

the antelope

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Top 3

28% Candy Crush

22% Flappy Bird

17% Minecraft

Wrestling places 2nd nationally

BY ANDREW HANSON
Sports Editor

When the University of Nebraska Kearney wrestling team boarded their flight to Cleveland, they did so with aspirations of winning the program's third consecutive national championship and fourth overall. While they were unable to win it all, they did defend their No. 2 national ranking with their runner-up finish.

The Lopers saw five of their six wrestlers earn All-American honors, including sophomore Romero Cotton who was the national champion at 197 pounds, one year after finishing second.

Notre Dame College, who came into the national meet ranked No. 1 in the country, brought a total of nine wrestlers, four of whom finished as national champions. In their second full year as a Division II member, NDC won their first NCAA champion-

ship in wrestling scoring 99.5 points.

Despite only having six wrestlers competing, UNK scored 64.5 points to finish second, while Maryville University was third with 58.5.

Helping lead the Lopers along with Cotton, was redshirt sophomore Daniel DeShazer who finished second at 133 pounds. The defending national champion once again squared off with Casey Rowell of Central Oklahoma. The UCO senior, who defeated DeShazer at the MIAA championships, got the best of him again winning 3-2.

UNK's three other All-Americans were seniors Patrick Martinez, Brock Smith and Mark Fiala.

Competing in the 174 pound weight division, Martinez squared off against NDC's Joey Davis, who has never lost a



Courtesy Ryan Bauer

The UNK wrestling team holds their runner-up trophy, after finishing second at the NCAA wrestling championships in Cleveland, Ohio.

WRESTLING, PAGE 11

INTRAMURAL WATER POLO MAKES A SPLASH



Photo by Hannah Backer

Jordanna Glock, a molecular biology major, is splashing around while competing in co-rec finals of water polo intramurals. Glock is originally from Shelby. For more photos, go online to unkantelope.com

Barmina 'adapts' after leaving Russia

BY AUSTIN KOELLER
News/Feature Editor

Since leaving Russia for the U.S. at age 15, Anastasia Barmina has been back to visit twice, and she is planning to visit again this summer for the first time in four years.



ANASTASIA BARMINA

"My friends from last year asked me, 'Are you scared to go back?' and I'm like 'Definitely.'"

Right now, with the whole political situation, the Russian people are really against America and Obama, she said. "I'm scared that if I go to Russia, they won't let me go back because I'm not an American citizen. I just have a green card."

Barmina had lived her whole life in the city of Izhevsk, Russia, when her mother married a man from North Platte. Now a sophomore accounting major, she had to adapt to a culture and way of life different from the country where she had lived all of her life.

She also has definite concerns about Russia and her family there. Barmina grew up in the busy city of 600,000 – 700 miles east of Moscow with her grandparents and her mother.

Barmina said small families are not unusual for Russian families. "Russian families are much smaller," she said. "Families usually have two kids or even one – no more than that. Three kids are already considered a huge family. My mom

BARMINA, PAGE 11

For more on the situation in Ukraine and Russia

Check out p. 2

Eyes opened to struggle abroad

Ukraine faces Russian invasion but hope is not lost for one Ukrainian

BY MARIE BAUER
Assistant Editor

This summer, I had the opportunity to travel abroad and meet some wonderful people all over the world with whom I still keep in touch. I think

that we, in the United States, easily shrug off what is happening outside of our country.

"Kyiv is in blood and fire," my friend, Svetlanta* (her name has been changed) tells me through an unexpected Facebook message Feb. 18. The news was surreal. For the first time in my life, I had a friend where all the chaos was happening.

The former president, Viktor Yanukovich, abandoned a free trade pact with the European Union (EU) thus showing his ties with Russia. This action was contrary to the views of the majority of Ukrainians according to the friend I first met last summer. She was actually born in Russia but moved to Ukraine when she was 4 years old.

Protestors took to the streets of Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine and where Svetlanta lives, to voice their opposition to the

decision of the president. "It was a protest against that inhuman attitude our governors had shown to us for far too long," Svetlanta said. And the government took aggressive force against the protestors. Approximately 77 people were killed and nearly 570 were injured over the next few days. By Feb. 21, the president had fled the country to Russia.

"I cannot recall those days without a lump in my throat. The police had real weapons with real bullets (previously, they told us they had only rubber bullets) and the police shoot at people. Additionally there were snipers who specifically targeted medical personnel helping the wounded, and press representatives, no matter foreign or Ukrainian, and of course protestors. People couldn't get home. This was done to prevent people from coming to join protestors," Svetlanta said.

About a month later, she says that for now the protesting has subsided but protestors are still present. "The square and central streets where the protests took place are still occupied by protestors, but there are fewer of them and they are merely protecting this square and those streets became special locations, symbolic of the possibility people can come to these places when they disagree with authorities. There is a proposal even to make it a law: when there is popular disagreement people come to the square and politicians then have to answer people's claims," she said.

"Right now Kyiv is mourning for those who were injured or killed. It was hard those



days, especially if you are not callously indifferent or mean and evil. All tried to help each other. You could define people by their behavior," Svetlanta said.

The situation in Kyiv has remarkably improved. "The new government seems to be improving. There is only an acting president. The new government is just a few weeks in office," Svetlanta said.

However, Ukraine faces other issues. The currency is continually decreasing in value. Ukraine has the biggest black market economy in the world which takes away much needed tax money. The currency is plummeting and Ukraine owes over \$2 billion in fuel to Russia. Unfortunately, this is not the end of the problems for Ukraine.

Vladimir Putin, the president of Russia,

has had military intervention approved for Crimea. Putin says that the military intervention is to protect ethnic Russians. Many of the Crimeans have Russian decent and three out of four people in Crimea speak Russian. The acting Ukrainian Prime Minister, Arseny Yatsenyuk, warned Putin's military forces should return to their base. President Obama has warned Putin there will be a cost if military action is taken.

When I asked Svetlanta about what she thought about Crimea, she said "I see a risk of war, but not a war right now." She went on to explain that Putin's intention is to annex the territory (peninsula Crimea) under the presumption that military action will

UKRAINE, PAGE 11



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SISTER TO SISTER CROWNS MR. UNK

Photo by Keyli Aldana

Esvin Gomez, a junior business administration major from Grand Island, wins the title Mr. UNK at the male competition hosted by Sister to Sister. "I didn't think I was going to win," said Gomez after receiving his sash and crown. The money raised went to CRR Awareness.



the antelope | spring 2014 staff

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Write a paper or plan a wedding?

It's not easy to
balance the stress
of school with the
joys of nuptials



BY TESSA KAUFMAN
Antelope Staff



It was midnight on a Tuesday night, and I was still writing out save the date cards in between finishing up my reading assignment for class the next day. I always try to leave wedding related stuff for the weekends — except everybody

knows how fast weekends can fill up.

When I started my last semester at UNK in January, I didn't think wedding planning would get in the way considering my wedding is not until Oct. 18 of this year. Ten months seemed like plenty of time...but I was wrong.

So yes, I may be a little bit of an organizational, perfectionist freak, but I have learned that those qualities have actually served me well in the wedding planning world.

I got engaged in December 2012, so I have had plenty of time to plan, but when you are that far from the date, planning gets put on the back burner. The back burner has started to smoke and this whole wedding thing is starting to feel real...real close.

Besides writing out 250 save the date postcards and double stamping every single one, there are other aspects of the wedding that need my attention.

Something that has saved me is being overly organized. I have a huge planner that I write everything in, but I also have a "wedding notebook" where I jot ideas and keep track of important things I need, such as the six save the date postcards I got back due to the wrong address. In my fiancé's eyes the "wedding notebook" is this sacred but also scary book, which he is probably right about, that he never touches.

I am going home over spring break solely to work on wedding stuff. Not only is planning a wedding in college hard, but planning a wedding in a town that is four hours away is not the easiest either.

I have two older sisters; therefore, this is not my

Kaufman and her finacé, Jeremy Burgener, are planning an October wedding.

Courtesy

mom's first wedding planning opportunity. There was no need to hire a wedding planner when I have my mother. I rely on her to get a lot of things done because she is in town. Despite all she does and the long and many phone calls a week we have that relate to the wedding, I have a list of things to do when I get home:

1. An appointment at the bridal shop to pick out bridesmaids' dresses, tuxes and get everyone's measurements in to get both of these ordered.

2. An appointment with the florist to start forming ideas and discussing what flowers I want.

3. I need to start making a list of all the songs I want played at the wedding for the DJ and at the ceremony for the violinist.

4. I have to get correct addresses from my grandma for all the save the date postcards that came back.

5. I need to work on our free wedding website that I set up that includes more information about the town for our out of town guests.

There will be no school projects that will cross my mind this spring break. Truthfully, few students use their spring break to get a head start on final projects, and I guess I will be one of those "procrastinators" this year.

Many times I want to throw my books for class aside and flip through the mountain of wedding magazines that have gone untouched since my mom bought them for me, but I know that's not an option.

So far my perspective on balancing the two has been that school needs to come first. I work on wedding things when I can, but I have to remind myself I will have a whole summer to devote myself to wedding planning. After graduation day a loud shout of joy will be heard from this bride, let the planning begin.

Tessa's top 5 details you don't think about until planning a wedding

1. Addresses: You never realize what a job it becomes to find all the correct addresses for the extended people in the family you barely know...thank you mom and dad.

2. Cake or cupcakes or dessert bar? Cake tables aren't just cake in the traditional sense. It's not easy to choose what kind of impression you want to make on your guest with varied sweet treat options. I choose cupcakes; I have a lot of nieces and nephews; they will love cupcakes.

3. Who your real friends are when you are getting married? We have finally asked our friends to be a part of our wedding party. That was difficult because after college friends go their separate ways, it is hard to tell if you will still be close with those people at the time of your wedding. I have a groomsman, who is in the military, and he isn't sure where he will be at that time, but he thinks he will be able to make the wedding, talk about nerve-racking for me! I guess I will order him a tux and hope all goes well.

4. How do you integrate and welcome in-laws into each other's families? I never thought about what it would be like to be considered part of someone else's family? For us, there is no stress in that area because our families get along great. Some brides don't have that luxury which would make everything that much harder.

5. Detail, Details, Details? I thought I had so much done because I had all of my big things planned. I have the venue, the church, my pastor, a photographer, a violinist, the DJ, the cupcake lady and the florist. I have all these with no details. Now it is time to start fine tuning the details.

Sudoku ★★★★★☆

How to play: Sudoku is a placement puzzle. The aim of the puzzle is to enter a numeral from 1 through 9 in each cell of a grid. Each row, column and region must contain only one instance of each numeral. Completing the puzzle requires patience and logical ability. The puzzle initially became popular in Japan in 1986 and attained international popularity in 2005.

	6	a	b			9		3		5
		3		2		8		7		a
	8			1				9		
6	4	5	1		8			c		7 b
			7	5					a	
3				4		7			6	
c					1	2		9		
	7							6	a	8
	1		5			3				
				6						3 1
8					2		a			
9						c	7			

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Find answer on page 9

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

HOW THE TABLES HAVE TURNED



Photos by Suneun Yoo

A table tennis player serves the ball to her opponent. Behind her, many players wait for their turn. The competition has three divisions: Men's, Women's and Co-rec.

Peijie Li, majoring in industrial distribution, and Joyce Harmon, participate as a team. Their friends cheer them on while they battle another team.

KLPR talk show wins national college radio award

UNK COMMUNICATIONS

A talk show on UNK radio station KLPR 91.1 FM was named the best in college radio at the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System (IBS) Golden Microphone Awards on March 9.

The University of Nebraska at Kearney's broadcast team of Bryce Dolan, John McDermott and Patrick Harris won first place in the Best Talk Program category for their show "The Solomon Grundy Double Power Hour."

McDermott is a senior elementary education/early childhood major from Merna, Harris is a business administration major from Cypress, Calif., and Dolan is a broadcasting/marketing and management major from Minden.

The contest included more than 800 entries in 40 categories from campus radio stations across the country.

Other nominees in the Best Talk Program category included: University of Tennessee-Martin, North Central College, Kingsborough Community College and Asbury University.

Winners were announced at the IBS annual conference and awards show in New York City.

Upcoming in the antelope

Next week: Tyler Cavalli talks about his experience in NYC

Forensics sending six to national tournament

UNK COMMUNICATIONS



SARA COOKSLEY



JEREMY PLUMB

First-year team member Sara Cooksley, a freshman from Anselmo, also qualified in two events, placing fifth in program of oral interpretation and second in extemporaneous speaking.

The University of Nebraska at Kearney Forensics team will take a total of six entries to the April 4-7 American Forensic Association National Individual Events Tournament in Tempe, Ariz.

Sophomore Alan Hurless of Ainsworth qualified at a previous tournament in impromptu speaking, while Plumb also qualified at a previous tournament in impromptu speaking.

The UNK Forensics team competed in 28 tournaments this season, recording 89 individual placings and receiving team sweepstakes placings in two tournaments.

In addition to its three national qualifiers, the team at the end of the season included junior Bryson DeKay from Lynch.



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Hahn pitches for blue and gold

BY TYLER CAVALLI
News Staff

A born pitcher, Michael Hahn has honed his talents and mastered hitters who have faced him while he's on the bump. Hahn enters his third full season for the Loper baseball team as one of the leaders for the pitching rotation. The lengthy right-hander sat down and explained his journey to this point in a Loper uniform.

Hahn explained why he chose to toss for UNK.

"Coach Day gave me a chance to play right out of high school," Hahn said. "I came to UNK during my senior year for an exposure camp, and I probably threw the best I've thrown all season. Coach just happened to be there. He talked to me right after and it was almost fate that I threw well."

The 6'7" junior hails from Fremont and is pursuing an education major. Last season Hahn earned MIAA Academic Honor Roll, led the team with 11 starts and went 2-4 with 40 strikeouts in 47.1 innings pitched. This season Hahn just picked up his second win of the season on Sunday as he pitched 5.2 innings allowing two earned runs, walking two and striking out three in the series finale win over Central Missouri. Hahn is now 2-1 as a starter this season.

"My personal goals are to just do whatever the team needs," Hahn said. "If the team needs me to come out of the bullpen, I'm not going to be opposed to it. I'm just going to throw my game. I'm not a real stats guy, and if I need to be behind the scenes to help the team out, then that's what I'll do."

Hahn said that he started playing the game of baseball around the age of four or five. His dad Dave loved the game and shared the same passion with his son, and the pitcher fell in love with the game early on. He was coached by his dad when he was in high school. To this day, his dad keeps a close eye on the way he pitches and gives him feedback. Every once in a while, Dave will sneak away from work to catch a home game or two at Memorial Field.

"My dad used to tell me that the pitcher is the heartbeat of the game," said Hahn. "When I was in high school and on the mound, I'm controlling the game; I'm going to dictate what the other team does. Sometimes it's a burden, but can be a very rewarding position as well."

Of course the game of baseball goes hand in hand with sunflower seeds or bubblegum. For Hahn when he's on the hill or in the dugout he prefers his favorite gum, Blue Five. If the team is playing on a natural surface he will choose to spit seeds.

When it comes to getting ready to pitch for the day, Hahn listens to hip-hop or rap to get him amped for the mound. Hahn's favorite artists are ASAP Rocky, Wiz Khalifa or Kid Ink. Every now and then he said he'll throw some Dubstep in to change things up.

"After graduation I want to see how far I can take baseball," Hahn said. "If some Major League team during the summer were to look at me, I would love to take my career further. If I could pick one professional team to pitch for it would be the Chicago Cubs," Hahn said with a smile.

The interview ended with the infamous, "Who would you like to pitch against dead or alive," question. His answer was simple, Derek Jeter. Hahn noted that if he could strike out Jeter his life would be complete. Hahn has a burning passion for the greatest show on dirt. Only time now, will tell how far the lengthy right-hander will go.



Photos by Hannah Backer

ABOVE: Michael Hahn, a junior education major from Fremont, was the starting pitcher against Central Missouri. Hahn enters his third full season as one of the leaders in the pitching rotation.

RIGHT: During the four-game weekend series against Central Missouri Michael Hahn pitched 5.2 innings, allowing four hits and striking out three.



Seniors play their last basketball games in uniform

Five Lopers hang up jerseys



Photos by Kent Kehler

TOP LEFT: Kendal Glidden (55), an exercise science major, averaged five points and just under three rebounds a game his senior season. Glidden had a career high of 17 points against Pittsburg State.

TOP MIDDLE: Mike Dentlinger (54), a business administration major, averaged just under 17 points and five rebounds a game his senior year. Dentlinger had his career high of 35 points in his final home game against Lindenwood in the MIAA tournament.

TOP RIGHT: Nicole Arp (1), an elementary education major, averaged six points and four assists her senior season. Arp's career high was 19 points against Fort Hays State.

BOTTOM LEFT: Sarah Hix (20), an exercise science major, averaged just fewer than three rebounds and almost eight points a game in her senior season. Hix had a career high of 28 points against Pittsburg State.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Shelby Zimmerman (35), an exercise science major, averaged just over eight rebounds and 12 points a game her senior season. Zimmerman had a career high of 23 points in multiple games.

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Advertisers exploit the 'interest' in March Madness to raise sales

Less about the sport, more about the buck



BY CAIT GRAF
Assistant Sports Editor

March Madness developed its name due to the augmented interest in NCAA basketball during the last few weeks of March.

However, that phenomenon seems to fall through as March Madness has turned into another marketing frenzy and opportunity for bandwagon fans to profess their love for their "team."

It is easy to prove. In fact, does anyone actually know the teams who have a punched ticket into the tournament?

In actuality, millions are printing off the blank bracket and blindly filling it out because it has become a social norm. Even without knowing the team, the records or any of the players, people are apt to fill in a bracket because everyone else is doing it.

Consider the infographics of the 2013 March Madness event. The first maps out the bandwagon fans during the Sweet Sixteen and the second highlights the fans during the Final Four.

Information was gathered from Facebook's Science Data Team. It seems that Michigan dominates the Final Four graphic, but how many of those "fans" continued rooting for Michigan the following year?

Perhaps it is unfair to call out the fake fans while failing to realize the die-hards that were truly ecstatic to see Michigan in

the Final Four.

However, this is where the unfortunate circumstances prevail. Instant judgment is perceived, as "you are only a Michigan fan because they are in the Final Four."

Defining the fine line between die-hards and imposters blurs more each year, as it seems that March Madness only grows into a bigger frenzy with time.

Because Americans have proved to be "interested" in March Madness, it is a paramount opportunity for marketing, promotions and sales leading to even bigger revenue for the corporations who sponsor the event. In the end, it is all about the buck. Shocking, right?

Although March Madness is not as anticipated as events like the NFL Super Bowl or the Sochi Olympics, you bet advertisers are diligently working to make it seem like the basketball tournament holds the same depth; it seems extremely apparent this year.

In the USA Today article "March Madness evokes marketer madness" by marketing reporter Bruce Horovitz, he claims that March Madness is the most idealistic marketing mix for advertisers due to its audience demographic: young and desirable viewers.

Why is this range so ideal? Because a young and desirable audience also tends to be vulnerable, easily persuaded and impulsive – the perfect combination for advertisers to target and enable easy purchasing.

In fact, Horovitz's article says the tournament accumulated more than 1.5 billion in advertising revenues, and that number is expected to only increase as "March Madness is the right time, right place and continues to grow with no signs of peaking," says Rob Prazmark, CEO of 21 Sports & Entertainment Marketing Group.

Currently, the March Madness activities are upon us. Companies like Pizza Hut, Burger King and Papa Johns have launched new deals and commercials while Bud Light is sponsoring Dallas hotels, just like they do in the Super Bowl.

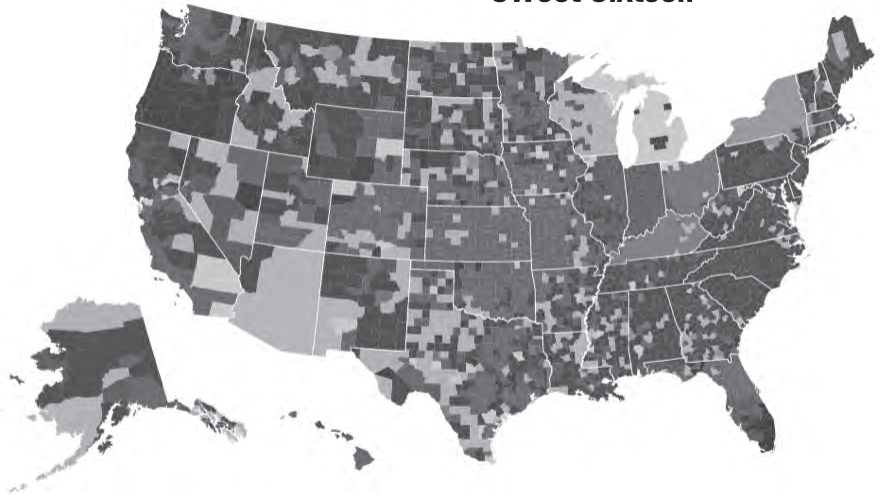
The March Madness 2014 Live app has just been redesigned and revamped to ensure user friendliness and more features across a span of platforms. Finally, a three-day concert extravaganza will be held in Dallas as well.

After all, March Madness has turned

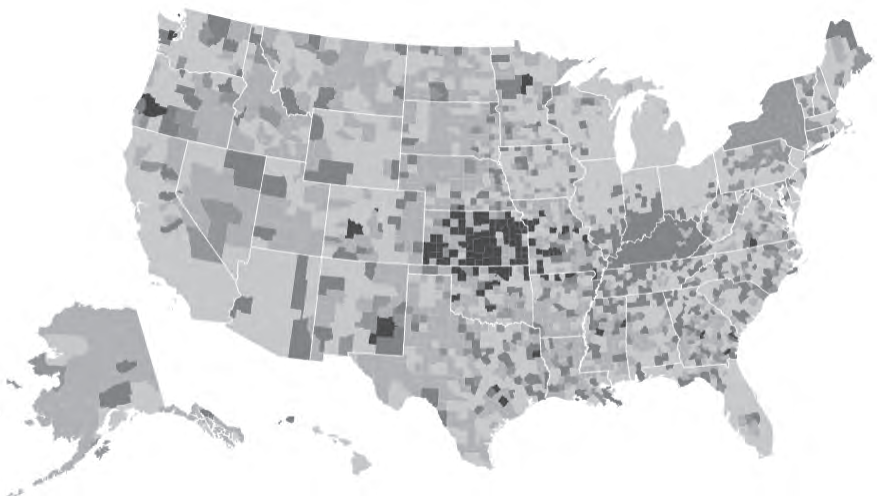
2013 March Madness

Infographics retrieved from www.theatlantic.com
Full color version online at unkantelope.com

Sweet Sixteen



Final Four



into another commercialized event where advertisers and companies only see dollar signs.

Likewise, the viewers, most of which are college basketball noobs, join in with the bells and whistles because advertisers have promoted the tournament so effectively.

Who cares that no one knows the superstars who will grace the television for the next three weeks? Who cares if the Cinderella teams gain a giant fan base after an impressive upset?

March Madness resonates strongly in the social culture of Americans, and that is something that refuses to change.

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Five All-Americans lead the way for track

Men, women finish 16th at NCAA Indoor Championships in Winston-Salem, N.C.

BY ANDREW HANSON
Sports Editor

Both University of Nebraska Kearney track and field teams came in 16th place scoring 12 points each at the NCAA indoor track and field championships held March 14-15 in Winston-Salem, N.C., at Winston-Salem State University. The Lopers, who sent down nine men and two women, had five All-Americans, three on the men's side and two on the women's.

The two-day meet, which started on Friday, began with the first four events of the heptathlon.

Junior Dillon Schrodt, who placed seventh in the heptathlon at last year's championship, jumped out to an early lead after placing second in both the 60 meter dash and long jump. After ending the first day in third place, he was unable to make up a 143-point deficit behind leader Nick Lebron of Connecticut State, but finished the heptathlon repeating as an All-American, coming in third place with a UNK record 5,336 points.

Coming up 15 points shy of All-American honors was sophomore Kalen Farr, who finished in ninth place.

Despite Schrodt's great start to the heptathlon, the Lopers ended the first day with zero points on the board.

In the pole vault juniors Jay Kilpatrick, David Krumland and Mark Seeba all went 4.65 meters, failing to hit the second-round height of 4.80 meters. Kilpatrick and Krumland tied for 12th since they hit the opening height on their first attempt, while it took Seeba two tries to hit the mark.

Another Loper who competed in a field event on the first day was junior Brady Land who missed out on being an All-American by one place in the long jump, coming in ninth. His jump of 7.06 meters put him just behind JaQuan Demiel of St. Augustine's who leaped 7.23 meters.

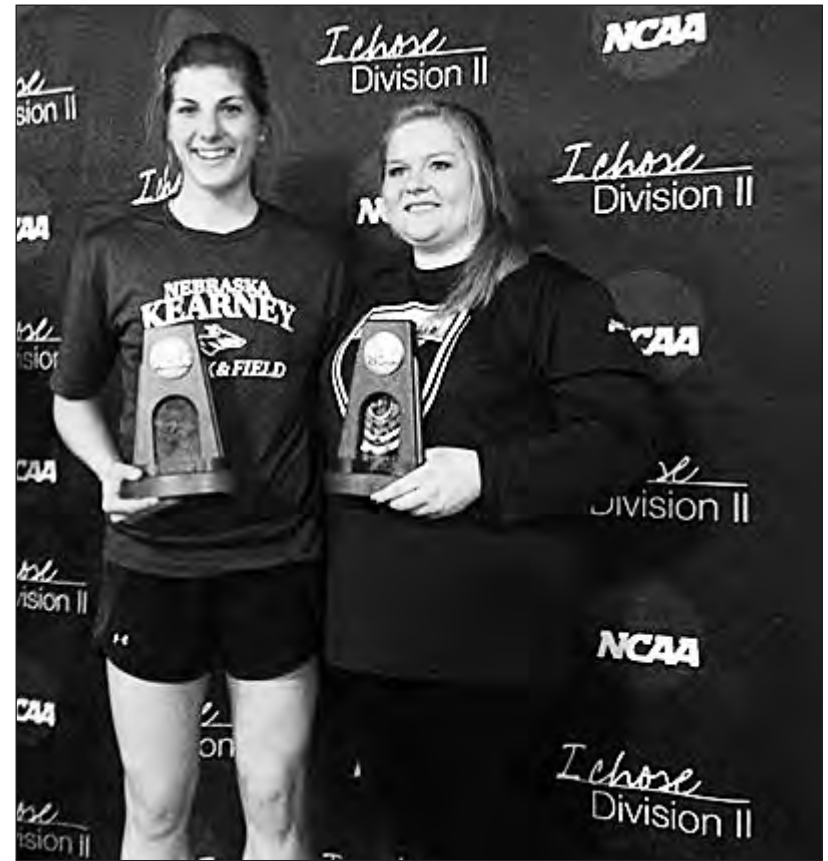
The only other UNK athlete who competed in a finals event on Friday was redshirt senior Al Sanabria, who placed 17th in the 5,000 meters running 14:51.25.

In the Friday prelims Schrodt also competed in the 60 meter hurdles, but fell short of the finals, coming in 13th with a time of 8.09, five spots out of qualifying for finals.

Two of UNK's returning All-Americans, senior Marissa Bongers and redshirt senior Paul Pape each had one of the eight



LEFT: Ogallala native Michael Thalken had his best day in the ring, having three tosses over 57'. In his second attempt, he had a career-best 58'2.50", good for seventh place.



RIGHT: In the women's 800, Marissa Bongers (left) from Brainard repeated as an All-American as she was third with a time of 2:10.48. Jackie Ziemke (right) from Waco broke a 34-year old school record when she tossed the shot 51'7" in her very first attempt.

Track All-Americans

Sr. Paul Pape – 800 Meter Run
Jr. Dillon Schrodt – Heptathlon
Sr. Michael Thalken – Shot Put
Sr. Marissa Bongers – 800 Meter run
Sr. Jackie Ziemke – Shot Put

fastest times to advance to the 800 meter run finals on Saturday.

After Schrodt picked up six points for the Lopers in the heptathlon, senior Michael Thalken added another two, when he became an All-American in the shot put by finishing seventh with his throw of 17.74 meters.

Redshirt senior Jackie Ziemke put the women's team on the board when her

throw in the shot put went 15.72 meters and netted her third place.

Adding to the women's score was Bongers, who repeated as an All-American with her third place finish in the 800 meters. Her time of 2:10.48 helped add another six points for the Lopers. In the men's race Pape came in fifth with a time of 1:52.56.

St. Augustine's won the men's championship with 84.5 points, edging out Adams State who scored 83. In the women's race Adams State came out on top, scoring 67 points and Johnson C. Smith was second with 59. A total of 45 teams scored points in the Division II indoor finals.

The Lopers start their outdoor season on March 28-29, with some athletes competing at the Alex Francis Class in Hays, Kan. and others at the Emporia State Spring Open on March 29 in Emporia, Kan.

Courtesy

Sudoku answer:

Upside down, from page 4

2	8	b	a	7	c	4	3	6	1	5	9
9	6	c	5	a	2	b	4	7	4	3	8
1	3	4	7	8	5	9	6	c	b	2	a
7	c	4	2	6	3	a	8	5	9	1	b
8	1	a	6	c	b	5	9	3	2	7	4
3	b	5	9	4	2	1	7	8	6	a	c
6	5	9	1	2	7	c	4	a	8	b	3
4	a	8	3	1	6	b	5	7	c	6	2
b	2	7	c	3	6	8	a	1	5	4	9
c	6	6	b	5	a	3	1	2	4	8	7
a	1	4	a	b	7	1	8	6	3	c	5
5	2	3	8	9	4	7	c	b	a	6	1

Finally on home field, baseball ready to up their game

BY NIKKI THOMPSON
Antelope Staff

After postponements for weeks due to weather conditions, the Lopers were finally able to play their first home series at Memorial Field lastweekend.

Coming off the road with a sweep against the Tigers of Fort Hays, the Lopers were eager to get onto their home turf.

While the team played well and got results against Fort Hays, the season has not been a walk in the park.

The Lopers were 13-6 overall and 7-5 in the MIAA going into the home opener this past weekend.

Head Coach Damon Day said he is happy with the team's progress so far,

"Right now our baseball program is excelling at controlling what they can control and handling the mental side of our season," he said.

The Lopers faced long time MIAA powerhouse, the University of Central Missouri this past weekend. While falling short in the first two games of the series, the Lopers put the pressure on UCM early in the third game.

After scoring 10 runs on 21 hits in just the first inning, the Lopers continued to strain the UCM defense by scoring a total of 20 runs in the game. While Kearney's offense was the attraction on Saturday, the defense didn't disappoint either.

They held the Mules of UCM to only three runs for the game.

Taking that momentum into Sunday, after a delayed start due to weather, the Lopers, scored runs in each of the first three innings to put the Mules on their



Photo by Hannah Backer

The Loper baseball team in a huddle as they get ready to take on Central Missouri at Memorial Stadium. The Lopers pulled through with a win against UCM.

heels for most of the game.

UCM fought to bring it within one, but the Loper offense took it away again

with RBIs from six different players. The Lopers won the final game 8-2 on Sunday afternoon to split the series with the Mules.

Starting pitcher from Lincoln, Adam Peters, believes that the split can only help the team. "If you are going to split a series, it's always better to win the last two games. We can now take that momentum to Emporia this weekend and continue to play with confidence," Peters said.

With the Lopers now 15-8 overall and 9-7 in conference, the team is in a good position to do well in their upcoming games. Emporia State University is currently 14-7 overall and 10-6 in conference.

Coach Day says he is always worried about injuries at this time in a season.

"I always do worry that one or two injuries can really put us in a predicament with the season that is so compacted. Fifty games in three months is a very short amount of time so injuries are always a concern for me," Day said.

While injuries are always a concern,

getting the players on the field is bigger. The Lopers will take a short "Spring Break" trip to Golden, Colo., to play the Colorado School of Mines next Tuesday and Wednesday during break.

The team is looking forward to these games as another opportunity to play.

"Playing Mines over spring break is another opportunity for us to prepare ourselves for our conference play. Getting the chance to play a few more games rather than just practice will benefit the team even more," Peters said.

With the wins from the split against UCM, the Lopers are sitting fifth in the MIAA standings. Coach Day calls his team a work in progress and hopes that they keep improving throughout the year.

"We're a younger team, and I feel if we can survive the first half of our season and put ourselves in a position to be great, come April then we'll be able to do some good things and accomplish some of our goals," Day said.

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Ukraine from page 2

protect the Russian population.

"There are more than 20,000 soldiers in Crimea right now. Who knows which order they will get tomorrow? If he [Putin] will withdraw troops and stop invasion and give up his plans, he will show weakness. He is not allowed weakness," Svetlanta said.

She explained that many of the people of Crimean do not want to join forces with Russia. "Some of them yes, but that's minority, who see Russia only when someone Russian travels there for holidays. Crimean Tatars, who are ethnically the people who are entitled to that region, hate the idea of joining Russia, but who cares about them? Putin does not.

"He uses Russians as an excuse to carry out his plans; even lots of Russians there hate the idea of joining. But they don't let those voices that do not agree to be heard. They blocked Ukrainian TV channels that show news from all perspectives; not just from pro-Russians," she said.

With all the tension forming in Crimea, I asked her if Kyiv is safe, and she reassured me that it was.

"Right now Kyiv is calm," Svetlanta said. "[But] people are not happy, they expect some brave actions, showing that a new government doesn't fear Putin and cares about Ukrainian people."

Despite the tension at the border,

it seems as if Ukraine may be turning over a new leaf. "I see better days. But now because of new government, I just see future in people. They are different. They do not agree to live like we used to.

"What is crucial here is to understand that we stood up when (students) were beaten by big guys trained to kill and beat violently, we stood because we thought it is not decent life and not decent attitude. We pay taxes and choose politicians to make our lives better and not to beat us and our kids. Then we fought against further dictatorship laws. And all we wanted was elimination of corruption and decent life and new country. We hoped for two years that after signing agreement with EU it will force our authorities to act honestly, but it turned out they cheated again. So all that was never about EU, it was all about decent life without stealing and giving bribes. We here are so tired of that life we have," Svetlanta said.

Change is certainly in the air and on the minds for Ukraine and Russia. In Moscow, protestors, wanting a Ukraine and Russia without Putin, took to the streets on Friday and let their voices be heard. With this attitude and hope for a better life, it seems as if change may be on the horizon for Ukraine.

Barmina from page 1

was an only child, and I'm an only child."

America is so different from Russia, Barmina said. "People are different, the food is different, the whole society is so [different]. It takes a while to get used to it. I'm still in the process of learning American culture."

She feels the U.S. should stay out of the continuing tension between Russia and the Ukraine. "I just feel like both the United States and Russia should leave Ukraine alone," she said. Both countries should just leave Ukraine to thrive independently. "It's only Ukraine's business and nobody else's."

Russia is a very poor country, Barmina said. She said she was against Russia hosting the winter Olympic games, and that will cause future economic problems.

"I don't think Russia was in a position to have such an expensive Olympic games," Barmina said. "They spent way too much money – more than they could afford. The opening and closing ceremonies were too fancy. She said that she felt more money was spent on this than building permanent hotels and providing good conditions for guests.

It was challenging, Barmina said of the move to North Platte. "I didn't know any English, and I had to adapt to American culture."

One of Barmina's very first struggles was attending high school in America. At the time, she said, she did not receive any extra help from her teachers. This, she said, was like "survival of the fittest."

She said she did not have computers in her school in Russia, and most people

used public transportation to commute rather than driving cars. "When I got here, I didn't even know how to Skype on the computer... 'I had to know how to drive. It is a different life here. 'I had ESL classes, but the teacher in the class, she was from Costa Rica, so she didn't speak very good English,'" Barmina said. "It was not very useful."

Barmina said language was her only challenge as high school academics in Russia are harder than high school in America. "A class in high school [in Russia] is like college here, especially math classes and science classes," Barmina said. "I would take calculus, biology, astronomy and physics in eighth grade."

After completing high school, Barmina went to Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte for a year before attending UNK. Barmina said that the transition from MPCC to UNK was a challenge as well. "Mid-Plains was such a small college," Barmina said. "My smallest class was just me, and my biggest class was 10 students."

Barmina adapted to American life and taught herself English. "I would just study by myself, watch TV, do homework and communicate with other people," Barmina said. "It just kind of comes to you when you live here."

Despite the current political situation in Russia, Barmina said that she still has plans to visit Russia in the summer.

Wrestling from page 1

match in college, falling in the semifinals, before bouncing back in the consolation match to come in third.

Smith, who came in sixth at 165 pounds and Fiala, seventh at 184 pounds, rounded out UNK's All-American bids.

Senior Brock Coutu went 1-2 in the 141 pound bracket, coming up short after finishing third at last year's championships.

The NCAA central regional, which UNK competed in two weeks, proved to once again be the most difficult. Five of the top-ten teams at the NCAA championships came from the central region. Joining the Lopers was Ouachita Baptist fourth, fellow MIAA member Central Oklahoma fifth, St. Cloud State sixth and Lindenwood seventh.

After the 2013 season, Cotton and DeShazer saw a change to their off-season plans. They each joined the UNK football team as running backs. Cotton went on to become the Lopers starter rushing for over 800 yards and five touchdowns in 11 games last season. DeShazer ran almost 300 yards as well as returning kickoffs.

They both will be rejoining the football team with spring ball, which started last Saturday.

The runner-up finish was the UNK wrestling team's fourth. In 2003, 2006 and 2007 they also came in second.

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Campus Life

RHA's Bingo, swing dancing big hits

Photos by Suneun Yoo

LEFT: Jayce Harders, a sophomore social sciences 7-12 major, holds her winning bingo card. Every game has different numbers that the participants have to get in order to achieve bingo and win a prize.

RIGHT: Brooke Butterfield and Jordan Johnson, two RHA members, call out the bingo game. They randomly select bingo numbers. The event was held March 7 in the Ponderosa Room of the Student Union.



Photos by Austin Gabehart

ABOVE: The Sandy Creek Band from Lincoln, known for playing at the Pla Mor Ballroom in Lincoln, journeyed to UNK to play at the RHA Swing Dance.

RIGHT: Sieg Brauer, a freshman drafting major from Kearney, throws Megan Yost, a junior elementary education major from Fairfield, while swing dancing Friday March 14.

