Ms. Connie Nicholson has been chosen as this year’s CSC Faculty of the Year by her peers. She will be recognized at the Hooray for Teachers celebration on Thursday, April 10th.

Ms. Nicholson teaches Comp. I, II, and creative writing at Connors and has for the past seven years. Before coming to Connors, she taught both at Hilldale HS and McAlester HS.

Besides teaching, Ms. Nicholson is passionate about the importance of volunteering. She has worked with students in the past helping them get involved in volunteer work. “Many of my students spent weekends and evenings volunteering at the Red Cross, Special Olympics, or in nursing homes and elementary schools,” said Ms. Nicholson.

Ms. Nicholson is originally from Minnesota. She and her husband moved to Oklahoma to raise race horses. Dr. Nicholson also was a pulmonary doctor before his retirement.

The Nicholsons have three sons: Scott, an assistant professor at Syracuse University in New York, Chad, a music professor at Colorado State University, and Chuck, an optometrist in Boise, Idaho. They also have two wonderful grandchildren, Riley and Carter.

The Registrar’s Office is in charge of the commencement ceremony, and they have been working hard to make this year’s commencement a night to remember. A centennial memento will be given to each graduate, and the Alumni Foundation will be selling Centennial t-shirts.

There will also be musical entertainment, and Dr. Donnie Nero, president at CSC, will speak at the ceremony.

Many other exciting things are in the works to celebrate not only commencement but CSC’s centennial. 

Don’t miss this event!
CSC has been well known for agricultural achievements throughout the years. In the 1950s, they added another notch to their belt when they bought Squire Prince in hopes that he would bring accreditation to the program and start a quality bloodline. This Duroc did just that. Weighing in at over 900 lbs., this pig held many titles. He was also sire of several winners at the 1950 Oklahoma Free State Fair. He lost the Grand Championship that year to his own son.

Squire Prince was bought when he was only three months old by R.A. Hodges, head of the agricultural department in the 50s. Later on in Squire Prince's career, he became well known for his size and his impressive pedigree.

WHAT A PIG!!

The Collegian Staff:
Amanda Dawes
Kiley Ging
Jessilyn Inbody
Whitney Jameson
Lilah Newkirk
Shad West
Sharon Hendrix, Advisor
Special thanks to Bob Branan

HIGHER ED DAY

On Feb. 23rd, members of CSC's President's Leadership Class and Connors Student Government Association attended Higher Education Day at the state capitol. The conference is held every year as an opportunity for college students to learn how the state is using education funds. The students not only had the opportunity to tour the capitol, but were able to meet state senators and representatives. After the conference, Dr. Nero, CSC president, treated the students to some old-fashioned barbeque.

The CSGA officers attended Oklahoma Student Government Association's Spring Congress on March 6-7 at UCO in Edmond. Freshman Raelynn Elsworth, CSGA secretary, was elected to serve on the Student Advisory Board for the state regents. She is only one of two students elected to represent the two-year colleges. This is the second year in a row that this position will be held by a CSC student.

CSC CHEER CAMP

On Feb. 23rd-24th, CSC cheerleaders hosted the first junior cheer camp. Junior campers ranged in age from pre-k to fourth grade. Campers had the opportunity to learn cheers and a dance choreographed by Katie Mason and Lisa Williams to the song “Nobody's Perfect” by Hannah Montana. The campers then performed at the half-time of the final home basketball game.

Almost There!

CSC’s Cowgirls fell just short of making the NJCAA region II championship in a heart-breaking loss to Arkansas-Ft. Smith in the championship game, 78-67. The Cowgirls, ranked No. 15 in the national poll, ended their best season since 1999 at 28-5.

The Cowboys ended their season with a loss to Northern OK College, 79-73.
Week of the Young Child

Beginning April 13th, CSC and the Child Development Department will be celebrating the Week of the Young Child. This celebration will be in conjunction with CSC’s centennial celebration.

Some events have already taken place such as the children’s art contest drawing. These have been collected for an online silent auction to raise money for the Child Development Foundation Fund. Also the 100 books and bears drive has begun. Donations of new or gently used children’s books and stuffed animals will be taken on both campuses through April 15th. These donations can be given at both Warner and Muskogee libraries, at the offices of Jan Cowan or Kim Phillips (206D/206B) on the Downtown campus, the administration area at the Port campus, and Stan Cowan’s office at the Warner campus, CLB, 3rd floor. The donations will be given to child welfare for children going into foster care.

The week-long event kicks off Monday, April 14th, with Monty Harper’s CenTuneial Children’s Concert at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. at Melvin Self Field House in Warner. There will be a balloon release after the morning concert. Birthday treats and party hats will be offered at the morning concert. Also the Warner mayor will be giving a proclamation for the Week of the Young Child.

The Muskogee mayor will give a mayoral proclamation on Tuesday, April 15th, at the Children’s Champion Event. There will be activities to honor those who advocate for young children and a presentation of the top 10 chosen children’s champions at the NSU Muskogee auditorium at 6 p.m.

The highlight of the week is April 16th, the day to promote literacy. One hundred CSC students, staff, and faculty will be reading a book to a child or children during the week. Documentation forms will be provided for those who want to participate. Everyone is encouraged to take part in this event! There will also be a book drive.

Thursday will be the pinning ceremony and alumni reunion. Royce Junghanns from Rainbow Fleet Child Care Resource Center will be the guest speaker and the winners of the art contest will also be announced.

Easter Bunny Visits Muskogee

CSC’s World Series Winner!

Although CSC is proud of many former students, Julio Lugo has a way to stand out. Julio Lugo is a short stop for the Boston Red Sox and has a World Series win!

After playing for CSC, Julio was drafted by the Astros and then later was signed by the Devil Rays. He was later traded to the Dodgers and then on Dec. 5, 2006, he signed a contract with the Boston Red Sox.

Connors State College - 1908-2009 "Roots & Boots" Centennial Celebration

You are invited to participate and be a part of this celebration. The focus of the event is to celebrate the rich agricultural history of Connors State College.

Annual Alumni Reunion & Hall of Fame Induction (10-2)
Antique Tractor Show (12-5)
Quilter’s Guild Quilt Show (12-5)
Muskogee Farmers Market Members (10-5)
Agriculture-related Vendors (10-5)

Featuring live music from 5-10 p.m. with The Red Dirt Rangers & Spring Street

Dinner provided by Runts BBQ

Advance tickets are $15 or $18 at the gate on the day of the event. Call 918-463-6343 or 918-463-6342
**COWGIRL SOFTBALL**

After failing to qualify for last year's NJCAA National Softball Tournament by one game, CSC Cowgirls are hungry to wipe out that memory.

The Cowgirls season is underway. According to Coach Rick Carbone, “We are young, but we have some talented freshmen and four quality returnees.” The four returnees are Kenzi Rucker (third baseman, Inola), Robyn Murton (first base, Victoria, Australia), Amanda Tanner (pitcher, Wagoner), and Kayla Cheatham (shortstop, Haskell).

The team is doing well thus far with a big victory on March 3rd against Northeastern Oklahoma A&M who was ranked number two in the nation at the time.

There is a lot of season to go and the Cowgirls and Coach Carbone are expecting great things.

April 7        at Murray State, 4 p.m.
April 8        at Carl Albert, 2 p.m.
April 9        North Texas, 1 p.m.
April 11-12    at Seminole Tournament, TBA
April 15        at Seminole, 2 p.m.
April 17        at Western, 2 p.m.
April 19        Eastern, 2 p.m.
April 20        at Coffeyville, 2 p.m.
April 22        Northeastern A&M, 2 p.m.
April 23        Crowder, 2 p.m.
April 27        at Crowder, 2 p.m.
May 2-4        Regionals at Okla. City (TBA)
May 17-24      Nationals, Florida (TBA)

(All regular season games are doubleheaders.)

Come out and support the Cowgirls!

**COWBOY BASEBALL**

With five position players and seven pitchers returning for their sophomore seasons, Connors State baseball coach Perry Keith is very optimistic about the Cowboys' fortunes this season.

“We've got a lot of balance up and down our lineup both defensively and offensively,” Keith says, “This could be one of those special seasons for us.”

The Cowboys are 22-6 at the time of publication and have begun conference play.

April 8        Northern-Enid, 6 p.m.
April 9        at Rose State, 6 p.m.
April 10       Rose State, 6 p.m.
April 12       Rose State, 2 p.m.
April 15       at Eastern, 1 p.m.
April 16       Eastern, 7 p.m.
April 17       at Hillsdale Baptist, 1 p.m.
April 19       at Eastern, 1 p.m.
April 20       Eastern, 1 p.m.
April 22       Carl Albert, 7 p.m.
April 24       NEO A&M (2) 1 p.m.
April 26       at NEO A&M (2) 1 p.m.
April 29       at Northern-Tonkawa (2) 1 p.m.
May 1          Crowder, 6:30 p.m.
May 3          Murray State (2) 1 p.m.
May 8-11       Region II Tournament at Bartlesville