

This week's online poll question:
What is your New Year's resolution?



the antelope

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- Lose weight
 - Quit a bad habit
 - Exercise more
 - Save money
 - Succeed in classes
 - Other
 - None
- Vote online at
unkantelope.com



New year buzz

Students share their thoughts on the exciting possibilities of 2013

We asked these students:

What are you most looking forward to this year?



Rachel Buss

Freshman
Nursing
Kearney

I'm looking forward to new experiences in and out of the classroom.



Jessica Thiehel

Freshman
Undecided
Wood River

I can't wait to make new friends!



Brittany Pofahl

Senior
Elementary Ed.
Grant

I'm most looking forward to student teaching next semester and graduating in December.

Living the good life

Nebraska escapes worst of nation's economic problems

EMILY SEEVERS
Antelope Staff

During a decade when the United States as a whole has struggled, the state of Nebraska has been flourishing economically as well as growing stronger as a community.

Although Nebraskans hold a variety of opinions, conflicting interests and beliefs, it seems as though most people living in this state are after one thing: The good life. This is apparent in the ways political issues are handled as well with how Nebraska's tax dollars are being spent.

Dr. Peter J. Longo, professor in political science and director of the honors program at University of Nebraska at Kearney, pointed out that city councils eagerly spend money on building parks and schools in an effort to keep their state beautiful and peaceful rather than use the money for selfish reasons that the population would not benefit from. Nebraska, in turn has proven to be a nice place to raise families and build lives.

Unlike many states, Nebraska has a

relatively strong economy and does not struggle with high unemployment rates. According to Longo, the reason for Nebraska's economic success can be attributed to the fact that Nebraska's government does not have a high demand to overspend. Longo said Nebraska is also well off as a state due to its careful planning with the farming and agriculture economy.

Historically, Nebraska has not had to face the cycles of economic depression that afflict the rest of the country. Nebraska's farming environment increases the salary and employment of the state. Henry J. Cordes; writing in the Omaha World Herald in September of 2011, stated that "the record farm income is a big reason Nebraska's economy is expected to hold its own in the months ahead. In its latest report, the Nebraska Business Forecast Council said it expects Nebraska to post moderate income and job growth through 2013."

Cordes went on to say that Nebraska's farming is aiding in keeping the state at a high income. "To call current farm income robust is an understatement. This year's

Setting the record straight

The Antelope introduces student advice column



with *Ask Amy*
Amy Rundstrom

"If an instructor is late for class, you have to wait 10 minutes for a lecturer and 15 minutes for a professor before you can leave."

"If your roommate commits suicide, you will get straight A's for the semester. Or maybe they just have to die."

"If you get hit by a vehicle on campus, your tuition will be paid for."

Rumors such as these have been circulating students' mental handbooks through the ages, but how valid are they?

This semester, The Antelope is excited to introduce Ask Amy, an advice column by Amy Rundstrom,

Assistant Director of Academic and Career Services. With 14 years of experience answering such questions, few know the ins and outs of UNK better than her.

When answering students' questions, Amy promises to be honest and frank. "Candor is my middle name," she said.

You can learn many things from your fellow students, but don't let the rumor mill lead you astray. Instead, bring your questions to someone who truly knows her stuff, and Ask Amy!

Economy from page 1

forecast increase of 35 percent is on top of a 49 percent increase in 2010. Though it's expected that farm income will be down somewhat in 2012 and 2013, it will remain at historically high levels — almost triple what it was a decade ago."

Allan Jenkins, chair and professor of economics at the University of Nebraska at Kearney agrees that rising farm income has helped protect the state from national economic cycles. "Nebraska was sheltered from the first part of the national recession that began in December 2007 by rising commodity prices," Jenkins said. "Rising corn and soybean prices let farmers buy more tractors and other types of equipment, which helped other parts of the economy."

"Nebraska farmland values were rising. Rising farmland values protected rural areas from the foreclosure crisis that hit residential housing. Eventually, Nebraska did feel some impacts from the national recession, with unemployment rising from about 3 percent to 5 percent in 2008 and 2009. As the national recovery began in the summer of 2009, the unemployment rate in Nebraska also began to fall - it is now 3.9 percent."

Farm income however, represents less than 10 percent of Nebraska's overall income, meaning that though it plays a factor into Nebraska's wealth as a state, there are other more dramatic reasons for the state's fortunate economic situation.

One of the other factors causing Nebraska's low unemployment rate is the

trend of who is living in the state. Statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau show that in general, there is a decrease in the population with people between the ages 30 and 34 living in Nebraska. The population increases again with people between the ages of 35 and 39.

This could mean that people are leaving the state once they have graduated from college in an effort to search for jobs. Once people have an established career, it is possible that they come back to Nebraska to work and build lives with their families, according to Dr. Claude Louishomme, associate professor of political science.

In addition to having an economy that differs from the rest of the country, Nebraska also has a very different kind of state government.

Diane Duffin, professor of political science at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, said this can be seen in part through Nebraska's unicameral government. Instead of having two legislative bodies — a house and a senate — the state has only one that is non-partisan. This means that when people run for a seat in the senate, they do not run under a specified party label. Instead, Duffin said, they are judged and chosen based on their morals, ideals and knowledge.

Until 1937, Nebraska had the more usual two (-or bicameral) legislature. Then George Norris, a United States congressman and senator from Nebraska, proposed the idea of switching to unicameral. According to "History of the Unicameral" on the Nebraska legislature's website, Norris believed that the bicameral legislation system was outdated and not effective in getting things done. Norris viewed the two-house system as being representative the battles between the aristocracy and com-

moners in England, something the United States did not need.

Though it was unclear whether the unicameral would be efficient, when the change was made, legislative productivity increased and spending decreased.

Once the change was made in 1937, membership dropped from 133 in the bicameral to just 43 in the unicameral. With this new governmental system, more bills were passed in less time than in the bicameral. Both factors aided in the decrease of cost and spending within the legislation. It also introduced nonpartisanship in Nebraska.

"The unicameral came a nice emblem of our political culture. It puts an emphasis on nonpartisan and a desire for efficiency," said Duffin.

"The unicameral is something that is uniquely Nebraskan. It increases civility," said Longo, adding that Nebraskans as a whole have a great sense of what is morally and civilly the right thing to do.

An example of Nebraska's legislature getting a chance to showcase the effects of the unicameral came when senators were faced with the decision of whether pregnant undocumented immigrants working in Nebraska should receive prenatal care. Some senators expressed concern that passing the bill would increase illegal immigration to Nebraska while others worried about the health of the fetus.

After being passed in April of 2012, the bill proved to be beneficial not only for undocumented immigrants and their children, but also for Nebraska's economy. "Undocumented women would not seek medical attention. Without prenatal care, they wait and tend to have smaller, sicker babies which then cost a ton of money to care for," said Dr. Jenkins.

Mike Flood, speaker of the Nebraska unicameral, told a UNK audience it was difficult to come to the decision to vote in favor of provided prenatal care for undocumented immigrants because he, like many others, is against encouraging illegal immigration to the state of Nebraska.

He explained that it came down to what he thought was best to do morally, which was care for the child that would by birth become a citizen of the United States. Flood, a registered Republican, is pro-life and said he could have been viewed as hypocritical had he not supported the rights of the unborn children, despite being wholly against illegal immigration.



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Sudoku answer:
Upside down, from page 3

8	6	5	2	9	3	1	4	7
4	6	3	8	1	7	5	9	2
2	1	7	4	9	5	6	3	8
3	8	4	5	7	1	6	2	9
6	5	2	9	3	8	7	1	4
9	7	1	6	2	4	8	5	3
7	4	8	1	5	2	3	6	9
1	2	9	3	8	6	4	7	5
5	3	6	7	4	9	2	8	1

What's happening in 2013?

JANUARY

The beginning of the spring semester brings stress and the reminder that there are still four months to go until summer and graduation. However, the next semester is chock full of interesting and fun activities and events to keep you from going stir crazy! Your friends at The Antelope wanted to make sure you had an easy way to find out when some of the major events are occurring!

- 9** Learn SMORE about Greek Life
11:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Film Screening: The Battle of Algiers
7:00 - 9:30 p.m.
- 16** Student Organization/ OrgSync Fair
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- 17** Jim Wand- Hypnotic Entertainer
7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY

- 1** Wear Red Day
11:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Fame
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 6** Laser Battle - sponsored by LPAC
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 7** Healthy Relationships
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
African Culture Festival, 2nd edition
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

MARCH

- 1-2** An Evening of Concert Dance
presented by the UNK Dance Program
Miriam Drake Theatre

APRIL

- 17 - 21** Urinetown
Miriam Drake Theatre
Wednesday - Saturday
7:30 p.m.
Sunday 2:00 p.m.



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Sudoku ★★☆☆☆

How to play:

Sudoku is a placement puzzle. The aim of the puzzle is to enter a numeral from 1 through 9 in each cell of a grid. Each row, column and region must contain only one instance of each numeral. Completing the puzzle requires patience and logical ability. The puzzle initially became popular in Japan in 1986 and attained international popularity in 2005.

	8	2	9		7			5
		4	6	8	3			
	9		2					
		8				1	7	9
9	2	6				4		
					4		1	
			7	1	8	3		
7			3		2	5	6	

Find answer on page 2

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

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