An eye for an eye?

Death penalty debate continues though an execution now set

BY BETHANY SHINN
Antelope Staff

Cause for concern

The Biblical adage about "punishment fitting the crime" is being challenged by conscious-ridden Nebraskans who oppose capital punishment. Concerns are rising as legislatures continue to bring capital punishment in Nebraska under scrutiny.

Much of this scrutiny began when Nebraska made national news in 2007 when they replaced death by electric chair to death by lethal injection. Some of the same major players are still involved in the debate.

On March 4, the Judiciary Committee heard testimony on a bill that is aimed to bring capital punishment in Nebraska under scrutiny.

The increase does not confirm a trend, but the university can expect to see more reports in years to come, Haaker said. “Just because you see a spike, I don’t know we’re necessarily seeing a trend of more, it just might mean we are having more reported,” she said.

The actual number of sexual assaults at UNK since four were reported in 2007 when they replaced death by electric chair to death by lethal injection. Of the same major players are still involved in the debate.

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“We should not wait until we are the odd state out before repealing the death penalty. Instead, we should be in the forefront of this humanitarian movement.”

Brenda Council Nebraska Legislator who proposed LB276

Death penalty debate continues though an execution now set

Gurneys, like the one above, are used for government sanctioned executions by lethal injection, the death penalty sentence in Nebraska.

Council needed 25 votes to pass this bill. “Because LB 276 is not a priority bill, it is unlikely to see discussion this year and will likely be pushed until next year,” Council said. Though the bill may be delayed, the debate is still fresh on minds across the state.

 Debate foreseen

Given Nebraska’s known conservative policy, the odds of this bill moving on in the legislature look meager. “Many would say it is not worthwhile proposing a bill like this, simply because it has such a slim chance of being successful. However, I think it is always important to raise questions about existing practices and the introduction of such a bill does serve that purpose,” said Dr. John

SEXUAL ASSAULTS, PAGE 6
Mantor lounge is up to par

BY LACEY MCPHILLIPS
JMC 215

If you happened to walk through Mantor hall in the past few weeks, you may have noticed something unusual about its lounge – i.e. that it looked like something out of a Happy Gilmore dreamland.

From April 8 to 12, the Mantor lounge was transformed into a homemade mini-golf course for the second annual Mantor Hall Mini-Golf. It was such a great success that the Mantor staff decided to leave the course up for another two weeks.

If anyone asks, I’d say that I am proud to have contributed to this success. Though, to be honest, my part was rather small. Let’s just say I have a newfound respect for mini-golf course architects.

I am not the most mechanically-minded person, preferring the world of words, but I made a last-minute decision (as in, at 11:30 p.m. on the Thursday night before the course was to be set up) to build a hole.

Several holes had been constructed with sheets of Styrofoam, and I figured that would be a good bet for me. It required no nails or screws or any other dangerous tools that I could hurt myself with.

Styrofoam turned out to be a bad choice. By the end of the first day of golfing, the obstacles on my hole looked pretty sad. With a little help from a real carpenter, I spent Sunday afternoon remaking my hole with wood. I finally had something to be proud of. Or at least not completely ashamed of.

The course had a total of 13 holes. Mantor president and spent a large portion of the weekend working (and playing) on the course.

The obstacles proclaimed them entirely of recycled materials – plastic bottles, rolled up newspapers and empty pizza boxes. Instead of buying supplies, Joe Miller and Justin Waskowiak spent their entire $15 budget on a garden gnome.

Hole 5 was a bit on the existential side. The obstacles proclaimed themselves, “I am Wall,” “I am Albino Wall” and “I am Water.”

Hole makers were awarded prizes in the categories of most original/unique, most difficult, best constructed, and overall favorite.

Hole 13, constructed by Zach Springer and Danny Frauendorfer, won everything except the most difficult award. Their hole was cut in the shape of two palm trees complete with coconut bumpers, bringing a tropical touch to the course.

While my personal favorite was Hole 8 with the garden gnome, I can’t begrudge anyone who voted for Hole 13. It was definitely the most attractive on the course.

My hole did not receive a single vote in any category, even after I reconstructed it. I was not surprised.

On Tuesday, April 12, Mantor held a tournament on the course, with prizes awarded to the winners. Josh Brummer won, finishing one under par. His success may or may not have had something to do with the fact that he is the Mantor president and spent a large portion of the weekend working (and playing) on the course.

I quit keeping track of my score when it reached 10 over par after the first two holes. Apparently, my golf skills are about as good as my hole-making skills.
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 6 www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Nesslein sees justice is blind

Hall County mistake leads to unnecessary, unpleasant, embarrassing night in jail

BY BO NESSLEIN
JMC 215

Those fortunate people who have never been to jail have probably wondered what life would be like behind bars. I personally had the underwhelming privilege of serving a night in the less than accommodating Hall County Corrections Facility. A magnanimous clerical error took me from an afternoon of PS3 with my kids to jailhouse stripes within minutes. So instead of writing some quick anecdotal humor piece sprinkled with the occasional joke, I want to take you on a journey of a very tumultuous 24 hours.

The initial part of this journey started when a sheriff’s deputy arrived at my house around 3 p.m. on Sunday with a warrant for my arrest for failure to appear in court.

See this is where the mayhem begins because I, in fact, was in court on the date in question. So I am sure you are wondering why in the world I was in court in the first place? As I politely explained to the deputy, I was in court and there was a mistake. However, nothing was going to change the fact that I was about to be arrested and hauled off to jail.

As I am escorted out of my home, I am faced with my nosey neighbors as well as the swelling eyes of my children as they watch their dad being handcuffed and put into the deputy’s car. Fitting into the car was another chore all to itself. My broad shoulders packed in the space for a 100-pound person wasn’t pleasant in the least. I ended up having to spread across two-thirds of the back seat in order to fit.

I was whisked quickly through fingerprinting and mug shots, and knowing I had no justifiable reason for being there, I gave the camera the biggest cheesy smile I could muster. But even before the mug shot, I had to don the old-school black and white striped pants and shirt. By this time, my embarrassment of the situation had reached unbearable proportions.

After processing, I had to wait to be placed in what they called “housing.” The waiting time for this process took several hours, so I had my first jail-bird supper: a cheeseburger, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, and pudding. At first glance one would say, “Well, that’s not so bad.”

I have to tell you that it was the worst meal in my life. That says a lot because I’m a Navy veteran who has traveled the world and now pushes over 250 pounds. So to say the least, I am no stranger to food. So when I say it was bad, man it was bad! I can actually say that this was the first meal in my life that I actually pushed away and couldn’t physically stomach eating the rest— and when you’re as much of a chunky butt as I am, that’s saying a lot.

Once I was housed I met my cellmate—who will remain nameless for confidentiality purposes. He didn’t seem to speak much English at all. So I had to call upon those Rosetta Stone lessons and hack through finding out his name and why he was there. Those too will remain confidential. Needless to say he was there for several months for frivolous things. He was nice enough I guess, but the whole time I was in the cell with him I hadn’t taken a crap all day. The only way to take care of business in jail? Right in front of this total stranger. No walls, no curtain, just right out in the open. Now I am far from the bashful type—but come on, I just couldn’t. I couldn’t just drop trou right in front of the guy that I met five minutes ago and take a dump. So I did the next best thing, I waited till he was asleep and pinched the monster loaf.

Sleeping was a complete nightmare in the cell. The lights don’t ever get turned out completely; they just get dimmer than they were during the day. There are two metal beds welded to the wall with thin blue mattresses on them with a bit of a raised bump at the top of them where the pillow would be.

Sleep never seemed to come. Instead, constant unknown noises: the locking, unlocking and clanging metal doors, the seemingly endless chatter among inmates, the unforgiving hard mattress. To make matters worse, due to my time in service I suffer from PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) because I have seen things that people only see on TV. The loud noises and unknown environment caused me to relive all old and bad experiences.

What seemed like years passing was only hours. At 5 a.m. lights in the cells came springing back to life for breakfast. The nightmare of the insanely hard bed left my already bad back in quite a twist. I asked for a nurse so I could get some pain medicine at 7 a.m.

At 11 a.m., I still hadn’t seen the nurse. After a few more hours of increasingly bad food and sitting on metal chairs at metal tables, I was finally going to be released. I was ushered back to the intake area and processed my paperwork to leave, which oddly was faster than a drive through at a fast food restaurant. That was just before 2 p.m., and I had still hadn’t seen the nurse.

I was able to get home before the kids got home from school. When they arrived, I hugged them like never before. All this has affected my family forever. It was almost exactly 24 hours later that I received personal apologies directly from the county attorney of Hall County. The damage is irreparable and permanent. I will never know how in the world anyone would want to be repeat offenders or to ever allow themselves to go back and do any of that crap. Ever.

So I will now finally tell you how in the world I found myself in this situation. One word, “Truancy.” My kids have missed a few too many days of school due to illness and thus the county charged my wife and I with compulsory truancy. Most people wouldn’t even know it’s a criminal offense, let alone an offense that would land someone in jail. So, though my wife and I went to court, they had in their records that I had not attended—even though I personally shook the county attorney’s hand. For some reason, they issued a warrant the very next day.

I went to jail for truancy, went to jail for someone else’s lack of attention to detail...so in the end I see, justice is blind.
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EASY IN, EASY OUT
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Loper Legion appreciation night set for April 29

BY KRISTAL NUNNENKAMP
Antelope Staff

The students you see at games cheering loud, decked out in blue, and crazy for Loper athletics aren’t just your ordinary student section. They are Loper Legion.

This all-student led organization gets the students involved in home games for both men’s and women’s athletics at UNK. Loper Legion’s student advisor Matt Tomjack, says the organization he helped revive can continue to grow with community support.

“After I leave in May, future Loper Legion exec. boards are always welcome to seek my advice. I hope they get a lot of outside support from the community and are available to offer more incentives to go to games,” said Tomjack, a graduating senior from Wahoo. “I hope they work with the athletic department and organize at least one road trip to each of our new MIAA foes. With the change of conference for the Lopers come brand-new opportunities for the UNK student body to start anew and really back their Lopers.”

Loper Legion was originally started five years ago by Kyle Bowers, but only lasted a year. When Tim Hruza was elected student body president, he looked to Tomjack to restart the organization. Tomjack has been working with Loper Legion for three years now.

Tomjack said he came from a high school that had nothing but school pride, and he grew up watching Division 1 sports that always had a large student population at games. When he came to UNK there was none of that.

Tomjack started small by just getting his fraternity brothers to go to basketball games and felt that he could do that on a larger scale. “It hasn’t been an easy road, but I feel that if it carries on after I leave, it will have been well worth it.”

You can get out and support UNK at Loper Legion Student Appreciation Night at Memorial Field Friday, April 29 at 5 p.m.

Baseball wins 3 of 4, takes another series

BY GANDY HENRY
Antelope Staff

The baseball team is right where they want to be as they head into the final stretch of the regular season. After winning three out of four against Colorado Christian University, the Lopers stand at 26-12 overall with an RMAC best 22-8 conference record.

With only a non-conference matchup against the University of Nebraska at Omaha this week, followed by just eight remaining RMAC games, the Lopers are in position to finish the season strong.

The Lopers had to work hard to earn their three victories in the series, coming from behind in game one to win 9-6. Facing a two-run deficit before scoring five runs over the course of the seventh and eighth innings, senior first baseman Andrew Haake went three for three at the plate and scored three runs while driving in two and walking twice. Sophomore catcher, Chandler Klute and senior designated hitter, Felix Segovia also contributed three hits each for a total 18 total hits by the Lopers.

In game three the Lopers found themselves trailing 5-3 heading into the sixth inning. They scored one in the sixth to cut the lead to one, and senior Tim Urban pinch hit to start the ninth. Urban singled to right and advanced to second on a throwing error from the outfield.

“Tim did a great job stepping up off the bench and starting that big inning for us. He gave us some energy and sparked a rally,” said head coach Damon Day.

Senior Brian Chritz also pinch hit, and singled to right to score the pinch runner from third after a sacrifice bunt. With the game tied and the bases loaded with two outs, Segovia lined a single to left to score the run in walk-off fashion.

“It feels great to get a hit in a big spot like that and give us the win. I got a pitch I could do something with and put a good swing on it; fortunately it found the outfield,” Segovia said.

In the Lopers 6-4 game two victory, senior pitcher Roy Metter was effective on the mound throwing six and a third innings on his way to picking up win number six of the season. Metter scattered nine hits and gave up all four runs on a grand slam in the third inning. Metter also struck out four while forcing 13 groundouts. Senior pitcher Jake Kresse came on in relief and struck out both batters he faced for the final two outs to earn his fourth save of the season. Kresse also picked up the wins in games one and three, increasing his win total to four.
Sexual assaults may be higher according to professor of criminal justice and former victim advocate Julie Campbell.

“Sexual assault is one of the most underreported offenses. Some studies estimate that about half of all sexual assaults are reported, but I think it’s probably less than that, particularly in a campus environment,” she said.

Students do not report sexual assault for a variety of reasons, according to Campbell. Many are unsure of whether they actually are victims.

“They have a vision in their mind of what they think a rape is, so it’s like an attack by a traitor. If you get in a situation where students are assaulted by boyfriends, friends, acquaintances or people they see at parties, and they’ve been drinking they get uncertain whether they’re actually victims. They envision something more dramatic with a stranger and injuries,” Campbell said.

Approximately 85 percent of sexual assaults do not involve a weapon, and roughly 75 percent of assaults are committed by individuals the victim knows, according to Campbell.

“It’s not like that vision people have of the dark man in the alley at night with a gun. It’s just not the typical scenario. Usually, it’s someone you know, and there’s not a weapon involved,” she said.

Alcohol is another obstacle. Students often fail to report an assault that happens at a party for fear of a minor in possession of alcohol charge.

“They worry that if they admit they were at the party, or that they were consuming alcohol, they’re somehow going to end up with a MIP. Really the two don’t compare. A sexual assault is a more serious offense, and it should be reported,” she said.

Campbell encouraged students to seek help whenever they are the victims of nonconsensual sexual contact.

“If a student thinks they might have been victimized, they need to talk to somebody about it. If it is something where you’re going to pursue some type of criminal action, you need to do it quickly. Time is of the essence. So even if you’re not sure, talk to somebody in the Women’s Center, talk to somebody in the counseling department or talk to a faculty member or a residence hall advisor,” Campbell said.

Campbell encouraged students to seek help whenever they are the victims of non-consensual sexual contact.

“I don’t think Nebraska will repeal the death penalty any time in the immediate future. For the most part, Nebraskans believe in an “eye for an eye,” and I don’t think that is going to change much. Of course, as the state changes with newer generations becoming voters and recent immigrants there may be some changes coming,” Anderson said.

SART members include associate director of health care Cindy Shultz, a trained sexual assault nurse examiner, UNK police officer Jarvis Kring as lead investigator and prevention specialist, the assistant director of the Women’s Center, and the S.A.F.E. Center’s professional counselor. The team was selected especially to help victims of sexual assault on campus.

“We try to create a team that can really take into account all of the unique situations that a victim might be in if a sexual assault were to occur on campus, verses if it were to occur at an off campus location,” Meagan Smejdr, Women’s Center graduate assistant, said.

The primary goal of SART will be to investigate sexual assaults on campus. The group will begin meeting this week, but the broader goal of the grant is prevention and education according to Shaw. She hopes to implement new procedures by the beginning of the following academic year.

“The whole premise of the grant is prevention education. We’re still kind of in the research phase of the project, but our goal is to have a prevention program in place by the time the freshmen come to campus in the fall,” Shaw said.
June 14 execution date set for Moore

Mata's final sentence for 2000 murder still on hold pending appeal

BY BETHANY SHINN
Antelope Staff

An execution date of June 14 has been set for Carey Dean Moore by the Nebraska Supreme court, the first to be carried out in 13 years since the court banned the electric chair.

Moore, 53, was sentenced for the 1979 murder of two cabbies during robberies. His first stay of execution was granted six days before the execution scheduled in 2007 because the court wanted to review the legality of the electric chair.

Eleven men sit on Nebraska’s death row. A letter last year from the attorney general’s office said the state likely would seek an execution date for Raymond Mata Jr., convicted in the 1999 murder of a Scottsbluff toddler, after a lethal injection protocol was written. His lawyers have challenged the use of the drug.

Since capital punishment was adopted in Nebraska, 38 individuals have been executed. Only three of these executions have occurred since 1976.

In May 28, 2009, Nebraska legislators approved a bill to change the state’s method of execution from electrocution to lethal injection. Nebraska was the last state in the nation to adopt lethal injection execution. Debate continues centered around the impending execution of Mata, who was convicted in 2000 of kidnapping and murdering Adam Gomes, the 3-year-old son of a previous girlfriend. Investigators testified that parts of the toddler’s body were found at Mata’s home in a freezer, a dog bowl, dog-food bag, and from the stomach of Mata’s dog.

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The women’s soccer team hosted an afternoon of friendly matches at Foster Field. Visiting teams from Washburn, Bellevue and Kansas Wesleyan made the trip to Kearney for some extra scrimmaging against real competition.

Soccer scrimmages

Freshman defense man Sarah Talcott, prepares for a throw-in against Bellevue during Saturday’s scrimmages. Each spring UNK is allowed to conduct scrimmages with other universities on five separate dates throughout the semester. During these friendly matches no official score or stats are kept due to the fact it’s just friendly competition between schools.