New director and vision for Honors Program

BY ERIK DODGE
Antelope Staff

Honors admissions requirements will increase from a minimum ACT score of 26 to 27 for the upcoming year, and Dr. Longo hopes to offer more courses exclusively for Honors students.

“We want to build a community of scholars with faculty buy-in to the program. The Honors Program is about connecting the best students with the best faculty,” he said.

The Honors program began in 1980 when Dr. Loretta Johnson was named the first director of the program, then known as the Horizons Program. The initial program spanned two years, included 15 hours of courses, and was joined by 40 students with an average ACT score just above 24.

Since its founding the Honors Program has expanded to a 4-year program which requires 24 hours of Honors courses, and includes more than 400 students with an average ACT score just below 28.

Dr. Longo previously served as Honors Director from 2001 through 2004 and succeeded Dr. Gary Davis. Dr. Longo complimented his predecessor’s effectiveness in expanding the Honors Program and cultivating study abroad opportunities.

“Dr. Davis was an excellent recruiter,” he said. “He did a tremendous job establishing the study abroad opportunities for our students at the Roosevelt Academy.”

OrgSync, a new system to the University of Nebraska at Kearney, will provide students with an online community management system to track, record and promote campus involvement.

“The goal is to help build a stronger campus community by streamlining communication,” said Heather Wolf, UNK Student Activities coordinator.

For the last month, Student Body Vice President Paloma Mena-Werth of Kearney has been attending webinars with OrgSync training staff.

“OrgSync is somewhat of a social network for student organizations and the students of UNK,” Mena-Werth said. “Each organization will have its own profile, and, eventually, so will student organizations.
New Market dishes up food with flair

BY ASHLEY LEEVER
Antelope Staff

Imagine having Asian cuisine from a Mongolian grill, hearthstone pizza, and a slushie all in one place. Sound like a little slice of food heaven? For students at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, these and other new dining experiences are reality.

UNK dining services were revamped over the summer with $3.2 million in renovations. UNK chose an award winning platform, PulseOn Dining, which focuses on changing student trends, needs and feedback.

The Market at 27th Street, formerly known as the Commons, shows the largest amount of renovations at a cost of $1.7 million and gives students a variety of fresh, nutritious options.

Upon entering the Market at 27th Street students encounter the Fresh Market where students can help themselves to a salad bar filled with fresh vegetables, homemade soups and bread.

If students are in the mood for pizza, the Hearthstone Oven is the place for them. But the Hearthstone Oven isn't just restricted to pizza. Students can also order pasta, calzones, rotisserie chicken and other baked entrees.

To quell the sweet tooth cravings, Baker's Crust will have a wide variety of fresh baked goods along with specialty sandwiches and pasta.

For students wanting to try foods from other countries without the travel costs, the Mongolian Grill is the place. Students can combine rice, grains and noodles with an assortment of meat and vegetables to create their own cuisine.

And for those who may just want a bowl of cereal or to make their own dinner, the Kitchen will provide them with a place to help themselves.

Along with the many changes in the Market at 27th Street, the Nebraskan Student Union will also feature a Subway. The Union’s computer lounge has been updated into The Living Room, a place for students to interact, relax and study. The Living Room will also feature a Starbucks with limited menu items.

Students and faculty who spend most of their days near the Fine Arts Building and West Center will notice changes at these buildings coffee shops. Java Notes in Fine Arts and Jitters at West Center both received updates over the summer.
Ready to grab a drink? Check kearneybars.com

BY JAY B. SLOAN  
Antelope Staff

Kearney’s nightlife and social scene has officially gone “world-wide.” As in the World Wide Web, that is.

Now, UNK students and local bar-goers will find the low-down on Kearney’s nightlife at the tips of their fingers at kearneybars.com.

Thanks to the innovative thinking of three UNK alumni, students interested in finding daily drink deals, special events, “happy hour” times or just something to do, will be able to find all the information they need at one online home.

The kearneybars.com team is comprised of Scott Wemhoff, Chais Meyer, and David Lano. Wemhoff, a 2009 graduate of UNK, said the idea came purely out of a need for an easy-to-use resource helping students find deals while heading out in Kearney.

“It started about four months ago with us three guys sitting around wondering where we could get a drink, but we didn’t want to spend an arm and a leg to sit down, socialize and relax,” Wemhoff said. “We wanted to know who was having happy hour and what their specials were, but we had no way of finding that information without calling every bar.”

The team quickly went to work calling bars and compiling a master list of drink specials before constructing the site.

Wemhoff said the site will work with local bars to keep updated on their special events. The site will announce when a bar or venue is hosting a concert or other live entertainment such as a comedian or karaoke.

Wemhoff pointed out that although the group can’t take complete credit for the unique idea, they have geared the site to better suite UNK students.

“We’re much like the site “omahannightlife.com” except in the fact that we have information more relevant to today’s college students with daily drink specials and happy hour times and their locations,” Wemhoff said.

The site is quickly gaining notoriety on the UNK campus. Aside from accessing the site via their web address at “kearneybars.com,” the site also has a page assessable through Facebook.

UNK students will find that aside from all the usual benefits they get from kearneybars.com, “liking” the kearneybars.com Facebook page could pay off in other ways.

Facebook members, who “like” the kearneybars.com page, will gain admittance to an exclusive party with free drinks provided by kearneybars.com. The event is planned for Tuesday Aug. 30, starting at 9 p.m. D.J. Eiyuu will also be on hand mixing live from 10-1 a.m.

OrgSync from page 1

Each student.

“OrgSync will not be an option, but a must, for each recognized student organization,” Mena-Werth said. “If they don’t make and update their page, they will not be considered for UPFF funding, catering funding, able to reserve campus facilities or participate in the Student Organization Fair.

“It is impossible for the Union staff and student government to keep track of all of our university’s organizations and, even more so, updated information on where meetings times, presidents and advisers,” Mena-Werth said. “This is one way for us to ensure that we are updated every year with correct information for each organization.”

“When updates are made to organizations’ pages it will also update on our UNK organizations site,” Wolf said. “Students will be able to ‘join’ the organizations that they are a part of with the approval of an (webpage) administrator.

“Each organization will have an updated page,” Mena-Werth said. “It will be easy for students to see what our campus has to offer and to get involved in things that spark their interest. OrgSync will also provide a search by category of all of the student organizations on campus. That search will provide a database of groups that will be easily searchable for prospective and current UNK students.

“Organizations will be able to use the site internally to send information to just their members, take polls, etc., and externally, to inform campus of an event they are hosting,” Mena-Werth said. “Students will be able to see a calendar of all university events and easily transfer events they are interested in to their personal Gmail calendar in their LoperMail accounts.”

“Community service, service learning and scholarships can all be documented on an individual’s profile, which creates a simple resume page that contains all their involvement, positions held and awards received,” Mena-Werth said. “This resume link is public and can be put on an application or given to a prospective employer.

“They will also be able to print a pdf form of their co-curricular campus involvement,” Wolf said.

“I believe this will be a system that our students will be excited to use,” Wolf said. “Its familiarity to other sites such as Facebook will make it user friendly and fun, but provide so much extra information for our students and UNK as a whole.

“OrgSync is a wonderful program and comes highly recommended from many other campuses across the nation,” Mena-Werth said. “For a campus of our size, it is almost a necessity. We will be pushing the site a lot this fall semester, but I don’t think it will take long to get organizations on board once they realize everything OrgSync can do.”

According to Wolf, the site will go live the first week of classes, Aug. 22 – 26, but will be promoted to just student leaders at that time. During Sept. 7-8, on-site training will be held for student leaders and student organization advisers on how to create their portals. In October, the site will be launched for UNK students to login and create their own user profiles.

Gonzales from page 2

A professor of political science who joined UNK in 1988, Dr. Longo previously served as Honors Director from 2001 through 2004. He is the co-author of a book on the Nebraska Constitution, a co-editor of a book on water policy on the Great Plains, and has been published in as many as seven periodicals. In addition, Dr. Longo helped found UNK’s Campus Kitchen, which helps feed low-income, disabled or otherwise food-insecure people in Kearney. In May, 1999 he was named UNK’s Leland Holdt/Security Mutual Life Distinguished Professor “for his sustained excellence in teaching, research, and service to the university and community.”

Despite Dr. Longo’s many accomplishments he said his proudest moment was witnessing the effect UNK had on his son and daughter.

“It was great to see them empowered by the great education they got at UNK,” he said.

As Honors Director Dr. Longo hopes to share a sense of empowerment with an increasing number of students.

Honors from page 1

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PAID STAFF POSITIONS AVAILABLE
Antelope editors, advisers still looking for positions for fall term and assistant positions for jobs in the spring term:

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Contact Dr. Christina Jackson -8639
Circulation manager
Contact Terri Diffenderfer 8267
Or editor Rebecca McMickell
mcmickellrm@lopers.unk.edu
Behold the Blue and Gold

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.

Sudoku ★★★☆☆☆

1
4 3 5
3
4
5
3 2
6 3
4

Find answer on page 6 www.sudoku-puzzles.net

ABOVE: Sophomore Richard Poppe interviews freshman Kirk Slack for the BlueTube web series Friday night at the Blue and Gold Welcoming Ceremony. The BlueTube series, which is produced by Advertising and Creative services, helps new and prospective students in answering questions about UNK. Each episode will answer a question submitted to the office of Admissions. The man behind the camcorder is producer of the show and UNK multimedia service coordinator Gavin Felix.

ABOVE: Incoming freshmen Anson Hueftle of Cozad and Chris Archibald of Castle Rock, Colo. enjoy sno-cones and friendly conversation at the edge of Cope Memorial Fountain Friday night at UNK’s Blue and Gold Welcoming Ceremony.

BELOW RIGHT: A rugby scrum breaks Friday night at the Blue and Gold Welcoming Ceremony. The UNK Rugby Club had a booth to help encourage students to participate in the fast-paced game.

Photos by Adam Konruff

Photo by Adam Konruff

Lindsay Huen, a freshman elementary education major from Kearney, throws a ping-pong ball into a bucket with Drunk & Dangerous glasses. The glasses impair vision to simulate what vision is like after consuming alcohol.

Photo by Skylar Loske
How was your first day as a college freshman?

“It went a lot better than I thought it would. The teachers are really nice and welcoming.”
Jordyn Duffek
Pre-veterinarian major
McCool Junction

“My first day was very smooth which was something I did not expect. Everyone has been really friendly.”
Zoey Dutton
Psychology major
Denver, Colo.

“My classes are going good so far. I’m looking forward to meeting new people this semester.”
Emily Sandberg
Pre-pharmacy major
Stanton

“I had five classes, so things are going pretty good, but I’m already excited for the end of the semester.”
Jack Knispel
Criminal justice major
Beatrice

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Need help with homework?
Learning Commons gets new look, location

BY LACEY MCPHILLIPS
Antelope Staff

In its newly renovated space on the second floor of the Calvin T. Ryan library, the Learning Commons offers students peer help in many academic disciplines.

Academic Peer Tutoring and the Writing Center, formerly two separate entities, came together in the fall of 2010 to form the first and only Learning Commons in Nebraska. It was housed in a temporary space on the library’s second floor while a more permanent space was under construction on the east end of the floor.

The space was completed in May, and the Learning Commons tutors began working August 22 in the new, modern space.

“The space is exciting to unveil because it’s new and fresh,” Taffnee Faimon, Assistant Director of the Learning Commons and Writing Center, said, “but that newness is over after your first visit. What remains is the quality service students receive in the Learning Commons.”

Academic Peer Tutoring employs 25 tutors with expertise in various subjects. They assist students in natural sciences, such as biology, chemistry, and physics; computer science; math; Spanish; and business courses including accounting and economics. They also have three tutors who serve as discussion leaders at La Mesa, a Spanish conversation table.

The Writing Center consists of a group of 11 writing tutors who can aid students in any stage of the writing process for assignments in any subject.

Peer tutoring operates on a walk-in basis. No appointments are necessary. Students may simply sign in at the welcome desk and a staff member will accompany them to an appropriate tutor.

The Writing Center, on the other hand, operates by appointment, though walk-ins are accepted if tutors are available.

The official schedule for fall tutoring schedules will be available Wednesday, Aug. 31.

“I am very proud of the LC tutors,” Faimon said. “The level of dedication tutors show is commendable. Tutors are trained, recommended by their professors, and finally, screened through an interview process, ensuring the best of the best is placed before students.”

“The Learning Commons is evolving rapidly into much more than just the Writing Center and Peer Tutoring programs,” Keri Pearson, Tutoring and Assessment Coordinator, said. “We are more than just ‘housed’ in the library. Indeed, we have gained the context to be able to focus our efforts on serving the whole student academically and personally.”

Faimon said that every student can benefit in some way from tutoring. “Tutoring is an access point. It is an opportunity to improve. If one is beyond improvement, why are you still here?”

The Learning Commons will be hosting a Game Tournament on Wednesday from 7-10 p.m. on the second floor of the library as part of Welcome Week festivities. Games will include Loper Ping Pong, Loper Corn Hole and an assortment of board games.

The new Learning Commons space is now located on the east end of the library’s second floor. Academic Peer Tutoring and the Writing Center are available for all students on a walk-in basis or by appointment.

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Sudoku answer:
Upside down, from page 3

5 3 6 2 4 1
2 6 4 5 3 1
3 1 4 2 5 6
6 4 5 2 1 3
4 2 1 3 5 6
5 3 6 1 4 2
Volleyball enters season Sept. 2 ranked 6th nationally

BY AARON URBANSKI
Antelope Staff

After another appearance in the Division II Women’s National Volleyball Tournament, the Loper volleyball team is looking to improve on its impressive 31-5 record from 2010-2011.

As the sixth ranked team nationally, according to the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) preseason poll, the expectations are high for this year’s young Loper squad.

Fifth-year senior and back-up setter Jordan Squiers knows the importance of building from a solid foundation. Squiers said as a team their goals have been centered around getting to know each other on and off the court.

“With a lot of new faces and youth, we’ve been working on getting into a sort of groove and getting everyone acclimated with the way we’ve done things around here to stay successful,” Squiers said.

Even though Loper fans may have to refer to their programs a little more often this season, don’t expect a lack of production from a relatively inexperienced group.

“As a young team, so far we have been fortunate with a lack of injuries across the board. With a lot of freshman and sophomores, most people have fresh legs and arms,” Squiers said.

Squiers explained that with a roster of 19 players, four members on the coaching staff, and a student manager, everyone should get a lot of touches during practice.

“We are able to run three nets for most drills, which has sped up our progress during preseason,” Squiers said. “We are also going to be very strong defensively, with a lot of girls battling for spots in the back row.”

As for the pressure of continuing a tradition of excellence, Squiers added that “it’s definitely there.”

“It’s been an emphasis in practice the last week that there is a certain standard held for UNK volleyball, and we’ve been working really hard to meet that every day, every drill,” said Squiers.

Coach Rick Squiers and the volleyball team will open the season against the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith, Winona State, Augustana and the University of Nebraska at Omaha Sept. 2-3 in Omaha.

NEW COACHES ADDED TO VB STAFF

UNK volleyball coach Rick Squiers has announced two additions to his coaching staff. One will be a familiar face to Loper fans.

Joining the Loper program as the head assistant is Kansas native Amy Gillespie. She replaces Doug Tabbert, who left to become head coach at Cameron University (Okla.).

Former UNK setter Cola Svec will remain with the team as the graduate assistant coach. She replaces Natasha Marquis, now the head coach at Chadron State.

Watch for more sports and features on new VB coaches next week.

Support Loper Sports at the first Loper Luncheon

Everyone welcome, $5
11:45 Aug. 25 Health & Sports Center, lower level

Attention: Student Organization Leaders:
Run a FREE 30-word classified ad about your organization in the Aug. 31 and Sept. 14 issues of The Antelope.
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