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THIS WEEK

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Marijuana legalization debate continues. **Features**

Noteworthy 6 success

Two professors to publish books this semester. **Features**



Campus Lutheran

on could do to support each other emotionally and raise money to support those in Japan.

> weeks after a catastrophic 9.0 earth-

Jayne Heimer, JAK advisor quake struck Japan, the island nation continues to feel great repercussions. As the death toll of over 10,000 continues to rise,

Japan has also faced a nuclear emergency when three reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station exploded and leaked radiation into the atmosphere.

With a large Japanese flag displayed at the entrance of the Nebraskan Student Union the day after the earthquake, it became evident how passionate UNK's Japanese community was in helping with the relief efforts.

"The university has been really helpful to us. For example, Javne Heimer, Japanese Association at Kearney (JAK) advisor, helped a lot by letting us know how to get donations at UNK. And Tim Danube (associate director of the Nebraskan Student Union) helped us clear all the crazy rules for accepting donations. I really appreciate the university," said Ko Muroga, president

UNK, Kearney community extend helping hand to Japan

Student organizations working together to support relief efforts

BY ASHLEY LEEVER News and Features Editor

While many students enjoyed a relaxing spring break last week, UNK's 115

Nearly three

Photo courtesy of Yasuhiko Suzuki

Kohei Kawai, Yuki Mori and Reo Sakamoto collect donations at the entrance of Walmart to put toward the JAK relief fund for Japan via the Japanese Red Cross. In the week following the earthquake and tsunami, JAK set up collection sites both on campus and in the community, and so far, the organization has raised more than \$5,000.

DONATE TO JAK FOR JAPAN RELIEF AID

The Japanese Association at Kearney is collecting donations which they are passing on to the Japanese Red Cross.

Those interested in donating can write out checks to JAK Treasurer Tomonobu Aozasa, who will deposit donations into the Wells Fargo bank account that JAK has established for this purpose. (Tax regulations do not allow students organizations to directly collect money on behalf of third party agencies on campus).

Anyone can send checks to, or request additional information from:

Fauneil Meier or Shirley Vetter International Center University of Nebraska at Kearney Welch Hall Kearney, NE 68849 Phone: 865-8246

Japanese students were still focused what they "JAK has already raised more than \$5000 for relief efforts with the help of UNK students and Walmart customers."

the antelope

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Taking it to New York

Students present at national conference

BY REBECCA MCMICKELL Antelope Staff

Forget California, Cancun or Costa Rica. For about 30 students at UNK, the spring break season means a trip to New York for the 25th annual National Conference on Undergraduate Research. From March 31 to April 2, students will present research projects in a variety of studies at Ithaca College in Ithaca, N.Y. Students were selected for national conference based on current or previous research projects they have done in their major. Applications and abstracts outlining each students project were submitted in December. The office of undergraduate research then selected participants for this year's conference.

Senior computer science major Paden Hogeland is among those making the trip to New York. "Basically,

my project deals with "I've never presented my own grouping computers research before so I don't really to work simultaneously," he said. "It know what to expect, but I'm actually started out as part of a larger projpassionate about my topic so I would ect I was working on say I'm more excited than nervous." with a group, and I just adapted it to more of **Denise Radford** an individual project."

tive said he has spent countless hours on his research so far. "I'm not sure how much time I've put into it, but it's been a lot."

He also said he is excited to present his

Courtesy photo

UNK grad Steve Middleton presents his research in the field of psychology as an undergraduate at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in Asheville, NC in 2006. About 30 students will travel to this year's conference in Ithaca, New York March 31 through April 2.

work in New York. "I got to go to the National Conference on Undergraduate Research the year before last. That year, we went to Wisconsin and it was a great experience, so I'm ready to see what it will be like in New York."

parkam@unk.edu

Denise Radford, a junior political science major from Axtell is also excited, but she said her nerves are kicking in. "I'm a little nervous about presenting my project just

because there are going to be students from all over the U.S. It will be interesting to see all the different topics, though," she said.

Radford's project focuses on effects of immigration for children in the U.S. "I've never presented my own research before so I don't really know what to expect, but I'm passionate about my topic so I would say I'm more excited than nervous," she said.

Since 1987, the National Conference on Undergraduate Research has sponsored an event each year at campuses all across the nation to promote student research across the curriculum at the undergraduate level. This year, more than 2,500 students will present their work through oral or visual presentations.

According to Hogeland, being part of the conference is a win-win. "It looks great on a resume, you get to meet new people and you get to travel. It doesn't get better than that," he said.



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Coughing up marijuana legalization

Prohibition, legalization both burdens on society; now the question is, which is the lesser of two evils?

BY ALEX MORALES Antelope Staff

A glaze begins to settle in Dean's eyes after his second hit while subtle coughs interrupt what seems a delighted smile. He is smoking out of his favorite piece, a bong named Eucalyptus.

"The burning bush that Moses claimed to be God was actually just him lighting a joint," he says.

Paradoxical risk

Dean is one of the 100 million Americans who have used cannabis, a drug comparable to cocaine, LSD and heroin in that they are illegal under federal law, yet advocacy for its legalization has been coughing up for decades.

"Categorizing weed with heroin and cocaine is like saying that littering and aggravated assault are equal," he says.

For Dr. Joseph Carlson, professor of criminal justice, there is more at play in the debate over the legalization of cannabis.

"The use of marijuana impairs judgment," he says. "Any drug that impairs judgment potentially increases victims or

casualties. We already know what the legalization of alcohol has done."

It's true, drugs are poisons. The psychoactive substance in cannabis that gives users the "high" effect evolved to protect the plant from animals and ultraviolet light. As academic David T. Courtwright says in "Forces of Habit," "Seeking "The use of marijuana impairs judgment. Any drug that impairs judgment potentially increases victims or casualties. We already know what the legalization of alcohol has done."

Dr. Joseph Carlson

intoxication, let alone profiting from it, is paradoxical. It seemingly defies the logic of natural selection."

Yet for centuries cannabis use has been regarded as medicinal in all parts of the world. In the U.S., 15 states and the District of Columbia have already medicated the whooping cry for legalization by "Have you ever heard them rattle off the list of side-effects for prescription drugs? Compare those to an increase in appetite and some humorous times of contemplation."

Dean

Cannabis user and advocate for legalization

authorizing the medicinal use of cannabis.

Carlson doesn't rule out the possibility that cannabis may hold medicinal value. "If it can spare someone of their pain, with prescription, there is an avenue for marijuana," he says.

According to officials at the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA), cannabis is an unlikely medication candidate and it is not a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved medicine.

Dean does not acknowledge the potential risk. "Have you ever heard them rattle off the list of side-effects for prescription drugs?" he asks. "Compare those to an increase in appetite and some humorous times of contem-

plation."

The inconsistencies between the use of cannabis and the policies related to it create prime conditions for an underground market that feeds the current War on Drugs. A market that Carlson does not believe would come to an end through legalization.

"Monitoring whether it's for social or medicinal use and its distribution would be extremely difficult," he says. "The new clientele for organized crime would shift to younger kids, who are affected more by the drug." This has happened with the use of alcohol, he says.

Centers for Disease and Control (CDC) officials report that 12-year-olds to 20-year-olds drink 11 percent of all alcohol consumed in the United States.

"Why take the risk? It boils down to society paying the cost," says Carlson.

A trade-off

Both prohibition and legalization of cannabis burden society says Dr. William Avilés, professor of political science.

"If viewed as a trade-off, legalization would lessen the burden on society," he says.

"We have models to draw from, like the Netherlands, where cannabis is legal but their smoking rates are lower than in the U.S."

In the Netherlands, the sale and personal consumption of cannabis is tolerated under strict nationwide rules. Guidelines include a ban on advertisement, a limit on sales per person, an age requirement of 18 and restrictions to use in establishments known as coffee shops.

Avilés acknowledges the potential for an increase in use by younger individuals if legaliza-

MORE ON THE POT TALK

What's schedule 1?

The drug or other substance has a high potential for abuse.
The drug or other substance has no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States.

 There is a lack of accepted safety for use of the drug or other substance under medical supervision.

What's the policy?

Policy under the Obama administration does not require federal law enforcement to prosecute users and suppliers of medicinal marijuana as long as they conform to state laws.

What's smoking?

THC, the main psychoactive substance in cannabis, acts upon specific sites in the brain, called cannabinoid receptors, which kick off a series of cellular reactions that ultimately lead to the "high" experienced by users. The highest density of cannabinoid receptors are found in the parts of the brain that influence pleasure, memory, thinking, concentrating, sensory and time perception, and coordinated movement.

tion were to take place, but suggests that regulations on tobacco and alcohol can also serve as models to draw from.

"There would be a variety of ways to mitigate illegal use, similar to how it has been done with other legal psychoactive substances," he says. "In the case of cannabis, it would be much more restrictive than, say, tobacco, which can be found in any grocery store."

According to Avilés, legalization would cause underground markets associated with cannabis to fall to the wayside, as was the case with alcohol when prohibition was lifted in 1933.

In 2010, the U.S. federal government spent over \$15 billion on the War on Drugs, at a rate of about \$500 per second. However, cannabis use persists as an American is arrested every 30 seconds for violating cannabis laws.

"Right now society is paying the cost of arresting and prosecuting upwards of 700,000 individuals each year," Avilés says, "many who don't have criminal records and are dealing with a substance that doesn't even compare to other Schedule I drugs."

As for Dean, "Hey man, have you ever wondered how the bubbles form in soda pop?"

ROBOTS GONE WILD



Photos by Rebecca McMickell

TOP LEFT: A group of students in CSIS 441 Artificial Intelligence watch as the robot they built for the class navigates a maze at the ninth annual robotics competition in the Nebraskan Student Union March 15. The competition featured three robots built by groups of students in the class. Each robot had a maximum of seven minutes to find the target red spot and navigate back home. Some of the students plan to compete in Duluth, Minn., in April at a regional robotics competition. BOTTOM LEFT/RIGHT: Students were required to follow the Midwest Instructional Computing Symposium (MICS) 2011 robotics competition specifications when building their robot. The robots were built using Vex and Legos NXT kits and other materials as needed. The students also wrote the software that controlled the performance of the robots.



s Anato-Eurooppalainen humanistinen yliopisto houkuttelee

UNK baseball looks ahead to success

While still focusing on the present, Coach Day forsees a positive future for UNK baseball

BY NATHAN KRUG Antelope Sports Staff

The UNK baseball team is off to a winning 16-5 record and an 11-2 record in the RMAC for the 2011 season. Head coach Damon Day took time to talk about the expectations for this season, how it's gone so far and what to look for in the coming years.

Has this season gone the way the way you thought it would thus far?

Yeah. We have played well at times, and we haven't played well at times. We jumped out and had a great weekend. We went 3-1 against Wayne State, which is

a big rival, and the next weekend we played Missouri Western and jumped out to a big lead in game two. But, we couldn't quite hold it, so we split the series. Then we had a tough road trip down to New Mexico Highlands, went 2-2. That may not sound great, but when you have to go that far and have to play that type ball game you get kind of long and drawn out and tired so it was good for us. We could have easily come out of there 1-3 but found a way to win two to even the series.

Who is the one guy on this team that you feel has really stood out and become the leader?

Without a doubt it's Brandon Buchanan. He's our shortstop and has an amazing year for us so far offensively. Defensively, he's done everything we could ask. He had to sit out last year because of injury, so for him to come back and have the start of the season that he has had is great. I'm just really proud of him.

This Program has been so successful in the RMAC over the past few years. Do you expect that success to carry over to the MIAA right away?

I think we can continue on being successful. Are we going have level of success that we did in the RMAC? I don't know. It's a tougher and better conference, and it's an exciting opportunity for us as a program. I'm excited for the opportunity, but I don't think we can grade it on regionals and conference championships. I think we have to grade it on the experiences of our young people and the level of competition we have as a pro-





gram- and I don't mean to sound like regional berths and conference championships aren't the main goal-but, at the end of the day we're going to find ourselves playing in a better conference, which is going to give us an opportunity to be better so when we get to those regionals it will make it that much more exciting.

How have you been able to sell the MIAA to recruits even with another year of RMAC play remaining?

It sells itself with the type of ball players that we are recruiting. If you don't want that challenge of playing against the best of the best, then you're not going to fit in here very well.

Who is that one team that you're really looking forward to playing in the MIAA?

Playing Emporia State - I got to know coach Fornelli when he was coaching in the RMAC at Fort Hays State, then he went on to coach at Emporia. He runs a first- class program there- one of the best in the nation and undefeated right now. He's a good man and good coach, and I'm excited to get the opportunity to see how we can do against them.

UNO is more than likely moving to Division 1 in athletics. What are your thoughts on losing a rival like that?

You know it's a frustrating thing because I think they could have done some things to help some people along the way, mainly us, to let them know this was the direction they were going. We made plans to move into the MIAA with the thought the UNO was going to be in that conference as well. UNO was going to be a natural rival, a nice travel partner, and it was going to be beneficial thing for both schools. I just think at some point an administrator somewhere owed us enough to pull us aside and tell us they may not be there in the future, but they didn't chose to do that. But as I always say, best of luck to them, and I hope they get what they want out of that move.

D1 and D2 schools do play each other occasionally. Is there any talk of possibly playing them in the future?

I doubt it, with all that's going on between the two schools.



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Features Layout by Sarah Epping

Booksigning in future for Emrys, Tassi

BY JESSICA EASTBURN Antelope staff

After much preparation, two UNK English professors have books ready to be published this semester and hope for a campus book launch celebration soon.

Dr. Barbara Emrys, professor of creative writing and popular fiction, and Dr. Marguerite Tassi, professor of Shakespeare and Renaissance literature, are each awaiting the launch of their newest critical works.

While neither Dr. Emrys nor Dr. Tassi has exact publication dates set, both are hoping that their books are released before the end of the semester. "If both of our books are published before the end of the to do a book launch in Thomas Hall. We would talk about the books, do some reading from them, and have a book signing," Tassi said.

semester, we would like

Emrys is excited because this is her first book. "I began writing in the 1970s, as a liter-

ary scholar. Part of my master's thesis was published in the Shaw Review," Emrys said. "I have been published in numerous journals, but this will be my first book."

Dr. Tassi has been writing for over 13 years. With two previous books, Dr. Tassi



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BARBARA EMRYS has been published over 20 times in journals, literary magazines and as a reviewer of play productions.

"I began writing my first book, 'The Scandal of Images: Iconoclasm, Eroticism, and Painting in Early Modern English Drama,' after graduate

school. It took seven years to complete it. Then I got another idea, a better idea, which led to my second book, which took about five years," Tassi said.

Dr. Tassi's second book, "Women and Revenge in Shakespeare: Gender, Genre, and Ethics" addresses many questions about women and revenge in western literature: can there be a virtue in vengeance? Can revenge do ethical work?

Dr. Emrys has been working on her book for the past ten years. The book is about two writers, each from different centuries: Wilkie Collins from the 19th century and Vera Caspary from the 20th century.

Emrys said she is interested in the writing technique used by the two authors separated in time by almost 100 years. "Wilkie Collins largely invented the detective novel and also the trick of having characters narrate parts of it, each only knowing some things. It makes for great suspense."

Vera Caspary was a 20th century nov-



Monday-Saturday 3pm-1am

elist and screenwriter who used Collins' technique and adapted his great casebook novel, "The Woman in White," three different times into contemporary novels, Emrys said. "My book is about how her doing this connects 1940s noir fiction with 1860s sensation fiction."

Both Tassi and Emrys have used classes they teach at UNK to help with the research for the books to be published this semester. In a class she was teaching, Dr. Tassi had her students read some of the plays and articles she was using to research her second book.

"Scholarly writing and teaching feed each other. Although some critical writers work alone, it helps being in an academic community with the support and resources. Most critical writers are professors," Emrys said.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP

Critical writing is different from writing fiction because the content is based upon research, often for academic purposes. This writing in undergraduate education gives students a jump start for work at the graduate level.

Dr. Barbara Emrys hopes that many UNK students will take the opportunity to get works published. "I would like to see more of our advanced undergraduate and graduate students publishing articles," she said.

"For students who are interested in getting published, there are many ways to begin. Students can look online at writing markets. They can talk to professors, even professors they are no longer studying with," she said.

At UNK, students can present at conferences as undergraduates and submit essays to the UNK Student Research Journal. For students who are interested in critical writing, there are many ways to take the first step to getting published. Dr. Marguerite Tassi offers this advice for students who are interested in publishing articles.

"It takes passion and discipline. You have to devote many hours. Sometimes it is a little tough to be able to accept rejection, but talk to professors, look at the market, and get your name out there," Tassi said.

Japan from page 1

of JAK and a senior aviation system management major from Nagoya, Japan.

JAK's efforts have been extremely successful so far. "JAK has already raised more than \$5000 for relief efforts with the help of UNK students and Walmart customers," said Heimer. "Students also folded 1,000 cranes (a symbol of long life and good luck) to be sent to victims of the disaster at a later time."

Although Heimer reports that some Japanese students' families were from the areas affected, she says she has heard that many of their families are safe. However, the aftermath of the earthquake will affect all of Japan. "All Japanese students will be affected by the disaster because it has

had a huge negative impact on Japan's economy, which will ripple into all other aspects of their lives," Heimer said. "Students with members family in Tokyo may hear reports from their families of shortages on food, water, gas and electricity, as well as elevated

levels of radiation in tap water and food." With these continued ramifications, UNK's international student organizations

"The Kearney community has been really great at supporting ISA. They are really interested about what we do here and what we do for the community and UNK. I know they will be more than glad to help."

Camila Parra ISA vice president

plan to work together to help Japan. "We are planning to come together to put on a big event," said Camila Parra, vice president of the International Student Association (ISA) and a senior economics and international studies major

from Colombia. "Our president, Ramesh Neupane, is from Nepal, and he has been working with the Nepalese Student As-

sociation at Kearney (NESAK) as well as JAK to plan something really meaningful that includes not only UNK, but the community as well."

Heimer said students want to continue to share information about how Kearney residents can donate money to the relief effort. With the help of the American Red Cross, ISA and JAK hope to put on a fundraising event that will reach out to the UNK and Kearney community.

"The Kearney community has been really great at supporting ISA. They are really interested about what we do here and what we do for the community and UNK. I know they will be more than glad to help," Parra said.



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Acrobats to bring spectacular show

World-class performance free to students

BY MEGAN BLUME Antelope Staff

Acrobats will be flying 30 feet in the air, balancing on bicycles and climbing atop a tower of wobbly chairs. These are only a few of the daring stunts performed by the Chinese Golden Acrobats, performing March 31 in the Health and Sports Center.

The performance is described as having "traditional dance, spectacular costumes, theatrical techniques, and ancient and contemporary music." The audience can count on seeing contortionists, a wobbly tower of chairs and jugglers tossing plates.

"The acrobats have been here before, but this is the first time in four years they've been back," said Tim Danube, Nebraskan Student Union associate director. "We've had concerts the last two or three years so we thought the acrobats would be a good change of pace."

The acrobat troupe is from Hebei, China, and has traveled to all 50 states and around the world to more than 65 countries on five continents. On average, the Golden Dragon Acrobats present more than 200 performances each year at 100-200 venues across the United States.

"The students booked the event because it is spectacular," Danube said. "This group travels around the world and is highly acclaimed. If one were to go see this group in New York on Broadway, they would pay upwards of \$50 a ticket."

The Chinese Golden Acrobats performance is a welcome back from spring break event hosted by the Loper Programming and Activities Council.

WHEN AND WHERE

Thursday, March 31, at 7 p.m. in the Health and Sports Center. Free to UNK students, \$4 for general admission, children 10 and under are free. Tickets are available at the Nebraskan Student Union and at Hastings Books, Music and Video.





Courtesy photos





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