serving as goodwill ambassadors
Members of the Norse Stars Dance/Drill Team compete for scholarships and spend numerous hours in practice sessions.

Golden Norse Cheerleading Squad



Under the direction of Nancy Bishop
The Golden Norse Cheerleading Squad serves as the catalyst for the creation and maintenance of school spirit.

Golden Norse Cheerleading Squad



Serving as goodwill ambassadors
Cheerleaders generate spirit and enthusiasm for all campus athletic events throughout the year.

Native American Students



Association hosts pow-wow
Members of the Native American Student Association greet participants during the spring pow-wow.

Head dormitory residents



Head residents govern dorms
Head residents in the five residence halls pause prior to conducting a seminar on dorm life.

Phi Beta Lambda Fraternity



Business club hosts convention

Members of the Phi Beta Lambda National Business Fraternity display their club banner.

Physical Therapist Assistants



First graduating class members Joining instructor Travis Carlton (back row, center) are members of the first graduating class.

Livestock Judging Team



Livestock judges win awards

The college livestock judging team continued to gain team championships in several national contests.

Equine Judging Team



Horse judges capture trophies
Members of the college equine judging team join coach Kevin Pool (right) in displaying numerous.

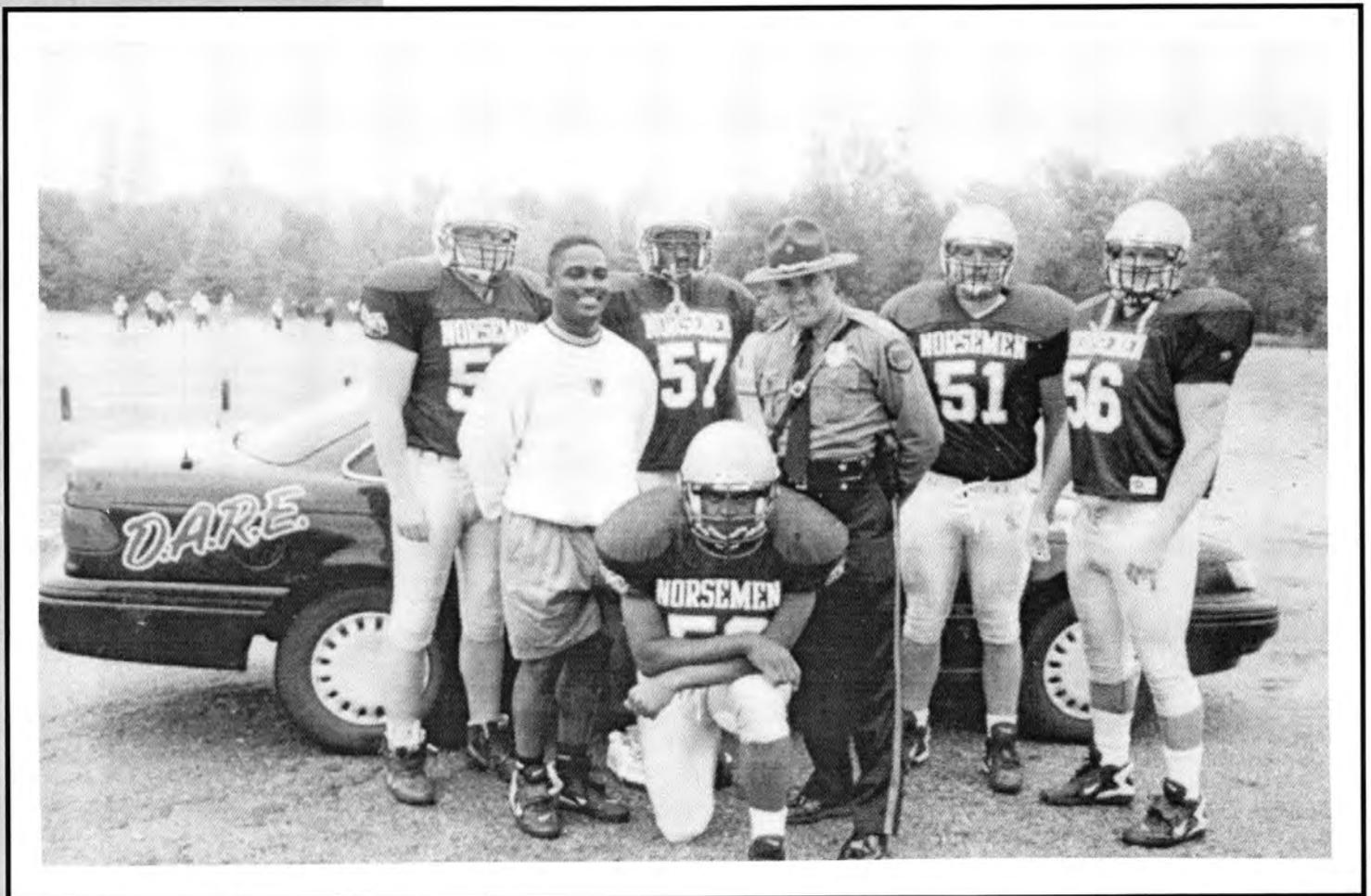
Criminal Justice Club



Club promotes law enforcement

Members of the criminal justice club participated in several activities throughout the school year.

DARE Student Leaders



Athletes talk about drug abuse
Members of the Golden Norse football team joined local Miami police to educate grade school kids on drug abuse.

Medical Lab Technologists



Association studies profession
Advisor Kay Harris (right) poses with members of the medical lab technology association.

Sociology Student Association



Group expands education choices
Advisor Diana Collings (center of top row) provided students with additional information about sociology.

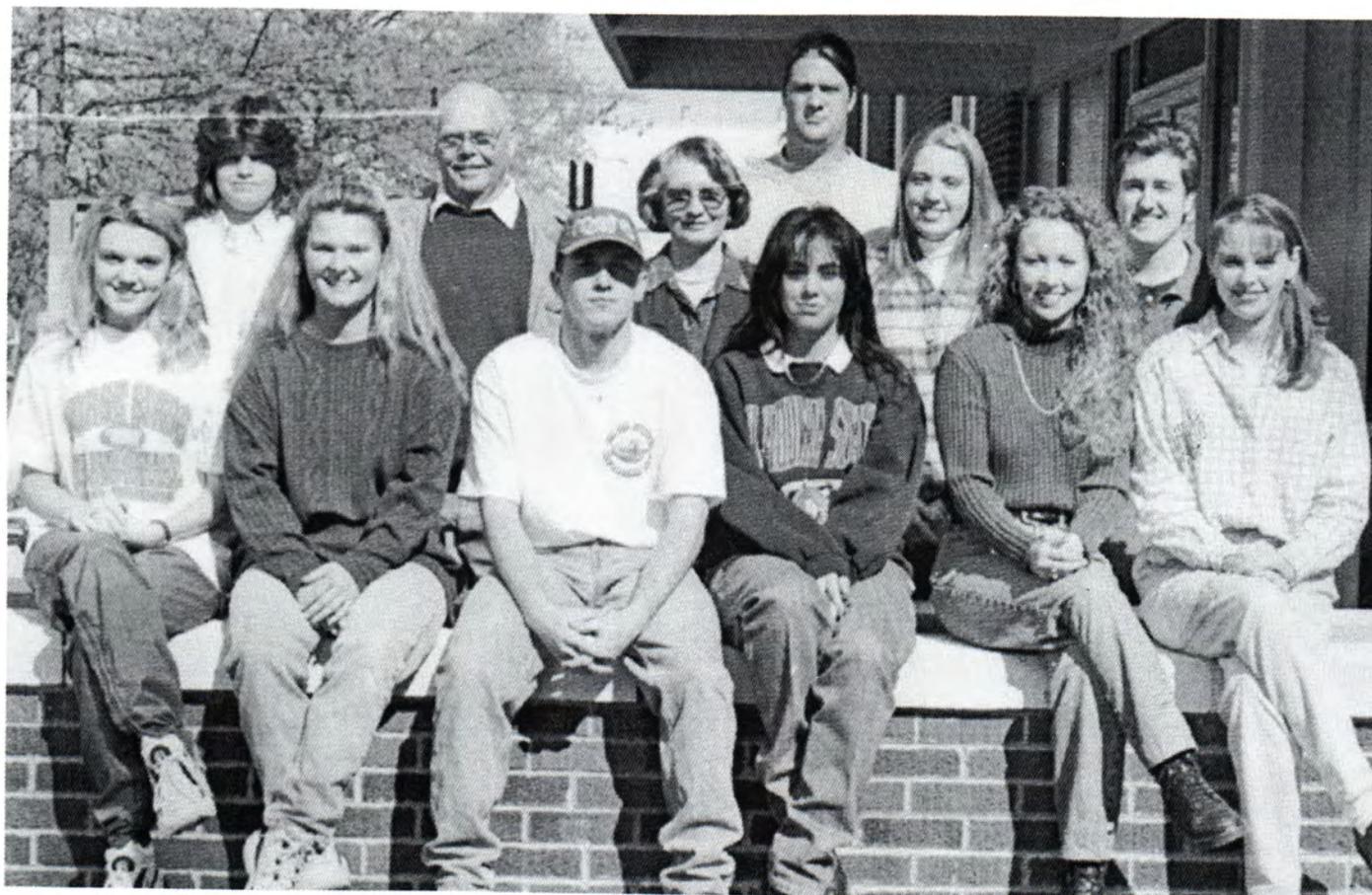
Wesley Student Foundation



Club sponsors several events

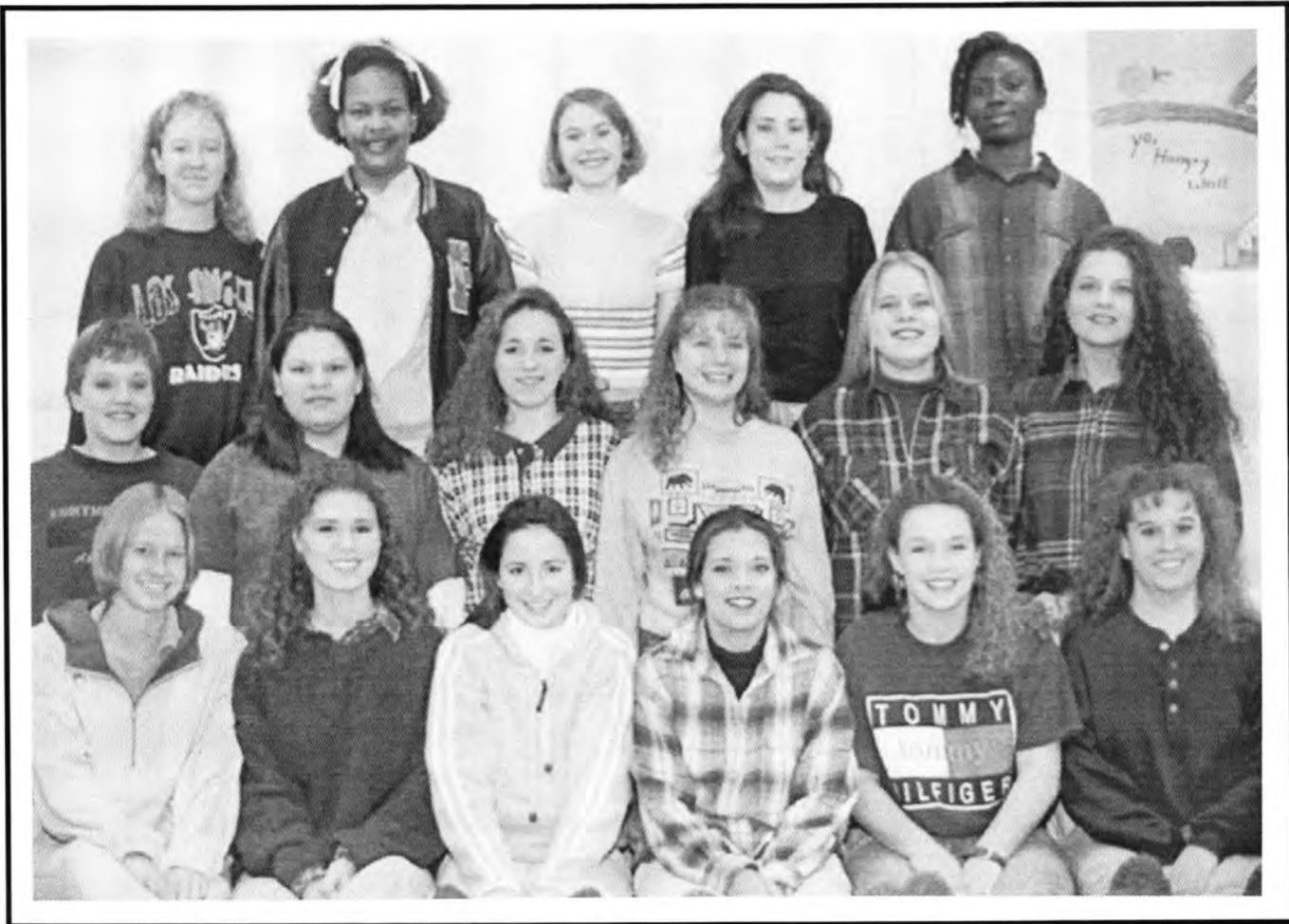
Roberta Forrest (seated left) serves as director of the interdenominational Wesley Foundation.

Foreign Language Club



Open to any and all students
Under the guidance of advisor Betty Caskey (center back) the foreign language club discussed several topics.

Child Development Club



Club works with children

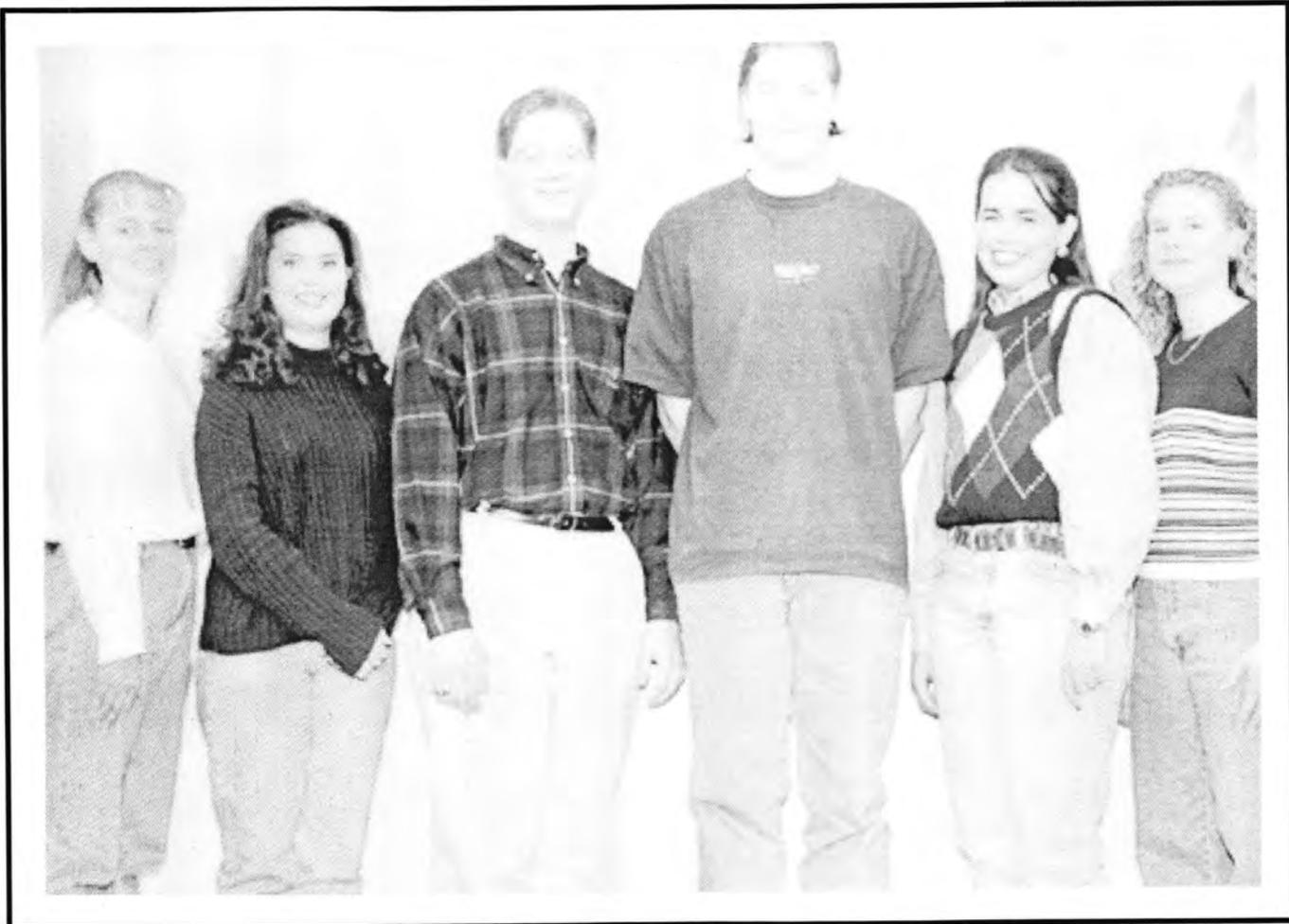
Members of the child development club sponsored several campus activities to benefit their organization.

Psychology Student Association



Students experience situations
The psychology student association provided an opportunity for students to receive information on the psychology.

College Republicans Association



Group highlights government

Members of the college republican association listened to guest speakers and were involved in several campaigns.

Campus Security Department



Providing safety and security
Campus safety director Mike Watson had a department of five officers to patrol the campus grounds and facilities.

College Art Club



Students present local art show

A member of the NEO art club shows her relatives some of her work that was on display during the annual art show.

NEO Concert Choir



Group provides Christmas concert
Members of the college concert choir present one of several pieces during the annual Christmas concert.

NEO Debate Team



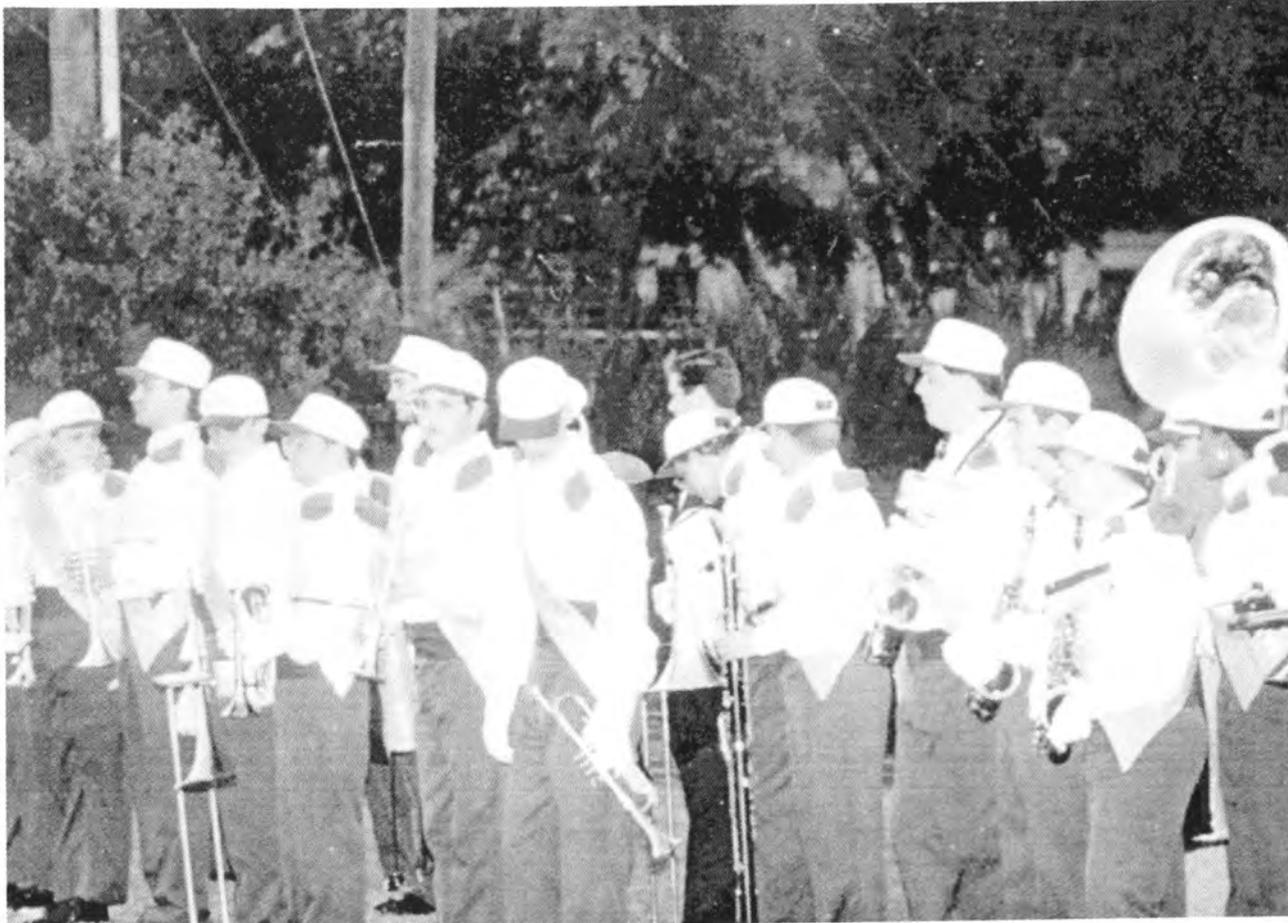
Team competes for awards
Debate coach David Froman (left) joins several members of the squad after an intercollegiate competition.

Meistersingers Music Group



Ambassadors in song group
A small ensemble selected by audition from the concert choir, the meistersingers represent the college in numerous events.

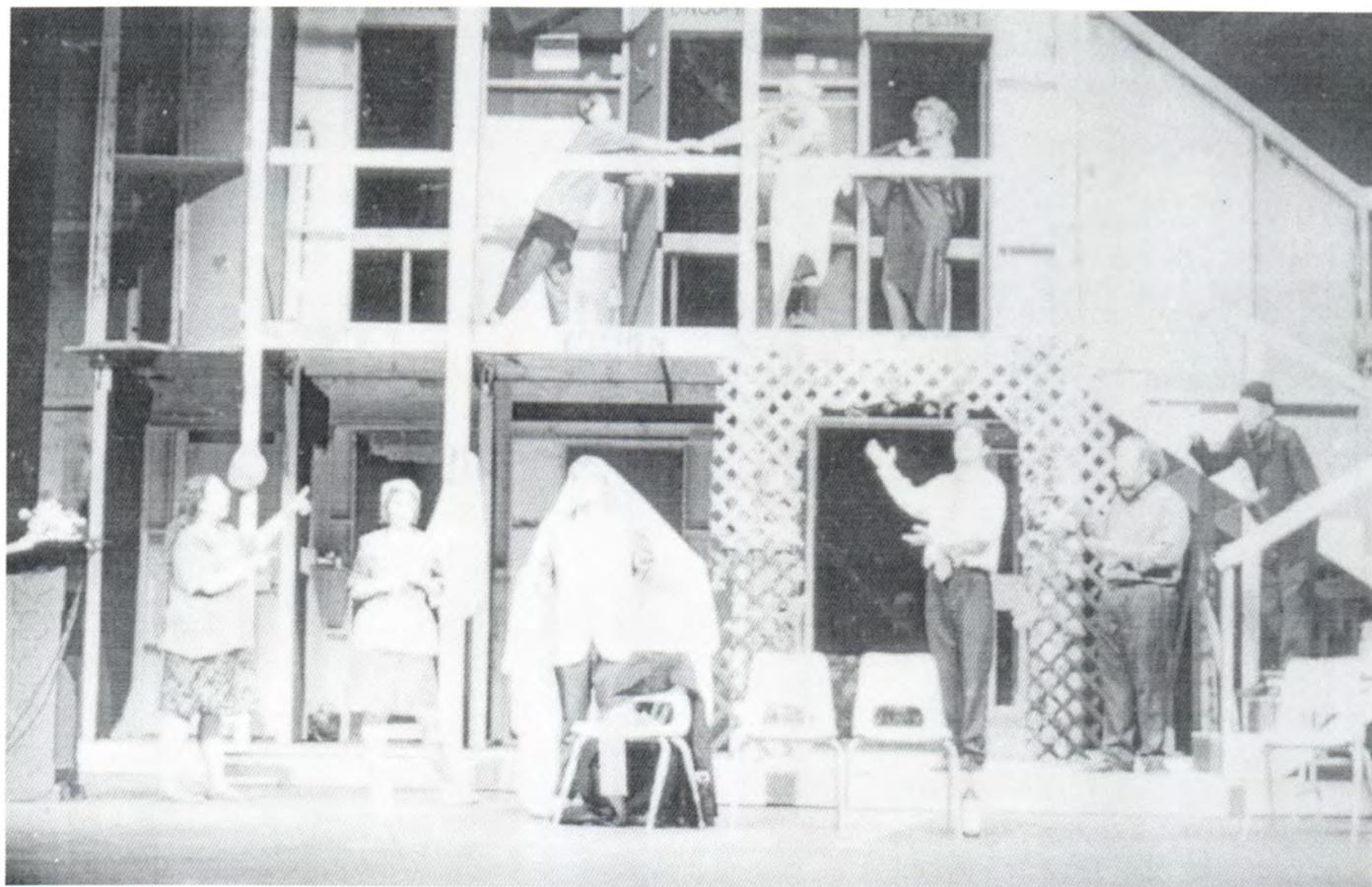
Golden Norse Marching Band



Providing halftime entertainment

The Golden Norse marching band prepares for halftime festivities during a football game at Robertson Field.

NEO Masquers Club



Students gain valuable experience
Participants in the masquers club are students interested in acting or other theatrical abilities.

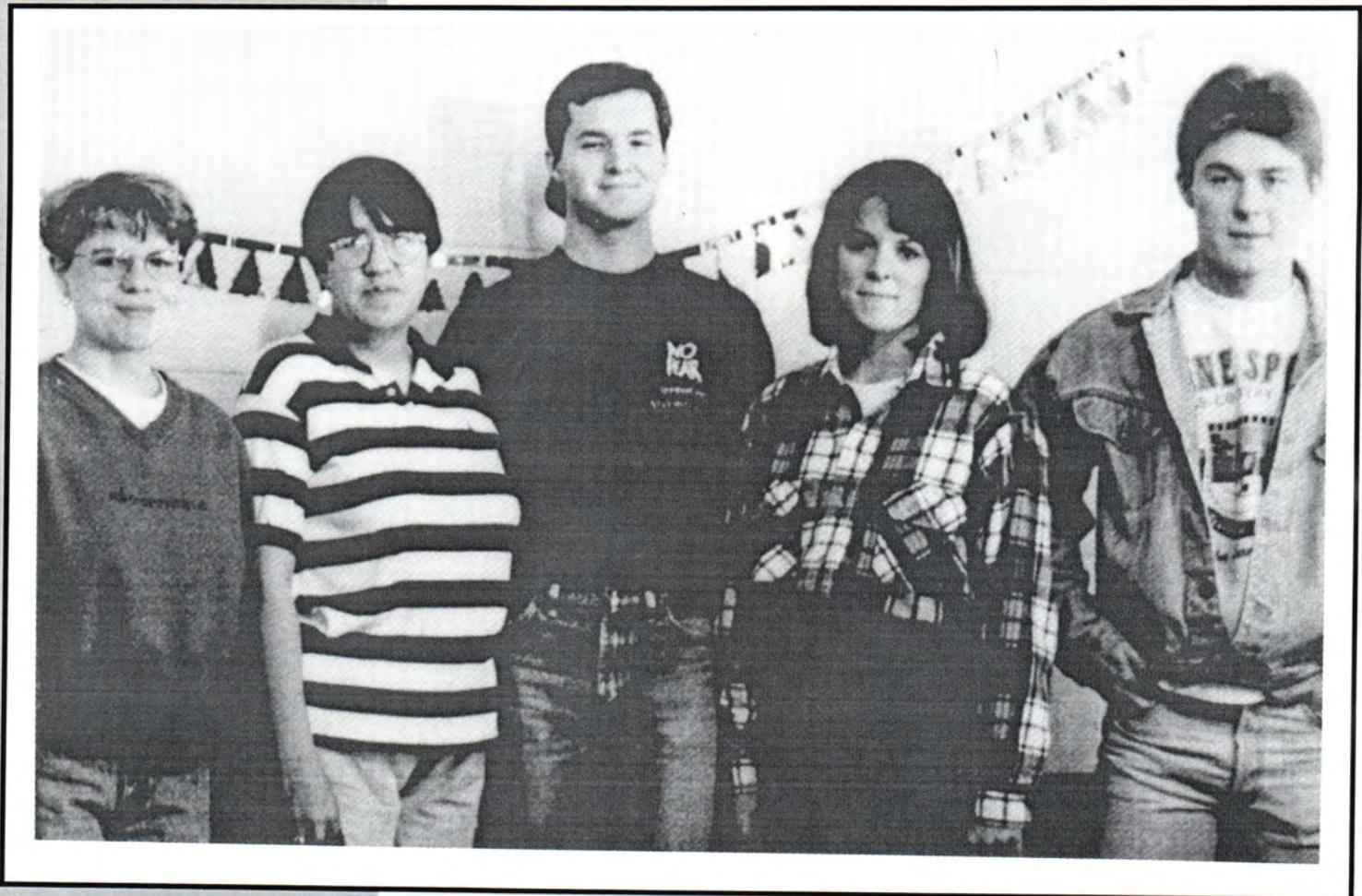
Young Democrats Club



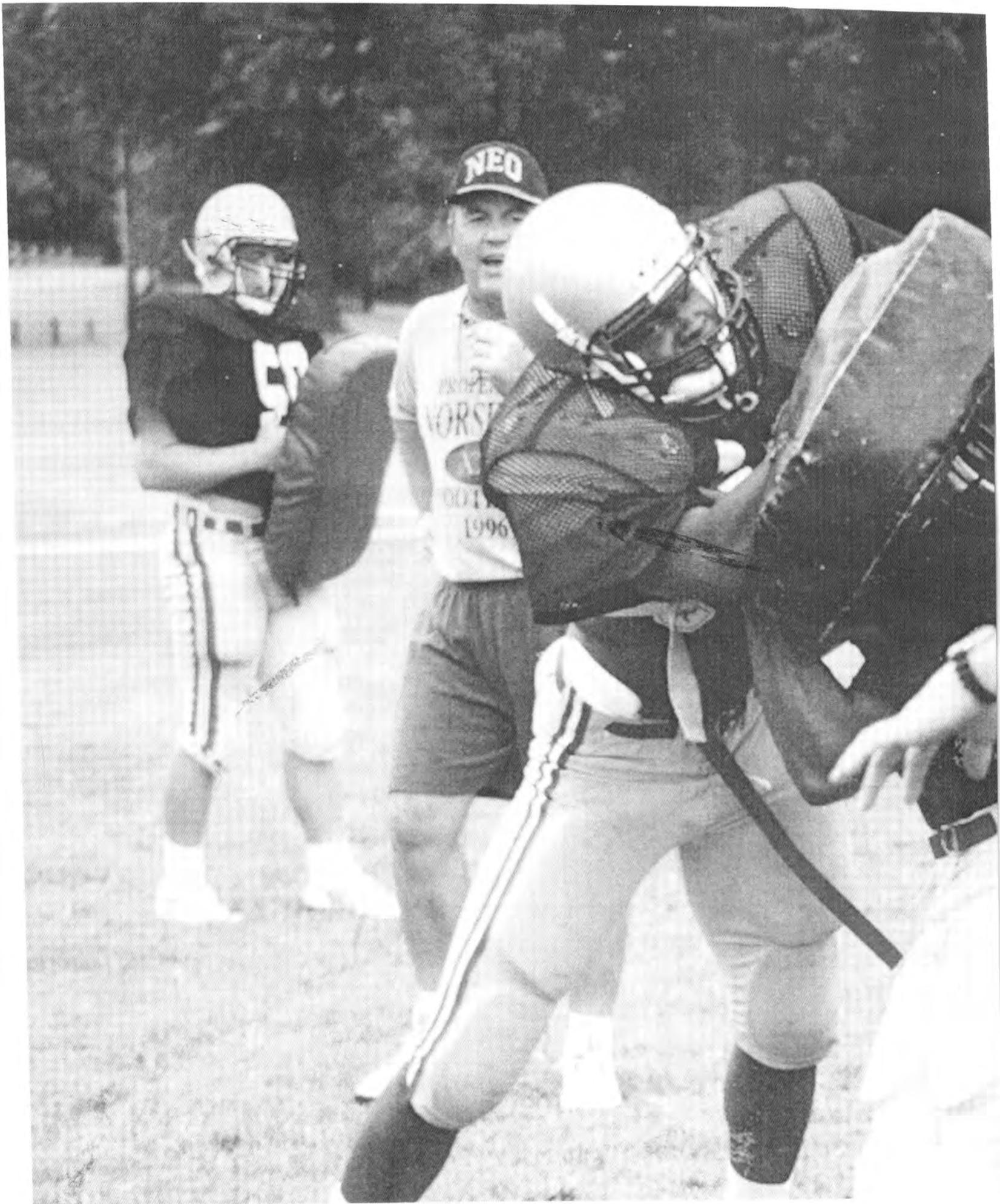
Politically active organization

Stressing the fundamental platform of the democratic party, this organization attends several state and regional rallies.

Baptist Student Union



Supported by the Southern Baptist
With a membership of more than 100 students, the Baptist Student Union offers numerous religious experiences.



ATHLETICS



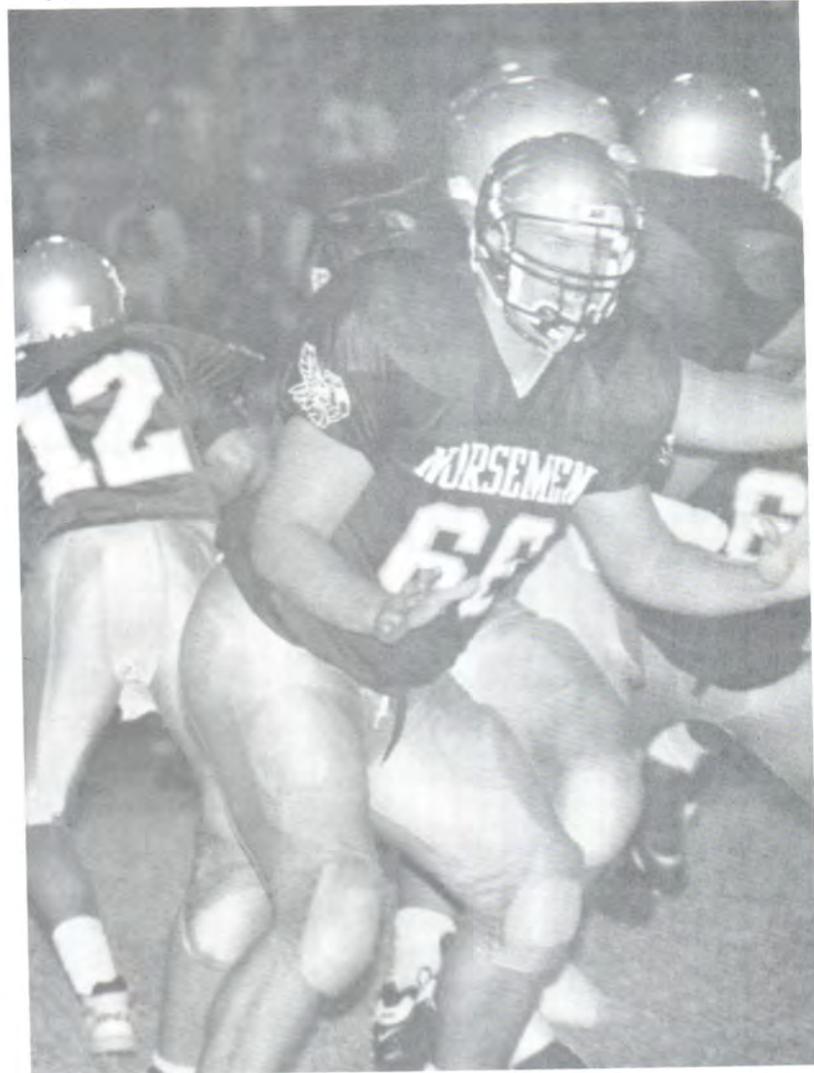
Get in the game

First year head football coach Dale Patterson puts freshmen recruits through pre-season blocking drills. The football program was one of six intercollegiate athletic programs offered by the college. Students can also compete in intramurals.



Sophomore cornerback Crey Ivy combines with the rest of the Golden Norse defensive unit to bring down Kemper Military running back Anthony Kelly during a 34-28 loss to the Yellowjackets in the season opener at Boonville, Mo.

Veteran offensive tackle Chad Felts (66) sets up to pass block along with sophomore guard Dale McNew (60) as quarterback Andy Collier (12) takes a handoff during the first quarter of a 21-0 victory over Ranger, Texas at Robertson Field.



Football program faced several new challenges

Several new changes awaited the Golden Norse football team at the start of the 1996 season.

Not only did the team begin competition in the Southwest Junior College Football Conference, but the team that had been selected the top junior college football program during the decades of both the 80's and the early 90's also started the campaign with a new head coach.

Former longtime Golden Norse assistant coach Dale Patterson assumed the rudder of the NEO ship after serving as an assistant for 15 years. Patterson, a 1965 graduate of NEO, assumed the head coaching job from Mike Loyd, who resigned after six years to become head coach at Joplin, Mo., High School.

Patterson assembled a coaching staff consisting of Travis Hill, Joe Jefferson, Rick Simpson, Tyson Phillips, Chris Wilson, and Scott Harmon.



First-year head coach Dale Patterson (left) checks over shoulder pads with assistant coaches Scott Harmon, Rick Simpson, and Tyson Phillips before more than 150 candidates reported pre-season drills that began third week of August.



Making the most of an out route, sophomore wide receiver Charles Austin (3) tries to elude the defensive pressure of the Kemper Military Yellowjackets. Austin caught two passes for 27 yards in a 34-28 loss in the season opener.

Noseguard Eric Hill makes sure that Navarro running back Earl Gardner realizes that he is down as NEO teammates Wesley Woodward (54) and Eddrick Brooks (95) close in to assist with the tackle during a game at Robertson Field.



ng to make a point to the
ensive line and linebackers
le the offensive unit was on
ffield, first-year head coach
e Patterson displays a certain
nique he wants the players
use once they return to the
ne.

Season results

Kemper Military 34-NEO 28

Despite a record-setting performance by sophomore tailback Reggie Skinner, the Golden Norse suffered a 34-28 loss in Boonville, Mo.

Skinner established a new NEO school career rushing record with 176 yards on 29 carries and three touchdowns.

NEO 34-Fort Scott 3

Sophomore return specialist Keonta Golson turned in an 83-yard kickoff return for a touchdown to start the game as the Norsemen cruised to a 34-3 win at Fort Scott, Kan.

An 85-yard interception return by Don Caldwell and two field goals by Matt Reeves helped NEO.

Looking for an opening is sophomore tailback Reggie Skinner (5) against the Yellowjackets of Kemper Military College. Skinner became NEO's all-time leading rusher with 1,928 yards despite missing two games with a bruised thigh.

Sophomore fullback Ritchie Calmus (22) pulls out trying to throw a block that might open a hole for tailback Reggie Skinner as offensive tackle Chad Felts (66) blocks Cisco, Texas defensive end Joe Patterson (90) during a running play.



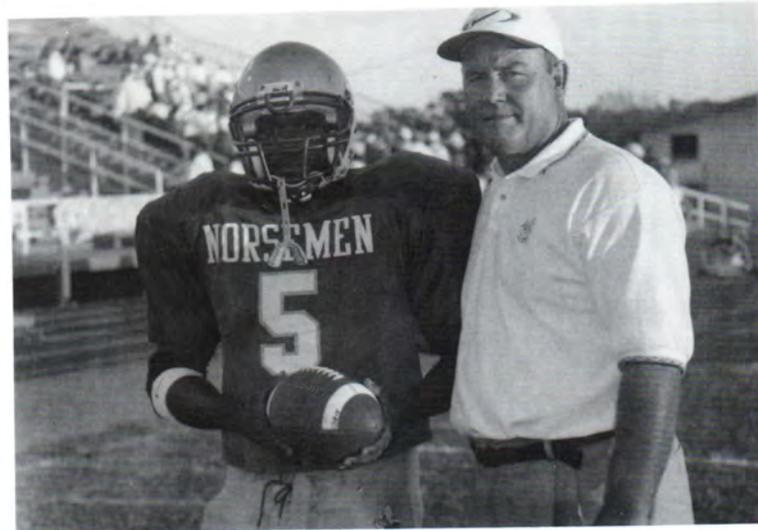
Skinner eclipses record despite nagging injuries

Reggie Skinner, a 5-9, 220-pound sophomore tailback from White Oak, wasted little time establishing himself as NEO's all-time leading rusher.

After setting a single-season school record as a freshman with 1,358 yards rushing, Skinner gained 176 yards in the first game as a sophomore to become NEO's all-time leading career rusher. The previous record was 1,366 yards set by Bobby Clair during the 1982-83 season.

Skinner's first game performance earned him the first-ever Offensive Player of the Week award in the Southwest Junior College Football Conference.

Although Skinner missed two games with a bruised thigh, he led the Norse with 570 yards on 134 carries and five touchdowns.

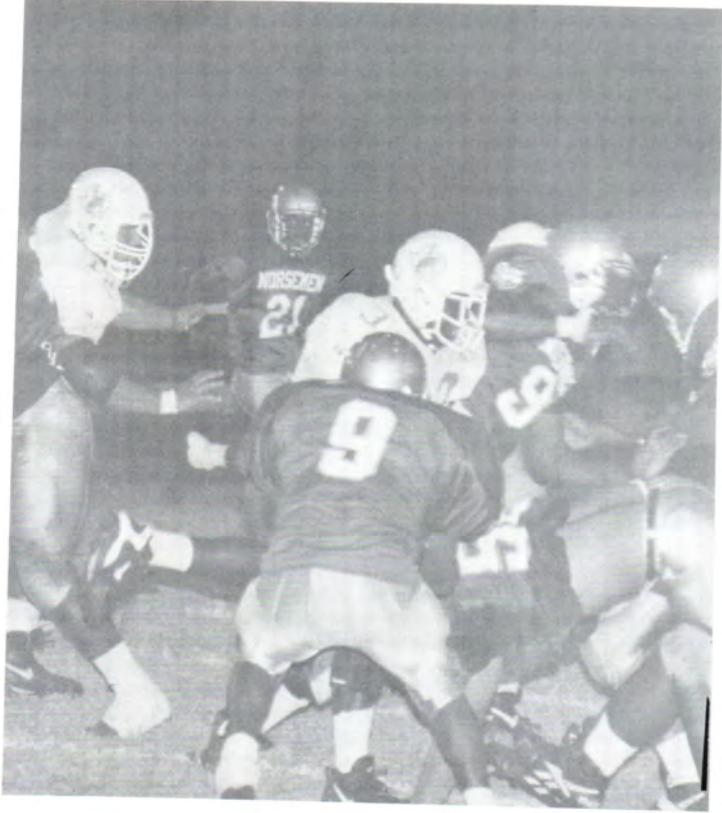


Veteran tailback Reggie Skinner receives a game ball from Golden Norse head coach Joe Patterson after becoming the all-time leading rusher in school history. During his four-year career at NEO, Skinner gained 1,928 total yards.



Making sure that Kemper Military College quarterback John Knust doesn't escape from a sack are Golden Norse defensive ends Kqorea Willis (97) and Marvell Galloway (96). The Norse sacked Knust four times in a 34-28 loss.

Freshman defensive end Eddrick Brooks (95) hits Kemper running back Danny Holiday low as veteran cornerback Mike Carter (9) and freshman strong safety Mike Stamps (6) provide support to stop a long run by the Yellow-jacket fullback.



Junior defensive end Marvell Galloway (96) catches Ran-ger, Texas quarterback Tyler Top (14) from behind during a 30 shutout at Robertson Field. Holiday led the Norsemen with seven quarterback sacks for a total of 36 yards.

Season results

NEO 24-Ranger 0

Three field goals by veteran placekicker Matt Reeves lifted the Golden Norse to a 24-0 win over Ranger, Texas in the inaugural Southwest Junior College Football Conference game at Robertson Field.

Reeves, from Grove, hit on field goals of 28, 37 and 29 yards.

Tyler 31-NEO 28

Overcoming a 14-point deficit in the fourth quarter, Tyler scored with 14 seconds left to upset the Norse 31-28 at Robertson Field.

Freshman quarterback Andy Collier completed 15 of 27 passes for 262 yards with one interception for NEO. Receiver Rodney Smith caught five passes for 83 yards.

Offensive coordinator and quarterback coach Travis Hill (right) talks to freshman signal caller Andy Collier (12) concerning a play during a 24-0 victory over Ranger, Texas. Hill, a former defensive coach, made his debut as offensive coordinator.

Setting up to make a quick pass over the middle, freshman quarterback Andy Collier (12) looks for an open receiver as Trinity Valley cornerback Trey Hoodney (36) tries to apply some pressure with a pass rush from the outside.



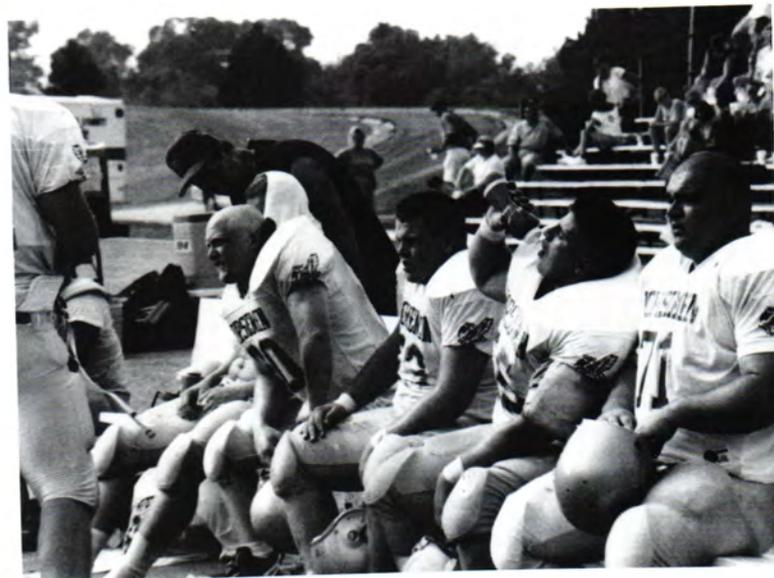
Decision changes Norse conference performance

Bob Maxwell, athletic director at NEO, notified members of the Southwest Junior College Football Conference that the Golden Norsemen would not be eligible to compete in the post-season playoffs.

Maxwell's announcement was made after sophomore offensive tackle Mitch Minick was deemed ineligible because of the conference transfer rule.

Minick had transferred to NEO as a freshman after attending Southwest Missouri State University. Even though he did not play football at Southwest Missouri, he was considered an out-of-state transfer by SWJCFC rules since his hometown of Bixby is out of NEO's immediate recruiting area.

Minick appeared in seven games as a freshman and it was decided that he should play his sophomore year with the Norse.



Taking a break on the sideline are members of the Golden Norse offensive line which included tackle Eric Rhoads (71), guard Ryan Deligans (53) and center Steve Farmer (53) along with linebacker Mike Strickland (40).



Eluding a tackle attempt by Navarro cornerback Bryan Roberson, sophomore return specialist Keonta Golson (4) tries to find an opening on a kickoff return. Golson led the Norsemen with 11 returns for 360 yards and one touchdown.

Veteran placekicker Matt Reeves splits the uprights with one of three field goals in a 24-0 win over Ranger, Texas as Dustin Steele holds the ball. Reeves led the Norse in scoring with 54 total points including 10 field goals and 24 extra points.



Waiting for the pile to untangle, senior Tyler running back Chris Lewis was stopped for no gain in the end zone by Golden Norse free safety Donnie Caldwell (21). Caldwell led the team with nine interceptions, two of which included two returned for touchdowns.

Season results

Trinity Valley 21-NEO 9

All-American tailback Carlton Booe rushed for 266 yards on 29 carries to lead the Cardinals to a 21-9 win in Athens, Texas.

A 51-yard punt return by Corey Ivy and a 27-yard field goal by Reeves accounted for NEO's scoring.

NEO 31-Navarro 21

Snapping a two-game losing streak the Norse gained a 31-21 win over the Bulldogs before a large Homecoming/Family Day crowd at Robertson Field.

NEO 38-Kilgore 17

Sophomore tailback Ritchie Calmus gained a career-high 111 yards as NEO gained a 38-17 win in Kilgore, Texas.

Veteran defensive tackle Kevin Scroggins (55) battles two offensive linemen from Kilgore, Texas during a 38-17 victory by the Golden Norse at Kilgore, Texas. Scroggins finished the season with 24 unassisted tackles and 28 assists.

Turning the corner on one of two of his touchdown runs is sophomore tailback John Humphrey (20). As a sophomore, Humphrey ranked second in rushing with 350 yards on 78 carries and two touchdowns. Humphrey caught four passes for 12 yards.



Several members earn all-conference honors

Three members of the Golden Norse were selected to the first team All-Southwest Junior College Football Conference team. Named to the first unit were freshman offensive guard Bill Sagely, sophomore receiver Kenota Golson, and freshman linebacker Donavon Laviness.

Fourteen members of the NEO squad receiving honorable mention recognition included quarterback Andy Collier, tailback Reggie Skinner, receivers Dustin Steele and Rodney Smith, guard Ryan Deligans, tackle Mitch Minick and placekicker Matt Reeves.

Defensive players were ends Marvell Galoway and Eddrick Brooks, linebackers Kendon Carter and J.C. Thomas, corners Corey Ivy and Mike Carter and free safety Donnie Caldwell.

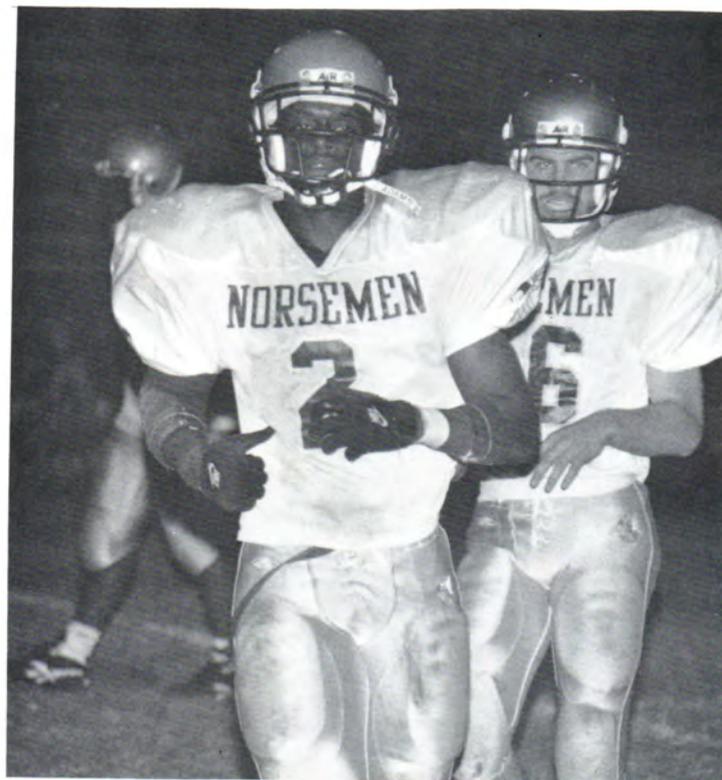


Sophomore offensive tackle Mitch Minick (61) pulls out to throw a block as freshman fullback Wayne Butler (45) looks someone to block during offensive possession by Golden Norsemen against Trinity Valley, Texas in Athens.



First-year head coach Dale Patterson makes a point on the sidelines during a game at Robertson Field. During his initial season as head coach, Patterson guided the Norse to a 5-4 overall record and a tie for third place in the SWJFC.

Sophomore receivers Rodney Smith (2) and Dustin Steele (16) come off the field after Smith caught a TD pass against Cisco, Texas. Smith caught 27 passes for 445 yards and five touchdowns while Steele caught 17 passes for 193 yards.



time leading rusher Reggie Skinner (5) looks for an opening for returning to the lineup against Blinn, Texas. Skinner missed two games with a bruised knee, but finished his two-year career with 1,928 total yards rushing.

Season results

NEO 27-Cisco 6

Scoring on their first three possessions, the Golden Norse cruised to a 27-6 victory in the final home game at Robertson Field.

Collier completed 11 of 22 passes for 210 yards and two touchdowns with one interception.

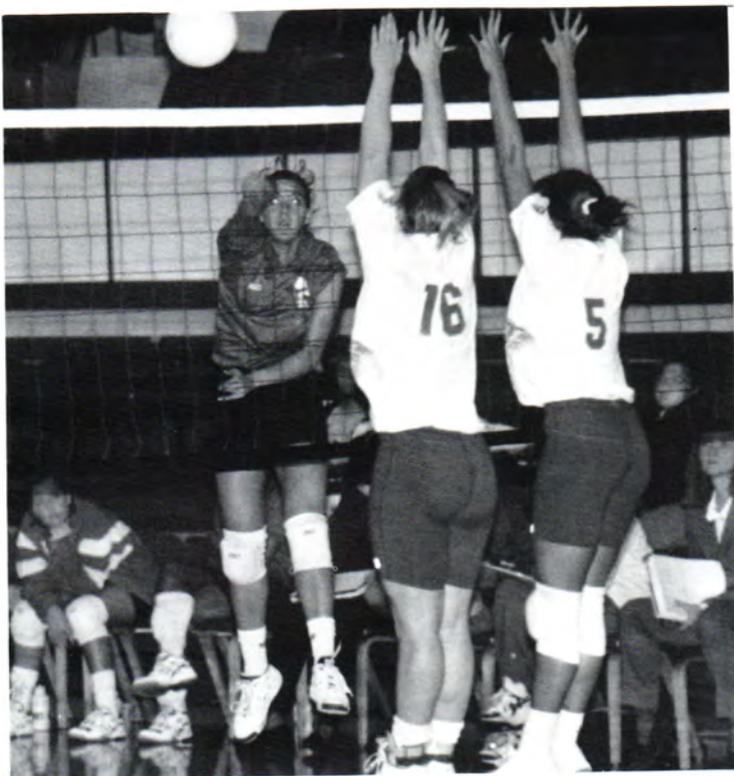
Blinn 14-NEO 7

Enroute to their second consecutive National Junior College Athletic Association National Championship, Blinn College rallied for a 14-7 win over the Norse in the season finale at Brenham, Texas.

Collier hit Rodney Smith on an 11-yard TD pass for NEO's only score as the Golden Norse were held to 24 total yards rushing and 182 yards passing.

Freshman setter Darcy Shepherd, 5-3 from Broken Arrow, fires a return across the net as Heather Oliver (16) and Amber Barnett (5), both from Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College attempt to block the shot in a match at the NEO Fieldhouse.

Sophomores Corinther Black (11) and Cherri Waggoner (1) combine to make a block at the net by Leanna Morris of Kansas City (Kan.) Community College. Black was a premiere defender for the Lady Norse during their first season.



New volleyball program enters regional action

After assuming the reigns of the Lady Norse volleyball in May, Jan Stukey began the first year as head coach of the Lady Norse volleyball program with four sophomores and seven freshmen.

"My basic intention was to try and build team unity. Since I was committed to stay in Tulsa until early August, it also gave me an opportunity to evaluate the talent we had on hand," said Stukey.

"We started by having our players attend an individual skills camp which allowed me a chance to evaluate them on their own merit. Then, after a couple of days off, we returned to Tulsa and attended a team camp put on by the University of Tulsa," Stukey said.

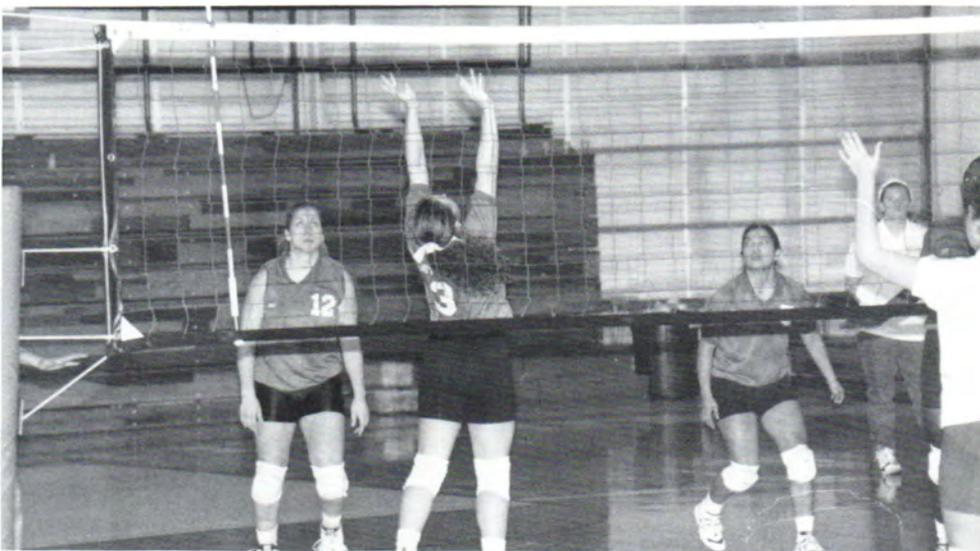
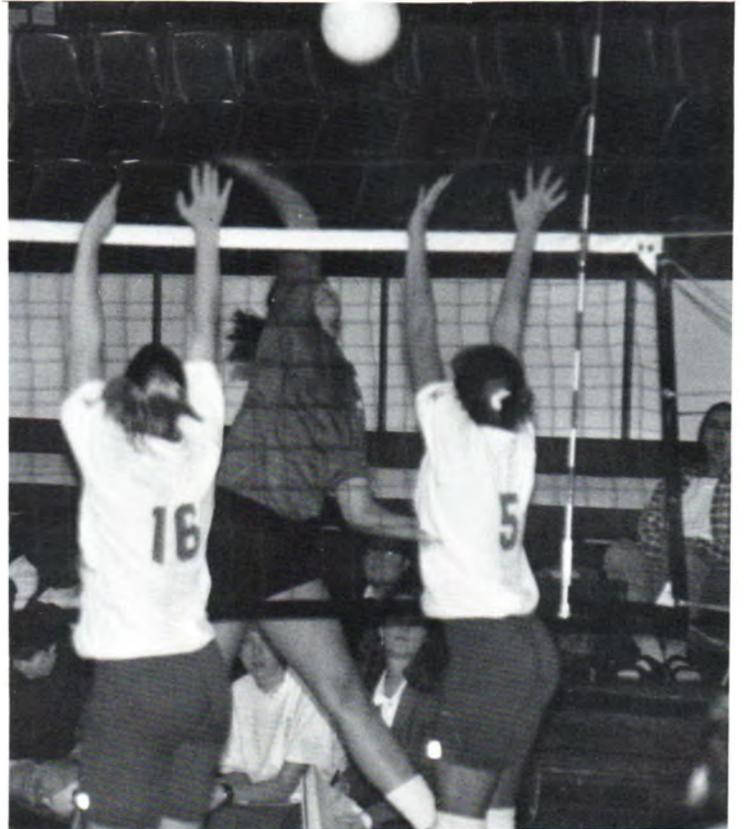


Members of the Lady Norse volleyball squad pose before start of the regular season during their first year of intercollegiate competition. The Lady Norse competed in three tournaments during the regular season and with several dual matches.



Proving solid defense along the front line on a shot by Jenny Leathers of Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College were sophomore Corinther Black (11) and freshman Michelle Horcica (7) during a game in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Scoring a point off the front line is freshman Darcy Shepherd over the out-stretched hands of Coffeyville's Heather Oliver (16) and Amber Barnett (5). Shepherd scored five points as the Lady Norse lost three of five games to the Lady Ravens.



Darcy Shepherd (3) sets a shot for teammate sophomore Marsha Burdge (12) of Independence as Jill Sterling tries to decide where she wants to put the shot as Jill Sterling looks on. Shepherd provided the Lady Norse with quality defense throughout the entire season.

Season results

NEO 15, 15-Labette 8, 8

Freshman Michelle Horcica hit on 24 of 25 saves as the Lady Norse opened the season with a 15-8 and 15-8 win over the Labette Lady Cardinals in a triangular at Independence, Kan.

Along with the 24 saves, Horcica added two service aces against Labette.

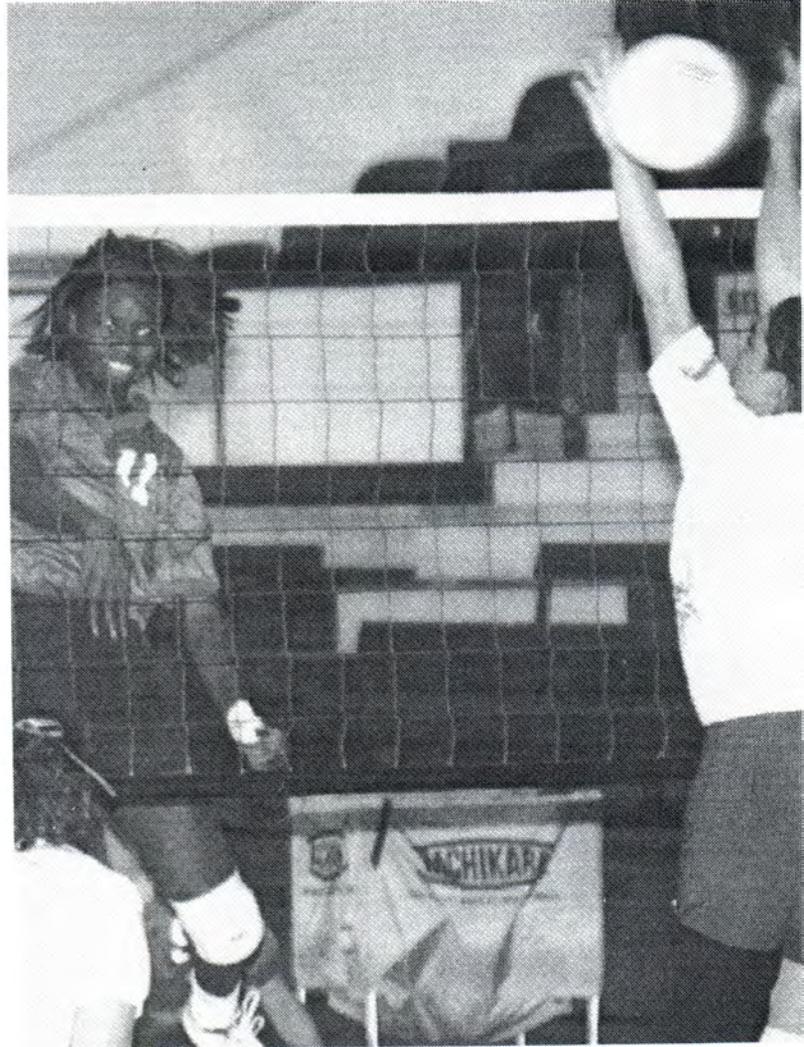
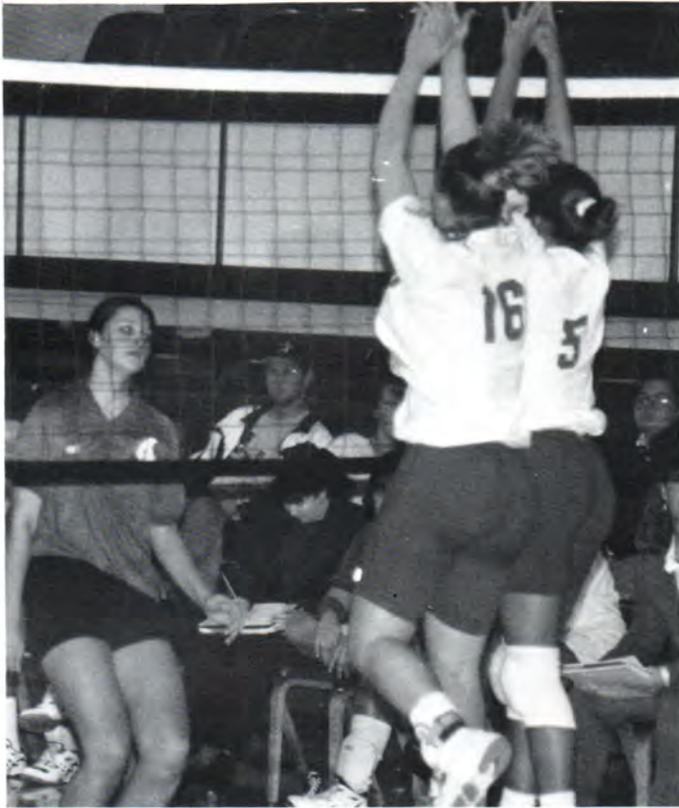
NEO 7, 15, 15-Indep. 15, 5, 7

After losing the first match to the Lady Pirates, NEO received strong defensive performances at the net from Corinther Black, Kim Harris and Marsha Burdge to win the match against Independence.

Solid scoring from Darcy Shepherd and Jill Sterling contributed to NEO's comeback.

Freshman Kim Harris, 6-2 from Tulsa, watches as Heather Oliver (16) and Amber Barnett (5), both of Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College go up to try and block a shot during a game between the Lady Norse and the Lady Ravens in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Getting a wild look in her eyes, veteran Corinther Black, 5-11 from Tulsa, fires a shot across the net as Banessa Gutierrez (10) of Kansas City Community College attempts to deflect the shot and save a point in a game at the NEO Fieldhouse.



Sophomores provided solid nucleus for netters

Starting the pre-season with four sophomores, the Lady Norse volleyball program had a sound foundation on which to build.

Two of the sophomores had previous experience during NEO's first year as a club sport. Returning were veterans Marsha Burdge, 5-9 from Wyandotte, and Cherri Waggoner, 5-7 from Tulsa.

"Both of these girls had the intelligence and enthusiasm to be team leaders, both on and off the court," said head coach Jan Stuke.

Joining the Lady Norse after sitting out the first year was veteran Corinther Black, 5-11 from Tulsa. Black was an All-State player in high school and used her size and quickness to defend the net well.

Transferring to NEO after one year at Brown-Mackey College in Salina, Kan., was veteran Brandi Beene, 5-10 from Skiatook.

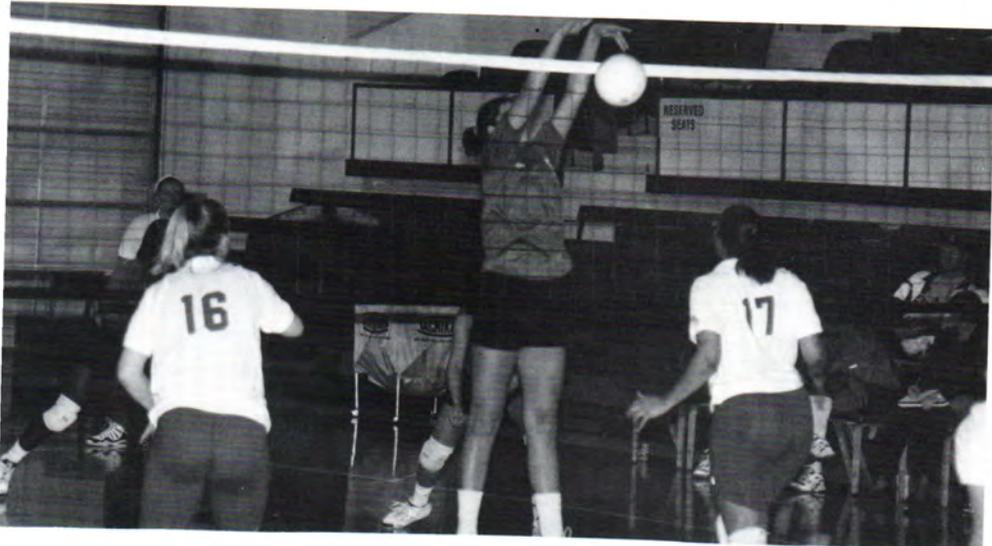


The Lady Norse combination Kim Harris, Darcy Shepherd and Marsha Burdge (12) attack the net and score despite defensive efforts of Leigh Gattton (17) during a game with the Lady Ravens of Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College.



Attempting to prevent an easy shot at the net are freshman Kim Harris and sophomore Corinther Black as Buffy Barrow (8) of Allen County (Kan.) Community College tries to score a point during a game on the Lady Norse home court.

Lifting her left leg while making a set for Darcy Shepherd, a 5-3 freshman from Broken Arrow, is freshman Kim Harris, 6-2 from Tulsa, during a match with the Lady Pioneers of Longview (Mo.) Community Col-lege in the NEO Fieldhouse.



Lifting her 6-2 height, freshman Kim Harris of Tulsa goes up for a shot at the net as Heather Barrow (16) and Leigh Ann Johnson (17), both of Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College try to block as the shot trickles over net.

Season results

NEO 15, 15, 15-Kan. City 9, 5, 9

Freshman server Kim Harris scored three straight points and Darcy Shepherd scored the winning point as the Lady Norse swept three games from Kansas City (Kan.) Community College.

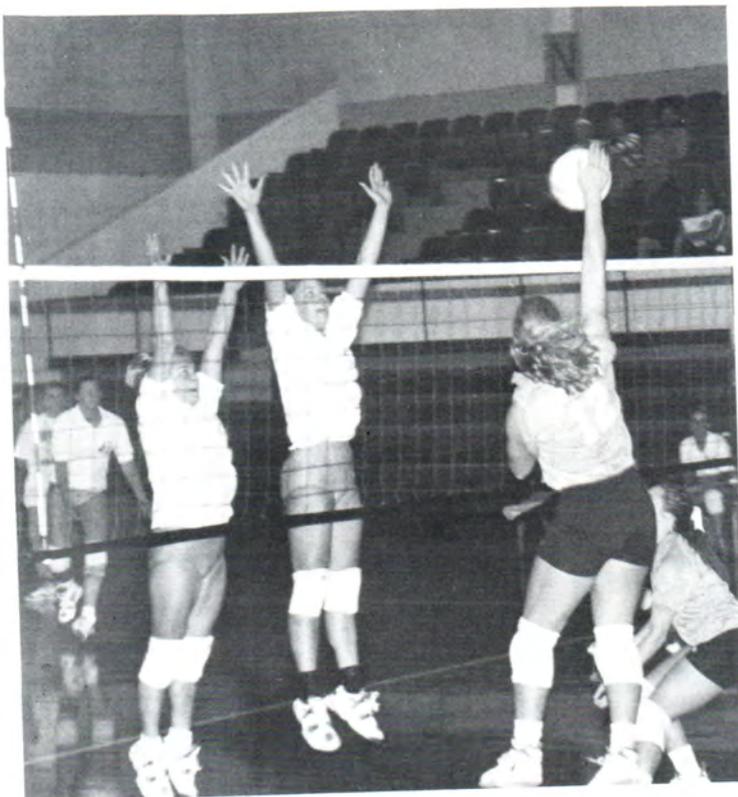
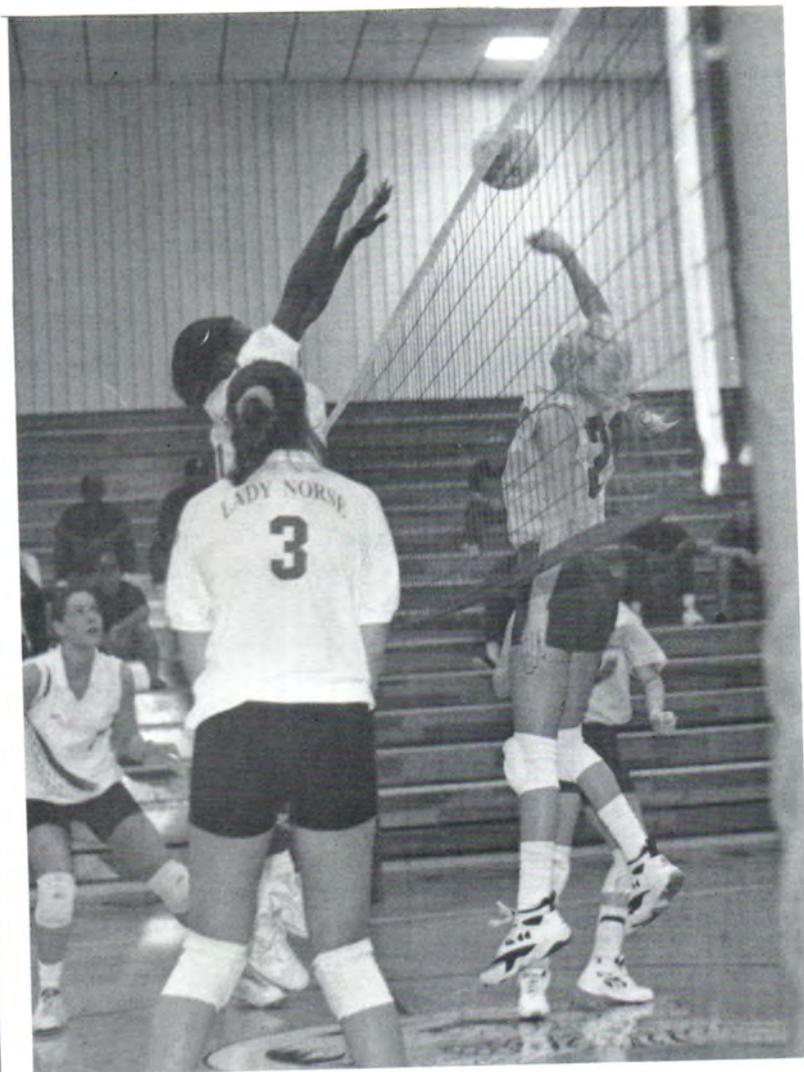
Marsha Burdge, Michelle Horcica and Jill Sterling combined to carry NEO in the second game before the Lady Norse broke an 8-8 tie with three straight points by Shepherd to win the third game and match.

Coffeyville 15, 7, 15, 5, 15-NEO 11, 15, 4, 15, 8

Unable to sustain any momentum after winning the fourth game, the Lady Norse dropped the match in Coffeyville, Kan.

Sophomore Marsha Burdge (12), 5-9 from Wyandotte, gets above the net to make a shot as Kelli Ball and Kim Kelling, both of Longview (Mo.) Community College attempt to block the shot during a game in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Veteran Corinther Black goes up to block a shot along the net put up by Wendy Adams (21) from Allen County (Kan.) Community College as Lady Norse teammate Kim Harris (3) awaits the outcome of the return by Black off the net.



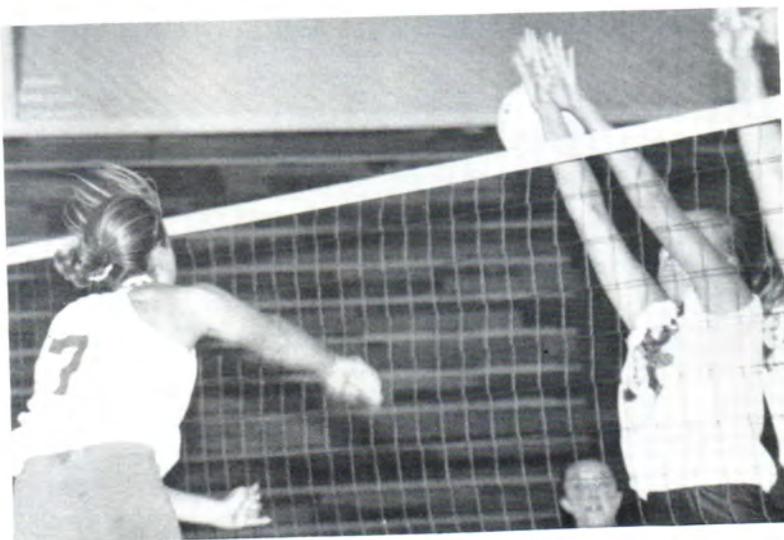
Freshmen contributed from the start of the year

While the sophomores provided a sound foundation for the Lady Norse, the seven freshmen Stukey began the season with were thrown into the fire of collegiate competition from the outset.

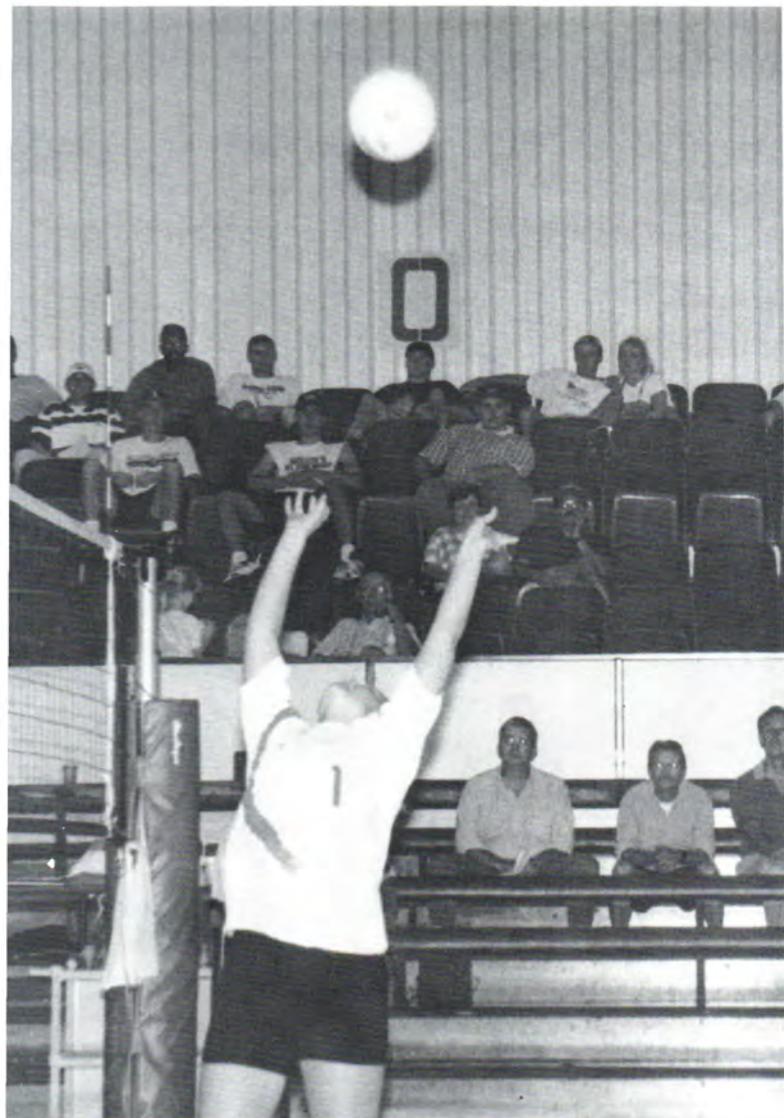
"We had two freshmen that came in with extensive junior olympic experience and the rest of them had sound, fundamental athletic skills," said Stukey.

Leading the freshman recruiting class with junior olympic experience were Kim Harris, 6-2 from Tulsa Wright Christian Academy and Michelle Horcica, 5-8 from Broken Arrow.

Other freshmen recruits with high school volleyball experience were Jill Sterling, 5-3 from Neosho, Mo.; Darcy Shepherd, 5-3 from Broken Arrow; Latasha Pierce, 5-6 from Skiatook; Jenny Hobbs, 5-7 from Thayer, Mo., and Banessa Gutierrez, 5-8 from Okay, Okla.



Michelle Horcica, a 5-8 freshman from Broken Arrow, fire point past the defensive pressure of Robin Hummel and Jamie Sander, both from Longview (Mo.) Community College during a game in the NEO Fieldhouse.



Sophomore Cherri Waggoner (1), 5-7 from Tulsa Union High School, sets a shot up along the net and awaits the action of teammate Corinther Black to handle the shot in a match against Labette (Kan.) Community College.

Freshman Latasha Pierce, 5-6 from Skiatook, sends a shot across the net past the outstretched defense of Jamie Sander (26) of Longview (Mo.) Community College during a game on the court of the NEO Fieldhouse.



Marcy Shepherd, 5-3 freshman from Broken Arrow, delivers an overhand serve during a match with Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College as the line judge watches her style during a game on the Lady Norse home court.

Season results

NEO 10, 15, 16-

Independence 15, 12, 14

Facing the Lady Pirates in a triangular with Labette, the Lady Norse overcame a 15-10 loss in the first game to gain a 15-12 and 16-14 win over Independence, Kan., in the NEO Fieldhouse.

NEO 5, 15, 15- Labette 15, 12, 4

"We played real solid defense. We had some tremendous digs and we hit the ball with real purpose," said Stukey following a come-from-behind victory over the Lady Cardinals in the first match of the triangular.

Labette coasted to a 15-5 victory in the first game before the Lady Norse rallied with 15-12 and 15-4 victories.

Getting everything she has into her serve, freshman Michelle Horcica (7) sends a shot towards the net as teammate Corinther Black awaits a return. Horcica provided the Lady Norse with solid serving throughout the season.

Veteran Marsha Burdge (12) makes a lunge for the ball to record a dig as the Lady Norse host Longview (mo.) during a triangular match in the NEO Fieldhouse. Burdge, 5-9 from Wyandotte, led the Lady Norse defensive effort.



Lady Norse represent area in regional tourney

Making their first-ever trip to the regional tournament, the Northeastern Oklahoma A&M Lady Norse traveled to Cisco, Texas to compete in the single-elimination Region V Tournament.

Coach Jan Stuke's Lady Norse squad was decimated by injuries and had dwindled to seven players.

"We learned an awful lot by playing in this eight-team regional, even though we thought it was a little far for us to go to play just one match," said Stuke.

The seventh-seeded Lady Norse opened the tournament against second-seeded Collin County Community College.

After Collin County won the first game 15-9, the Lady Norse posted a 16-14 win.



Lady Norse head coach J. Stuke is surrounded by his team during a timeout in the NEO Fieldhouse. Listening to Stuke's instructions are, from left; Kim Harris, Marsha Burdge, Cherri Waggoner, Latasha Perce and Corinther Black.



Freshman Darcy Shepherd (8) makes a perfect set as teammates Corinther Black (11) and Cherri Waggoner (1) make a decision on where to place the shot during a match with Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Corinther Black lashes a hard spike across the net despite the defensive efforts of Jamie Lickteig (11) and Wendy Adkins (14) both of Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College during a match on the Lady Norse home court.



playing her verticle leaping ability at the net, sophomore Corinther Black (11) goes high above the net to knock down a shot by Kim Keeling of Longview (Kan.) Community College during a game on the court in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Season results

**NEO 15, 7, 15, 15-
Coffeyville 6, 15, 7, 13**

Despite suffering a 15-7 loss in the second game, the Lady Norse defeated the Lady Ravens in four games in the NEO Fieldhouse.

NEO 6, 6-Longview 15, 15

Freshman server Darcy Shepherd suffered a strained neck as the Lady Norse dropped two games to Longview in a triangular at Fort Scott, Kan.

**NEO 15, 12, 15-
Fort Scott 11, 15, 8**

Closing out the regular season on the road the Lady Norse won three games against the Lady Greyhounds in Fort Scott.

Freshman guard Todd Green, 6-4 from Cleveland, Okla., goes up to contest the shot of Rick Allison of St. Gregory's College during a 74-68 victory by the Golden Norsemen over the Cavaliers in Shawnee. Green scored four points in the win.

Veteran forward Nathan Binam gets a good look at the basket as he attempts a shot despite the defensive pressure by Juraj Grabaric of St. Gregory's College. Binam, 6-5 from Claremore scored eight points in the 74-68 NEO victory.



Experience abounds as Norsemen open season

With six sophomores providing a stable foundation, Northeastern A&M's Golden Norse basketball squad opened the 1996-97 campaign with high expectations.

Under the direction of coach Lonnie Spencer, the Golden Norsemen compiled a 14-17 overall record during the 1995-96 campaign. The Norse finished fourth in the Bi-State Conference Eastern Division with a 4-6 record.

Through the first half of the 1996-97 season, the Golden Norsemen posted a 9-3 overall record.

"We started the season with five young men that had been through the rigors of one year of junior college basketball. Those young men played in 31 games as freshmen, so the old adage of 'You're only as good as your sophomores' at this level of basketball is certainly true," said Spencer.

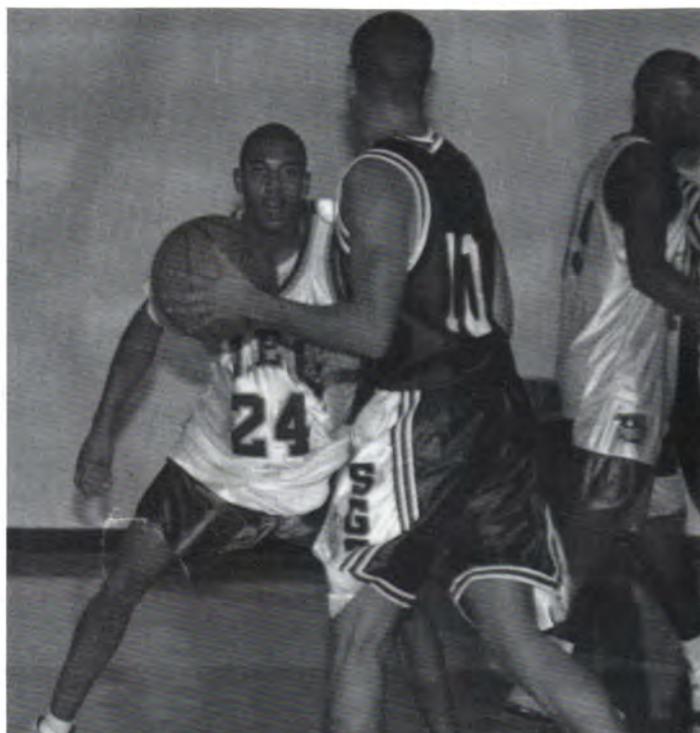


Trying to score on a layup down the middle is sophomore forward Nathan Binam (21) as teammates Johnny Mitchell (22) and Corey Crisp (45) try to screen defenders from Seminole State College during a game in the NEO Fieldhouse.



Get that stuff out of here was sophomore center Rod Smith's reply as Greg Stevens (24) of Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College tries to drive to the basket. NEO forward Punchy Parker (32) catches Smith as he makes the blocked shot.

Applying defensive pressure as guard Reggie Tate (10) of St. Gregory's College brings the ball up court is Golden Norse point guard Reubin Turner (24). Turner scored 18 total points as the Golden Norse defeated the Cavaliers 98-86 in Miami.



ting to see which way the ball
nces following a shot off the
are NEO sophomores Rod
ith and Johnny Mitchell (22)
St. Gregory's players Jason
wart (32) and Chris Green
) hope to grab the loose
ound.

Season results

NEO 81-Coffeyville 60

Opening the season at home, the Golden Norse received 19 points from freshman Brent Porter to defeat the Red Ravens.

NEO 74-St. Gregory's 68

Clutch free throw shooting from Shawn Williams and Porter carried the Norse to a 74-68 win over St. Gregory's in Shawnee.

Williams led NEO with 14 points.

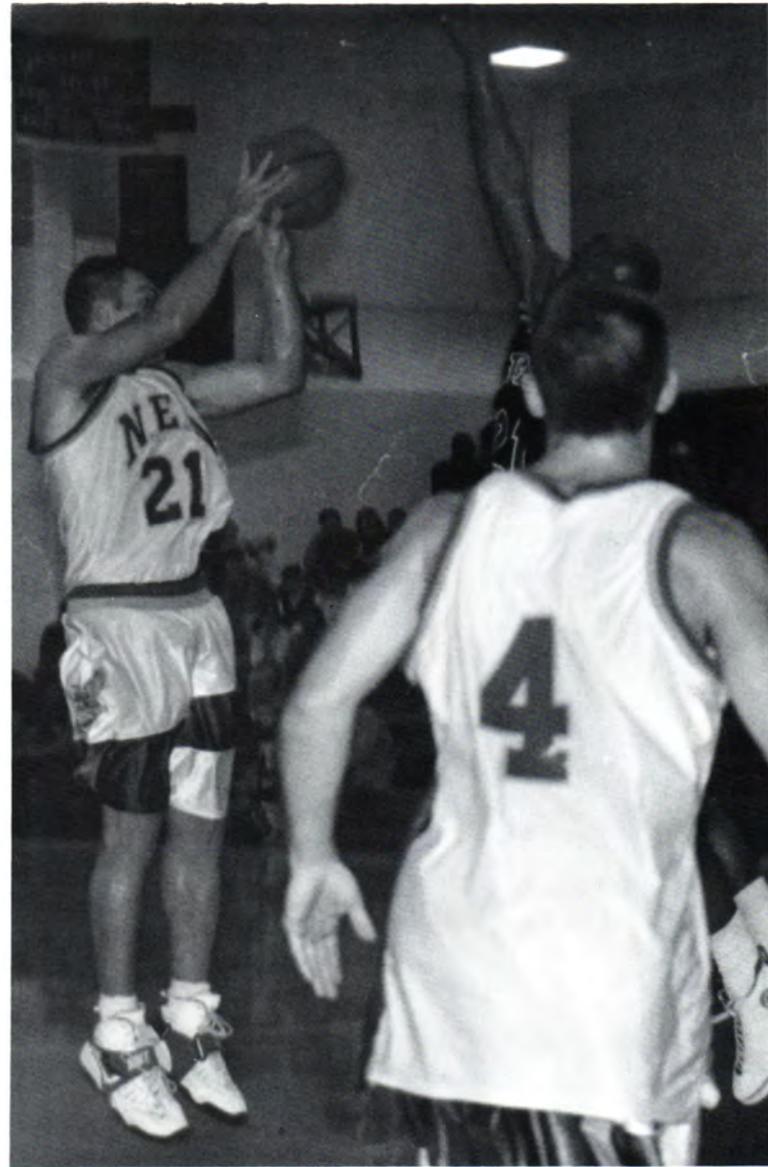
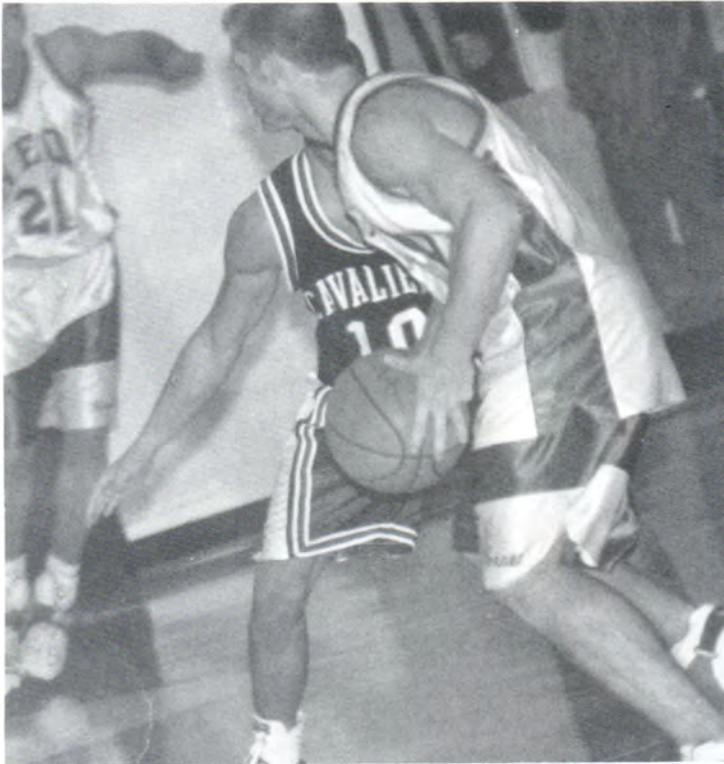
Coffeyville 75-NEO 70

Unable to overcome a 12-point halftime deficit, the Golden Norse dropped a 75-70 decision to the Red Ravens in Coffeyville, Kan.

Veteran guard Reubin Turner led the Norsemen with 15 total points.

Looking for an open shot or an open teammate as he drives to the basket is sophomore shooting-guard Shawn Williams, 5-10 from Stillwater, as St. Gregory's College guard Jason Stewart (10) tries to apply some defensive pressure.

Going up for a shot in a game against Northern Oklahoma College in the NEO Fieldhouse is sophomore forward Nathan Binam, 6-4 from Claremore. Binam scored 15 points as the Golden Norse dropped a 91-84 decision to the Mavericks.



Sophomores provided strong catalyst for Norse

Returning at the guard positions for the Golden Norse were veterans Shawn Williams, Reubin Turner and David Hargreaves.

Williams (5-10 from Stillwater) served as shooting guard for NEO after averaging 6.4 points as a freshman.

Turner (5-10 from Hugo) was the point-guard for the Norse after averaging 8.4 points as a freshman.

Hargreaves (5-10 from Tulsa) saw out as a red-shirt his freshman year.

Veteran Nathan Binam (6-4 from Claremore) averaged 12 points as a freshman at forward.

Returning at center were Rod Smith (6-9 from Freehold, N.J.) and Johnny Mitchell (6-8 from Greenville, S.C.).



Three members of the Golden Norse squad battle two players from St. Gregory's College for a loose ball during a game at Shawnee. The Golden Norse men gained a 74-68 victory over the Cavaliers before starting a seven-game winning streak.



Sophomore guard Reubin Turner goes up for a shot during a game with Northern Oklahoma College in the NEO Fieldhouse. Despite a career-high 34 total points by Turner, the Golden Norsemen suffered a 91-84 loss at the hands of the Mavericks.

Freshman forward Brent Porter (5) goes up to contest a shot by Keith Code (32) of Rose State College during a game in the NEO Fieldhouse. Porter scored 12 points as the Golden Norsemen handed the Raiders a 83-76 loss.



Senior point-guard Shawn Williams tries to make an advance pass during an offense possession as Northern Oklahoma College guard Jared Berg applies defensive pressure.

Season results

Northern 91-NEO 84

Despite a record-setting performance by guard Reubin Turner, the Golden Norse suffered a 91-84 loss to the Mavericks in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Turner tied an NEO school record with nine 3-point field goals enroute to 34 total points.

NEO 83-Rose State 76

Freshman guard Rodney Sooter came off the bench to score 15 points to lead the Norse to a 83-76 win over the Rose State Raiders in Miami.

NEO 66-Seminole 63

Nathan Binam scored 19 points and hit two clutch free throws to lead NEO to a 66-63 win

Leaning in trying to draw a foul as Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College forward Mike Hart tries to drive towards the basket is NEO forward Nathan Binam. The Norse defeated the Red Ravens 81-60 as Binam scored 12 total points.

Freshman forward Lacross Lee, 6-5 from San Diego, Calif., puts up a shot over three St. Gregory's College defenders as teammate Punchy Parker (42) waits for a rebound. Lee scored four points in the 74-68 NEO victory.



Freshmen complimented veteran basketball team

Even though the Golden Norsemen returned a bounty of talent at every position, several freshmen became an integral part of the team because of their role-playing ability.

Freshmen receiving considerable playing time at the guard positions were Brent Porter (6-2 from Tulsa) and Rodney Sooter (6-3 from Miami).

Earning considerable playing time at the forward positions were freshmen Lacross Lee (6-5 from San Diego, Calif.), Todd Green (6-4 from Cleveland, Okla.), and Corey Crisp (6-4 from Tulsa).

Freshman Mahcoe "Punchy" Parker (6-7 from Coweta) saw considerable playing time in the post position.



Locked in a battle for a defensive rebound were NEO's freshman Brent Porter (5) along with Corey Roberts (50) and Brent Sonne (31), both of North Oklahoma College during a 84 loss by the Golden Norsemen at the NEO Fieldhouse.



Sophomore center Rod Smith (40) puts up a shot over defensive pressure from three Seminole State College during a 68-66 Golden Norse victory over the Trojans in the NEO Fieldhouse. Smith scored 12 points and grabbed seven rebounds.

Freshman forward Mahcoe "Punchy" Parker battles Corrie Calloway of Rose State College for a rebound as NEO teammates Brent Porter (5) and Lacross Lee (25) watch the action. NEO defeated Rose State 83-76 in Miami.



Attempting to set up an offensive play is veteran forward Nathan Williams (21) and teammates Mahcoe Parker (42) and Rod Smith (40) await instructions.

Season results

NEO 84-Murray State 57

Shawn Williams led four NEO players in double figures with 17 points as the Golden Norse defeated the Aggies 84-57 in Miami.

Binam contributed 15 points while Rod Smith and Brent Porter added 13 points each.

NEO 97-Allen County 83

Traveling to Hutchinson, Kan., over Thanksgiving, the Norse received 31 points from Binam in a 97-83 win over Allen County in the first game.

NEO 95-Florissant Valley 71

Freshman Punchy Parker combined with Rod Smith for 18 points each

Sophomore guard Shawn Williams surveys the defensive set of Northern Oklahoma College as guard Kyle Dean (10) applies defensive pressure. The Mavericks were one of three teams to defeat the Golden Norsemen during the first half of the season.

Freshman forward Lacross Lee (25) gets his shot blocked by Northern Oklahoma College forward Todd Seibert (32) during the second half of a 91-84 victory by the Mavericks over the Golden Norsemen in the NEO Fieldhouse.



Golden Norsemen faced a difficult second half

After enjoying a considerable amount of success during the first part of the season, coach Lonnie Spencer's Norsemen returned from Christmas break to begin preparation to play in the Eastern Division of the Bi-State Athletic Conference.

Despite entering the second half with a 9-3 overall record, the Golden Norsemen would have to travel to Midwest City, Seminole, Tonkawa, West Plains, Mo., and Tishomingo before beginning play in the Bi-State East.

"We knew going into the season that we had one of the strongest conferences in the United States. With Connors State and Westark always producing top programs, we now had to contend with Carl Albert, Bacone and Eastern who were all much improved" said Spencer.

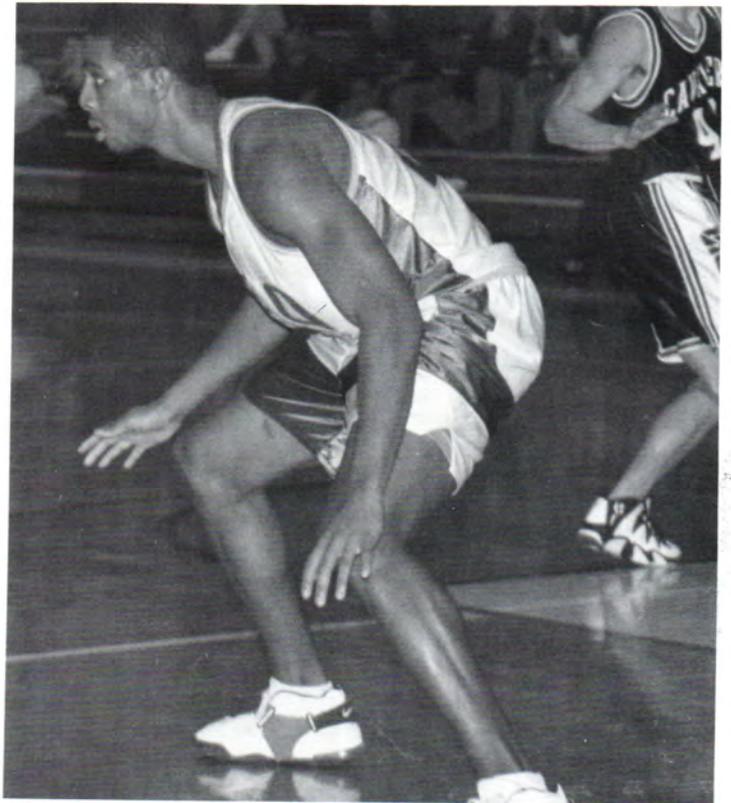


Driving the perimeter to get an open shot, freshman forward Brent Porter (5) denies defensive pressure applied by Cory Campbell of Northern Oklahoma College. Porter scored 12 points in the 91-84 loss to the Mavericks.



Going up for a shot off an offensive rebound is Golden Norse center Rod Smith as Devin Cooper (42) of St. Gregory's College attempts to block the shot. The Golden Norse defeated the Cavaliers 74-68 in Shawnee.

Veteran forward Johnny Mitchell strikes a defensive pose as he awaits the Northern Oklahoma College Mavericks offensive set. Mitchell was one of six sophomores that contributed to a 9-3 record by the Golden Norse during the first half of the season.



Putting up in a man-to-man defensive pressure are point guard Reubin Turner and other members of the Golden Norse squad. Turner scored a career-high 34 points,

Season results

NEO 88-Hutchinson 85 (OT)

Gaining perhaps their biggest victory in several years, the Golden Norse defeated host Hutchinson, 88-85 in overtime of the Hutchinson Classic.

Shawn Williams led NEO with 25 points while Reubin Turner scored 19 and Nathan Binam added 14 points.

NEO 98-St. Gregory's 86

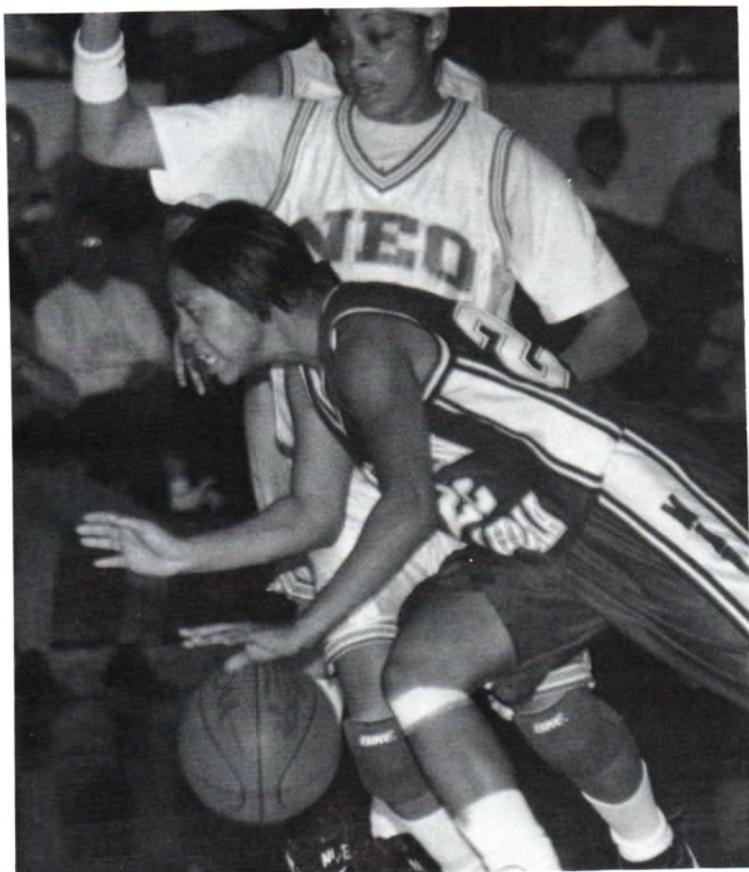
With all 13 players contributing on the scoreboard, the Golden Norse earned their seventh-straight win in the NEO Fieldhouse..

Northark 59-NEO 58

Unable to overcome a seven-point halftime deficit, the Golden Norse lost by one point.

Trying not to give an inch, freshman point-guard J'Shawna Smith, 5-8 from Atoka, applies defensive pressure as Brandi McClellan (22) of Northern Oklahoma College tries to drive towards the basket during a 68-66 win by the Lady Norse.

Freshman guard Kwame Clark, 5-10 from Zanesville, Ohio, tries to avoid a collision with Cathy Rogers (32) of Crowder (Mo.) Community College during a 53-39 loss to the Lady Riders in Neosho, Mo. Clark led NEO with 12 total points.



Lady Norse struggled with inexperienced team

Plagued by graduation and key injuries before the start of the regular season, coach Randy Gipson's Lady Norse spent the first half of the year searching for a solid starting lineup.

Even before the first tipoff Gipson was faced with starting the season with only 10 players. During the 1995-96 season the Lady Norse compiled a 25-7 overall record.

"Even though we didn't have a lot of players, we had the potential to be good in every phase of the game. We just had to spend the first 14 games of the season trying to find the right combinations," said Gipson.

Three sophomores were among the 10 players to start the season, and only one of them, Tasha Barnett, started both years.



Getting the jump on North Oklahoma College center Mar Perkins (45) is sophomore forward Marsha Burdge as teammate Tasha Barnett (54) watches the defensive pressure applied from all sides by the Lady Mavericks.



Former Lady Norse forward Diana "Bird" Hubbard (33) fires off a shot as a member of the St. Gregory's College Lady Cavaliers despite defensive pressure from Lady Norse forward Tasha Barnett.

NEO split the two-game series with St. Greg's. Firing up a shot from the perimeter is Lady Norse freshman guard Brooke Carter, 5-8 from Vinita, as teammate forward Marsha Burdge (32), a 5-9 sophomore from Wyandotte, waits to see the end result of the shot.



Lady Norse teammates Tasha Barnett (54) and Tina Clending (50) battle for a rebound underneath the basket as Jill Einsenmeyer (33) of Rose State College tries to step in and take the rebound away.

Season results

NEO 80-Coffeyville 68

Freshman J'Shawna Smith scored 18 points to lead the Lady Norse to an 80-68 win over the Lady Ravens in the season opener in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Dee Dee Holmes and Tasha Barnett combined for 11 points each.

St. Gregory's 56-NEO 50

With two players battling the flu, the Lady Norse suffered a 56-50 loss to the Lady Cavaliers in Shawnee.

NEO 70-Cowley County 60

Freshman center Dedra Ray scored 17 points to lead NEO to a 70-60 win over Cowley County, Ks.

Freshman center Dedra Ray (55), 6-1 from Claremore, reaches in to try and steal the ball from Lisa Johnson of Murray State College as sophomore forward Marsha Burdge (32), 5-9 from Wyandotte, maintains her defensive position.

Looking to make a pass inside from her point-guard position is freshman guard Kwame Clark (11), 5-10 from Zanesville, Ohio, as Barbora Jandova (32) of Crowder (Mo.) Community College tries to apply defensive pressure.



Three sophomores were ticketed to be leaders

Although only five players could be on the court at any one time, a lack of experienced veterans caused the Lady Norse some turmoil early in the season.

Returning from a team that won 25 games were sophomores Marsha Burdge at forward and Tasha Barnett at center along with DeJarnette (Dee Dee) Holmes.

Burdge, 5-9 from Wyandotte, averaged 4.6 points and 6.4 rebounds in 32 games as a freshman. Although she missed the season opener, Burdge led the Lady Norse in rebounding with a 9.3 average midway through the 1996-97 year.

Barnett, 5-11 from San Diego, Calif., averaged 8.3 points and 6.5 rebounds as a freshman. She missed three games for discipline reasons as a sophomore.



Four members of the Lady Norse, Tina Clendening (5), Brooke Carter (25), Marsha Burdge (32) and Dawn Holmes (33) collapse defensively to contend the shot by Lynetta Ge... (35) of Northern Oklahoma College.



Learning not to drive the middle against Lady Norse freshman center Tina Clendening (50), 6-1 from Oceanside, Calif., is Northern Oklahoma College guard Michelle Brown (10) as teammate Lynette Geter (35) tries to prevent the blocked shot.

Veteran center Tasha Barnett (54), 5-11 from San Diego, Calif., holds her defensive position as Northern Oklahoma College forward Chanda Myers (23) attempts to drive the ball towards the basket for an apparent easy layup.



ing to keep from drawing a personal foul is veteran Lady Norse forward Marsha Burdge (11) against Annie Thornton (33) of Crowder (Mo.) Community College as NEO point-guard Tasha Barnett (11) switches on defense.

Season results

Independence 67-NEO 59

After defeating Cowley County in the first game of the Independence Classic, the Lady Norse lost 67-59 to the host Lady Pirates.

Clark led the Lady Norse with 18 points.

Coffeyville 67-NEO 54

Shooting only 31 percent from the field, the Lady Norse dropped a 67-54 decision to the Lady Ravens in Coffeyville, Kan.

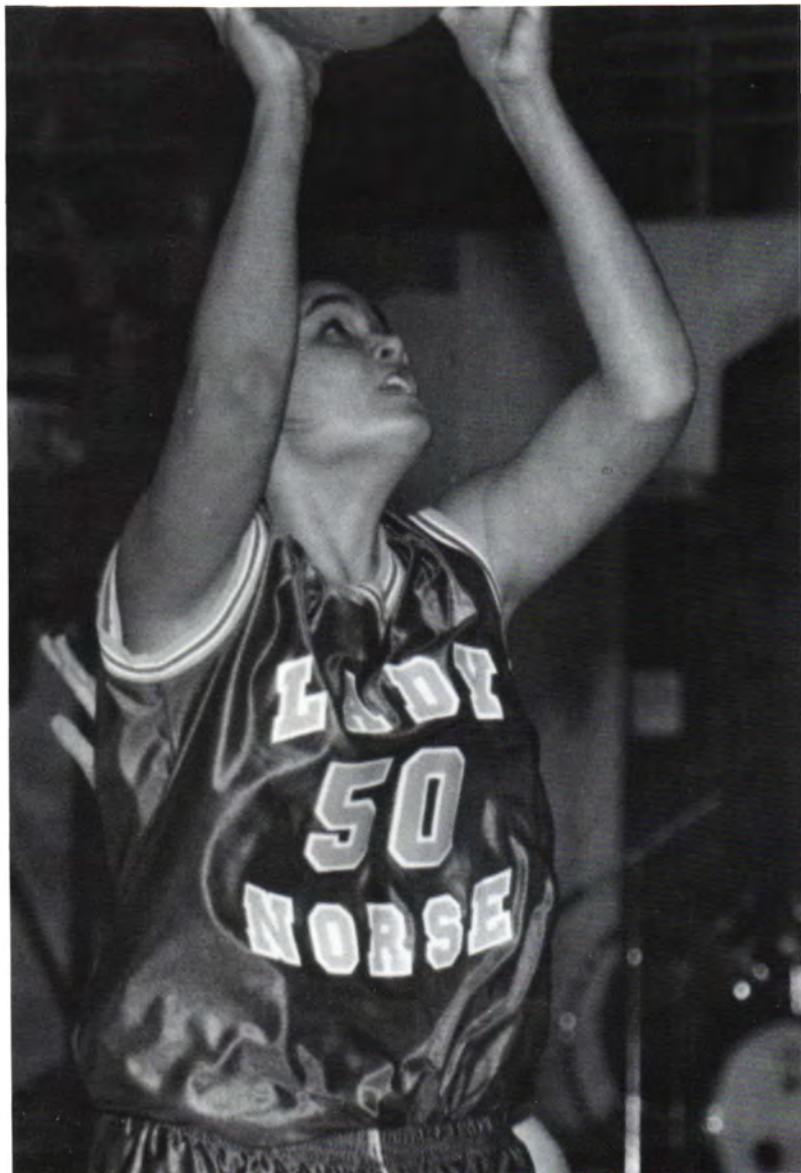
Barnett led NEO with 14 total points.

NEO 68-Northern 66

J'Shawna Smith hit a 10-foot jump shot with six seconds left to provide the Lady Norse with a 68-66 win at the NEO Fieldhouse.

Forced into action as a guard after injuries sidelined both Lady Norse point-guards, freshman Dawn Holmes (33), 5-11 from Tulsa, looks for an opening before driving to the basket against T.J. Humphreys (25) of Crowder (Mo.) College.

Freshman center Tina Clendening (50), 6-1 from Oceanside, Calif., uses her size to get a good look as she squares for a shot at the basket. Clendening was one of four Lady Norse players to action in the post position during the first part of the year



Freshmen filled several important roles for NEO

Even before the opening tipoff the Lady Norse lost both freshmen guards as Carla Rogers, 5-5 from Neosho, Mo., suffered torn knee ligaments and sat out the season while J'Shawna Smith, 5-8 from Atoka, missed seven games with a sprained ankle.

Handling the guard chores were Kwame Clark, 5-10 from Zainesville, Ohio; Brooke Carter, 5-8 from Vinita and walk-on Teshanne Pierce, 5-5 from Tulsa.

Alternating at both forward and post were freshmen Dawn Holmes, 5-11 from Tulsa; Tina Clendening, 6-1 from Oceanside, Calif., and Dedra Ray, 6-1 from Claremore.



Freshman point-guard J'Shawna Smith (22) breaks a cardinal and leaves her feet on defense as Northern Oklahoma College guard Michelle Brown completes the fake and drives to the basket as NEO guard Brooke Carter (25) watches.



Slicing between two defenders from Crowder (Mo.) Community College, freshman center Dedra Ray (55), 6-1 from Claremore, grabs a rebound at the offensive end. Ray averaged 9.8 points per game through the first half of the season.

Looking for an open teammate, freshman Brooke Carter (25), 5-8 from Vinita, ignores the defensive pressure applied by Kesha Gibson (10) from Seminole State College. Carter played both point and shooting guard for the Lady Norse.



ring up a shot from the top of the key is Lady Norse freshman guard Brooke Carter (25) as veteran forward Marsha Burdge battles two Northern Oklahoma college defenders for rebounding position underneath the boards.

Season results

NEO 86-Rose State 70

Ray scored a career-high 26 points and Carter added 19 to lead the Lady Norse to an 86-70 win in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Seminole 61-NEO 34

Establishing an NEO school record for the fewest points in a half with 12, the Lady Norse lost 61-34 to Seminole in the NEO Fieldhouse.

NEO 72-Murray 42

After being held to 12 points in a half, the Lady Norse limited the Lady Aggies to only 16 in gaining a 72-42 win in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Crowder 53-NEO 39

Unable to overcome a seven-point halftime deficit, the Lady Norse dropped a 53-39 decision

Going up for one of her six blocked shots she recorded during the first half of the season is freshman center Tina Clendenning (50) as Kiesha Hopkins (34) of Northern Oklahoma College attempts to score from inside the paint.

Traveling towards the basket on a break-away after recording one of 20 steals is freshman point-guard Kwame Clark (11). Clark was moved back to a forward position to start the second half after J'Shawna Smith recovered from a sprained ankle.



League slate featured several ranked teams

Featuring two of the top 10 women's junior college basketball teams in the country, the Eastern Division of the Bi-State Conference awaited the Lady Norse following a 33-day Christmas break.

"We came back from the long break and the girls really worked hard in the nine practices we had before starting the second half of the season," said Lady Norse head coach Randy Gipson.

After traveling to Midwest City and Seminole, the Lady Norse returned home to face Crowder, Mo., and Northark. The non-conference schedule concluded with the Lady Norse traveling to Tonkawa and Tishomingo.

Connors State College and Westark Community College were ranked fifth and sixth nationally after the break.



Veteran forward Tasha Barnes (54) falls to the floor after a personal foul is levied against Lisa Johnson of Coffeyville (Karl Community College. Teammates Dawn Holmes (33) and Tina Clendenning (50) watch as the foul is called.



Making a bullet pass inside from her perimeter position is sophomore forward Dee Dee Holmes (23). Dee Dee joined her younger sister Dawn to provide the Lady Norse with the ability to score from either inside or on the perimeter.

Freshman Dawn Holmes (33), 5-11 from Tulsa, shoots from the outside after seeing action at all three positions, guard, forward and center for the Lady Norse during the first half of the season. Dawn Holmes moved back to center after the break.



shman Dawn Holmes (33) es to the basket despite the ensive pressure of Cherry ts of Northern Oklahoma lege as Lady Norse players ha Barnett (54) and Brooke ter await the outcome of the /.

Season results

NEO 64-Butler County 62

Facing Butler County in the opening round of the Thanksgiving Classic at Cloud County, Kan., the Lady Norse received 21 points from Brooke Carter.

Cloud County 64-NEO 61

Unable to sink free throws at the end the Lady Norse dropped a 64-61 decision to host Cloud County in the Thanksgiving Classic.

NEO 66-St. Gregory's 56

Kwame Clark scored 20 points to lead the Lady Norse past St. Gregory's 66-56 in the NEO Fieldhouse.

Northark 66-NEO 56

After falling behind early in the first half, the Lady Norse lost 66-56 in Harrison, Ark.

Freshman centerfielder Tyson Edelen lines a single to right in a game with Connors State at Homa Thomas Field. Tyson, and his older brother Damon, appeared in 45 games as a freshman and compiled a .270 batting average.

Sophomore shortstop Jason Koss corrals a soft line drive as second baseman Wes Swarthout watches the play. Koss appeared in all 46 games his final year while posting a .261 batting average. He recorded 12 stolen bases.



Veterans provided solid foundation for baseball

Entering his seventh season as head coach, Golden Norse baseball coach Rick Ritschel faced a demanding 55-game regular season schedule with 11 returning sophomores on his 28-man roster.

Mother Nature reeked havoc on the first two weeks of the regular schedule as the Golden Norse opened with four games on the road.

Much to the delight of area baseball fans the Norsemen faced third ranked Seminole Junior College on March 8 in a nine-inning home opener at Homa Thomas Field.

During a two-week period late in March the Golden Norse won nine of 10 games to build a 14-7 record, only to lose 15 of their final 23 regular season games to post a 22-22 overall record.

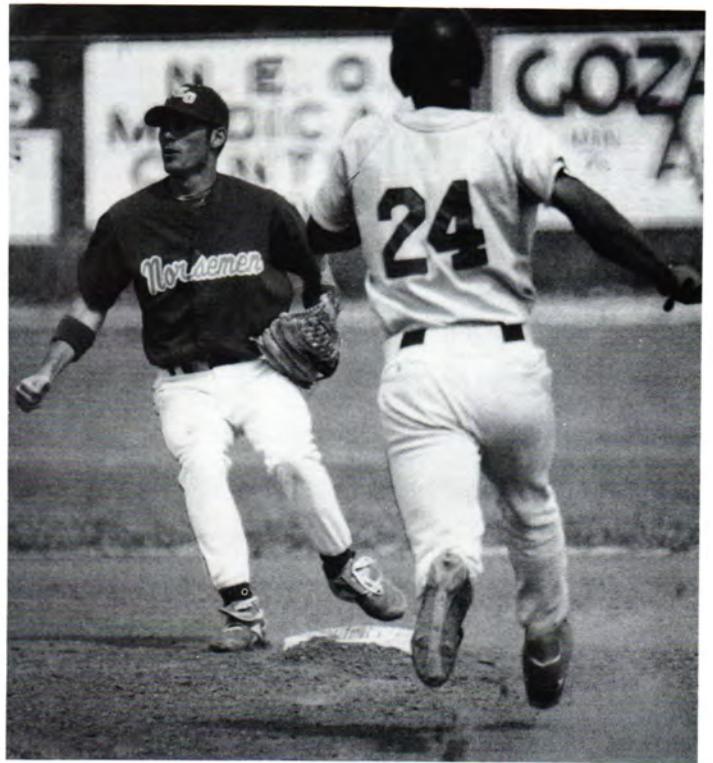


Listening intently to an explanation from sophomore pitcher Tony Ferguson is Golden Norse head coach Rick Ritschel and catcher Steve Lakey. Ferguson appeared in six games, worked 48 total innings while compiling a 4-2 overall record.



Making a routine catch in right field is veteran outfielder Gary Staton. While appearing in 31 games, Staton compiled a .325 batting average which included seven doubles, one triple and three home runs. Staton also stole six bases.

Covering the bag on a stolen base attempt is veteran sophomore Jason Koss as Greg Roberts of Connors State slides into second base. Koss recorded 64 put outs while leading the Golden Norsemen with 92 assists as a sophomore.



Leadoff hitter Matt Beller waits for a pitch from Westark Community College hurler Tim Moore during a double-header with the Norsemen at Bill Crowder Field in West Smith, Ark.



Standing on first base after collecting a hit against Connors State, Jason Koss looks to a sign from coach Rick Ritschel.

Golden Norse head coach Rick Ritschel receives the ball from sophomore righthander Tony Ferguson after his second trip to the mound during a game with Seminole. Ferguson compiled a 4.69 earned run average and a 4-2 overall record in 48 innings.

Veteran righthander Mike Buckingham releases a fast ball during a game at Homa Thomas Field. Buckingham led the Norsemen with a 4.57 earned run average in 45.1 innings of work while compiling a 4-2 overall record.



Sophomores carry load for young pitching staff

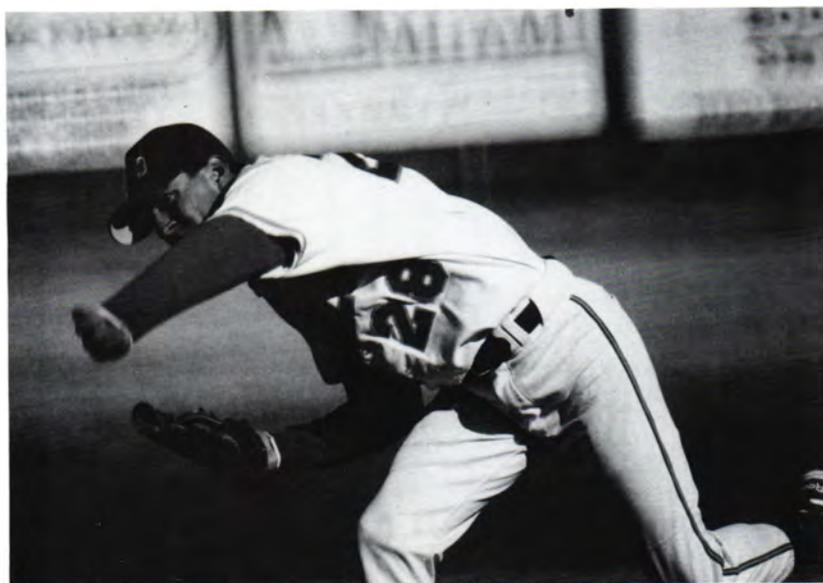
Six returning sophomores pitchers were among the 11 veterans returning from a team which posted a 24-25 record during the 1996 season.

Righthanders Mike Buckingham, Tony Ferguson and Scott Rupert were joined by transfers Riley Stephens and lefthander Sean Riley to provide the nucleus for the Golden Norse mound staff.

Sophomore righthander Ryan Bucknam suffered a shoulder injury the first week and missed the entire season.

Returning around the infield were Damon Edelen at first base, Matt Beller at second, Jason Koss at shortstop and Derrick Roberts at catcher.

Veteran Gary Staton was the lone returnee to the Golden Norse outfield in right.

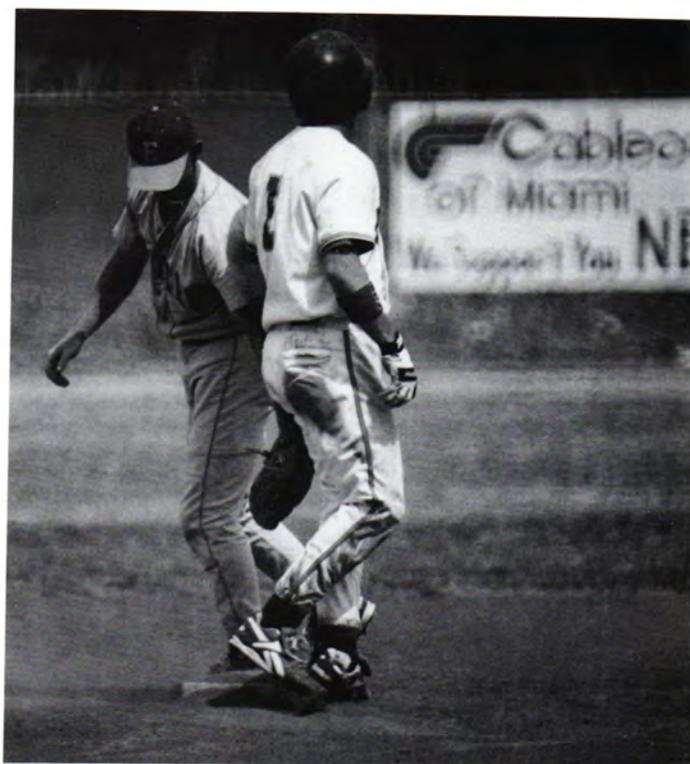


Lefthander Sean Riley throw strike in a game with Conn State College at Homa Thomas Field. Riley led the Norse with 53.2 innings pitched while compiling a 3-4 overall record. Riley transferred to NEO from Kemper Military Academy.



First baseman Damon Edelen takes a few warmup tosses before the start of an inning at Homa Thomas Field. Edelen hit .271 in 144 plate appearances with 28 runs batted in and 34 runs scored. Edelen hit seven doubles, one triple, nine homers.

All-Conference catcher Derrick Roberts slides into second base for a double ahead of the tag by Eastern's Danny Green. Roberts hit .317 in 139 plate appearances with eight doubles, one triple and five home runs. He collected 25 runs batted in.



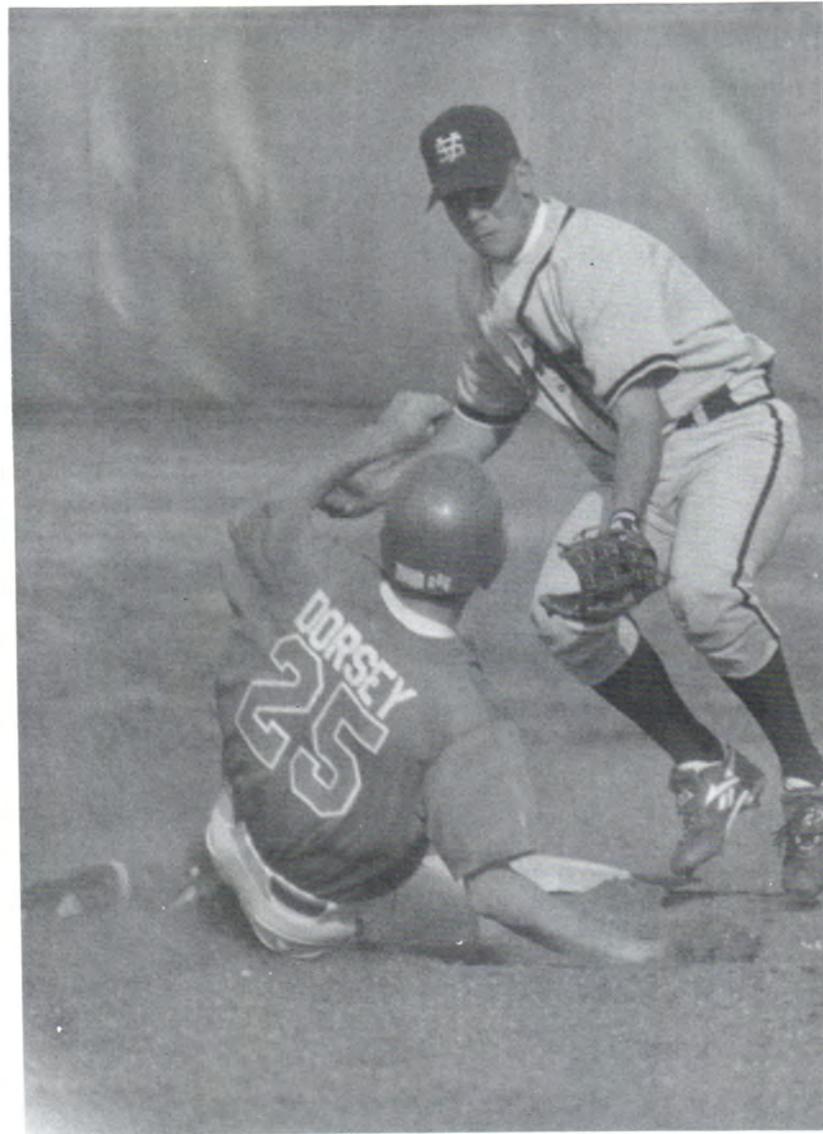
ting back to the base ahead a pickoff move by Connors the pitcher Dean Stowell is sophomore second baseman t Beller. Beller recorded 12 en bases while batting .271 44 plate appearances.



Well into his wind up, sophomore righthander Ryan Bucknam releases a pitch to the plate during a game against Eastern Oklahoma College at Homa Thomas Field. Bucknam missed most of the season with a shoulder injury.

Golden Norse head coach Rick Ritschel (23) has his conversation with starting pitcher Heath Timmerman interrupted on the mound by umpire Tim Grace (23). Grace, brother of Chicago Cubs first baseman Mark Grace, umpired several NEO games.

Freshman leftfielder Jeff Dorsey (25) slides safely into second base under the tag of Sauk Valley, Ill., shortstop Greg Williams. Dorsey stole two bases while hitting .256 in 28 games as a freshman outfielder for the Golden Norsemen.



Freshmen filled key spots along infield and outfield

Four freshmen among the 15 that comprised the Golden Norse roster were permanent fixtures in the starting lineup.

Mike Wilson anchored the third base position while Jeff Dorsey started in left field and Tyson Edelen started in center for NEO.

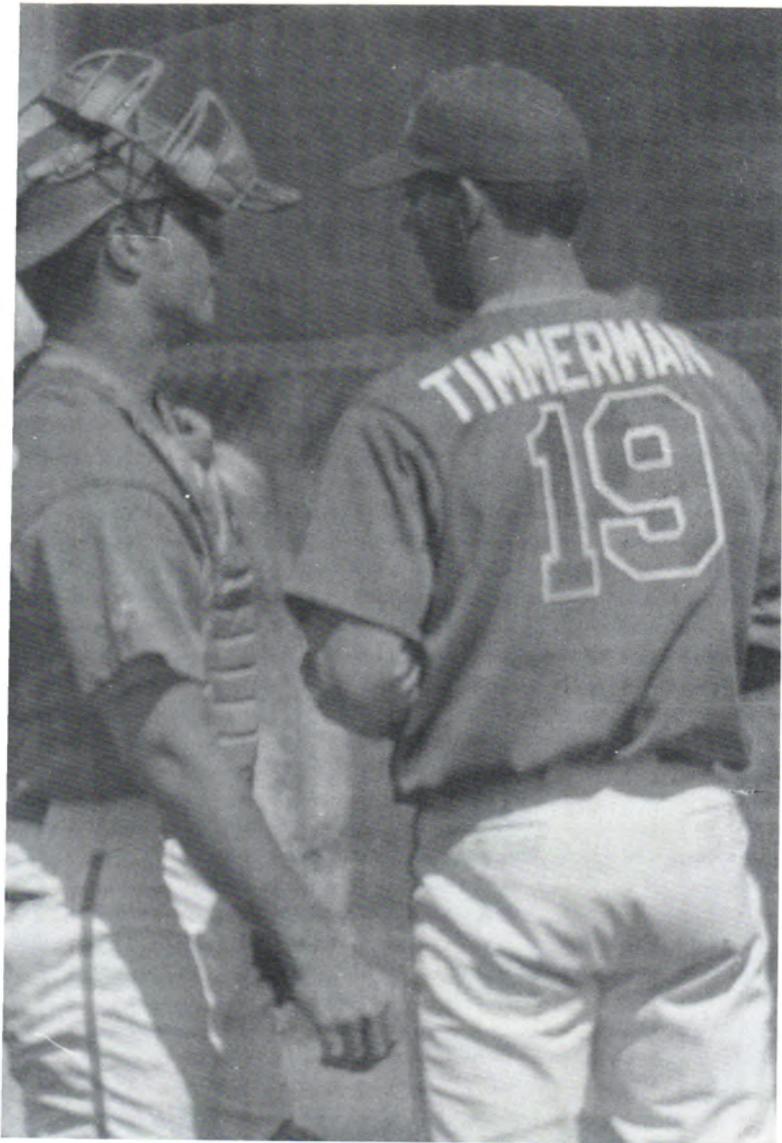
Despite signing with the University of Arkansas prior to the start of the season, freshman righthander Heath Timmerman was ticketed as a starter on the Golden Norse pitching staff along with righthander John Sawyer.

Providing depth around the infield were freshmen catchers John Chadwick and Mike Robinson with Zach Hoffman at second.

Freshmen outfielders were Shaun St. Cyr, Alec Schnieder, Gary Mitchum and J.W. McPhail.



Inola freshman J.W. McPhail dives back into first base on pickoff attempt as East Oklahoma College first baseman Mike Howell applies the tag. McPhail stole 11 bases in 16 attempts as a courtesy runner in 16 games.



Freshman righthander Heath Timmerman (19) talks with veteran catcher Derrick Roberts during a trip to the mound. Timmerman signed with the University of Arkansas after his freshman year and was drafted in the third round by Anaheim.

Third baseman Mike Wilson receives a hand shake from on-deck hitter Tyson Edelen (4) after hitting one of his team-leading 18 home runs. Wilson also led the team with 14 doubles, 53 runs batted in and 36 runs scored.



ry Staton (15) and Mike Wilson (29) each receive the D-hand from teammates after Wilson unloaded a two-run homer during a game with Saukley, Ill., at Homa Thomas Field. Wilson led the Norse with 18 home runs and 53 runs batted in.



Displaying a swing that resulted in a team-leading 18 home runs, freshman third baseman Mike Wilson launches a pitch over the leftfield fence at Homa Thomas Field during a game with Des Moines (Iowa) Community College.

All-Region II catcher Derrick Roberts throws out a runner attempting to steal second base during a game at Homa Thomas Field. Roberts threw out 56 per cent of all base runners while recording 214 put outs, 28 assists and 13 errors.

Veteran shortstop Jason Koss (slides into second base as Eastern Oklahoma College second baseman Kent Turner takes the throw from the outfield. Koss recorded four doubles, one triple and five home runs in 35 total hits as a sophomore.

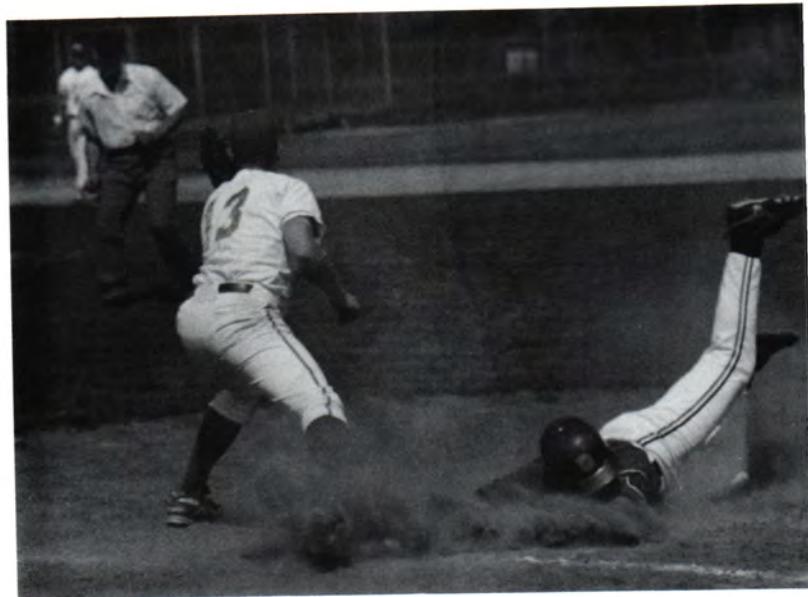


Two players capture honors on All-Region II squad

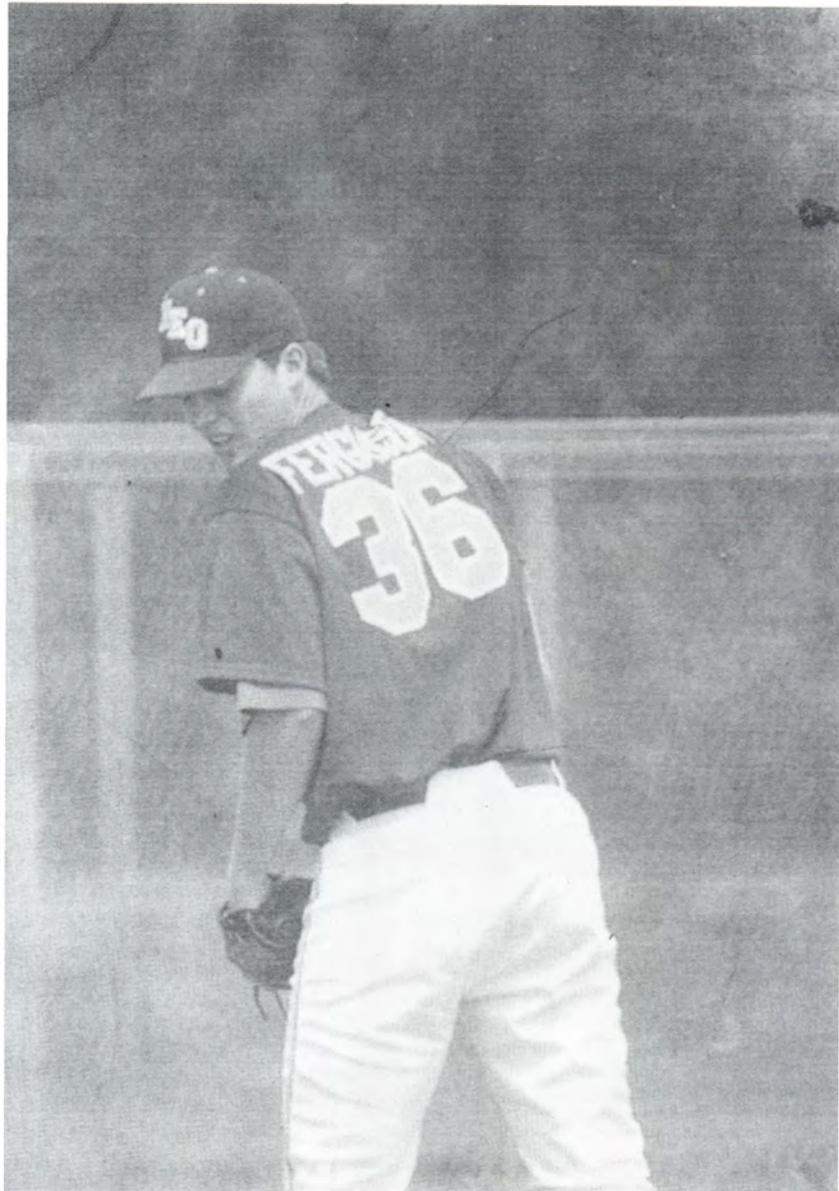
Veteran catcher Derrick Roberts and freshman third baseman Mike Wilson represented the Golden Norsemen as members of the Region II baseball team.

Roberts, from Broken Arrow, finished fourth on the team with a .317 batting average in 139 trips to the plate. Roberts collected eight doubles, five home runs and 25 runs batted in. Roberts posted a .950 fielding average on 255 attempts behind the plate.

Wilson, from Central Marlow, led the Norse with a .390 average in 146 at-bats. Wilson collected 18 home runs, 14 doubles and one triple in 57 hits. He also led the team with 53 RBI and 36 runs scored. He also stole two bases in two attempts.



Sean Jefferson of Carl A Community College goes h over-heels back into first bas Damon Edelen takes a pic throw. The Golden Norse suffered a 12-11 loss to Vikings at Homa Thomas F during the NEO Round-Robi



Checking to make sure the runner on first base isn't going anywhere, sophomore righthander Tony Ferguson prepares to deliver a pitch. Ferguson posted a 4-2 record in 48 innings of work with 34 strikeouts and 21 walks and a 4.69 ERA.

Golden Norseman first baseman Damon Edelen takes a pickoff throw as George Sanders of Des Moines, Iowa prepares to get up and run again. Damon Edelen led the Norsemen with 304 put outs, 16 assists and 12 errors for a .964 fielding average.



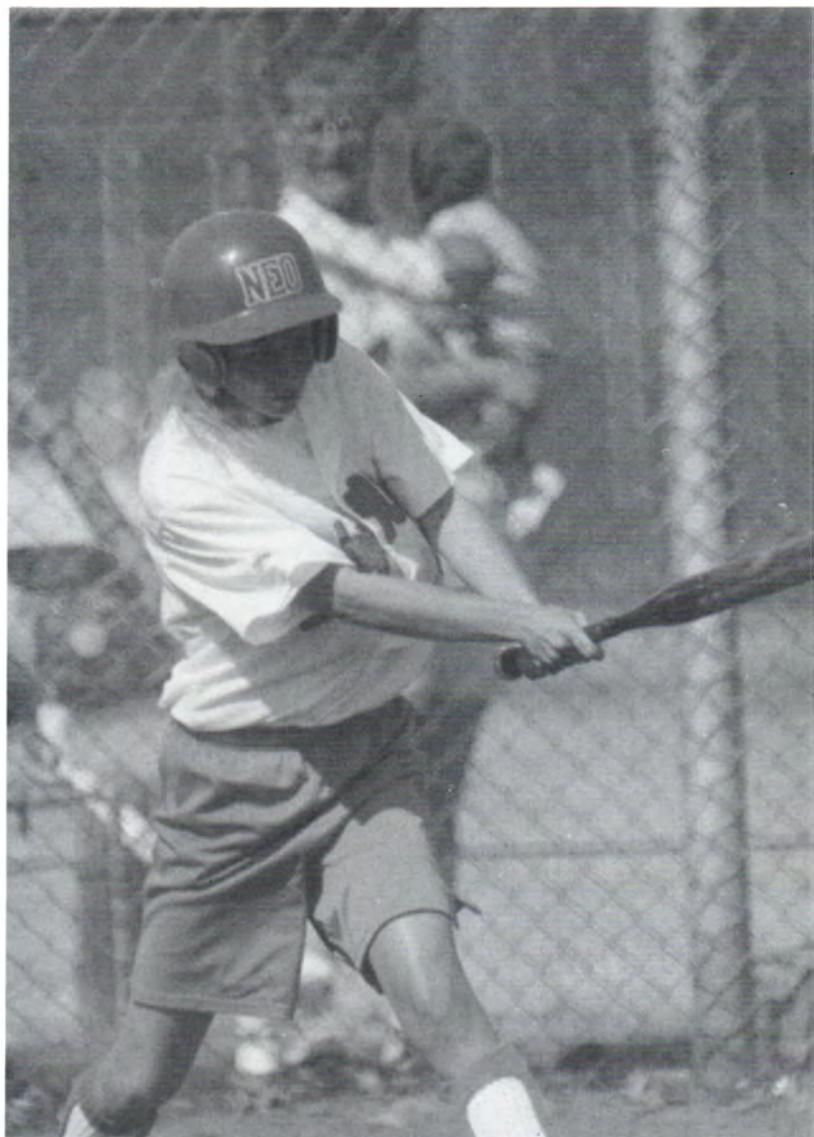
Members of the Golden Norse baseball squad line the front of the visitor's dugout during a doubleheader at Bill Crowder Field in Fort Smith, Ark.



Cutting across the bag to make the throw while completing a double play is veteran shortstop Jason Koss as Golden Norse second baseman Matt Beller moves behind to back up the play.

Lady Norse third base coach John Beets congratulates All-American catcher Dana Carlton as she rounds the bag during one of her two home runs during the regular season. Carlton hit .350 with seven doubles, two home runs and 34 runs batted in.

Veteran second baseman Sami James takes a cut at the plate during a game on the NEO diamond. James posted a .940 fielding average while hitting .268 in 153 trips to the plate. James led the team with 45 runs scored while driving in 20 runs.



Lady Norse suffer losses in Region II Tournament

After finishing second in his first year as head coach, Eric Iverson guided the Lady Norse to a third place finish in the 1997 Region II Tournament in Broken Arrow.

Starting the season with the nucleus of eight returning sophomores, the Lady Norse won 11 and 12 games in a row enroute to a 42-11 overall record.

The Lady Norse suffered a 3-0 shutout to eventual Region II Champion Eastern Oklahoma College in the loser's bracket finals.

During the regular season the Lady Norse compiled a 18-6 record in the Bi-State Athletic Conference. The Lady Norse were ranked sixth before the start of the post-season regional tournament.



Receiving a high-five from several of her teammates, All-American catcher Dana Carlton (5) crosses home plate following a two-run homer on the NEO diamond. Carlton collected seven hits which included seven doubles and two homers.



Freshman hurler Pokey Fish starts her windup enroute to an All-American season with the Lady Norse. Fish compiled a 30-7 overall record in 235.1 innings of work. Fish ranked second in the nation with 281 strike outs while posting a 1.70 ERA.

Moving over to right-center to field a base hit, sophomore Tammy Bigpond cuts in front of veteran centerfielder Lolly Landgraf. Bigpond hit .292 as a starter in right while Landgraf earned All-Region II honors with a .333 batting average.



Lady Norse head coach Eric Iverson sends in a signal to a base runner while making a play to hitter Shasta Sullivan during a game on the NEO diamond. Iverson completed his second year as head coach and has a combined record of 76-20 in two years.



Making sure cleanup hitter Lolly Landgraf knows where to place her hit, head coach Eric Iverson makes his way to the third base coaching box. Landgraf was one of four Lady Norse to earn All-American honors.

Veterans Shonna Kerr (13) and Dana Carlton (5) congratulate teammates following a double-header sweep of Bacone College on the NEO diamond. The Lady Norse posted a 12-4 record on their home field on the way to a combined 42-11 record.

Second baseman Sami James comes over to cover first base on a squeeze bunt as rightfielder Tammy Bigpond (12) comes in to backup the play. Crowder College baserunner Stephanie Brown was thrown out at first on the play as a run scored.



Sophomores provide some stability at every position

Beginning the season with eight sophomores, the Lady Norse had veterans at every position except on the mound.

All-region player Dana Carlton returned at catcher while veteran Shonna Kerr handled duties at first base, Sami James at second, Julie Moddrell at shortstop and Christy Briley at third base.

Returning to the Lady Norse outfield were All-region centerfielder Lolly Landgraf and rightfielder Tammy Bigpond with designated runner Debbie Nowlin providing speed on the base paths.

"We had the experience and leadership that we needed. Our sophomores stepped up and really contributed," said Iverson.



All-Region II centerfielder Lolly Landgraf (10) waits on a pitch during the Region II Tournament at Broken Arrow. Landgraf led the Lady Norse with 54 total hits, which included 12 doubles and seven triples while hitting .333. Landgraf scored 42 runs.



second baseman Sami James denies Sarah Roughface of Northern Oklahoma College access to the base during a stolen base attempt. James compiled a .940 fielding average with 89 put outs, 79 assists and 11 errors. James finished the season with a .268 batting average.

Shortstop Julie Moddrell (3) returns to her position after grabbing a line drive up the middle by Kathy Swartz of Northern Oklahoma College. Moddrell compiled a .915 fielding average with 60 put outs and 79 assists.

Not only did Pokey Fish win 30 games for the Lady Norse, but the freshman righthander also hit .310. Fish slides home safe as Bacone College catcher Carrie Rhatagan applies the tag. Fish collected five doubles, four triples and three home runs.

On the mound, Fish recorded 281 strikeouts in 235.1 innings of work. She compiled a 30-7 overall record while posting a 1.70 earned run average. Fish was selected to both the All-Conference and All-Region II teams.



Freshmen fill key spots on infield and outfield

While starting the season with eight veterans returning, coach Eric Iverson relied heavily on a freshman pitching staff among the eight first-year players.

Pokey Fish, from Dewey, earned all-regional and All-American status as NEO's number one pitcher while Alicia Austin, from Pawhuska, provided a solid second starter and as a designated hitter.

Freshmen seeing considerable playing time on the infield were Sarah House at first; Lorenda Littlefield and shortstop and both Keri Stanton and Jennifer Hopkins at third base.

Shasta Sullivan started in leftfield for the Lady Norse while Shonda Wilson saw playing time in right.



Lady Norse head coach Eric Iverson offers congratulations to Keri Stanton (8) and Chrissy Briley (11) following a doubleheader sweep of North Oklahoma College on the softball diamond. Briley replaced Stanton at third after an injury.



Freshman leftfielder Shasta Sullivan (9) of Grove beats out an infield single against Eastern Oklahoma College. Sullivan led the Lady Norse with 10 stolen bases while collecting 34 hits in 145 at-bats. Sullivan also led the team with 27 walks.

Keri Stanton drives a single to right in a game at the NEO diamond. Stanton batted .439 in 24 games before an injury caused her to miss half the season. Stanton collected four doubles and one home run with 22 runs scored and 23 RBI.



Freshman pitcher Alicia Austin throws a ball into the left-center field gap during a turn at the plate. Austin led the Lady Norse hitting with a .440 average in 129 at-bats. Austin collected four doubles, one triple and one home run with 12 RBI and 13 runs scored.

Displaying her ability at the plate, freshman pitcher Pokey Fish lines a single to center. Fish scored 22 runs and collected 26 runs batted in while hitting .310 in 129 at-bats. Fish led the Lady Norse with three home runs.

Veteran second baseman Sami James returns the ball to the pitcher after a pickoff attempt at second to try and get Shelly Greg of St. Gregory's College. The Lady Norse defeated the Lady Cavaliers 6-3 and 2-1 in a double-header at NEO.

Hitting a single to right is All-Region II centerfielder Lolly Landgraf. She led the Lady Norse with 12 doubles and seven triples while hitting .333 in 53 games. Landgraf also stole nine bases and recorded a .973 fielding average.



Four Lady Norse earn All-Region II accolades

After guiding the Lady Norse to a 42-11 overall record, four members of the squad were selected to the Region II All-Region team..

Sophomore Lolly Landgraf from Del City and Dana Carlton of Oklahoma City along with freshmen Pokey Fish of Dewey and Keri Stanton of Adair were selected.

Landgraf hit .333 with 12 doubles and seven triples in 162 at-bats. Landgraf collected 35 RBI with 42 runs scored.

Carlton hit .350 with seven doubles and two homers in 140 at-bats. Carlton scored 20 runs.

Fish posted a 30-7 overall record with 281 strikeouts in 235.1 innings.

Stanton batted .439 in 24 games.



Head coach Eric Iverson issues some instruction to his team between innings of a game on the NEO diamond. Iverson guided the Lady Norse to a 42-11 overall record in his second year as head coach which included a sixth place ranking.



Cruising into third base with one of her four triples is freshman pitcher Pokey Fish (16) as St. Gregory's College catcher Julie Thomas backs up the play. Fish earned All Region II honors while posting a 30-7 record with a 1.70 earned run average.

Freshman first baseman Sarah House slaps a single to right during a game on the NEO diamond. House collected six hits in 25 trips to the plate while scoring eight runs in a reserve roll. She made 80 put outs in 88 attempts at first base.



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...structions from Lady Norse
...d coach are sophomores
...na Carlton (5), Lolly Landgraf
... and Sami James (2). These
...e veterans comprised the
...dle portion of the Lady Norse
...ing lineup and accounted for
...percent of the production.



Sophomore right fielder Tammy Bigpond looks to see where to make a throw after she and second baseman Sami James (2) converged on a short pop fly. Bigpond posted a .922 fielding average with 47 put outs in 51 chances.



PEOPLE



Get in line

Students proceed to and from classes down the main mall of Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College during a normal day. With an overall population of 2,237 students, NEO is the largest residential junior college in the nation with 722 residents.

Who's Who Among American Junior College Students

Earning recognition for both their academic success in the classroom and their leadership qualities on campus and in the community, 18 sophomores were selected to the 1997 edition of the *Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges*.

More than 1,500 higher education institutions from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign countries

submitted nominations to the publication.

Selection of the 18 students was made by a nominating committee. The students represented all six academic divisions.

Students were chosen based on their academic achievements, service to the community, leadership, involvement in extracurricular activities and their potential for continued success.



More than 80 students were inducted into the MU Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society during a spring initiation ceremony in the Bruce G. Carter Student Union Ballroom. Most of the students selected for the national honor of Who's Who were regular members of Phi Theta Kappa.

Who's Who Selections

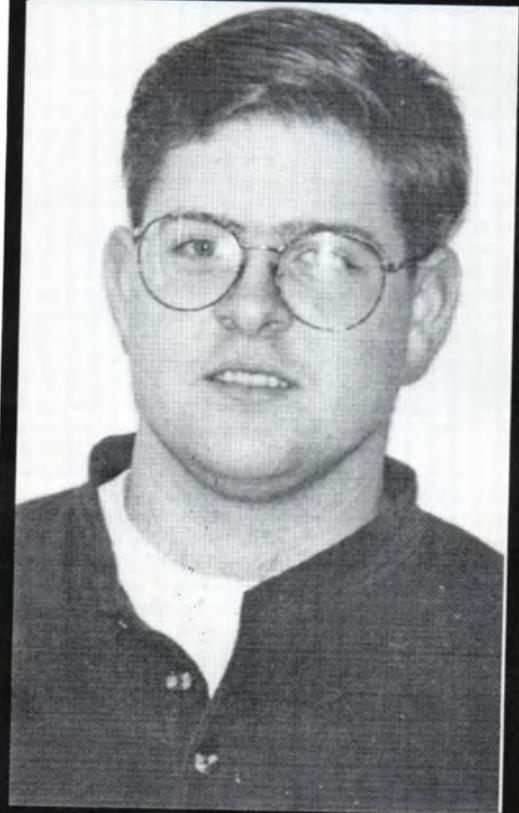
Mike Buckingham

A member of the Norsemen baseball team, Michael Buckingham from Tulsa, maintained a grade point average of 3.85 through his two years. As a business administration major, he was a pitcher for the baseball team, and was an active member of Phi Theta Kappa Nation Honor Society. He was also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and the Baptist Student Union. Buckingham is the son of Robert and Cynthia Buckingham.



Travis Choat

Travis Choat, an animal science/business major from Enid, maintained a 3.9 grade point average through four semesters at NEO. A member of Phi Theta Kappa MU Chapter of the National Honor Society, Choat was also a member of the NEO Livestock Judging Team, and was elected Chairman of Aggie Western which was an office within the Aggie Society. He is the son of Brad and Gloria Choat of Enid.



Amy Clapp

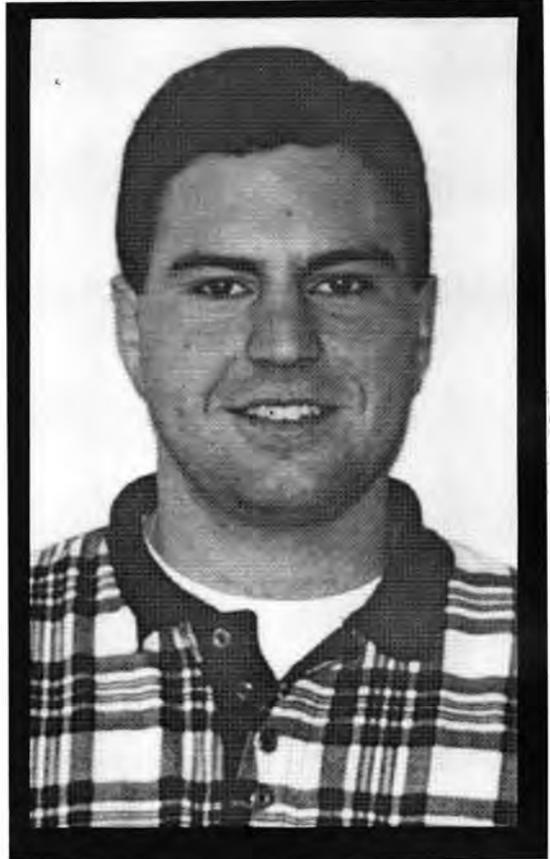
Amy Clapp was a member of the Golden Norse Cheerleading squad. She was a graduate of Wyandotte High School and she maintained a 3.7 grade point average through four semesters. As a child development major, Clapp served as vice-president and secretary of the Child Development Club. She was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and a candidate for 1996 Homecoming Queen. She is the daughter of Ronald and Joan Clapp.

Lycrecia Cunningham

Lycrecia Cunningham, an agriculture major from Locust Grove, maintained a 3.7 grade point average. Cunningham was a member of the 1996 National Championship Equine Judging Team and a member of the Phi Theta Kappa, the Aggie Society, the Equine Club, and the Young Democrats. She was also active in several community events including the Red Cross blood drive. She is the daughter of Joe and Glenna Cunningham.

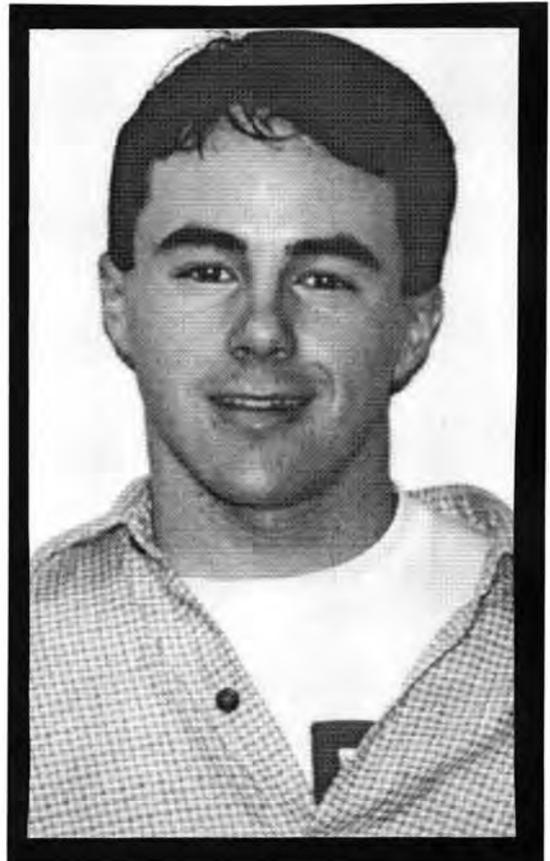
Russell Fent

As treasurer for the Student Body Government, Russell Fent maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average through four semesters. Fent, from Wyandotte, was an animal science/business major and was a member of the Livestock Judging Team. He also served as vice president of the Aggie Society and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society. He is the son of agriculture instructor Roger and Sherri Fent.



Brock Frieden

Brock Frieden, an agriculture economics major from Lamar, Mo., maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average through four semesters. Frieden was an active member of both the Aggie Society and the Pre Veterinary Club. He was also a member of the Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society. He was also on the president's honor roll for four consecutive semesters. He is the son of Tim and Brenda Frieden of Lamar.

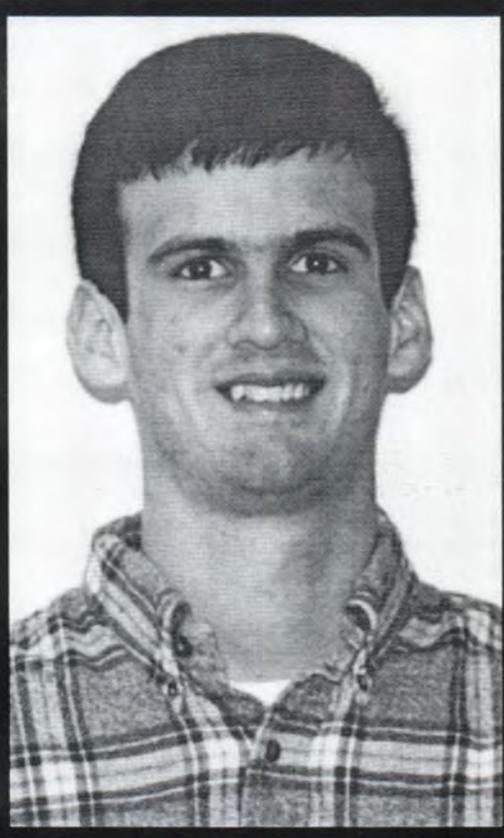


Who's Who Selections



Amy Hagebusch

As a reporter for *The Norse Wind* school newspaper, Amy Hagebusch maintained a 3.7 grade point average through four semesters. A graduate of Chelsea High School, she was an active member of the Equine Club, the Aggie Society, Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society, and the Equine Judging Team. She was selected to the dean's honor roll four straight semesters. She is the daughter of Everette and Trish Hagebusch.



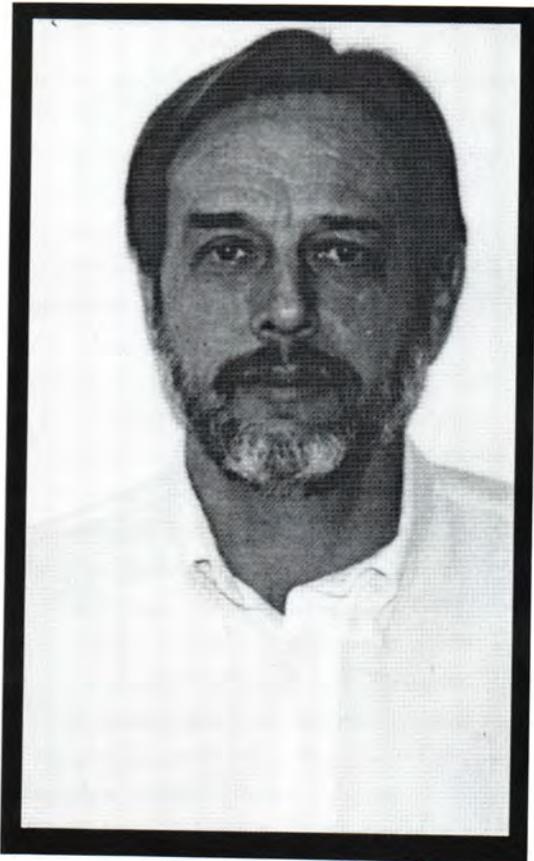
Brian Hodge

Brian Hodge, from Miami, was an active member of both the Golden Norse Marching Band and the NEO Jazz Band. During four semesters, Hodge maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average. He was a business administration major and was an active member in Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society. He also was selected to the president's honor roll four consecutive semesters. He is the son of Garry and Carolyn Hodge.

Who's Who Selections

Keith Lindenmeier

President of the MU Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society, Keith Lindenmeier, from Miami, maintained a 3.8 grade point average through four semesters. Lindenmeier also represented Phi Theta Kappa as a delegate at regional conferences in Oklahoma City and Eldorado, Ark. He was a secondary education major and was on the Leadership Council for the Older Wiser Learning Students organization.

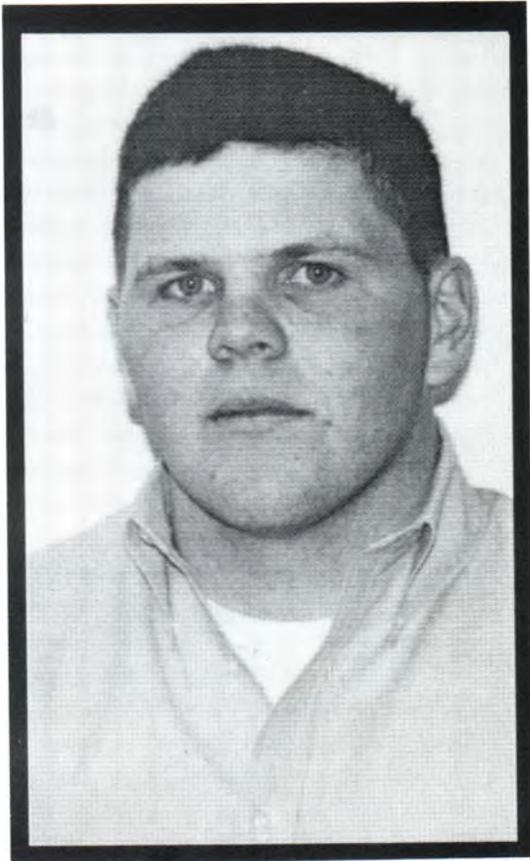


Renee Lynn

Renee Lynn, an animal science major from Virginia, Ill., maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average through four semesters. Lynn was a member of the Livestock Judging Team and has represented NEO in several national competitions. She has also served as president of the Aggie Society and been a member of the Pre Veterinary Club and Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society. She is the daughter of Ron and Barb Lynn.



Who's Who Selections



Gary Mayfield

Gary Mayfield, a animal science major from Wyandotte, maintained a 3.9 grade point average through four semesters at NEO. Mayfield was a member of the college Livestock Judging Team along with serving as treasurer of the Aggie Society and as a member of the Pre Veterinary Club. Mayfield was selected to the dean's honor roll four consecutive semesters. He is the son of Gary and Marilyn Mayfield of Wyandotte.



Tami Morgan

A member of the Speech and Debate team, Tami Morgan, from Miami, maintained a 3.6 grade point average. Morgan has served as the secretary for the Masquers Club, a student body representative for Phi Theta Kappa, and treasure for the Young Democrats. Along with her club affiliations, Morgan performed in several Theatre NEO productions and NEO Choir concerts. She is the daughter of Joe Dan and Kriss Morgan.

Emily Tynon

A second-runner up for the 1996 Homecoming Queen competition, Emily Tynon maintained a 3.6 grade point average through four semesters. Tynon, from Miami, served as secretary for Phi Theta Kappa, a student senate representative for the College Republicans, and a representative for Student Body Government. A political science major, Emily is the daughter of child development instructor Marcia and Al Tynon



Susan Tyree

Susan Tyree, a physical therapy major from Picher, maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average through four semesters. Tyree was active in several campus organizations including serving as vice president for the Foreign Language Club, lieutenant for the Norse Stars, and a member of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society. She was named to the president's honor roll four straight semesters. She is the daughter of Jerry and Margie Tyree.



Who's Who Selections



Donna Whited

A secondary education/ English major from Quapaw, Donna Whited maintained a 3.9 grade point average. While acting as vice president of publications for Phi Theta Kappa, treasurer for the Foreign Language Club and College Republicans, she also served in community activities which included the March of Dimes, American Heart Association, and the American Cancer Society. She is the daughter of Larry and Delta White.



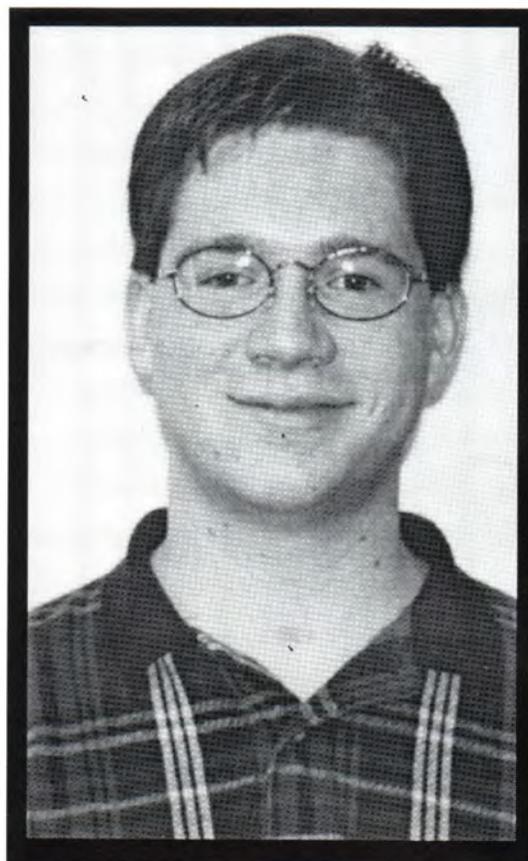
Shawn Williams

Shawn Williams started two years as a guard for the Golden Norse basketball team while maintaining a perfect 4.0 grade point average the four semesters. He earned All-Conference honors and Academic All-American honors. He also served as president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Williams was a general studies major and signed with the University of Tulsa. He is the son of Tim and Karen Williams.

Who's Who Selections

Rusty Wyrick

Rusty Wyrick, a management and information systems major from Welch, maintained a 3.9 grade point average through four semesters. Wyrick served as vice president for the College Republicans and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society. He was selected to both the president's and dean's honor rolls during his two-year academic career at NEO. He is the son of Darrell and Kathey Wyrick.



Jodi Zimmerman

Jodi Zimmerman, a business major from Miami, maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average during her two-year academic career at NEO. Zimmerman was an active member of the Norse Stars Dance/Drill Team and a member of the MU Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society. She was named to the president's honor roll four consecutive semesters. She is the daughter of Tom and JoAnn Zimmerman.



Ab to Ar



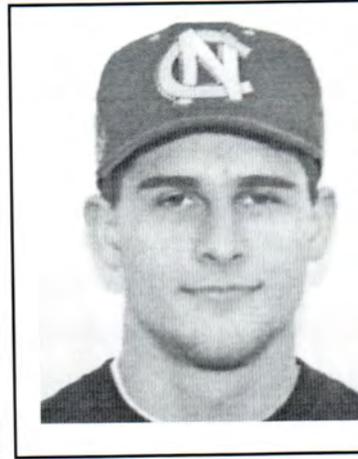
Abel, Amanda Sophomore
Wyandotte Child Development



Adkins, Casey Sophomore
Tulsa Journalism



Ainley, Scott Freshman
Stockton, Mo. Radio/Television



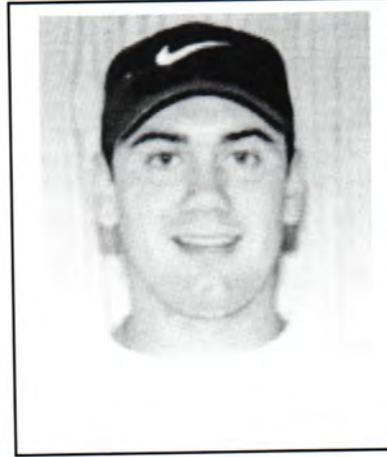
Albert, Joshua Freshm
Sand Springs Engineer



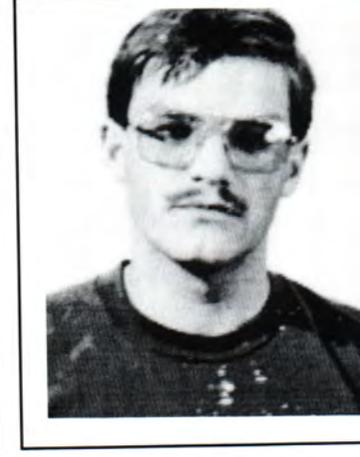
Allen, Amanda Sophomore
Cache Accounting



Allen, Cynthia Sophomore
Grove Business Administration



Allen, Matt Sophomore
Miami Physical Therapy



Anderson, Charles Sophom
Bluejacket Nurs



Anderson, Dawn Sophomore
Afton Computer Science



Anderson, Luke Freshman
Chelsea Ranch Management



Arterbury, Trent Sophomore
Ponca City Computer Science



Ary, Jamie Freshm
Jay Agricul



Samuel Sophomore
Pre-Medicine



Azbill, Todd Freshman
Oologah Computer Science



Bailey, Amanda Sophomore
McAlester Music



Baker, Alicia Sophomore
Miami Surgical Technology



Debbie Freshman
Plastics Technology



Baker, Holly Sophomore
Miami Agriculture Business



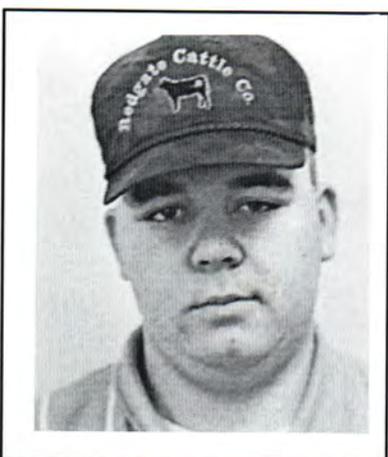
Barnes, Gabe Sophomore
Miami General Studies



Barnett, Lee Ann Freshman
Grove Child Development



Bennett, Tasha Sophomore
Diego, Calif. Physical Ed



Barton, Hank Freshman
Fort Gibson Agriculture



Baumbach, Shane Freshman
Cuba, Mo. Agriculture Business



Bear, Tamara Freshman
Miami Child Development

Be to Bo



Beavers, Steve Freshman
Bartlesville Accounting



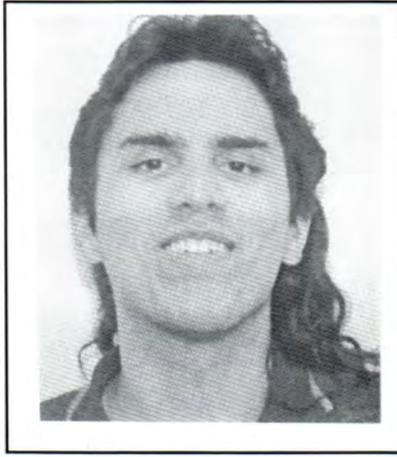
Bench, Sherri Sophomore
Ocheleta Computer Science



Bennett, Carolyn Sophomore
Miami Accounting



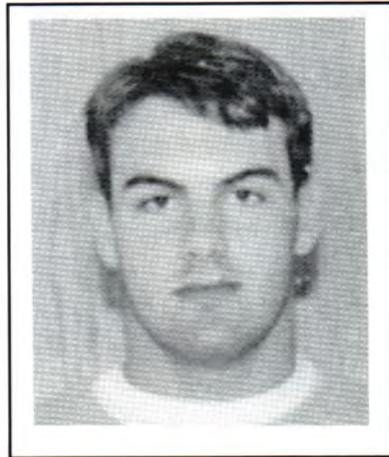
Bennett, Heather Sophomore
Owasso Broadcasti



Billie, Dusty Sophomore
Skiatook American Indian Studies



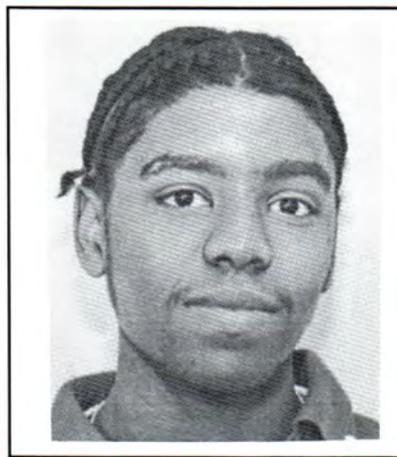
Billips, Fred Sophomore
Miami Mid Management



Binam, Nathan Sophomore
Claremore Physical Ed



Black, Corinther Sophomore
Tulsa Broadcasti



Blades, Calvin Freshman
Tulsa Mid Management



Blazer, Steve Sophomore
Commerce Criminal Justice



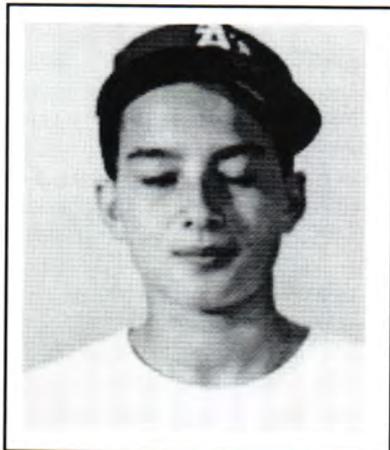
Blevins, Sarah Freshman
Tulsa General Studies



Boston, Andi Freshman
Adel, Iowa Child Developm



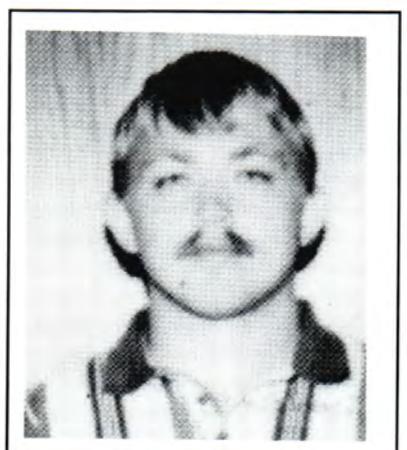
swell, Chantel Sophomore
Commerce Nursing



Bowden, Sunny Sophomore
Miami Nursing



Bowers, Jerod Sophomore
Fairland Drafting



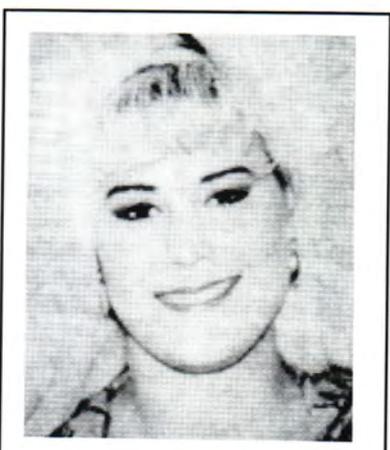
Boyd, Halbert Sophomore
Skiatook Music



Anderson, Kimberly Sophomore
Fayetteville, Ark. Banking



Brazil, Jeff Sophomore
Colcord Physical Ed



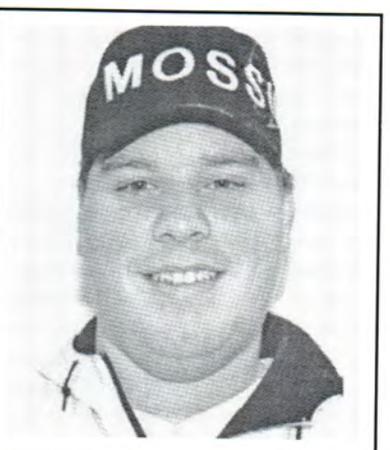
Briley, Christie Sophomore
Vinita Nursing



Brown, Cheryl Sophomore
Fairland Accounting



Downing, Andrea Freshman
Potosi, Mo. Communications



Buoy, Billy Freshman
Grove Journalism



Burdge, Marsha Sophomore
Wyandotte Criminal Justice



Burkham, David Sophomore
Hugo Journalism

Bu to Ca



Burkhart, David Freshman
Shawnee Agriculture



Burns, Heather Sophomore
Tulsa Broadcasting



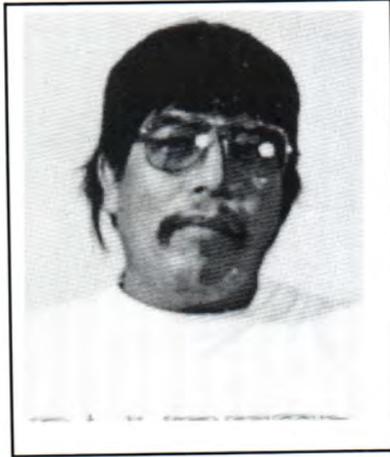
Burns, Justin Freshman
Stockton, Mo. Agriculture



Bethel, April Freshm
Tulsa Child Developm



Braz, Kimberly Sophomore
Miami Nursing



Buzzard, Archie Sophomore
Eucha Physical Ed



Callahan, Lu Ann Freshman
Miami Nursing



Calvillo, Shannon Freshm
Frederick Child Developm



Carder, Kevin Sophomore
Miami Electronics



Case, Billi Jo Sophomore
Quapaw Surgical Technology



Casey, Christie Freshman
Chicago, Ill. History



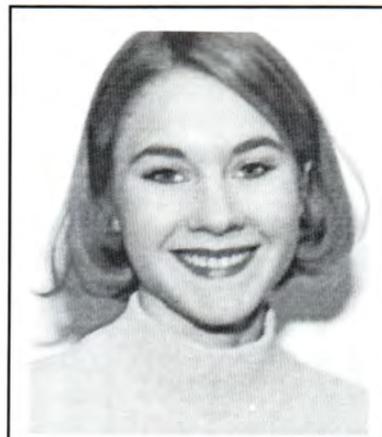
Caskey, Kim Sophom
Miami Communicati



e, Angela Sophomore
Allied Health



Catlett, Angi Sophomore
Afton Business Administration



Clapp, Amy Sophomore
Miami Child Development



Clark, Emily Sophomore
Baxter Springs, Kan. Music



rk, Jeri Sophomore
Quapaw Physical Therapy



Cobb, Shakera Freshman
Tulsa General Studies



Coleman, Larry Freshman
Tulsa General Studies



Colford, Lamont Freshman
Tulsa Physical Therapy



Quapaw, Bryan Sophomore
Quapaw Psychology



Cooper, Sandra Sophomore
Depew Medical Secretary

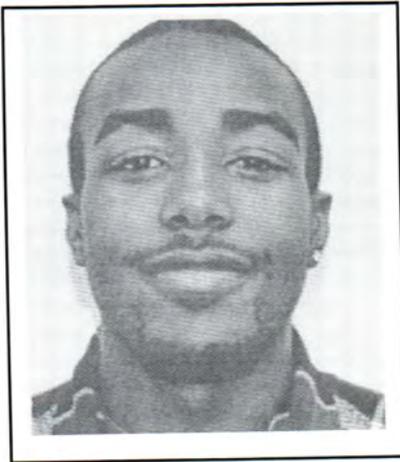


Crabtree, Michael' Freshman
Quapaw Business



Crawford, Nichole Sophomore
Bristow Computer Science

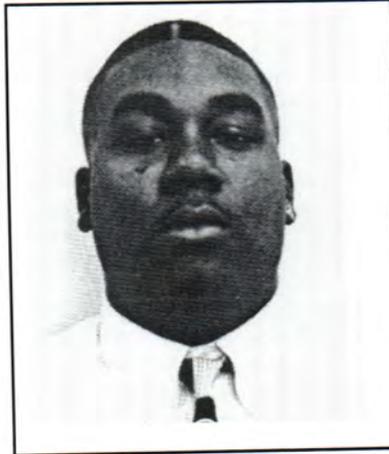
Cr to Di



Crisp, Cory Freshman
Tulsa General Studies



Cunningham, Lycrecia Sophomore
Rose Agriculture



Calvin, Victor Freshman
Little Rock, Ark. General Studies



Davis, Damon Fresh
Tulsa Accounting



Dean, Audrey Sophomore
Broken Arrow Accounting



Dembinski, Jason Sophomore
Miami Computer Science



Denny, Troy Sophomore
Ada Physical Therapy



DeShazer, Jessica Sophor
Cushing Physical



DeShazer, Michelle Sophomore
Commerce Medical Lab



Detherage, Mandy Sophomore
Miami Child Development



Detherage, Mendy Sophomore
Miami Agriculture



Dixon, Bobbie Sopho
Miami Nu



Dreyfuss, Chris
Sophomore
Pre-Engineering



Dotson, Tracy
Freshman
Hindsville, Ark. Agriculture



Duggin, Amanda
Freshman
Tucson, Ariz. Agriculture



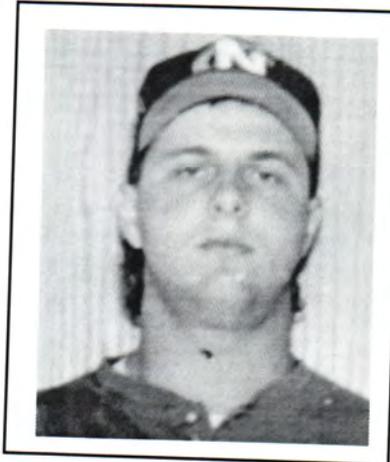
Dreyfuss, Ginie
Sophomore
Elkins, Ark. Accounting



Earp, Ricky
Freshman
Quapaw Agriculture



Dunkel, Heather
Sophomore
Oologah English



Eighmy, Scott
Sophomore
Afton Agriculture



Elzo, Thomas
Sophomore
Claremore Marketing



Eldridge, Ben
Freshman
Miami Engineering



Elliott, Mitzi
Sophomore
Idabel General Studies



Elzo, Tammy
Freshman
Claremore General Studies



Elzo, Tammy
Freshman
Claremore General Studies

El to Fi



Elzo, Julie Freshman
Claremore General Studies



Epperly, Charli Jo Sophomore
Cassville, Mo. Animal Science



Epperson, Candice Sophomore
Miami Management



Evans, Leslie Sopho
Fort Gibson Elementary Edu



Farmer, Steve Sophomore
Coweta Mathematics



Faulkner, Misti Freshman
Luther Agriculture



Felton, Amy Sophomore
Grove Business Administration



Felton, Bill Sopho
Waukomis Engine



Fent, Russell Sophomore
Miami Agriculture



Ferguson, Aaron Sophomore
Edmond Education



Fields, Amber Freshman
Mounds General Studies



Fields, Carolyn Sopho
Miami Legal Ass



Land, Dayna Sophomore
Medical Assistant



Fields, Maya Sophomore
Tulsa Nursing



Fleming, Aimee Freshman
Hugo Pre-Medicine



Forsmann, Joy Sophomore
Grove Nursing



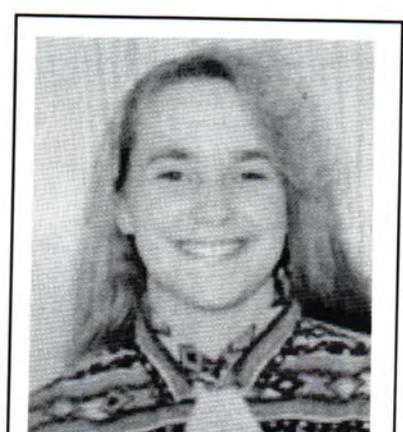
Minks, Jennifer Sophomore
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Frazier, Mary Sophomore
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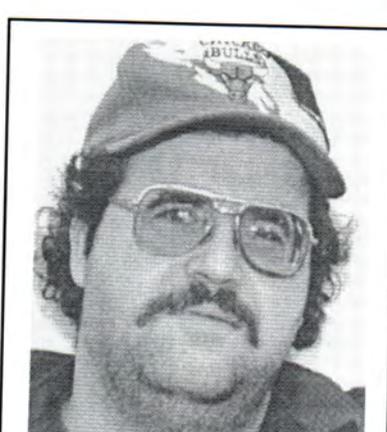
Friedon, Brock Sophomore
Lamar, Mo. Animal Science



Galloway, Carrie Sophomore
Ramona General Studies



Resha Freshman
ena, Kan. Nursing



Gann, Henry Sophomore
Jay Journalism



Garrison, Sherry Sophomore
Jay Business Administration



Gastel, Stephanie Sophomore
Jasper, Mo. Agriculture Business

Ga to Ha



Gatewood, Ryan Sophomore
Miami Forestry



Geraghty, Jennifer Sophomore
Pittsburg, Kan. Physical Therapy



Goldman, Jared Sophomore
Grove Radio/Television



Golson, Kenota Sophor
Guthrie General Stu



Gomez, Karla Sophomore
Commerce General Studies



Gomez, Wendy Sophomore
Commerce Business



Gray, Jackie Sophomore
Siloam Springs, Ark. Physical Ed



Greaves, Jason Fresh
Oklahoma City N



Gutierrez, Banessa Freshman
Okay Pre-Law



Gwartney, Eric Freshman
Pryor Agriculture



Hagebusch, Amy Sophomore
Chelsea Agriculture



Hamilton, Marlo Sophor
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Carpenter, Sherry Freshman
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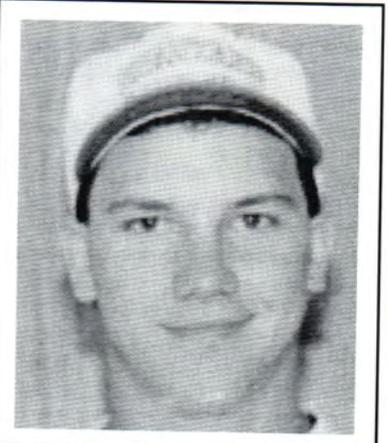
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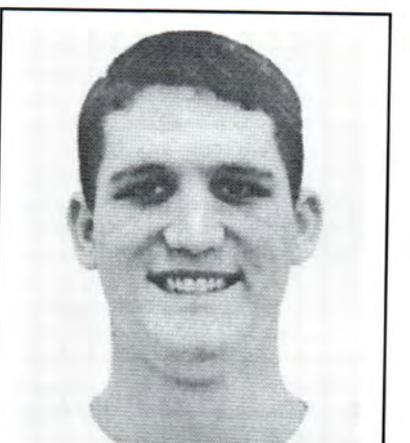
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Havens, Jeremy Sophomore
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Haynes, Paul Sophomore
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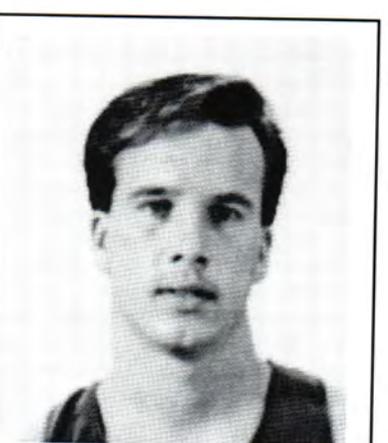
Helling, Chris Freshman
 Inola General Studies



Ansley, Lutisha Freshman
 Art



Hickman, Jeanne Freshman
 Jerico Springs, Mo. Agriculture



Hicks, Todd Sophomore
 Vinita Criminal Justice



Hill, Becky Sophomore
 Miami Forestry

Hi to Hu



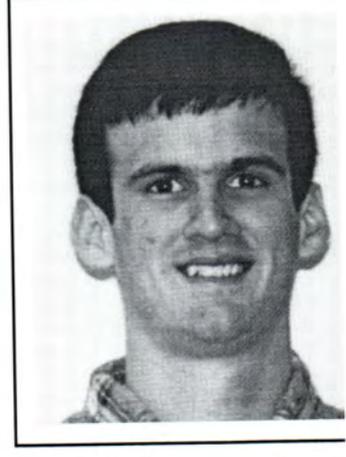
Hinz, Laura Freshman
Tulsa Child Development



Hirsch, Beth Freshman
Thayer, Mo. Animal Science



Hobbs, Jennifer Freshman
Thayer, Mo. Physical Ed



Hodge, Brian Sopho
Miami Business Administr



Hoffman, Zach Freshman
Muskogee Journalism



Holmes, Donjarnetta Freshman
Tulsa Child Development



Holmes, Dejarnette Sophomore
Tulsa Social Work



House, Sarah Fresh
Enid Physic



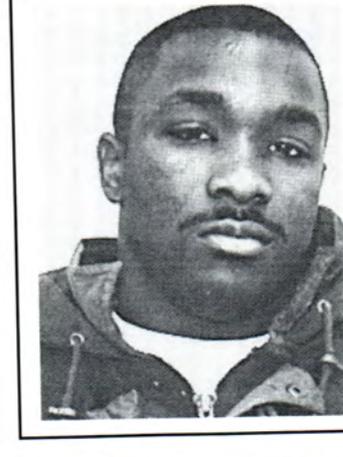
Howard, Zuhairah Sophomore
Fort Smith, Ark. Foreign Language



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Miami Physical Therapy



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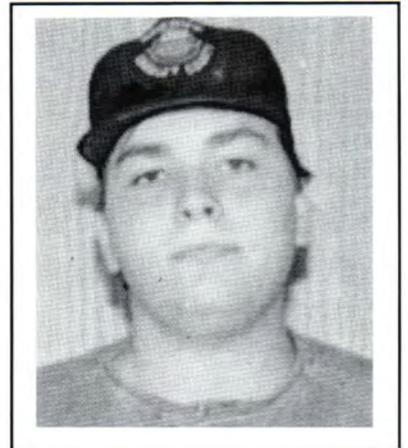
Phrey, Troy Freshman
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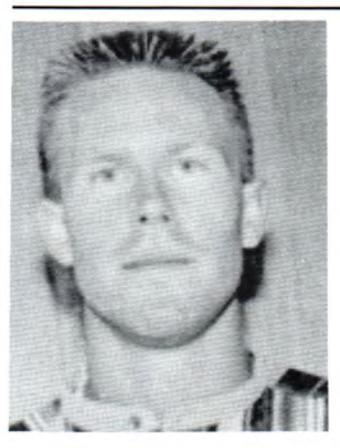
Huse, Candice Freshman
Oologah Pre-Law



Huss, Ben Sophomore
Siloam Springs, Ark. Forestry



Ingle, Jeremy Sophomore
Dover, Okla. Art



Am, Stanton Sophomore
lata Veterinary Medicine



Jacobs, Bobbi Freshman
Medicine Lodge, Kan. Child Development



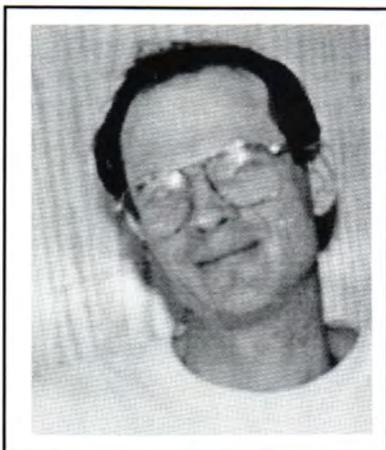
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Poteau Music



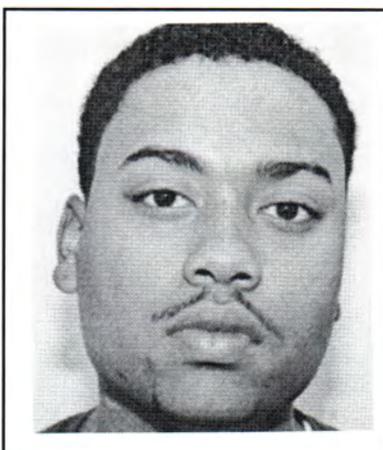
James, Sami Sophomore
Dewey General Studies



Johnson, Gina Sophomore
Shfield, Mo. Agriculture



Johnston, Bruce Sophomore
Vinita Education



Jones, Eric Freshman
Sapulpa Pre-Law



Jones, Michel Sophomore
Fairland Nursing

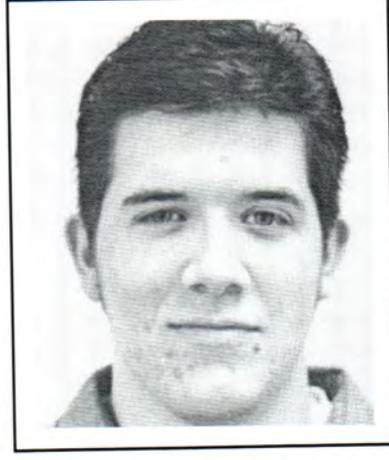
Jo to Li



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Miami Business Administration



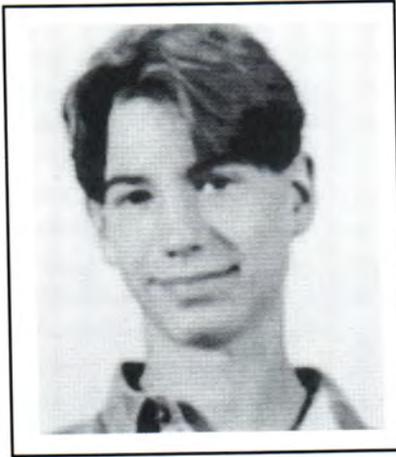
Keen, Christie Freshman
Belton, Mo. Agriculture



Kimball, Damon Freshman
Drummond, Mo. Drafting



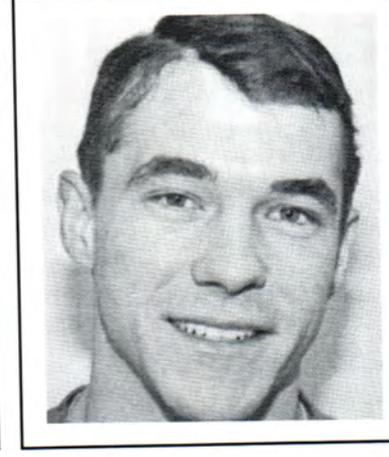
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Claremore Business



Kirk, Bryan Sophomore
Miami Music



Koger, Cheryl Sophomore
Adair Education



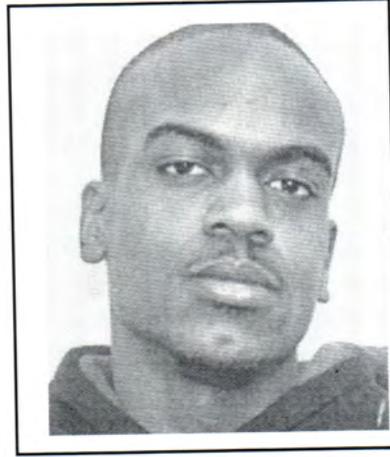
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Locust Grove Business



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Miami Nursing



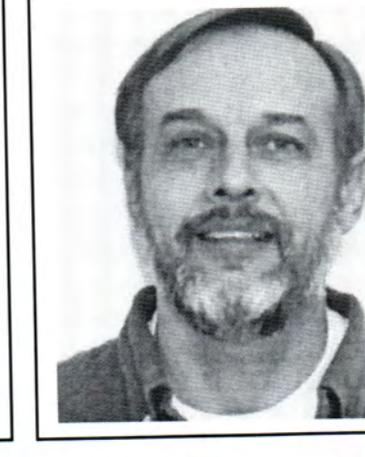
Lee, Damon Freshman
McAlester General Studies



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San Diego, Calif. General Studies

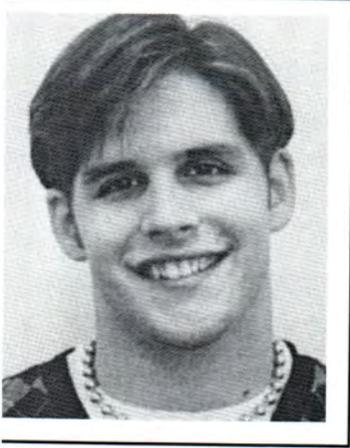


Lightle, Adria Freshman
Webb City, Mo. Music



Lindemeier, Keith Sophomore
Miami History

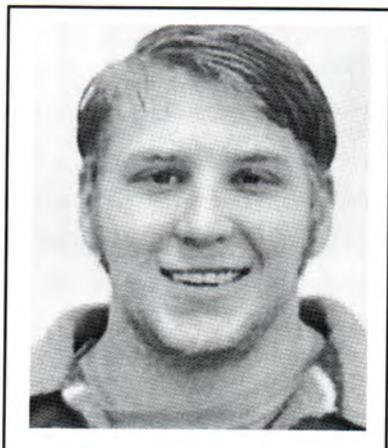
Li to Ma



pe, Greg
Sandotte
Freshman
Nursing



Lovell, Roberta
Quapaw
Sophomore
Medical Assistant



Lowery, Michael
Midwest City
Sophomore
Speech



Lynn, Renee
Virginia, Ill.
Sophomore
Animal Science



Jewell, Steve
Mid Springs
Sophomore
Education



Mahan, Micheal
Bakersfield, Mo.
Freshman
Agriculture



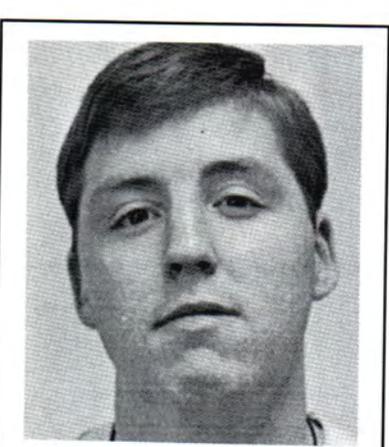
Mahurin, Cindy
Fairland
Freshman
Nursing



Marquis, Shanny
Miami
Sophomore
General Studies



troquin, Dalia
Commerce
Sophomore
General Studies



Masterson, Billy
Broken Arrow
Sophomore
Pre-Medicine



Maute, Bryan
Picher
Sophomore
General Studies

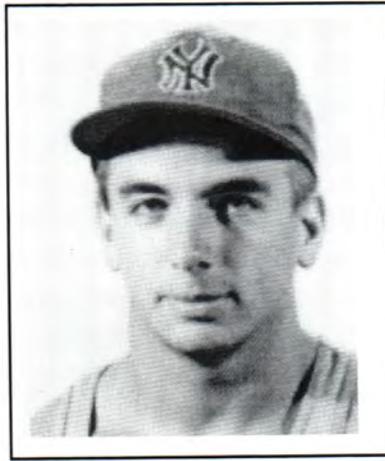


Maxson, Josh
Miami
Freshman
Journalism

Ma to Mi



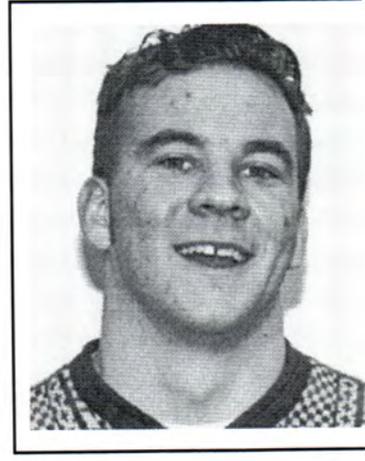
Mayfield, Gary Sophomore
Miami Animal Science



McBrien, Brentlee Sophomore
Miami Physical Therapy



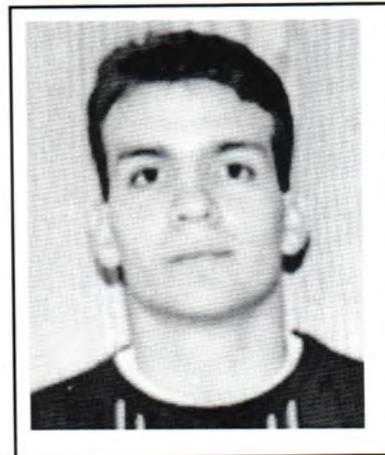
McComb, Brandy Freshman
Vinita Radio/Television



McCoy, Brent Sophomore
Cardin Radio/Television



McDonald, Alene Sophomore
Picher Banking



McKelroy, Nathan Sophomore
Waurika Physical Ed



McKenzie, Chrishelle Sophomore
Chickasha English



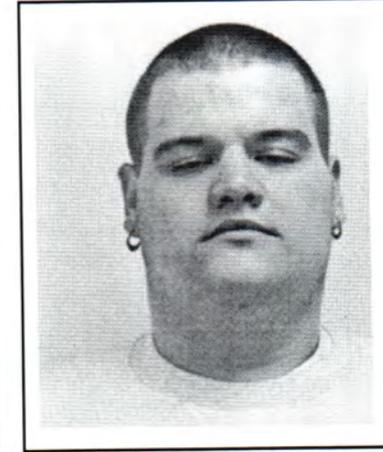
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Jay Mu



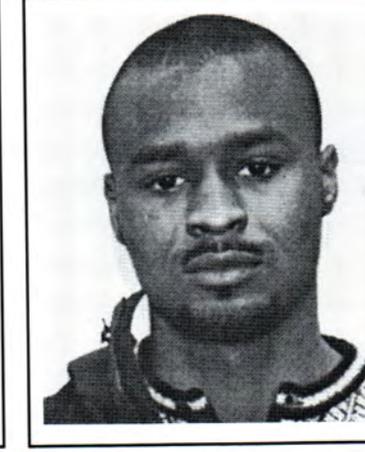
Means, Tracy Freshman
Aurora, Mo. Accounting



Melton, Deanna Sophomore
Lamar, Mo. Agriculture



Millison, Gare' Freshman
Tulsa Computer Science



Mills, Sawn Freshman
Enid General Stud



Skogee, Gary Freshman
Radio/Television



Moates, Tenita Sophomore
Miami Forestry



Moddrell, Julie Sophomore
Edmond Pre-Medicine



Montgomery, Kristie Sophomore
Joplin, Mo. Child Development



Moore, Amber Freshman
Miami Nursing



Moore, Kandice Freshman
Okmulgee Child Development



Moore, Mary Lou Sophomore
Miami Psychology



Moreland, Misty Freshman
Miami Computer Science



Morgan, Ann Freshman
Commerce Child Development



Morgan, Natalie Sophomore
Columbus, Kan. Nursing



Morgan, Tami Sophomore
Miami Speech



Mundy, Chris Freshman
Norman General Studies

Mo to Os



Morgan, Stephanie Sophomore
Vinita Nursing



Nance, Allison Sophomore
Sapulpa Journalism



Nangel, Jennifer Sophomore
Miami Surgical Technology



Niemeier, Chrishawna Freshman
Wyandotte Child Development



Nicholson, Jennifer Sophomore
Kremlin, Okla. Equine Science



Nicholson, Natalie Sophomore
Kremlin, Okla. Agriculture



Nimmo, Jason Freshman
Shell Knob, Mo. Metal Fabrication



Nixon, Andrea Freshman
Miami General Studies



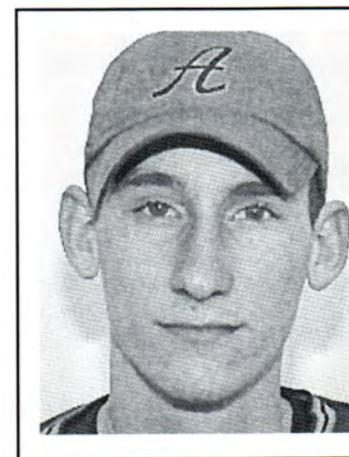
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O'Neal, James Freshman
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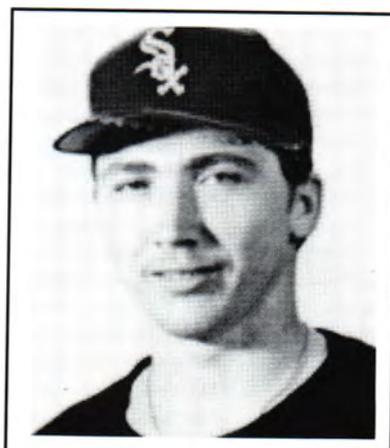
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Picher Computer Science



Phillips, Matt Sophomore
Centerville, Iowa Agriculture



nce, Latasha Freshman
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Pierson, Sara Freshman
Miami Wellness



Pitt, Farrah Freshman
Sawyer, Okla. Child Development



Porter, John Sophomore
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Porter, Shonta Sophomore
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Prewitt, Michael Freshman
Quapaw Pre-Law



Rantz, Susan Sophom
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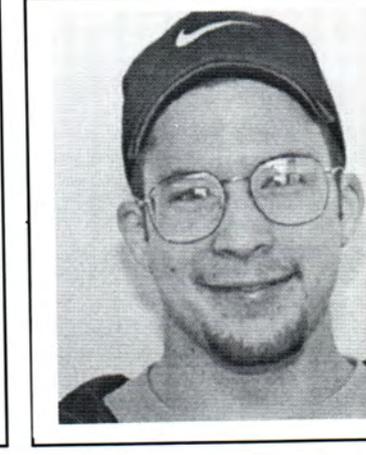
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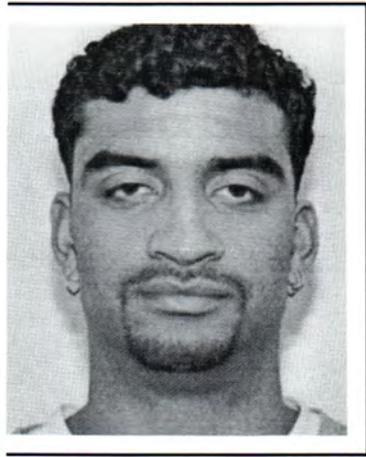
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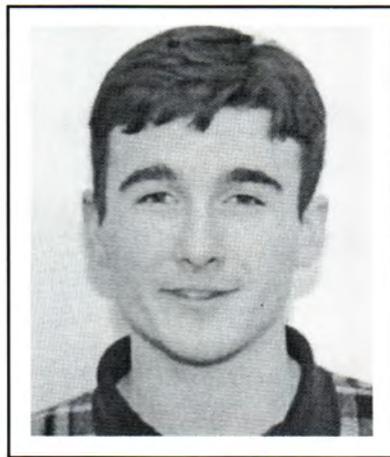
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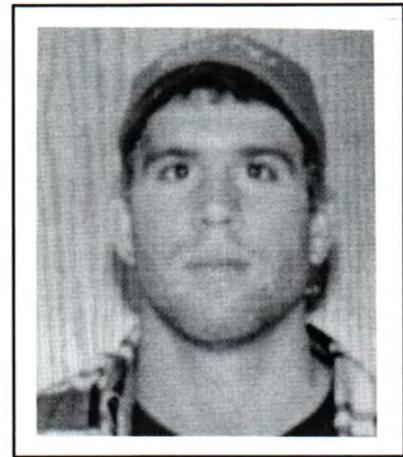
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Afton Medical Lab



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Fairland Education



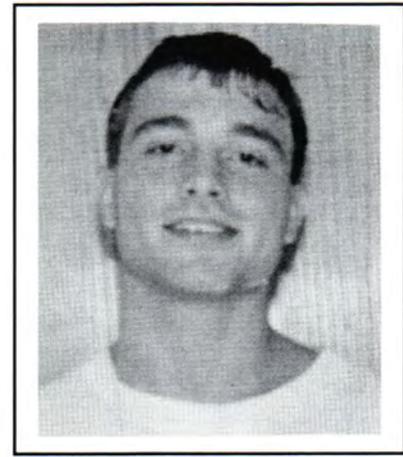
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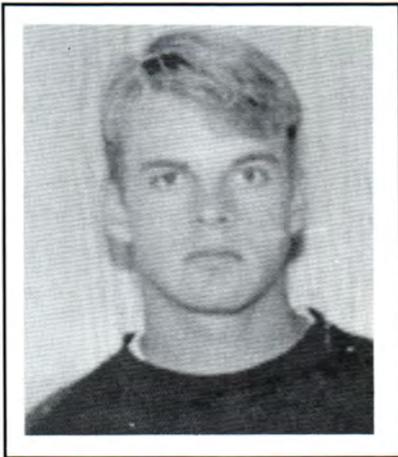


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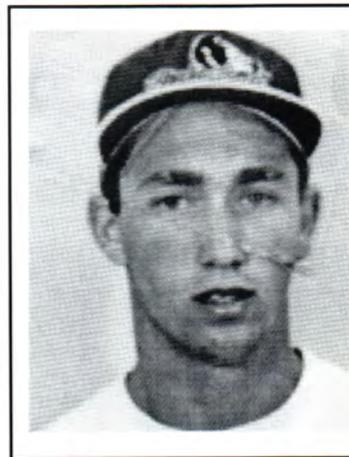
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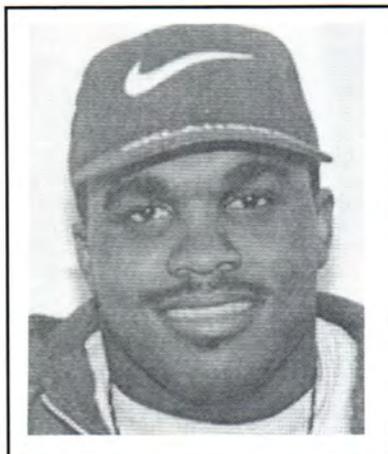
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Sidwell, Matt Freshman
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Skinner, Reggie Sophomore
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Yale Animal Science



Smiles, Tanesa Freshman
Sapulpa Criminal Justice



Smith, Brenda Sophomore
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Beck, Charles Sophomore
Vinita Nursing



Linquist, Shelly Sophomore
Ponca City Computer Science



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Baxter Springs, Kan. General Studies



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Houston, Texas
Freshman
General Studies



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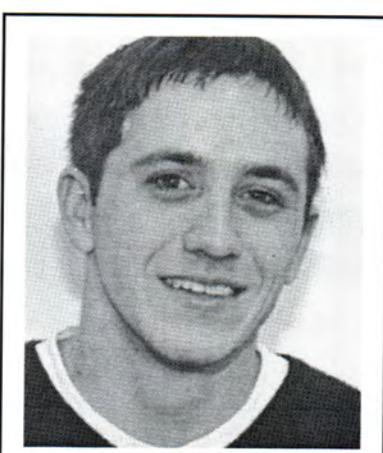
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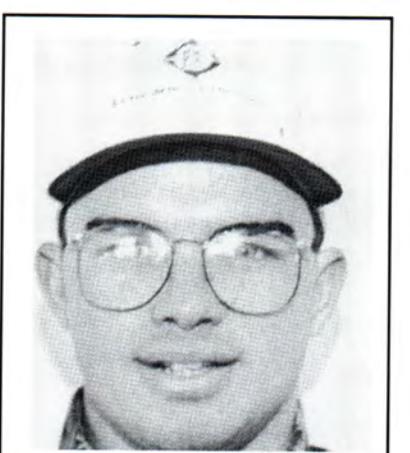
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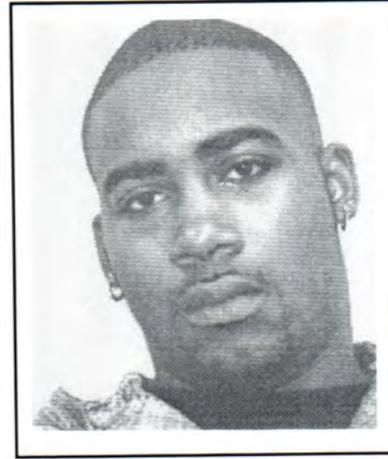
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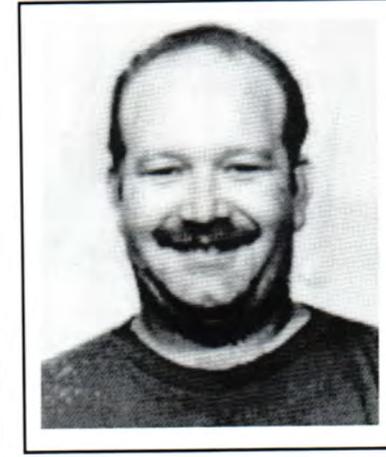
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Hall, Rory Sophomore
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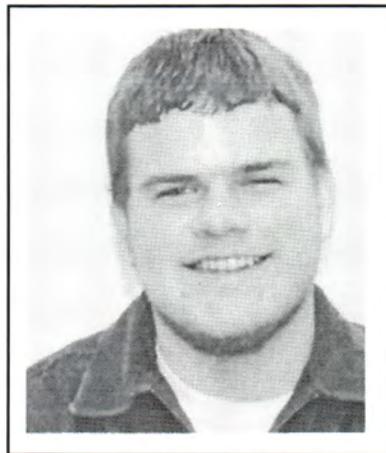
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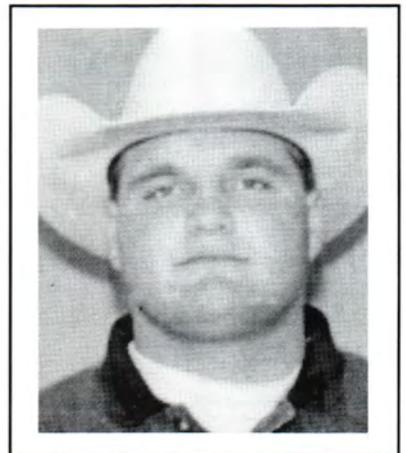
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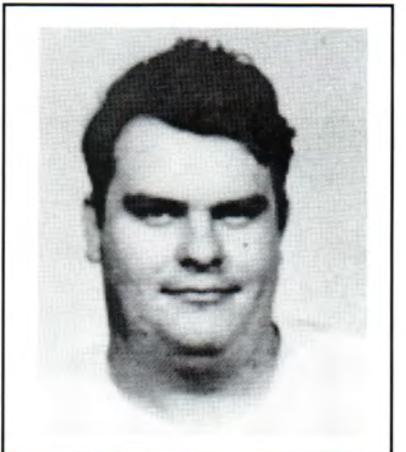
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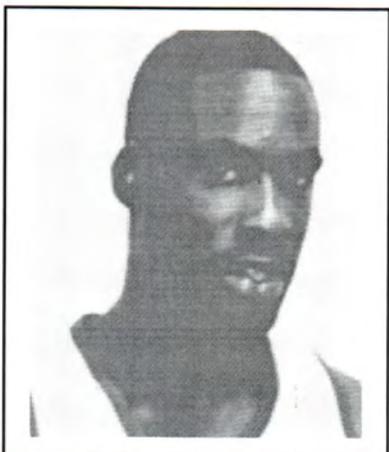
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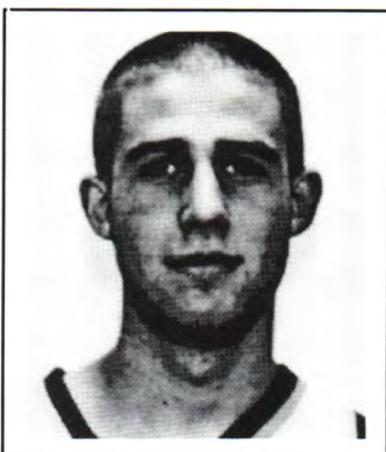
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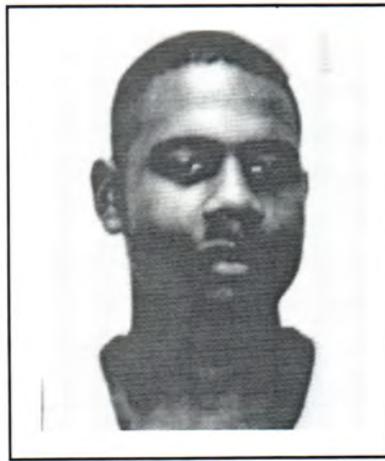
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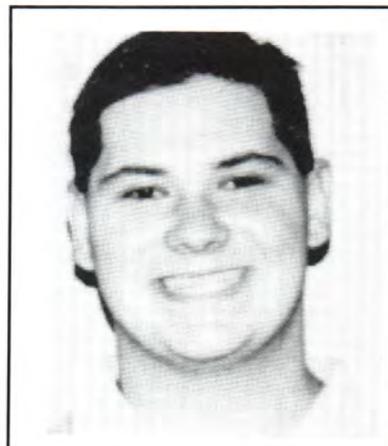
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MINI-MAG



Get in touch

Democratic President Bill Clinton addresses a press conference following his election in November, 1996 to his second four-year term as the nation's leader. President Clinton defeated Republican candidate Bob Dole to earn his second term.



Differences still remain

Israeli's and Palestinian's meet

Marathon negotiations took place in early October 1996 between Israeli and Palestinian leaders to resolve bitter differences that exploded in Mideast violence and jeopardized the fragile peace process.

Even though the negotiations failed to bring about a lasting

peace, both sides agreed to continue open dialogue.

Elsewhere around the world, after 100 years of British rule the British colony of Hong Kong became property of the Chinese mainland on July 1, 1997. The island became a Special Administrative Region of the

People's Republic of China.

Boris Yeltsin was re-elected President of Russia and pledged to continue the reforms he began in 1991. However, the 65-year-old leader began to show signs of severe heart problems.

Yeltsin had suffered at least two heart attacks in two years.



United States President Bill Clinton leads, from left; Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Jordan's King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to a meeting in the East Room of the White House.



Peace in the Middle East remained unstable entering 1997 as more than 100 people were killed during demonstrations by Palestinian's in Jerusalem's Old City after Israel opened a tunnel.



Boris Yeltsin was re-elected as president of Russia despite being slowed by at least two heart attacks during the past two years. Yeltsin was being considered for open-heart surgery.



People hurried around trying to make purchases and take care of their business before the British colony of Hong Kong was turned over to mainland China in July to mark 100 years of British rule.

Clinton wins second term

Democrats maintain hold on presidency

Amid charges of illegal political contributions, sexual harassment, and other partisan allegations, William Clinton won re-election to a second term as President of the United States.

President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore represented the Democratic Party and defeated the

Republican challenge by the team of former Majority Leader Bob Dole and Senator Jack Kemp.

H. Ross Perot made another attempt to gain credibility for the Reform Party by running for the presidency, but the 66-year-old multi-millionaire fell even shorter in the number of votes than he did dur-

ing the 1994 campaign.

President Clinton took the presidential oath on Capitol Hill on Monday, Jan. 20, 1997 to lead the United States into the 21st Century.

The President promised government that "does more with less" during his second term in office.



Chelsea Clinton (right) watches her father take the presidential oath on Capitol Hill to start his second term. President Clinton solemnly swore to provide a government that does more with less.



Giving a wave and smiles to the crowd, President Bill Clinton, and his daughter, Chelsea, display emotion following the oath of office the President took to begin his second four-year term.



Former House Majority Leader Bob Dole (left) raises the hand of his running mate Senator Jack Kemp, after accepting the Presidential nomination during the Republican National Convention.



ice President Al Gore (right) waves to the crowd while President Clinton prepares to address the crowd during the Democratic National Convention held in Chicago, Ill.

Bombings rock United States

Officials struggle to find answers

TWA Flight 800 took off from JFK International Airport in New York on July 17, 1996 in what was supposed to be a routine flight.

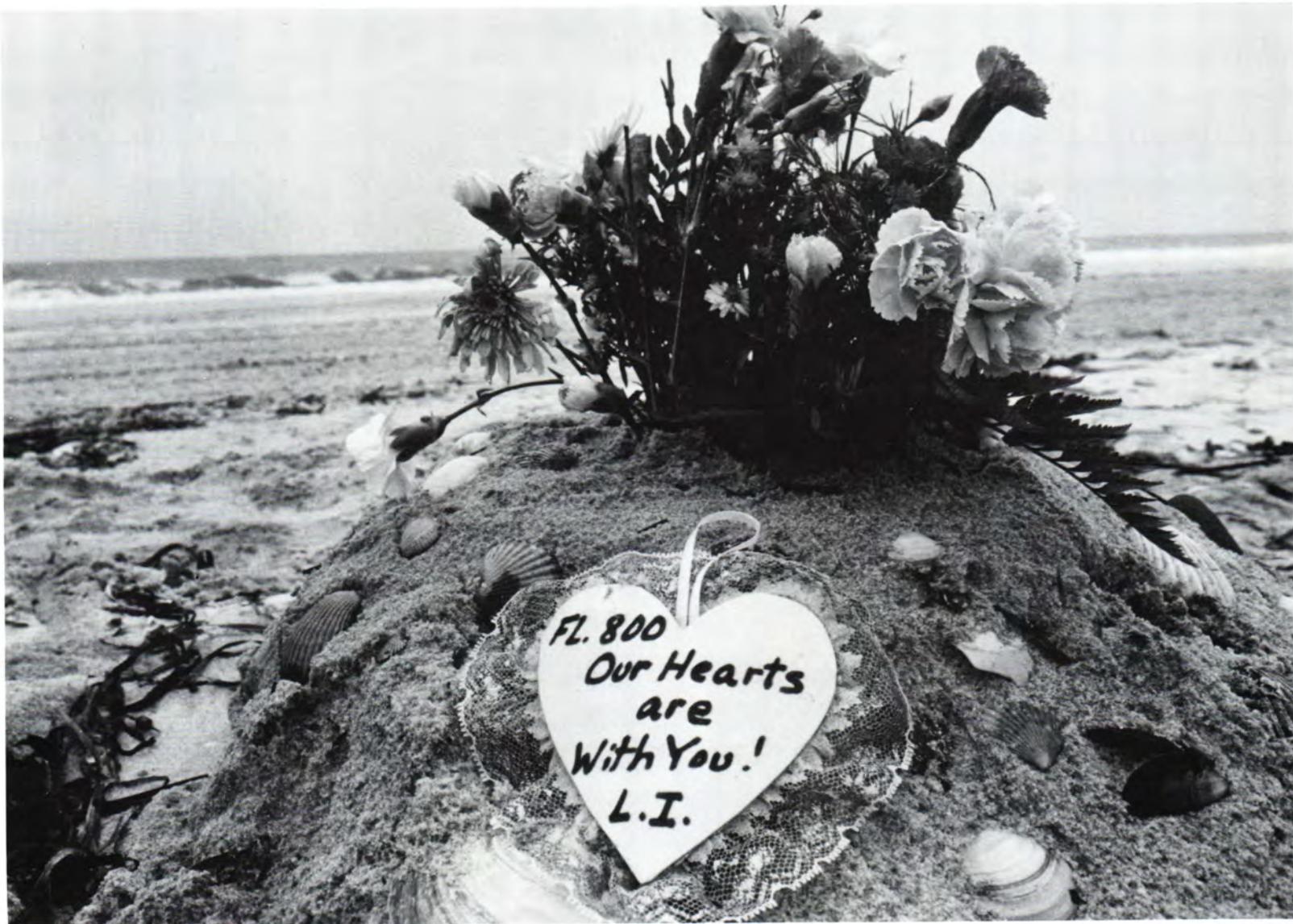
But the plane never reached its Paris destination. Less than five minutes into the flight, the plane exploded and crashed into the ocean in hundreds of pieces.

The crash killed all 230 people on board and after more than 11 months of examination, authorities could not provide a definite answer for the explosion.

Another explosion, the 1995 bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City, resulted in a guilty verdict for Tim McVay during a trial

in Denver, Colo. McVay, and James Nichols were both charged in the bombing which killed 165 people.

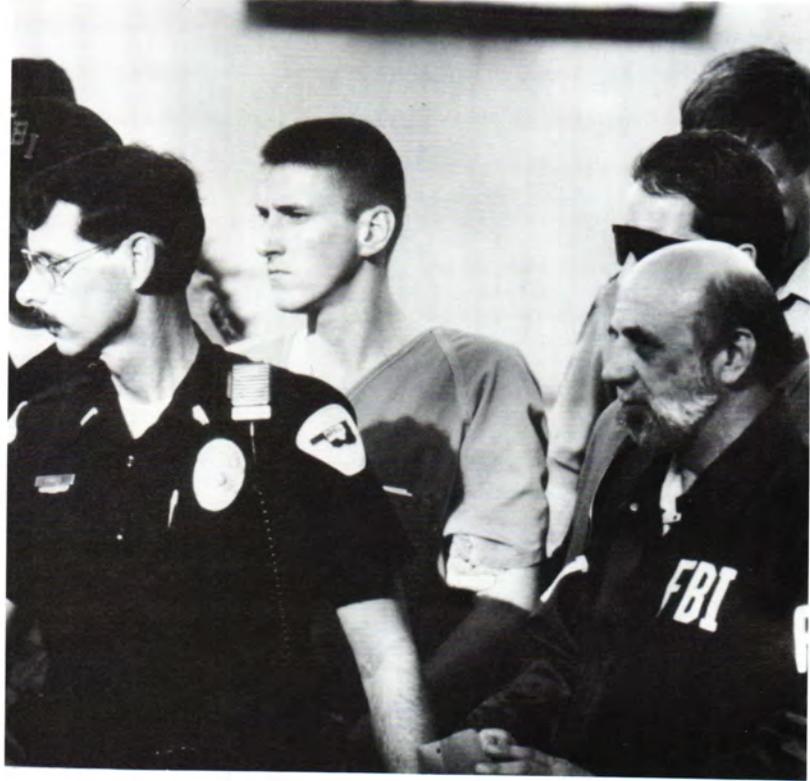
People attending the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta were stunned by a bomb placed in Olympic Park. Authorities had no major suspects in the bombing which killed one woman.



One of several makeshift memorials were scattered along the coast of Fire Island for the victims of TWA Flight 800 which crashed into the ocean just minutes after taking off from JFK International Airport.



Tourists scatter following the explosion of a black-powdered pipe bomb in the crowded Centennial Olympic Park at the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta. More than 100 people were injured.



Timothy McVay is led away from the courthouse in Perry just hours after his arrest in the bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City which killed 165 people and injured hundreds.



Fishing trawler moves in on severed pieces of TWA Flight 800 which mysteriously exploded just minutes after taking off from JFK International Airport in New York City, killing all 230 people on board.

Weather wreaks havoc

Hurricanes and fires plague country

After killing 16 people in the Caribbean in mid-September 1996, Hurricane Hortense lost some strength and clipped the northeastern corner of the United States.

The storm brought nearly 18 inches of rain to Puerto Rico while destroying at least \$128 million in crops.

While heavy rains accompanied the hurricane, people on the west coast battled fires.

Wild fires burned out of control in California during October and covered thousands and thousands of acres. Fanned by Santa Ana winds, the fires destroyed more than six million acres.

Shuttle astronaut Shannon Lucid set the women's record for most consecutive days in orbit with 188 days aboard the Russian space station Mir.

Another record-setting feat on earth was the steady climb of the US Stock Market which topped the 7,000 mark in May.



Following more than 18 inches of rain dumped by Hurricane Hortense, rescuers work to save the child of one-year-old Cassandra Gomez in Puerto Rico. Miguel Rodriguez and Jose de Leon rescue the baby.



Struggling to extinguish one of several hundred wildfires, a worker rakes debris to try and kill the fire. More than six million acres were burned in California during 1996 which was the most since 1952.



Traders on the United States Stock Exchange react to the steady climb of market figures. The Stock Market improved steadily throughout 1996 and reached the 7,000 plateau in May 1997.



Astronaut Shannon Lucid holds a press conference aboard the Russian space station Mir during her record-setting 188-day stay in space. Lucid walked away from the shuttle on her return.

Several champions crowned

New leaders emerge on national scene

Two teams that had built dynasties in their respective sports in previous decades returned to their championship form at the professional level.

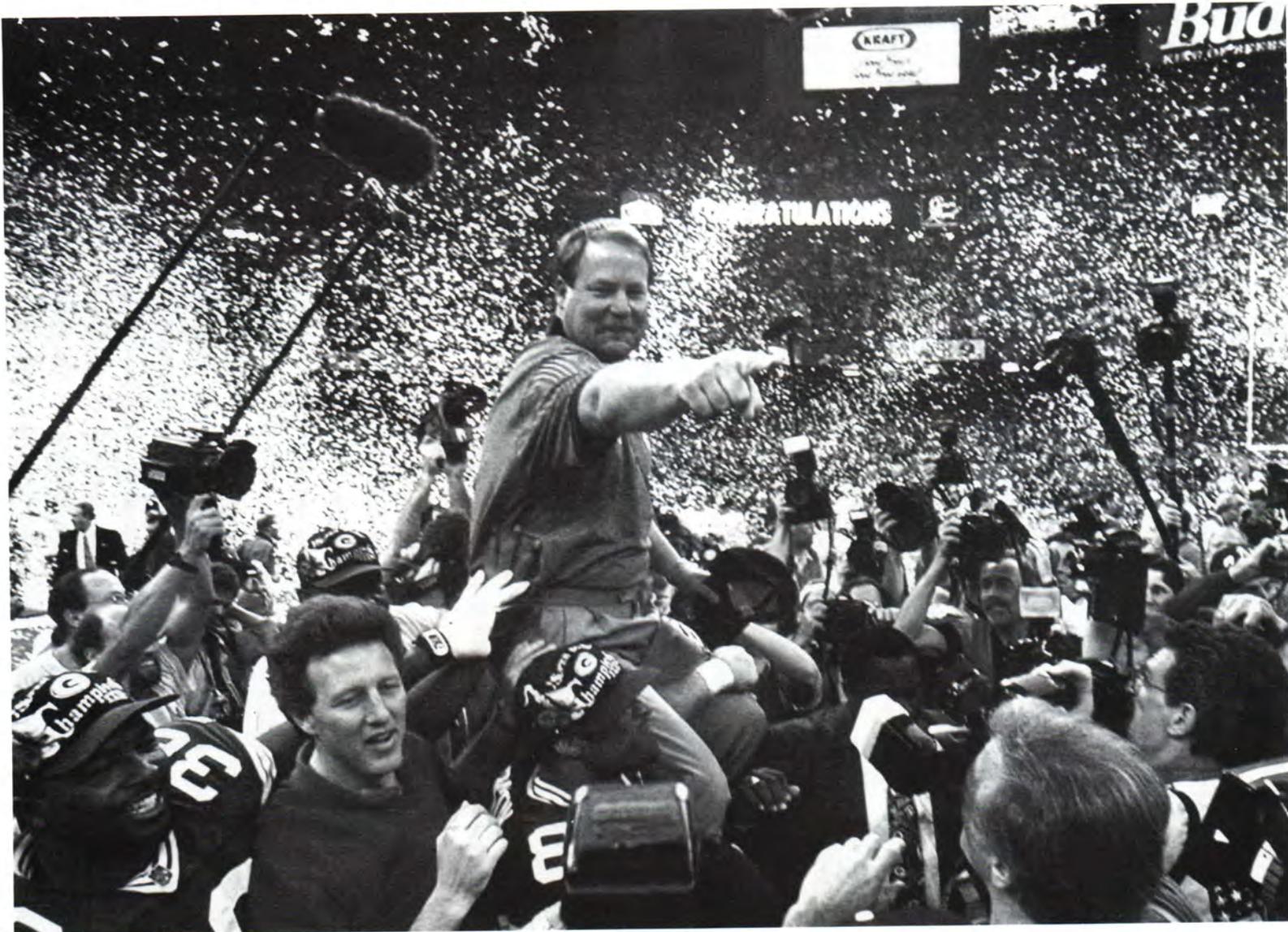
The Green Bay Packers ushered in 1997 with a 35-21 victory over the New England Patriots to win Super Bowl XXXI on Sunday,

Jan. 26. Coach Mike Holmgren's Packers gained their first Super Bowl title since the late 60's.

While the Packers returned to their championship form, the New York Yankees edged past the defending champion Atlanta Braves to win the World Series for the first time since 1978.

Coach Joe Torre's Bronx Bombers beat the Braves 3-2 in Game 6 to earn their 23rd overall World Series crown.

With the Chicago Bulls winning the NBA Championship, perhaps no athlete had more of an impact on professional sports than the emergence of golfer Tiger Woods.



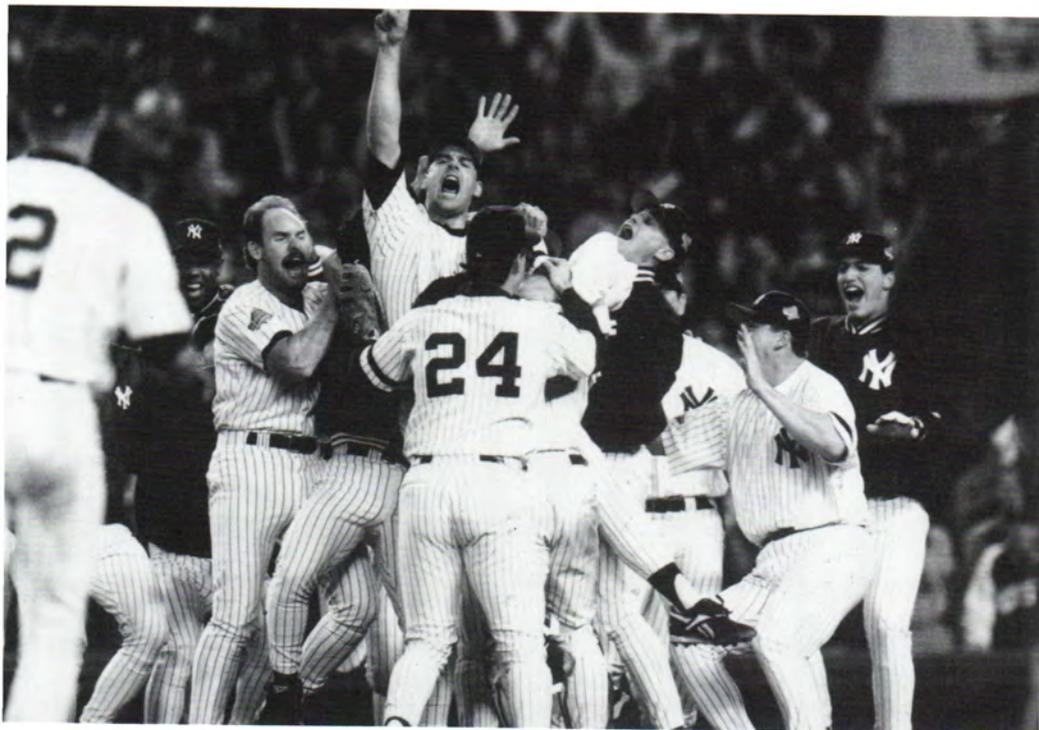
Green Bay Packers head coach Mike Holmgren celebrates with teammates following a 35-21 victory by the Packers over the New England Patriots in Super Bowl XXXI.



Late in the third quarter, Desmond Howard takes off for a record-setting 99-yard kick off return for a touchdown as the Green Bay Packers defeated New England 35-21 in Super Bowl XXXI.



Displaying all the physical and mental tools to become a great golfer, Tiger Woods won the Masters in only his first year on the PGA circuit and became a millionaire.



Members of the New York Yankees storm the mound after the Bronx Bombers defeated defending champion Atlanta, 3-2, in Game 6 of the 1996 World Series in the "House That Ruth Built".

Some champions tarnished

Former Heisman winner punished

Following more than 18 months in the courtroom in what some people dubbed "The Trial of the Century", former Heisman Trophy winner O.J. Simpson was acquitted of murdering his wife, Nicole Brown and her friend Ronald Goldman.

Even though Simpson

escaped punishment in a criminal trial, he was found guilty of the wrongful deaths of both Brown and Goldman and ordered to pay more than \$10 million in settlement.

Highlight of the American participation in the 1996 Summer Olympics was the double gold medal win by Michael Johnson in

the 200 and 400 meter races.

Another hit during the Olympics was the performance of the seven members of the U.S. women's gymnastics team. They won the most unlikely of gold medals because of the courageous vault by Kerri Strug on a bad ankle.



American sprinter Michael Johnson celebrates after crossing the finish line to win the 400 meter run in the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. Johnson set world records in both events.



Cradled in the arms of her coach Bela Karolyi, tiny Kerri Strug waves to the crowd as the seven members of the women's gymnastics team receive a gold medal during the 1996 Summer Olympics.



Former Heisman Trophy winner O.J. Simpson listens intently as he hears a not guilty verdict in his criminal murder trial. Simpson was found responsible in civil court and required to pay \$10 million.



opping out of the realm of the
ional Basketball Association,
nis Rodman hams it up with the
of *Third Rock From The Sun*
guest appearance on the pop-
television series.

Music world expands

Artists span several different areas

Providing a large variety of musical entertainment, the world was treated to sounds ranging from Country to "The Edge" during 1996 and the first half of 1997.

Groups like **The Smashing Pumpkins** captured the award for Best Video of the Year at the MTV Video Music Awards in New York

with the release of "Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness".

Presenting listeners with a soft jazz accoutrement, **Tracy Chapman** returned to the charts with her album entitled "New Beginning" which was simple and highly orchestrated.

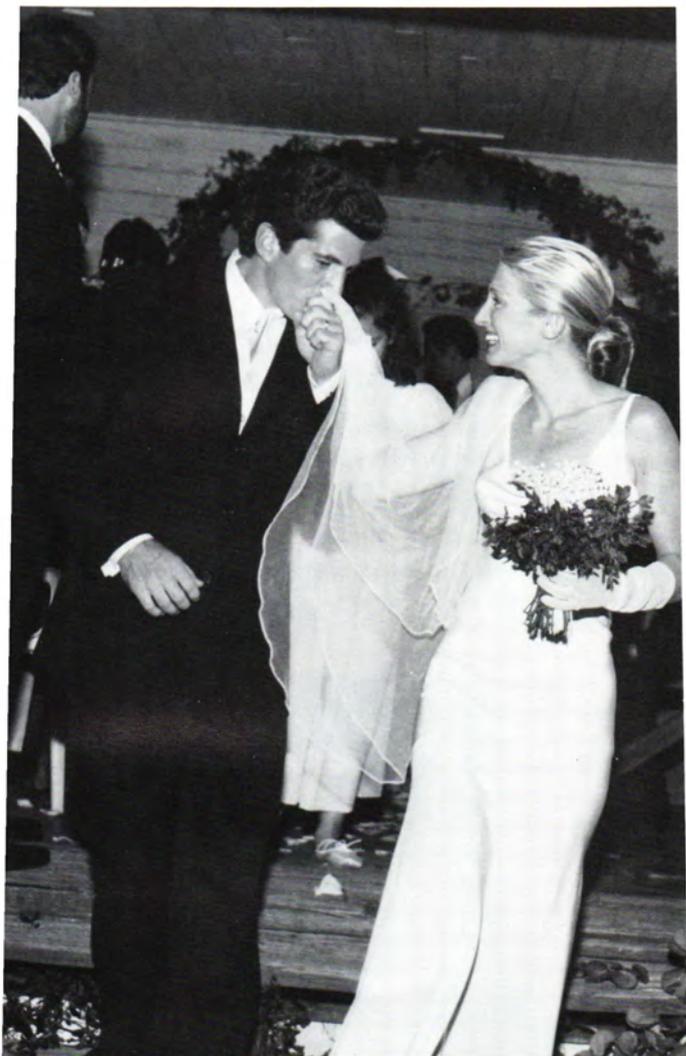
Mariah Carey also made a

major impact on the music chart during 1996 with her album "Daydream" which soared to the number one position on the charts.

The entertainment business was rocked as "the world's most eligible bachelor" John F. Kennedy, Jr. wed Carolyn Bessette in Georgia.



The Smashing Pumpkins, from Billy Corgan, D'Arcy, and James Iha, celebrate backstage after receiving the award for Best Video of the Year at the MTV Music Video Awards ceremony in New York.



Breaking millions of hearts, John F. Kennedy, Jr., son of the late President and publisher of **George** magazine, leaves the church with his new bride Carolyn Bessette following their wedding in Georgia.



Mariah Carey was only a teenager when Columbia Record Company heard her first demo tape. After that album reached number two on the charts, Carey produced a number one hit with "Daydream".



Tracy Chapman made an appearance on the charts during 1996 with her album "New Beginning". The album featured a mixture of folk and jazz accoutrement with simple instrumentation.

Artists display appeal

Individuals reflect certain styles

Once described as a well-meaning four-piece band from South Carolina, **Hootie and the Blowfish** took the music world by storm as their first album sold 13 million copies.

Darius Rucker and the group performed during the MTV Video Music Awards at New York's

Radio City Music Hall. Rucker and the group presented "Fairweather Johnson" during the show.

Another band that made a major impact during 1996 was **The Dave Miller Band** which was a quintet that became one of the biggest draws on the concert circuit.

Hyped as the most popular

British band since the Beatles, **Oasis** became a million-selling rock band that released a third album.

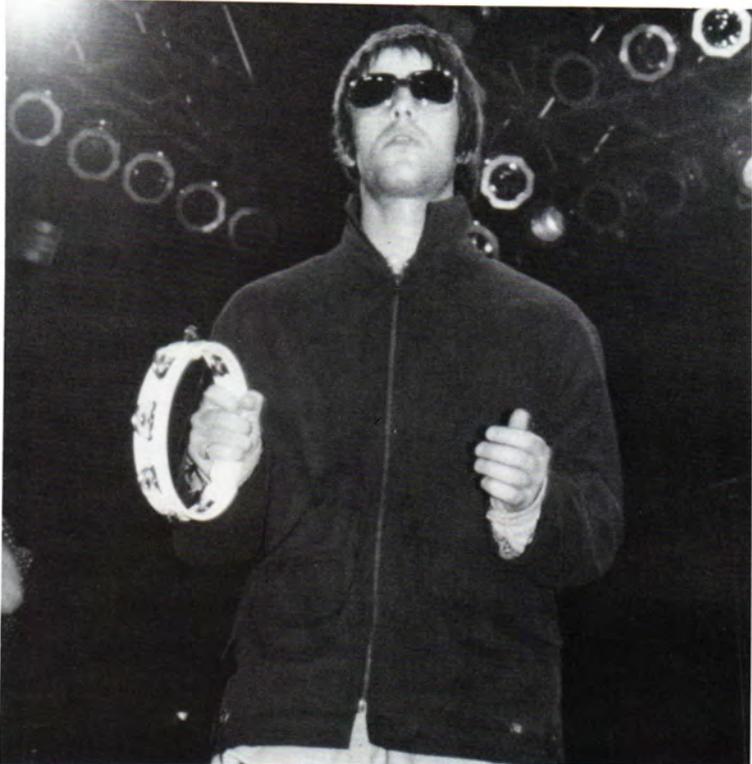
Alanis Morissette became an overnight sensation with the release of her debut album "Jagged Little Pill" which attracted considerable attention because of the hit single "You Oughta Know".



Darius Rucker of the group Hootie and the Blowfish, practices in front of the giant screen during an onstage rehearsal for the annual MTV Video Music Awards that will take place in New York's Radio City Music



Because of her ability to deliver the deeply personal lyrics with a dramatic voice and a dynamic rhythm, Alanis Morissette displayed talent that seemed to have no limit with the album "Jagged Little Pill".



Although the group abruptly cancelled their tour of the United States, the British band Oasis was being touted as the next Beatles. Their first two albums sold 20 million copies.

migrating to America in 1994 in South Africa, Dave Matthews the quintet of The Dave Miller and which brought funk into the mainstream with the use of the violin and the sax.

Blues to Country

Music to sooth the savage beasts

One of the mainstays during the past 25 years in the Country industry has been the music of **George Strait**.

With more than 20 albums during his career, Strait has become the definition of country music. During 1996 Strait soared in the charts with his hit "Blue Clear

Sky" and has a total sales of more than 30 million albums.

Another sensation to take the Country charts by storm during 1996 was Canadian singer **Shania Twain** with her hit "The Woman in Me". The song went platinum and stayed on the Billboard Top 200 for more than a year.

Twain won the new count artist of the year award at the American Music Awards show.

While these two artists were having an impact on Country **Jewel** was capturing the new artist in the pop/rock category of the American Music Awards at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles.



Displaying her award for the favorite new artist in the pop/rock category of the American Music Awards, Jewel. The artist won the award during ceremonies held in January 1997 at the Shrine Auditorium.



Performing her hit single "The Woman in Me" during the American Music Awards was Shania Twain. She was selected new country artist of the year for the hit which stayed atop the charts for a year.



George Strait remained a mainstay in the country music profession during the past 25 years. Strait has sold more than 30 million albums during his career and produced the hit "Blue Clear Sky".



Ruff Ryders hit the charts with their best-selling album "The Score" with a style and spirit that went a long way to dispel the stereotypical approach to making modern urban R&B.



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Get it

Members of the cast of *Smoke Free Little Pigs* rehearse a scene from the children's production which delighted more than 1,000 area grade school children just before Christmas and was one of the last events of the 1996 fall semester.

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The husband, Scott Cloke of Meeker, kills the gambler, Jeremy Mullen of Cleveland, as the angry men played by Russell Hayden of Mannford and Shane Shoaf of Yukon, carry him away in front of Katy, played by Amanda Owens of Decatur, Ark. and the dead man's wife played by Alene McDonald of Miami in a scene from one of the one-act plays presented by **Theatre NEO**.

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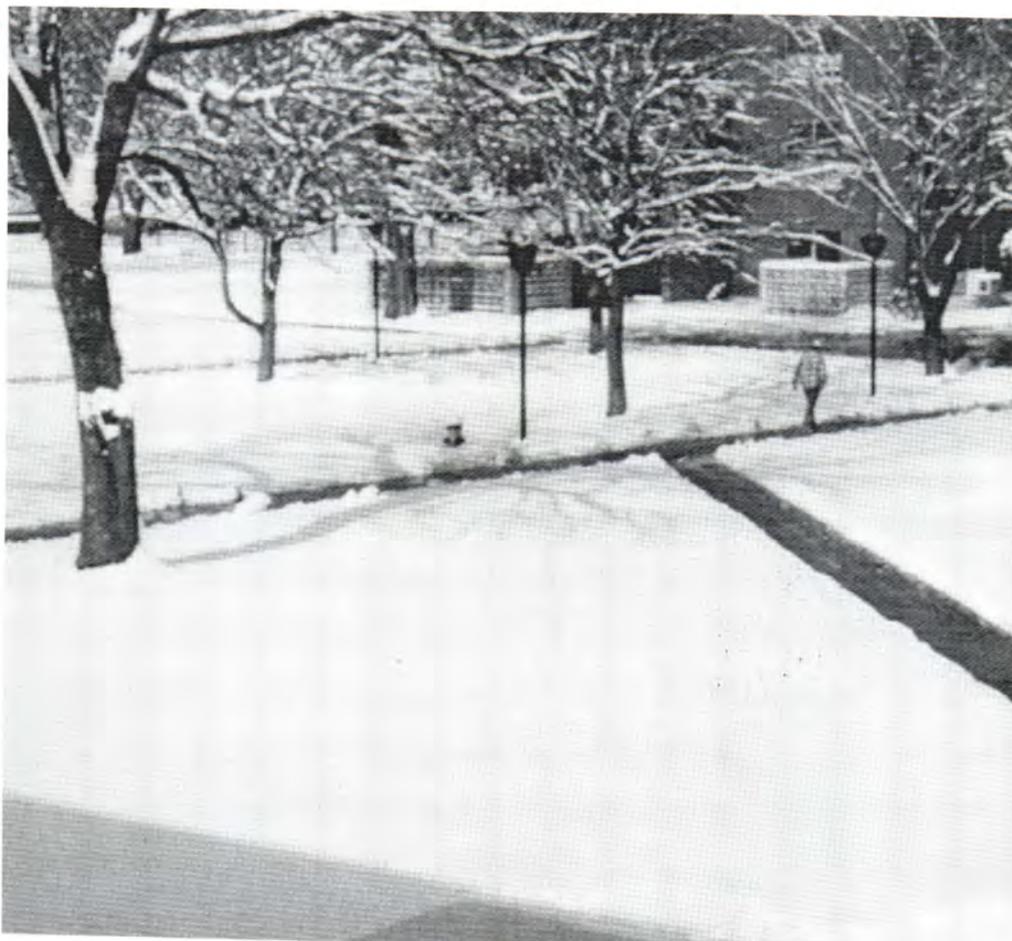
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Gone...But Not Forgotten In Memorium

The following gentlemen each passed away during the 1996-97 school year. And although only Don Caskey was an active member of the college faculty, each one of these men were influential in the development and history of this college



Don Caskey

Don served as chairman of the Science/Engineering division and a biology instructor. He joined the NEO faculty in 1965.



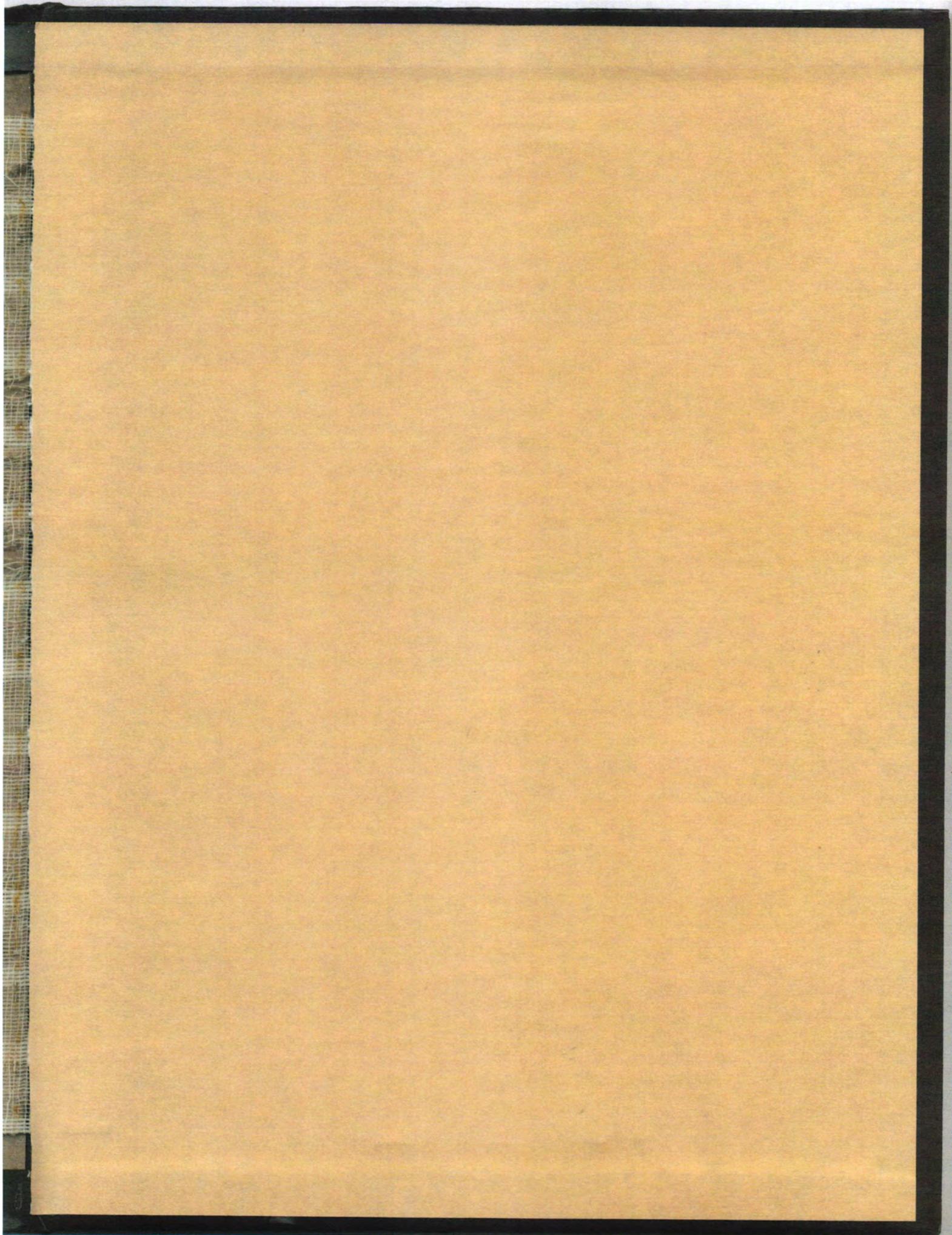
Homa Thomas

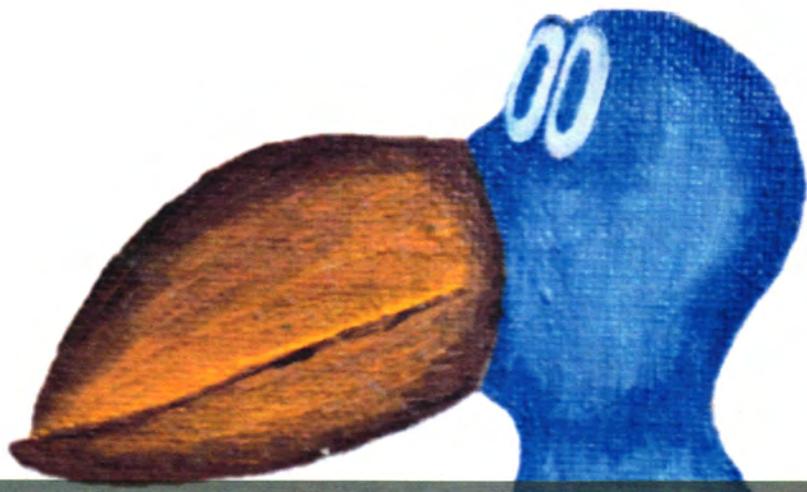
Homa, who had a twin brother named Okla, served as chairman of the business division until retiring in 1979. He also coached baseball and was the first president of the National Junior College Athletic Association. He joined the faculty in 1946.



Dr. Cecil Ferree

Dr. Ferree served as academic dean of the college until retiring in 1971. He joined the NEO faculty as a biology instructor in 1952.





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