Students buckle down as dead week draws near.

THIS WEEK

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Crossing borders

Nepali Students celebrate holy festival, share traditions

BY SKYLAR LEATHERMAN
Antelope Staff

Every country has its own holidays, but not all holidays are similar.

On Nov. 19 Nepali students at UNK celebrated Dashain Tihar Night, a holy festival, with faculty and students.

The students celebrated in the Cedar room of the student union. They provided authentic Nepalese cuisine and traditional song and dance. To introduce their culture to students and faculty on campus.

Dashain is celebrated in October and is one of the most important celebrations of the year in Nepal. The celebration lasts 15 days and commemorates a great victory of the gods over demons.

The legend tells the story of Ramayan who was the only god able to kill Ravana, the king of the demons, when the goddess Durga was evoked. The entire event is seen as a celebration of good over evil and is symbolized by the goddess Durga slaying the demon Mahisasur who terrorized the earth in the disguise of a water

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GLOBAL SCHOLARS

Photo by Skylar Leatherman
The Fall Global Scholars presentations took place during Global Entrepreneurship week Nov. 15-21. Students presented Monday, Nov. 15 and faculty presented Thursday, Nov. 20 in the student union. Steve and Barb Amundson spoke about their trip to Santiago, Chile and Bogata, Colombia to strengthen academic ties and internship possibilities with colleges. The Amundsons also held the first UNK Alumni reception for Colombian students who had attended UNK in past years.

Purnima Shrestha, a sophomore nursing major from Kathmandu, Nepal, dances to a traditional Nepalese song during the Dashain Tihar Night celebration. Nepali students celebrated holidays from Nepal to introduce their culture to students and faculty on campus.

Photo by Skylar Leatherman
Light at the end of the tunnel

Dead week signals the end of the semester for stressed students

BY ERIK DODGE
Antelope Staff

After dead week, relief is only days away
As recently as last semester, the Deans Council sought to provide clarity to the finals week exam policy—better known as dead week.

Two semesters ago the Faculty Senate requested a definition for dead week. Now, surely the faculty received a definition, and it was much needed. I too have suffered at the cruel hand of uncertainty during dead week.

In my opening semester, the majority of my classes did not even meet. Imagine my surprise the following semester when I discovered I had skipped a week of classes.

I will leave it to your professors to explain the rules about when assignments can be collected and tests can be given, but I want to provide some clarity about what dead week means to students.

At universities across the country, a myriad of dead week traditions have been built throughout the years. Some have a primal yell where students open their windows and scream away the stress. Others schools are invaded by the marching band playing in the school library.

No matter the tradition or the school, dead week is a tipping point of sorts. A friend of mine, Jordan Gonzales, coined a term last week that best describes dead week—booyah point. The booyah point is that beautiful time of year when stress gives way to relief, frustration turns to joy, and a semester of work is transformed into a fond memory.

Christmas music fills the air this weekend

BY MEGAN BLUME
Antelope Staff

“We wish you a merry Christmas, we wish you a merry Christmas” – too early for Christmas music? Well, Thanksgiving is over, and the Christmas spirit is among us. With 24 days until the holiday, the UNK Music Department is kicking off the holiday season early with five concert performances this weekend.

Christmas music will fill the granite halls of the Museum of Nebraska Art (MONA) when Vocal Collegium performs on Friday, Dec. 3. Vocal Collegium specializes in choral chamber repertoire of all eras, and is described as “an elite group of students who are chosen from the Choraliers.”

Low notes of “Joy to the World” will be followed out of the Fine Arts Recital Hall on Saturday, Dec. 4, during the “Merry Tuba Christmas” performance. The low brass recital will feature more than 60 euphonium and tuba players of all ages from across the region.

According to Dr. Seth Fletcher, low brass lecturer, the recital will consist of popular Christmas songs including—“Angels We Have Heard on High,” “Deck the Halls,” “The First Noel,” “Joy to the World” and “We Wish You a Merry Christmas.”

If low brass instruments aren’t your thing, check out the Jazz-Rock concert later in the evening. Under the direction of Dr. James Payne, professor of music, the Jazz-Rock ensemble will play a series of big band music from the swing era featuring trumpets, saxophones, guitars, bass, drums and the piano.

The UNK Band will play a variety of instruments and songs during their performance on Sunday, Dec. 5. Duane Bierman, the new director of bands, will lead the band on an instrumental roller coaster of popular Christmas tunes.

Want fewer instruments and more voice? Check out the combined concert of three UNK vocal groups at 7:30 p.m. Sunday after the band concert. The Choraliers, Women’s Chorus and Men’s Chorus will all perform under the direction of Dr. David Bauer, professor of music. The groups will perform several Christmas songs including “Alleluia Sassa!,” “The Many Moods of Christmas,” “Mary had a Baby,” “Glorious is the Lord Almighty” and “Festive Profession.”

Warm up some cocoa and break free from the winter blues by attending the many heart-warming Christmas concerts this weekend.

MUSIC SCHEDULE

• Vocal Collegium: Friday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at MONA
• Merry Tuba Christmas: Saturday, Dec. 4 at noon in the Fine Arts Recital Hall
• Jazz-Rock Concert: Saturday, Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Recital Hall
• Band Concert: Sunday, Dec. 5 at 3 p.m. in the Fine Arts Recital Hall
• Combined Vocal Concert: Sunday, Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Recital Hall
Simmons steps up to president of sorority

Simmons explores more opportunities in life because of her Greek activities

BY JILLIAN JUMPS
JMC 318

At an early age, Amanda Simmons knew she wanted to be a leader in life, striving to be the best at everything she attempted in her hometown of Aurora.

Now, as president of Gamma Phi Beta sorority, the elementary education and early childhood major oversees every detail in the sorority house.

“This is a huge honor to be elected as a president for a sorority,” Simmons said. “I’m in charge of managing our executive team. I oversee everything that happens within the house. I also have to handle all of the disciplinary issues, which is the hardest part for me. I also handle all our events with our alumni.”

She said serving as liaison to the university is a favorite part of her job. “I feel honored to represent the chapter on campus. I get called on a lot to do different things on campus that I would never have the chance to do if I wasn’t elected president.”

Amanda Simmons
Gamma Phi Beta President

Simmons was elected Amanda because she would make the best decisions that would benefit our house. Simmons is also a very open and easy-going person, so it is very easy for members to talk to her about anything. We chose her because we know how passionate she is about Gamma Phi Beta and knew it was important to have someone in office that loves what they are doing.”

Simmons held other positions before becoming the president of Gamma Phi Beta. She served as corresponding secretary and recording secretary her freshman and sophomore year. In her junior year, she was elected the membership vice president (MVP).

Simmons said, “Holding those offices really made me want to be more involved in the house and pushed me to become president, especially MVP. Being MVP I realized how much I loved Gamma Phi and how much the members meant to me. After that I knew that I wanted to be president.”

As president, Simmons says she has many more opportunities in life then she thought she would ever have. “Gamma Phi Beta showed me that the only way to become a better person and a more well-rounded person was to put myself out there and strive for my goals. If it weren’t for Gamma Phi, I probably wouldn’t have been involved on campus whatsoever,” Simmons said.

Simmons also received a trip to Disneyland in California to represent the Gamma Kappa Chapter at the Gamma Phi Beta National Convention.

“Making an Impact

Photo by Megan Blume
Abby Larson, a freshman wildlife biology major from Tilden, rolls up her sleeve and donates blood during the blood drive on Nov. 29. Every year 4.5 million Americans will a need blood transfusion. UNK put on the blood drive through Nov. 30 to help make an impact to save lives of those in need of blood. Just one pint of blood can save up to three lives.
Catch a glimpse of American history before traveling exhibit closes Dec. 5

“The Native American Tribes of North America,” currently on display at the MONA, features 67 portraits of Native American leaders of the 1820s and 1830s. The exhibition is on loan from Omaha’s Joslyn Art Museum and will be featured until Dec. 5.

BY REBECCA McMICKELL
Antelope Staff

Recording history is easy these days. With the simple click of a camera button we document events as fast as they happen, but in the 19th century it wasn’t so easy, and a visit to the Museum of Nebraska Art’s “The History of the Indian Tribes of North America” might just give you a newfound appreciation for that digital camera.

“The History of the Indian Tribes of North America” is a collection of hand colored lithographic prints on loan from Omaha’s Joslyn Art Museum. The exhibit features 67 painted portraits of 19th century Native Americans. Audrey Kauders, director of the MONA, said the collection is a must see. “Not only is the exhibition stunning to view, it provides an in-depth exploration of the lives of these individuals and their culture,” she said. “It draws one into the world of these native dignitaries.”

During the 19th century, the government was rapidly expanding, and so was the country. Starting in 1821, tribal chiefs were invited to Washington, D.C. to negotiate land treaties. Thomas McKenny, the government’s Superintendent for Indian Affairs at the time, was eager to document the Native Americans and their way of life before it vanished. He enlisted the help of artists, such as Charles Bird King, to paint portraits of these tribal leaders.

“Each portrait depicts a tribal leader, many in traditional dress, which gives a pictorial study of the tribes and their important members,” Kauders said.

The result was over 140 paintings, complete with information on the subject and the tribe. The portraits were published in three volumes: one in 1836, one in 1838 and one in 1844. The original paintings were eventually transferred to the newly established Smithsonian Institution where a fire destroyed several of them.

Kauders said the exhibition is an excellent opportunity for students and community members to experience history. She also said its an excellent opportunity to catch a glimpse of what was happening in the Midwest almost 200 years ago. “Most of the tribes represented in the exhibition were from this geographic region.”

Luckily for us, digital cameras and cell phones have replaced paper and paint. For a look at the old-school system, visit the exhibition before it’s gone Dec. 5.
Adopt a family in need this winter

Contribute to help the S.A.F.E. Center make the holidays bright for others

BY ASHLEY CLATTERBUCK
Antelope Staff

The holidays are a great time to get together with those we love and give gifts to celebrate the season, but what about those who are not as fortunate to share the joy of giving and receiving gifts?

The S.A.F.E. Center of Kearney is sponsoring Adopt a Family to help local families and individuals who are not able to provide for themselves or their families this Christmas season.

The S.A.F.E. Center has set up a Giving Tree at Walmart. The tree holds tags representing one person and lists their gender, age and clothing size. The tag may also list items the person would like to receive. The ages of those in need range from adults to babies, and the names are kept anonymous.

Nikki Gausman, executive director of the Kearney S.A.F.E. Center said, “Currently S.A.F.E. Center of Kearney has 35 families they are helping in the community. We often get additional families that come and ask for our help between now and Christmas, so that number will continue to grow,” she said.

The S.A.F.E. Center strives to give those less fortunate the opportunity to have a Christmas despite hard times.

“Our goal is to make sure we have at least two gifts for mom, dad and children,” Gausman said, “Our clients are all very different, and we want to give them something that will make their holidays brighter.”

The tags on the Giving Tree list a range of wants and needs. “Quite a few of the tags list small appliances such as blenders, toasters and can openers as items people would like to receive,” Gausman said.

The wish list contains items that most people would take for granted: Items such as shampoo, toilet paper, underwear, garbage bags and laundry soap. A majority of the items on the wish list are things S.A.F.E. Center needs year-round for their clients.

The S.A.F.E. Center also is looking for volunteers to help during the hectic holiday season. “We typically are in need of help during the holidays with the college closing,” Gausman said. “Our main concern is making sure we can get all the gifts delivered to the families by Christmas.”

Look for the S.A.F.E. Center at the Hilltop Mall, Dec. 13-19 where they will be wrapping Christmas gifts to raise money for their organization.

If you are interested in getting involved in Adopt a Family you can drop off donations at their building at 3710 Central Ave.

S.A.F.E. WISHLIST

The S.A.F.E Center hopes to have several of donations and family adoptions from people in the Kearney community.

2010 Holiday Wishlist:
Personal Hygiene Items:
- deodorant
- hair brushes
- shampoo and conditioner
- paper towels and toilet paper
- tampons and pads
- training pants/Pull-Ups

Household Items:
- cooking basics: pots, pans, etc.
- dishes, glasses, silverware
- towels and washcloths

Other Items Needed Year Round:
- cell phones
- copy paper
- gas vouchers
- postage stamps
- phone cards
- R.Y.D.E. cards
- batteries

For more information on how to help, contact Nikki Gausman at 237-2599.

GAMMA PHI HITS THE LANES

From left, Logan Besse, Maggie McCulre, Alyssa Dillion, Jennifer Davis, Kristin Ball and Birttney King hit the lanes for a good cause at the Big Apple Fun Center last Wednesday for their Bowling Classic. Gamma Phi Beta’s annual philanthropy, The Crescent Bowling Classic, was a huge success. The sorority raised over $3,000 and boasted a record-high turnout.
The Last Hurrah
Huskers take on Sooners this weekend

BY DREW HOSELT
Antelope Sports Staff

In their final season in the Big XII, the Nebraska Cornhuskers clinched the Big XII North title for the second straight season. They will now face the Big XII South champs, the Oklahoma Sooners, in the conference championship game this weekend in Dallas, Texas. Here is a closer look at how the two teams match up against each other.

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Juelfs looks to earn back-to-back
'Male Participant of the Year' awards

Sophomore intramural star is back to win again for the second year

BY HUNTER ARTERBURN
JMC 318

From the first snap of intramural football of the fall, to the last pitch in intramural softball in the spring, one man was in all but two of the intramural sports during the 2009-2010 intramural season. Flag football, inner tube water polo, dodgeball, basketball, volleyball and 9-ball billiards, these are just a few of intramural sports that the 2009 “Male Participant of the Year” played last year.

Lance Juelfs, now a sophomore, was a busy student his first year on campus. Though he isn’t a student-athlete at UNK, his schedule may make him look like one. He participated in all but two of the intramural sports offered. Not only did he participate, he succeeded. The Potter native was named “Male Participant of the Year” in intramural sports his freshman year. The only two sports that Juelfs did not participate in were broomball and wrestling. From the water to the gridiron, Juelfs showed off his talents in each sport. In his hometown, Juelfs was a top athlete in the region, playing football, basketball and golf for the Coyotes of Potter-Dix High School. After his success in high school sports, Juelfs wanted to continue his athletic career, so he joined UNK intramurals.

“Intramurals is huge for my fraternity, so I wanted to make a big impact and help win the championship,” Juelfs said. In western Nebraska, Juelfs didn’t get a chance to play some of the sports offered by intramurals, like some of his favorites: inner tube water polo, or soccer. Juelfs was able to help out his fraternity this past season. Pi Kappa Alpha, had a very successful intramural season, winning five championships: dodgeball, intertube water polo, 9-ball billiards, around the world and softball.

Juelfs says he would absolutely recommend doing intramural sports to students who are looking for something to do or wanting to participate in an athletic event. It is a good way to get involved on the UNK campus. The best part about playing intramural sports, according to Juelfs, is playing and participating against a variety of individuals.

Juelfs returns for his sophomore year this year, and he will be right back out there playing more of his favorite sports and looking to earn back-to-back “Male Participant of the Year” awards. He said he will participate in all sports—except wrestling.

Spread the Good News!

Who: Everyone is invited! Come worship our Awesome God, and invite your friends to join in the fun!

What: St. Luke’s Contemporary Music Service

When: 5 PM Sunday evenings, meal to follow

Where: 2304 Second Ave, Kearney

Why: Because it is an awesome, uplifting, joyous way to worship our Lord and Savior!

Musicians for this service are:
-- Todd Thalken, keyboard
-- Greg Tesdall, sax/flute
-- Brette Ensz, vocals
-- Tiki Montes, drums
-- Mike Loveless, guitar

St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, 2304 2nd Ave (across from Daylight Donuts) 236-5821

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Game on: Senior art exhibit includes mock video game

BY MEGAN BLUME
Antelope Staff

Q: What will you feature in the exhibit?
I’ll be featuring an exhibit on a made up video game, and I will be presenting the promotional products that go along with selling a video game.

Q: What work do you like to create most?
I really like to do illustration type of works as I’ve shown in my exhibit.

Q: What are your plans after graduation?
When I graduate I plan to find a job in or around Kearney to begin with, but I am open to traveling to a new city or area if the right opportunity shows up.

Nepal from page 1

“In preparation for Dashain, every home is cleaned and decorated with paint as an invitation to the goddess so that she may visit and bless the house with good fortune.”

The focus turns toward family on the tenth day of the celebration.

“My favorite part of Dashain is Tika, when we get blessings from elders,” said Purnima Shrestha, a sophomore nursing major from Kathmandu, Nepal. The elders bless each family member in each home. This process takes about four days.

“Tihar is a festival of lights in November, and this is the second largest celebration of the year in which animals are honored. During the five-day celebration, people worship Laxmi, the goddess of wealth.

“We make delicious food, light candles, oil lamps and other lights to illuminate the whole place,” Shrestha said. All houses are cleaned and decorated with lights and believe that goddess Laxmi will enter the house that is the cleanest and brightest, and her blessings will make the family healthy and prosperous.

“My favorite part of Tihar is Bhai Tika, brother’s day,” Shrestha said. During this day, sisters put a tika on the forehead of their brothers to ensure long life and thank them for the protection that they give. A tika is a red dot of vermilion applied to the forehead, between the eyebrows. When the sisters give the tika, the brothers give gifts or money as a return. A special flower necklace is also made for the brothers.

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A home away from home — that’s exactly the atmosphere Sister Rosemarie Maly strives to create for UNK students at the Newman Center.

Sister Maly has begun her fifth year as the director of the UNK Newman Center and her 19th year in full-time campus ministry.

Sister Maly, a vibrant and spirited Benedictine nun of Yankton, S.D., became involved with the Newman Center, because she was drawn by the life and energy of college students. Before she came to UNK, she spent 14 years as director of the Newman Center at the University of South Dakota (USD), in Vermillion.

“I was interested in the dynamics of the kind of ministry I saw happening there,” Sister Maly said. “It was kind of a natural flow from my earlier involvement in youth ministry and vocational ministry.”

Sister Maly was invited to become the director of UNK’s Newman Center in 2006. Though she wasn’t looking for another job, Sister Maly said she felt compelled to look at UNK after 14 years at USD. It seemed like a good time to consider a move.

Sister Maly finds herself well established after four years, but remains aware of opportunities for change and appreciative of the “built-in reality” of her job that prevents her from falling into a permanent pattern.

“Youth who graduate from college are gone for good, whereas many of the students in college are only passing through for a few years,” Sister Maly said. “I try to help them think about the value of what they’re doing and consider the broader picture.”

Nonetheless, Sister Maly believes that with challenge comes reward. As the number of students involved continues to increase, she is excited that so many are able to become a part of the Newman Center community.

“It’s gratifying to see a growing number of students find a home, a community here, by getting involved in the various activities,” she said. “My goal would be that more and more students would experience the Newman Center as a home away from home.”

Though she says her age slows her down at times, her enthusiasm and insight make up the difference. Currently, Sister Maly is giving the students more opportunities to lead. She strongly believes that by forming a partnership between the Newman Center staff and the Newman Student Ministry Council, she will continue making progress toward her overall goal.

Her philosophy is that everyone should have his or her own place in the community.

“We need students to know that the UNK Newman Center is not only for the residents,” Sister Maly said. “It’s for all students at UNK.”

The 15th annual faculty/staff/student craft show brought holiday cheer to the student union on Nov. 19. Chantelle Kush, a junior elementary education major from Columbus said, “My parents are actually coming into town to visit this weekend, so I am definitely going to buy some of these homemade goods.” There were around 20 booths set up in the atrium of the student union, all holding different arrangements from students and UNK faculty. The vendors had a great selection of goods such as homemade fudge and cookies, purses, jewelry and other craft products.