

THE ANTELOPE

THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 11, 2003

Bowling raises funds for Pleasanton child

by Lexie Perlinger
Antelope Staff Writer

Just when students thought that all that the Greek system on campus ever does is hold functions, a fraternity proves them wrong...again.

The Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity is getting involved in a fight for life. The fraternity is taking action and helping a family out that is in dire need of financial assistance. This family needs help for their son who is fighting a serious birth defect.

According to the UNK website, the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and the Big Apple Fun Center are hosting Bowling for Braden on Tuesday, Dec. 9th from 10 p.m.-12 a.m. Braden Schultue, a

one-year-old Pleasanton boy, recently had a surgery to correct a severe birth defect called Spina Bifida.

Spina Bifida results from the failure of the spine to close properly during the first month of pregnancy. In severe cases, the spinal cord protrudes through the back and may be covered by skin or a thin membrane. Surgery to close a newborn's back is generally performed within 24 hours after birth to minimize the risk of infection and to preserve existing function in the spinal cord, according to the Spina Bifida Association website. The surgery the family obtained was very costly and their insurance will not cover it.

As a consequence, the Big

Apple Fun Center has donated 16 lanes for college students to bowl on, provided that they make a donation to help Braden and his family. The Bowl-a-Thon is for college students only, yet community members are still encouraged to donate what they can to help this family. Businesses and individuals are urged to provide any assistance they are willing to provide.

The Spina Bifida website also stated that the condition is the most frequently occurring permanently disabling birth defect. It affects approximately one out of every 1,000 newborns in the US. It also is one of the most devastating of all birth defects.

People born with Spina Bifida



Photo by Adam Wegner

See Bowling, page 8

Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity hosts bowling fundraiser to help Braden Schultue.

Gather 'round ye old yule log

by Beth Bremer
Antelope Staff Writer

Christmas is once again right around the corner. This year, while you're engaging in last-minute gift shopping, keep in mind the traditions and festivities surrounding the holiday.

The history of Christmas dates back over 4,000 years, according to Holidays.net. In fact, many of our Christmas traditions were celebrated centuries before Christ was born. The 12 days of Christmas, the Yule log, the giving of gifts, parades with floats, carolers who sing while going from house to house, the holiday feasts and the church processions can all be traced back to the early Mesopotamians.

Some of these traditions began with the Mesopotamian New Year's celebration. The Mesopotamians believed in many gods, with their chief god being Marduk. As winter arrived each year, it was believed that Marduk would do battle with the monsters of chaos. To assist Marduk in his struggle, the Mesopotamians held a festival for the New Year. This was Zagmuk, the New Year's festival that lasted for 12 days.

The Persians and Babylonians celebrated a festival called Sacaea. Part of the celebration included the exchanging of places, where the slaves became the masters and the masters were ordered to obey. Early Europeans believed in evil spirits, witches, ghosts and trolls. As the Winter Solstice approached, with long nights and short days, many people feared the sun would not return. Rituals and celebrations were held to welcome back the sun.

In Scandinavia, during the winter months, the sun would disappear for days at a time. After 35 days,



Photo by Quincy Cromer

See Christmas, page 8

Christmas is a time for family and to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Flu season hits early, hard: several deaths in Colorado

by Leslie McCormick
Antelope Staff Writer

Flu-like symptoms are running rampant on the UNK campus, as well as across the rest of the state of Nebraska.

"I was sick before Thanksgiving, and now I'm getting sick again," Kacey Raile, Benkelman senior, said. She said she doesn't usually get sick so much, and it makes going to class and doing homework difficult.

Many other people feel the same way. Class attendance is faltering because students and faculty are staying home to recover from the flu and to prevent it from spreading to other people.

"We are seeing more complaints of influenza symptoms this year and earlier than we typically do," Peg Nyffeler, Assistant Director of Student Health, said. She said that the numbers usually peak after Christmas, but nationally the numbers are very high for this time of the year. Student Health is also treating complications from influenza, such as bronchitis, pneumonia and ear infections.

"We are seeing a lot of students that have strep throat, colds and mono, which occasionally have similar symptoms to influenza," Nyffeler said.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has reported that people across the country are getting sick with the flu earlier in the year than usual. It reports that laboratory tests from across the country are indicating that a greater proportion of specimens testing positive for influenza are type A (H3NA). Type A has been associated with more severe flu seasons during which higher numbers of influenza-related hospitalizations and deaths occur.

Nebraska is one of 13 states reported to have a widespread flu outbreak, the highest designation by the CDC. The other states are Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico,

See Flu, page 8

Seniors brace for graduation, opt for walkway



Photo by Shiloh Nichols

Graduating seniors can have their name placed on a brick.

by Jenny Epley
Antelope Staff Writer

As the end of the Fall 2003 semester creeps closer and closer, many seniors are preparing to graduate from UNK and to step out into the "real world."

Hopefully, they've worked hard and received some of the enriching knowledge that UNK has to offer. Although there will only be one name on the diploma, many people contribute to the success of UNK graduates.

"Since 1997, the UNK Foundation Office and the Student Alumni Foundation (SAF) have offered a program for all graduating seniors who wish to thank specific people who have assisted them in their education, while letting them leave their mark on campus and

assisting other undergraduate students at the same time,"

Leslie Frazier of the UNK Foundation Office said.

For a \$50 donation, seniors can recognize three special individuals who have assisted them in their education. "These three people will receive a letter and a certificate expressing the senior's appreciation for their support," Frazier said. "Their names will also be printed in the commencement program."

For this semester, the deadline has passed for the printing of names in the commencement program, but seniors are still eligible to participate in the program and their honorees will still receive a letter and certificate.

The second thing seniors will receive when they participate in the Senior Appreciation Program is an engraved brick with their

name and message placed on campus.

"UNK has established a Senior Walkway immediately south of Cope Memorial Fountain," Frazier said. Those who participate in the program will have their bricks placed on the walkway with others from their class.

"Whenever they return to campus in the years to come, this permanent memorial will be there as a reminder of their years at UNK," Frazier said.

The SAF and University Foundation hope to improve on this aspect by placing bricks in the walkway on a yearly basis and by assisting in the clean-up and maintenance of the bricks on the walkway.

"I think this program is a very good idea. I really like the idea of having a brick with my name

on it on campus. It gives students the opportunity to give back to UNK and help undergraduates. It's definitely something I'll consider when I'm a senior," Katie Campuzano, Kearney freshman, said.

The final thing seniors will receive through the Senior Appreciation Program is the opportunity to help fund a scholarship awarded every spring to selected undergraduates. More than half of each senior's donation will go to the Senior Appreciation Scholarship. The number of scholarships and the amount of the scholarships vary each year depending on the funds available.

"Candidates must have sophomore class standing at UNK or graduate standing at

See Senior, page 8

News

Students and community brace for flu

page 1

Entertainment

UNK Glass & Sculpture Club display

page 4

Sports

Lopers and Dreambuilders face off

page 5

Weekend Weather

FRIDAY
Snow Showers
High 26, Low 12
SATURDAY
Mostly Cloudy
High 32, Low 16
SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
High 35, Low 19



UNK CALENDAR

Saturday, Dec. 13: Loper Open Wrestling Meet, 10:00 a.m. in the Health and Sports Center

Sunday, Dec. 14: UNK Women's Basketball vs. Northwestern Oklahoma State, 3 p.m. in the Health and Sports Center.

Monday, Dec. 15: UNK Men's Basketball vs. Doane College, 7:30 p.m. in the Health and Sports Center.

Monday-Friday, Dec. 15-19: Finals Week!

Monday, Dec. 15: UNK Chess Club, 7 p.m. in the Nebraskan Student Union Food Court. For more information contact Randall Heckman at heckmanr@unk.edu.

Tuesday, Dec. 16: Office of Multicultural Affairs Brown Bag Discussion, 12 p.m. in the Oak Room of the Nebraskan Student Union.

Thursday, Dec. 18, UNK Student Poetry Reading, 7:30 p.m. at the Black Sheep Coffeehouse, 2309 Central Avenue, Downtown Kearney.

Friday, Dec. 19: UNK Graduation, 10 a.m. in the Health and Sports Center.

Monday, Dec. 22: UNK Chess Club, 7 p.m. in the Nebraskan Student Union Food Court. For more informa-

tion contact Randall Heckman at heckmanr@unk.edu.

Monday, Dec. 29: UNK Chess Club, 7 p.m. in the Nebraskan Student Union Food Court. For more information contact Randall Heckman at heckmanr@unk.edu.

Friday, Jan. 2: UNK Women's/Men's Basketball vs. Colorado State Univ. Pueblo, 6/8 p.m. in the Health and Sports Center.

Saturday, Jan. 3: UNK Women's/Men's Basketball vs. New Mexico Highlands, 6/8 p.m. in the Health and Sports Center.

Friday, Jan. 9: Open Registration, 1-3 p.m. in the Office of Student Records and Registration.

Friday, Jan. 9: UNK Wrestling vs. Adams State, 7 p.m. in the Health and Sports Center.

Monday, Jan. 12: Classes Begin.

Monday, Jan. 12: UNK Chess Club, 7 p.m. in the Nebraskan Student Union Food Court. For more information contact Randall Heckman at heckmanr@unk.edu.

Friday, Jan. 15: Martin Luther King Freedom March, Birthday Celebration, 12 p.m. at the bell tower.

POLICE BEAT

Nov. 14: A Founders Hall professor reported the possible theft of a computer from the Math computer lab in Founders Hall. The claim was unfounded.

Nov. 19: A male CTE resident reported that his gray American Eagle coat and ATM and Pass Code cards were stolen from the CTE computer lab. The estimated value of the items is \$100.

Nov. 21: A female CTW hall director reported the theft of two DVD players estimated at \$76.84 each. The total loss was estimated at \$153.68.

Nov. 21: A student health employee reported that a strange message had been left on her ICQ message box at 1:35 p.m. An investigation was made into the matter.

Dec. 1: A Mantor male found ammunition on Nov. 25 and turned it over to his hall director. The hall director turned the ammunition in to the Public Safety Office on Dec. 1.

Dec. 2: A female Otto Olsen faculty member reported that a male student was upset after having his computer privileges

turned off. An investigation into was made regarding the matter.

Dec. 4: A female Mantor resident reported that two suspicious males had exited a neighbor's unoccupied room. The owner of the room found nothing missing, but an investigation of the suspects was made.

Dec. 4: An Arapahoe female reported having lost her wallet on Dec. 2 in Founders or Copeland Hall. The estimated value of the black wallet, driver's license, cash and debit card is \$80.

Dec. 4: A male Martin resident reported the theft of a silver BMW bike valued at \$299.

Dec. 4: One CTE male and 5 URN males were reported stealing license plates from vehicles parked in Lot 16.

Dec. 5: Three female and two male Men's Hall residents were contacted at 2:30 a.m. for alcohol violations.

Dec. 6: A female called an officer on the duty phone informing of a Ludden male's fever. A welfare check was made on the resident.

Happy Holidays from the Antelope Staff!
Have a safe and wonderful break!

CAMPUS BRIEFS

DECEMBER EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Michelle Cate, Secretary III for the Department of Industrial Technology (ITEC), has been selected as the UNK Employee of the month. Cate serves as secretary to the ITEC department chair and 13 faculty members, maintains departmental records and files, monitors the departmental budget, prepares purchase requisitions and supervises work-study students. According to a UNK news brief, Cate is known for her sense of organization, composure and promptness. Students often go to her for assistance and she is more than willing to assist them in any way possible. It is with sincere appreciation that Staff Senate gives their combined good wishes in recognizing Michelle Cate as the December Employee of the Month.

STEPHEN LAWHEAD ANNOUNCED AS WINTER COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Stephen R. Lawhead, 1973 Kearney State College/UNK graduate and author, was announced as the winter commencement speaker. He will present his address at 10 a.m., Friday, Dec. 19, at the Health and Sports Center.

Lawhead, a Kearney native, was an art major, wrote a weekly humor column for the college newspaper, and contributed poetry and short stories to The Shore Anthology and The Antler while at KSC/UNK. After graduating, he studied at Northern Baptist Theological Seminary and Wheaton College. He also continued writing, and began working for Campus Life magazine as an editorial assistant. In addition, he managed a rock group and started his own record compa-

ny, Ariel Records. Lawhead has authored more than 20 works and is currently working on a multimedia project called !Hero. He has won several writing awards, including Campus Life Editor's Choice Award for The Search for Fiera and the 1984 C.S. Lewis Medal Honor Books for the Dragon King Trilogy. He and his wife have two children and currently make their home in Austria.

KEARNEY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION SPONSORS "THE MOST PRECIOUS GIFT OF ALL"

Kearney Federal Credit Union is sponsoring a new holiday community service tradition this year. Students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to get involved with "The Most Precious Gift of All. This project facilitates benevolent members of the community to visit care home residents during the holiday season.

Interested participants are to stop by the union's lobby at 2915 2nd Ave., Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., to choose the name of a care home resident who has expressed the desire to receive visitors. "Many care home residents have enough material possessions," George Syring, President of Kearney Federal Credit Union, said. "What they really need and want is companionship. We are asking people to give just a little of their time."

"The Most Precious Gift of All" will run from Dec. 6-31. "We're hoping for a great response from the community," said Syring. "If we can alleviate even one person's loneliness, we feel this program will be a success."

This project would be a great way for individuals to give back to the community or for organizations to perform

volunteer service together. Please help the Kearney Federal Credit Union bestow some lonesome elderly citizens with a gift too valuable to repay, your time.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

UNK and the Kearney Public Library will sponsor Career Development Workshops at 7 p.m. the second Monday of each month at the Kearney Public Library. The workshops are free and open to the public. The event will be kicked off on Nov. 10 with Alexandra Dillon, a nationwide trainer formerly with Development Dimensions International, and her program "Accomplishments - the Key to Effective Interviewing."

"People need a place to learn about resources that will help them as they look for a job and pursue their careers," said Michelle Fleig-Palmer, director of the dual career program. "These workshops will be valuable because the people presenting devote their time and energy remaining up-to-date in current job search trends and will share that information."

For more information contact Fleig-Palmer at 865-8404.

JAVA AND JOB STUFF

The Office of Career Services is hosting 'Java and Job Stuff' every Wednesday from 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. in the Office of Career Services in the Memorial Student Affairs Building Room 140. This free event is open to all UNK students and does not require a prior appointment.

Students will meet with a career counselor and can obtain advice regarding majors, careers, resumes, interviews, job searches and other topics. Free refreshments and prizes

will be given out. For more information, go to: careers.unk.edu

FEELING CHEATED? EXPLORE PARKING TICKET APPEAL PROCESS

If students or faculty feel as though Public Safety has unfairly ticketed them, there are options to pursue. Ticket holders may write an appeal online at www.unk.edu/public-safety. They also may submit an appeal to the Public Safety Office located in the southwest corner of the Memorial Student Affairs Building. Another option to try is to submit the case to the Student Government court at 4 p.m. every Tuesday in the Student Government Area of the Nebraskan Student Union. All appeals must be written within 14 days of the ticket issue date.

TO PLACE AN ITEM IN THE ANTELOPE CALENDAR OR NEWS BRIEFS

If anyone wishes to place an item of interest in the Antelope Calendar or News Brief sections, please e-mail Jillian Tangeman

at tangemanj1@unk.edu. Placement in these sections is free of charge. Please include the date, time, contact information, details about the event or any other pertinent information.

STUDENT SENATOR POSITION AVAILABLE

Student Government is currently seeking a student in the College of Education to fill a seat on senate. Senate meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the Cedar Room of the Student Union. If interested please contact Speaker Douglas Carroll at 440-6761.

Get involved with the Antelope!

The Antelope can provide a great experience for students in any major, not just journalism majors.

* Students can volunteer to write or take pictures for the newspaper, or take it as a class and receive credit!

Sign up for:

- JMC 350

(news staff)

- JMC 351

(advertising staff)

- JMC 352

(photo staff)

or call us today at 865-8488.

I would like to thank the following editors for their work and dedication during the Fall 2003 semester:

Molly Albrecht
Jillian Tangemann
Traci Witthuhn
Jodi Daigh-Carroll
Francisco Itamar
Nichole Jelinek

Shiloh Nichols
Lora Slusarski
Amanda Muller
Tara Goetz
Janae Ekstein

Thanks to your tireless efforts, the Antelope continues to be a leader among college newspapers. I look forward to another semester with returning editors! - Jonathan Rehor

THE BOTTOM LINE

QUESTION: IF MONEY WERE NOT AN OBJECT, WHAT GIFT WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE AND RECEIVE FOR CHRISTMAS?



Douglas Carroll
Omaha senior

"I would give a house and a puppy to my wife and I would like a new blue Dodge Viper with white racing stripes."



Clayton Schultz
Laramie, Wyoming senior

"I would like to receive a 250-foot sailboat. And as far as giving, I would give everyone the joy that comes from knowing Christ."



Nikki Hansen
North Loup freshman

"I would like a new car and if I could give anything, I would give my parents a Jamaican cruise."

Holiday traditions warm hearts

Carrying the zero...



Molly Albrecht
News Editor

blocks to the Old Market, where our magical journey begins.

As we stroll down the cobblestone streets, light snow wets our faces and mats our hair. The merry notes of Christmas carolers and the jingle bells of a horse-drawn carriage reach our ears. We duck into the shops to escape the bracing winter air, eagerly accepting cups of hot apple cider and red- and green-frosted sugar cookies from welcoming store clerks.

We browse until we find trinkets and treasures perfect for the loved ones on our Christmas lists—carefully crafted jewelry, authentic vintage clothing, funky hats, obscure indie CDs, retro-style table coasters, antique books and geometric wind spinners.

After hours of shopping, we head for Vivace, our favorite Old Market restaurant. The aroma of Italian dishes wafts through the air. My favorite is the racyly named "Hot Naked Primavera," which consists of baby pasta shells filled with cheese and spinach and covered with sautéed vegetables. A Caesar salad and French bread complete the meal. Glancing

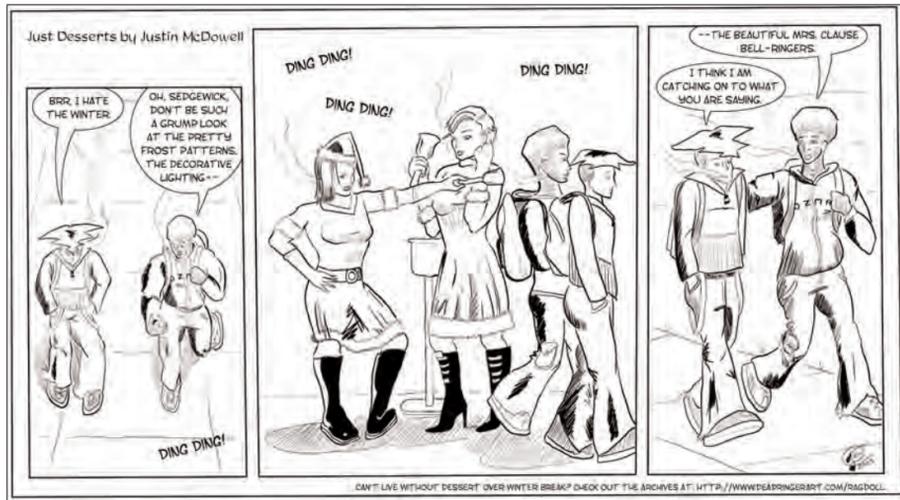
out the window, we're mesmerized by the thousands of tiny white lights twinkling in the trees outside. After dark, the Old Market glows like a choir of angels.

After dinner, we walk to the Orpheum for the Omaha Theater Ballet Company's dazzling production of "The Nutcracker." Lush sets and stunning sequined costumes greet us from the stage, where the story of Clara and her giant Nutcracker are danced to perfection.

We end the evening with a post-performance stop at Delice, a European-style bakery and coffee shop a few blocks from the theater. We indulge ourselves with savory slices of turtle cheesecake or dark chocolate torte and drink liberally from steaming mugs of vanilla hazelnut tea or fresh-ground coffee.

The next day, we try to plan equally enriching activities. This year, we admired artwork at Joslyn Museum during the afternoon.

That evening, we enjoyed an amazing concert billed as "Christmas at the Cathedral." The Omaha Symphony Orchestra and Omaha Symphonic Chorus joined



forces to deliver a breathtaking selection of traditional Christmas music at St. Cecilia's Cathedral, one of the largest and most lavish cathedrals in the nation. My mom and I took pictures until our fingers throbbed.

We spent our final Omaha getaway day at the historic General Crook House on the Metropolitan Community College's Fort Omaha campus.

Gen. Crook, a Civil War hero, was considered to be the greatest Indian sympathist in the history of the United States. During our tour, I learned that at

the landmark 1879 trial of the Ponca Chief Standing Bear, Gen. Crook testified in his defense. The general was the Commander of the Department of the Platte from 1875 to 1882 and again from 1886 to 1888.

His Italianate house was constructed in 1879 and decorated according to the 1880 Victorian period. The home tour was particularly special because the furnishings were adorned with authentic Christmas décor for the holiday season.

I believe it's important for everyone to set aside time to

enjoy some of the aesthetic pleasures of the Christmas season. Take in a holiday concert. View a light display. Search for truly one-of-a-kind gifts in equally unique shops. Explore historical places. Don't be afraid to venture beyond your norm and start new traditions.

If you have the chance, make one of your traditions a weekend trip to the Old Market. It sure beats rushing around in crowded malls. And there really is nothing like the "Hot Naked Primavera" to make a person feel jolly and bright!

Has Christmas lost its meaning?

Searching for a little soul...



Shiloh Nichols
Photo Editor

I love Christmas, and I can barely wait for Christmas Day to arrive to open the gifts under the tree. I am usually the first person up, running to my sister's bed to wake her up, running to my brother's room to get him up, and then running upstairs to find my stocking filled with candy and small presents from Santa Clause. My family laughs at me.

They have to remind me that I am 23 years old, and I shouldn't get so excited about opening presents. But when it

comes to getting and giving gifts, I get more excited than a 4-year-old.

This year, with Christmas approaching faster than ever and my life in a whirlwind, I haven't had much time to purchase gifts for anyone yet, and I only have two weeks left before the big day. I graduate in next Friday, I just started a new job in which I work 40 hours a week, I go to school full time, which includes hours of homework each day, and I am photo editor of The Antelope. On top of all that, I have to find time to buy pre-

sents for my family and friends?

As I approach adulthood and plan to enter "the real world," I find myself sitting in front of my computer asking myself, how did we manage to let the true meaning of Christmas get lost in the commercialization of the holidays? Don't get me wrong, I love giving and receiving gifts, but this year I have a different focus.

Christmas isn't about gifts or cookies or working a lot over the holidays to make money. We all know the reason why we celebrate Christmas, so

why do we let the commercialization of the holidays ruin our focus? The holidays have become such a production of lights and presents that the true meaning of the season is slowly dwindling away. Christmas, as the word implies, is about Christ and His birth into the world.

This will be the first year that my family is not together for Christmas. My brother got married three months ago, and he will be spending this year with his wife and her family. Our tradition of everyone coming home to mom and dad's

house for a week is slowly beginning to fade. It is this little change that has helped me realize the important things about the season: spending time with family and celebrating the birth of Christ.

This year, with Christmas less than two weeks away, I encourage you to take a minute to focus on your reasons for celebrating Christmas.

You don't have to stop giving gifts, but instead of focusing on presents and "Me, me, me," let your focus lie on the real meaning of Christmas.

No snow day on campus

Searching for a little soul...



Shiloh Nichols
Photo Editor

ing UNK would be cancelled too. I knew, however, that even though every other school in central Nebraska was cancelled, students at UNK would have to go to class.

I was right. The list of schools was read off, and UNK was not one of them. Go figure. We are the ones that have to walk in the cold, but they expect us to go to class anyway.

In all actuality, the roads really weren't that bad this morning, and I couldn't understand why all the schools were dismissed. It's not like stu-

dents from the high school have to walk outside from building to building in the cold wind.

Today it was -7 degrees wind chill and wind gusts reached 25 to 35 miles per hour. That is pretty cold. And they expect college students to walk from class to class in that kind of weather?

If UNK students are required to go to class in the cold, I totally understand, but the least UNK could do is scoop the sidewalks for us. On my way to class, I was walking through slippery piles of snow and my feet were frozen from the wet walkways. I also saw

several students slip and fall on the un-scooped sidewalks. What if someone was hurt?

Students pay a lot of fees to go to UNK. Couldn't some of those fees go to clearing the sidewalks after a snowstorm? I would even be willing to pay more money if that one simple task could be done.

If UNK is not going to close for bad weather, then they should respect the fact that students are walking outside in the cold in inches of snow. Couldn't someone just scoop the walks for us? And a little salt would be nice too so people aren't falling and getting hurt.

READERS' OPINIONS

Dear Editor,

I trust that you will publish these corrections to an article printed in the December 4, 2003 Antelope. These corrections are for an article regarding a forum held on November 24, 2003 about Chartwells Dining Services on campus. The article states that the Student Government's Issues and Concerns committee held the forum. The forum was actually held by the Residence Hall Association, or RHA. RHA is the representative body for the residence halls on campus. We work to enhance residence hall life and provide a fun atmosphere and activities for students who live on campus. The reason we targeted the issue of Chartwells is because we received concerns from the students we represent on campus. Since the students on campus are the number one customers of Chartwells, we felt this was a valid concern to be addressed. We devised a proposal complete with recommendations to Chartwells and held a forum to discuss this proposal. Over 100 students were in attendance, which shows how important this issue is to many students. Some of the things Chartwells and the University are currently working on include renovation of the cafeteria by changing lighting and signage that is outdated. Also, they are adding a grill-to-order bar over the holiday break that will offer students a varied selection. These are wonderful steps, but the object of the forum was to target things that are not yet being done. Many complaints about the quality of the food and quality of service received have yet to be taken into consideration. Those who attended the forum trust that these will be important issues that are addressed when the University and Chartwells undertakes contract renegotiation in the spring semester. A few other corrections to the article—John Foss (not Faust) is the director of Chartwells on campus. Also, the point of the forum was not student dissatisfaction with the meal plans offered, but rather dissatisfaction with the food and quality offered. Students will be watching to see what changes are made. I might add that pizza sauce was a big issue at the forum and pizza sauce has now been added in the cafeteria as a side item for students who want more sauce with their pizza. Also, I will be working with John Foss to put together a survey that targets specific student concerns. That survey should be available in January sometime. Please continue to provide feedback for Chartwells through the survey, suggestion boxes, personal visits, and by expressing concerns to the Residence Hall Association. We want to make sure students get the most out of their stay at UNK and will do whatever it takes to ensure that is possible. Students can always contact the Residence Hall Association by email (unkrha@hotmail.com) or a phone call to our office (865-1602). Please publish these changes and I hope this clarifies the issue of food on campus for your readers. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Erin Kochenderfer

Do you have an opinion you want to share with Antelope readers?

Write a letter to the editor.
theantelopewebpaper@hotmail.com
See guidelines at left.

THE ANTELOPE

Mitchell Center

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Any opinions expressed in columns, editorials, editorial cartoons or advertisements are the views of the individual writer, artist or advertiser and do not necessarily reflect the views of the University of Nebraska at Kearney, its employees or students, or *The Antelope* staff.

Contributions to "Readers' Opinions" must include the name of the writer, as well as the writer's phone number, home town and affiliation with the college. Phone numbers will not be printed but are necessary for verification. Deadline for publication is Monday at noon. Submissions past deadline will be printed in the following edition *The Antelope* staff reserves the right to edit contributions to "Readers' Opinions" for grammar, spelling, content and length.

Letters to be printed should be sent to:

Readers' Opinions
c/o The Antelope Editor
Mitchell Center
University of Nebraska at Kearney
Kearney, NE 68848

Any questions, comments, concerns or suggestions may be sent to the above address.

UNK Stars Shine Bright

Band makes music for the holidays

by Kaisa Gleason
Antelope Staff Writer

The brass on the trumpets shone almost as brightly as the talent on the stage Thursday night in UNK's Fine Arts Recital Hall.

The UNK Symphonic Band delighted the near capacity crowd as their fine tuned notes made "Music for the Holidays" come to life. A mixture of well-known Christmas carols and classic symphony pieces created a holiday feeling in the air. Conductors Dr. Neal Schnoor and Dr. Gary Davis led the ensemble in their final performance of the year.

Several seniors were recognized by Dr. Gary Davis for their contribution and dedication to the band throughout their UNK careers.

While my knowledge of this type of music is limited to say the least, I did find myself becoming wrapped up in the holiday spirit. This was the first symphony experience of my music "career." Hard work and dedication were clearly needed by all involved, to make the performance a success. And according to my "superior music opinion," it was definitely a success.

The group obviously spent a great deal of time practicing and



Photo by Adam Wagner
The UNK Symphonic Band performed Dec. 4, giving the audience a taste of the season with festive holiday music.

rehearsing for the evening's performance. The result, a harmony created by many different types of instruments, was definitely a work of art.

Kristin May, a senior from North Platte, was also enjoying her first experience at a symphony. Although she originally came because she had to write a paper for her music appreciation class, she and others scrambling to write notes found time to enjoy the music.

"I didn't really know what to expect," May, said, "but I'm glad I came, the performance helped put me in the holiday spirit."

The highlight of the

evening's performance was an upbeat, collaboration by the UNK percussion ensemble, complete with Santa hats and popular Christmas carols. The difficult task of performing Variants on a Medieval Tune "In Dulci Jubilo," was beautifully done and served as a prelude to the evening's last number "Westminster Carol."

The ensemble received a standing ovation following its final number and people gathered outside the recital hall to discuss their favorite performances. This concert by the UNK Symphonic Band was a great way to start off the holiday season.

Jazz Ensemble swings and sizzles

by Sarah Skarka
Antelope Staff Writer

The Fine Arts Center Recital Hall was a swingin' place last Saturday night as the University of Nebraska at Kearney Jazz Rock Ensemble Fall Concert got underway at 7:30pm.

Directed by Dr. James Payne, Jazz/Rock Ensemble Director at UNK, the concert featured Mike Metheny, a freelance jazz trumpet/flugelhorn soloist and music educator in the Kansas City area.

Metheny hails from Lee's Summit, Mo., and has degrees from the University of Missouri-Columbia and Northeast Missouri State University. The musician also acts as the editor of Kansas City's Jazz Ambassador Magazine.

He played in the U.S. Army Field Band as a trumpeter from 1971 to 1974, and in 1976 became a faculty member at Boston's Berklee College of Music, where he taught private trumpet lessons, jazz improvisation, and music theory. While residing in Boston, Metheny led his own jazz quartet and played in numerous venues throughout New England and across the U.S.

Having recorded seven solo albums for MCA/Impulse



Records, he has also been a sideman in numerous jazz recordings, and now owns his own label, 3 Valve Music.

Metheny is one of the few jazz artists to regularly perform on the EVI (Electronic Valve Instrument), a trumpet synthesizer with an eight-octave

range, and has been playing since 1983.

The concert was free to the public and featured music written for the big band with an emphasis on tunes from the 1970's, 1980's and 1990's. There were solos featuring guitar, alto, tenor, and soprano sax,



Photo by Quincy Cromer
UNK's Jazz Ensemble had the audience swinging with its concert on Dec. 6. Left: Aaron Graddy tears it up with an alto sax solo. Top: Guest musician Mike Metheny lent his talent to the group for the year's final performance.

trumpet, trombone, piano, and drums. Included in the program were selections from the North Texas University One O'clock Lab Band, Bobby Shew, Steve Houghton, Berklee College of Music, Woody Herman's Thundering Herd, USAF

Airmen of Note, and a special number made famous by Tommy Dorsey in 1943.

While membership in the UNK Jazz Ensemble is by competitive audition, it seems to be worth the effort, as Dr. James Payne states, "The UNK Jazz

Rock Ensemble brings together UNK students from Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, and Japan to play great music from the best professional big bands in the nation."

The band's trumpeters made quite a showing during the performance; these musicians included Nikki Foster, Kearney; Jessica Murtaugh, Wayne; Scott Vincent, York; Brad Bohn, Ravenna; and Spencer Hansen, Kearney.

The Jazz Ensemble's saxophone section is made up of tenor Chance Fritzler, Alliance; baritone Nick Brennan, Broken Bow; alto Aaron Graddy, Kearney; alto Sarah Reeks, Omaha; and tenor Suzanne Bochman, Red Oak, Iowa.

On the trombone line were Derek Gangwish, Ayr; Adam Hotchkiss, Omaha; Aaron Rowse, Chambers; and Jacquelyn Schneller, Canton, S.D.

The group boasts a strong percussion section of Adam Zrust, Albion; Dirk Riley, Holdrege; and Jun Takararita, Tokyo, Japan.

In the rhythm section were bassist Justin Zeleski, Grand Island; pianist Kozue Ebina, Hokkaido, Japan; and guitarist Taiki Takamura, Nagoya, Japan; aided by Brad Bohn, on bass and Spencer Hansen synthesizer.

UNK talent showcased at Black Sheep

by Jessie Mohr
Antelope Staff Writer

Beginning Dec. 3 and lasting through the end of the semester, a variety of art created by UNK students will be displayed at Black Sheep Coffee, located on Central Avenue in downtown Kearney.

UNK Glass and Sculpture Club vice president, Alex Myers, organized the display in an effort to promote the work of young artists here at UNK.

The Glass and Sculpture Club are affiliated with the Glass Art Society, an international organization that helps promote the art of glass blowing. There are about 18 members of GAS here at UNK, a growing number from previous years. The popularity of glass blowing has grown not only at UNK, but also on a worldwide scale.

"If you want to take glass blowing, register early, because the class fills up fast. It's a lot of fun, and it's not just for art majors," Myers, an Omaha senior, said.

According to members of GAS, Elizabeth Kronfield, who teaches the glass blowing and sculpture classes, has really changed the program in the past few years.

"She's open at letting us

express ourselves in our art, yet is big on craftsmanship, too," Ryan Six, Omaha senior, said. "She's good at getting you to think different about things."

To get involved with glass blowing, you must first register for the class. The first half of the semester you learn mostly about the process of blowing glass, the dangers involved, and how to protect yourself from the blistering hot glass. You must then take a test, and if you pass, you can get in the studio to begin creating art.

"Blowing glass takes hard work, a lot of patience and dedication. Glass blowing is different from other forms of art because you could lose a piece in a minute. You must concentrate on what you're doing



because the glass is so fragile," Six said.

The art of glass blowing was invented about 2,000 years ago.



Photo by Nicole Erb
The UNK Glass and Sculpture Club is displaying artistry at Black Sheep Coffee in downtown Kearney from now until the end of the semester. Head down and check out UNK art!

nance (around 2200 degrees Fahrenheit). Glass is gathered on the end of the blowpipe then removed from the furnace.

By blowing through the end of the pipe, the ball of molten glass is expanded into a thick bubble. This is where the art got the name "glass blowing." Additional glass and other colors can then be added to the bubble.

The bubble of hot glass is

then "worked." This means that it is formed using practically anything that will not get too damaged from the hot glass, such as hot sticks, wooden molds, pliers, scissors, and wire.

During the process, the piece must be placed back in the furnace to keep it soft enough to work. Halfway through the shaping process, the piece is transferred from the blowpipe to an iron rod, called a puntty. This

permits the part of the glass that was in contact with the blowpipe to be opened up to form the mouth of a vase or bowl, for instance.

When the piece finally has its desired look, it is carefully broken off the puntty and placed in a temperature-controlled oven (the annealer) where it is slowly cooled to room temperature.

"Because of the cooling process, you don't get to see your piece of art for up to 13 hours after you made it. I wake up in the morning excited to come and see how my piece turned out," Myers said.

Although the popularity of glass blowing is continuing to rise, support seen here at the school is not.

"We need new tools and new pipes. I think this school is turning more toward technology and new buildings and forgets about the arts," Myers said. "I'd like to see more support and more funding."

To learn more about the art of glass blowing, take a look at glassart.org, or venture down to the Black Sheep over the next few weeks.

Take a second to remember the talent that finds its home here in Kearney, you will be supporting not only GAS, but also the entire UNK art department.

Women's basketball triumphs over Wayne

by Kara Mueller
Antelope Staff Writer

After going 2-2 over the Thanksgiving break, the 25th ranked UNK women's basketball team rebounded last week with a road victory over in-state foe, Wayne State College.

The first half of game was tough going for the Lopers, as they led with only a three-point lead at half, 29-26.

But, then the fireworks began. The Lopers then netted the first twelve points of the second half and did not allow Wayne State to score until 12:24 was left in the game.

By the time that the Wildcats put up their first points of the second half, the Lopers were already leading by 15 and would never look back.

North Platte sophomore, Anne Manning, came off the bench for UNK and fired off 14 points as she went six of eight shot attempts.

Manning finished with a team high of 14 points and nabbed six rebounds, four of which were on the offensive side of the ball.

Amber Whitlock, Colorado junior, also came off the bench to chip in 10 points.

Whitlock went five of five from the field in her 16 minutes of playing time.

Kalee Modlin, Knoxville, Iowa sophomore, earned her second straight double-double by ripping down 10 boards and scoring 11 points in the winning effort.



Photo by April Refior

UNK women's basketball scores impressive win over Wayne State College, improving their season record to 3-2.

Two lady Lopers earn All-American honors

by Jessica Griebel
Antelope Staff Writer

The University of Nebraska-Kearney volleyball team had an amazing season, and deserves much recognition. The Lopers ended the season with a record of 31-7, competing in the NCAA District II Elite Eight, and having two team members named All-Americans.

On Nov. 21, they began play in the Southwest Regional Tournament in Denver, Colo. "I think our objectives heading into the Regional were basically the same as they have been all season - we wanted to play just a little better than we did the week before. Fortunately, we put a couple of very good matches together and made some key plays when we had to. The girls played outstanding volleyball and made very few mistakes," Rick Squiers, UNK Volleyball Head Coach, said.

The Lopers had a bye for the first round of the tournament, and they played their first match against St. Edwards, of Texas, who was the third-ranked seed in the tournament. Going into the match against the Lopers, St. Edwards had a 22-match winning streak, which was snapped as the Lopers demolished the Hilltoppers in four games (-22, -28, 30-32, -29).

"Some of the things we were focusing on going into this week-end include defense and communication. With good defense, it's hard to lose, and with good communication, unnecessary errors can be eliminated," Bethany Spilde, Council Bluffs, Ia., sophomore setter, said.

Five UNK players reached double figures in kills, led by Erin Arnold, Casper, Wyo., junior, who had 23 kills, and 19 digs. Erin Gudmundson, Kearney sophomore, also helped the Loper effort, with 22 kills, 13 digs and six blocks. Erin Brosz, Grand Island sophomore, led the team in hitting percentage, with a .500 average and 14 kills. Samantha Harvey, Taylor sophomore, added 11 kills to the Loper victory, and Kelli Bunger, Grand Island freshman, contributed 10 kills and three blocks. On the defensive end for the Lopers, Lisa Dvorak, Grand Island junior, had 14 digs.

Arnold passed the milestone of having 500 kills for the season, with 517. She is the eighth Loper to pass the 500-kill per season mark. Gudmundson also passed a milestone, breaking 1,000 kills for her career, with 1,018. The win over St. Edward's advanced the Lopers to the finals, where they played Rockhurst, Mo.

"It was nice to be able to be back in a regional championship game since we never quite made it," Arnold said. "I think as Metro watched us come out so strong against Rockhurst, it made them regret not making that extra play, because if they had, they might have been playing in the championship against us."

UNK blasted the Rockhurst Hawks in three sets (-22, -19, -27) to win the Southwest Regional Tournament. Rockhurst beat Metro State, the first seed and host of the tournament to face off with the Lopers in the final. The victory over Rockhurst boosts UNK's record to 31-6 on the season.

"It was a great feeling to win the Regional. We are very proud of this team and what they've been able to accomplish this year," Squiers said.

The Lopers came out strong, with seven blocks in the first set alone. Arnold led the way in kills with 20, as well as 10 digs. Gudmundson also added 17 kills and led the team in blocks, with seven.

Gudmundson's 17 kills brought her season total to 571, which broke the former UNK single-season kill record set by Chris Hughes with 562 kills in 1994.

Bunger added to the Loper effort with nine kills and a .471 hitting percentage, while Brosz added seven kills and a .462 hitting percentage.

Harvey also contributed, with six kills and six blocks, while Dvorak helped out the Lopers on the defensive end, with a team-high 13 digs. Spilde had 51 assists and seven digs.

"I am so happy to get a chance to compete against some of the best teams in the nation, and to see how we stand against them," Arnold said. "I only wish the older girls from my first two years could have had the same chance because they truly deserved it and I have learned a lot from them."

Arnold, Gudmundson, and Spilde all made the Southwest Region All-Tournament Team, while Coach Rick Squiers was named Southwest Region Coach of the Year.

"We've improved so much from the first practice we had this

year. We've really gelled together as a team since our first game. We are now comfortable and know how one another play, and we know each other's strengths and weaknesses. Plus, throughout the season we've all helped each other improve on our weaknesses, which has helped us develop a confidence in each other and in ourselves," Spilde said.

The Lopers, as Southwest Regional Tournament Champions, then advanced to the NCAA Division II Elite Eight Tournament, which was held in San Bernardino, Ca., December 4-6. UNK began the tournament facing off with Grand Valley State of Mich., on Thursday, December 4. It will be the Loper's first Elite Eight appearance since 1996.

"We know we don't want to change our game plan too much. We have always wanted to attack teams with our serve and with our hitting abilities. We seem to win when we are consistent in all areas of the game and when we stay aggressive," Arnold said.

As an added bonus, Coach Squiers went to the Elite Eight with a new hairstyle, since he told the girls at the beginning of the year that if they made it to the Elite Eight, he'd let them shave his head.

"The new haircut is great - easy to manage. I might just keep it this way," Squiers said.

The 4th-ranked Lopers played 13th-ranked Grand Valley State (Mich.) Thursday afternoon in the national quarterfinals to end the season in three games (-32, -26, -17). This was the Grand Valley State Lakers' fourth straight time going into the Elite Eight, and their experience may have shown through against the Lopers.

The Lopers were held to a .205 hitting percentage, while the Lakers had a .275 hitting percentage. Arnold led the Lopers with 18 kills and 11 digs, while Gudmundson chipped in 12 kills, six digs, and three blocks.

Mikala Gleason, Holdredge freshman, added to the UNK effort on defense, digging 15 balls, while Anna Vallinch, Omaha freshman, had 12 digs. Brett McCurdy, Lincoln junior, contributed 10 digs.

As a result of an outstanding season, the UNK volleyball team now boasts two players on the American Volleyball Coaches Association All-American team.

Gudmundson earned second-team honors, while Arnold is on the third team. This marks the first time in UNK school history that two players have earned All-American honors in the same season. Arnold and Gudmundson are the seventh and eighth players to receive these honors.

Congratulations to the Lady Lopers on a phenomenal season, and best of luck in 2004!

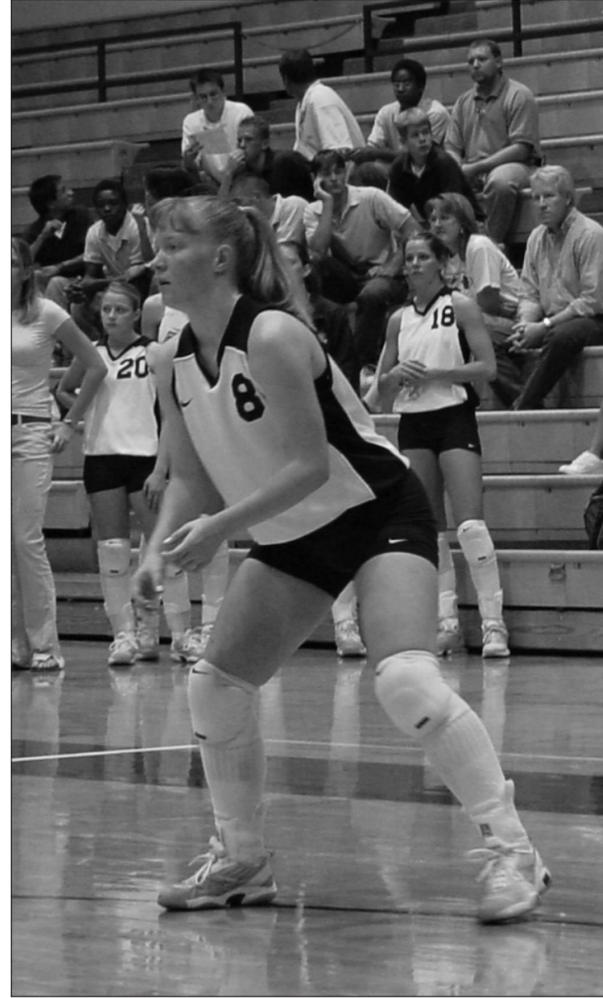


Photo by Shiloh Nichols

UNK volleyball team boasts a 31-6 season record, advances to win Regional. Teammates Gudmundson/Arnold All-Americans.

Student Envoy program promotes UNK

by Chrys Wiebelhaus
Antelope Staff Writer

Not too long ago, we were all deciding which path to follow in our lives. Decisions about college, home, work, friends and family flood the choices in our daily lives. One common decision we all made was to attend college.

During high school, you may remember receiving phone calls from prospective colleges and universities asking you if you had any questions about their school and programs. You asked yourself a handful of questions, such as, "Who is this person?", "What is she doing calling me?" and "How did she get my name?" The phone call from

that friendly college student made you excited about college, and you waited in anticipation for high school graduation and the next path to follow.

The Student Envoy Team at UNK is an organization that was established to increase enrollment and encourage personal relations with potential students to enroll at UNK. The purpose of the Team is to recruit potential students for UNK in conjunction with the Admissions Department. It helps to foster a positive image in the minds of parents and potential UNK students.

"Student Envoy is a program started by student government when the government members realized that enrollment was dropping," Amy Willadsen,

Greenwood senior, said. As current director of the Team, Willadsen oversees the operations and events. It is her duty to make sure that Senior Day and Junior Day are ready to take place.

"Envoys are not very visible on campus because our goal is to reach out and connect with high school students. We have meetings to plan Senior Day and Junior Day, and we tele-counsel," Willadsen said. "Our goal is to talk to students about UNK. We believe that a personal connection to UNK will help sway decisions toward attending our university."

Student envoys are current UNK students who feel strongly about their role in the UNK community and who want to

improve the university, Willadsen said. The Team usually targets high school seniors, but is adding high school juniors to the focus.

Team members attend college fairs, and they call potential students to ask them if they have any questions about UNK and college life in general. They work closely with the UNK Admissions Department.

"Individuals are chosen by an application process to represent the program in order to achieve the organization's mission," Michelle McGeorge, UNK student government president, said.

The Student Envoy Team showcases Senior Day, which will be held at the UNK campus on Jan. 16, 2004. All high

school seniors in the state of Nebraska and select surrounding schools from other states are invited to visit UNK. More than 300 students and their parents, family and friends make an appearance on the UNK campus.

The seniors have the opportunity to eat lunch at Chartwells, attend a college class, take a tour of campus guided by current UNK college students, sit in on a student panel to ask questions and attend basketball games for free. This year, the Greek community is planning a BBQ for the students.

"This is a chance to give something back to UNK. Additionally, sometimes I have the privilege to talk to a student

who is really interested (in UNK), and I make a difference in how they view college," Willadsen said.

People who are interested in becoming a UNK envoy should talk to Willadsen, or the assistant directors, Jodi Carroll and Matt Allbright. The Team is currently seeking UNK students interested in leading a tour group for Senior Day.

Interested students may e-mail the Team at envoyunk@hotmail.com for more information.

"The Student Envoy members have done a fantastic job getting on the ball with their role in UNK recruitment and have done a positive job representing the university," McGeorge said.

Cornhuskers say goodbye to Frank Solich

by Lindsey Humston
Antelope Staff Writer

Say goodbye to tradition. Say goodbye to the values NU football stood for. Say goodbye to the Osborne legacy. Last week, one man made a decision that affected not only our state, but the whole nation.

When the rumors were started by anonymous sources about Frank Solich being fired, fans were skeptical. Most people felt that as long as Solich and his team won the Colorado game, Solich's job would not be in jeopardy.

Fans weren't the only ones in disbelief. Even the coaches of some of Nebraska's rival teams couldn't understand the possibility of change.

"Frank Solich has been so loyal to Nebraska for so many years," Mack Brown, Texas coach, told the Grand Island Independent. "We're just talking about rumors. We're not talking about the truth."

Dan McCarney, Iowa State coach, also found the rumors had to believe. "I can't even imagine it in this lifetime or the next one that that's even a possibility," McCarney told the Independent. "I think all administrators and fans want somebody leading their program with integrity and character and class. . . That's all I've ever known Frank Solich to be."

These two coaches hadn't yet seen the press conference Steve Pederson gave on Sunday, Nov. 30. After Pederson's speech, there was even more disbelief and shock. On the Lincoln Journal Star's

Web site, fans answered a question about the fairness of Solich's firing. Out of 100 fans, only 20 thought the action was justified.

Here in Kearney, fans are also weary over the decision. Jeff Sherwood owns the popular eatery Nick's Gyros, where he has heard dozens of people complaining about the decision.

"I haven't heard of anybody who is in favor of it," Sherwood said. "It was just one guy's decision, and he's a cocky asshole. I had never even heard of him before."

Some fans, such as Scott Barry, Kearney senior, have managed to remain optimistic. Barry said he could see the change benefiting the program. Even through his optimism, though, Barry was weary of the change of tradition.

"The identity we've had for so many years is going to be lost," Barry said. "We're going to bring in somebody from the outside that doesn't have Nebraska ties. If we get the right guy, fans will like him just as well. If we get the wrong guy, they'll hate it."

Pederson says he doesn't know yet who he will hire, but that the minute he meets him, he will know he is the right man for the job. That probably leaves out the thought of Bo Pelini, since Pederson already knows him.

There has been talk of Turner Gill taking the position, but that probably won't happen, since he was "overlooked" as interim head coach.

Fans are hoping for a big name such as Steve Spurrier, which might be possible if he decides to leave the Redskins, and if he would consider relocating to Lincoln.

Of course, all these rumors are based on the assumption that any

coach at all would want to join a program where they must win at least 11 regular season games or risk getting fired.

Whoever the right person is, Pederson better hurry and find him. The longer he waits, the more valuable recruiting time he is wasting.

Nebraska football could now go one of two ways. Pederson may have caused a lot of mistrust that could lead to the loss of values in the system, especially if the new head coach has a less than perfect season. It may be hard to find a coach, at least one who is qualified.

Pederson will have to work hard to win back the loyalty and trust of a lot of fans.

For decades, it has been the loyalty of the fans that has, in part, made Nebraska's program so successful.

Pederson and the new head coach will have to do some damage control to convince fans that this was the right decision.

On the other hand, the change may be good for Nebraska. It may have been time to get rid of that losing coach with only a 0.75 percent winning average.

After all, he's had six years to win a championship, and Nebraska must "win at all costs." Pederson seemed to have overlooked the fact that it took Osborne 22 years to win a championship.

Only time will tell what will become of the Nebraska football legacy. Until then, we must say goodbye to the patience of building a successful program.

We must say goodbye to integrity, to character and to class. Goodbye Frank Solich.

Diamond Lopers are becoming a dime a dozen

by Ben Broshar
Antelope Staff Writer

Nine students attended an informational speech about the Diamond Lopes (changed from Diamond Girls minutes before the meeting) on Monday, Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Nebraskan Student Union room 310.

They, along with Cami Wacker, advisor to Greeks Advocating Mature Management of Alcohol (GAMMA) and group sponsor, had come to hear baseball coach Damon Day give the first informational speech about this orga-

nization.

Coach Day exhibited all the characteristic, slightly rough humor of an athletic instructor.

Day said that he was looking to recruit the girls who had come because he knew that they were skilled in a few things that he and his boys on the team were not.

He gave a very clear account of what he wants this group to be.

Diamond Lopes is not just a women's organization, despite its former name and the slant given in sign-up sheets. It is open to all who wish to partici-

Members will help run baseball games by selling tickets or programs, running concessions and being available for questions.

They would be required to work only one game, every other week.

Work during game days isn't the only thing the Diamond Lopes will be participating in.

They will be helping to coordinate the baseball team's community service activities, decide what activities are done and work alongside the team at those activities.

The group has several activities already planned, such as

reading to a second grade and helping with lunch programs. "We help in the old folks' homes in the fall and little kids in the spring because I like the little ones," Damon said.

The group is also encouraged to find activities such as cancer walks and will sometimes be asked to help with things like stuffing envelopes.

None of the non-game day activities should take up more than half an hour, not counting travel time.

The requirements for being part of Diamond Lopes are simple and few. Interested students have to fill in an application

form and return it to the UNK baseball office in the Student Health and Sports Center by Jan. 12.

Students participating in any spring sports must have permission from that coach to participate.

Organizational meetings will be January 13 and 27 at 4 p.m., so any hopeful applicants should make sure they don't have classes at those times.

Members will need a uniform, but will not be required to pay for them.

The rules of the organization are simple. Members are encouraged to take part in all

community service activities and not just volunteer your time for game days.

Members also are not allowed to date a current baseball player or allowed to apply if they previously held a relationship with a player.

Day said, "You might think some of them are cute, but my boys can't even hold a conversation."

Besides, they're too busy during the spring to treat you ladies as well as you deserve."

Anybody interested in joining this group should pick up a form at the baseball office.

Winter Commencement

Friday, Dec. 19, 2003

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

UNK Health and Sports Center

Chancellor Douglas A. Kristensen officiating

The public is invited to witness the prestigious conferral of degrees on this joyous occasion.

An reception will be held in honor of the graduates following the ceremony in the Cushing Fieldhouse.

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Barbershoppers carol for cause

by Heather Bunsen
Antelope Staff Writer

On Dec. 7, the 1733 Kearney Area Barbershop Chorus presented a fun and festive performance at Kearney's Central Elementary School. Directed by Fran Wilson and Gary Drown, the performance was filled with favorite Christmas carols and even a visit from Santa. The audience even got into the caroling action by joining in on a few of the songs.

The purpose of this event was not only to bring some Christmas spirit to the Kearney community, but to also raise money for the Kearney Performing Arts Center. A free will donation was set upon entrance to the concert and all proceeds that came from purchasing refreshments went to the Performing Arts Center. Special thanks went to Central Elementary School for hosting the event and to Barista's Daily Grind for providing the beverages.

For those of you who may not know exactly what the Performing Arts Center is or what it is about, let me give you some background on this project that will hopefully become a reality.

In 1999 Stan Kay, a former drama instructor at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, approached the Kearney Public School Board of Education members and discussed with them the possibility of the Central Elementary School auditorium becoming a performing arts center.

In 2002 Central Elementary School (formerly Kearney Junior High) was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Currently there is a movement to restore this historic landmark and create the Kearney Performing Arts Center.

There are many purposes to this project: To preserve a national historic landmark; to create from existing architecture a space that can host local, regional, and national events



Photo by Karri Thunker

The Kearney Area Barbershop Chorus performed at Central Elementary School Sunday evening to raise money for the Kearney Performing Arts Center.

and tours; to provide a facility for local arts organizations that does not have a venue with appropriate seating capacity or technical capabilities; to stimulate the economy of Kearney by bringing people to the area to experience and participate in the

Center's events; to provide the opportunity to experience high quality music, theater and dance through the Center's programming operations; and finally, to provide students the opportunity not only to see these artists and events, but to participate in

staging them and engage in master classes with visiting artists.

The total costs needed to finance the Kearney Performing Arts Center project is \$4,700,000. The Board of Education has committed

\$1,200,000 towards this total. The remaining funds will be raised from foundation and government grants, and from gifts and pledges throughout the community.

The campaign's General Chairman is Dr. L.R. Smith. "Preservation of one of our few historic buildings left and creation of a unique performing arts venue for the whole community - this is the most exciting and valuable project in Kearney since the creation of MONA." Dr. Smith said.

Carol Cope and B.M. Stevenson are also Honorary Co-Chairs of the Kearney Performing Arts Center campaign.

The Kearney Performing Arts Center will be a valuable and educational tool added to the Kearney Community. In order for this Center to open the Kearney community as well as UNK needs to lend the campaign support. This would be a wonderful project for many organizations on campus to raise money for.

Stay and experience UNK weekends

by Jeff VanRoy
Antelope Staff Writer

Throughout our college career we are faced with many important decisions.

You're going to hear many different things from many different people and, as a college student, you need to figure out what works best for you. Of all the decisions you will make in your college career one of the easiest, yet important, is what you are doing each weekend, relationships and other aspects

of your social life.

"UNK is a wonderful school," said Andy Linn, Omaha junior. "It offers many scholastic opportunities, athletic competitions and a fair attempt at a good social scene, ostensibly."

On the other hand there is one stigma that has been holding the students back for the past 10 to 15 years:

We're a suitcase college. Considering this, the idea of a proper social scene flies directly out the window. Moreover, the college experi-

ence is instantly sacrificed when the bags are packed and the students roll onto I-80 for their trip home.

"Weekends are a vital aspect of your college career," Mike Sands, Hastings junior, said. "You'll learn ten times more in a social scene by dealing with people than you ever will in a classroom. You lose this opportunity ever weekend you go home."

There are three main reasons people, especially freshman, go home on weekends: to hang out with their high school friends,

to work, or to be with their significant others.

First of all, those people are your friends for logistical reasons. You played sports with them, went to church with them, dated their friends and so on. The only reason they are so fun to hang out with is because you're so used to them. Stay for a weekend and make some new ones, I'm sure they'll be nice.

Second, work is optional. "I've been here for two and a half years and I haven't had a job yet," Sands said. "You have the rest of your life to work.

For now, you should be poor."

Going home to visit your significant other may seem nice, but many students don't agree with your decision.

"Dating in college lowers it's entertainment value on all levels of the social scene," John Ingram, Omaha junior, said. "If people would stay here every weekend, I might have an opportunity to meet somebody and have fun, but until that happens, I'm all alone. Instead of attempting a serious relationship, stick to a fling, end on good terms and refer them to

your friends. This will keep the cycle going and nobody will feel lonely."

This theory deserves some serious contemplation over your holiday break. Take it from Linn and Ingram, both of whom feel that being single is the way to spend your college career.

"I thoroughly enjoy being single," Ingram said. "I still have fun and don't have a care in the world. I encourage you to do the same. So end your pesky relationships and stay here every weekend. You'll get so much more out of college."

Fallon's book a cynical delight

by Traci Witthuhn
Antelope Entertainment Editor

"If you were thinking of going to Happy Hour to meet some new friends, think again. You'll be the only person without a friend or a date, and you're too shy to just go up and introduce yourself to strangers. You're just going to sit by yourself, paying for drink after drink until you're a pathetic, quivering mass at the bottom of your barstool. It'll turn out to be Sad Hour for you and everyone involved."

Do you like sarcasm? Do you perhaps engage in occasional self-bashing antics? Do you ever feel like the world is a crazy place and you're the only sane one left? If so, I have found the perfect book for you: "I Hate This Place: The Pessimist's Guide To Life."

Warner Books published this paperback, by Jimmy Fallon and Gloria Fallon, in September 2003, though previously released in 1999 by TV Books. The book promises 137 pages of dry humor and holds an asking price of \$8.95, though you can purchase a copy at Amazon.com for a mere \$5.95.

You may recognize author Jimmy Fallon from Saturday

Night Live...if not, where have you been?

Jimmy Fallon is now in his sixth season with SNL, having performed impressions of Adam Sandler, Jerry Seinfeld, and Howard Stern. Over the years, Fallon has also played characters such as "Sully," the Bostonian teen, and "Nick Burns: Your Company's Computer Guy," since 2000, Fallon has also held the spot of "Weekend Update" co-anchor, where his sarcastic juices flow.

Co-Author Gloria Fallon, Jimmy's sister, is a New York City fashion columnist and an acclaimed writer.

Together, the siblings created over-the-top cynicism to turn out a book that Amazon.com gives 4.5 stars and guarantees it will, "shatter illusions, extinguish all hope, and keep the jaded and the disgruntled laughing all the way."

"If you were thinking of calling up an old friend after a long time, seriously rethink this. Any conversation that begins with 'Hey, remember me?' is doomed from the get-go."

"I Hate This Place" originated as a series of cross-costal emails between the Fallon siblings. The two spanned thousands of miles to make each other laugh with a daily affirma-

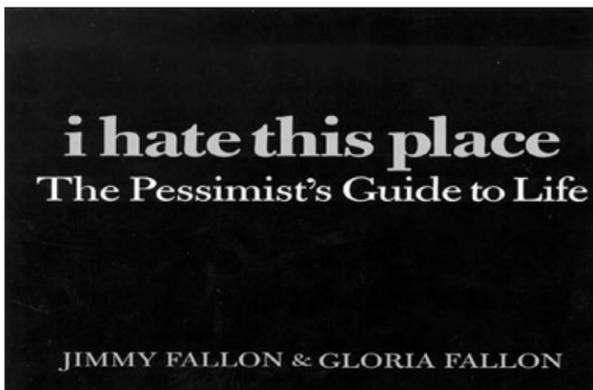


Photo courtesy of Warner Books

Grab this book and start spreading some holiday cheer.

tion of their skeptical humor. Eventually, the Fallons decided to publish a book, which they dedicated to their loving grandmother, Gloria Feeley (who, by the way, told them "This book stinks").

When people say, "are we having fun or what?" They really mean "what."

This book boasts six sections: "If You Were Thinking Of..." gives the pessimist's view on those "great ideas" that may pop into your head. That view is generally not to go along with what probably just seems great.

"When People Say..." gives a realist's view of what people

really mean when they drop those vague one-liners such as "Hey, is that new?" or "What are you doing later?"

"Personal Reflections of the Pessimist" puts some downer life views on paper such as "Every time I talk to someone, I know I'm just wasting their time."

"My Story" includes day-to-day accounts of pessimistic occurrences. "I went to a fast food restaurant and had to wait twenty minutes. I wasn't mad that I didn't get my food quickly. I was simply outraged that someone else was in control of wasting my time."

"Optimistic Advice You Shouldn't Follow" points out some things that those darned happy people say that you just shouldn't go along with. This chapter contemplates the meanings behind "A Penny Saved is a Penny Earned" and "Keep Your Chin Up."

Finally comes "Daily Affirmations for the Pessimist." This portion of the book gives us all those little phrases to live by such as "I have absolutely no control over my future" and "Life: live it, you don't have a choice anyway."

There is one disclaimer that goes along with this book: it's

all in good fun.

Read with a bit of depression, "I Hate This Place" could lead you farther down that path. The phrases were meant to make readers grin, chuckle, or laugh so hard they wet themselves. If you're in the mood for a quick read with an unusual style, pick up Jimmy and Gloria Fallon's "I Hate This Place: The Pessimist's Guide to Life."

"Sometimes I think, 'this is all a test to see how strong you are. There must be something higher after this, some reward...' Then I think, 'Yeah, right, wake up and smell your instant coffee.'"

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Doctors, hospitals flooded, flu shots in short supply

From *Flu*, page 1

Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

Jeanne Atkinson, communication officer for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, said the department has received widespread reports of the flu outbreak, most from Omaha, Lincoln, Grand Island, Columbus and Humphrey.

Douglas County, which includes the city of Omaha, reported on Monday 120 new confirmed cases of influenza A since Thanksgiving, bringing the total to 464. That was nearly triple the number from a week ago. Only one case was reported in Douglas County at this time last fall, according to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

Kearney, Grand Island and

Lincoln have also seen increased numbers of confirmed influenza cases this year compared to previous years.

The flu outbreak in Nebraska is flooding emergency rooms with patients and straining resources. Great Plains Regional Medical Center in North Platte has even issued precaution signs and placed protective masks at all its entrances in an effort to prevent the virus from spreading, according to the Associated Press. Other Nebraska hospitals also have been forced into high alert mode as a result of the influenza outbreak.

According to Nyffeler, the best protection from the flu is to get vaccinated. The only problem is finding a vaccine this late in the season. "We have a small supply left, and the charge is \$13," Nyffeler said.

Nebraska and Colorado have

reported shortages of the influenza vaccine, and concern increased over the weekend with the announcement that the two leading manufacturers,

Aventis Pasteur and Chiron, had shipped all the doses they had made and could not make any more vaccine for this season, according to reports published Dec. 6 and 7.

In Nebraska, doctors' offices are using up their supply, and the Lancaster County Health Department became the first department in the state to run out of the shots Friday.

Although all of the vaccines have already been shipped out, some suppliers might still need to distribute them, and some clinics and hospitals still have them.

"What we are telling people is there is still vaccine in the pipeline, although we are not

sure how much," Len Lavenda, a spokesman for Aventis, said. "People who want to get a flu shot this year should not wait any longer. They will have to be persistent."

Even though health officials urge people to get their shots, it is still not clear how effective they will be against this strain, which is somewhat different from the three that this year's vaccine is designed to combat. Once a person gets a flu shot, his/her body makes protective antibodies in about two weeks.

The CDC recommends vaccinations especially for younger children, ages 6 months to 23 months. Influenza and its complications are the sixth-leading cause of death among children 4 years and younger, according to the CDC.

Flu season in the United States usually runs from

November through April each year, according to the CDC, and generally peaks between late December and early March. In an average year, flu causes 36,000 deaths (mostly among those age 65 and older) and 114,000 hospitalizations in the United States. It was predicted, however, that this year there would be 70,000 deaths caused by influenza and/or complications that could occur.

The flu is spread when an infected person coughs, sneezes or speaks and sends flu virus into the air, and other people inhale the virus, according to the CDC. The virus enters the nose, throat or lungs of a person and begins to multiply, causing symptoms of influenza, which include fever, headache, tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, nasal congestion and body aches.

Nyffeler said washing hands

and staying home when sick, especially with a fever, will help minimize the spread of influenza, as will adequate fluids, rest and medications to relieve the symptoms as needed. "Since influenza is a viral infection, antibiotics are not effective initially, but a group of drugs called antivirals may minimize the symptoms if started within 48 hours of becoming ill. Otherwise decongestants, cough medicines, Tylenol, increasing fluids and using humidifiers help as well," Nyffeler said.

Getting sufficient rest could be difficult with finals coming up. But when the body is stressed, it becomes more susceptible to infections. Just ask Raile.

"I missed some class last week, and now I have all these finals next week. I feel a little stressed," she said.

Christmas history revealed

From xxx, page x

scouts would be sent to the top of the mountain to search for the return of the sun. When the first light was seen the scouts would return with the news. A festival would be held, called the Yuletide, and a special feast would be held around a fire burning with the Yule log.

The Romans celebrated their god, Saturn. The Romans decked their halls with garlands of laurel and green trees lit with candles. Again the masters and slaves would exchange places.

The early Christians wanted to keep the birthday of Christ as

a solemn and religious holiday, not one of cheer and festivities like Saturnalia. But as Christianity spread, so did the rise of celebrations of pagan customs among their converts. At first the Church forbid this celebration. Eventually, it was decided that the celebration would be tamed and turned into a celebration fit for the Christian Son of God.

Some legends claim that the Christian "Christmas" was invented to compete against the pagan celebrations in December.

The exact day of the Christ child's birth has never been pin-

pointed. Traditions say that it has been celebrated since the year 98 A.D. In 350 A.D., another Bishop of Rome, Julius I, chose Dec. 25 as the observance of Christmas.

Along with Christmas comes winter break, a welcome time for most students at UNK. Looking ahead after a long week of finals, many students seem to already have their break planned out.

"I'll be going home for some of the winter break to spend Christmas with my family," Ross Sudbeck, Hartington senior, said, "and then I'll be working the rest of the time in Kearney."

Fraternity hosts fundraiser

From *Bowling*, page 1

may need further surgeries and other extensive medical care because of the paralysis resulting from the damage to the spinal cord. In addition, the condition can also cause bowel and bladder complications.

A large percentage of children born with Spina Bifida also have hydrocephalus, the accumulation of fluid in the brain. Hydrocephalus can be controlled by a surgical procedure called "shunting" which relieves the fluid build up in the brain by redirecting it into the abdominal area.

Despite these complications, most children born with Spina Bifida live well into adulthood as a result of today's sophisticated medical techniques.

There are a few scary statistics involved with the birth

defect. According to the Spina Bifida website, the defect affects approximately one out of every 1,000 newborns in the US with no family history of Spina Bifida. If parents have one child with Spina Bifida, the risk of recurrence increases to between one-five out of 100. If one parent has Spina Bifida, the chances of having a child with Spina Bifida are between 1-5 percent. Yet, if both parents have Spina Bifida, the chances of having a child with the defect increases to 15 percent.

Students on campus are giving back positive feedback about the fraternity's involvement. "I think that this is great that the fraternity is getting involved with such a great cause," Emily Davison, Paxton junior, said.

"I think that this is a great way for the men of the fraternity

to get some community service on their resume and help a family that is in need of financial assistance for their son as well," Tammy Scott, Greeley senior, said.

This is an opportunity for central Nebraska to band together and make a positive difference in the lives of a struggling family. The Schultue family, along with the men of Pi Kappa Alpha, would appreciate everyone's help in this effort.

For more information on the birth defect, Spina Bifida go to the Spina Bifida Association's website: www.sbaa.org/html/sbaa_facts.html. Please send donations payable to: Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, Attn: Bowling for Braden, 1601 University Drive, URN-C207, Kearney, NE 68845.

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Senior Appreciation Program

From *Senior*, page 1

UNMC (Kearney nursing students are eligible). Candidates must have cumulative GPAs of 3.0 or above. Financial need is not part of the criterion in selecting this award. The recipient will be determined by the Scholarship Committee through the UNK Financial Aid Office within the guidelines set by the SAF board and UNK Alumni Foundation," Frazier said.

"As a senior I'm excited to graduate and find a job, but it's nice to know that I can recognize certain people who've helped me throughout my time at UNK. I also like the idea of a scholarship for UNK undergraduates, because I know how important scholarship money is," Jeff Espersen, Kearney senior, said.

Scholarship applications may be obtained from the Alumni Association Office located at the

Alumni House just south of campus.

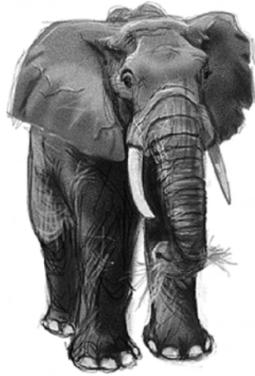
If any senior needs more information or would like to participate in the Senior Appreciation Program, he/she can call the Foundation Office at 865-8272. The SAF advisors are Kristin Howard at the Alumni Association (865-8474) and Lucas Dart at the University Foundation (865-8688).

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Student Envoy program promotes UNK

by Chrys Wiebelhaus
Antelope Staff Writer

Not too long ago, we were all deciding which path to follow in our lives. Decisions about college, home, work, friends and family flood the choices in our daily lives. One common decision we all made was to attend college.

During high school, you may remember receiving phone calls from prospective colleges and universities asking you if you had any questions about their school and programs. You asked yourself a handful of questions, such as, "Who is this person?", "What is she doing calling me?" and "How did she get my name?" The phone call from

that friendly college student made you excited about college, and you waited in anticipation for high school graduation and the next path to follow.

The Student Envoy Team at UNK is an organization that was established to increase enrollment and encourage personal relations with potential students to enroll at UNK. The purpose of the Team is to recruit potential students for UNK in conjunction with the Admissions Department. It helps to foster a positive image in the minds of parents and potential UNK students.

"Student Envoy is a program started by student government when the government members realized that enrollment was dropping," Amy Willadsen,

Greenwood senior, said. As current director of the Team, Willadsen oversees the operations and events. It is her duty to make sure that Senior Day and Junior Day are ready to take place.

"Envoys are not very visible on campus because our goal is to reach out and connect with high school students. We have meetings to plan Senior Day and Junior Day, and we tele-counsel," Willadsen said. "Our goal is to talk to students about UNK. We believe that a personal connection to UNK will help sway decisions toward attending our university."

Student envoys are current UNK students who feel strongly about their role in the UNK community and who want to

improve the university, Willadsen said. The Team usually targets high school seniors, but is adding high school juniors to the focus.

Team members attend college fairs, and they call potential students to ask them if they have any questions about UNK and college life in general. They work closely with the UNK Admissions Department.

"Individuals are chosen by an application process to represent the program in order to achieve the organization's mission," Michelle McGeorge, UNK student government president, said.

The Student Envoy Team showcases Senior Day, which will be held at the UNK campus on Jan. 16, 2004. All high

school seniors in the state of Nebraska and select surrounding schools from other states are invited to visit UNK. More than 300 students and their parents, family and friends make an appearance on the UNK campus.

The seniors have the opportunity to eat lunch at Chartwells, attend a college class, take a tour of campus guided by current UNK college students, sit in on a student panel to ask questions and attend basketball games for free. This year, the Greek community is planning a BBQ for the students.

"This is a chance to give something back to UNK. Additionally, sometimes I have the privilege to talk to a student

who is really interested (in UNK), and I make a difference in how they view college," Willadsen said.

People who are interested in becoming a UNK envoy should talk to Willadsen, or the assistant directors, Jodi Carroll and Matt Allbright. The Team is currently seeking UNK students interested in leading a tour group for Senior Day.

Interested students may e-mail the Team at envoyunk@hotmail.com for more information.

"The Student Envoy members have done a fantastic job getting on the ball with their role in UNK recruitment and have done a positive job representing the university," McGeorge said.

Cornhuskers say goodbye to Frank Solich

by Lindsey Humston
Antelope Staff Writer

Say goodbye to tradition. Say goodbye to the values NU football stood for. Say goodbye to the Osborne legacy. Last week, one man made a decision that affected not only our state, but the whole nation.

When the rumors were started by anonymous sources about Frank Solich being fired, fans were skeptical. Most people felt that as long as Solich and his team won the Colorado game, Solich's job would not be in jeopardy.

Fans weren't the only ones in disbelief. Even the coaches of some of Nebraska's rival teams couldn't understand the possibility of change.

"Frank Solich has been so loyal to Nebraska for so many years," Mack Brown, Texas coach, told the Grand Island Independent. "We're just talking about rumors. We're not talking about the truth."

Dan McCarney, Iowa State coach, also found the rumors had to believe. "I can't even imagine it in this lifetime or the next one that that's even a possibility," McCarney told the Independent. "I think all administrators and fans want somebody leading their program with integrity and character and class. . . That's all I've ever known Frank Solich to be."

These two coaches hadn't yet seen the press conference Steve Pederson gave on Sunday, Nov. 30. After Pederson's speech, there was even more disbelief and shock. On the Lincoln Journal Star's

Web site, fans answered a question about the fairness of Solich's firing. Out of 100 fans, only 20 thought the action was justified.

Here in Kearney, fans are also weary over the decision. Jeff Sherwood owns the popular eatery Nick's Gyros, where he has heard dozens of people complaining about the decision.

"I haven't heard of anybody who is in favor of it," Sherwood said. "It was just one guy's decision, and he's a cocky asshole. I had never even heard of him before."

Some fans, such as Scott Barry, Kearney senior, have managed to remain optimistic. Barry said he could see the change benefiting the program. Even through his optimism, though, Barry was weary of the change of tradition.

"The identity we've had for so many years is going to be lost," Barry said. "We're going to bring in somebody from the outside that doesn't have Nebraska ties. If we get the right guy, fans will like him just as well. If we get the wrong guy, they'll hate it."

Pederson says he doesn't know yet who he will hire, but that the minute he meets him, he will know he is the right man for the job. That probably leaves out the thought of Bo Pelini, since Pederson already knows him.

There has been talk of Turner Gill taking the position, but that probably won't happen, since he was "overlooked" as interim head coach.

Fans are hoping for a big name such as Steve Spurrier, which might be possible if he decides to leave the Redskins, and if he would consider relocating to Lincoln.

Of course, all these rumors are based on the assumption that any

coach at all would want to join a program where they must win at least 11 regular season games or risk getting fired.

Whoever the right person is, Pederson better hurry and find him. The longer he waits, the more valuable recruiting time he is wasting.

Nebraska football could now go one of two ways. Pederson may have caused a lot of mistrust that could lead to the loss of values in the system, especially if the new head coach has a less than perfect season. It may be hard to find a coach, at least one who is qualified.

Pederson will have to work hard to win back the loyalty and trust of a lot of fans.

For decades, it has been the loyalty of the fans that has, in part, made Nebraska's program so successful.

Pederson and the new head coach will have to do some damage control to convince fans that this was the right decision.

On the other hand, the change may be good for Nebraska. It may have been time to get rid of that losing coach with only a 0.75 percent winning average.

After all, he's had six years to win a championship, and Nebraska must "win at all costs." Pederson seemed to have overlooked the fact that it took Osborne 22 years to win a championship.

Only time will tell what will become of the Nebraska football legacy. Until then, we must say goodbye to the patience of building a successful program.

We must say goodbye to integrity, to character and to class. Goodbye Frank Solich.

Diamond Lopers are becoming a dime a dozen

by Ben Broshar
Antelope Staff Writer

Nine students attended an informational speech about the Diamond Lopes (changed from Diamond Girls minutes before the meeting) on Monday, Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Nebraskan Student Union room 310.

They, along with Cami Wacker, advisor to Greeks Advocating Mature Management of Alcohol (GAMMA) and group sponsor, had come to hear baseball coach Damon Day give the first informational speech about this orga-

nization.

Coach Day exhibited all the characteristic, slightly rough humor of an athletic instructor.

Day said that he was looking to recruit the girls who had come because he knew that they were skilled in a few things that he and his boys on the team were not.

He gave a very clear account of what he wants this group to be.

Diamond Lopes is not just a women's organization, despite its former name and the slant given in sign-up sheets. It is open to all who wish to partici-

Members will help run baseball games by selling tickets or programs, running concessions and being available for questions.

They would be required to work only one game, every other week.

Work during game days isn't the only thing the Diamond Lopes will be participating in.

They will be helping to coordinate the baseball team's community service activities, decide what activities are done and work alongside the team at those activities.

The group has several activities already planned, such as

reading to a second grade and helping with lunch programs. "We help in the old folks' homes in the fall and little kids in the spring because I like the little ones," Damon said.

The group is also encouraged to find activities such as cancer walks and will sometimes be asked to help with things like stuffing envelopes.

None of the non-game day activities should take up more than half an hour, not counting travel time.

The requirements for being part of Diamond Lopes are simple and few. Interested students have to fill in an application

form and return it to the UNK baseball office in the Student Health and Sports Center by Jan. 12.

Students participating in any spring sports must have permission from that coach to participate.

Organizational meetings will be January 13 and 27 at 4 p.m., so any hopeful applicants should make sure they don't have classes at those times.

Members will need a uniform, but will not be required to pay for them.

The rules of the organization are simple. Members are encouraged to take part in all

community service activities and not just volunteer your time for game days.

Members also are not allowed to date a current baseball player or allowed to apply if they previously held a relationship with a player.

Day said, "You might think some of them are cute, but my boys can't even hold a conversation."

Besides, they're too busy during the spring to treat you ladies as well as you deserve."

Anybody interested in joining this group should pick up a form at the baseball office.

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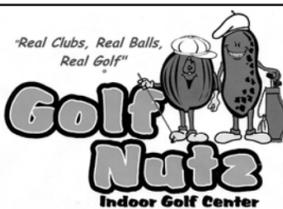
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