Siloam Springs Student Receives Award

NorthWest Arkansas Community College Honors Jesse Greenhill

BENTONVILLE, Ark. (March 16, 2012) – NorthWest Arkansas Community College has chosen Jesse Greenhill, a nontraditional student who works full-time and is also an active campus and community volunteer, as the Golden Eagle Award recipient for March.

Greenhill, a resident of Siloam Springs, was nominated for the award by Sabrina Chesne, an English faculty member. “Jesse is one of the smartest people I know,” Chesne wrote, “and not just because of his high grades. He also goes out of his way to make other students feel comfortable with the materials (in class) and with the college (in the halls.)” Since Greenhill joined Sigma Kappa Delta, a national English honor society, he has become even “more dedicated to education, working to spread literacy throughout Benton County through the honor society’s fundraising efforts,” Chesne wrote.

Greenhill, 35, works fulltime at Pulse Emergency Medical Services in Siloam Springs in addition to carrying a 12-hour class load, including three honors classes, and maintaining a 4.0 grade point average.

He has volunteered in political campaigns and elections, and he also has volunteered at local hospitals. He is a vestry member at Grace Episcopal Church. His long-term goals are still in formation, he said, but they do include post-graduate study. He expects to end up teaching in some capacity. He plans to attend classes at the University of Arkansas after completing his studies at NWACC.

He is married to Bay Greenhill, and they have two children, Stella, 9, and Mosely, 5. They are expecting a third child in May.

“The exposure to new ideas and the constant encouragement, challenge and support of my teachers, has brought about not only an awareness of my own potential, but a willingness to accept it,” said Greenhill of his experiences at NWACC. “I leave our school this spring with increased confidence, as well as the skills that I need in order to succeed as I move forward in life, to the betterment of myself and my family.”
Students may be nominated for NWACC’s Golden Eagle Award by an instructor, administrative staff person or a student organization adviser. Each candidate must have at least a 3.0 grade point average in a minimum of six credit hours of class and demonstrate social awareness, personal development, a diverse interest and involvement in varied activities, interpersonal communication skills and a commitment to education.

The award was presented by Todd Kitchen, vice president for learner support services, at the NWACC Board of Trustees meeting on Monday, March 12.

NorthWest Arkansas Community College is a comprehensive, public two-year college that serves and strengthens the community through learning for living. NWACC’s service area is defined by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education as Benton and Washington counties in extreme northwest Arkansas. The commitment of NWACC to life-long learning can be seen in the quality of instruction it offers, and the variety of programs it has designed to move students into the job market in a minimum amount of time, enrich people's lives, and prepare them to further their education. For more information, visit www.nwacc.edu.