A grade worse than F?

BY KYLE TIELKE
Antelope Staff

That’s right! Universities around the country are now adopting the FD grade to create a record of shame for students involved in academic dishonesty.

The FD grade, created in May by British Columbia’s Simon Fraser University, refers to “failed with academic dishonesty.” This grade—worse than an F—can be given to students who intentionally or repeatedly cheat.

There is one catch; the determination of whether a student receives a FD is dependent on the department chair.

“The FD grade is reserved for the department head, not for an individual professor. This way, individual professors cannot hang the grade over students’ heads in a powerless way,” said Martha Kruse, associate professor and chair of the English department.

Dr. Rob Gordon, acting chair of the Senate Committee on Academic Integrity at SFU, said in an interview with CTV News of British Columbia, that the new grade is intended to “curtail cheating using the Internet,” and department chairs can impose the FD grade if they feel the incident warrants a severe penalty.

The most harmful effect is that the FD grade remains on a student’s transcript for two years, according to Kruse.

“This means that if you apply for a job or grad school, anyone looking at your transcripts and anyone who knows what the FD grade means is then aware that there is a problem,” Kruse said.

According to Kruse, UNK does have other internal mechanisms to deal with cheating or plagiarism.

“If we have evidence that the student is a repeat offender or that it is not accidental, we do have internal ways on campus of dealing with this,” Kruse said.

According to Kruse, UNK does have other internal mechanisms to deal with cheating or plagiarism.

According to the SFU Web site, the new grade was introduced to create an effective policy on academic integrity matters across the university that shows a zero tolerance approach to cheating.

“The FD grade looks at the intent. It is one thing to forget to cite, for example, but another to buy a paper or hand in another student’s work,” Kruse said.

According to Wolfe, the new FD grade is a great way to distinguish those who cheat from those who try hard and put a lot of work into school.

“Why should some people get jobs when they cheat—when I didn’t cheat, especially in such a competitive job market?” said Spencer Wolfe, a junior theater major from Lincoln.

According to Wolfe, the new FD grade may not be such a bad idea.

“When you are out in the workforce competing for jobs like we soon will be, why should some people get jobs when they cheat—when I didn’t cheat, especially in such a competitive job market?” said Spencer Wolfe, a junior theater major from Lincoln.

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104 and still wanting more

Conversation tables in need of talkative participants

BY CHEVONNE FORGEY
Antelope Staff

A chart topping 104 people attended the Campus Conversation Tables Thursday, Sept. 24 at the food court of the student union, but the organizers are still in a hunt for more participants.

Those participants can be students looking for extra credit in their classes, students who just want to make contact and conversation with international students who speak a different language or international students who want to hone their English skills.

The conversation tables were designed to help give English Language Institute (ELI) students an opportunity to speak English with other UNK students in a casual and informal atmosphere.

Many of the international students respond to the conversation tables positively. Diana Ardila, an international student from Columbia, said she enjoys the chances to speak English with other students because English has been very hard to learn.

Dan Yu, an international student from China, said the practice at conversation tables helps him prepare for the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) that most international students take in October. TOEFL is an Internet based test of English language skills that the ELI students must take and pass in order to declare majors and minors.

Ardila said the TOEFL test is very difficult. “Anything I can do to prepare for this test is helpful.” Ardila hopes to enter a major in either psychology or education once she passes the TOEFL. Yu hopes to enter into an education major once he passes.

Education specialist and director of the Campus Conversation Tables, Lisa Terry said, “The outpouring of UNK students that come to participate in the conversation tables has increased every week. Whether they are here for their own reasons or for extra credit in another campus class, their attendance is so very important and appreciated.”

Terry said, that ELI students often sit through hours of lectures a day and rarely get the opportunity to practice their English skills. “The weekly conversation tables allow the students to visit and chat with English speakers in a non-intimidating and casual atmosphere.”

The Campus Conversation Tables take place every Thursday from 4 to 5 p.m. in the food court of the student union. For more information on upcoming conversation tables, contact Lisa Terry by e-mail or just show up at one of the meetings before fall break.

Any questions, comments, concerns or suggestions should be sent to:

Readers’ Opinions
c/o the Antelope editor
Mitchell Center
University of Nebraska at Kearney
Kearney, NE 68848

CAB from page 1

begun this fall. “When Cade Craig and Nate Summerfield were running for student government, some of their goals involved reaching out to the international students— because they recognized some of the students were having a tough time getting around Kearney.”

Holoubek said he sees the need from his own travels. “Having experienced studying abroad, I underestimated how finding transportation can be problematic, and that’s amplified in the United States where public transportation is even rarer,” Holoubek said.

“The best part of the CAB Program is that it promotes interaction with the international community and allows you to make all the contacts you would studying abroad,” Holoubek said.

And, although the Create a Bridge Program was originally aimed toward international students, it offers rides to any student on campus.

The CAB Program operates with the help of volunteers who offer the rides to the students. “So far the volunteers have been members of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity and the student government, but we hope to get volunteers from other organizations as the CAB Program grows,” Holoubek said.

Volunteers need to have a valid driver’s license, along with registration and proof of insurance on their vehicles.

Call 308-865-8393 on Sundays between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. to use the CAB Program.

Individuals hoping to volunteer can contact the CAB Program by e-mail at unkcabprogram@gmail.com.
When the saints come marching in

BY JOSH MOODY
Assistant Editor

On both Thursday and Friday, Jesse Morrell of Dresher, Conn. and Kevin Pulver of Kennesaw came to campus to share a controversial message with students. Their message was love. Or hate, depending on whom you ask. They called students drunks, fornicators, homosexuals, date-rapers and sinners.

They chose the hill between the Student Union and Foster Field to make their stand, and for the next few hours they spoke loudly to assure that everyone walking in or out of the student union heard them. They were heard. In fact, a crowd of nearly 100 at one point gathered, not only to listen, but also to rebuke.

Morrell has spent the last eight years preaching this message at campuses from coast to coast, attending three or four different campuses a month. In addition, Morrell also shares his high volume message at beaches, bars and strip clubs. Pulver, an independent contractor, only attends three or four of these events per year, as his schedule allows.

"Do you realize that you’re the most hated person on campus right now?"

Jordan Engle
Freshman

"Many of you are not praying to God, and when you do, God doesn’t hear your prayers," said Morrell, adding, "Why should God listen to the prayers of sinners?"

Students and faculty responded to Morrell and Pulver in different ways. Some laughed, some grew angry and some walked by the scene avoiding it altogether. Even Chancellor Doug Kristensen walked by as he left the student union.

"Do you realize that you’re the most hated person on campus right now?"

asked Jordan Engle, a freshman sociology major from Elgin.

"No, Jesus is," Morrell said.

Engle described Morrell and Pulver as ignorant but said, "I don’t hate the guy, but I think a lot of people here do."

"They’re taking branches of the Bible and twisting it into their own beliefs."

Brandon Siegel
Sophomore

However, Morrell and Pulver weren’t discouraged by the reaction of the students. “Too many people base the validity of the message based on the reaction it gets from a crowd,” Pulver said.

Morrell described the duo’s open-air preaching as not the only way to reach students but as a particularly good way. "People will listen to four or five hour sermons here, when they won’t even step foot into a church,” Morrell said.

When asked why he thought people stayed and listened, Morrell suggested that everyone had different motives. "Some are here for good questions, others for curiosity or entertainment. Sometimes I enjoy it; other times it grieves my heart."

Students and faculty, however, seemed largely out of touch with the message presented, and the majority seemed to have been turned away by the offensive nature of the message and its delivery.

"I am an offensive individual because I follow Jesus, and Jesus was offensive," Morrell said.

Students had a different take. “I think they’re the biggest hypocrites I’ve seen,” said Austin Hendrickson, an undecided sophomore from Broken Bow.

“They’re taking branches of the Bible and twisting it into their own beliefs,” said Brandon Siegel, a sophomore physical education major from Litchfield.

Tom Wilson, pastor of Campus Lutheran, heard the commotion and came to campus in an effort to calm people offended by Morrell and Pulver.

"Their ways are not my ways. I have a different understanding of God," Wilson said. "They’re not looking at the whole story. The whole story is a love story."
Cheaters never prosper

Technology makes cheating easier for students, harder for professors to catch

BY TRAVIS SCHOTT
Antelope Staff

One would hope university students hold fast to a certain level of academic integrity and resist the temptation to cheat. It is safe to assume most professors would agree, but should they?

The old-school methods of wearing long-sleeved shirts to record those historical facts or hard-to-remember algebra formulas have long been extinct. Passing notes to classmates in order to assist on a test or leaning over your neighbor’s shoulder to sneak a peek have become archaic, borderline prehistoric cheating methods.

Professors and teachers now contend with a new adversary on the front lines of the cheating war: technology.

Despite the countless academic benefits of technology, it also has the potential to lure students into taking the easy way out. Recent articles found in The Wall Street Journal and the Detroit Free Press have reported more and more students utilize technology to gain an advantage in the classroom. Students can simply turn the ringers off on their cell phones and text answers to one another or snap photos of exams to pass along to classmates.

iPods, Zunes and other MP3 players can be easily concealed and employed to download formulas, historical facts, answers and definitions, even study guide answers.

Other devices like 3G phones and the iPod touch that are capable of accessing the Internet and are certainly hard to resist when students come across a question for which they can’t recall the answer.

Students can simply turn the ringers off on their cell phones and text answers to one another or snap photos of exams with cell phone cameras to pass along to classmates.

Apparently it is not just students who are willing to go to such extreme lengths to attain that academic advantage; some parents are even condoning the activity. The New York Times recently published stories about parents throughout New York who are compensating “professional test takers” to take SAT and ACT exams for their children in order to ensure their acceptance into prestigious universities.

Professors at UNK often request that cell phones, iPods and other advanced electronics be removed from students’ desktops prior to exams, but not all do.

Assistant professor of mathematics Dr. Pari Ford said, “I don’t allow any cell phones, advanced graphing calculators capable of storing information or other electronic devices during quizzes or exams.” Ford went on to say, “It would be difficult for students in my classes to cheat, but I’m sure in some larger intro level courses it would not be as hard.”

Some UNK students agree. Mark Rauert, a senior history and philosophy major from Grand Island, said, “I know in many of my current upper-level courses, it would be nearly impossible to cheat; however, I do believe it wouldn’t be too difficult in intro-level courses, especially those with a high number of students.”

UNK has a strict Academic Integrity Policy in place that warns against plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty, but there’s nothing regarding the use of technological devices. Perhaps the administration should consider a revision.

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Weekly Poll
What do you think about the FD grade?

- I like the idea, UNK should adopt it.
- It’s a good idea, but I don’t think it’s necessary.
- I don’t like it, but I could see why it might work.
- I don’t like the idea and I hope it’s never used at UNK.

Vote online at www.unkantelope.com

Last week’s results:
Do you think the swine flu is a real danger, or has it been blown out of proportion?

40% - It has received too much coverage
40% - It’s probably a little bit of both
20% - It’s an epidemic!
Beyond the screen
Take a look at the possibilities for televised campus athletic events

BY MATT TOMJACK
Antelope Sports Staff

Multi-million dollar television contracts, stations fighting over the rights to air our games and sports celebrities coming from all over the country to broadcast in front of our stadium. These things are fairly normal for some universities but not for UNK. That’s not to say that UNK is not trying.

For those who have been around UNK football, game day television crews are a rarity but not an abnormal sight. Every other year, NET broadcasts the Lopers vs. Nebraska-Kearney. They set up two days before and can be seen around campus shooting scenes of students walking to class or sitting around the fountain.

When Ron and Carol Cope Stadium was constructed, it was built with television in mind, and the athletic department supports the idea wholeheartedly, according to assistant athletic director Peter Yazvac. “Our stadium and field is very friendly, and it was designed that way. I imagine they have a lot of trouble setting up at other RMAC stadiums where televised games were not a thought before the construction. We do, and have always wanted televised games at UNK.”

UNK’s conference, the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC), has a deal with the Altitude channel to broadcast one RMAC football game a week throughout this football season. This season UNK will have three games aired nationwide. These games of the week included last Saturday’s Chadron State game, one more road game, and at least one more home game.

While most schools look forward to the revenue generated from televised games, UNK takes a more promotional approach. Stations such as ABC and CBS air all of their games, with the exception of prime time games, as regional. For example, games in the Midwest cannot be viewed on the coasts and vice versa. RMAC’s games are aired nationwide, and UNK is making the most of it.

“This is great exposure for the football team, and when we play at home, for the campus and city of Kearney. It’s cool that someone in New York City could flip to Altitude and watch our game live Saturday,” Yazvac said.

These broadcasts bring potential entertainment to everyone with access to the Altitude channel, and give free publicity and raise awareness about UNK. People from all over the country can come to love the Lopers without ever stepping foot on campus. Players who never would have heard of UNK will know about this fine athletic institution.

“In a way, all of our games are televised now. The RMAC signed an agreement with B2 Networks last year. Now all RMAC football games can be watched on your computer for a game or season price. It’s the same company that works with the Tri-City Storm. You can go to Lopers.com where we have information on our Web site about B2,” Yazvac said.

Avalos brings Division I experience to Loper coaching staff

BY DAN LENZEN
Antelope Sports Staff

From Boise, Idaho, to Boulder, Colo., to Kearney. For some people that may seem like a strange path, but for UNK defensive line coach, Andy Avalos, that is the path his football coaching career has taken.

Avalos, in his first year as the head defensive line coach at UNK, came here from the University of Colorado. He actually began coaching after his playing career at Boise State University from 2000 to 2004, where he played linebacker.

He moved on as a graduate assistant under Dan Hawkins at CU before he came to UNK after being offered his first full-time coaching position under Head Coach Darrell Morris.

“Coach Morris offered me my first full-time coaching position; I was a graduate assistant at Colorado. I had heard a bunch of good things about UNK football and Coach Crocker, the defensive coordinator,” Avalos said.

Avalos said he wanted to get into coaching because he loves the game of football and missed not being able to play it anymore. “I coach because I enjoyed playing the game so much. As a coach, I miss the opportunity to suit up on game day, but I don’t miss fall camp and the double days,” Avalos said.

Avalos said what he misses most about playing is game day, and being around the guys he played with at Boise State. “As a college football player, you spend so much time around your teammates both on and off the field, and because of that, you become good friends with your teammates. I miss the good times we had on game days and the laughs and fun times off the field.”

For Avalos, there are many positives and very few negatives about coaching collegiate football, but just like with every job coaching presents challenges. Avalos said one of the aspects of coaching he enjoys most is being around all the other coaches, the players and all the different personalities.

There are a few negatives, but they are very few. “There is not much I dislike about coaching. The working hours are long during the fall, but I enjoy what I do so the 13-hour days—I don’t mind,” Avalos said.

Avalos said there are some differences at the Division II level from Division I, but overall it’s just football and there are a lot of similarities. In the end, the game is still the same. “Football is football. There are differences in the everyday operations from Division I to Division II mainly due to the differences in the size of the staff, but as a whole it’s very similar.”
Last year, on Dec. 17, 2008, Megan McClure, a junior athletic training major from Lincoln, was on her way home for Christmas break when her life changed forever.

It wasn’t a Christmas break anyone would hope for, as McClure spent all of it in the hospital after a head-on accident involving a collision with a semi occurred. Being a runner saved her life that day, something she had never imagined.

Doctors were amazed at McClure’s fast recovery, and the only explanation they had for it was that she was healthy, because she was an avid runner. “They have told me that running saved my life,” McClure said. “The fact that my body was as strong as it was not only helped determine if I would survive or not, but it also helped determine how fast I recovered.”

McClure, a member of the UNK cross country team, didn’t know if she would ever compete again after the accident. “I knew the accident was going to have a big effect on my speed and how good I was, and I didn’t think I would be good enough anymore,” McClure said. “I knew no matter how good I was, I would have a spot on the team, but I just didn’t and still don’t know if I could handle being last in races, because I don’t think I am mentally tough enough to do that.”

But with a little encouragement from her friends, family and fiancé, McClure was back on her feet in no time. McClure’s fiancé, Thomas Neemann, a senior construction management major from Syracuse, had a major impact on motivating her to get back into running again. “At first she was excited to get out and run, but when she found out how bad of shape she was in and how hard it was going to be to get back to form, she needed a lot of motivation,” Neemann said.

“When we got back to school and she was able to compare herself to her teammates, she especially needed some comfort and encouragement because girls that she was used to running and competing with were ahead of her on workouts and runs, and this was very frustrating for her.” That’s where Neemann stepped in and came along, McClure still didn’t give up on the idea that she was going to compete again. “My initial thoughts were negative when I started to train again,” McClure said. “But I knew I had to just start appreciating that I could run and try my hardest not to worry about how fast I was going.”

After the summer of training, McClure knew she was making some progress but had no idea how much progress she had actually made. “I was still worried about getting last in races and not having anyone to run with on the team,” McClure said. Despite this, she was still excited that she would be able to at least try.

The time for McClure to compete at her first collegiate race since the accident finally came on Sept. 4 at the UNK Twilight meet. “As I stepped up to the starting line, I was nervous,” McClure said. “I was just thinking, ‘As long as you try your best, it really doesn’t matter what the outcome is.’” She was excited for the race to begin and was just as ready for it to be done.

Her excitement from the beginning of the race stayed with her until the end as she crossed the finish line with a time of 18:42, smashing her goal of 22 minutes.

This was a great start, and McClure now feels she definitely has a chance of getting back to where she was before the accident. “I know it’s going to take a lot of hard work, but I feel I am capable of putting in the work it’s going to take,” McClure said. “I am still working on getting my mental attitude in the right place, but it is definitely getting better. I am excited for the rest of this year and next year, just to see how far I can come back.”

Photos (top and center right): Courtesy Lopers.com
Center left: Courtesy Megan McClure

Megan McClure and her fiancé, Thomas Neemann, prepare for the State Farm 5K on March 28, 2009. This was McClure’s first race back since her accident. She ran the race in just under 28 minutes, which is only a few minutes more than her times ran before the accident.

Center left: McClure pushes herself in her last race before the accident at the Central Regional Meet held at the Kearney Country Club last November.
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“Perhaps that last second victory against Nebraska will prove to be the catalyst for Virginia Tech as they make their way toward the national title game in January.”

BY GARRETT RITONYA
Antelope Sports Editor

This past weekend in college football was unlike any we have seen in quite some time. Four teams that were ranked inside the top ten lost, leaving the rest of the season up for grabs in almost every conference. We saw No. 4 Mississippi fall at the hands of South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday. It was then South Carolina on Thursday night, a sign that No. 5 Penn State lost to Iowa, Oregon of things to come on Saturday.

Virginia Tech has gone from being a team 90 seconds away from falling out of the top ten to a team that currently sits at No. 11. Virginia Tech. So what were the results come Monday after that chaos came to a close two nights earlier?

Well, for the first time in the history of the program in the regular season, Boise State has climbed into the top five. The Broncos, after wallowing Oregon to begin the season, have faced a relatively light schedule and find themselves staring an undefeated season dead in the eyes. But will the undefeated season be enough to catapult the non-BCS dream school into a national championship game or will their lackluster schedule prove to be a substantial roadblock to their title dreams?

After defeating Penn State by a 21-10 score, Iowa shot up the rankings like a Russian MIV, going from unranked to No. 13 in the Associated Press poll. The Hawkeyes find themselves at 4-0 in a relatively weak conference (Big Ten) and will get a true test when No. 22 Michigan travels to Iowa City on Oct. 10.

Oregon, once ranked inside of the top 20 before getting shellacked by Boise State in their season opener, is once again in the AP top 25 landing at No. 16. The Ducks have defeated a powerful Utah squad and the Golden Bears of Cal during their three-game winning streak and finally appear to have the firepower back that made them an early national title threat.

Virginia Tech has gone from being a team 90 seconds away from falling out of the top 20 to a team that currently sits at No. 6 after having no problem dispatching the Hurricanes. Led by senior quarterback Tyrod Taylor and freshman running back Ryan Williams, VT has remained in the national title talks, for now. Perhaps that last second victory against Nebraska will prove to be the catalyst for Virginia Tech as they make their way toward the national title game in January.

Of course, the top three remain the same with Florida, Texas and Alabama, but for how long will those teams camp out in the top spots? Florida has shown no real weaknesses, but will Tim Tebow’s concussion affect him for the rest of the season? Texas still has a lot to prove on defense, which could cost them when it comes time to play Oklahoma with a rejuvenated Sam Bradford. Alabama is still a power in the SEC, but will they stumble upon a trap game? Or will they fold in the SEC championship game if and when they meet Florida?

As for Nebraska, the Cornhuskers remain in the top 25 after a 55-0 beat down of lowly Louisiana-Lafayette, sticking around in the No. 23 spot. What has to be disheartening for Husker fans is that this team is 90 seconds and one 80-yard pass play away from potentially being a top ten team, especially with how many teams lost on Saturday. If they pull out the victory against VT, Nebraska sits at about No. 12 or 13 and then with the catastrophic losses this weekend, the Huskers vault themselves into the top ten.

The Huskers have shown they can compete with the best of teams, but now they begin the most grueling part of their schedule, playing the Big 12. Nebraska opens up with a huge Thursday night game in Columbia against the unbeaten Missouri Tigers. They then follow that up with a big home game against the better-than-expected Texas Tech Red Raiders. Games against Oklahoma and Kansas in mid-season will make or break the Huskers’ dreams of wearing that Big 12 North crown.

On the home front, your UNK Loper football team has solidified their positions in the RMAC with impressive victories over UNO and Chadron State this season. A team laden with experience from last year has really stepped up their play after a season-opening loss to Wayne State. Sophomores Jake Spitzbnger and Rustin Dring continue to perform at high-octane levels, passing and running the Lopers into contention every weekend. The defense currently leads the RMAC in scoring average, which will come in handy when they face high scoring offenses Colorado Mines and Mesa State in the final two weeks of the season.

Something else that should be brought up is that the Lopers, as of this past weekend, have now installed their version of the “wildcat” formation, which comes after the Antelope’s very own Adam McLaughlin wrote a column last week about whether or not the Lopers could and should run this fad offense. They debuted it against Chadron State to marginal success, but it could be a work in progress.

### Antelope College Picks of the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>No. 22 Michigan at Michigan State</strong></th>
<th><strong>Michigan</strong></th>
<th><strong>Eric Korth, Hastings</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>No. 4 LSU at No. 18 Georgia</strong></td>
<td><strong>LSU</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jason Arens, Springview</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>No. 7 USC at No. 24 California</strong></td>
<td><strong>USC</strong></td>
<td><strong>Current Antelope Sports Editor, 11-10</strong></td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>No. 8 Oklahoma at No. 17 Miami (FL)</strong></td>
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'Islam, Women, and the Violence in Kashmir'

Khan inspired by grandfather's legacy to write book on gender issues in Kashmir

BY LYNDSEY LUXFORD
Antelope Staff

A long journey comes to a close for UNK associate professor of English Dr. Nyla Khan with the publication of her book “Islam, Women, and Violence in Kashmir: Between India and Pakistan.”

Khan, a native from Kashmir, has been researching and writing since 2005, going back every year to do field work and to do research for the book. Khan’s perspective comes with a lot of validity because she was raised in the midst of all the political turmoil.

“I chose to write about the problem in Kashmir because my grandfather was the first prime minister of Kashmir. He was head of the government from 1948 to 1953. In 1953, the government of India had him ousted and imprisoned because of the emphasis he laid on the right to self-determination. He remained a political prisoner for 22 years. He returned to Kashmir in 1975. He was a political figure who had a tremendous mass appeal, so when he returned, he was installed head of state. He remained in office until he died in 1982,” Khan said.

Kashmir is technically part of India, but this is a politically disputed territory. The country has been trying to gain independence since 1989. “The country has tremendous political upheaval; it is very traumatic for lay people who have to fend for themselves. This militant movement has caused cultural and graphical dislocation for some people. It just does not feel safe in Kashmir,” Khan said.

The country remains in turmoil. One of the country’s main sources of income is tourism. However, tourism has been greatly affected—not just for large companies, but people who own small businesses like cab driving services, hotel owners and people who own gondolas, too.

Since Khan could not always be in Kashmir, she also turned to the Internet and books to find scholarly material. “I have been geographically removed from Kashmir since 1998, but not emotionally or psychologically. Working on this book helped me to reconnect to my roots,” Khan said.

Khan wants readers to understand the complexity of the Kashmir issue. Khan says she gets students that have not even heard of Kashmir. “I would like to make people aware of how complex it is—and how important a resolution is,” she said.

Khan’s book is now available in the UNK library and online. It will be reprinted in the United States in the next couple of months and will be more accessible.

Dr. Nyla Khan’s book "Islam, Women, and Violence in Kashmir: Between India and Pakistan," is now available in the UNK library and online.

Gold Torch Society celebrates 10 years

UNK alumnae partner up with female students for learning opportunities

BY BRIANA DUNCAN
Antelope Staff

“To be born a girl is a gift we were given. To become a woman of wisdom and courage is a gift we give the world.” Those words were just a few of the inspiring and uplifting aspects discussed at the 10th Annual Gold Torch Society meeting and banquet. The Gold Torch Society, created in 2000 by the UNK Alumni Association, organized to provide mentoring and networking opportunities for undergraduate women.

The alumnae are selected for their personal and professional accomplishments in the work force and also their commitment to mentoring students.

The student members of Gold Torch face an application process to be chosen, and they are selected on their passion to participate in a mentoring relationship and also be more involved in one of the most prestigious organizations on campus.

Michelle Widger, who graduated from Kearney State College in 1990, currently sponsors the Gold Torch Society. Widger is also the assistant director for the Alumni Association and put forth a lot of effort to make the weekend an ultimate success. The meeting began on Friday, Sept. 25, when the students and their mentors were united for the first time during a reception at the Alumni House.

The festivities continued on Saturday with a series of sessions with alumnae panelists and a luncheon. These successful women discussed their advice on money management, creating your ideal future and balancing both professional and personal pursuits in life.

One of the powerful speeches of the weekend was by one of UNK’s most honorable alumnae, Karen K. Lueck Hunt. Hunt graduated from Kearney and continued her education to pursue her master’s degree. She earned her law degree from the University of Southern California in 1973. Hunt was among 10 other women to graduate with a law degree and was later appointed to the bench as a judge in Anchorage, Alaska. Then in 1997, Hunt was also named one of the 25 most powerful people in Alaska.

Along with Hunt, other honorable guests included Judith Henggeler Spohr and Dr. Stephanie Heufelle Vogel, the founder of the Gold Torch Society.

UNK’s Greek Advisor, Tracy Lungrin, also was an alumnae mentor during the weekend for sessions which advised the students about how to envision their future goals and aspirations.

“I think this is a great opportunity for the students at UNK to gain knowledge about our alumni’s experiences in the work force,” said Jenny Gierhan, a public relations major from Kearney.

Saturday evening, students, their mentors and alumnae members were invited to the 10th annual banquet and dinner. The banquet began with a welcome from Lucas Dart, the Alumni Association’s executive director and featured Senior Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Dr. Charles Bicak.
Students have options of out of the ordinary classes

Lexington. “When I got my senior check, I was informed that I would be one credit hour short of graduating in May, and both of these courses are worth one-half of a credit hour. Although I have to get up at eight in the morning to go workout, I’m really enjoying the classes.” Part of the benefit of some of these offbeat classes is that they can fill in the one or two credits that a student may need for graduation, or even just to fill out a semester. Other classes that many students may be surprised to hear about are country dancing, tumbling, adventure walking, archery, military fitness, basketball, volleyball, about a dozen other sports and even a bowling class offered at The Big Apple Fun Center on the south part of town. Not all of these classes are available every year, but a fair amount of them are offered every other semester.

“I’m in the disc golf class,” said Nick Fingerhut, a senior construction management major from Holdrege. “I love to play the game and thought to myself, ‘I’m going to be doing this outside of class anyway, so why not get credit for it?’ It gives me a chance to get out of the regular classroom setting and have some friendly competition twice a week over at Centennial Park.”

Some of these classes may just sound like an easy A, but they can also be challenging and teach basic life skills.

“In my cardio fitness class, I’ve learned a lot about different forms of exercise, such as step aerobics and spinning classes,” said Becky Mathine, a junior exercise science major from Butte. “Classes like this allow students to realize that exercising can be fun and help them get a workout routine started that they can take with them for the rest of their lives. It definitely gets me up and ready for the day!”

With registration for the spring semester already sneaking up in October, keep some of these nontraditional classes in mind if you want to add a little variety to your schedule and spice up your semester.

Nontraditional Students Organization forms at UNK

The organization may be just starting to get its legs on the ground, but the board members are determined to have it standing strong before they graduate.

Students who have children and full-time jobs may find taking class at UNK a little more stressful than the traditional student who only has to focus on college. The organization plans to help make the transition into a studious life a little easier for the nontraditional student.

The organization will help older students who don’t know their way around campus find their classes, locate events going on around campus, locate services that UNK provides and any other assistance they might need.

“I hope that putting this student organization together will help older students gain a support system from other students that are involved in the organization,” said Victor Garcia, a Spanish translation and interpreting major with an emphasis in medical interpreting from Grand Island and the president of the Nontraditional Students Organization.

“A traditional student is someone who goes to college right after high school and graduates within four years,” Garcia said. “The organization is in place to help those students that didn’t follow that path.”

“The biggest challenge so far is getting the organization to be recognized among our peers,” Garcia said. “People have to realize that it exists before they can understand why it exists.”

Most nontraditional students leave campus right after class because they have other responsibilities to take care of. They don’t have the luxury of taking a stroll around campus like their younger peers.

“I think it is hard to find nontraditional students because they go from class to work or picking up their kids and really don’t know much about what goes on around campus,” Garcia said. “That’s why I thought it was such a pleasure to be involved in the Student Organization Fair. It really helped get the name of the organization out there.”

The organization is young and doesn’t have a lot of members, but it is growing on a daily basis. Garcia says everyone who joins is another way to get the word out. “I think the Nontraditional Students Organization is a great way for older students to meet other students of the same age. In other words, we can have a little community of our own to be involved in,” said Garrett Hoffman, a telecommunication management major from Kearney and vice president of the organization.

“I love that we now have legitimacy, and that helps us use UNK’s resources which allows us to network a whole lot more than in the past,” Hoffman said, “I just hope after I am gone, the future students will take over our jobs and keep this community going, because the possibilities are endless.”

Many students involved in the organization and on the board will graduate by the summer of 2010. This makes it urgent for the board members to find other students to take their positions when they leave. Their main concern is getting the group completely up and running before the current board graduates.

“My job is to find sponsors willing to make donations as well as put up flyers to get students more acquainted with the organization,” Zack Harbert said. Harbert, an organizational communications major from Omaha, takes care of community outreach. “I see the overall goal being to help older students, new to college, transition from everyday life to college life a little easier,” Harbert said. “Hopefully we increase awareness so much that one day the organization will receive a scholarship or grants to help the older students pay for college.”

There are a lot of ways to look at a student organization, but Harbert hopes everyone will look at this group the same way he does.

“When I think of this organization, I think of it more as a fraternity without all the dues and fees,” Harbert said. “Also we don’t require anyone to live on campus for a year.”

The organization may be just starting to get its legs on the ground, but the board members are determined to have it standing strong before they graduate.
"Dear Edwina" takes the stage

Family theatre with something for all ages

BY KIMBERLY GERDES
Antelope Staff

You can lose a few of those ideas about a “typical” theatre performance: hard to follow and full of that old-time stuff no one understands. All ages in the audience from young adults to children will be delighted and entertained by “Dear Edwina,” a musical one-act with clever lyrics and references to other favorite musicals like “West Side Story.”

“You don’t call this performance children’s theatre; it’s family theatre. ‘Dear Edwina’ is for ages five to 105. There’s a positive message for all ages,” said director Anne Foradori, professor of music.

Edwina is a 13-year-old advice giver extraordinaire and director of the Spoonapple Repertory Theatre. She and her friends create a performance in her parents’ garage about Edwina’s ability to give extraordinary advice. With many tween ideas, problems are bound to arise — especially when boys are involved.

This play posed some challenging moments for the cast and directors. “We had a short rehearsal time of about four weeks,” Foradori said, “and whenever you’re casting a show and the actors aren’t playing their own age, it is a challenge. Helping them find the truth of their character is hard, but it makes their performance more genuine.”

Eight student actors and two student musicians play multiple roles, and all of the actors adopt different “characters” for the skits they prepared in three-hour practices, six days a week.

The performance is 90 minutes long with intermission. In keeping with the theme of the performance, the audience can enjoy a lemonade stand at intermission. “There’s nothing to replace the experience of live theatre. It’s much different than a movie. Theatre is the original interactive art,” Foradori said.

Foradori hopes to see students and families in the audience at the Miriam Drake Theatre for performances that start tonight at 7 p.m. and go through Saturday with a Sunday matinee at 2 p.m.

Admission is free for UNK staff and students. Prices for the public are $10 for adults and $7 for seniors and other students. An ID is needed to receive free or discounted tickets.

“Dear Edwina” was written by Marcy Heisler, and Zina Goldrich. Gary Schaaf, UNK director of dance, choreographed the production.

No strings attached

BY BRIANA DUNCAN
Antelope Staff

Tiny pink and purple chairs all lined up in a row may sound like a grade school classroom, but in fact, this description fits a classroom on this very campus.

The UNK String Project, a music program designed to teach students in grades third through 12th how to play a string instrument, started at UNK in the 2008 fall semester and continues to be a success.

With the help of faculty and UNK students, the program strives to bring a little something extra to the table. One of only 32 sites throughout the nation, UNK has the only site located here in Nebraska.

The students receive training on instruments including the double bass, viola, violin and the cello.

With the help of a grant this year, the UNK String Project was able to purchase instruments to rent out to students to make the most of their talents.

Dr. Noah Rogoff, the director of the String Project and assistant professor of music, has dedicated his time and energy to improve the knowledge of string instruments among these young musicians. With Rogoff’s knowledge and support, two student teachers are able to gain the experience in a classroom setting as well as share an excitement for the arts.

Jennifer Zumwalt, a freshman music major from Lincoln, expressed her passion for the project. “I enjoy working with all ages of children and watching them have fun learning music.” She assists by helping to tune the instruments and making sure the children are practicing with the right techniques.

At the end of the year, the students have the chance to perform what they have learned in a public recital. “My favorite part of the project is the end of the year concert. It’s awesome to see how proud they are of themselves,” said senior Rachel Weinberg, a music and performing arts major from Kearney.

Winberg is the head student teacher for the UNK String Project and is always encouraging more students to get involved by playing a string instrument. “I hope to see the project continue to grow and also continue to get more students at UNK involved with student teaching for the project,” Weinberg said.

Most of the participants involved come from elementary schools in Kearney. Groups range from beginner to advanced.

The children involved, with their instruments in hand, come into practice with a positive attitude as well as the passion to play. “The program is to help each student continue to grow,” Zumwalt said. “I love watching them experience the joy of music.”

UNK Theatre Presents
Dear Edwina
Directed by Anne Foradori

Show Times:
Sept. 30 - Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 4 Matinee, 2 p.m.

Admission:
UNK members: Free with ID
Adults: $10
Seniors/Students: $7

"Dear Edwina" is a musical comedy for ages 5 to 105. It runs just over 90 minutes with an intermission with a lemonade stand.
Celebrate Hispanic roots, diversity

BY ALEX MORALES
Antelope Staff

Hispanic Heritage Month, a time to celebrate Hispanic heritage and culture, kicked off at UNK with “El Grito,” or “Cry for Freedom” Sept. 15 at the Echo Circle outside the student union. The celebrations run through Oct. 15.

El Grito refers to the struggle for freedom celebrated Sept. 15, which marked the anniversary of independence from Spain for five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Mexico gained its independence Sept. 16 and Chile on Sept. 18.

Contributions from these countries have enriched American culture and the month of celebration is a chance to honor diversity brought by the Hispanic cultures. “Diversity is something that is part of what we are and what we do. Through teaching the language, we also teach the culture,” said Sonja Kropp, chair of the modern language department.

According to UNK Factbook, 2009 enrollment includes students from four Latin American countries and a total of 221 graduates and undergraduate students of Hispanic heritage.

Political science professor, Peter Longo, sees potential for growth in these numbers. “This is what makes UNK a place to become empowered. Diversity has the potential to make us all stronger,” he said.

The term Hispanic, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, refers to Spanish-speaking people of any race in the United States. The estimated Hispanic population of the United States is 46.9 million, making people of Hispanic origin the nation’s largest ethnic or race minority. This constitutes 15 percent of the U.S. total population.

Throughout the month, hundreds of celebrations across the nation will showcase the contributions made by those with Hispanic heritage. The celebrations range from art gallery exhibits and folkloric ballets, to official government festivities.

Some highly celebrated figures include civil rights activist Cesar Chavez, Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor and baseball Hall of Famer, Roberto Clemente.

Here on campus, the Hispanic Student Association will host a series of events that display several aspects of Hispanic culture. Events include movie nights, brown bag luncheons, pictures in traditional clothes and handing out traditional snacks.

Junior Elizabeth Orozco, a secondary education major from Lexington, and HSA’s president hopes to provide knowledge to students with the events. “The purpose of our events is to spread diversity with the things that symbolize the Hispanic culture,” she said.

Orozco’s focus is also on letting people know about the roots of the Hispanic culture. “It is important for people to understand that it is more than one country that contributes to the Hispanic culture,” she said.

These celebrations are something new for junior Camila Parra, an economics major from Colombia. “Being from Colombia, celebrating your heritage is not a special event, but being in the States and seeing it happen makes me appreciate the things that make me unique,” she said.

Alex Nickman of Pleasanton, a junior majoring in finance, has experienced some of these events. “Coming from a small town, these events have helped me open my mind to other cultures and ways of life. Along the way I have learned to appreciate my culture even more,” he said.

Everyone wins on Band Day

BY JESSICA KENYON
Antelope Staff

The weather started out a bit chilly, but that didn’t stop the marching band fans from celebrating UNK Band Day this past Saturday, Sept. 26.

The UNK Pride of the Plains Marching Band led the parade, which began at Railroad Street and Central Avenue. The parade traveled north on Central Avenue, turned west on 27th Street and continued to march to UNK.

Nineteen area middle and high school bands lined up on The Bricks and competed for four years and has been a part of UNK’s drumline for the past two years.

Lined along the streets, thousands of marching band fans were blown away by shrill trumpet sounds, thunderous drums and multiple color guard flags all moving in sync. “The color guard’s movements are amazing, especially how they accent the band’s crisp lines,” said Whitney Ashburn of North Platte, a junior majoring in family studies.

UNK Band Day is a great opportunity for not only the band members to show off their hard work, but for the audience to see all the effort that it takes. “Hearing the drumline cadences make me want to join the band; it’s crazy how much music can affect you. When I was standing there listening to the sounds, it just made me want to dance,” Ashburn said.

The weather warmed up, and after the parade the UNK band performed a pre-game show and halftime show during the UNK vs. Chadron State football game.

“Saturday turned out to be a good day. The weather ended up being perfect for Band Day and the football game. Both events turned out to be a great success,” Ashburn said.