



**NORTHERN**  
Oklahoma College  
TONKAWA | ENID | STILLWATER

March 2024,  
Edition 9



## WELCOME

The NOC Alumni and Foundation department want to welcome you to our newsletter. We will share new information quarterly.

The goal of this newsletter is to nurture relationships with alumni, donors, and friends. We will keep you updated on exciting things happening within the Northern family.



### In Your Corner

Get to know NOC Alumni Advisory Board Member, Brad Matson and NOC Foundation Board of Trustee member, Brad Purdy

READ THEIR STORIES  
ON PAGES 2-3.



### Alumni Spotlights

Christy Brunken  
Wheeland '84

SEE STORY ON PAGE 4

Hannah Kokojan '11

SEE STORY ON PAGE 5



## Alumni Events

Catch up on events and new things happening at Northern as well as what to expect in the upcoming months.

Go to [www.noc.edu/alumni](http://www.noc.edu/alumni).

LATEST HAPPENINGS

ON PAGES 13-17

Northern Oklahoma College

# LEGACY

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

*It's a Boy and a Girl!*

Welcome our newest legacy,  
Strawn & Sheets

See page 11 for more information.



Life changing.



Brad Matson

## What makes NOC life-changing?

*Affordability with Quality Education. I came to Northern to play drums in the Roustabouts. My father Ted Matson started the very 1st Roustabout Scholarship with matching funds from Conoco. That lent me the affordability to attend NOC while obtaining a quality education that allowed me to transfer my credits and attend a four-year college. Northern provides academic excellence, a very involved and supportive community, a lot of extracurricular student opportunities, and last and definitely not least...a Dedicated Faculty. Low faculty to student ratio provides personal attention and support to give students the ability to push their education endeavors to the fullest potential. That is my assessment on what makes Northern Oklahoma College a life-changing experience.*

## What advice would you give new alumni and/or students?

*A couple bits of advice and keys to success that I share with my students:*

- 1. Always bring the "P Factor" (Passion Factor). You should go into the classroom with a passion to learn and to outwork your competition, not only in the classroom, but in life and in everything you do. When you are finished with your education (even though you never stop learning) you will have a wide variety of other people competing for the job you are wanting, so the P Factor will play a big part in your success.*
- 2. Time management. Get organized and set out blocks of time in your day for morning routines, classes, studying, projects/homework, exercise, personal/free time, work, and social time. It is important to set clear goals, prioritize tasks, set deadlines, curtail distractions, and take small breaks. I like to walk around the NOC circle to just walk around and get away from my computer screen.*
- 3. Learn to Say No. Understand your limits and avoid overcommitting yourself. Politely decline tasks or activities that do not align with your goals or priorities.*



## In a few short sentences tell us about yourself.

*I am a single parent with three grown adult kids (22-26 yrs old). I became a proud grandfather in December 2023. I have coached all of my kids in all different sports... volleyball, football, baseball, softball, basketball, tennis, and most important, life. My family is the most important part of my life.*

*I am the Director of the Digital Media Institute at Northern Oklahoma College. I have won several awards, including a Telly [equivalent to an Oscar for Digital Media], Audience Choice Award in the Remington Park 25th Anniversary Video Contest, a DaVinci Fellowship Award for outstanding creativity in the classroom and a NISOD Excellence Award. I*

*have also been named as an NOC Distinguished Faculty Member, four times nominated for the Oklahoma Gold Medal for Excellence in Teaching Award and was nominated for Digital Tutors Instructor of the Year.*

*I graduated from The University of Oklahoma with a film degree. While at OU I was the President of the RUF/NEKS [oldest male spirit group in the U.S.]. They are the guys who drive the Sooner Schooner and shoot off the Shotguns during the games. I have been in the television and film industry for more than thirty years. I was very involved in the film industry while in Breckenridge Colorado. I worked on several extreme ski films and was on-set for Christmas Vacation and Dumb and Dumber while filming scenes in Summit County. I also served as the Executive Assistant to the Director of the Breckenridge Festival of Film. I have worked as a freelance V/FX artist, motion graphics artist, and editor for a lot of independent film projects. I also am very involved with the Tonkawa Film Festival, I sponsor the Epic Shorts Student Film Festival and the 48 Hour Film Competition. My most recent local film credit was working on the Proof of Concept Film, Redemption Oklahoma.*





### **What makes NOC life-changing?**

*Brad came to NOC after what he'd say was "not much attention to grades in high school," where his interests had been athletics and livestock shows. "The faculty at NOC, specifically Dr Carver and Mary Perks, took an interest in me." Brad says, "In a subtle way they introduced me to goals and objectives which created a drive to achieve not only good grades but a vision of what I wanted to do with my life." He feels NOC has created an education environment that is very personalized which makes it unique among colleges. The care that the NOC faculty shows in their students provides a place which allows students to find direction and soar in their education as well as life beyond their experiences at NOC.*

### **What advice would you give new alumni and/or students?**

*Brad's advice to any alumni would be to consider what NOC has given to you and possibly for your family. Realizing what you received, then considering giving back to the institution that gave you such a great start so others can receive the opportunity that was granted to you. Whether that be financially through the foundation or volunteering your time and skills by involvement in events and organizations, the reward for doing so is especially grand!*

*His advice to students would be to make time and allow faculty to connect with you. Their advice, assistance and direction will prove invaluable not only in your success at NOC but long term in your career. As a student you will only receive from your education what you put in and that goes for the effort to create relationships in addition to your grades. The faculty is extremely helpful and have the power to make your time at NOC very valuable and enjoyable.*

### **Tell us about you.**

The youngest of three children, Brad was raised on a farm west of Tonkawa and graduated from Tonkawa High School in 1983. Growing up on the farm he not only learned a strong work ethic but found an industry, Agriculture, that continues to hold his interest. He then attended and graduated from NOC in 1985 with an Associates of Science and went on to graduate from Oklahoma State University in 1987, majoring in Ag Economics with a minor in accounting. After college, Brad wanted to find employment in banking. However, the Oklahoma banking industry was still struggling so Brad joined John Deere Credit where he served as a financial representative covering a territory in Arkansas. Knowing Arkansas wasn't for him, he returned home in 1989 and began his career as a loan officer at Service Bank in Tonkawa. In 2002, he took an opportunity with Central National Bank of Enid – Blackwell where he grew his knowledge of the banking industry and many Agricultural relationships in the region while ascending to the position of Vice President. In 2003,

Brad was presented a great opportunity, his present position as the President and Region Manager of First National Bank of Oklahoma. Brad is a stockholder and director of First National Bank of Oklahoma, which is led by Patrick T. Rooney. "Pat has given me an opportunity of a life time and supported me in a way that has allowed us to impact the communities we serve in ways not otherwise possible."

Community involvement is very important to his values, and Brad enjoys offering time, leadership and resources for many organizations in the area. At First National Bank of Oklahoma, community involvement and efforts are ranked high on the bank's list of priorities. Brad has been a Trustee for the Tonkawa Development Authority since 2006, serving as Chairman from 2007 to 2010 and being the current chairman since 2022. Through TDA he's enjoyed many relationships and by teamwork many objectives have been accomplished. To name a few – a Business Park, new softball-baseball fields, infrastructure improvements and 16 new homes in Tonkawa.

Brad is a NOC Foundation Trustee, a member of the NOC Business Advisory Council and NOC Wrestling committee member.

Trustee of Pioneer Tech Foundation, a member of Ponca City Rotary, secretary-treasurer of Wheatland RC&D, and Chairman of the Tonkawa Business Incubator. His past involvement includes 1994 President of the Tonkawa Chamber, Hospice of North Central Oklahoma board member, Kay County Ag Marketing Club and Kiwanis Club of Blackwell.

Brad is married to Candy, has two children, Brandon & Abbie and a grandson named Walker. Brandon is a 2014 NOC graduate and married to a NOC graduate! Abbie was a NOC concurrent student, OU graduate and is currently an officer in the US Navy stationed in Yokosuka, Japan. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with a new grandson, traveling with wife Candy, fishing, golfing, attending OSU Athletic events and hunting with his Dad and son.

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



## CHRISTY BRUNKEN WHEELAND 1984 Alumna - NOC Tonkawa - Associate of Arts

### **NOC Activities**

*The Maverick – staff writer and co-editor; KAYE – news broadcasts and statistician for basketball game broadcasts; Phi Theta Kappa; Literary Club; Bell Hall Vice President; Jazz Band.*

### **What makes NOC life-changing?**

*Faculty members strive to bring out the very best in their students and prepare them to be difference makers. By connecting with others and building college relationships, some of my closest friends and mentors have come from my years at NOC. We are family!*



### **What advice would you give new alumni and/or students?**

*For students, get involved with at least one or two campus organizations. Make meaningful contacts with your peers and stay connected with them. For alumni, never forget where you came from and be willing to share your college experiences. Those experiences will serve as learning tools for others as they navigate the paths of life.*



### **In a few short sentences tell us about yourself-**

*I graduated from NOC in 1984 and from Oklahoma State University in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science in Journalism/ Public Relations. After 33 years in the newspaper industry, I changed careers in 2021 to serve as executive director of the Coweta Chamber of Commerce.*

*I am a diehard OSU sports fan and love game day experiences with my daughter, Victoria (NOC 2018), bonus son, Skilar, and granddaughter, Sophia. I am blessed to be included in the 2024 Induction Class of the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame.*



# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## HANNAH KOKOJAN

2011 Alumna - NOC Enid - Associates of Applied Science- Nursing

### What makes NOC life-changing?

*NOC was lifechanging for me in so many ways. Imagine a young-for-her-class 17 year old girl, who had attended a local small high school in the country with a graduating class of 27. I admittedly was naive and most likely unprepared scholastically to move away from home to a multi year large university and had that been my only option, I'm sure I would have been lost in the masses, overwhelmed and never would have been successful. The option of attending NOC-Enid, which was a 15 minute commute, allowed me the opportunity to transition to the life of a college student while maintaining my support system at home. I dove head first into attending sporting events on campus, studying in the common areas with friends I was making in class and proudly displayed my new NOC gear. I bragged to my younger sister (who also several years later became an NOC alum as well) and gained so much confidence on that campus. Attending NOC also allowed me the opportunity to build a great foundation as a student. I had to work my way through and learn how to communicate with professors, manage my time and challenge*

*myself to reach the higher expectations set for me. I really and truly was experiencing the college life in a location/setting/size/pace that directly led to me being successful. Ultimately, I have no doubt that's what led to my success, not only at NOC but furthering my education with a Bachelor's degree afterward.*



### Activities

*At the time I wasn't involved formally in many activities or groups on campus. However, I spent the majority of my days there participating in anything that surrounded the nursing department. I immersed myself in that program and was proud to be there learning and helping around the study lab anyway I could.*

### What advice would you give new alumni and/or students?

*I would say to new students to just slow down and take everything in on campus. This is one of the nicest, well run college campuses in the state. We in Enid and the surrounding area are so fortunate to have this place to call home. I would also say, just like I tried to do, dive into things on campus- attend the sporting events, play golf at the course, branch out and meet new people. Really embrace being there and what it will mean to you years down the road.*

### In a few short sentences tell us about yourself-

*My husband Bobby and I have been married 12 years and have a 2.5 yr old little boy Grant who keeps us on our toes! We've made our home in Waukomis where we were both born and raised and*



*our families both still live there. After attending NOC, graduating from the nursing program, I sat for the Oklahoma Board of Nursing NCLEX exam and earned my state license to practice nursing. I furthered my education earning my Bachelor's of Science in Nursing degree and I have enjoyed a fulfilling nearly 13 yr career at Integris Bass Hospital here in Enid where I work in the ICU.*



# Nominate a Nursing Instructor

Deadline for Consideration: April 1, 2024

Nominations for 2024 are Open

*DAISY Award finalist must attend the May 3, 2024 Nurses' Pinning for consideration.*

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

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

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

**To Nominate a Nursing Faculty Member, visit:**

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

*Or scan the QR code below with your smartphone camera.*





# Ditmore family establishes NOC nursing scholarship



**The family of Gail Ditmore established a nursing scholarship at NOC through the NOC Foundation. Front Row (L-R): NOC Nursing Division Chair Dr. Nikole Hicks, Dianna Ditmore, Kevin Ditmore. Back Row (L-R): Vice President of Development and Community Relations Sheri Snyder, Director of Development & Donor Relations Candy Oller. (photo by Shiloh Martin/Northern Oklahoma College).**

The family of Gail Ditmore has established the Gail Ditmore Memorial Emergency Nursing Fund through The Northern Oklahoma College Foundation.

The memorial fund was established to honor Gail's passion to provide assistance to those experiencing unfortunate circumstances while striving to better themselves through education. This temporary emergency fund will assist nursing students pursuing their educational goals at Northern Oklahoma College. "Gail had a special interest in helping young women working in or planning to further their education in the nursing field," said Dianna Ditmore, former NOC Nursing Administrative Assistant.

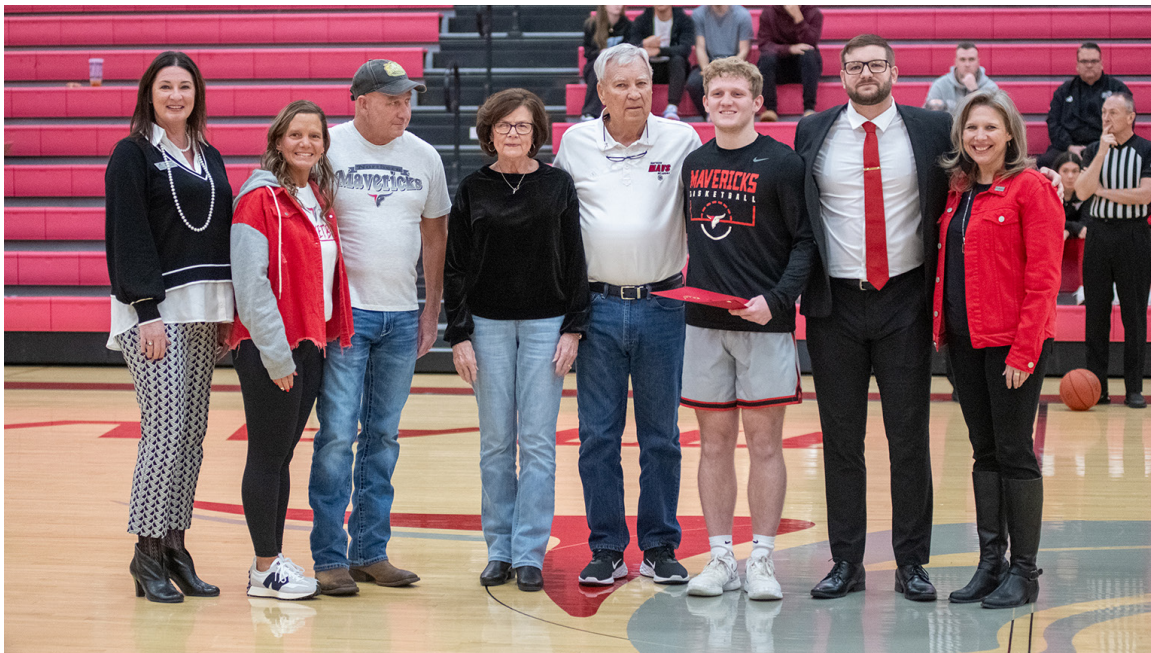
Ditmore, a long time Tonkawa resident with strong NOC ties, loved to help people and was very active within the Tonkawa community and schools. She had an amazing sense of humor and was part of the Mary's Café "tradition" in Tonkawa through being both an employee for and owner of the business. NOC Nursing Division Chair Dr. Nikole Hicks said, "NOC Nursing is so pleased to have these resources available to support our students in achieving their goal of becoming a nurse despite difficult circumstances. We are thankful to the

Ditmore family and proud to honor their legacy."

The Ditmore family encourages others to donate to this fund or establish a fund to assist those that may need a little extra help during their educational journey while striving toward bettering themselves. "The amount doesn't matter," said Kevin Ditmore. "Every amount given makes a difference."

Northern Oklahoma College, the state's first public two-year community college, is a multi-campus, land-grant institution that provides high quality, accessible, and affordable educational opportunities and services. NOC serves nearly 4,000 students through the home campus in Tonkawa, branch in Enid, and NOC/OSU Gateway Program in Stillwater. Of these students about 80% receive financial aid and/or scholarships. 75% of NOC students complete their degree with zero debt. The college is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and offers associate degrees in three general areas: Arts, Science and Applied Science; the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs; and the Accreditation Commission for Education and Nursing. For more information about Northern Oklahoma College please call (580) 628-6208 or visit the NOC website at [www.noc.edu](http://www.noc.edu).

# Tyler Day named Jared Weiberg Endowed Memorial Scholarship recipient



**Tyler Day received the Jared Weiberg Endowed Memorial Scholarship at NOC's game against NOC Enid Monday night. Pictured (L-R): NOC Vice President of Development and Community Relations Sheri Snyder, Becky Day, Robert Day, Vina Weiberg, Mick Weiberg, Tyler Day, coach Brandon Gossett, NOC Interim President Diana Watkins. (photo by Shiloh Martin/Northern Oklahoma College)**

Northern Oklahoma College Men's Basketball player Tyler Day was awarded the Jared Weiberg Endowed Memorial Scholarship Monday night before the NOC men faced NOC Enid. Day is a sophomore from Mannford, Oklahoma.

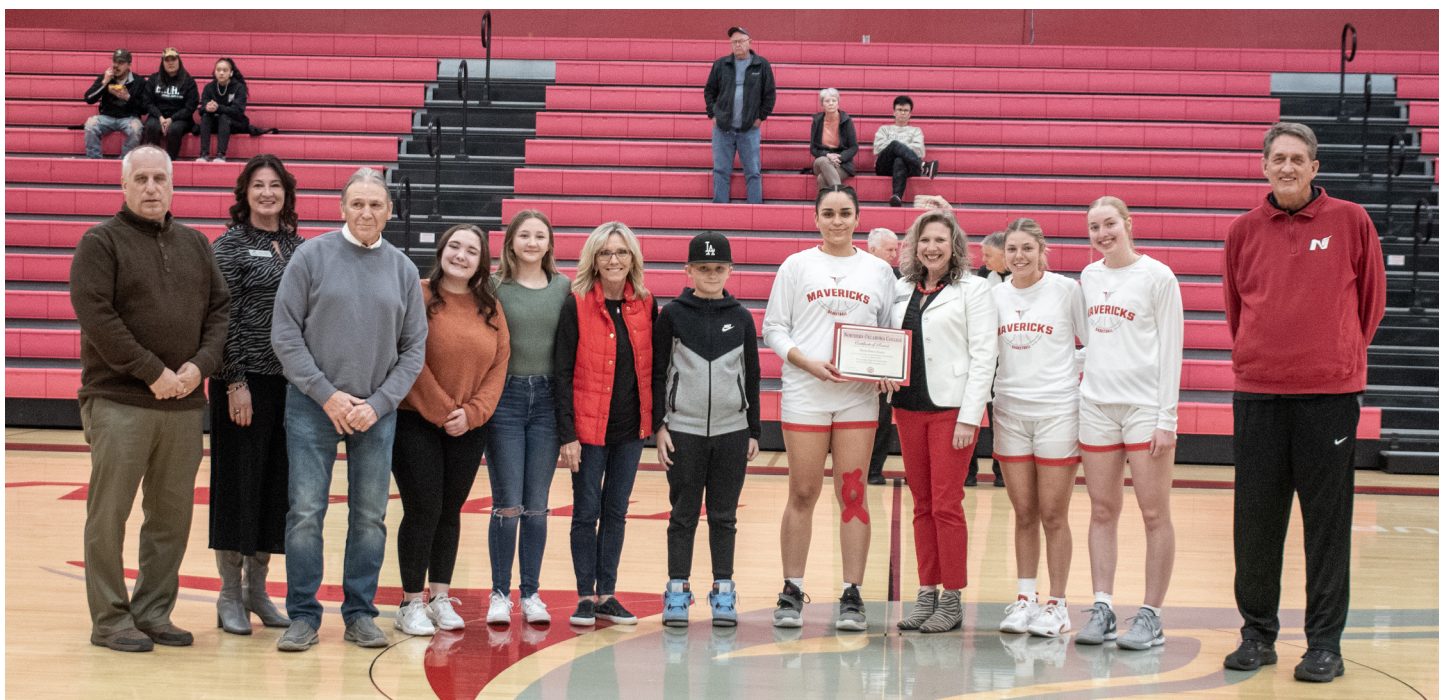
The Jared Weiberg Endowed Scholarship is presented to a walk-on player or student assistant manager of the Maverick team whose qualities include a strong work ethic, loyalty, selflessness, and a passion for basketball. Day will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. Presenting the scholarship award certificate were NOC Interim President Diana Watkins, Mick and Vina Weiberg, parents of the late Jared Weiberg. Weiberg coached the Mavs from 1987-2006.

Day was joined by parents Robert and Becky Day. Assisting with the presentation were men's coach Brandon Gossett and Sheri Snyder, Vice President of Development and Community Relations. Day's name will be inscribed on the Jared Weiberg Memorial Plaque which is on display in the Vineyard Library/Administration Building.

"Tyler embodies everything we preach daily in our basketball program," said coach Gossett. "He is an intelligent and hard-working young man, who allows our staff to push and coach him. He is a great teammate and does everything we ask of him on a daily basis. His example and leadership does not go unnoticed, as he has been a huge asset for us on and off the floor. We couldn't be happier to have Tyler represent Maverick basketball." "We appreciate the Weiberg family and their support for Maverick basketball," Gossett added. "Coach Weiberg's family means so much to NOC basketball and we are honored to be part of the program he and his family built."



# Marta Perez-Souza earns Leo Canaday Memorial Scholarship



**Marta Perez was named the recipient of the Leo Canaday Memorial Scholarship Thursday night. Pictured (L-R): Athletic Director Alan Foster, Vice President of Development and Community Relations Sheri Snyder, Alan Hardesty, Mikaela Hardesty, Kylee Hardesty, Vicki Hardesty, Leo Hardesty, Marta Perez-Souza, NOC Interim President Diana Watkins, Keely Hussey, Landri Hussey, coach Greg Krause.**

The Leo Canaday Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Marta Perez-Souza as the recipient for the 2024-2025 academic year. Perez-Souza is a freshman pre-baccalaureate nursing major from Guadalajara, Spain. She was joined by teammates Keely Hussey and Landri Hussey.

The Leo Canaday Memorial Scholarship was established by Leo's wife Pat. Through the generous support of family and friends, this scholarship provides students an opportunity to pursue their educational goals at Northern Oklahoma College in Tonkawa and is presented to a member of the NOC Women's Basketball team.

Representing the Canaday family this evening, are the late Leo and Pat Canaday's daughter, Vicki Hardesty, her husband, Allen and their great grandchildren, Leo, Mikaela, and Kylee Hardesty. The Canaday's daughter Lisa Canaday, watched the presentation via live-stream from Florida.

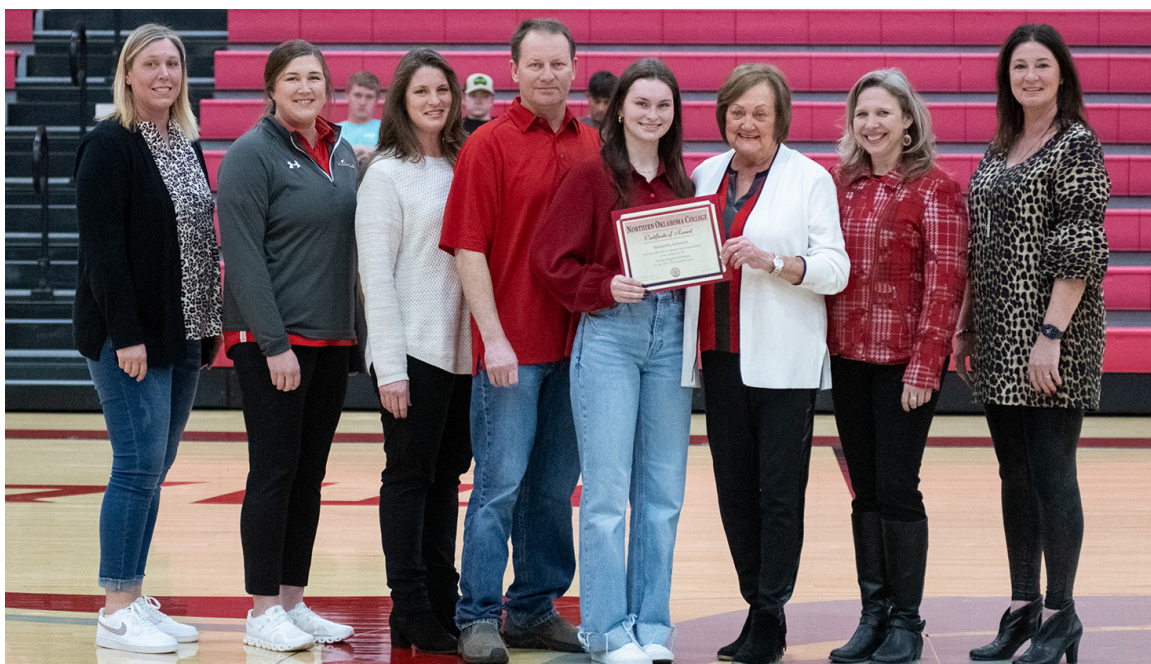
Assisting in presenting the scholarship certificate to Perez-Souza was Lady Maverick's Head Coach Greg Krause, NOC Interim President Diana Watkins, Vice

President for Development and Community Relations Sheri Snyder, and NOC Athletic Director Alan Foster.

Northern Oklahoma College, the state's first public two-year community college, is a multi-campus, land-grant institution that provides high quality, accessible, and affordable educational opportunities and services. NOC serves nearly 4,000 students through the home campus in Tonkawa, branch in Enid, and NOC/OSU Gateway Program in Stillwater. Of these students about 80% receive financial aid and/or scholarships. 75% of NOC students complete their degree with zero debt.

The college is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and offers associate degrees in three general areas: Arts, Science and Applied Science; the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs; and the Accreditation Commission for Education and Nursing.

# Samantha Johnston earns Nevona Kegans scholarship



**Samantha Johnston was awarded the Nevona Kegans Scholarship Thursday night at the NOC-Connors game. Johnston is a sophomore athletic training major from Fairfax. Front Row (L-R): Suzi Brown, HPER Division Chair; NOC Athletic Trainer Summer McClure, Shana Johnston, Hank Johnston, Samantha Johnston, Nevona Kegans, NOC Interim President Diana Watkins, Sheri Snyder, Vice President of Development and Community Relations. (photo by Shiloh Martin/Northern Oklahoma College)**

Samantha Johnston, a Northern Oklahoma College Athletic Training student from Fairfax, Oklahoma, is the recipient of the Nevona Kegans Scholarship, announced Thursday night.

The Nevona Kegans scholarship is presented annually to an Athletic Training student attending the NOC Tonkawa Campus.

Kegans, a 1961 alumna of Northern Oklahoma Junior College; was a member of the Mavettes, the Women's Basketball Team and served as dorm proctor in Easterling Hall. Nevona returned to her alma mater in 1963 where she served in many capacities within the athletic and student affairs department. She was instrumental in establishing the athletic training program at Northern and retired as dean of women and HPER division chair after serving the institution for 40 years. Nevona's commitment to Northern and continued support will provide students a chance to pursue their higher educational goals at Northern Oklahoma College.

Johnston is the 7th recipient of this award and is receiving a \$500.00 scholarship. Joining Johnston on the court this evening are her parents Hank and Shana Johnston.

Nevona Kegans Bossert presented the scholarship award assisted by Diana Watkins, Interim President; Sheri Snyder, Vice President for Development and Community Relations; Athletic Trainer Summer McClure and HPER Division Chair Suzi Brown.

Northern Oklahoma College, the state's first public two-year community college, is a multi-campus, land-grant institution that provides high quality, accessible, and affordable educational opportunities and services. NOC serves nearly 4,000 students through the home campus in Tonkawa, branch in Enid, and NOC/OSU Gateway Program in Stillwater. Of these students about 80% receive financial aid and/or scholarships. 75% of NOC students complete their degree with zero debt.





**NORTHERN**  
Oklahoma College

## *Legacy Birth Announcement*

### Sallie Rose Strawn

Born April 11, 2023

Childress, TX

*Big sister's name is Ellie*

#### Parents:

Kaitlyn Strawn (Estes)  
and Ryan Strawn

Kaitlyn Strawn (Estes) is a 2015 Alumna



"The best memory I have from NOC are the friends I made along the way! We always had so much fun and it made my first 2 years of college wonderful. Those friends became like family because if you lived on campus, you were together all the time, no matter what!" - Kaitlyn

7 lbs, 5 oz  
20" Long



### Jared Parker Sheets

Born December 7, 2023

Tyler, TX

#### Parents:

Justin and Katelyn Sheets

Justin is a 2012 Alumnus



"I played 2 years of baseball while at NOC and I enjoyed every minute of it. My favorite memories are when we did our fundraisers by selling out hams to the community. Then after we had all the orders we spent an entire day as a team cooking them and handing them out. Stuff like that will always be with me and I miss my days at NOC." - Justin

7 lbs, 6 oz  
21.25" Long



If you are an NOC Alum and would like to share the news of your new bundle of joy, simply send birth announcement form located on the NOC Alumni website and all photos to Kayla Wooderson, Director of Alumni and Community Relations. Once form is complete and submitted, an NOC Alumni Legacy onesie will be sent to your address. Please take a picture of your precious bundle of joy in the onesie to include in the announcement. Email: [alumni@noc.edu](mailto:alumni@noc.edu)



Northern Oklahoma College  
**Renfro Endowed Lectureship Program**  
Presents

*Ari  
Fleischer*

Former White House Press Secretary;  
President Ari Fleischer Communications;  
and FOX News Contributor



**Tuesday, April 2, 2024 | 6:30 pm**

**Renfro Center, NOC Tonkawa**

Ticket sales begin at 9 am on Tuesday, March 12th at the NOC Development Office  
located inside the Vineyard Library-Administration Building or by calling 580.628.6214.

**DINNER AND LECTURESHIP**

Individual tickets \$25 per person

Reserved table for eight \$500

(Doors open 6:15 pm)

*Overflow tickets are available at no charge for the lecture only,  
which will be live-streamed in the Renfro Center  
Classrooms and Walcher Conference Center  
located inside the NOC Tonkawa Student Union.*

Sponsored by Carl and Brenda Renfro with the Renfro Endowed Lectureship Program,  
Northern Oklahoma College, and Northern Oklahoma College Foundation.





# Please Join Us

## Saturday, April 6, 2024



Register Online  
by March 15.

### *Alumni and Friends Event*

Induction of 2024 Distinguished Alumni

Presentation of Alumni Legacy Scholarship

Recognition of the Class of 1974

Recognition of the Nursing Classes of 1974, 1999, and 2014

Recognition of the 60th Anniversary of the NOC Roustabouts Program

### *Tentative Agenda*

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Nursing Alumni and Friends Tea

*Foster-Piper Fieldhouse*

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Alumni Mixer, A.D. Buck NOC History Museum

4:30 - 5:00 p.m. Registration, Renfro Center Lobby (Commemorative Photo Booth)

5:00 - 5:45 p.m. Dinner, Renfro Center, Cost \$25

5:45 - 7:00 p.m. Alumni Program, Renfro Center

7:30 p.m. Roustabouts 60th Anniversary Benefit Show (Optional)

*Tickets \$10, Kinzer Performing Arts Center, Doors Open 7:00 p.m.*



Northern Oklahoma College  
Distinguished Alumni  
Hall of Fame Inductees

*Dr. Michelle Jeffries Keylon '92  
and Mr. Scott Morris '91*



For more details, please email Kayla Wooderson: [kayla.wooderson@noc.edu](mailto:kayla.wooderson@noc.edu) or call 580.628.6473.



# Distinguished Alumni event set for April 6

Northern Oklahoma College alumni Dr. Michelle (Jeffries) Keylon and Scott Morris will be inducted into the NOC Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame April 6 at NOC Tonkawa.

Dr. Keylon, Class of 1992, and Morris, Class of 1991, will be honored in ceremonies taking place during the NOC Alumni and Friends Reunion Dinner in the Renfro Center at NOC Tonkawa at 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 6.

## Dr. Michelle (Jeffries) Keylon

Dr. Michelle Keylon was born and raised in Tonkawa, Oklahoma. After graduating from Tonkawa High School in 1990, Michelle immediately went on to Northern Oklahoma College.

As a first-generation college student, she found the support and guidance through NOC to build a strong academic foundation that would carry her through her post-graduate degree. Michelle graduated from NOC in 1992 with an Associate of Science, followed by

earning a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education - Business Professions from Oklahoma State University in 1994.

After working several years as a classroom teacher, she earned a Master of Science in Occupational & Adult Education from Oklahoma State University in 2000. Michelle later achieved a Doctorate of Education in Instructional Leadership from North Central University in 2014.

For almost three decades, Michelle has focused her work on career and technical education, workforce development and economic development. She started as a classroom teacher in 1996 at Okmulgee High School. The following year, Michelle began teaching at Green Country Technology Center, also in Okmulgee. Dr. Keylon left the classroom to join the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education in 2000. She was the State Program Administrator for vocational business, marketing, and information technology programs. She was responsible for strategic leadership, program development and provided support to numerous educational programs across the state, ensuring they met the highest standards of quality and accreditation. In 2005, she was given the opportunity to join Francis Tuttle Technology Center as the Director for Information Technology Programs. Over her 19-year tenure at Francis Tuttle she has taken on the roles of Adult Career Development Director, Executive Director of Instruction, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, and Deputy Superintendent. In 2019, she became the fourth superintendent of Francis Tuttle. Her role has been to provide leadership for program development, curriculum design, instructional delivery, and staff development. Her leadership extended to emergency operations planning, strategic planning, budgeting, staffing and culture development. As the



superintendent, she maintains a relentless pursuit of excellence, a dedication to students and educators, and a commitment to educating the future workforce.

Keylon's family includes her partner, Jason Orr, her son Kolton, who is currently a junior at Oklahoma State University majoring in Geology and her daughter Kinley who is a junior at Deer Creek High School. Family members in Tonkawa include her grandmother Kathleen Jeffries-Stone, her brother Darrin Johns and his wife Shelly along with aunts, uncles and cousins, including Karri Morrill. Michelle's parents Chet and Kay Jeffries live in Guthrie and her sister Heather Hancock, husband Ron and children live in Bixby.

## Scott Morris

Scott Morris, a Tonkawa High School graduate, earned his Associate of Science degree from Northern Oklahoma College in 1991.

After a stellar career at Tonkawa High School, he followed the footsteps of his father, Gilbert Morris, and played basketball for the Northern Oklahoma College Mavericks.

After finishing his two-year career at NOC, Morris continued his playing career at the University of Science and Arts in Chickasha where he played both basketball and golf. Morris then returned to NOC as the men's assistant coach under Mick Weiberg from 1993-95.

While earning his Master of Education degree at UCO he served as an assistant coach for Dan Hays at Oklahoma Christian University.

He then returned to NOC Tonkawa in 2000 for one season as the women's assistant coach under Greg Krause before being named the first head coach of the NOC Enid women's basketball program in 2001.

Morris and wife Summer then moved to Enid where he started the NOC Enid program from scratch and coached the Lady Jets from 2001-2020. He also taught Math at NOC Enid. Over 19 years at NOC Enid, Morris' teams would accumulate 456 wins (averaging 24.0 wins per season), 12 conference championships, 12 NJCAA All-Americans, four Region-2 Championships and five National Tournament berths. The Lady Jets reached Final Four appearance in 2011. The Lady Jets also achieved academic excellence by winning four NJCAA national academic titles and two runner-up finishes with over fifty individual academic All-Americans.

Morris and wife Summer currently live in Stillwater where he coaches the Stillwater High School Boys Basketball Team. They have three children Bryce, 22, Brennen, 19, and Avery, 14.





# NOC ROUSTABOUTS **BENEFIT SHOW**



**SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024 | 7:30 PM | KPAC**





**NORTHERN**  
Oklahoma College

# NOC Nursing Alumni & Friends Tea

**SATURDAY**  
**APRIL 6, 2024**



HIGHLIGHTED ACTIVITIES

**SNA Bake Sale**

**Alpha Delta Nu Honor Society  
Canned Food Drive**

**NOC Nursing Alumni & Friends Tea  
Foster-Piper Fieldhouse,  
NOC Tonkawa**

1:00 pm | Registration

1:15-1:45 pm | Welcome & Tea

1:45 pm | Nursing Olympics

**NOC Alumni & Friends Mixer  
A. D. Buck History Museum &  
Welcome Center, NOC Tonkawa**  
3:30-4:30 pm

**NOC Alumni & Friends Reunion  
Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame  
Induction Ceremony**

**Renfro Center, NOC Tonkawa**

4:30-5:00 pm | Registration

5:00-5:45 pm | Dinner

5:45-7:00 pm | Alumni Program

**Roustabouts Benefit Show  
Kinzer Performing Arts Center,  
NOC Tonkawa**

7:00 pm | Doors Open

7:30 pm | "Roustabouts Tribute –  
Celebrating 60 Years"

## ALUMNI PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

*Induction of 2024 Distinguished Alumni*

*Presentation of Alumni Legacy Scholarship*

*Special Recognition of the Class of 1974*

*Recognition of the NOC Nursing Classes of 1974, 1999 and 2014*

*Recognition of the 60th Anniversary of the NOC Roustabouts Program*



ALUMNI TEA

**Deadline to RSVP is Friday, March 15, 2024**

Kayla Wooderson

*Director of Alumni and Community Relations*

580.628.6473 | [kayla.wooderson@noc.edu](mailto:kayla.wooderson@noc.edu)

Tickets for the NOC Nursing Alumni & Friends Tea | No Charge

Tickets for the Alumni & Friends Reunion and  
Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony | \$25 per person.

Tickets for the Roustabouts Benefit Concert | \$10 per person.



*NOC Nursing. Just Exceptional.*





**NORTHERN**  
Oklahoma College

# *Save the Date*

**NOC Alumni & Friends**

## **BALLPARK SOCIAL**

**Tuesday,  
April 16, 2024**

Stop by the  
NOC Alumni & Friends  
Corral 6 during the game  
for fun, food and drinks  
while they last!

For Game Tickets:  
OSU Box Office 877.255.4678  
Email: [tickets@okstate.edu](mailto:tickets@okstate.edu)  
398 W. Hall of Fame

**Questions?** Contact Kayla Wooderson  
[kayla.wooderson@noc.edu](mailto:kayla.wooderson@noc.edu)  
580.628.6473

## **OSU COWBOYS**

**vs. Dallas Baptist**

**6:00 pm | O'Brate Stadium  
103 N. Bellis Street | Stillwater, OK**



**Leadership Ponca City joined us on campus in Tonkawa on January 10.**



**Leadership Blackwell joined us on campus in Tonkawa on January 23.**



**Leadership Enid joined us on campus in Enid on February 7.**







# Spring Events

## Mark Your Calendar

### MARCH

- 05 Thank-a-thon,  
NOC Tonkawa
- 06 Thank-a-thon,  
NOC Enid
- 7-10 Spring Musical,  
NOC Tonkawa
- 29 Redbud Jazz Festival,  
NOC Tonkawa

### APRIL

- 01 DAISY Nursing Award  
Nomination Deadline
- 02 Renfro Endowed Lectureship  
Program, NOC Tonkawa
- 02 Planetarium Show,  
NOC Enid
- 06 NOC Alumni & Friends  
Reunion/ Hall of Fame  
Induction Ceremony,  
NOC Tonkawa

- 06 Annual Nursing Alumni  
and Friends Tea, NOC Tonkawa
- 06 Roustabouts Benefit Concert -  
60th Anniversary, NOC Tonkawa
- 06 NOC Livestock Judging Contest,  
NOC Tonkawa
- 16 Alumni & Friends Ballpark  
Social, Stillwater
- 17 Denim & Diamonds Spring Fling,  
NOC Tonkawa
- 17 Academic Awards Banquet,  
NOC Enid
- 18 NOC Gateway 20th Anniversary  
Celebration, NOC Stillwater
- 18 Academic Awards Banquet,  
NOC Stillwater
- 24 Academic Awards Banquet,  
NOC Tonkawa
- 28 NOC Choir, Chamber Singers,  
and Band Concert; NOC Tonkawa

### MAY

- 03 Annual Friends of NOC Agriculture  
The Gathering Event, Ponca City
- 03 Nurses Pinning & DAISY Award  
Presentation, NOC Tonkawa
- 04 Commencement, NOC Enid  
and NOC Tonkawa
- 07 Planetarium Show,  
NOC Enid
- 10 NOC Employee Service Recognition  
and Retirement Reception



Life changing.

# NOC Alumni Association

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

- \$25 Individual
- \$35 Joint

## LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

- \$200 Individual
- \$300 Joint

By joining the NOC Alumni Association as a Lifetime Member, you will receive an NOC Customized Swag Box.

A portion of your dues will go to an Alumni Legacy Scholarship which will be available to those children and grandchildren of NOC graduates who are current members of the Association. The other portion of the money will go to fund our alumni events.



For more information on Membership Benefits or Online Payment  
click on the following link:

<https://www.noc.edu/development/alumni/noc-alumni-and-friends-membership/>

## How to Get Involved

The Northern Oklahoma College Foundation is a non-profit corporation organized under IRS 501(c) (3), and receives and manages private gifts on behalf of the College. There are a wide range of gift opportunities at Northern.

Wherever your interests lie, there is a place for you to contribute and make a difference. We encourage you to check out our website at <http://www.noc.edu/foundation/> to view the donor wish list. Development staff are available to assist you with information.

We look forward to another exciting year of being part of Northern's family as well as working together with you to promote NOC, its programs and students. We encourage you to get involved!

To Give: Go To <https://www.noc.edu/development/foundation/give-online/>

## Subscribe Now

To Unsubscribe: Email [alumni@noc.edu](mailto:alumni@noc.edu)



Life changing.