Answering the call to service

ROTC program gives students financial assistance, the opportunity to experience military and then decide

NOAH STEWART stands in front of a group of UNK Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corp (ROTC) cadets as part of a Thursday afternoon lab. The sun casts a shadow over the nearby tree as Stewart, dressed in all camouflage, wearing tan colored knee-high boots and holding a guide book, faces the group of cadets gathered around him.

Stewart, a junior criminal justice major from Holdrege, instructs his fellow cadets on how to build a shelter in order to survive in the woods.

As he leaves the cadets to their task, he examines their work in progress. “There is always something you can improve on,” Stewart says as he informs the cadets of their time remaining.

Nearby, Kyle Gaudreault, a junior criminal justice major from Gering, faces another group of cadets, teaching them food procurement. He displays a plastic bucket then empties it, leaving the students to build a weapon to kill a small animal using only the supplies in the bucket.

Gaudreault and Stewart are two MS3 leaders, in charge of leading the lab sessions.

BY AUSTIN KOELLER
News/Feature Editor

As the semester comes to a close and the spring is on the horizon, the members of the Model UN organization are getting ready for their annual conference, this year in New York City.

Model UN, a political science organization, meets weekly to prepare for sessions in which students learn about diplomacy, international relations and the United Nations. MUN combines research, public speaking and debating and writing skills with critical thinking, teamwork and leadership abilities.

The national collegiate conference MUN•NYC brings together over 5,000 university students from around the world. Delegates discuss issues at the forefront of international relations with UN Headquarters as a backdrop.

Clark Pohlmeier, a freshman from Grand Island, is not only a member of Model UN, but the public relations chair as well. “Our weekly meetings are in the Lincoln room at Founders Hall,” Pohlmeier says. Since the organization is in preparation for New York, the team has stepped up preparation for different mock United Nations committees during the conference.

Pohlmeier said, “We have to know the policies and politics of Peru for the conference. We will get to speak on our country’s behalf at the conference.”

UNK was assigned the country Peru. Students join the group in the fall. “You just come to the meetings in the beginning of the year and decide where we want to go for the conference, and if you want to go and pay the money then you stick with it,” said Pohlmeier.

Since the conference is over spring break, it is too late for anyone interested to be added to the traveling team, but anyone who wants to be a part of Model UN is welcome to join, come to
FeMENism:

Koeller says 'You can’t have feminism without men'

BY AUSTIN KOELLER
News/Feature Editor

I am a male, and I am a feminist. A male feminist? Who ever heard of such a thing, right? Men can’t be feminists, can they?

It is often perceived that in today’s society men cannot be feminists. Feminism is often shown as being this evil word used to describe bitchy women only to be, have power over men. Evangelical minister Pat Robertson even went so far as to say that feminism is something that “encourages women to leave their husbands, kill their children, practice witchcraft, destroy capitalism and become lesbians.”

The problem with this is that these perceptions are totally wrong.

While Halloween was last week, I can assure you that feminism has nothing to do with killer lesbian witches. Feminism does deal with getting women the same basic rights and equal treatment. In today’s society, for every a dollar that a man earns, a woman earns only 77 cents.

When it comes to the CEOs of Fortune 500 companies, only 24 of them are women.

I am a feminist because I do not think that it is fair for a woman to, on average, earn less than that of a man. I also believe that it is wrong for our society to have the perception that women cannot lead as well as men. Every single time I hear of a woman being in any sort of a leadership position, it seems as if we tend to think of her as bossy, or an “evil witch,” much like the image of Meryl Streep in “The Devil Wears Prada.”

Whenever a woman comes into power we tend to judge her very harshly. Just look at Hilary Clinton, Nancy Pelosi or Sarah Palin and you see what I mean.

But you know what? Women can lead. I don’t want to have to live in a society where my daughter is perceived as bossy and an “evil witch” just because she wants to be a successful leader. Instead, I want her to be perceived as a nice, team-minded leader that works to better the world around her.

In addition, I do not want my daughter to have to live in a world where she is bombarded with all of the media images that she would be bombarded with today. Every single time I turn on the television, the majority of the commercials that I see show extremely thin women strutting in front of the camera wearing a bikini or next to nothing. Even for products such as a burger from Carl Jr’s, a woman is shown in this fashion. But for products that appeal to males, we have grown men in fruit costumes singing some silly song to advertise for underwear. How is this right?

Our girls are growing up to think that for them to appeal to our society need feminism because this fight involves them too. Women cannot do this on their own.

In order for women to obtain equal rights and equal treatment, men need to take a stand and say that this sort of behavior is unacceptable in our society and needs to change. For this reason, I will proudly say that yes, I am a male and I am a feminist.

“Feminism does deal with getting women the same basic rights and equal treatment. In today’s society, for every a dollar that a man earns, a woman earns only 77 cents.”

Students speak up...

"What do you have to say about feminism and how it can change the world?"

Miranda Neumann
Sophomore
Chemistry
Norfolk

“I think feminism is very important. Feminism could make a lot of things easier; there would be more gender equality and women in higher positions, and who knows what women could accomplish since they’ve never been given the chance.”

"What traits must a woman possess to be considered strong?"

Ashley Bruha
Freshman
Creative Writing
Ord

“I think a strong woman has to have gone through a lot in their life. They have to know what struggle is in order to help people who are struggling.”

For more information, contact Ross Huxoll, Dept. of History, huxollrd@unk.edu

Explore the Holocaust
Explore the history of the Holocaust in an all-inclusive 11-day study abroad trip to Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic departing in May 2016. Course credit and financial assistance available for students. All ages and the general public welcome as well.

For more information, contact Ross Huxoll, Dept. of History, huxollrd@unk.edu

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The antelope
November 5, 2014
Read more
on Feminism in the 10-29 issue and on unkantelope.com
Students jump, run, slide for G-Phi Joe

First annual G-Phi obstacle course teams raise $1,500 for Girls on the Run

Cait Graf, a sophomore psychology major from Keamey, finishes the course for her team, Triumphant Trio + One. The team finished first in the co-ed division. There were three divisions at the event—men’s, women’s and co-ed. Teams consisted of four members, and each member had to do every obstacle in the course. The event was held by Gamma Phi Beta at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds on Oct. 23.

Photo by Courtney McClellen
13 REASONS

why a girl who loves sports makes the best girlfriend

BY NIKKI THOMPSON
Sports Editor

The basic truth is that having a girlfriend is generally a delightful experience. Ideally, she compliments you, makes you happy and most importantly, understands you. And what could be more understanding than someone who appreciates what you love? Or better yet, enjoys it too.

Having a girlfriend who loves sports is on a whole new level of awesomeness. This fact transforms your already happy relationship into a fantastic one.

Here are 13 reasons why having a girlfriend who loves sports is just the best.

• **She’ll probably eat all that terrible food with you**
  Wings, fries, burgers, pizza and beer. Yes of course its terrible for the body, but lets be real, it is all a part of a game day experience and she knows it. And honestly, she loves it too!

• **She never makes plans on Sundays**
  Sundays are sacred to sports fans. So when your girlfriend makes surprise plans for you to have a lovely romantic picnic… on a Sunday… it is suddenly not so cute. This is not even an issue for a sports loving girlfriend.

• **She won’t distract you during games**
  Having to explain the game or even just hold a conversation during a game could cause you to miss the “play of the game” and then you will be forced to watch it non-stop on Sports Center the next day which will undoubtedly remind you how you missed it live. What’s even more annoying than that is not being able to get mad at the person who made you miss the play in the first place, like say your girlfriend.

• **She probably has one of those cool jerseys**
  Now I don’t mean one of those pink rhinestone themed game jerseys for women, but a fitted NFL women’s jersey is without a doubt one of the most low-key sexy things your girlfriend can wear.

• **You’re not fearful of what she will say**
  A new girl is invited to watch the game with a bunch of guys and almost guaranteed the first thing to happen is an on-the-spot sports quiz. It is just one of the annoying realities of being a female sports fanatic. However, there is no need to worry when your girlfriend watches just as many games as you do.

• **Your friends will like her**
  And that is why she will glide over the “I hope his friends like me” hump like it isn’t even there. This obstacle is one that neither one of you should bat an eye at, so on to my next point.

• **You might win arguments using sports analogies**
  Now of course I say might because what guy ever really wins an argument against a woman? Buuuuttttt her understanding of sports will help level the playing field. I just hope you never have to use the words: “This is just like when LeBron left Cleveland.”

• **She won’t mind being in the cold at the game**
  Having to worry if your girlfriend is comfortable during the NFL playoffs is just lame. How can you hold her to keep her warm while everyone else is cheering and screaming their lungs out to support your team? If your girlfriend is a fan, she will be going home with a horse voice just like everyone else.

• **She understands why it’s such a big deal to you**
  When your whole week is ruined because your team lost, not many understand. But what is even worse is being made fun of or criticized for the feeling of loss at the hands of a television screen. Next thing you know, you will be bickering about if she needs her jacket in the movie and thinking about how you two need a break. You just don’t need that type of negativity in your life.

• **She’ll help you win your fantasy football league**
  There is no conflict of interest from your boys helping you, because lets face it they are probably the most equipped to help you, but they are most likely in your league. Having a sports loving girlfriend bites this problem in the butt. And your boys will never know how you kick their butts!

• **You can have dates at a game**
  The best dates are usually ones you both enjoy… duh. So being able to accomplish this while seeing your team play live is simply heaven sent.

• **She won’t think it’s rude when you check the score on your phone**
  Honestly, she wants to know the score too.

• **She’s the best girlfriend you’ll ever have**
  Comparing girlfriends is probably not the best way to pass the time with your friends, but when it is this easy, which is usually the case seeing as how your beautiful girlfriend just embarrassed you boys in the last Manning v. Brady argument, you might as well relish in it.
Alpha Phi will put on its Second Annual King of Hearts on Thursday, Nov. 6. King of Hearts is an all-male pageant where men from different organizations on campus come together to compete to win the hearts of the Alpha Phi's and other women on campus. Proceeds will go to the Alpha Phi Foundation, which benefits and promotes women's heart health, and also to the Kearney S.A.F.E Center, which provides services to families that have suffered domestic or sexual violence.

The men competing in King of Hearts will be representing different organizations ranging from fraternities to Student Government and the Health Science Club.

The event starts at 7 p.m. in the Recital Hall of the Fine Arts Building. Tickets can be purchased from any Alpha Phi member for $6. Tickets and raffles may also be purchased at the door. Top raffle prizes include two $50 visa gift cards, which may be used anywhere. Raffles also count as votes toward your favorite contestants.
The UNK soccer team honored seniors (from left to right) Jillian Stoumbaugh, Kaitlyn Taylor, Delanie Phillips and Lauren Hoeft on Senior Day during the Lopers game vs. Emporia State on Sunday at Ron and Carol Cope Stadium at Foster Field. After falling to the Hornets 1-0, the Lopers failed to qualify for the MIAA conference tournament ending their season at 4-12-2.

Photos by Jennessa Conlan

ABOVE: Sophomore physical education 7-12 major, Tityus Mitchell from Hastings, Florida, completes a catch and gets some yards. Mitchell is a wide receiver with a total of 274 yards for the season so far.

LEFT: Tyke Kozekal, a sophomore from Sargent, and teammate Devontay LeFlore from Omaha celebrate a progressive play during the Lopers' 17-24 loss on Saturday.

The UNK soccer team honored seniors (from left to right) Jillian Stoumbaugh, Kaitlyn Taylor, Delanie Phillips and Lauren Hoeft on Senior Day during the Lopers game vs. Emporia State on Sunday at Ron and Carol Cope Stadium at Foster Field. After falling to the Hornets 1-0, the Lopers failed to qualify for the MIAA conference tournament ending their season at 4-12-2.

Parents cheer on Lopers one last time

The UNK soccer team honored seniors (from left to right) Jillian Stoumbaugh, Kaitlyn Taylor, Delanie Phillips and Lauren Hoeft on Senior Day during the Lopers game vs. Emporia State on Sunday at Ron and Carol Cope Stadium at Foster Field. After falling to the Hornets 1-0, the Lopers failed to qualify for the MIAA conference tournament ending their season at 4-12-2.
For someone who never thought they had it in them to become a collegiate athlete, her success is remarkable. Alex Prochaska, a junior captain Aqualoper, is pushing the limits in the pool. After completing her final high school season in 2012 at Ralston High, she thought she was burnt out.

That didn’t last. After a few long weeks she realized swimming was a part of her, so she took a stretch and became a Loper.

Right away she began inching her name onto the record board. As a freshman Prochaska played her part as the second leg in the 400 freestyle relay at conference. “It was really intense but so exciting. It was a huge bonding moment for us.” The girls ended up breaking the school record with a time of 3:40:44.

“Coming in as a freshman onto a team full of upperclassmen and getting my name up on that board was pretty exciting. It gave me motivation to keep swimming.”

Her success carried on through her sophomore year as she was part of the 200 freestyle relay team, which broke another school record with a time of 1:39:74, beating the previous time of 1:41:53 set in 2012. She was also part of the 400-medley relay team, which broke the school record with a time of 4:09:42.

Going in to the 2014-15 season, Prochaska is still striving to reach new goals. As she focuses on her three best swims, the 50, 100 and 200 freestyle sprints, she hopes to drop time in each of them.

Currently, she holds the time of 25.48 seconds for the 50 freestyle and hopes to drop the time to a 25. In the 100 freestyle sprint, her current time is 56.05 and she hopes to drop the time to a 56. Her 200 freestyle time is 2:05:27, and she hopes to drop her time to 2:03.

Although she has had huge success in her top three swims, it would surprise many if they knew the 200-freestyle was never her niche. She swam it only once before 2013 where she set a time of 2:09:21 before she dropped to her best time of 2:05:27. “I needed to add a swim for conference, which is why I picked up the 200-free. I had no idea I was capable of that time, so it was shocking to see that I could do something besides what I’ve been doing for the past 10 years. It was awesome to look up and see how much time I had dropped.”

“It made me think how much I can do if I actually work for it.”

Training hard every practice is not only crucial for Prochaska’s success in the pool, but it is habit. “If you don’t push your body on every single set, when it comes to a race your body will pick and choose when it should work hard and when it doesn’t have to.”

She is constantly pushing herself through every practice and chases after records each meet. Prochaska lives by the words of her high school coach: “No heart, no chance.”

Teammates say she shows her passion in and out of the pool as a teammate and a friend. Junior Skylar Tatreau, an Aqualoper teammate said, “Alex is an awesome teammate. She is down to Earth, very supportive, and is a great role model for the team.”

As a captain, Prochaska hopes to bring her team even closer together this year. “Sometimes we forget to think of the whole picture. Swimming is a lot of individual work so I want to remind everyone that this is still a team.”
Beyond the finish line

Marissa Bongers: an athlete worth getting to know

BY KATTIE SADD
JMC 215

Cool, calm and composed as she steps to the starting line. A deep breath in and out as the starter raises the gun. One last thought crosses her mind before she takes off – just run. As she weaves in and out and takes the lead, her mind is set on one thing, winning.

Breaking record after record, competing at the national level and bringing home enough hardware to start her own store, Marissa Bongers competes with the best of the best. Yet, Bongers is so humble you would never expect it. This is an athlete worth getting to know.

Marissa Bongers is a fifth year senior from Brainard, Nebraska. She is an exercise science major and a member of the University’s Cross Country and Track and Field teams. While at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, Marissa has overcome adversity and challenges and has set record after record.

Marissa’s success comes from hard work and a determination that is found in very few people. Bongers could be summed up in one word, “dedicated.” She has a drive inside that has built over the years and continues to fuel her fire to compete and win.

“Everything happens for a reason,” says Bongers. A strong believer in this, she has experienced a few “everythings” during her time as a Loper. Bongers began her freshman year with an injury. Though this injury wasn’t career ending, it led to a redshirt season. However, looking back now, “If I hadn’t gotten hurt then, I would not have the eligibility left that I have. Maybe that’s a way of showing that everything truly does happen for a reason. I’d much rather be competing now than then.”

Bongers has taken leaps and bounds since her first year at UNK. By her junior year, Bongers had set four new school records and set school records at five straight meets. Currently, she holds the records for the 600, 800 and 1000 meter runs. In her junior year, she became the 800 meter indoor champ at the MIAA meet.

Bongers is an outstanding student as well as an incredible athlete. In the classroom Bongers has obtained the Daktronics Academic All-District 7, MIAA Scholar Athlete & MIAA Academic Honor Roll, the USTFCCCA Scholar-Athlete, along with numerous other awards.

Marissa’s coach is as supportive and proud as anyone of Marissa’s success, Coach Brady Bonsall says, “I knew Bongers was going to be something special. She has a drive and a determination in her eyes. She always believed she could compete with the best and she worked hard to become that athlete.”

Marissa Bongers competes with the best at the outdoor conference meet in the 800 meter run on May 5 in Jefferson City, Missouri.

When asked if this type of pressure ever gets to her, Bongers said, “Pressure is a privilege. I try not to let it get to me. I mean, you might not want to go work out one day, but it’s going to make you better and the pressure just motivates me even more to set my goals higher and keep them in mind throughout the season.”

“Perseverance,” words from head coach Bonsall guide her every day on and off the track. When competing, even if she doesn’t do as well as she had hoped, she knows the process is more important than the outcome. In life she has learned to live by this, and this has been helpful in her success as a student athlete, she says.
Finding her home away from home

Second year student overcomes adversity and homesickness, decides to help others do the same

BY COURTNEY LIERMAN
JMC 215

It wasn't easy at first. “I am from a city of 2.6 million people” Ruiko Saji says, “UNK is nice. It is small, but I like it.”

The second year student had a very hard first year at school because of that transition.

She said the language barrier was her biggest problem, and she forced herself to speak to other international students in English, thinking this would help to get better in the language.

Saji, had a dream for years, and she was willing to make it a dream come true.

“My first year I hated it here, I did not know good English and really missed my family. All I could say was easy things like ‘hello,’ ‘thank you,’ ‘sorry,’ and ‘goodbye,’” Saji said.

She says her first year she took primarily English Language Acquisition (ELA) classes, which weren’t too challenging but often frustrating. “Sometimes I could not understand my professor, and he could not understand me. So I would cry a lot because I could not express what I meant or how I felt,” Saji said.

As her English improved, so did her feelings toward the school. “I wanted to go back to Japan to my family,” Saji said.

“But in second semester my English got better and I started talking to American students, so I liked it more and could talk to people and learn more English.”

After meeting another international student who served as a resident advisor in the Centennial East Tower, Saji saw how RA’s interact and impact residents’ lives. Like her friend, Saji wanted to spread her culture to others. So when she returned in the fall of 2014 with a year of experience under her belt, she had hopes of becoming an RA herself.

“I became an RA so I can be like a bridge for American and international students. I want them to all feel happy here like I am,” Saji said.

Saji is also a part of the International Student Association at UNK. Saji believes both give her a chance to interact with other cultures, which will benefit her down the road. Saji said, “People here are nice and kind. That is why I want to stay here until I graduate.”

Saji is studying travel and tourism and plans to go on to other countries to work after graduation in two years. But first she wants to study abroad.

“I am working hard to get good grades so I can earn a scholarship. I want to go study abroad next year in Europe,” Saji said, “and after I graduate I want to go to the Netherlands to work in tourism and translation.”

After working in the Netherlands, Saji plans to return to Japan to take part in one of the biggest events known around the world. “I want to be a translator, or travel agent or something for the Tokyo Olympics,” Saji said.

Saji plans to get married and raise her children in Japan. Though she will not return to the United States as a permanent home, she says coming to the U.S. to study has benefitted her greatly and she will never forget the friends she has made.

Japanese students at UNK participated in a sports festival hosted by JAK last Saturday, Nov. 1. They played American dodge ball as a tournament. Eight teams of six people people signed up for the festival. This was the first time a sports festival was held by the Japanese students. The top three teams at the event received prizes from a Japanese travel agent.

Go online to see more photos.

Japanese Dodge Ball Festival

Japanese students at UNK participated in a sports festival hosted by JAK last Saturday, Nov. 1. They played American dodge ball as a tournament. Eight teams of six people signed up for the festival. This was the first time a sports festival was held by the Japanese students. The top three teams at the event received prizes from a Japanese travel agent.
students who have been tasked with leading the cadets in a lab as part of their duties as MS3 leaders.

“As an MS3 leader, you are tasked as a squad leader or, in our case, leaders of essentially a small program as a platoon leader or a platoon sergeant,” Gaudreault said. “That’s really where the leadership is most hands on with the platoon that we have here. We’re kind of the people in charge.”

ROTC can be student elective

According to Captain Tony Christmas, an assistant professor of military science, the UNK Army ROTC program is a four-year program, but students can take it as an elective.

“They can try it out for the first two years,” he said. “There’s no obligation to join any branch of the military. They can come in and take our classes, take our labs, try it out and see if they like it.”

The program currently has 25 students consisting of 11 freshmen, eight sophomores, three juniors, and two seniors. Christmas said that there is a reason why the numbers are lower for upperclassmen.

“You’re going to have people that just don’t want to do it anymore. But the big thing is that at this point, the last two years, they have to contract,” Christmas said. “Contracting means they’re obligating and saying, ‘I will serve as an officer in the National Guard, Army Reserves or active Army. The last two years is more in-depth. These are students that will go into commission as officers in the Reserves or active duty.”

Christmas said that students can get a full-ride scholarship through the United States Government if they are contracted or obligated to serve after they graduate.

“It’s available to them. They don’t have to take it, but it’s something that they can apply for,” Christmas said. “It’s competitive. They have to have the physical and mental attributes of an Army officer.”

Christmas said that this decision may be tough for some cadets, leading them to leave the program.

“It’s kind of like signing your life away twice,” Stewart said. “For me, my experiences were with talking with the officers. Everybody helped me with making my decision. It was a well-thought-out decision. I had to think about it, and I talked with the people in my unit, and they gave me some good advice.”

Gaudreault said that his decision was made during his freshman year of college due to entering the program in high school.

“It was a tough decision because I went from a small town high school into committing to a four-year program at a university and to military service,” he said. “It was a well-thought-out decision. It wasn’t something that I just decided, ‘Hey, that sounds fun. I’ll do that!’ I talked to my family, to my friends, to people in the program, did my research and came to the conclusion that this was the best opportunity for me.”

As a current active duty captain with 16 years of service, Christmas said that the military offers a wide range of career options which include aviation, military police, medical service and chemical corps, among others.

“There are 16 basic branches. Career options can be anything from logistics to communications, infantry or artillery,” Christmas said. “The Army has its own JAG officers that are lawyers. There are nurses who are captains or army officers. There are just so many different opportunities.”

Leadership options, benefits apply

Christmas said that benefits include a housing allowance, an opportunity to retire after 20 years of service and security clearances.

“There are companies that are actively looking and searching for veterans, especially those with security clearances,” he said.

Christmas said that about two-thirds of the cadets currently in the UNK Army ROTC program are enlisted in the National Guard. These students receive tuition assistance through the National Guard. He added that students who graduate from the program will get “great leadership experience and great things to put on their résumé.” They can even enter the military as an officer and be in an entry-level leadership position.

Gaudreault said that the UNK Army ROTC program has given him the experience that he needs to succeed in his future career.

“I knew I wanted to go into law enforcement and do some sort of military service,” he said. “This was a great avenue to take, as well as giving me the experience for leadership. It will help me along the way. They kind of compliment each other.”

members of Model UN are busy preparing for their spring conference and invite interested students to their meetings Thursdays in the Lincoln Room in Founders Hall.

CONTACT President Maggie Jackson at jacksonmr2@lopers.unk.edu

put around campus by Model UN after an official date is set.

Pohlmeier added, “I encourage anyone interested to come to check us out, and we would really appreciate everyone to stop by for Culvers night.”

Research Papers Wanted

The Office of Undergraduate Research & Creative Activity is looking for students to submit scholarly writing for consideration for inclusion in UNK’s Undergraduate Research Journal.

These papers must be submitted via hard copy to their department chair by January 20, 2015.
Halloween events in Fine Arts building

Above and Left: Art students carved and decorated the pumpkins that lined the hallways of the Fine Arts Building last Friday. Passersby could vote for the most creative, ugliest and best looking pumpkin.

Above: Luke Browne, a junior from Fort Lupton, Colorado, took his shot at chucking a pumpkin in the Art Department’s annual “Pumpkin Chunkin.” Participants slung pumpkins filled with paint with a sling shot at a canvas in the courtyard, seen to the left.

More Photos online @ unkantelope.com

Having a ball

The Fall Ball Oct. 28 at CTE Main Lounge from 8 to 11 p.m. brought on dancing and costume contests with the theme “Zombie.” A DJ from K-Town played music for the party hosted by Campus Assembly Night and the RAs.

Festivities at the Frank House

Oct. 29 families went to the Phantom at the Frank House where the staff provided candy, crafts, short stories and games for the children. Jeremy Plumb, a junior from Omaha majoring in English and minoring in art and philosophy, read short stories to the audience.
OkSOBERfest

BY UNK COMMUNICATIONS

OkSOBERfest, an annual event by the UNK Peer Health Education student organization, took place on Friday, Oct. 31, at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

“Every year we plan this night of alcohol free fun for Halloween,” said Ismael Torres, Advisor to Peer Education. “This year’s event was a mini carnival with games and prizes that you would see at a regular carnival.”

The event took place in the Ponderosa Room in the Nebraskan Student Union.

This year, peer health education received funding from Region 3 Behavioral Health Services, Student Support Services and Loper Programming Activities Council (LPAC) for the event.

“Members of student organizations such as Peer Health Education, Alpha Omicron Pi, and LPAC volunteered to facilitate this event,” Torres said.

“Volunteers are key to making OkSOBERfest possible,” said Kylie Kissinger, secretary of Peer Health Education. “This year we had nearly 50 volunteers who signed up to help out for 3-4 hours on Halloween night.”

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“Volunteers are key to making OkSOBERfest possible,” said Kylie Kissinger, secretary of Peer Health Education. “This year we had nearly 50 volunteers who signed up to help out for 3-4 hours on Halloween night.”

“There were many booths with different carnival games such as: plate break, mini-golf and ring toss,” Torres said. “We also had a costume contest with singles and doubles contestants.”

“Putting on OkSOBERfest is a lot of hard work and takes months of preparation, but students really enjoy themselves and are staying safe on a night that could otherwise be scary due to excessive drinking and partying,” said Samantha Mitchell, co-adviser of Peer Health Education.

TOP: Freshman Michelle Kratky attempts to land rings around a table decoration a yard away. A perfect landing meant a big prize, while everyone received candy for participation.

FAR LEFT: Julie Bruns (left) and Sydney Norris “drunkenly” navigate the course while wearing impaired-vision goggles. Bruns dressed up as the little mermaid, while Norris emulated Rosie the Riveter.

LEFT: Juniors Mallory Placek (top) and Taylor Brown take a goofy picture with their heads in the football toss holes. The girls dressed as a cat and mouse pair.

Please join us for an MBA Open House!

Tuesday | November 11 | 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
UNK Alumni House 2222 9th Ave.

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