Local officials propose tax hike

MAYER AND ZIMMER ARE members and organizers of NAMI Nebraska. NAMI is the largest mental health organization in the nation, with a mission to improve the lives of persons with mental illness. For more information about NAMI, visit www.nami.org.

Co-sponsored by NAMI of Central Nebraska, “Hope” is Kearney’s own self-help support group for people with mental illness and their support persons. “Hope” meets at 7:30 p.m. every Monday in room 101 of the Holy Cross Lutheran Church, located at 3115 Sth Ave. Attendance is free of charge.

For more information, contact Linda Jensen at 308-865-8729.
It’s turkey time! A Thanksgiving Crossword

ACROSS
2. Where you will settle after a dinner of turkey.
4. Where the cook on the ship dishes up the meal while on the voyage.
7. This is celebrated today on the fourth Thursday of November.
9. Which president did not like the idea of having a national holiday named Thanksgiving?
11. This famous woman editor of the 19th century wanted to launch Thanksgiving Day -- and she crusaded for it. Sarah __________ Hale.
12. The derivative spelling for Plymouth.
15. Actors pretend they sail on a sailing ship once again, reliving this and other historical events.
17. The helmsman on the wooden sailing ship adjusts this long level to move the rudder and steer the ship.
18. Which traditional Thanksgiving dessert was NOT at the first dinner.
20. When mending the nets, the sailor wears a sailor’s palm to protect himself from sticking himself with a ____________.
21. An alternative meat entry for Thanksgiving.
23. The surname of the president under which the first Thanksgiving was practiced.
24. What is celebrated on Thanksgiving.
26. The surname of this printer family of the colonies, who had coined the term Pilgrims.
29. We “undress” the bird and stuff it with ____________.
31. Pilgrim children and adults only took baths several times a year because it was considered unhealthy. True or False?
32. What is celebrated on Thanksgiving.
33. This horn of plenty symbol originated in Greece.
34. A misnomer term to describe the religious separatists of the American colonies.
36. Which food, which rhymes with tomato, was not in the first Thanksgiving dinner.
37. The month during which the first Thanksgiving was celebrated at the Plymouth Colony.
38. Many believe the Pilgrims would not have survived their first winter without the help of these Native people.
39. You drop this into the water, once you are safe within the harbor.
41. Dr. Merrick’s mother cooked the turkey in this to make the bird heat through for Thanksgiving dinner, much to the chagrin of her abstaining brother.
42. About how many families lived at the founding colony of Plymouth.

DOWN
1. Mariah Carey will perform when this team plays at a Thanksgiving halftime show.
3. The name of the leader of the Native Americans who celebrated the first Thanksgiving with the Pilgrims.
5. This horn of plenty symbol originated in Greece.
6. This friendly custom will bring you luck.
8. This dressing makes you feel “stuffed” on Thanksgiving.
10. What the turkey has to say about the whole matter of the holiday dinner.
13. Travelers in this wooden ship sailed to Plymouth for religious freedom.
14. The traditional fruit of Cape Cod, enjoyed especially during Thanksgiving dinner.
16. Which Native American tribe feasted with the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock?
19. If Europe was the “Old World,” then Plymouth Colony was the ____________.
22. Someone who is on a journey with a religious or moral purpose.
25. Where did the Pilgrims first land, on Nov. 11, 1620, before they landed at Plymouth Rock?
27. The number of days the crew and passengers, totaling 102 altogether, spent onboard a ship, sailing for America.
28. The site of the first Pilgrim community was built on the site of this Indian village.
29. The major occupation of those working in the first Plymouth Colony.
30. In what kind of dwelling did the tribal members live? It was made of cedar poles frames covered with bark or straw mats.
31. This is a word to describe a pulley on a ship used to lift heavy cargo, including livestock -- sounds like “captain.”
32. The language that was spoken in the 1627 Plymouth Village.
33. A misnomer term to describe the religious separatist of the American colonies.
34. The early settlers, rather than calling themselves “Pilgrims,” thought of themselves as being this.
35. The ship sailed to America with the help of a directional finder called this.
36. Which Native American tribe feasted with the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock?
37. Canada celebrates Thanksgiving in this month.
38. Many believe the Pilgrims would not have survived their first winter without the help of these Native people.
39. This is a word to describe a pulley on a ship used to lift heavy cargo, including livestock -- sounds like “captain.”
40. The surname of the first president to first establish Thanksgiving Day as an official holiday.
41. The major occupation of those working in the first Plymouth Colony.
42. Someone who is on a journey with a religious or moral purpose.
43. Before traveling to America, many of the Pilgrims left England in 1606 to start their own church. To which country did they go first?
44. In what kind of dwelling did the tribal members live? It was made of cedar poles frames covered with bark or straw mats.

Answers to last week's Thanksgiving crossword puzzle
Master speakers of past hurt reps of new speakers

Jamie Dusin
Sports Editor

Words equal power. In America, the ability to speak well and be sophisticated while doing so can bring great power and respect. Many American figures have written their way into American history books by the inspiring words in their speeches. While all of the people were speaking toward a great cause—inaugural addresses and civil speeches—many people can never hear the words that were said instead of the cause that was being worked for.

Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the United States, came from a poor background with minimal schooling, but he is now known as one of the greatest presidents because of his speaking abilities. President Lincoln’s Gettysburg address is now quoted across the nation as one of America’s great speeches. According to the American Rhetoric Web site, it is one of America’s great speeches.

“Four score and seven years ago our fathers...”King addressed many speeches in his quest for equal civil rights, but one speech is still around today defining who he was. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech is known across the nation for the intensity and honesty in which he spoke.

King addressed many points in his speech using elaborated metaphors and intense points that are inscribed in history books. “It would be fatal for the government to overlook the urgency of the moment. This almost scorching summer of our Negro’s legitimate discontent will not pass until there is an invigorating autumn of freedom and equality...”

King said Aug. 28, 1963, on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. Another great American speaker is John Fitzgerald Kennedy, the 35th American president. President Kennedy was the youngest man elected to presidency, and he was only in office for little over 1,000 days. He is still remembered as a great president.

Many of these memories are from the simple words President Kennedy said during his inaugural address Jan. 20, 1961. “...And so, my fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country,” he said.

Because speaking well gives people great power, sadly enough, when some people don’t speak as well as others, they are likely to be ridiculed and remembered by how they don’t speak well.

President George W. Bush, the 43rd President of the United States, is ridiculed for this. Many people fail to look at what he has done as a president and his goals and dreams for the United States because they are focused on how he doesn’t speak as eloquently as others.

There are multiple Web sites and books that are dedicated to making fun of the way President Bush speaks. Those “Bushisms,” however, don’t focus on the great message that President Bush may say. They focus on how he may say incoherent words up from the stress and pressure of running a country and speaking to millions of people.

“And the second way to defeat the terrorists is to spread freedom. You see, the best way to defeat a security that is—doesn’t have hope, a security where people become so angry they’re willing to become suiciders, is to spread freedom,” President Bush said in Washington, D.C., on June 8, 2005.

The meaning and well-intent of the words is ignored just so someone can make fun of how he speaks.

Even though the speeches may have been written by someone else, the one who speaks them to the millions of people get the credit or lose the credibility.

While the ability to speak well gives great power, sometimes too much power is put on the public appearance. The words should be digestible and the meaning understood before making a decision on whether the message is bridle or not. The president of the United States should not be ridiculed solely for not being an amazing public speaker.
Playwright recreates classic for stage

In the early morning on Nov. 2, Kristi Anderson, former teen leader of grounds and landscaping at UNK, was killed in a house fire in Kearney. Anderson was killed in a house fire in Kearney on Nov. 2. Co-workers said that Anderson always had a smile on her face. Later that same day, Rodney Oestriecher was injured from a collision with a bathtub trailer while riding his bicycle. He died on Nov. 4. Rodney was an ambassador for the university and employee of the month in September of 1998. He had worked at the university for 35 years and retired in May of 2004. He spent most of his time in the Bruner Hall of Science.

“The university has lost two good friends... they will both be greatly missed.”
Mark Morehouse
Assistant director
Operations services

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“The university has lost two good friends,” Morehouse said. “They were both helpful, they both lived in a way that could be exampled to everyone. They were always positive and they will both be greatly missed.”

“Everybody knows this movie and everyone has a favorite line or scene... My focus was to remain faithful to the spirit of the material.”
Philip Grecian
Playwright

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Playwright

Grecian said he was mindful of the success of the original version of the story while constructing the stage version.

Shown above is Philip Grecian, the writer of the stage version of the classic “A Christmas Story” by Jean Shepherd. Grecian said he was mindful of the success of the original version of the story while constructing the stage version.

“My focus was to remain faithful to the spirit of the material.”

“Everybody knows this movie and everyone has a favorite line or scene... My focus was to remain faithful to the spirit of the material.”

“Every day, you always have to be mindful of the actors. The actors have to say what you write. A play is a living thing and it lives many lives.”

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Illusionist utilizes word of God

World-renowned illusionist astounds Kearney audience

Matt Ringen
Staff Writer

In his “Magical Spectacular,” world-renowned illusionist and magician, Andre Kole astonished a large crowd of students, children, and citizens of the community with his methods in making the impossible appear to be reality. The event sponsored by the Campus Crusade for Christ seated a packed house in the Ponderosa Room of the Nebraska Student Union on Nov. 15.

Kole humored, stunned and entertained onlookers with his charismatic personality and amazing magical performances. “People only remember 5 percent of what they hear, but 60 percent of what they see,” Kole said.

His magical work focuses on using illusions to make his acts look real and leave audiences wondering and scratching their heads with astonishment. Kole asked for volunteers from the crowd to take part in his act of shaving a steel blade through a person’s neck with no harm and communicating with spirits from the dead while being tied to a chair.

“Children from the audience also took part in one of the acts as Kole proceeded to surprise the audience, placing small ceramic pet on a child’s head. Kole made a small incision and cut the water pushed out the front of the child’s forehead as water squirted through the first few rows in the audience.”

Kole also exposed some of the fraudulent and deceitful hoaxes that he has investigated for 20 years. He revealed the truth behind transcendent levitation, dematerialization, and communication with the dead.

For his grand finale performance, Kole prepared to make a several-hundred-pound 11-foot replica of the Statue of Liberty made of wood, fiberglass, and steel vanish in slow motion from bottom to top. Kole is a creative consultant for one of the world’s best-known illusionists, David Copperfield, who performed a similar performance on national television.

According to Kole’s website, www.andrekole.org, David Copperfield has called Kole’s Statue of Liberty creation “one of the most remarkable illusions ever attempted on stage. . . .”

World renowned magician, Andre Kole, captivated the crowd at UNK.

Kole started his magical work at the age of 7. By age 12 he performed in more than a dozen states as well as Canada and Central America. Today he has performed before millions of live and televised audiences in all 50 United States, South America, Europe, Asia, and Africa, totaling 79 throughout the world.

For more information about his performances, contact Andre at info@andrekoleshow.com.

Senior earns top honors at competition

Katherine Thomas
Staff Writer

Two weekends ago, Katie Miller attended the Regional National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) and won the Senior Classical Women division and the Upper Level Musical Theatre division.

“It’s really fun to be in an atmosphere of singing, creativity and energy,” said Miller who competed against students from Nebraska, Kansas, South Dakota and Colorado.

“Preparation for the competition these last couple of weeks was hectic,” Katie Miller UNK senior music major

Miller is a senior at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, majoring in Musical Theatre. She started preparing for the competition at the beginning of the semester and sang in the musical, “Godspell” presented at the university.

“Preparing for the competition these last couple of weeks was hectic. However, when you get there you have to have confidence that you know your music well and you can just relax and perform it,” Miller said.

She wants to thank her current voice teacher, Anne Forteloy, and her former voice teacher, Pina Mozzani, for their help and training. Several UNK students made semi-finals and four others made it to finals including Grant Pype, first in Freshman Classical Men; Kathery Williams, fifth in Sophomore Classical Women; Katie Mausick, fourth in Sophomore Classical Women; and Minomi Okamura, second in Freshman Classical Women.

Photo courtesy of Kerri Garrison

Andre Kole, shown below, performs stunts that celebrity magician David Copperfield has called “one of the most remarkable illusions ever attempted on stage. . . .”

Photo courtesy of andrekole.org

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Napoleon producer returns to UNK

Shanna Rader
Staff Writer

Sean Covel, 1998 gradu- ate of UNK and producer of the indie movie, Napoleon Dynamite, hosted the screening of the movie in the Fine Arts Recital Hall Wednesday, which was free and open to the public.

Covel is originally from Edgemont, SD. “It’s a left- hand turn from Rushmore,” he said.

He attended college at UNK from 1994-1998. As a student, he was on four plays and a member of the speech team. In addition, he was involved with the campus radio station, KLPR.

Upon graduating, Covel went on to receive his masters degree from the University of Southern California. His first project was Napoleon Dynamite in 2005.

Currently, classes at UNK strongly influenced him toward becoming involved in film making. “I got to look at my work, call it what it was and learn to achieve something better,” Covel said. “Some of the footage I submitted was just completely crap. I’m not going to lie to ya.”

“Napoleon” Producer

After some cuts and braces, over $380,000, and three years of work, Napoleon Dynamite was created.

“If people get this joke, this will explode. If not, then this is definitely going to cost us a lot of money.”

Sean Covel
Producer

“Napoleon Dynamite”

One of the sparrow comes up eating all of the men’s couples rice and gets its tongue cut so the other spar- rows take it to the forest. The nice old people go to visit the sparrow and receive a small box filled with gifts. When the mean old couple see the gifts they also go to scare them away. The moral of the story is the virtue of modesty.

The second food serving was at 6:45 p.m., followed by Kendro and Yoshindo demonstrations at 7:00 p.m. The festival was concluded with a Moment dance at 7:30 p.m.

Jaker, a sophomore from Columbus, heard about the festival from a Japanese friend during the first week of school. Half-Japanese himself, Lescelius always been interested in Japanese culture and his Japanese heritage.

“Napoleon” Producer

The screening of the film, Napoleon Dynamite, will definitely going to achieve something better,” Covel offered his prizes, and Covel offered his time for autographs at the end of the night. Everyone learned that Covel did his “research in the room, and an old local farmer “had the huts” for LaFrensdah. He.

really did get hurt in the bike-jumping scene, and Kip really was, “nothing but cool, probably the coolest guy on the planet,” accord- ing to Covel.

As the sky darkened, the sparrow and receive a small box filled with gifts. When the mean old couple see the gifts they also go to scare them away. The moral of the story is the virtue of modesty.

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Belly dancing opens a door for women to express their femininity and confidence. "It’s not like ballet where you have to be this trained athlete," Roark said. "Everybody can do it, no matter what age or size." According to an article published on KVOA 4's Web site, the French writer Gustave Flaubert conceived the word "dans du ventre," which means "belly dancing," after he had seen a belly dancer in Egypt in 1849. Americans learned belly dancing for the first time during the Chicago World's Fair Exposition in 1893. Because it emerged a few thousand years ago, some scholars refer to belly dancing as the oldest dance in the world. Roark said there are different theories regarding the origin of belly dancing, but the truth is that the dance was originally used by women during their fertility rites and fertility rituals among women.

Roark received a grant to perform at the Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art in New York. She said it is important to continue teaching oriental dances at an artistic level. Belly dancing performed at night clubs gives it a bad name. "It’s such a beautiful dance and deserves respect," Roark said. She added that Belly Dancing 4 You used the costumes by showing too much skin, a fashion that was unknown during that time.

According to the Web site of the International Academy of Middle Eastern Dance, the greatest misconception is that belly dancing originated to entertain and seduce men. Belly dancing was a ritual performance for women during their fertility rites or marriages. Belly dancing gained much popularity in the United States and worldwide during the last couple of years, according to the IAMED Web site. "Belly dance festivals, workshops and seminars take place constantly, attracting large audiences of interested, involved men and women. Many dancers now study the art form extensively, traveling to the Middle East and elsewhere to experience it where it originated," the Web site said.

Before that, it was hard to find teachers, music and books, said Roark, who is also thinking about offering belly dancing lessons in Kearney.

"Keenness is ready for something new," she said. "More and more people show interest. And dance is a good way to learn about another culture."

For more information on Bethelhasson’s belly dancing lessons, contact her at belhalasson@unl.edu.
SPORTS

Volleyball dominates RMAC
Megan Kilbanke Staff Writer

The No. 1-ranked UNK Loper volleyball team is set to host the NCAA Division II Southwest Regional Tournament this weekend, Nov. 18-20.

Their first round matchup against Colorado School of Mines is set to begin at 7:30 p.m. on Friday in the Health and Sports Center.

The Lopers beat Colorado Mines twice during regular season play.

"We're very much looking forward to coming back again the southwest regional tournament," head coach Rick Squissors said.

"It's been a great season so far. I think we've given our-
tuning and maintaining our- the southwest regional tour-
season play.

Mines twice during regular
Tour tournament this weekend,
to host the NCAA Division II Manners are set to begin at
Nov. 18-20.

The Lopers beat Colorado
School of Mines 30-18, 30-12, 30-12 to
win the tournament, and played very well against Metro-city in the final game.

"In addition to the bitters
ties aren't enough, students
are setting the right tone
with their work ethic and
finding their roles on the
program squad along with Dean."

Sixth-year coach, Carol Lin-
son underway in an exhibi-
as 47 percent shooting from
the 3-point arc.

Sophomore forward Amy
Mathis is another strong
return for the Lopers. She
led the team with 34 three-
hitter Erin Brosse second on the team in scor-
ning and rebounds.

Overall, the Lopers have
five returnees and six new
comers. The rest of the returnees are senior Curt
Mathis, junior Liz Fischer and
sophomore Melissa Hinkley out-
ning the team, Kaas Sippmuth, Amanda Vocelka in-
Mullenberger, Jade Meads
and Lindsay Eggleston. The of-
ter are junior Amy Mathis who
was named to the All-East divi-
comes have brought a lot of
positive energy into the pro-
lation was the second set
to UNL by a score of 30-18, 30-18, 30-18.

The Lopers have played
exhibition games already and
are expected to compete in
the NCAA tournament on
senior Dusty Jura.

"Jura says.

The Lopers got their sea-
son underway in an exhibi-
tion game Sunday evening at
the Quest Center in Kearney.

The Lopers beat the Blucats, 47-22, in a low-scoring
matchup that was expected to
be a tight game.

Kevin Hott photos by Diana Hottest. Junior outside hitter Kelli Burgner spikes the ball in last weekend's RMAC Tournament. The Lopers won the tournament and advanced to the Southwest Regional Tournament that will be here this weekend. The Lopers' first match is Friday at 7:30 p.m.

Sports count as classes
Chris Parks Staff Writer

Sports activity classes provide UNK students with an opportunity to learn, stay active and earn credit at the same time. Physical Education 110 courses are offered each semester and cover a variety of sports and activities.

Each class lasts for eight weeks and carries half a credit. Students must enroll in two activities to receive

Photo by Kathline Jordan Senior Lecturer Eving Scantling guides students in the step aerobics class.

one hour of credit. Both activities can be taken during the same eight-week period or in separate periods of the semester, whatever the stu-
dent prefers. If two activities aren’t enough, students are allowed to enroll in a third activity, but it must be an even number.

UNK Senior Lecturer Eving Scantling said there are three main reasons for step. "First, keep our students physi-
ically active. Second, improve our student’s physical activity levels. Third, classes are required for our physical education teaching majors as they understand basic skills and rules in a variety of physical activities and sports," she said.

PE 110 classes that are being offered this upcoming spring semester include: freshman tennis, beginning racquetball, bad-

badminton, bowling, tunk-
country, dancing, step aerobics, golf, swimming, badminton, tennis, karate, ften-
softball and track.

There are plenty of dif-
ferent sports classes for stu-
dents to enroll in, according to Eving and
out of being in class?"

We are not teaching the basic skills and rules required for physical education activities," Scantling said.

"I expect the students to be actively involved in class. Participation is a must. I would like to see improvement in skills, improvement in teamwork and better understanding of the activity." Registration for the sports activities classes for the spring semester is pos-
sible until Nov. 26.
**Football season ends with loss**

Derek Miller  Staff Writer

One of the most successful football seasons in UNK history has officially come to an end with a loss Saturday at Foster Field. The powerful powerhouse Pittsburg State Gorillas came into Kearney and handed the Lopers their third loss of the season, 20-323 yards on the ground. Even though the Lopers soared the season, the fans thought it was a great division II football game.

"I thought it was a good game," said Tommy True said. "Hey, if we score on the goal line and make it 35-28, it is anybody's ballgame," said Mike Pace, a sophomore from Beatrice.

The Lopers' season may not have ended how the Lopers imagined, but it was still a successful one. They won the RMAC outright for the first time in school history. Goldenstein set a new school record for passing yards in a season at 3,181. Pat Korth tossed for 333 yards back in 2003. Ross ends his great career with over 279 catches for 4,092 yards and 30 touchdowns. He now ranks fourth in career receiving yards in Division II history. The KCC All-Division lists, Ross ranks fourth in career receiving yards, ahead of NFL legend Jerry Rice at 3,381.

Ross also tied two Division II records at the game - consecutive seasons with at least one catch, 44, and games played with a touchdown catch, 35. Finally, in career playoff games, Ross caught 22 balls for 407 yards and three scores.

The season might not have ended how the Lopers imagined, but it was still a successful one. They would come out and see their football team, but no, the Huskers were playing at the same time. Sorry Lopers.

I just want to mention we have a wide receiver, Richie Ross, who is going to play in the NFL, very soon. During the course of his career, he has broken 12 school records and three RMAC records, and the best we can get the stadium is half full! You can't expect a team to get hyped up for a play-off game if only half of the stadium is cheering while the other half are getting mad because the Huskers just got scored on. I do I mention Ross broke Jerry Rice's record for career receiving yards - but at least the Huskers beat the 4-4 Kansas Stilt Wildcats.

As fans, we need to realize who we are cheering for - the Lopers or the Huskers - because the last time I checked, the Lopers have a better record and a championship ring. I know they're not saying that in Lincoln. Come support the school you attend.

**Wrestling has 17 finish in top five**

Brittany Johnson  Staff Writer

UNK Wrestling took charge at the Dakota Wesleyan Open on Saturday in Mitchell, S.D. The Lopers opened up their season with 17 wrestlers placing in the top five.

Along with the team having many high placers, Brett Allgood, a sophomore from Bennington, was the tournament outstanding wrestler while placing first in his weight class. Allgood was not the only wrestler to do well. Chanceon, a junior from Kearney, Jeff Sylvester, a senior from Lyman, and Torey Diagni, a sophomore from Texas, all placed first in their weight classes. At 141 pounds, Allgood placed first after Jeff Ruttledge, a sophomore from Lincoln, took second, and Mitchell junior, Matt True took third. At 165 pounds, three Lopers also took over the weight class placing in the top five. Many of the new varsity wrestlers did well on Saturday.

The team is really coming together. Even though we lost a lot of really good wrestlers last season, we have a lot of wrestlers that have improved a lot and are able to wrestle varsity, and they are doing really well," True said.

At 141 pounds, Allgood won his match against a Dakota Wesleyan wrestler by a technical fall, 22-0. Allgood was selected as the OWL Most Outstanding Wrestler.

Photo courtesy of Marc Bauer

The Loper football team posted six first-team All-Conference players, four second-team players and four players on the honorable-mention team. You would think this would encourage the fans
Professor succeeds in St. Petersburgs

Kathrine Jordan Photo Editor

Professor Anthony Gerritsen, lecturer of accounting and finance at UNK, has been living in a downtown flat in St. Petersburg, Russia for the past year.

After receiving a Fulbright Scholarship award in 2004, professor Gerritsen has been teaching at three St. Petersburg universities, including the State University of Economics and Finance, Engineering Institute of Economics and Law and Institute of Foreign Languages.

Professor Anthony Gerritsen

Proctor Management Center

Gerritsen said that he teaches a self-designed course concerning accounting, finance and tax issues. He lectures the English language to Russian students and consults with Russian business-owners. In addition, Gerritsen presents seminars at the American Corner Library and has published a textbook, entitled “American Accounting, Finance and Federal Taxation Principles and Standards for the Advanced Users,” for university students, to be translated into Russian.

According to the Web site of the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES), “The U.S. Scholar Program sends approximately 800 American scholars and professionals per year to more than 140 countries, where they lecture and/or conduct research in a wide variety of academic and professional fields.

In academic year 2001-2002, these fields included agriculture, journalism, philosophy and technology education among others.”

Kathleen Smith, director of media relations at UNK, said that she has known Gerritsen for about 15 years. Smith hired him as a full-time faculty member when she was chair of accounting and finance in the College of Business and Technology at UNK.

“Mr. Gerritsen is a good teacher,” Smith said.

Gerritsen became interested in St. Petersburg, after traveling to Europe in 2001. “I immediately fell in love with the city and vowed to return,” he said. “The next year, I saw the State Institute for Finance and Economics building and decided that I would like to go to lectures there.”

After returning to Russia in 2002, Gerritsen said that he interviewed at the university.

“Immediately fell in love with the city and vowed to return.”

Prof. Anthony Gerritsen Lecturer of accounting and finance

“Before I left, the vice rector encouraged me to apply for a Fulbright Scholarship,” he said.

Being awarded the scholarship, Gerritsen said, was much to his surprise.

“Tony is very outgoing and willing to take a chance for adventure. He was willing to go to Russia to live which many people would not be willing to do,” said Mayor Haliday, who was dean of the College of Business and Technology and has known Gerritsen for eight years.

“I just thought, ‘Well, there’s no way that Tony would be selected,’ because he didn’t have his Ph.D. But, low and behold, he was selected,” Smith said.

The traditional Fulbright Scholar Program proposes eligibility requirements to applicants. They must meet all of the requirements unless specific exemptions are stated in individual country or award descriptions. A Ph.D. or equivalent professional/terminal degree is a listed requirement on the CIES Web site.

“He obviously a risk-taker,” Smith said. “It’s prob-ably one of the more unusual experiences that I’ve had, that you go to a foreign country without any safety net.”

Gerritsen was employed as a cost accountant at West Company, in Kearney, for 16 years. After receiving his master’s degree in business administration from UNK, in May 1991, Gerritsen became a CPA the following year. He instructed a variety of courses at the Spencer School of Business in Grand Island for two years while lecturing at UNK.

Gerritsen applied for a Fulbright extension to grant him another three months of stipend. The extension lasted until August 2004. He still plans to remain in Russia.

“My time will not expire,” he said. “I don’t want to stay here for at least another year. I feel that there is still more here for me to accomplish.”

Gerritsen said.

“I immediately fell in love with the city and vowed to return.”

“I came aware tremendous odds to receive my award and to get into these universities. Just a few years ago, this feat would have been impossible,” said Smith. “I can say that everything I ever dreamed of has come true thanks to UNK and Fulbright.”

Photo by Anthony Gerritsen

Yalta’s Alexander Nevsky Cathedral on the Crimean Peninsula, Ukraine.

Photo courtesy of Anthony Gerritsen

Gerritsen stands in front of the Swallow’s Nest Castle on the Crimean Peninsula, Ukraine.