Get me a mask!

H1N1 hits campus hard, but vaccine available now

BY NATHAN BLAHA
Antelope Staff

Are you between the ages of five and 24? Did you know that 73 percent of people infected with H1N1 worldwide are in that age group?

Cindy Shultz, the associate director of health care on campus, said students should not be scared but concerned about H1N1. “It is important for students to understand that they need to get vaccinated in order to prevent the virus since they are at the highest risk of being infected,” Shultz said.

“People who have H1N1 become contagious before symptoms arise, so it is very important to get vaccinated and use proper cough and sneeze etiquette and to wash

H1N1, PG 2

Is this the end for Chartwells?

In April, the Board of Regents will review and possibly change meal rate plans based upon Student Senate surveys.

BY CHEVONNE FORGEY
Antelope Staff

Grumbling and mumbling about dissatisfaction with Chartwells has been circulating around campus for several weeks now, and student senators are collecting survey information to be reviewed before making a resolution for change when the Chartwells’s contract is up in 2011.

“Something needs to be done,” said Senator Liz Hudec at the Student Senate meeting Oct. 6.

One of the primary concerns: Meal plans are not flexible enough for students, especially on weekends. Another concern: transferring meals to the union food court is useless because students only receive a fraction of what they could eat had they just opted to eat at Chartwells.

The Student Senate recognizes student concerns as increasingly big issues among the students on campus. Chair of Student Affairs Paloma Mena-Werth said at the meeting that the Student Affairs committee is working on writing a resolution for the Student Senate about the current food service provider.

“This is a very hot topic on campus, which means we have to be very careful with what we say and how we say it.”

Paloma Mena-Werth
Chair of Student Affairs

administration to voice student concerns.

Initially, the committee has polled over 100 students via paper and Internet surveys.

The Internet survey concluded that 82 percent of the students taking the survey were not happy with the current food service provider, and 96 percent were not happy with the meal plan options.

The numbers are a big concern to student Senators and provide the rationale for moving forward on this issue.

A preliminary resolution was introduced at the Oct. 6 meeting; however, it was not approved. As Mena-Werth said, “We want this resolution to be perfect. We need big numbers; we need clear data; we don’t want any holes that could leave anyone wondering about the strength of our resolution. We are trying to get in touch with some professors who might help us out in making a bigger survey that we would try to get out to as much of campus as possible. Once we have received the results of this new survey, the resolution will be revised and represented to the Student Senate.”

Mena-Werth said, “If the current food service provider remains on campus, they need to become more student friendly.”

The contract for Chartwells is up in 2011, and if the university is going to change the food service provider, it will be done then.
NDP shows you the money
Grant program puts funds into students’ hands

BY KIMBERLY GERDES
Antelope Staff

Activities on campus are usually put together by faculty with student help, but what if the ideas for campus events came straight from the students? Students make the plans. They set up the budgets and completely execute the event.

American Democracy Project Innovation Grants put the students in complete control of events on campus. “The whole idea is to get more people involved with campus and the community. People really start to get engaged when they are interested in the event,” said John Anderson, professor of political science and American Democracy Project coordinator.

The program runs on $2,000 budget of support grants allocated through student proposals. Successful proposals must show ample evidence of collaboration with another student or organization. The efforts must show a direct impact on campus life and a measurable impact on a large number of people.

The advisory board anticipates funding four projects at $500 each, but encourages students to find other funding sources to supplement the grants. Money from the grant must be used to pay for things like travel, advertisements and materials needed to successfully complete the project. No money will be provided for individual stipends or payments. The student or students applying must submit a budget and a detailed budget narrative. The details of the budget narrative will need to be carefully explained.

The idea to start an innovation grant at UNK came when campus coordinators attended a conference where other schools were encouraging student proposals.

H1N1 from page 1

your hands,” Shultz said.

On Friday, student health received the FluMist vaccine for H1N1, and it is available free to UNK students age 17 to 24 who are in good health.

Shultz said the difference between the seasonal flu that occurs every year and H1N1 is that H1N1 is a new virus meaning for which young college students have not developed any natural immunity. So when the virus hits, it hits hard. Some students on campus do know how hard H1N1 can hit once they get it and have been quarantined.

“UNK is doing as much as possible to help students who have the swine flu and to help prevent it,” Shultz said.

The resident advisors and hall directors are all prepared with flu kits, and Chartwells is delivering trays to students who are sick on campus.

Shultz said, “It is important that students who are feeling sick to contact student health or their RAs, so they can help.”

Shultz said there are some students who went off campus for testing, and the university is prepared to help with all sick students, but the RAs or student health need to know who needs assistance.

The UNK Web site has a direct link for more information on H1N1 on the home page, and Shultz blogs about new information about the virus on campus. Check it out at http://www.unk.edu/offices/health.aspx?id=47647.
Linguists, special agents and interns

The FBI scouts UNK’s campus looking for men and women in black

BY DEANN REED
Antelope Staff

Imagine sitting at a desk transcribing, translating or even reporting on an intercepted terrorist’s conversation.

Now see yourself as a special agent conducting a covert operation where drug runners are being tracked down on an interstate highway.

Or perhaps you see yourself as an intelligence analyst collecting and gathering important data that could help the FBI with an ongoing investigation. All of these jobs are currently available if you are willing to work for the FBI.

Last week, recruiter and special agent Monte Czaplewski was on campus for the FBI. His mission: To seek out new talent for the agency. Czaplewski said the jobs that are currently available are the honors internship program, special agents and professional support staff.

The honors internship program is a program where a student trains in an FBI office for cases that may involve criminal activities like drug investigations or terrorist financing.

The new intern gets a well-rounded look at how the agency works through different groups and cases inside the FBI. The entire expense of the program is paid for by the organization.

Czaplewski said the interns are given a unique perspective into what it takes for the agency to function. “They are given that opportunity to see...internally what the FBI is. How we do it and the diversity that it takes to have a strong foundation for an agency such as ours,” Czaplewski said.

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Monte Czaplewski
FBI special agent

The hiring rate for those who do apply for the intern position is high, he said.

The professional staff support job can encompass roles like intelligence analyst. “Cases are generated based on the knowledge we have...intelligence analysts are job specific,” said the FBI agent. He said the role analysts play at the agency is incredibly important, and recruitment for this job is a major prong of the agency right now.

Special agents at the FBI may work on foreign counterintelligence, cyber crime, organized crime, civil rights violations, financial crime and other violations of federal statutes, according to the agency’s Web site.

The FBI agent said he personally believes the need for FBI jobs comes from an increase in things like terrorism activity in the country and publicity about the organization. He said that the draw of law enforcement is also another component of job recruitment.

Czaplewski said the recruitment effort for the FBI at a local level is an important aspect of the agency. The agency tries to use the career fair along with the criminal justice program to develop those important bridges into their local community.

Czaplewski said it is vital that a student interested in a career with the agency find out as much they can about the organization. Being honest is the best policy and being realistic about the goals you want to achieve in the FBI, Czaplewski said.

It’s also important that students be straightforward about the mistakes they have made in their life. “We all make mistakes in life, but what is important is what a person does to admit and to move on. You know those things that you did in your past may come back to haunt you,” Czaplewski said.

Students interested in a job with the FBI can find more information through the FBI’s Web site www.fbi.gov/college/positions.asp.

Looking for a job?

UNK campus offers both work study and non-work study positions

BY EMILY WEMHOFF
Antelope Staff

Being in college doesn’t have to take all your money. Just take a look through 450 jobs available on the UNK campus every year, including both work study and non-work study jobs.

According to Anne McConkey, coordinator of student employment and scholarships in the office of financial aid, “Many students need the additional income while they’re attending school to help pay for books, living expenses, their university bill or a number of other expenses.” But having a job on campus gives students more than enough money to pay for college expenses.

“Young adults jobs also offer great work experience for students, especially if it’s in the field the student is pursuing. They get hands-on experience that looks good on their resume and also provides a learning opportunity that they might not otherwise have,” McConkey said.

On-campus jobs are also more convenient for many students. Students can walk to and from their jobs without having to worry about finding a place to park their car.

Any student wanting to apply can visit the Student Employment Services Web site at http://www.unl.edu/offices/ses.

Photo by Emily Wemhoff

Jingbo Sun, a sophomore from China, prepares the food at Chartwells before the rush of students come in for the lunch hour. “I like working at Chartwells because I make more friends and meet other employees that are the same culture as me,” Sun said.
Behind the walls of Room 133 in Otto Olsen, a transformation has taken place. What was once a machinery lab has been transformed into a cutting edge learning environment for industrial distribution students.

“It’s going to position us better than any other students in the nation. The industrial distribution lab will give us hands-on experience that other industrial distribution students don’t have,” said Matthew Howe, a senior from Wood River and president of the industrial distribution organization at UNK.

Made possible by program partners and a grant written by Dr. Jim Toppen and Dr. Richard Meznarich, the lab was built totally without state funds.

The simulation lab is an exciting addition to the department for both students

New lab boosts ID program

*Industrial distribution receives state-of-the-art simulation lab in Otto Olsen*

**BY DEBBIE EPPING**
Antelope Staff

Behind the walls of Room 133 in Otto Olsen, a transformation has taken place. What was once a machinery lab has been transformed into a cutting edge learning environment for industrial distribution students.

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The simulation lab is an exciting addition to the department for both students...
Lab from page 4

and faculty. “We want to be the best,” said Toppen, an associate professor of the industrial distribution department.

With the addition of the lab, UNK is well on its way to the top. Recently named among the top 41 university sales programs in the nation by the University Sales Education Foundation (USEF), UNK was the only Nebraska institution to make the list.

“We’re recognized nationally partly because of the foundation of the program because we do focus on technical sales. But now we have a whole other dimension with our ability to do simulations.” Toppen said.

Faculty will be able to teach in a more real life setting, and students will clearly see what they’re getting into. “The simulation lab will give me the opportunity to gain real world experiences that I can apply during my internship and future career,” said Jordan McNitt, a senior industrial distribution major from Kearney.

The simulation lab contains several dimensions that allow students to have a hands-on learning experience every time they step foot into the lab.

The lab’s main office serves two functions: a place for sales calls and an office for the branch manager. A city counter allows students to experience business dialogue and processes as if they were talking to people coming in off the street.

A warehouse functions as both a storage area and as a place for students to learn operations simulations—the picking, the packing, the sorting and the shipping of goods.

The new lab even has a forklift to assist students in unpacking and loading shelves.

For more information on the exciting changes in the industrial distribution department, visit www.unkid.org.
Students can follow their dreams around world

BY JESSICA HUEBERT
Antelope Staff

It’s a dream for most college students to one day travel and see the world. But when you’re 20 years old with empty pockets, it’s pretty tough to envision yourself as a world traveler.

You don’t have to be a millionaire to experience new countries, though—the answer is as simple as looking into UNK’s study abroad program.

“During my time studying abroad, I visited so many places that I never thought I’d have the chance to go. Italy, Hungary, Germany, Poland and Austria just to name a few,” said Ben Cooney, a senior broadcasting major from Clay Center who attended Palacky University in the Czech Republic during the spring of 2009.

“The great thing about studying in Europe is that your experience is not just limited to one place. All of the countries over there are so close together that it’s easy to travel all over the continent,” he said. “I didn’t matter that we didn’t speak the languages. Most of the young people over there know a fair amount of English, and even if someone didn’t, it wasn’t too hard to communicate and somehow get your point across.”

The UNK study abroad program offers international exchange programs to dozens of different countries that range in length from several weeks to a full year. Credits are easily transferred to the UNK curriculum if planned carefully, and programs are available in almost any chosen field.

“Students often think ‘Oh there’s no way I could study abroad. It’s too complicated to figure out,’ or ‘It’s probably expensive and I just want to get done with school,’” said Anne Marie Park, UNK’s study abroad coordinator.

“In reality, studying abroad is fairly simple to set up and very affordable as well. Students don’t realize how free they are right now,” she said. “Once you graduate, an opportunity like this may not come along again. Not to mention the fact that studying abroad looks very impressive on a resume. It really sets you apart and shows your willingness to jump right into any situation and just go for it.”

Brie Maaske, a junior mass media major from Kearney, recently studied abroad during the fall of 2008 at Southern Cross University in Lismore, New South Wales, Australia. “My study abroad experience was fantastic,” she said. “It showed me that I was able to get out of my comfort zone, away from everyone I know, and still be successful and have fun. I got to experience things that most people will never get to, like going snorkeling in the Great Barrier Reef, traveling up and down the coast of Australia and, of course, living in a different country.”

Studying abroad is quickly becoming more and more popular. Instead of being just another tourist, exchange students experience things from the other side and see beyond what the tourists see.

“When you study abroad, your mind just explodes,” Park said. “You learn so much without even trying. All the sights, the surroundings, the different viewpoints and cultures—your mind absorbs it all in a way that reading a textbook could never compare to.”

Both Cooney and Maaske agree studying abroad has countless benefits.

“Anytime you are able to experience a new culture, it’s priceless,” Cooney said. “I learned a lot in the classes, and outside of class I saw a whole different view of the world. Plus the opportunities to try new things were never ending. I ended up going skydiving twice, tried tons of new foods and even mastered the art of taking public transportation everywhere. What I’ve taken away from this experience will stay with me forever.”

“I would definitely recommend studying abroad to other UNK students.” Maaske said. “I think it’s really important to get out there and see the world, and really, when else in your life are you going to be able to just up and move across the world for five months while continuing to further your education? It’s the experience of a lifetime.”

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BY JESSICA KENYON
Antelope Staff

Can you imagine UNK students running around in their undergarments? That’s right, as crazy as it sounds, students will strip down to their undies for the first annual UNK Blue and Gold Bloomer Run.

Junior psychology major Ben Clancy of Dawson and junior broadcasting major Amanda Hodge of Grand Island decided to start an event to show their spirit during homecoming week.

“The idea to run in our underwear is really something to get people excited. Anyone can put together a pep rally, and the same people who are already excited will show up. But by doing something different, I really think we can bring out some people that otherwise aren’t really interested in getting involved,” Clancy said.

Students involved in the Bloomer Run will gather at the Cope Fountain Thursday, Oct. 15 at midnight, and then proceed to take a run around the UNK campus to show their support for the Lopers.

“We’re going to start at the fountain, head south to Bruner, go west to the field house, turn north to University Drive, head east to CTE, finally go up past the union and back to the fountain. It’s a pretty long run, but we’ll all make it,” Hodge said.

While this event hasn’t been approved by any school official, different levels of authority, including the UNK police, have been notified that there just may be over 100 students running around half-naked Thursday night.

Clancy and Hodge decided to create a Facebook group, which now has 128 members.

One of the members, junior exercise science major Vance Herberk of Hastings, said, “It may be awkward [running around in your skivvies], but sometimes awkward moments are the most fun and most memorable.”

Although some students might not want to show up because of the dress code, they should know that they will be among their fellow UNK students wearing the same thing. No one will judge you, and everyone will be kind. This is just adults having fun—adults in their underwear.

“Some people might not be comfortable going on a run in their skivvies at midnight in the middle of a Nebraska October, in the company of mostly strangers, but that is a risk I am comfortable taking,” Herberk said.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln has a bloomer run, known as the Scarlet Streak. This year will be UNL’s third biannual event.

“Ben and I were bored one night and on Facebook, we came across the profile of a friend who participated in UNL’s event, and we were like ‘whoa, we have to do this’ and it just kind of grew from there,” Hodge said.

So if you’re up for the challenge, don’t forget to show up at the fountain Thursday, Oct. 15 at midnight. You and your friends need to be there. The more the merrier.
Loper of the Week

BY GARRETT RITONYA
Antelope Sports Editor

Sophomore quarterback Jake Spitzlberger of Denver is this week’s Loper of the Week. Spitzlberger, an industrial distribution major, has led the Lopers to a 6-1 start and is one of the leaders in Division II in total offense.

“I see this team going a long way and can definitely see us playing for a national title,” Spitzlberger said. “We have played well so far but still can improve immensely in other areas as a team.”

Whether it is with his arm or his feet, Spitzlberger always has the defense on their toes. The reigning Freshman Offensive Player of the Year has UNK ranked for the first time since 2005.

Airin’ It Out

with Jake Spitzlberger

Food: Vietnamese
Movie: "Training Day"
Hobby: Read the Bible
Biggest Fear: public speaking
Childhood Dream: professorial athlete
Music: Alternative rock
Song: "Everything" by Lifehouse
TV show: "Beyond the Glory"
Wedding Song: anything Miley Cyrus

BY DAN LENZEN
Antelope Sports Staff

McBride enjoys personal aspect of Division II athletics

Gainesville, Fla. and Kearney are two very different places, and UNK Athletic Director Jon McBride, can see both similarities and differences including size, financial resources and, oh yes, the weather.

McBride came to UNK after working in the University of Florida athletic department as the assistant athletic director for external affairs for 12 years.

With strong roots in the Midwest, McBride is originally from Athens, Ohio, and graduated from the University of Ohio with a degree in RTV Management and master’s in sports administration and facility management.

While at Ohio, he volunteered for the Ohio athletic department prior to grad school and became interested in a sports administration degree. “After my first job at LSU, I took a position as the number two person at Saint Louis University. My boss (the AD) at SLU resigned, and I interviewed as the internal candidate for that position. It was through that experience that I knew that my ultimate goal was to become an AD.” McBride said.

McBride’s opportunity to achieve his goal came after he applied at UNK and interviewed twice for the position before finally landing the job as the school’s athletic director.

McBride said the major difference between UF and UNK is merely the difference in the size of the schools. “Florida is about 10 times bigger in the size of enrollment than UNK, so the biggest difference is the availability in financial resources,” McBride said. As for major differences between the two states, McBride said, the weather.

“On the other hand,” he said, “they are similar because the people are very passionate and loyal supporters of their state’s institutions. There are numerous major Division I programs in the state of Florida, but only one major institution in the state of Nebraska.”

McBride was associated with many notable coaches at UF: current UNLV Head Basketball Coach Lon Kruger, current UF Head Basketball Coach Billy Donovan and Steve Spurrier, the current head football coach at the University of S.C.

McBride chose to take the UNK Athletic Director job because of the supportive campus and community of Kearney. McBride said UNK was a very established and successful Division II program, and he was ready to return to the Midwest. He said the most rewarding part of his job is working on behalf of the very quality student athletes and coaches and watching the student athletes mature and graduate. The most challenging part of his job is stretching the budget dollars to keep quality programs and facilities at UNK.

McBride says one of the major reasons he came to UNK was his wife, Karen. She is a native of Sutherland, and she pointed out to him that UNK had a solid athletic program. After interviewing at other schools about AD openings and not liking the fit, McBride decided that a Division II school may be the best fit for him.

“I had interviewed for four Division I jobs but just didn’t like the fit after each interview. Some people suggested that Division II might be a better fit for me, and I have enjoyed the more personal aspect of Division II,” McBride said.
Midway through 2009 season, Lopers poised for postseason with a full head of steam, looking like

The greatest show on turf

BY JASON ARENS
Antelope Sports Staff

Fall equals changing leaves, crisper air, shorter days and, of course, football. As the midst of football season is upon us, college football in particular, we begin to see the separation between the contenders and the pretenders.

Fortunately, the Lopers are separating with the better half. They sit up top of the RMAC conference unbeaten at 5-0, with an overall record of 6-1. The Lopers are ranked No. 16 in the nation by the one poll that matters most, the American Football Coaches Association poll.

The team is sure to climb even higher in the poll after the road victory over New Mexico Highlands. They are sitting in a good position with only four games left on the regular season schedule, most notably Colorado Mines, with an unblemished conference record as well.

The Lopers had a heartbreaking loss in the season opener against current No. 14 Wayne State. If not for that close loss, there’s a good chance the team would be sitting in the top 10 in the nation. But the team won’t let that distract them from their goals and as they continue to push forward. “Our goal always is to win the RMAC. If you do so, then you usually make playoffs, so that’s what we’re focused on,” said head coach Darrell Morris.

Sometimes it’s hard to stay on track and keep going at full steam. “This is the time of year where a lot of injuries occur. It’s a time where small nagging injuries can become problems. We got [Riley] Newcomer back, so that helps us out, but there are a few guys that can’t make the road trips, and we’ve missed Owen Stubbs,” Morris said.

Leaders for the team thus far include Jake Spitzberger, who has thrown for 185 yards a game and 11 touchdowns. Rustin Dring is the top rusher in the RMAC conference, averaging 111 yards a game and four touchdowns. Kyle Kaiser is nearing 600 receiving yards on the year and has hauled in five touchdown grabs. Jake Mandelko leads the team in interceptions with four and is No. 2 in tackles with 41. UNK as a team leads the RMAC in scoring and total offense, as well as scoring and total defense.

Coach Morris talked about other players who have stepped up. True freshman Zach Horan had his redshirt pulled in week three— due to injury at the running back position— and rushed for over 100 yards in a winning effort over Western State. He also mentioned Ryan Skogg, who is leading the team in rushing touchdowns with five, and kicker Jordan Alegria, who has become a solid boot for the Lopers as the season progresses. Alegria is currently the top scorer in the RMAC.

The team feels confident and is ready to take on any opponent. “Our game plan is week to week. We base off of a package and go from there. Each team presents a different matchup, so we adjust accordingly,” Morris said. That goes for the offense as well as the defense.

As the season comes closer to an end, the excitement will continue to build here in Kearney. Will this explosive team burst into the playoffs? Could this be the year? One thing is for sure—your support won’t hurt the team’s chances.

Antelope College Picks of the Week

Eric Korth, Hastings
Former Antelope Sports Editor, 19-16

No. 8 Cincinnati at No. 21 South Florida
No. 20 Oklahoma vs. No. 3 Texas
No. 6 USC at No. 25 Notre Dame
Texas Tech at No. 15 Nebraska
No. 4 Virginia Tech at No. 19 Georgia Tech
No. 22 South Carolina at No. 2 Alabama
Western New Mexico at UNK

Cincinnati
Texas
USC
Nebraska
Virginia Tech
Alabama
UNK

Cincinnati
Texas
USC
Nebraska
Virginia Tech
Alabama
UNK

South Florida
Texas
Notre Dame
Nebraska
Virginia Tech
Alabama
UNK

Mike Jones, Sutton
Special Guest Picker
Omaha Beef Wide Receiver

South Florida
Texas
Notre Dame
Nebraska
Virginia Tech
Alabama
LOPERS!
New additions to women’s basketball team hold high hopes for season

BY RACHAEL COCHRAN
Antelope Sports Staff

With winter just around the corner, basketball is on the minds of eleven lady Lopers and two coaches.

One coach is brand new to campus, Coach Freddy Yalden. Yalden came to UNK from Ripon College in Wisconsin where she helped lead the Red Hawks to the MWC Championship last year. Prior to UNK, Yalden coached for 13 years both at the collegiate and high school level.

New additions to the roster this year are four freshmen and two transfers. Iowa sophomore Kim Rickles played for Missouri Western State University last year, and Minden sophomore Lee Ann Jameson played for Hastings College last season. The team, mostly underclassmen, has already begun practicing together to build teamwork and learn plays.

“I think we might have some growing pains early on, but I am confident in the players and their willingness and ability to improve every day. Coach Russell has established a program rich in the winning tradition and has taught the girls excellence, not only on the court, but in the classroom as well,” Assistant Coach Freddy Yalden said.

The girls had a team retreat this past weekend at Johnson Lake to have fun and relax all together. The season officially begins Nov. 8, against UNL, in Lincoln.

BY MATT IBERG
Antelope Sports Staff

Slightly halfway through the 2009 NCAA volleyball regular season, the Lopers are 20-1 on the season and 11-0 in RMAC play.

A win over Mesa State on Oct. 16 next weekend would secure that the RMAC Championship Tournament would be hosted at the Health and Sports Center for the sixth time this decade and the fifth time in six years.

After 21 games, it is time to rate the performance of the team as a whole and determine some offensive, defensive and overall team MVP awards.

It’s hard to complain with the record that the Lopers have. UNK has had three wins over top 25 teams, including University of Nebraska-Omaha (currently ranked No. 15), Metro State (currently ranked No. 18) and Augustana (ranked No. 25 at the time).

The offense has been at times spectacular, but on average, great.

With Nikki Scott, a senior middle hitter from Broken Bow and Cola Svec, a junior setter from Elkhorn, both in the top five in their respective offensive categories, there’s no reason the Lopers should be having any troubles on offense.

Scott is third in the nation, holding a .430 hitting percentage, while Svec is fifth, averaging 11.7 assists per set.

The Lopers, as a team, are sixth in the nation in hitting percentage, averaging .297, as well as averaging 14.85 kills per set, good enough for second in the nation.

When the ball isn’t in Svec’s hands, there are capable hands to set the ball. UNK is second in the nation in assists per set, averaging 13.87.

On the defensive side, the Lopers are just as good.

Manchester, Iowa, native, and junior defensive specialist Katlyn Heiserman leads the team averaging four digs per set. Although Heiserman isn’t one of the national leaders in digs, the Loper’s defensive digging duties are split between two defensive specialists and a solid passing team. As a team, the Lopers are ranked seventh in the nation in digs, averaging 17.85 digs per set.

The Lopers have held teams to an average hitting percentage of .106, tops in the RMAC.

The good news stops there. Blocking has been inconsistent; however, not awful. Ranking 85th in the nation in blocking, coming in at just under two blocks per set, blocking is not the Lopers’ strong point. This comes because of a variety of reasons though, with the front row players changing nearly every play, it’s hard to get a routine front row going. Not to mention, the offenses that the team has encountered nearly every play, it’s hard to get a routine front row going. Not to mention, the offenses that the team has encountered nearly every play, it’s hard to get a routine front row going. Not to mention, the offenses that the team has encountered nearly every play, it’s hard to get a routine front row going. Not to mention, the offenses that the team has encountered nearly every play, it’s hard to get a routine front row going. Not to mention, the offenses that the team has encountered nearly every play, it’s hard to get a routine front row going.

Another semi-troubling statistic is the Lopers rank 200th out of 255 in service aces, averaging just 1.27 per set; however, this is misleading. According to the NCAA, a service ace is rewarded to a team when a “served ball falls untouched, or cannot be kept in play by the receiving team or the receiver is called for an illegal attempt to play the ball, or if the receiving team is called out of rotation by the official.”

What statistics don’t track is when served balls are able to put teams “out of system.” When a team runs “out of system” it’s hard for their setter to get to the ball and offers that setter few options of where to place the ball. The Lopers are good at getting teams to play “out of system” allowing them to effectively run their chosen defensive scheme.

Head coach Rick Squiers is one of the most successful and arguably one of the best in Division II volleyball. Since 2006, Squiers’ teams are 113-18 overall, 62-6 in conference play and 67-3 at home.

Obviously he’s doing something right. Overall, the Lopers have a well-balanced offense, a great defense, have a deep bench and are able to compete with any team in the nation.

We’ll see if all the hard work and dedication pays off as they try to win both the RMAC regular season crown and the RMAC tournament championship. After that, back to the NCAA tournament where the Lopers look to achieve their ultimate goal—a national title.

IBERG’S PICKS

Offensive MVP: Nikki Scott, Sr.
Defensive MVP: Katlyn Heiserman, Jr. DS from Manchester, Iowa; Kelli Wemhoff, Sr. L/DS from Humphrey
Team MVP: Cola Svec, Jr. Setter from Elkhorn

Loper Volleyball Midseason Report Card

Offense A-

Coming in at sixth in the nation in hitting percentage and second in kills, not many teams have been able to stop the offensive onslaught.

Defense A

Not many balls are hitting the ground on UNK’s side of the net. The Lopers average nearly 18 digs per set, which is good enough for seventh in the nation.

Blocking C

While getting quality touches on the ball, the Lopers are unable to mount a consistent blocking threat at the net. They rank seventh in the RMAC and 85th in the nation.

Serving B

Struggling at times, serving has been an improving element of the Loper offense. While the Lopers are able to get teams out of system with their serves, they are averaging just slightly over one ace per set.

Coaching A+

20-1. We see the 20 wins, but come on, one loss? To Ferris State? To be fair, it was on the road, and against a team receiving votes in the latest AVCA Volleyball poll. The Lopers have defeated three teams in the top-25.

Overall A

Should be interesting to see how the rest of the season unfolds for the Lopers. We will know who will host the RMAC Tournament after next weekend due to a change in tournament hosting procedures this year.
Experience guides Lopers to banner 2009 record

BY CLAYTON KUSH
Antelope Sports Staff

It’s been a great season for the Loper football team, ending a six-game losing streak to the UNO Mavs and a three-year run of losses to the Chadron State Eagles before shooting up to a national ranking of 13th in the latest Division II poll.

A great deal of this success can be credited to the Loper’s great wealth of experienced players. The UNK football team improved to a record of 6-1 with a 52-3 win over New Mexico Highlands. Returning offensive starter quarterback Jake Spitzberger and wide receiver Kyle Kaiser have been the key to the Loper’s success on offense. The defense has been a solid unit thanks to a number of players, especially their anchor on the defensive line, Mason Brodine.

The 6’7” 255-pound senior from Elm Creek is stepping up big in his final season for a Loper defense that is giving up less than 13 points a game. Brodine feels the team, especially the defense, is playing much better this season for a few reasons.

“This year has been more of a team effort. We are getting more production and guys are really stepping up big. One of the reasons our defense has been playing better this season is that the offense has been moving the ball up and down the field, and that has been keeping our defense off the field more,” Brodine said.

There has also been a noticeable change in the team’s attitude. “There has been much more encouragement this year from the sidelines. When the offense or defense is out on the field, the other unit is crowding the sidelines cheering them on. That’s something we’ve gotten more of this year,” Brodine said.

Brodine has made great improvements himself this season as he leads a defensive line that hasn’t given up over 100 yards rushing since their first game. He feels that his success on the gridiron can be attributed to a number of things. “I’m much more experienced, I worked hard in the weight room to get much stronger and had a better off-season of working out and training,” Brodine said.

Looking back on his career here at UNK, Brodine feels his experience has been great, and he’s learned a lot that he will take with him to the next stage of life. “Playing football here has helped me become more responsible and helped me deal with things in life. With every game, I’ve seen myself continually get better and better, and that is something I would like to carry on after football,” Brodine said.
Counting off the war in Afghanistan, Nine years and three days later

"Perhaps it is time to cut our losses and get out of this war."

Wednesday marked the eighth year of occupation by U.S. forces in Afghanistan. Once highly supported by the public and a rare example of bipartisan cooperation, the war on terror and Operation Enduring Freedom is, simply stated, nothing more than a war of attrition, and we are not on the winning side.

Currently 62,000 American troops are deployed in Afghanistan, a number that has doubled from last year. Casualty rates have also increased from just 12 in 2001 to 408 since January of 2009.

A CNN poll conducted in September shows 39 percent of Americans approve of the war, while 58 percent disapprove, and the number of dissenters grows by the day. "A recent CNN poll conducted in September shows 39 percent of Americans approve of the war, while 58 percent disapprove, and the number of dissenters grows by the day."

President Obama has called the fight in Afghanistan a “war of necessity.” Nine years and three days ago, that arguably was the case. However, something closer to the truth appears to be emerging, and many people regrettably can’t even recall why our troops are even there.

Recently, we asked 25 UNK students at random if they could answer the following question: What lead to the U.S. occupation of Afghanistan? Sadly, less than 20 percent answered the question correctly.

While this small sample of college students doesn’t provide a clear representation of the American public, the 80 percent who answered incorrectly should be ashamed because that means they apparently allowed the horrific events that unfolded on Sept. 11, 2001, to slip their minds as well.

At times, and I may be the only one who feels this way, the public is starting to treat 9/11 like an old elementary classmate no one ever really talked to or remembered. They can remember a face and what classes were shared, but for some reason, they just can’t recall a name.

Answer this. What happened to the level of national pride and patriotism that burned so bright immediately after that dreadful day? How can one allow the shocking images of that day to be reduced to ashes so quickly? Countless images and stories of those affected circulated for months, years even, yet seem easily set aside by so many.

Perhaps now, with new images circulating of injured and fallen American soldiers returning home, some for the last time, more citizens will begin to take notice. Images of fallen soldiers, by the way, were previously censored, forbidden by the previous administration.

It is no secret the Obama administration inherited this war. No one has ever purported this battle is about economic or political gain. At no time has the war in Afghanistan been considered an attempt to expand U.S. hegemony in an unstable region.

Some have labeled it the “good war,” a crusade to ensure regional, national and international security via the collapse of the Taliban and Al-Qaeda. But for others, this war is simply an aimless endeavor void of any potential success. Assistant professor of political science Dr. Christopher Stevens said, “The objective is not aimless, but the war is.”

Like many experts and public critics, Stevens feels the current administration must reconstruct U.S. foreign policy regarding the war. “U.S. policy has been aimless. We need to focus more on nation building, deterring civil war, setting up credible political systems and creating a sound anti-terrorist campaign that successfully combats the Taliban and Al-Qaeda,” Stevens said. “Reconstructing Afghanistan would require a complete violation of basic principles by all U.S. parties.”

The Taliban is localized to Afghanistan and Pakistan, while Al-Qaeda is international. The hands of the Taliban stretch farther than most are willing to accept—perhaps even as close as Denver. With that said, even if the Taliban is completely and successfully destroyed, Al-Qaeda will always be there. And if not the Taliban, another radical group will no doubt take its place.

Is it possible to bring peace to a region of the world that has never tasted peace? In the long run, we are still dealing with a region of the world enveloped by war and religious extremism for centuries, a state replete of warriors willing to sacrifice themselves for that which they hold true—their faith.

Former Congressman Charlie Wilson, and the recent inspiration behind the film “Charlie Wilson’s War” perhaps said it best in a recent interview. “They’re (Afghans) the world’s best foot soldiers, best warriors and they’re fearless. They’ve got nothing to lose, and they have a serious hatred for those who try to occupy their country…I’d rather take on a chainsaw.”
Wild West events lasso up school spirit

Grab your hats and strap your boots, it’s that time of year again. Time for dancing, singing, cheering and showing your blue and gold spirit. Welcome to the Wild, Wild West, homecoming week at UNK.

The committee has added a few new events, including the first event judged on Monday, “Deck the Halls.” Mantor Hall won the competition.

“We all put together a bunch of different ideas, and then the LPAC committee votes on which one they believe is the best. This year they chose the ‘Wild, Wild West’ theme,” Tim Danube, associate director of the student union, said.

“This event is new this year. In simple terms, this is a window decoration competition,” Danube said.

According to Danube, students were allowed to start the set ups for the event as early as Tuesday of last week to get extra points, and the window decorations around campus are simply a visual reminder to everyone that homecoming is coming, to raise awareness and to raise campus spirit.

Another new event this year is the “Battle of the Brains,” held on Wednesday. “So many things we do involve physical competition, such as the trike race. This year we thought we would do something with more brain power, so this event is just like a quiz bowl for the students,” Danube said.

Another new event, the stunt competition, is a song and cheer competition created by the students.

The most popular event during homecoming is still the traditional lip-sync competition, begun 20 years ago.

“This competition has been here for the 17 years that I have been here, and the participation and audience keeps growing. Students will always remember this event on Thursday night where 1,500 students were watching and cheering them on,” Danube said.

“I have actually attended the lip-sync competition. I was surprised by how many people were there, but it was also really fun to watch. There was so much energy and school spirit,” said Jeremy Bauer, senior finance major from Lincoln.

Another aspect of homecoming Danube stresses is student participation. According to Danube, homecoming week is a chance for students to develop many different skills.

“Part of what we do at the student union is promote and encourage student development. During homecoming week, students learn a lot of leadership skills. Also, when students feel at home and part of the campus community, they usually have a better GPA and have more fun,” Danube said.

“I have not attended any homecoming events, but I always hear a lot about them. I know people who have went to the lip-sync competition, and it is an event that I really need to attend. It sounds like a lot of fun,” said Brittany Osborne, senior finance major from Atkinson.

Danube believes that if students who have not attended the homecoming events in the past would come or even participate, they would have a lot of fun and enjoy themselves, as well as meet new people.

Anyone can participate in these events, but according to Danube, a lot of times it is sororities, fraternities and the residence halls.

“Between the Greeks and residence halls, homecoming week has become a huge, growing tradition,” Danube said.

Homecoming week began Monday and ends Saturday with the homecoming parade. For a list of events and times, visit http://www.unk.edu/studentlife/organizations.aspx?id=47759.

“This is a great campus tradition and a great way to raise campus spirit. I really hope students will attend the events and hope everyone enjoys themselves,” Danube said.
From 1941 gridiron queen to 2009 homecoming royalty

A look back in time at the history of Kearney’s homecoming rituals, traditions

BY CHEVONNE FORGEY
Antelope Staff

Homecoming week is a week unlike any other. It is probably safe to say that homecoming week makes everyone feel the college spirit at UNK, as students have always prided themselves on the celebrations that accompany it.

Throughout the years though, UNK, previously Kearney State College, has established numerous memories and traditions when it comes to homecoming: kings and queens, football game victories and decorations to boot.

Homecoming on our campus began approximately between the years of 1936 to 1940. By the year 1941, Kearney State College had already embodied the homecoming spirit by participating in a huge citywide homecoming parade, the traditional bonfire, a homecoming dance and the crowning of the “Gridiron Queen” and the “Most Representative Man” on campus.

By 1964, the floats and large homecoming parade became one of the most momentous parts of the homecoming tradition. All of the social organizations and well as three of the religious organizations on campus spent many afternoons and evenings working hard on their floats, while each dorm on campus participated in homecoming week by constructing a dorm display.

Looking back over the years, the theme for the 1964 dorm displays was “advertisements and commercials.”

That was back in a day and age when the Men’s Hall on campus won the dorm display competition with a display that read, “Kill the Wayne Wildcats Dead.”

And in the 1960’s, Kearney State College recognized only a homecoming queen, not a homecoming king.

By 1970, homecoming changed on campus from enthusiasm and spirit interaction and evolved into experiences beyond college. The theme that year was, “With a little help from our friends” which presented a time of peace from the friends of all nations.

In fact, in 1970, old traditions were no longer viewed or practiced. It was the first year the homecoming royalty was announced at halftime of the homecoming football game.

Then, 20 years ago, in 1989 Kearney established the ever-popular lip-sync competition.

Overall, throughout the years of homecoming at UNK, the spirit and support of the campus and community have been immense. As new activities replace old ones, and the gridiron queen becomes the homecoming queen, parades dissolve and lip-sync competitions begin, the campus will always keep the same mind-set throughout the entire homecoming week.

The goal is still to have the UNK spirit. The uniqueness of this week has evolved throughout the years and it will continue to do so.

Look back on homecoming through the decades

1964

Kearney State College’s 1964 homecoming queen was a surprised Miss Charlotte (Chic) Licking.

Photo courtesy of 1965 yearbook.

1964 Homecoming parade float boosted by the Newman Club says “KSC is Fielding Their Cherries.” They won first in their division.

Photo courtesy of 1965 yearbook.

1970 Homecoming queen Renee Smith Davis from Bertrand is congratulated on the football field.

Photo courtesy of 1971 yearbook.

Fourth place winners, members of Gamma Phi Beta sorority sing “Rocking Robin” during the first lip-sync competition in 1988. The Antelope archives

1970

1988

Vote for your homecoming queen and king!

Queen candidates: Andrea May Sarah Nordhues Regan Ruhl Emily Wemhoff

King candidates: Brad Green Jordan Gonzales Anthony McPhillips Nate Summerfield

The 2009 homecoming royalty will be crowned at the lip-sync competition Thursday at the Health and Sports Center
Chi Omega may have closed, but hearts are still open

Government officials declare portions of America are receiving little healthcare due to inadequate access to healthcare insurance. Very soon, the United States congress will be voting on President Barack Obama’s proposed bill for a long awaited healthcare reform. President Obama believes this process will take some time to properly take its full affect, however, if enacted, will save America’s improper healthcare status. Here are some advantages and disadvantages to the bill:

Advantages
* Currently, the reform will be covered by a $635 billion dollar reserve fund
* All Americans will be guaranteed health insurance, regardless of a pre-existing condition.
* In Nebraska, insurance companies will have an annual restriction on the amount of out-of-pocket fees they can charge.

Disadvantages
* Citizens of high income will be susceptible to a tax increase
* Employers will cut healthcare benefits
* The Congressional Budget Office estimates the national deficit would increase by $239 billion over the next 10 years.

The student government here at UNK urges all students to Contact your Nebraska Senators and Congressmen: Mike Johanns & Ben Nelson Jeff Fortenberry, Lee Terry & Adrian Smith

“The girls will continue to reap the benefits of being a Chi Omega...The support, friendship and sisterhood continue with us throughout our lives.”
Shari Anderson
Chi Omega advisor

said, “The girls will continue to reap the benefits of being a Chi Omega, but now it will be from an alumna’s point of view. The benefits of Chi Omega are definitely for a lifetime. The support, friendship and sisterhood continue with us throughout our lives.”

One of the best things that has come out of the chapter closing is the opening of the alumnae group that will be meeting at least once a month and taking part in fun activities and still supporting the Kearney area with philanthropic activities.

“We are now meeting as the newly reorganized Kearney Area Chi Omega alumnae chapter, which is recognized as an official Alumnae Chapter with our national headquarters,” Anderson said.

Anderson said this alumnae group spans several generations, with members from age 19 to 89. “We are happy that we can still be connected in an organized manner once a month.”

Chi Omega was founded in 1895 and had been making significant contributions to the university since 1962. Chi Omega is the largest women’s fraternal organization with more than 290,000 initiates and 172 collegiate chapters.

The women of Chi Omega still plan to actively support the Make-A-Wish Foundation (Chi Omega’s National Philanthropy) both locally and nationally.

Are you a caring individual willing to provide care to persons with special needs?

If so, please join us for a free Respite Provider Workshop on Sunday, October 18, 2009 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 6511 6th Ave Kearney, NE

You will learn – Tips on how to be a successful respite provider in your community, billing and payment information, and information on applying to be part of the Nebraska Respite Network.

Featured Speaker is Sarah Kuhl, Behavioral Health Specialist, presenting on Working with Children and Youth with Behavioral Issues.

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Outdoor sleepover disrupted by snow, freezing drizzle

Cold weather forces homeless awareness participants to seek warm shelter inside

BY ERIK DODGE
Antelope Staff

Participants in the first ever Homeless Awareness Sleepover found shelter in a Cushing gym on the first night snow fell in Kearney, a grim reminder about what it might be like to be homeless during the cold winter months.

The United Way originally planned for the sleepover to be held outdoors next to the fountain but moved the event inside due to the weather.

The switch highlights one of the threats homeless people face in the area. “If a homeless person were forced to spend the night outside in January, they probably wouldn’t survive,” said Lisa Reese Parish, executive director of the United Way of the Kearney Area.

Over 40 people attended Friday evening including UNK students, United Way board members, and professor of sociology Dr. Kurt Borchard, who authored a book about homelessness in Las Vegas.

Attendees were addressed by Parish and Borchard, ate dinner in a soup line and watched “The Pursuit of Happiness.” Those who spent the night were invited to take part in a “night watch,” spending one hour of the night awake, outside and journaling about the experience.

Borchard, the special speaker, invited the audience to help define homelessness. Most people define homelessness as not having a physical residence, but homelessness also has another aspect, according to Borchard. “Home” is the notion of a place to feel safe and be surrounded by people who care, not just the physical structure, he said.

Borchard gave the audience three ways to help. First, support local charities. Second, be an active citizen through voting or possibly protesting anti-homeless laws. Third, listen. He said you can make a change simply by listening to one person a day. “People with a problem in the community should be viewed as part of the community instead of separate from it,” Borchard said.

Parish told the night watch volunteers that they “might be the first people in Kearney to see snow.” Those journaling were encouraged by Borchard to imagine they were sleeping in a shelter full of strangers. Journal entries are set to be added to the United Way of the Kearney Area Web site, uwka.org.

The number of actual reported homeless individuals locally is low. “We do not have a sizable homeless population in the area,” Parish said. However, more trouble comes from near homelessness and potential evictions. Area agencies deal with around 80 individuals annually, although some cases may be chronic, according to Parish.

The United Way partner agencies who work to help the area’s homeless include the Homeless Prevention Program, Jubilee Center, Salvation Army and RAFT.

Even though area homeless numbers are low, the state of the economy increases the possibility that those numbers will climb. “The risk of homelessness is very real right now,” Parish said. It would be very easy for a family to backslide into homelessness. “Awareness among the crowd at UNK and the community is very important,” Parish said.
LOPER APPAREL

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