Appointment creates shifting landscape

BY STEPHANIE QUEEN

The Lincoln Journal Star

Secretary of Agriculture has left Nebraska Gov. Mike Johanns up to appoint a new Secretary.

Nebraska's 38th governor in the press conference.

Johanns' nomination is confirmed if he will next hold the position wide open.

Johanns is a good pick because of his wide-agriculture background. Johanns is not legally planning to go to watch the Collegium, just because I enjoyed the event to be an opportunity to show up as a kid who grew up on a farm, this is a dream come true, said Johanns, originally from an agricultural community in Iowa.

...and the president has been friends for years. Johanns' nomination occurred just days after Pan-American that Sen. Nelson pledged his support for Johanns' nomination to the U.S. Cabinet.

However, his appointment to the president's cabinet "changes everything," she said. The Lincoln Journal Star Star, Sen. Nelson pledged his support for Johanns' nomination to the U.S. Cabinet.

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Respect, equity workshop promotes diversification, teaches students respect

BY SYLVIA MARTINEZ
ANTHELOPE STAFF WRITER

The respect and equity workshop offered to faculty, staff and students this Monday at the Nebraska Student Union concludes with final outcomes. Creating Opportunities for Respect and Equity (CORE) is the name of the workshop that for the third year promoted the Office of Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity.

“One-day session, held in the Cider Room, exposed the participants to a variety of human relations issues, including race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion and disability,” Randy L. Haack, vice chancellor for business and finance, said. Haack is a member of the CORE committee.

The committee selected the office for the makeover via nominations and applications from UNK faculty and staff. Facilities’ surplus items, such as desks and bookshelves, were available to the students to choose from for the weeklong makeover. Students made a makeover design for the office. The groups presented their final designs to Benitz, the Professional Development Committee, the class instructor and the department chair of interior design. Benitz then chose the design he wanted to have made in the office.

“She assured them she would work the design along with the planning,” said Ellingson.

She sent the invitations for the unveiling to the campus and to the public, including those who chose the office makeover.

According to Ellingson, before and after photos of the office will be displayed as well as the designs by all four student groups. Refreshments will be served.

The overall plan was created by the Professional Design Committee of Staff Senate. Ellingson, a staff member of the professional design committee, said the committee wanted to do a new and fun event for UNK. Facilities supplied the funding and labor for the project. Facilities’ surplus items, such as desks and bookshelves, were available to the students to choose from for the weeklong makeover.

Ellingson said, “We worked on our designs for winter, snow and popcorn strings hung around it, with a paper angel on top.”

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Another year; Another mess for College Football and BCS

By S.J. Munoz
ANTELOPE SPORTS WRITER

It’s almost time for the college football postseason, and yet again a couple of schools feel that they have been slighted.

This year there are three undefeated teams, USC, Oklahoma and Auburn. These three teams all won their conference championships and an argument can be made for each that they belong in the Orange Bowl.

How many times does college football have to go through this before they figure it out? The only real solution is to settle the winner by performance not by a computer. However, this is unlikely to happen anytime in the near future. Without any logical explanation of why college football does not have a playoff, I cannot see why the system is the way it is.

Not being able to determine a national champion is not the only problem with the BCS. There is also the problem of schools, such as Utah who plays weaker opponents, but is still considered by the BCS. If one wants to get a chance to play against the best team, then do it during the regular season and don’t pad your record by beating up on cupcake teams.

Most inexplicable say that Pittsburgh does not belong in the Fiesta Bowl. I disagree, yes they had a couple of bad losses, but they won their conference (Big East) and earned their spot.

It’s not Pittsburgh’s problem that both Miami and Virginia Tech moved to the ACC this year. Without the losses of Virginia Tech and Miami, the Big East wouldn’t have been good enough. The only true way to decide a champion is on the field. Until that happens, the BCS will continue to see teams running up the score and coaches campaigning and telling us why their team should be in the BCS.

 Congrats Lady Loper on a great season! 40 and Wonderful!

By S.J. Munoz
ANTELOPE SPORTS WRITER

By now everyone has seen the light during the Pac-10/Pac-12 game between the players and the fans over and over again. The NBA is doing a great job on making it seem like it is everyone else’s fault, but their own. Whenever this subject comes up, one would think that the organization as a whole would come out and take a little responsibility for what took place. But that hasn’t and sadly will not happen.

In no other major sport besides the NBA do you find fans that are seated so close to the action. It was only a matter of time before something like this happened.

Players are forced to put up with the incessant taunting that goes on during games, but where is the line drawn. It is alright to talk about somebody’s race, religion or family? People will say that it comes with the occupation and players should deal with it because they are paid millions of dollars, etc. and etc.

How can you expect someone to take this verbal abuse and not do anything about simple because they are paid the amount of money they are? When you buy a ticket you are paying to watch the game, not to talk trash to or degrade the athletes. I don’t know any other profession where people would be okay with someone yelling at them while they are trying to do their job.

When talking of the fight itself, everyone has his or her own opinion about who was mostly at fault and what the punishments should be. No matter whose fault it was it’s done and you can’t do anything to change it, but if this is such a bad incident, why did it not receive more publicity? If this hurt the NBA, so much why did they let it air on every network in America?

The main problem between the NBA players and their fans is that they are not the same people. The fans who are bying the tickets to sit close to the action are of a different generation then the players. There is also the possibility of some resentment by the fans toward the players. Let’s face it; there are still some people today who hate the idea of young black men receiving millions of dollars and being successful. That just the society that we live in.

Everyone who was involved in this situation needs to bear responsibility for their actions. It is something that should have never happened, but it did. The NBA and other major sports organizations need to look at the mistakes that were made and learn from them to prevent this from happening again.

Fans who go to games either need to learn to cheer for their team and not worry about the other or be prepared for the consequences when you pay your money. Just like in everyday life you need to be held accountable for your actions.
Rope ties up first Kearney gig

By Blake Millarne
Antelope Staff Writer

Thick fog, laser lights, fireworks and Independence Day beer, and about 100 energetic onlookers showed up to see the band Rope for their first appearance in Kearney, a show that was anything but successful.

Since Rope’s formation about a year and a half ago, the band has logged thousands of hours networking, Evan traveling to bars from west to north to Kearney to Grand Island, Neb. And at the beginning of that journey, guitarist Jesse Anderson, bassist Vic Giron and drummer Kerry Dunker have been patiently waiting for a chance to showcase their talents in the building music scene in Kearney.

“We are just happy to finally play here. We think that after a few shows, we’ll have it locked in,” said Anderson.

A good number of those audience were faithful followers of Rope, and many made the two-hour journey from the amorphous Rope headquarters in McClell, Neb.

Rope appears much like the following of another jam band, The Grateful Dead, but of course, on a much smaller scale.

Simple Plan releases strong sophomore effort

By Molly Mitchell
Antelope Staff Writer

The band Simple Plan did not create their new album "Still Not Getting Any..." to impress you. Nor did the band make the CD to impress the critics.

Band members even love the fact that some people simply hate Simple Plan.

Only when you are this young and creative can you create a truly raw album, one that is simply about an experience, according to Jesse "Jessee" Lincoln, "I was really impressed. They will get a really good crowd next time they come back." -Crystal Kerkman

There really is no song on the record that sounds like it couldn’t be a single. The songs are all unique and meaningful.

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Rope appears much like the following of another jam band, The Grateful Dead, but of course, on a much smaller scale.

Simple Plan's message, like their image, is black and white. over again, and it showed through the pop-like sound and awesome guitar breaks. This album is imperfect, which makes it so much better.

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Seven wrestlers grab top four spots in weight classes at BCS National Championship game.
After a winning streak of 74 days and more than $2.5 million, computer software engineer Ken Jennings returns to a normal life with his family back in Salt Lake City.

On Dec. 1, Jennings was no longer the reigning champion of the game show voted all-time favorite, JEOPARDY!

Jennings first appeared on JEOPARDY! June 2, and he probably never thought he would make it as far as he did.

This event would have also never taken place in history if the rules did not change.

JEOPARDY! removed its rule of only five appearances for a contestant last year, making it possible for a contestant to continue playing as long as he or she won. The decision brought the network’s ratings up 22 percent over the same period last year (jeopardy.com).

Nancy Zerg became the new champion of JEOPARDY! after Jennings incorrectly asked “What is Fed Ex?” to the final JEOPARDY question. The correct answer was, “What is H&R Block?”

Zerg, a former actress who lives in Ventura, Calif., said she psyched herself up before the game by repeating to herself: “Someone’s got to beat him sometime, it might as well be me” (CNN.com).

Jennings became the highest-earning player ever on a quiz show, beating Michigan engineer Kevin Olmstead, who won $2.2 million in 2001 on ABC’s “Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?”

Jennings had an average daily winning of $34,064, defeating 130 challengers and giving 2,841 attempted Jennings, as well as Zerg, believes that no one will ever break that record.

His newfound celebrity status snagged him a spot on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, the Late Show with David Letterman and ABC’s World News Tonight.

Jennings plans on taking a leave from his job for awhile and going on a family vacation. With the money he has accumulated, Jennings would be able to take a permanent leave from his job, but that does not appear to be an option for him.

Not only has JEOPARDY! had celebrities on the show, they have created a celebrity in Ken Jennings.

Now all we can do is sit and wait for another over-the-top achiever to set a streak and break a new record – if at all possible.

For more information on Ken Jennings and JEOPARDY!, visit the official website at www.jeopardy.com.
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