CSSA celebrates 2010

Multicultural Greek Council finally a reality

BY KAITLIN DOTY
Antelope Staff

Working toward bettering the community through service, philanthropy, scholarship, brotherhood, sisterhood and the diversity of the Multicultural Greek Council and the Greek community are just part of the commitment of the Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc. (Alpha Beta Chapter), Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Inc. (Zeta Gamma Chapter) and the Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Inc. (Chi Gamma Chapter).

These multicultural sororities and fraternities have worked for years on this campus to represent different cultures and cultural elements. They want to promote educational theory that encourages interest in different cultures rather than just a mainstream culture. A council was finally developed this past month to bring these sororities and fraternities together to unite and create a governing body for the multicultural Greek life.

The Multicultural Greek Council consists of six members: Karla Green and Mariana Cruz both from Lambda Theta Nu, Daniel Jaimes and Danny Granillo both from Sigma Lambda Beta, Nina Batenhorst and Viannet Nunez both from Sigma Lambda Gamma and Tracy Lungrin, the Greek advisor who is assisting the council.

Together Lungrin and these six members have formed objectives for the future of MGC. “The No. 1 thing a Greek advisor wants in a Greek community is that it grows and expands. We need to get more and more people who want to become Greek, and we must meet their needs as Greeks. We also want cultural programming and more diversity to our campus community,” Lungrin said.
Construction management program earns $75,000 grant

UNK construction management earned a big boost when the National Housing Endowment presented a grant of $75,000 to the program last month in Las Vegas. Of 41 universities that applied for the funds, only four were awarded the endowment. Other schools were: (1) Western Kentucky University, (2) UNL and (3) a combined application with Western Carolina, Northern Kentucky and Cincinnati State. Dr. Kennard Larson, professor and coordinator of the construction management department, presented the program to the entire board of directors in Washington, D.C in October 2009.

Larson said the check is significant because with reduced budgets today and more pressure to go outside for funding, every funding source is very important. Larson said they intend to use the grant money to hire another faculty staff member to work closely with outside industrial companies and to teach on campus. “Hopefully then those companies will provide scholarships and donations to the program. It takes a lot of work and time to do that. With our current staffing we don’t have that luxury.”

According to Larson, the grant is also an indicator of the kind of program developed over the years. “They liked what they heard about us spending time to develop the professionalism aspect for our students—not just the technical content,” Larson said. The department has worked hard to develop relations with the Kearney community, and he believes that is why the program is successful, said Nate A. Barry, an instructor in the department of construction management.

Larson said the National Housing Endowment is trying to build a cadre of 20 schools for which they want to provide continued funding in the future. The endowment now has 15 of the 20 identified and that includes UNK. “The $75,000 is fantastic, and it is, its seed money, and that’s the way they push it. But more importantly,” Barry said, “they are only going to identify basically 20 schools across the country to continue to support, to continue to grow. And with UNK identified as one of those 20, we can then tell students and future students, and even students at the two-year schools that are looking to get their four-year degree, we know we are a part of that 20 elite group.”

Barry said UNK will be in a position to collaborate with other larger universities like Purdue, Michigan State and Texas A&M because of the prestige the grant gives to their department.

“It lets the nation know—that even in small town Nebraska—you can get the quality of education or superior education that you can anywhere across the country,” Barry said.

Larson acknowledges this grant is a reflection of hard work. They both agreed the cooperation between departments has been tremendous. The department of industrial technology has aided their team and the two construction management professors recognize that and are grateful.

One on one: Stevens scrapes frost off Cold War

Dr. Christopher Stevens came from Massachusetts in the fall of 2007 to begin teaching international relations in the political science department. His classes focus on teaching the theories associated with international relations and foreign policy as well as offering courses on the former Soviet Union. A specialist on the former Soviet Union, Stevens has been conducting research since 1998 with a focus on nuclear disarmament and the varying levels of cooperation with Russia between similarly placed states.

Q: What got you into teaching political science?
A: I grew up in a political household. We weren’t afraid of talking about politics or disagreeing. And I was always interested in the Cold War and grew up seeing the Soviets on TV. When I got to college I realized I could do political science, and I could use that to continue studying the Cold War and U.S. foreign policy. Then in the second semester of my sophomore year a teacher inspired me.

Q: Any interesting stories from your early teaching experiences?
A: There was one at Wellesley; my first teaching gig at a good institution, an all women’s college, all top-notch young minds. I was challenged by a young lady who really taught me flat-footed. At that
Forensics team prepares for nationals, builds new foundation

BY ASHLEY LEEVER
Antelope Staff

With hands shaking, the speaker attempts to steady himself by gripping the podium. The words on the paper blur in front of him as he reads through it, not caring if anyone can understand.

For many students, public speaking is a familiar “worst nightmare,” but for seven UNK students, it’s a lifestyle.

“Forensics is a combination of competition, enjoyment and education. It’s a great opportunity for students to come in and be part of a competitive activity where they learn from the hard work they put in, but they also learn something about themselves to share with others,” said Amanda Young, assistant coach of UNK’s forensic team.

“We focus on the speeches that you would learn in your basic Speech 100 class, but there are also events such as prose, poetry or dramatic interpretation. It’s a good balance of skills and talents,” said Rachelle Kamrath, head coach of UNK’s forensic team.

Members are not required to have competed in forensics in the past, but a background in public speaking is helpful. “Because our team is so young, the biggest challenge has been the transition from high school to college speech. High school speech doesn’t have that education aspect like college does. College speech is much more detailed and specific. College speech season is also much lengthier than high school, so our team has to have endurance,” said Brandon Pettigrew, assistant coach for the forensics team.

With a season stretching from September to April, the forensics team has a longer season than most athletic teams. “The time commitment is one of the biggest challenges of forensics. We leave Friday afternoons and get back late Sunday night, and that’s just for competition. I spend a good four to five hours a week working on my events,” said Cassie Larreau, a sophomore economics major from Kearney. The team travels throughout Nebraska and the surrounding areas, often driving as far as 13 hours for competitions.

With long hours spent together on buses, meet, and practices, the forensics team has formed a tight-knit bond. “Forensics is not just an activity; it’s a lifestyle. With small teams like ours, it becomes less like a team format and more like a family. We enjoy each other’s company and fight sometimes, but overall we are a very close team and always talk to each other,” said Robert Friedman, a sophomore accounting major from Plattsmouth.

It’s a rebuilding year for UNK’s young team, with only two returning sophomores and five freshmen. “We lost a lot of upperclassmen last year, so this year we are reloading with talented first-year students. Our sophomores are doing exceptional, as well as our new members. We are having a lot of fun,” Kamrath said. With most of the team being new, it’s a year full of learning and growth.

The UNK Forensics Team Clockwise from center front: Director of Forensics Rachelle Kamrath, Assistant Director of Forensics Amanda Young, Cassandra Larreau, Trevor Woodward, Brooke Alstrom, Brandon Pettigrew, Robert Friedman, Clayton Friedeman and Emily Webb. The team dates back as far as 1905 and attends 25 tournaments each season.

My Blue coming March 1

BY KELLI WALTERS
Antelope Staff

Out with the old, in with the new, that is for a new student and faculty registration and records system.

For students signing up for summer 2010 classes, no change, but the registration process for fall 2010 will be a learning experience.

My Blue, the name UNK chose to call the information portal from the Peoplesoft system, will be formally introduced to the UNK campus on March 1, 2010. Then, Instead of students using WebEasi and faculty using WebSmart, the systems will combine as one portal.

My Blue will offer links along the same lines that WebEasi did. The schedule of classes, DegreeWorks and classroom scheduling software will all be found on the new system.

“One thing I would like to stress to students is that they will still have full access, as they do now, to WebEasi until the end of the summer. My Blue will not completely take over WebEasi and WebSmart until fall 2010,” said director of student records and registration, Kimra Schipporeit.

Students may be wondering why the seven universities in Nebraska are tossing out the old system? Change was necessary. The vendor that has supplied the university system with the current SIS Plus software will not support portals such as WebEasi anymore.

Students should have already received an e-mail in their UNK inbox with instructions for setting up a password for My Blue. Students who follow the setup instructions for the new system will be able to make the switch when it comes into effect. A reminder e-mail will be sent out on Feb. 15 for students who have not followed the process.

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Cool it, cupid

Valentine's Day is about love, not merchandise

BY KELLI WALTERS
Antelope Staff

There is no escape from the color burst that fills your eyes of pink, purple and red when you enter any store around this time.

Teddy bears fill one aisle while the next is full of assorted boxes of chocolates in all sizes.

There is nothing merchandisers do not make for holidays like this one.

Who really needs toe socks with hearts on them to celebrate Valentine's Day?
This holiday is cute and all, but it really has been blown out of proportion over the years. We receive teddy bears that we do not know where to store, chocolates that go straight to our hips and roses that dry out.

I do not need those material items to feel the love.
I sure do not need a special day to let my boyfriend know how much he means to me.
It is sad that we need a day set aside to remember that we love somebody and to show them this.

How do you feel about Valentine's Day?

"It always got my parents out of the house, so I like it for that!"
Asa Bryant
Freshman social work major from Panama

"I'm kind of indifferent because I don't have a valentine. If I had one, I would like it more."
Brooke Brown
Sophomore from Scottsbluff

"I like Valentine's Day because it's a good excuse to show somebody how much you care about them."
Allie Primm
Sophomore elementary education major from Sidney

"Valentine's Day is OK with me. It's nice to give someone something to show your feelings for them."
Chris Meyer
Sophomore industrial distribution major from Elwood

Odd man out

King, Washington and Columbus: Who really deserves a holiday?

BY ALEX MORALES
Antelope Staff

In the U.S. we legally honor three individuals with a federal holiday. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is celebrated on Jan. 18, on Feb. 15, we celebrate Washington's Birthday (President's Day), and finally, on Oct. 11, Columbus Day is celebrated.

The resiliency and achievements of these men undoubtedly altered their time and our history. Historical figures of this stature tend to lead lives that parallel in many aspects. Unfortunately, a common link that these icons share deals with a darker portion of our history. Most importantly however is the role they played in this similarity and the effect it has had on this nation.

Columbus brought the western world to the attention of a more technologically developed western Europe.

In doing so, he exposed a path that would eventually allow a foreign flow of ideas to a new world. Like all paths that lead to a treasure, this one too was exploited. As a result of the exploitation an unknown form of slavery was thrust upon the shoulders of this new world. Once Columbus failed to encounter Asian treasures he resorted to enslaving natives as a form of

Blundergrads

I've come to the unsettling realization that the major I've chosen... will only lead to a career where dozens of lawyers will eviscerate me for any mistake I make. You wanna be a paralegal? No; a doctor.

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.

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Find answer on page 9
Women's Center hosts National Wear Red Day

Event aims to raise both public and doctor awareness of women's heart disease

BY SAM BATES
Antelope Staff

Are you a woman who knows heart disease run in your family? Have you put the idea you might have something to worry about in the back of your mind in hopes of not ever having to deal with it?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, National Wear Red Day was for you.

On Feb. 5 the Women’s Center hosted an event in the student union for National Wear Red Day, a day designated to raise awareness for heart disease in women. The event included free blood pressure testing, door prizes and informational handouts.

Trish Holen of the Women’s Center said the day went very well with plenty of participation from students passing through the student union.

National Wear Red Day, held the first Friday of February, is supported by, among other organizations, “The Heart Truth,” a campaign of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. The Red Dress became the symbol of “The Heart Truth” in 2002 as a way to alert American women to their No. 1 killer – heart disease.

Holen said it’s important for women to take advantage of these opportunities to take care of their heart because of how often heart disease in women goes underreported by physicians. “Our signs and symptoms can be very different. The pain can be in the middle of our back, between our shoulder blades, or we might think we just pulled a muscle. The more women start talking to their doctors, I think it’s going to raise physician awareness so that they can be better informed about what they’re doing and what they’re looking for,” Holen said.

Though National Wear Red Day is designed to inform women, men were also welcome to take part in the event.

If you’d like more information about heart disease go to hearttruth.gov or contact the Women’s Center at womenscenter@unk.edu.

Dating doesn't have to be violent

Young adults report high rates of relationship abuse

BY JUSTIN AGALOOS
Antelope Staff

“I don’t want you talking to any of those guys tonight at the party,” the boyfriend said. “Why not?” said the girl. “They are my friends. It’s not like they will do anything. I don’t like them like that.”

“But I don’t want you to get too close to them,” he replied back. “I can’t see myself without you.

Does this situation remind you of any events that happened in your relationship? Does your boyfriend or girlfriend feel uncomfortable of your actions when you’re around your friends? Does he or she make all the decisions and act very possessive of you? Do they tend to put you down by making fun or embarrassing you?

Extreme jealousy, put downs and controlling actions are signs of abuse. Even though we would like to think about a relationship as a bed of roses, relationships are all about trust, communication and honesty. Many people forget that healthy relationships are about respect, fairness, shared responsibilities and healthy intimacy.

Sixty-one percent of young adults interviewed said violence had happened to them on numerous occasions. Between 25 and 35 percent of young adults equate jealousy, possessiveness and violence with love. When the young adults were asked, they identified their home (71 percent), vehicles (29 percent) and/or school (53 percent) as places where the violence most often occurred.

Abuse is a lot more common than the general public realizes and watching for signs in a relationship is the first step to reducing the chances for someone to be mistreated. The signs of an abuser include having all the control and discounting feelings and views. They tend to make all the decisions and act very possessive. They can also demand sex after an argument to “make up” and blame the partner for their anger.

Trish Holen, graduate assistant of the Women’s Center, advocates against relationship abuse. Holen gives advice about noticing friends who are in these abusive relationships.

“If you notice a friend or family member is being abused, notice changes in their behavior— not calling home, missing classes, or cutting their friends off. These are signs of emotional, physical, sexual and verbal abuse,” Holen said.

The person being abused often cannot admit there is a problem in the relationship and blame herself or himself. Mostly, the abused person believes the partner’s actions are signs of love and tends to make up excuses for the abuser’s behavior. If you know a friend or family member who might be in an abusive relationship, express your concern and listen. Educate yourself about emotional abuse and be honest about how you feel about your friend’s relationship. Try to stay in touch with your friend. Abusers tend to isolate their partners and offer support for your friend’s safety.

“Let your friend know you care about them and their safety. I would also encourage them to take use of the services on campus,” advised Holen.

Services on campus include the Counseling Center at the Student Affairs Building and Women’s Center which has information such as books or brochures about healthy and abusive relationships.

In town, the Kearney Safe Center offers secure, confidential services, programs and advocacy for individuals and families who have experienced sexual, domestic or dating violence.
"Pro Bowl, more like Joe Schmo bowl"

For the last 29 years, the NFL Pro Bowl has been held at Aloha Stadium in Honolulu. This year, Commissioner Roger Goodell decided to hold the Pro Bowl in Miami Gardens, Florida. That was his first mistake.

A total of 31 players that were selected by the public to play in the Pro Bowl decided to decline the honor. Why?

Apparently players and their families would rather go to Hawaii than Miami Gardens, Florida. I could have guessed that, but after Goodell’s decision, it doesn’t appear to be common knowledge.

The commissioner also chose to hold the game a week before the Super Bowl, when it has traditionally been held a week after “the big game.”

That was his second mistake.

The schedule change eliminated the chance for players who competed in the Super Bowl to play in the Pro Bowl, including MVP Peyton Manning. Besides Manning, 13 other players were not able to participate in the all-star game due to scheduling stupidity. Any football fan and especially the commissioner should know that the teams who reach the Super Bowl normally have more talent than the teams who don’t make it to the final game.

Now I know that there is such thing as the Cinderella team in sports, but that is definitely not the case this year. The Colts opened the regular season with a 14-0 record, the best in football. As for the Saints, they were led by Drew Brees, one of the most aggressive and efficient quarterbacks in the NFL. I might add one sentence to update or reword slightly since the Cinderella team did win?

The Pro Bowl definitely missed Manning and Brees. Initially, the “should be backup” all-star quarterbacks controlled the game well. But the third string quarterbacks, promoted to second string thanks to Goodell, practically brought the game to a halt. Their inability to complete anything but a screen pass had Manning and Brees cringing on the sidelines.

Between the schedule and venue change, a total of 45 of the best players in the NFL sat out for the Pro Bowl game. The contest proved to be lacking something or someone. Actually, it was the two ineligible quarterbacks watching from the sidelines.

What did you expect?

If the commissioner changed the schedule to increase the hype surrounding the all-star game, he did just that. Although he was successful in doing so, he actually sparked more negative publicity than positive. The NFL is one of the most lucrative professional sports in the world and the commissioner tainted the purity of this year’s Pro Bowl for the almighty dollar.

BY RYAN SEEFSUS
Antelope Staff

Loper of the Week

Megan Becker
Women's Basketball

BY JENNIFER KARDELL
Antelope Staff

What is your favorite:
Color: It depends on the day honestly.
Movie: Go “Avatar!” Woohoo!
Food: I’ll just put it this way, I haven’t really found a food I don’t like.
Band/musician: I’m not really into favorites because I like variety. Right now though I’m listening to Lil Wayne in the locker room and chill bands like Citizen Cope when I’m at home.

What is one thing many people may not know about you or what would you expect about you?
Well, I would like to think that my identity is not just basketball. I love to be creative and artsy. Also most people that don’t know me well would have no clue I grew up on a ranch. Yes, I used to team rope and rodeo and all that fun farm stuff. I love horses.

What was one of the funniest memories you’ve had on or off the court?
My freshman and sophomore year one of my teammates and I always used to drive around town pranking people. One time in particular, we found a dead bat in the library, so we took it to our locker room and hung it by a string right in front of the door (wings spread and everything). So when people opened the door the breeze from the door would make the bat swoop at them, and everyone was ducking and screaming when they walked in. Oh I love pranks.

Any pregame rituals?
Well, it changes from year to year. This year coach gives me a Tootsie Pop before every game, so I warm up with a sucker in my mouth. Probably not the smartest idea we’ve ever had, but coach is superstitious, and I like suckers, so it works out for both of us.

Do you have a favorite opposing gym to play in? And why?
Probably Chadron. We are just in-state rivals, and they get so many fans to come to their games. It gets intense. They always make shirts and dress up and scream loud. They hate us, but I love it.

Most memorable game and why?
This is hard, but I would have to say my freshman year when we made it to the Sweet 16 in North Dakota. We were up against the No.1 team in the region and playing in their hometown. Their fans were amazing. The whole gym was packed, and it was so loud you just kept getting the goose bumps over and over again. Our assistant coach at the time had to take over for the game because our head coach was in the hospital, and his speech before the game got everyone so fired up we didn’t even care we were the underdog. Even though we lost, it was such a great atmosphere to play in and a very memorable game.

Have you ever been given a piece of advice from a coach or teammate that you won’t forget?
My assistant coach last year was always giving me advice on life and basketball.

BECKER, PAGE 11
Lady Huskers chase perfection

Opening with 21 wins is the best start in school history

BY CRAIG HALL
Antelope Staff

Perfection: the highest degree of proficiency, skill or excellence. The UNL women’s basketball team is chasing history as they are off to their best start in school history, 21-0.

The Lady Huskers have done it all this year defeating their opponents by an average of 24 points per game. Even in a conference as good as the Big 12, Nebraska has not let up, only letting the margin of defeat slip to 18 points per game. “We have won in a lot of different ways… that’s attributed to our players’ versatility and the different things we can do. I think one reason we have had so much success is because we are so versatile,” women’s head basketball coach, Connie Yori said.

Nebraska has garnered national attention-grabbing headlines all around the World Wide Web, even on acclaimed sports site, espn.com. They have defeated three Top 25 teams already this season, but their schedule doesn’t get any easier. The Lady Huskers will face a ranked Iowa State squad in Lincoln on February 17 and also have to make a trip to Norman to face the Lady Sooners a week later. Even against lesser opponents in the Big 12, you can’t let up. “Our players are a good group, they have good character and they’re not going to get all caught up in this. They are smart enough and mature enough to know that we got to keep practicing and preparing well to have a chance at winning games,” Yori said.

Leading the Nebraska women’s team this year is forward Kelsey Griffin. The 6-foot-2 senior from Eagle River, Alaska, is a huge reason for the success of the team. Griffin averages nearly a double-double every game with averages 19.3 points per game and 9.9 rebounds per game. Griffin has also been selected to many post-season award watch lists such as the 2010 Naismith Trophy given out to the best player in women’s college basketball.

Griffin also has had a strong supporting cast throughout the season. As with any great team, everyone has to play well. That has been the case with fellow starters Cory Montgomery, Yvonne Turner, Dominique Kelly and Lindsay Moore who have all contributed in their special ways. The ability of these players to play almost an entire game has given them the advantage over other teams. The Lady Huskers are also able to go to their bench and find players who can score, rebound and play defense.

With their recent success, it is no doubt the Lady Huskers are among the best in the country. With their recent blowout win over highly ranked Oklahoma State, the Huskers have drawn comparisons to the No. 1 team in the land, the University of Connecticut. Analysts all over the country have Nebraska as a potential No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

For once in the state of Nebraska, basketball has taken precedence in a normal day conversation over Nebraska football. Perhaps, come March the people in Nebraska will be talking about the Lady Husker’s first ever trip to the Final Four in the NCAA tournament and a possible NCAA Championship.

THEA BAUM

See the video online at unkantelope.com
Beth (Kristen Bell) is a career-obsessed New York museum curator. On the eve of the biggest opening of her career, Beth’s younger sister announces she’s getting married in Rome, and Beth is off to Italy for what she hopes will be a quick weekend. She needs to get back and oversee the big opening.

At the wedding she meets the handsome and charming Nick (Josh Duhamel) and begins to wonder if he might be the one (I know I would like him to be the one). But, after seeing him with another woman, Beth gets drunk, swears off romance, walks in the Fountain of Love and then makes the decision to remove five coins from the fountain to save those who threw them in wishing for love from a life of disappointment.

Of course, since this is a magic fountain, the owners of the rescued coins have a spell cast on them and fall madly in love with Beth, follow her back to New York and try to win her heart. Unfortunately, Beth just can’t seem to forget about Nick and, apparently, he has fallen for her too. Or has he? Beth believes one of the coins she took from the fountain belongs to Nick, so his feelings for her may be less than genuine.

This is where the movie gets funny. We are introduced to the insane suitors chasing Beth all over New York City. Beth struggles to complete the biggest art installation of her career while trying to hide from these insane men who believe they are in love with Beth. I, for one, would be embarrassed to be followed around town by some of the characters, but towards the end of the movie Beth handles it very well and gets them to help her with her grand opening.

Now, everyone might be sick of seeing the fairytale movies, but I definitely wasn’t. There is always a perfect, cute and a ‘hang onto the edge of your seats’ feel about love stories. I’m always entranced by them.

The movie constantly brings out men who are in love with Beth. But since Beth was not in love with any of them, it shows you that you should never settle for something you don’t want. Beth knew she was in love with Nick, and that’s who she was fighting for throughout the whole movie. Beth does everything she can to find out if the love Nick and her have together is real, and she does find out at the very end.

The PG-13 movie, “When in Rome” just shows you that you can find real love even with all the day-to-day craziness that happens in people’s lives. There are always twists and turns to stop you from being with the one you love or make you fall in love with someone you shouldn’t, but the movie definitely shows a girl and a guy who won’t give up on real love.
currency. Furthermore, Columbus died convinced that the islands he had explored and ravished were part of his ever illusive route to Asia. In fact, Columbus never set foot in what makes up the continental U.S.

Two centuries later, a champion of freedom for white men, George Washington was a slave owner himself. We cannot excuse Washington for partaking in this action simply because slavery was accepted with the times. An absolute wrong deserves no justification. Nonetheless, our full scope view of history has made it evident that his role as the first president has had a much longer lasting effect than his role as a slave owner. Washington’s endeavors as first president were calculated for the good of this nation.

In the twentieth century Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream to liberate the nation of an inequality whose roots belong to a kind of seed sowed by Columbus. He challenged conventional wisdom for the sake of wisdom itself in an endeavor to propel America into a more honorable America. An America that lives up to the standards set forth by its forefathers, among them, Washington.

All three of these men broke new ground in their lifetime. Columbus was a pioneer of slavery in the western world. Washington established a foundation for the leaders of what would become the most influential nation in the world. King led the way in unshackling the nation of the common link that chains these men. This leaves an odd man out in history that should not be honored with one of our federal holidays.

My Blue from page 3 ——

passwords for WebEasi and My Blue will not be the same,” Schipporeit said.

Departments all over campus such as the Financial Aid Office, Office of Student Records and Registration and The Financial and Residential Life offices are working diligently to get all the data needed entered into the PeopleSoft software system by the quickly approaching reveal date.

“We have had to research the program, train, and enter 25 years of information onto the new software in 18 months. It has been a beastly process to say the least,” Schipporeit said.

As with any new software program, students and faculty may be confused at first, but everything will be there to accommodate their needs. Since all seven universities are using the same software with different portal names, all the information will be the same. Some information and links listed on My Blue will not pertain to every campus. “Hopefully with time and more research we will be able to customize our portal to the UNK way,” Schipporeit said.

Sudoku answer:

Upside down, from page 4

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Career Services from page 3

ing, but when you have to go around and try and find a new place, it just sometimes takes more effort than people are willing to invest,” Daake said.

Daake assures students that rumors Career Services won’t be offering many of their previous services are completely untrue. “We’re still doing all of the career fairs, we’re doing lots of presentations on resume writing and interview skills, all of those kinds of things that students need to know about. And we’re still doing practice interviews for students and reviewing resumes. All of those functions that career services has done in the past, the plan is to do the ones that are in demand, the ones that students want and that faculty members find useful in working with their students.”

Daake said academic advising will continue doing all the academic advising. “We do a lot of work with students who are having trouble academically too, and we will continue to do all of those things as well.”

Although the two offices plan to keep many things the same, they are planning new ways to aid students as well. “We’ve talked about the possibility of getting alumni groups more involved with talking to students about career opportunities. We’ve talked about doing some things with various colleges to help, like business students or fine art students, to help them more with the whole job exploration process.”

Career Services and Academic Advising also puts on presentations to help students land that special job. “Student groups or any kind of organizations that would like to have a presentation on anything having to do with careers, manners, professional dress, anything like that, all they have to do is give us a call, and we’ll set something up for them.”
**ARMED, READY FOR ACTION**

*Photo by Emily Wemhoff*

Blaine Drozd, Chad Pfeifer, (back row) Josh Brummer and Tyson Greenwalt (front row) pose with their laser tag gear before competing in their first round of laser tag. Teams of four players competed against each other throughout the evening for top prizes.

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**Steve**

From page 2

point I was used to not having much conversation and just a lot of lecturing. I remember having a deer in headlights look, and we had a good laugh about it.

Q: What kind of topics do you teach at UNK?
A: I'm a generalist here. I'm the only international relations professor, so I teach intro to IR and security related topics.

Q: Why should students take your class?
A: I can make learning fun. We can have good laughs and all be humble as we learn. I'll challenge you and motivate you.

Q: What research have you been working on?
A: What I'm asking in my research is to explain in a theoretical way why some former Soviet Union countries cooperate with Russia and others do not, looking at six countries in particular. Those countries are Estonia, Latvia, Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

Q: What do these countries have in common? Why do they stand out?
A: They're all positioned similarly vis-à-vis Russia. Ten percent or more of their population tends to be Russian. They all suffered massive economic decline, up to one-third or more of their gross domestic product is lost when the Soviet Union collapses. They're all similarly placed countries acting differently toward Russia based on how history has shaped identities in different states.

Q: What initially sparked the interest in your field of research?
A: I was always interested in the former Soviet Union. My problem however was that by the time I started graduate school the Cold War had already ended, so interest in the former Soviet Union started to decline precipitously. But to now learn another area was going to cost and take time. I like it, so I have a vested interest. Plus, I had already begun learning Russian. I like the language. I think its fun. It's interesting.

Q: Where has your research taken you?
A: I was in Ukraine for my dissertation; I spent three semesters there during 1998 and 1999. I went to Kazakhstan in the summer of 2008 and Belarus in the summer of 2009.

Q: Any interesting stories you’d like to share from those in-country experiences?
A: When I was in Kazakhstan I was walking home around midnight and was stopped by a police car. They initially asked me some questions: Do I have drugs? Have I been drinking? They made me pull out the contents of my pockets and place them on the hood of the car. Then they frisked me and continued to ask me questions. They told me my documents were out of order and that I’m in the country illegally. At this point I start to think this is a shakedown, and they’re just seeing if I can pay. Then I start to speak my best Russian, explaining to them that I am legal in their country. They proceeded to steal my cigarettes; they left me with one for the walk home. These guys irked me, but I had to be polite. I didn’t want to land in jail.

Q: I understand that you’re turning your research into a book, where are you with that process?
A: I’m still at the proposal stage right now. I’m finishing up chapter one. Chapter two is also part of the proposal, and I hope to be done with that in February. My goal is to have the book done by the end of next summer minus the editing process. I envision about 400 pages. I love doing it, but I’ll be glad when it’s done because I’ve been working on it for a long time.
SCARIER: SNAKES, SPIDERS OR CLOWNS?

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