



MONA hosts crane display

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UNK softball victorious

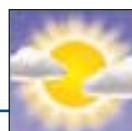
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Weekend Weather

FRIDAY
Sunny
High 79
Low 45



SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
High 80
Low 44



SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
High 67
Low 32

THE WEEK OF APRIL 15, 2004

Politics is GOP group's passion

by Kaisa Gleason
Antelope Staff Writer

These days, it seems that the temperature is not the only thing heating up. The political arena seems to be on fire. With debates, preliminary elections and all the mud-slinging going on, the political showground offers one of the hottest tickets in town. Considering the players, the coaches, the strategies, the cheating, the victories, the defeats—who couldn't be pulled into the game?

Well, for those of us who don't have the time to keep up on current political events, let alone where candidates stand on important issues, the idea of becoming involved in politics may seem a bit scary. Often times, people are hesitant to get involved in a political organization because they aren't aware of the issues and are afraid or don't know who to ask. One campus organization is trying to help remedy this situation.

UNK's Campus Republicans organization is a group comprised of approximately 58 students who share a common interest in politics and the issues affecting society. The group's president, Curtis Swagger, describes the group as a conservative-based group that follows the same guidelines as the National GOP Party. It gives students who are interested in the Republican Party a chance to learn more about it and share their thoughts and opinions.

According to Swagger, one key benefit of the organization is that it helps students build their networking skills and make contacts that could prove to be very valuable to them in their future careers. "It isn't an intimidating

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UNK celebrates Sakura Festival

by Jackie Stollenberg
Antelope Staff Writer

The first annual Sakura Festival, a ceremony to symbolize UNK's and Japan's friendship, was held April 8 at Welch Hall on West Campus. National Collegiate Network Foundation (NCNF) and the Japanese Association at Kearney (JAK) teamed up to plant cherry blossom (Sakura) trees during the festival.

"At this inaugural Sakura Festival, we planted cherry trees to symbolize the friendship, cooperation and the strong relationship between UNK and our students from Japan," Jerry Fox, director of the Office of International Education, said.

The Sakura Festival is a traditional early spring Japanese festival celebrating the blooming of the cherry blossom trees.

"It is a picnic where we eat and drink with family, friends, and co-workers celebrating the cherry tree blossoms," Takayuki Harada said.

In America, the Sakura Festival started in Washington, D.C. as a friendship gift. The cherry blossom trees represented the Japanese's appreciation for Washington, D.C.'s hospitality.

The UNK Sakura Festival was full of culture, history and good will. The diverse atmosphere made the outdoor spring ceremony unique.

Chancellor Doug Kristensen welcomed the attendees and introduced the honored guests. Honored guests included: City Mayor Bruce Blankenship, Japanese Consulate Ms. Yumiko



Photos by Blake Mullanix

Chancellor Doug Kristensen and Japanese Consulate Yumiko Fujiwara kick off the first annual Sakura Festival.

Fujiwara and NCNF Director Dr. Frances Pruitt.

"The NCNF is a non-profit organization. It is there to promote the exchange of students and scholars between Japan and the United States, and to increase the understanding between the two countries," Pruitt said.



The ceremony consisted of a few presentations (Miho Inukai talked about JAK, Takayuki Harada and Takayuki Tsuchida presented facts about Sakura, and Fumie Terahata and Saeko Zenbayashi talked about the 150th anniversary of relations between the United States and Japan); a Japanese-style dance performed by Mamiko Oi and Mikako Toda; and a traditional Sakura song sung by Shinta Takehana. After the program, the honored guests planted one cherry blossom tree. Five trees were previously planted and 40 more are to be planted along University Drive.

This event was open to the public. Kahako Oe said, "I liked seeing the people who came here to learn about the festival and our culture." Oe said she came to UNK to improve her English skills. She is majoring in International Studies.

"I liked the traditional dance. The movement of the fans was elegant," student Cheryl Nickel said.

Meho Inuki, member of JAK, spoke during the program wearing a yukata, a Japanese woman's traditional summer

dress. Inuki will graduate next December. She said, "I like my friends, the professors and the community."

Mayumi Fujiwara is attending UNK because it is a sister university of Japan. She said, "The festival was good. There were a lot of things I didn't know."

UNK student Bridget Boeding said she is looking forward to seeing the cherry blossom trees when they are in full bloom. Boeding has lived in Case Hall, where many Japanese students live. She said, "I've gotten to know more people and am exposed to a lot of Japanese culture. Friendship is the biggest part."

"Talking to someone who does not have English as his or her first language is a personal benefit for students attending UNK," Nickel stated. "All the Japanese people are very charming and pleasant. Being exposed to some Japanese students has caused me to be a better listener."

Kearney businesses Office Max, Target, Ten Thousand Villages and Wal-Mart supported the 2004 Sakura Program.

Calling All Cranes



Photo by Lindsey Humston

This painting is part of "The Migration Stops Here: MONA's Cranes," which runs until May 2 at MONA.

Honors Program gains Dr. Davis

by Amber Booton
Antelope Staff Writer

Dr. Gary Davis has been named the new director of the University of Nebraska at Kearney Honors Program. Davis is currently a professor of music in the Department of Music and Performing Arts. Among his many activities at UNK, Davis has also served as Director of Bands for 14 years.

In a recent university news release, Davis said, "The opportunity to be involved with the administrative side by being the Honors Program director intrigued me. I am really impressed with, and enjoy working with, the students, staff and assistant director Jane Christensen."

Davis is a native of Lincoln, Neb. He received both his bachelor's degree in music education and master's degree in music from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He has a Ph.D. in music education from the University of Iowa. Davis is the past president of both the Nebraska Music Educators Association and the

Nebraska State Bandmasters Association.

According to the news release, he first became familiar with the Honors Program while working with music students who already belonged to the organization.

"I like seeing the support that Honors students give each other academically," Davis said. "When a student graduates from the Honors Program and says, 'I loved the Honors Program because it was meaningful in helping me develop academically,' then we were successful."

Right now there are 461 UNK students in the Honors Program. Of those, 150 are freshmen.

The UNK Honors Program Web site states: "There is a family atmosphere [within the program] which enhances the academic support among these students."

UNK added to the family atmosphere of the Honors Program when the university named Stout Hall as the official Honors residence hall in 1995. Because only Honors students may live in the hall, a close-knit

See *Honors*, page 8

UNK CALENDAR

April 1-30: Asian American Heritage Month, sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Friday, April 16: UNK Baseball vs. Colorado State-Pueblo, 6 p.m. at Memorial Field. Free admission.

Saturday, April 17: Fun 5K Run/Walk, 8 a.m. at the UNK Practice Football Field. Look for entry forms around campus or at the Nebraskan. Prizes!!

Saturday, April 17: UNK Baseball vs. Colorado State-Pueblo, 1 p.m. at Memorial Field. Free admission.

Saturday, April 17: 2nd Annual Fun 5K Walk/Run.

Sunday, April 18: UNK Baseball vs. Colorado State-Pueblo, 12 p.m. at Memorial Field. Free admission.

Monday, April 19: UNK Chess Club, 7 p.m. in the Nebraskan Student Union Food Court. For more information contact Randall Heckman at heckmanr@unk.edu.

Tuesday, April 20: Kearney Area Symphony Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m. at the UNK Fine Arts Recital Hall. General admission is \$6, seniors and students is \$5.

Wednesday, April 21: Sigma Tau Delta English Honorary Fantasy Festival, 3-6:30 p.m. in the Nebraskan Student Union Great Room. Come enjoy FREE food, entertainment while having fun with literature.

Wednesday-Sunday, April 21-25: MacBeth, presented by the UNK Theatre, 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Miriam Drake Theatre. Adult admission is \$7, non-UNK students and seniors is \$5 and groups of 10+ are \$3.

Thursday, April 22: ‘Habla con Ella’ (Talk to Her) foreign film, 7:30 p.m. in Thomas Hall, room 106. Spanish with English subtitles, directed by Pedro Almodovar.

Friday, April 23: UNK Baseball vs. Regis, 6 p.m. at Memorial Field. Free admission.

Saturday, April 24: UNK Baseball vs. Regis, 1 p.m. at Memorial Field. Free admission.

Saturday, April 24: UNK Softball vs. Fort Lewis, 12 p.m., 2 p.m. at Harvey Park. Free admission.

Sunday, April 25: MacBeth, presented by the UNK Theatre, 2 p.m. in the Fine Arts Miriam Drake Theatre. Adult admission is \$7, non-UNK students and seniors is \$5 and groups of 10+ are \$3.

Sunday, April 25: UNK Symphonic Band/ Wind Ensemble Concert, 3 p.m. in the Fine Arts Recital Hall.

Sunday, April 25: UNK Baseball vs. Regis, 12 p.m. at Memorial Field. Free admission.

Sunday, April 25: UNK Softball vs. Fort Lewis, 11 a.m., 1 p.m. a Harvey Park. Free admission.

Monday, April 26: Spring Fling, 4:30 p.m. at the Cope Memorial Fountain. Features free BBQ, and BMX Stunt Bikes.

Monday, April 26: UNK Chess Club, 7 p.m. in the Nebraskan Student Union Food Court. For more information contact Randall Heckman at heckmanr@unk.edu.

Tuesday, April 27: UNK Baseball vs. Hastings, 7 p.m. at Memorial Field. Free admission.

Friday, April 30: Reynolds Writers and Readers Series Presents: Poet Janet Sylvester, Harvard, 8 p.m. in the East Room at MONA, 2401 Central Avenue.

Monday-Thursday, May 3-6: Finals Week!

Friday, May 7: UNK Graduation, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. in the Health and Sports Center.

POLICE BEAT

April 3: A male Holdrege resident reportedly sexually assaulted a female in Randall Hall.

April 3: A male Kearney resident reported the theft of his car from Lot 8.

April 4: A female Hastings resident was transported to Good Samaritan Hospital for possible alcohol poisoning.

April 4: A female URS resident reported another female URS resident was being harassed by a male Kearney resident.

April 7: Two female Mantor residents reported harassment by a Mantor male.

April 8: Officers performed a welfare check on a male Conrad student.

April 9: A male CTW resident lost his wallet in the food court of the student union. The estimated value of the wallet is \$68.75.

April 12: A female Grand Island resident reported the theft of her car battery while it was parked in Lot 32. The estimated value of the battery is \$53.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

SIGMA TAU DELTA FANTASY FESTIVAL

Sigma Tau Delta, the UNK English honorary, invite all UNK students to attend their annual festival. This year’s festival features fantasy literature, with Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter characters a featured focus. Please come to the Nebraskan Student Union Great Room from 3-6:30 p.m. on April 21 to enjoy FREE food, FREE entertainment and celebrate literature.

FUN 5K Walk/Run 2004

The second annual FUN 5K Walk/Run will be Saturday, April 17 at 8 a.m. Entry forms are available across campus and at the Nebraskan Student Union. All participants receive a free t-shirt and over \$1,000 in gift certificates and merchandise will be given away to the first, second, and third male and female winners. Check in is at the UNK Practice Football Field and the event finishes at Yanney Heritage Park. If UNK students are entered by 3 p.m. on Friday, April 16, their admission fee is waived. The cost is \$20 for UNK students after 3:00 p.m. on Friday, April 16 and \$20 entry fee for community participants. All proceeds go towards a student leader scholarship fund. This event is sponsored by Loper Programming and Activities Council and funded by UPFF. Please call 865-8523 for more information.

UPCOMING SPRING FLING

A Spring Fling featuring free BBQ, bands and BMX Stunt Bikes will be held Monday, April 26, at 4:30 p.m. at Cope Memorial Fountain. Please take a break from studying and come enjoy music and stunts right on campus! The BBQ is free for UNK students. This event is sponsored by Loper Programming and Activities Council, funded by UPFF. Please call 865-8523

for more information

FREE TUTORING OFFERED

The Center for Academic Success would like to remind students that free tutoring services are available to all UNK students in the north hall of the Memorial Student Affairs Building. There are free Math Study Groups and Science Study Groups from 7-9 p.m. Monday through Thursday. For more details on these services and more access the website <http://www.unk.edu/LSO> or obtain a tutor brochure in the office.

CHRISTIAN STUDENT FELLOWSHIP WORSHIP SERVICE

Christian Student Fellowship is sponsoring Church on Campus every Sunday morning at 11 a.m. in the Cedar Room of the Nebraskan Student Union. Come and encounter God in a laid back, student-led, comfortable and casual worship environment. Everyone is invited to attend at no charge. For more information, check out www.csfneb.org or call 234-3922.

REYNOLDS WRITERS AND READERS SERIES

The Spring schedule of the Reynolds Writers and Readers Series. These events are free and open to the public, and include a book signing and reception following each reading. The three events will be held at 8 p.m. in the East Room at MONA, 2401 Central Avenue.

April 30: Poet Janet Sylvester, Harvard
For more information about the series, please contact Director Charles Fort, Reynolds Chair in Poetry by phone at (308) 865-8164 or e-mail at fortc@unk.edu. The Office of the Chancellor, the UNK Creative Writing Program, and the UNK English

Department sponsors this event.

NOMINATE YOUR TUTOR

The Learning Strategies Office is requesting nominations for the Spring 2004 Distinguished Tutor Award. Recognizing a tutor is one way tutored students can give back to those who have helped them. Visit the Learning Strategies Office website at <http://www.unk.edu/LSO> and click on Tutor Brochure to see a list of tutors. Stop by the Center for Academic Success in the Memorial Student Affairs Building to pick up a nomination form or call 865-8214. Nominations will be accepted through Friday, April 16, 2004.

NEED CASH? JOB OPENING ON CAMPUS

The Antelope Bookstore is looking for 10-12 students to fill temporary positions for their buyback season. The job commences in mid-April and continues through the end of the school year, with the possibility of continuing as a part-time summer job.

The ideal candidate for the position would be friendly, outgoing, customer service oriented and cash handling experience. Persons will be required to run cash registers, clean and shelf books, and send and receive freight. Hourly wage based on experiences.

Benefits include book, clothing and school supply discounts. Apply in person, ask for Len.

MUSEUM OF NEBRASKA ART SCHEDULE

Museum of Nebraska Art, 2401 Central Avenue, open Tuesday-Saturday: 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday: 1-5 p.m.
Through May 2: The Migration Stops Here: MONA’s Cranes.
Through May 30: The Rohman Collection.
Feb. 21-May 30: Nebraska

Now- Yanna Ramakers Bronze Sculptures.

BENEFIT DINNER

Candy Lewis is a manager at Old Navy here in Kearney. Just recently Candy and her husband, Lu, found out that he has lung cancer. They decided to travel to Chicago to a Cancer Center there for his treatments and Chemotherapy. While receiving his treatments he is unable to work to help pay for the cost of living.

Candy, being the wonderful lady she is, is trying to be with her husband up in Chicago, while also trying to make it back to work as much as she can so hey have some type of income to help pay for the living expenses while he is in Chicago. Leaving her husband is very hard on Candy because the treatments and Chemotherapy are very intense. Lu needs Candy with him so she can be there to take care of him and make sure he is doing alright. That is where the Benefit Dinner comes in to play.

A group of co-workers and good friends of Candy want to put together a free will donation grill out, a silent auction, as well as a bake sale all at the same time to help raise money for Candy and Lu. That way Candy can stay up with her husband and will not need to worry about leaving to come back home to work and help pay for their living expenses. We hope to make enough money to cover their living expenses as well as give them some extra for other spending as well.

We are hosting a grill out dinner with two live bands, Klovr and Tenth Hour Calling, on Sunday, April 25 at the VFW Club here in Kearney from 5 to 8 p.m. We would like to have everyone come and have a great time. Any donations or help would be greatly appreciated. Please call Megan at 308-234-1414 if you have any questions. Thank you for your time.

We want you!

Get involved with the Antelope newspaper!

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

Take advantage of the opportunity to get to know a variety of people on campus and in the community.

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) or JMC 352 (photo staff)

or call us today at 865-8488.

Do you have a story idea for the Antelope? We welcome your suggestions.

Email us at theantelopewebpage@hotmail.com or call us at 865-8488.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT

1 BR/efficiency apts. starting at \$255/month (utilities & basic cable included)
Coin op. laundry
Must be fulltime UNK student & 21 years old.
University Heights
Call 865-4811

Classifieds work.

Call 865-8487 today.

THE BOTTOM LINE

QUESTION: WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE RENOVATIONS ON FOSTER FIELD AND THE OTHER PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS TO OTHER CAMPUS AREAS?



Kat Parish
Omaha sophomore

“Woo-hoo!”



Jeremy “The Shark” Sambol
Omaha senior

“The improvements are long overdue; I just hope that they don’t uncover John Gotti’s body buried under the field.”



Brad Miller
Le Mars, Iowa freshman

“It’s great for the campus, but it still ain’t got nothing on Iowa.”

Passion makes it all worth while

The Jester's Jabber...



Jillian Tangeman
Assistant News Editor

This week I decided I wanted to write about passion. No, not the Passion that everyone is referring to right now, but the actual intense, driving or over-mastering emotion one can occasionally feel about something.

As college students, we are often advised to find something we are passionate about and attempt to pursue an occupation in that field. Too often, we adhere to the guidance that parents, friends or other ‘helping’ (ahem, pushy) individuals pro-

vide. Although they end up happy about your decision, in the long run, are you?

This week I reconnect-ed with an old friend that is transferring to UNK. After two years of pursuing a degree in psychology, she has decided that she wants to be an art teacher. After taking several general studies courses and private classes in art, she realized that she was not studying what she loved. She didn’t find her psychology coursework challenging or the subject interesting. However, she had decided upon that field of study because that is what her parents do. After having the opportunity to discover her love of art she realized she could study something she enjoyed and eventually make a living at it.

Too often students shy away from a particular field because of stigmas associated with it. A nurse I know is glad he didn’t listen to family and friends’

chiding and follow the path that was expected of him. “My mom wanted me to be anything but a nurse. A doctor was ok, a mechanic sure, heck, a fry clerk at McDonalds, but a nurse never. I always knew I wanted to care for people in a more intimate way than doctors are able to, and, because of my decision to follow my dream, I love what I do.”

When one does find a passion for what they do, it is evident by all he or she comes in contact with. For example, when I have watched my nurse friend work, I can tell that he truly does love his job. He whistles from room to room kindly inquiring of each patient’s health, addressing them by name or asking intimate details they’ve shared about their family with him. He doesn’t do this because it is expected of him, but because he cares for each patient.

I recently had the opportunity to see other examples of those with a deep passion for

their occupations when I observed Handel’s Messiah at the Kearney Central auditorium. The Axtell Area Oratorio Society presented one of the best performances of the Messiah that I have viewed and I cannot believe the high degree of talent that the orchestra, chorus, soloists and conductor had. All were completely in tune with the music and demonstrated a true love for what they were doing.

The conductor showed a tremendous amount of passion though. The man, although in a soft leg cast and relegated to a stool for most of the performance, would arise from his perch during the most moving parts of the score and direct so furiously that the stool was knocked rattling back against the rails. As the performance progressed, the man was so involved that he nearly upturned his music stand and sent three spearmints flying into the row behind him. Would this qualify as a display of passion? I would

say so.

One part of the performance that moved me most was when the conductor completed directing a particularly difficult portion of the masterpiece.

After the last strain of the chorus died, the conductor paused, smiled at the group, gave them a thumbs-up, pulled out a handkerchief and wiped tears from his eyes. The music had overpowered him that much!

As I read his biography in the program I saw that he had taught music for quite a number of years and had been the conductor of the society for ages. He had found his love and dedicated three-fourths of his life to sharing it with others. He’d found his passion and stuck with it.

In contrast, I also know a doctor who sees dozens of patients every day. He is well qualified, highly respected by his colleagues and patients, intelligent and financially successful. The last time I saw him,

I asked if he enjoyed his job and his reply was a terse, “No.”

He doesn’t have time to see his daughter, he rarely sees patients for more than ten minutes or so, is burnt out and ready to retire. I asked him then if he ever really enjoyed his profession, to which he still replied, “No.”

He was merely doing what his father and his father before him had done and entered into the medical profession. It was what was expected of him and a way to obtain an outstanding socio-economic position. He said in hindsight, “I wanted to be a forest ranger.” Too bad for Smoky he wasn’t, he would have done a fine job.

In conclusion, is it possible to follow a career path that you can love and obtain joy from?

Yes.

Can you give up money, fame and fortune for happiness and the chance to practice what you really love?

Yes.

Will you?

You’ve got to earn the burn

Exhale and smile...



Traci Witthuhn
Entertainment Editor

Don’t forget your sunscreen. If I had a buck for every time I’ve heard that, I’d be rich.

If I had a buck for every time I’ve ignored that, I’d be rich.

If I had a buck for every time I wish I hadn’t ignored that, I’d be running to the store to buy aloe.

Did you know that every year, nearly 1.2 million cases

of skin cancer are diagnosed in the U.S., and 9,800 citizens of our country will die from the disease this year alone?

I’m definitely not the one to be giving this lecture. In fact, I generally receive this lecture at least once each summer from my older sister (she’s the responsible one).

With the tanning and burning season shortly upon us, I’m simply here to discuss the joys of soaking up the sun, and a little something I like to call “earning the burning.”

Have you ever had one of those awful sunburns - the kind that leaves a disturbing tan line in a place no respectable tan line would be? Well I got one just a few weeks ago. My

friend Jeannine and I had been working Junior Day 2004 in our very attractive Student Envoy polo shirts, paying no regard to the sun shining high over head...until later that afternoon, that is.

After having been inside for about half an hour, I looked at her and said, “hey, you got burned” she looked back and said “so did you” and in an instant, the pain rushed to those burned areas and we commenced the whining. The pain turned into annoyance later that evening when we went out, both wearing shirts that prominently displayed the now vibrant crimson “V”’s tattooed on our chests (most people can’t help but point these things out when they see people walking around together with matching sunburns).

In any case, we survived, and that was one of the tamest tan lines I’ve ever victimized

myself to...

I recall several years that I helped rake the long jump pits at the highly esteemed Stapleton Invitational track meet. Let’s just say that I was facing away from the sun. When I would come home, my legs would still be perfectly electrifyingly white...until I turned around. The backs would be fire engine red, burned so tightly that I could hardly bend my knees and would wear nothing but swishy pants for days.

Naturally, I’ve subjected myself to several burns on my back, as I grew up along the Dismal - one of Nebraska’s premier tubing rivers. I still have tan - or should I say freckle - lines from my youth. With a little imagination, you can see a perfect butterfly drawn out on my back, a scar from the various swimming suits and tank tops that have alternately

shielded me from the sun.

Oh, no, that’s not the worst of it. The real trouble comes when I do wear sunscreen. I always seem to miss a spot. Whether it is that illusive spot on my back or a big splotch on my neck, sunscreen never fails to kick my butt.

One summer during my high school years, I was working a fundraiser carwash. Knowing that I would be under the rays all day, I decided to slather on some SPF 30. Oh yeah, wonderful idea. Sure the sunscreen kept me from frying to a crisp...but it also left me branded with a wonderful white handprint across my chest...one that stayed for several weeks

Later they came out with that color sunscreen for kids. That’s what I generally purchase these days (no matter what kind of looks my friends give me when I’m rubbing on

green lotion).

No matter how embarrassing or annoying those freakish sunburns are, the important thing is that you’ve earned your burn.

I will never forget my worst earnings - from water-skiing Glendo with Brett to riding the coasters with Nikki or floating the Dismal with Adam and Cay...I probably won’t even forget that Junior Day burn I earned with Jeannine. As long as we had fun, it was worth it, right?

I hear that summer may actually be coming to stay within the next few months, so don’t forget your (children’s monster green) sunscreen.

For all of you out there with susceptibility to the sun’s evil rays, I will always have this hope for us: perhaps someday all of our unsightly freckles will meld into one gorgeous, even tan.

Atkins really works

Travel the world....



Francisco Itamar
Layout Editor

During new years eve I made a promise to myself that I would loose weight and eat healthier. So my fiance, Tessa, introduced

my to this diet named after the doctor that created, Dr.Atkins. I was to lazy to read the book, so I made Tessa read the book and explain to me how did it work.

At first I was a little skeptic, but I decided to give it a try. Well, the diet works by blocking any food that is rich in carbohydrates, so everything that has sugar in it.

During the first week, I was starving to death, but I got over it.

It seems that you can’t eat anything. But really you have

good options, you can eat bacon, eggs, and all kinds of meat. So, I got used to it really fast. I’ve been doing this diet for 2 months, and I’ve lost about 25 lbs.

After the second week, i gave up the diet, but I did gain weight after I stopped. I think it is because I got so used to the diet that it wasn’t hard for me to eat the thing I was supposed to. But I did have to change my eating habits. And most important, I avoid fast food. I started working out and I can’t wait until the weather gets better and the classes are over. Then, I will have more time to work out.

Moreover , I will have more time to have barbecues and drink beer.

Every winter I gain about 10 lbs. I think it is somehow related to the weather. You can’t do anything, it is so cold. I’ve always enjoyed the warm weather. Well, it might be because I from Brazil, and I can say that it is pretty ward down there. I always hated cold weather and always will. As soon as I graduate, I will be out of here.

So, enjoy the nice weather and try the Atkins diet.

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

Write a letter to the editor.
theantelopene newspaper@hotmail.com

See guidelines at left.

THE ANTELOPE

Mitchell Center

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Antelope Opinion Page Policy

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.

READERS’ OPINIONS

In answer to Mr. Rehor’s article int the current antelope, a loper is:

loper

\Lop”er/, n. 1. One who, or that which, lopes; esp., a horse that lopes. [U.S.]

and to help with the big word of lopes in that definition a lopes is:

To run or ride with a steady, easy gait.

A steady, easy gait.

both definitions taken from the website dictionary.com with a search of the word “loper” just to help you out and save you five minutes the time it took to look the word up.

Also with regards to your google search of the word loper it wouldnt come up with anything about the UNK Lopers because we are not the loper (sing) we are the Lopers (plur). If you would have seached google for the word lopers ,since we are the lopers, you would have seen that thet first website to come up would be for lopers.com the official website of UNK athletics. Just trying to help you out with your questions you posed in the article.

Thanks for your time.

Kent Hergott

Milan, Ill., senior

Righteous Reviews in the Antelope

Lutt's Cut

“Revolutions” brings Matrix to a close

by **Kent Lutt**
Antelope Staff Writer

What do you see in your future? You might see yourself working your dream job for a world-renowned business firm. The economy is stable, society is thriving, and there is food on the table. Everything seems perfect.

However, if the future ends up anything like the futures portrayed in many current blockbuster movies, you might have to think about a career change.

After the doomsday and the destruction of most of society as we know it, you'll have to think about a lot more than that.

Post-apocalyptic themes are running amok in a majority of the new science fiction films out today. If you're into the doom and gloom of a hopeless future with robots running rampant, this makes your decision at the local video store very difficult. Which film will give you those “end-of-the-world” thrills without the repetitive bloodbath of a Schwarzenegar flick? And maybe - just maybe - it could have a deep, intricate storyline

that will force you to ask your fellow couch mates, “What exactly happened at the end?”

“The Matrix” trilogy has become a landmark in film production and conceptual plot lines. The third part in the trilogy, “The Matrix: Revolutions,” has recently hit stores across the nation.

“Revolutions” has also hit many viewers square in the head with its confusing, symbolic plot line and different approach to the “Matrix” universe. Yet those who pass it off as a failed conclusion to the series should look more closely at the film's beautiful depiction of a decrepit future.

“The Matrix,” written and produced by Andy and Larry Wachowski, was released to huge success in 1999. The movie's incredible fight sequences and immersive storyline appealed to cyber-punks and preppy-kids alike. Its sequel, “The Matrix: Reloaded,” focused more on action and less on story. “Reloaded” raised the bar on intense special effects and car chase scenes in science fiction films.

“The Matrix: Revolutions,” however, takes a different approach entirely. “Revolutions” focuses much more heavily on the story of the protagonist, Neo, and the survival of the human race in Zion, the last remaining human city. Because of this approach, many cult-followers of the previous movies will obviously spite the film's near lack of “Matrix”-style fight sequences.

Fight sequences or not, “Revolutions” stands up to the best sci-fi thrillers with its incredible continuation of the matrix theory. In short, the world that the characters live in is really a prefabricated environment, and everything within it is called the matrix. Only after realizing this false life did the main character, Neo, escape from his holding cell in the real world-a bleak, machine-controlled landscape using human entities to uphold the matrix.

In “Revolutions,” Neo has become the “chosen one” and is attempting to end the war between humans and machines. He is forced to travel to the actual machine city to stop a horrible mistake in the matrix.

The mistake is the rapid multiplication of a program called “Smith,” who serves as Neo's archenemy.

What the film lacks in fights it makes up for in depth. “Revolutions” is filled to the brim with symbolism. The Wachowski brothers were obviously influenced by both science and religion throughout their lives. They created astounding bridges between the two nearly opposite parts of life in “Revolutions.”

The world of “The Matrix: Revolutions” is a stunning model of a possible future. Smog covers the skies as hover ships cruise in and out of the ruins of lost civilizations. Robotic sentinels chase anything that they encounter within the abandoned passages. A sense of dread fills every minute of the movie thanks to the awe-inspiring special effects work found in the environments and lighting.

Yet the humans still fight on. Neo, Trinity, and Morpheus continue to push towards the end of the war, and in the process you get to know each of the characters very well. The

character development over the course of the trilogy runs deep. By the time you see “Revolutions,” you will have created your own attitudes towards each character in the series, and probably chosen a favorite as well.

You will also choose your least favorite character, and it will undoubtedly have something to do with Smith. Quite possibly one of the greatest villains ever created for a science fiction film, Smith's man-in-black attire hides a vicious killer persona. If you don't end up hating him, you'll simply understand how evil he really is.

Two large battles are the showcase of the groundbreaking effects used in “Revolutions.” The fight for Zion involves gigantic, mechanized robots used by the humans. Using repeating gatline gun fire, the humans fight off the droves of sentinels streaming into the city. It's an ironic twist on the story that they use machines to destroy their machine enemies. It's as if the Wachowski brothers saw how the two sides of the war were maybe not that different in the end.

The second battle involves Neo and Smith towards the film's end. Plugged into the matrix, Neo confronts Smith for a final showdown. Thundering classical music fills your ears as they collide in a wave of punches. Flying through the air at points, Smith and Neo grapple for ten minutes in an epic struggle for control of both worlds. It is truly one of the greatest action sequences of all time.

Once you see “The Matrix: Revolutions,” your current job and lifestyle will seem like a dream life compared to the bleak future. Yet the movie depicts it so well that it has a life all its own, pulsing with a vividness that only a great movie can.

If you're a fan of action films and have little time for a deep, involving couch session, do not waste your time with “Revolutions.” But if you prefer psychological punch over physical punch, “Revolutions” is right up your alley. Its plot meanders through an uncharted territory of the science fiction world, and it will continue to shock and excite us all well into the future.

Traci's Take

Tex's Cafe offers down-home kitschy cuisine

by **Traci Witthuhn**
Antelope Entertainment Editor

As we slid into a booth and glanced around at walls splashed with Coca-Cola memorabilia and tables dressed in red and white checks, I was swiftly carried back to the mom and pop restaurants in my hometown.

Have you ever heard of Tex's Café? I'm willing to bet you have driven by it hundreds of times. Nestled on the corner of A Avenue and Twenty-first Street, the diner is signaled by a faded Coca-Cola sign. Perhaps you've always known it was there but, like me, had never tried it.

I had been begging Becky try Tex's with me for three long years, and she finally caved in last week, so there we sat, amongst the workmen that that crowded Tex's.

I grabbed for a crumpled green slip of paper that I had assumed to be them menu, but found it to be the daily news. Frantically glancing around - not knowing what we wanted to order, or even what could be ordered - Becky and I saw signs boasting daily specials...phew, that was a close one.

One of the two shady waitresses soon sauntered over and handed us glasses of water before hastily sliding menus across the table. She then flitted off to chat with some of the

“regular” crowd.

Glancing down the list, Becky and I were pleased with the pricing and selection Tex's had to offer.

Becky headed straight for the steak category, which boasted everything from chicken-fried to sirloin at reasonable prices (\$6.95 will buy the sirloin).

Some other cuisine included a shrimp meal for \$6.80, roast beef for \$6.75, liver and onions for \$6.00, a Reuben with fries for only \$4.75, and some grilled cheese action will cost a mere \$2.20.

Something called to me from the desserts: pie. The cost was \$1.95 per slice, add a little more and you could get a scoop of ice cream, too.

The two of us decided to play it like we were regulars and ordered ourselves up a couple of daily specials. Becky went with the chicken-fried steak, while I walked on the wild side and asked for some mountain oysters (you can't just get this kind of stuff anywhere).

When the dishes came, we sat in silence, debating on what to dig into first. Becky's steak came served on top of white gravy (that's right - it was on top of the gravy). She got sides of mashed potatoes with brown gravy and baked beans.

She admitted that the feast was okay: the white gravy was good, the brown gravy needed salt, the mashed potatoes were real, and the baked beans were

yummy.

My mountain oysters also came chicken-fried with cocktail sauce for dipping. Not being a mountain oyster connoisseur, I would say the meal was good. Beside the oysters came a scoop of potato salad - not bad - and some of those yummy baked beans.

After much debate on who would go first, we began to eat the dessert that came with our specials. The bread pudding before us was served in an egg cup (I could continue for several hours on the misuses of egg cups, but for now I'll just say that this is definitely one of them) and topped with lemon pudding.

I forced Becky to take the first bite. After she chewed and swallowed without dying, I dove in. It wasn't that bad, but it really wasn't that great, either: it was just bread pudding.

The grand finale came as we were walking out the door. Right beside the exit stood a vending machine where one could buy a handful of candy for a quarter. One word: Chiclets (once again, something you can't just get anywhere anymore).

As we walked out the door, Becky and I decided that the Tex's Café experience was an adventure we will definitely be taking again. And I know that if you're looking for down-home food with a kitschy kick, you'll be heading to Tex's too.



Photo by Jason Krantz

How many times have you driven by this sign without stopping in to taste some of the fine food Tex's Cafe has to offer?

Rehor's Randy Review

Iron Maiden rocks steady through the decades

by **Jonathan Rehor**
Antelope Managing Editor

Over 25 years of staying power? You bet. Decaying corpses, flaming devils, songs of a prostitute named Charlotte; who else could it be? Maiden. Since the dawn of the new millennium, the band is back and is again demanding the respect of metal fans across the world.

In 2000, the band released *Brave New World* and last Sept. 9, the six-pack of British rockers released their new studio CD, “Dance of Death.”

The band, originally formed in the mid-70s by bassist Steve Harris, has released 13 studio albums, and various live recordings, re-releases, enhanced videodiscs, boxed sets and countless bootlegs.

With their heavy sound and

epic-length songs such as the 13+ minute overture “Rime of the Ancient Mariner,” the band was an instant hit among youth, and helped spearhead the New Wave of British Heavy Metal.

Before the release of their debut EP, Harris was joined by original band mates guitarist Dave Murray, Paul Di'Anno on vocals and Doug Sampson on drums.

Di'Anno performed with the band during their first two albums, “Iron Maiden” and “Killers,” before leaving and forming the band Killers.

Iron Maiden broke onto the international music scene in 1981, with the replacement of lead singer Paul Di'Anno with former Samson front man Bruce Dickinson. Dickinson, who sings with the band today, soon earned the nickname “The Human Air Raid Siren.”



Courtesy Photo

Dickinson's first studio release with the band, *The Number of the Beast*, is often hailed as the band's magnum opus. With hit singles “The Number of the Beast” and “Run to the Hills,” the Beast is easily

the most recognizable album cover.

1984 saw the release of Maiden's “Powerslave” album, and with it came a nine-month world tour that solidified the band as a heavy metal icon.

During the tour, the band and crew purportedly consumed over 50,000 cans of beer.

The band continued to see success during the 1980s and early 1990s. In 1995 and again in 1998, Maiden released “The X-Factor” and “Virtual XI” albums under the vocals of Blaze Bayley, formerly of Wolfsbane.

These two albums saw a severe decline in sales and tour dates, and in 1999, Dickinson and Adrian Smith announced they were reforming the band under the classic 80's lineup.

In 2000, metal fans around the globe rejoiced as the newly formed Maiden released “Brave New World.” The album, which saw a lengthy stint on the top 40 charts, brought to light “The Wicker Man” single, which saw the most airtime of any new Maiden song.

Last year's release, “Dance of Death,” has opened another chapter in Maiden's extensive list of credentials. The single “Wildest Dreams” is a sterling example of Maiden's ability to continue to produce quality classic metal in an otherwise bleak and overly untalented genre.

The band, now fronted by vocalist Bruce Dickinson, with bass player Steve Harris, drummer Nicko Smith and guitar players Dave Murray, Adrian Smith and Janick Gers, have scheduled several tour dates in promotion of their new album.

With the release of a new album and approaching summer tour dates, Maiden fans can rest easily knowing the band will continue to stay true to their roots and their fans (if only the same could be said for former-metal band Metallica).

Softball snaps seven game losing streak

by Derek Steenson
Antelope Staff Writer

The University of Nebraska - Kearney softball team won all their games last week and over the weekend, sweeping a doubleheader with rival Fort Hays State, 1-0 and 8-0, on Tuesday and taking both doubleheaders from Colorado State - Pueblo over the weekend, 10-9 and 5-0 on Saturday, and 2-1 and 1-0 on Sunday at Harvey Park.

Stellar pitching from Omaha senior Katie Anderson and Elmwood senior Danae Wolcott propelled the Lady Lopers to four shutouts in six games.

Tuesday's first game pitted Anderson against Fort Hays ace Brittany Parker, a pitching duel that yielded 15 strikeouts and only one run on eight hits. The game was tied into the ninth inning, when CSUP managed to load the bases with just one out. However, Anderson showed poise on the mound to get a ground out and a pop out to end the inning without allowing any runs.

In the bottom of the ninth, Parker retired the first two batters but ran into trouble facing Colorado junior Breanna Fleshman. Fleshman drove a single to left field and Colorado senior Megan Langerak followed by smacking a double into the left field corner that drove Fleshman in for the game-winning run.

Anderson finished the game allowing only four hits while walking seven and striking out one. It was her third shutout and 10th complete game of the spring.

In the second game of the doubleheader, Wolcott was in great form, allowing only two hits and no walks over the shortened five-inning game. Unlike in the first game, the Lopers got their offense going led by Kansas Junior shortstop Cody Pettibone going 2 for 2 with three RBI's at the plate. She hit her team-leading fourth home run in the first and lined a two run single in the second inning.

Kearney junior Jessie Drabek and Omaha sophomore Amanda Hitt each added two hits to energize the offense.

In the first game of Saturday's chilly doubleheader, the Lopers were down 4-0 and 7-2 at different points in the game and rallied back both times. Danae Wolcott pitched six strong innings in relief after Anderson was shelled for four runs in the first inning.

In the extra innings, the Lopers were down 9-6 in the bottom of the seventh with the bases loaded. North Platte



sophomore Anne Manning came to the plate and belted a triple down the right field line to clear the bases and tie the game. With no outs and the score tied at nine, the Lopers were in the driver's seat, but the next three batters flied out to end the inning, stranding Manning on third.

After an uneventful top of the eighth, the bottom of the inning provided the fireworks. With one out and the bases clear, Amanda Hitt got a hold of a pitch and sent it well over the left field fence. The walk-off

home run was only the second home run of her career, with the first dating back to last year against this same CSUP team.

UNK had 13 hits in the contest to go with nine walks issued by CSUP starter Amy Renaldi. Lexington sophomore Ashley Speak led the offense with three hits.

After starting and allowing a grand slam in the first inning and being pulled out of the game, Katie Anderson came in to retire the side in order to pick up the win in relief.

In Saturday's nightcap,

On the track for the men, Kearney sophomore Drew Tonniges was third in the 1,500 meters (4:01.24), and Brady sophomore Craig O'Dell took ninth in the 400-meter hurdles at 56:45.

Pfeiffer had a few goals for the upcoming season for both him and his team.

"I want the team to get high marks at all competitions, and I also want to go to nationals again this year. That is the goal for every season," Pfeiffer said.

For the UNK women it was Central City sophomore Shauna Birchard who led the Lopers by taking runner-up in the shot (44-11), sixth in the hammer, and 11th in the discus.

Butte junior Amber Tiefenthaler was the only first place finisher for Kearney taking the gold in the hammer at 169-3.

On the track, Bellwood junior Kate Semin claimed third in the 200 and fourth in the 400 (57.99). Hildreth senior Kathryn Alt was fifth and Lexington junior Andrea Anderen was sixth in the 800.

The other top five performance was Elkhorn junior Lesley Cruther, who was fifth in the high jump with a leap of 5-2.25.

UNK will be traveling to both the Kansas and Doane Relays this weekend.

throwers Nate Wheat (Lakin, Kan.) and Scott Jorgensen (Grand Island) placed first in their events.

Wheat won the shot put while Jorgensen had a season-best toss in the discus at 169-6. Kearney freshman Chase Beideck was third in the discus and Eustis sophomore Lance Pfeiffer took fifth with a throw of 51-7.

"The competition was good because there were a lot of Division II teams there, but the weather could have been better," Pfeiffer said.

To be in his best condition for competition, Pfeiffer does a few things before an event.

"I like to get a good night's sleep, listen to music, and make sure that I am really stretched and warmed-up before throwing," Pfeiffer said.

As for other throwers, Walthill junior Derek Frese took third in the discus, and Beideck's effort provisionally qualifies him for the NCAA Championships, joining Wheat and Jorgensen.

In other field events, Kansas senior Skyler Price was fifth in the triple jump and eighth in the long jump while Bertrand junior Mike Ford was runner up in the pole vault.

His performance also earned him a spot with the provisional list.

Track led by throwers

by Sarah Stuart
Antelope Staff Writer

The UNK Track and Field team was at it again this weekend at the Godfather's Pizza Division II Challenge this weekend at Emporia State in Kansas.

The Lopers were led by their throwers and placed seventh (men) and ninth (women) at the three-day competition.

The event began on Thursday with most of the events being held on Saturday. Over 900 student-athletes from 20 different schools competed in the Challenge.

The UNK men had 11 top ten finishers totaling up 55 points, and placing ahead of 11 other teams.

North Dakota took the title with 86 points followed by South Dakota with 84.5 points and Central Missouri State with 82.

For the women, the Lopers had six top five performances to rally 49 points and finish ahead of 12 other schools.

South Dakota took first this time (106), followed by the men's champion, North Dakota (99).

The throwers were the highlight of the competition for UNK, leading Kearney with five top-ten scores. Senior



Photo by Lindsey Humston

Above Left: A Loper batter takes off for first after a solid hit.

Left: Head Coach Holly Carnes looks concerned over her team's play, but she really did not have anything to worry about as the UNK softball team swept all of their six home games.

Above: A UNK base runner gets ready to take off for second base.

Anderson settled down to record her second shutout of the week by giving up only two hits and five walks while striking out six. She also went 3 for 3 at the plate and scored two runs.

CSUP didn't even manage to get a hit off Anderson until the fifth inning when Melissa Perea hit a single to center field. Anderson also provided some fireworks on offense when she ran over CSUP catcher Maggie Livreri at the plate to score the Lopers first run in the third inning.

Also contributing on offense were Anne Manning, who hit a solo homer, and Iowa sophomore Brandi Greenwood hit a three-run homer to account for the other runs.

The Easter Sunday doubleheader began with Anderson starting off where she finished the day before. Tossing her third shutout of the week, fifth of the season, Anderson allowed only

six hits and two walks while striking out four.

Even tough it was a shutout, the game was still close through the final inning. The only UNK run came from Amanda Hitt, who hit a single in the fourth inning to get on base. A few at bats later, a single by senior Megan Langerak drove Hitt home and put the Lopers' only run on the board.

In the seventh inning, CSUP had the tying run on second base with only one out when leadoff hitter Shanda Glenn singled up the center. UNK center fielder Jessie Drabek came up throwing for home plate. The throw was right on line to junior catcher Sarah Raymond who made the tag to save the run from scoring. Raymond then fired the ball to second to catch Glenn in a run down to end the game.

In game two, the score was tied into the sixth inning when

CSUP catcher Livreri put a ball over the outfield fence. UNK responded in the bottom of the inning with back-to-back singles by Pettibone and Hitt. A Raymond double drove in Pettibone and tied the game at one.

Manning came to bat and hit a sharp grounder that was mis-played by CSUP, allowing Hitt to cross home plate and putting the Lopers up by one. An uneventful seventh sealed the win.

Wolcott pitched very strong, allowing only three hits and three walks while striking out two to get her third win of the year.

The six wins this week put an end to the Lopers seven game losing skid from the previous weeks.

The UNK softball team travels to Wayne State on Thursday before a four game set at Adams State over the weekend.

Teply tabbed as next UNK receivers coach

by Derek Steenson
Antelope Staff Writer

University of Nebraska-Kearney head football coach Darrell Morris announced last week that Kearney native C.J. Teply will be the new wide receivers coach.

Teply replaces Andy Follett, who left UNK to be the receivers coach at I-AA SW Missouri State.

Teply, a 2003 UNK graduate, has been with the football program for the last three years, serving as a student assistant and, for the past two years, the running backs coach.

He has also worked closely with the tight ends. That experience, coupled with playing quarterback at Concordia University, Peru State, and a short stint with the Tri-City Diesel, has given Teply confidence with his new role.

"What he's learned over the last few years of being the tight end coach and the running backs coach has certainly set him up to have a successful stint as the wide receivers coach," said coach Morris.

"Each coach needs to have an understanding of how the

big picture develops itself, and I think Coach Teply has a great understanding of what we're doing offensively."

Coach Teply does have excellent group of receivers to coach with All-American Richie Ross and outstanding wide-out Garth Mihns.

In his five-year tenure coaching the receivers, coach

"Each coach needs to have an understanding of how the big picture develops itself, and I think Coach Teply has a great understanding of what we're doing offensively."

- Coach Darrell Morris

Follett coached seven receivers to All-RMAC honors, three to All-Region, and two to All-American.

With the amount of talent returning, Coach Morris is looking forward to Teply having the same amount of success as his predecessor.

"We still have wide receivers who can play here and we don't expect their performance to drop off... I expect him to have great success here," said Coach Morris.

As the coach said, success starts with the players and the system, and coach Teply doesn't plan on doing anything different from that of coach Follett.

"My background as a quarterback brought me into the situation in the first place...so I learned the offense as a whole, so it's been an easy transition to wide receivers," said coach Teply.

"We've both been taught most of the stuff we know from the same guy," said Teply, in response to possibly coaching different than coach Follett. "[The system] will be very, very similar."

"I'm glad to be here, glad to be part of the program I've been a part of for three years, and I'm happy to stay with the program," coach Teply said.

Coach Morris reiterated, "We're thrilled to have him here. He was a volunteer guy for us for several years, and I think it just shows young people that you come in, start at the bottom and work your way up, and sometimes it pays off for you."

It seems to have paid off for Teply.

Baseball goes 1-3 over weekend

by Amy Jo Hand
Antelope Staff Writer

UNK had a rough start in Grand Junction, Colo. last weekend.

The Lopers started off with a huge loss on Friday night to the Mesa State Mavericks, 25-1, then came back on Saturday afternoon with a split, 10-3 loss in the first game and a 7-6 win in the second.

The blue and gold wrapped up the weekend in Colorado with a 10-1 loss.

Last weekend puts Kearney at 15-25 overall, 6-10 in RMAC.

Two hits gone yard in the first two innings of Saturday's game one put the Mavs ahead 6-0.

Mesa's starting pitcher, Jason Martinez threw six scoreless innings, allowing only four hits and striking out seven.

UNK's Travis Kerkman and Gerald Sell each had two hits.

Saturday's second game was the Lopers' second victory over a nationally ranked team this year. UNK's Joba Chamberlain tossed this third complete game of the season, striking out seven while allowing only nine hits.

A two-run triple by Will Tressner, who went two for three with two RBI's and two runs scored on the game, and a sacrifice fly by Tony Crosetto tied the score at three in the second.

The Mavs were quick to answer back, reclaiming the



Antelope file photos.

Above: The Loper dugout looks on during a previous game.

Right: Lefty Matt Webster fires one to the plate.

lead in the third by one run.

Adam Krueger hit an infield single in the fifth to tie up the game again, and Sell brought him home with a single.

This time the Lopers' lead would stick.

Mesa made catch-up attempts in the seventh, scoring a run on two hits and a throwing error by Chamberlain. With a runner on first and one out, Chamberlain easily made up for the error as he struck out Mesa's

clean up hitter and got the next batter up to fly out, ending the game, 7-6.

An explosion in the final four innings of Sunday's game put Mesa over the top in a 10-1 loss for the Lopers.

Jason Miller had his first start as a Loper on the mound, immediately gaining respect as he shut out the Mavs over the first four innings, allowing just four hits and one walk. He went on to let in five earned runs and



11 hits over his full five innings pitched, with a K in addition to the walk.

"It wasn't really anything new because I started for my junior college. I was just glad to get the opportunity to pitch. I really wasn't nervous. I knew what I had to do. I've been looking forward to this all year," Miller said about his pitching

debut.

UNK snatched up a 1-0 lead in the third from a single by Kerkman that brought Jade Muelhenkamp home, who had reached on an error. Kerkman went two for four in the game.

Mesa began to rally with two outs in the fifth. A pitch hit a runner on third, Joe Dimberger, and a single by Jason Crawford

tied the game.

The next two Mavericks up hit singles to bring in two more runs.

The sixth inning sealed the deal for the Mavs when Dimberger hit a grand slam, setting the score to a final 10-1.

The Lopers will be at home this weekend, as they host Colorado State-Pueblo.

Comments? Suggestions?

Email the sports editor at antelopesports@hotmail.com.

Tennis keeps on rolling

by Kory Engel
Antelope Staff Writer

The University of Nebraska at Kearney men's tennis team kept to their winning ways as they defeated Colorado Christian 8-0 and Metro State 5-2 last weekend in Denver.

The Lopers now improve to 10-3 on the season, and keep their goal of winning the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference regular season championship alive.

UNK coach Patrick Fischer was concerned about the altitude going into the matches, but was glad they faced a weaker

Colorado Christian team before playing their tough rival Metro State.

"Not to sound arrogant, but Colorado Christian is usually one of the weaker teams in the conference so it kind of gave us a chance to get accustomed to the special conditions of playing in Colorado in a match situation and so we didn't have to play our best right away," Fischer said.

Even though the Lopers didn't play that well against Colorado Christian Fischer said playing the first match was a good way for his players to find their rhythm and get accus-

tomed to altitude and playing indoors again due to the rainy weather.

In the match against Metro State, the Lopers accomplished something that they haven't done all season long and that was winning all three doubles matches. Fischer said winning all three doubles matches was crucial for the Lopers.

"One thing we tried to emphasize last week in practice was to work on doubles because I knew if we could win two doubles we would be in really good shape and once we got three, the match was almost over right there," Fischer said.

As for the Lady Lopers tennis team, they dropped their decision to Metro State by the score of 0-7 and now have 2-12 record on the season. Fischer said tennis is not all about winning and losing matches when a team is struggling.

"Tennis is more about performing well, performing up to the best of their ability in order to gain some satisfaction out of season that probably doesn't look to well on the stats sheet," Fischer said.

Both tennis teams will be at home on Friday against CU-Colorado Springs and Saturday verses Colorado State-Pueblo.

Linksters finish eighth at invite

by Eric Allgood
Antelope Staff Writer

The Nebraska-Kearney women's golf team finished the Subway Women's Invite last week in Amarillo, Texas. The Lopers shot a two-day total of 698 (345-353) to place eighth out of nine teams.

Hosted by West Texas A & M, the tournament was played at the par 72 Tascosa G.C.

Weather nearly washed the second day out, as a rain delay halted play for four hours.

Despite the bad weather, Northeastern State of Oklahoma shot a 308 over the final 18 holes to coast to a tournament best 616. Central Oklahoma was second (634) and St. Mary's of Texas third (637).

Leading the Loper charge were Gering sophomore Mandi Schlaepfer and Colorado senior

Sara Enninga.

Each had top 30 efforts for UNK. Schlaepfer turned in a 168 (83-85) to tie for 24th while Enninga was at 169 (86-83) to tie for 26th.

Rounding out scoring for the Loper linksters were Grand Island sophomore Lindsay Vivian (37th 179/87-92), Kearney freshman Carly Hill (40th 182/89-93) and South Dakota sophomore Ambur Vanneman (42nd 186/91-85).

On Monday, the Lopers headed to Windsor, Colo. for the Bear Springs Invitational being hosted by Northern Colorado.

After the first day of play, UNK was in second place after firing a 327. Schlaepfer was sitting in second after the first round.

Final results from this invitational will be in next week's paper.

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Cranes take flight to MONA

by Kristen Lange
Antelope Staff Writer

Admittedly, I am not a huge fan of the cranes. I don't dislike the cranes; I just don't find it necessary to make a big deal about a tall, ugly bird. I wouldn't personally travel half way across the United States to see them, especially if I was traveling from sunny Florida to, well, Nebraska.

Although I do not get crazy over the birds, I do think that the exhibit at the Museum of Nebraska Art is rather interesting.

The crane exhibit at MONA entitled "The Migration Stops Here: MONA's cranes" runs from February 24 through May 2, 2004. The exhibit features photographs and other artistic illustrations of the cranes.

The display includes several photographs from well-known photographer Michael Forsberg. Residing in Lincoln, Neb., Forsberg is dedicated to representing the Great Plains, particularly the sandhill cranes, through his work.

He has received nation wide recognition for his crane photographs and his work for NEBRASKA-land Magazine.

Most recently, one of his crane photographs was awarded as a highly commended winner in the Wildlife Photographer of the Year Competition 2003 and a few of his images are in a National Geographic article this month featuring the cranes. Forsberg is currently working on a book containing his photographs of cranes.



Photos by Lindsey Humston

Sandhill Cranes are now on display at the Museum of Nebraska Art. The event is in celebration of the crane migration and runs from February 24 to May 2. Seeing this show is the next best thing to seeing the cranes in the field.

"For a very long time, it has been a dream of mine to produce a picture book on the sandhill crane, a mystical and revered creature, the most ancient of bird species on the globe, and an ambassador for wetland habitats throughout much of North America," Forsberg said.

The exhibit also includes John James Audubon's hand colored aquatint engraving and hand colored lithograph illustrations of the whooping crane and the whooping crane (sandhill crane).

The larger illustrations (double elephant folio size) were created by John Audubon and Robert Havell in 1834 and 1835. The smaller illustrations (octavo size) were created by Audubon with J.T. Bowen and produced between 1839 and 1842.

The two crane illustrations are part of 435 total birds that Audubon illustrated in actual size of each bird. He compiled his sketches from 1827-1839 into a book entitled "The Birds of America," which is on display at the museum under glass.



I personally thought this was the most interesting part of the exhibit because you can view the actual sketches by Audubon, which is a unique piece of art history. The large sketches are interesting because they are very detailed and life size representations of the cranes.

The exhibit spans several areas of the museum and features work by other artists and photographers including Jeff Beiermann, Paul Goble, Cliff Hollestelle, Robert Weaver, and Gary Zaruba. One of the pieces

is a watercolor and ink picture that shows the interaction between a Native American and the cranes.

The artwork shows a Native American with the cranes, playing a musical instrument similar to a clarinet, with an illustration of a crane's head for the mouthpiece. Another piece of art in the exhibit is a replication of a crane's feather carved out of wood and painted.

Overall, the display shows many different aspects of the crane ranging from the histori-

cal sketches of Audubon to realistic photographs to a display called "Carousel Crane" created with fiberglass, wood, canvas, polyresin, acrylic and lights.

Even if you are a crane skeptic as I am, I think that everyone will enjoy this exhibit.

When I visited the museum there were several school busses full of elementary students who were thrilled to see the pictures of the cranes, proving that there are many people who enjoy these funny birds.

Chang displays piano perfection

by Kelly Hickman
Antelope Staff Writer

One might say that it was piano perfection rather than just a plain old piano recital. But to be certain, there is no arguing that it was a night of beautifully performed classics played to sheer perfection at the UNK faculty and guest artist recital series known as Concerts on the Platte, which took place on Monday night in the Fine Arts Recital Hall at UNK.

Fenia Chang was the guest faculty pianist. She provided her audience with a spectacular program on Monday night. The

program included five classical piano pieces from renowned composers and musicians. Chang's piano performance was the fifteenth performance in the 2004 Concerts on the Platte series.

Chang, who is currently faculty at Texas A&M University, has quite an impressive musical background. She began her musical career by winning the prestigious Taipei Kawai International Piano Competition at the age of 11. Even more amazing than accomplishing something so incredible at such a young age: at age 11 Chang had only been playing the piano for two years. Chang holds her

B.M. and her M.M. degrees from the acclaimed Juilliard and her D.M.A. from the University of Maryland.

Chang has also won and competed in many numerous and prestigious piano competitions, including the Frinna Awerbuch International Piano Competition and the Busoni International Piano Competition. Not to mention that Chang's students are also performing in competitions and doing quite well.

Nothing says more than a musician who has performed all

over the world, and Chang adds this to her list of accomplishments as well, performing in North America, Europe and Asia in cities including: Taipei, Beijing, Paris, New York and Washington to name a few.

The program began on Monday night with Sonata in C Major by Franz Josef Haydn. This piece was composed in London, England in 1794 and is a beautiful classic. Next, Chang wowed the crowd with Jeux d'Eau by Maurice Ravel, a piece that has been labeled "impressionistic" and was com-

posed in the early twentieth century.

Chang also performed for her audience two pieces by Enrique Granados. The pieces were entitled Allegro de concierto and El Pelele and both had an exciting Spanish flare.

The night's program was finally concluded with the fantastic performance of Sonata No. 3 in B minor by the famous Frederic Chopin. This piece was a great choice to end the program and it filled the air with beautiful music. A great note to end on.

Chang played every piece with grace and skill. The music flowed perfectly and took everyone in the audience to another place-lost in the beauty of the classics. It was an honor to have Chang perform at UNK.

If you are interested in being swept away by beautiful music, there is still time.

Concerts on the Platte will present another piano recital from Zsuzsa Balint on April 22 at 7:30p.m. in the Fine Arts Recital Hall at UNK. Do not miss another opportunity to partake in this great music series.

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Violence increases in Iraq; more troops called

by Amanda Muller
Antelope Staff Writer

The anniversary of the official end of the war with Iraq has been celebrated with increased violence as Iraqi militant groups attempt to seize control of several key cities.

Pressure is increasing on coalition force members as insurgents abduct civilians working in Iraq and fighting breaks out in southern Iraq.

United States military commanders are requesting thousands of additional troops to be deployed to Iraq to deal with recent uprisings in the south led by radical Shi'ite cleric, Moqtada al-Sadr.

In addition to dealing with the Shi'ite rebellion in the south,

U.S. forces have faced Sunni attackers in the Fallujah area over the last several months, where fighting resulted in the the killing and mutilation of four American contractors.

Individuals working with the coalition forces as private contractors or helping with humanitarian organizations have been taken hostage throughout Iraq over the last week.

Canadian Television News said that at least 30 civilians from 12 different countries have been taken hostage so far.

Two U.S. soldiers and seven employees of the American construction company Kellogg Brown and Root are missing.

Two Czech reporters and a cameraman were also reported missing.

Two German security offi-

cials are missing and presumed to be dead by their government.

American Thomas Hamill was shown via television footage being held hostage by Iraqi guerrillas. He is believed to be one of the missing construction company workers.

Japanese aid workers Noriaki Imai and Nahoko Takato and photojournalist Soichiro Koriyama have been taken hostage in southern Iraq. Their captors threatened them in a videotape and vowed to burn them alive if Japan refused to withdraw its troops from Iraq.

Fadi Ihsan Fadel, a Canadian who works for the International Rescue Committee, and Nabil Razouk, an individual from East Jerusalem who works for the U.S. Agency for International Development, were both kid-

napped in Najaf last Wednesday.

The "Marytr Ahmed Yassin Brigades" in the city of Ramadi, which is west of Baghdad and Fallujah, has claimed to have 30 hostages from America, Japan, Spain and Bulgaria. This has yet to be confirmed.

Al-Jazeera reports that 11 Russians working for an energy company in Iraq were kidnapped in Baghdad on Monday.

Seven Chinese nationals were abducted in Fallujah, but were later released.

Seven South Korean church pastors were kidnapped and then freed within 24 hours.

Gary Teeley, a British civilian contractor kidnapped on or before April 8, was freed on April 11.

Mohsen Abdel Hamid, member of the Iraqi governing

council, said on the Al-Jazeera network that 12 foreign hostages were freed after the Association of Muslim Clerics issued an edict condemning hostage-taking. No more information about these hostages is known.

A cease-fire that began on Friday at noon in the city of Fallujah is still holding as talks resume between local Sunni leaders and a delegation from the Iraqi Governing Council.

Al-Sadr's uprising is not considered to be a widespread uprising by the Shi'ite majority, but instead the action of an extremist group.

"The mission of the U.S. forces is to kill or capture Moqtada al-Sadr," Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, commander

of ground forces in Iraq, said.

Casualties in Iraq since the first of this month are estimated at about 70 coalition soldiers and roughly 700 Iraqi insurgents.

U.S. officials are reaching out to former senior members of Sadaam Hussein's disbanded army in the hopes of shoring up some of the gaps in the training of Iraqi police and soldiers, the Seattle-Post said.

The U.S. plan to turn over Iraq to the Iraqi interim government hinges on the successful training of soldiers and police in Iraq.

While over 200,000 have been trained, U.S. officials say that they were not highly effective in the recent fighting and that this may cause problems in meeting the June 30 deadline.

Latino-based fraternity joins campus Greeks

by Heather Bunsen
Antelope Staff Writer

The University of Nebraska at Kearney had the honor of colonizing a new fraternity on campus on April 4. Sigma Lambda Beta is the newest addition to Greek life at UNK.

Sigma Lambda Beta is the first Latino-based fraternity to be established on campus and joins chapters already established at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

The colonization of this fraternity occurred on the 18th anniversary of the colonization of the first chapter of Sigma Lambda Beta.

Juan Izaguirre, the Midwest District Governor of Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, said, "Sigma Lambda Beta is a historically Latino-based fraternity with open membership for all men."

The five charter members of Sigma Lambda Beta at UNK include Manuel Andazola (Grand Island); Juan Carlos Guzman (Grand Island); Eddie Quintana (Kearney); Mike Chavez

(Lexington); and Roberto Montiel (Lexington). The local advisors for Sigma Lambda Beta are Sam Lopez and Bryan Samuel. The five charter members have been working on establishing the fraternity at UNK since last summer.

Cami Wacker, assistant director of Residential and Greek Life, said, "I am thrilled these fine men have met the requirements to be an official colony of Sigma Lambda Beta at UNK. We will support these men as they work to become a recognized student organization and a member of the Interfraternity Council. Sigma Lambda Beta is a wonderful addition to our campus and Greek community at UNK."

Manuel Andazola, Grand Island sophomore, also thinks that Sigma Lambda Beta is a great addition to the campus and even thought about joining the fraternity while he was a student at UNL.

"I've looked into other fraternities in general, but being Latino I can relate to this fraternity more. I like the principles and the cultural awareness. The main reason for joining this fraternity is that this fraternity was founded by people I can relate to," Andazola said. Andazola's brother is a member of the Lincoln chapter of Sigma Lambda Beta.

Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity Incorporated is the first Latino-based fraternity on the UNK campus. The fraternity was originally founded by 18 men--16 of which were from various Hispanic/Latino backgrounds--on April 4, 1986, at the University of Iowa.

Sigma Lambda Beta is the first Latino-based fraternity to be established in all four regions of the United States, including the island of Puerto Rico. The motto of Sigma Lambda Beta is "Opportunity for Wisdom, Wisdom for Culture," and the fraternity's signature philanthropy event is Brother Victor Correa CPR Awareness Day.

Since the creation of their fraternity, the brothers of Sigma Lambda Beta have also been known as the Lambda Betas or just Betas. Their chapter colors are royal purple and white.

The Office of Residential and Greek Life will be sponsoring a campus-wide welcome reception for the Sigma Lambda Beta fraternity on Wednesday, April 21 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Nebraskan Student Union. For more information, log on to the fraternity's national Web site at www.sigmalambdabeta.com.

Campus Republicans seeks student involvement

From *Republicans*, page 1

environment," Swagger said.

He, by the way, doesn't even consider himself a "political junkie." He wants students to feel comfortable coming to the meetings no matter how much or how little they know about the

party. The purpose of the organization is to get students involved in the Republican Party and learn about its views so that they can go to the polls, make educated decisions and most importantly, make a difference. By bringing in speakers, attending local GOP

meetings, state and national conventions and hosting forums, students can better understand where the Republican Party stands on controversial topics such as abortion and gun control, as well as other issues affecting their lives.

Swagger, who is studying to become a doctor, says that no matter which career path you choose to travel, politics will play a role in your future. "Laws and regulations passed by our elected officials affect all of us at some level. If we aren't aware of the issues in legislation and where our representatives stand, it is harder to understand and plan for changes we may soon encounter as a result of their votes," he said.

After doing his internship on Capital Hill, Swagger said he realized how important the 18 to 27-year-old demographic segment was to political groups.

"The people in this age group have far more power than they might believe," he said. Because we are the future generation of leaders, today's politicians embrace the opportunity to work with college students. Swagger said it's easy to get involved in local, state and national offices, you just have to know who to talk to.

Speaking of talking, Swagger has done a lot of communicating lately with MTV's head office, trying to get UNK included on its "Rock the Vote" tour next fall. The event is a one-day, non-partisan festival featuring speakers, booths and musical perfor-

mances. The purpose of the event is to encourage younger Americans to go to the polls and vote. The tour will be following a trail from Chicago to Denver and will stop at several campuses along the way. Some of last year's musical acts were Alicia Keys and the Dave Mathews Band. The festival is a great way to bring students together and help them realize that their voices do matter.

For anyone interested in learning more about Campus Republicans, contact Curtis Swagger at swag197@yahoo.com or call (308) 440-4066.

Davis named Honors director

From *Honors*, page 1

community among members is quickly formed each semester. Students are able to easily communicate back and forth, form study groups and connect socially because of the close community that is formed in Stout Hall. Because of the increased need for Honors on-campus housing, the second and third floors of Randall Hall have also been set aside for Honors students.

Morgan Anderson, Kearney freshman, said: "I love the program a lot, especially the Honors dorm. The people there are in the same classes, and you can turn to them for help."

Anderson said she likes the Honors classes because they are open and students can discuss topics. "They're not just a lecture...like other classes." Anderson said she knew about the Honors Program through friends who were already members. "Since I had friends in the program, when I got in I was like 'sweet,'" she said.

To apply to be a member of UNK's Honors Program, an incoming freshman must have a minimum ACT score of 26, rank in the top 25 percent of his/her high school class and complete a written essay. Members of the Honors Program have the opportunity to register for a wide num-

ber of honors courses offered at UNK. Special scholarships are also available for Honors students.

UNK students who are not freshmen but are still interested in being a member of the Honors Program may also apply. Upon completing 12 credit hours at UNK, any current student who has a GPA of at least 3.5 may apply to the program by filling out an application and completing a written essay.

To find out more about the UNK Honors Program, log on to the Web site at <http://www.unk.edu/acad/honors/>.

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Vampires believed to be real in Romania

by **Jillian Hothan**
Antelope Staff Writer

If they were already dead, what's the big deal over cutting out their hearts? Romanian vampire slayers asked police this very question.

Toma Petre's relatives pulled his body from the grave, ripped out his heart, burned it to ashes, mixed it with water and drank it. Petre was believed to be a vampire, and in an attempt to save their own lives his relatives burned his body.

Romanian State Police are investigating the vampire slaying case that occurred during the last week of March in Marotinu de Sus, Romania.

Petre's relatives may be charged with disturbing the peace of the dead, which could carry a three-year jail term. The Romanian State Police see vampire slaying as illegal, but villagers in the community don't see it as anything unusual.

The investigation is ongoing, and we expect to file charges later. We are determining whether this was an isolated case or whether there is a pattern in the village, said Constantin Ghindeano, the chief agent for the region. The police believe that dead bodies in graves aren't to be dug out and killed again, even by relatives.

Some villagers are even outraged that the police are getting involved in the case because vampire slaying is an accepted part of their heritage. The ideas that vampires can be pushed away by crosses, cloves of garlic, or that they can't be seen by mirrors are all just Hollywood tales. Authentic vampire slayers believe that the body must be burned to avoid any type of vampire confrontation.

"If they're right, he was already dead. If we're right, we killed a vampire and saved lives...Is that so wrong?" said Flora Marinescu, Petre's sister who was an accomplice in the slaying.



Toma Petre's relatives pulled his body from the gravesite above and cut out his heart. They claimed he was a vampire and had been sucking their blood at night.

Vampires are humans who have died that rise from their graves to suck the blood of sleeping people, preferably relatives. It's easy to identify a vampire because when dug from their graves they will be found lying on their sides with blood around their mouths. Their bodies will not be decomposed and their hair will have continued to grow. Vampires can be found anywhere, but are usually not recognized by others because of

their low profile.

After Petre died, his relatives became ill. They knew it was because Petre was a vampire, and that he had been coming in the night to such their blood. When Gheorghe Marinescu, Petre's brother-in-law, went to the grave he found Petre on his side with a bloody mouth. That's when his heart was ripped out, burned and mixed with water. The relative drank this to cure their newly discov-

ered illness, and it worked. After drinking it, each relative began feeling better and each person's sickness was miraculously gone.

Americans may find vampire stories difficult to believe. Their contact with vampires is usually through science-fiction movies, and many Americans view vampires as a fictional character.

"No I do not believe in vampires," said Zach Bailie, Lincoln sophomore. "The whole idea of

it is just silly. I don't even like to watch movies about vampires."

Americans may not believe that vampires are real, but many are still fascinated by vampire tales. Look at popular movies such as "Dracula," "Interview with the Vampire," "Shadow of the Vampire" and the popular TV show "Buffy the Vampire Slayer."

"I liked watching 'Buffy the Vampire Slayer,' and I wish that show was still on TV," Terri

Smith, Omaha senior, said. American culture has obviously taken an interest in vampire stories.

Our culture may see vampire stories as just that, stories. However, vampires are seen as the real deal in Romania because it's a part of their cultural history. Vampire-slaying is still practiced, and viewed as a normalcy in their society.

Fantasy lit comes to life

by **Amanda Muller**
Antelope Staff Writer

Witches and hobbits and elves, oh my! The world of fantasy is coming to UNK through the efforts of a campus society.

The English honor society Sigma Tau Delta is hosting UNK's first ever fantasy fair on Wednesday, April 21, from 3 to 6:30 p.m. in the Great Room of the Nebraskan Student Union.

Sara Brown, Sigma Tau Delta's historian and head planner for the fantasy fair, said this event is free of charge and open to everyone.

Sigma Tau Delta works to promote writing and literature along with fun and fellowship, according to the UNK student organizations Web site.

Brown said the society chose to have a fantasy fair to familiarize the public with the literature behind today's popular movies and to have a little fun in the process.

"Fantasy movies have been really popular so we decided to have a fantasy fair," Brown said.

Brown said the fantasy fair will be a little bit like a renaissance fair, but with a year 2000 twist.

There will be food, movies and games as well as fantasy readings.

The food won't just be ordinary snacks, but instead will fully fit in with the fantasy theme, Brown said.

Brown said that they had actually found recipes for hob-

bit food online and are excited to see what people think of these strange foods.

Brown said they will show popular fantasy movies like the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy and the "Harry Potter" series throughout the event.

The games at the fair will include Jeopardy and others that are still being planned, Brown said.

Dr. John Damon, UNK English professor, will be reading one of his fantasy pieces.

"We are looking for student readings as well," Brown said.

Brown said that they are also looking for students who would be willing to attend in costume.

Students interested in participating can contact Brown at brownsd1@unk.edu.

I would like to personally thank the following individuals for their help and support during the Spring 2004 semester!

- Molly Albrecht
- Jillian Tangeman
- Traci Witthuhn
- Kara Mueller
- Francisco Itamar
- Jodi Carroll
- Quincy Cromer
- Amanda Harvey
- Zach Houdek
- Justin McDowell
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UNK Rodeo

ropin' through the years



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1966 Kearney State College Rodeo Club Officers



1972 Kearney State College Rodeo Queen

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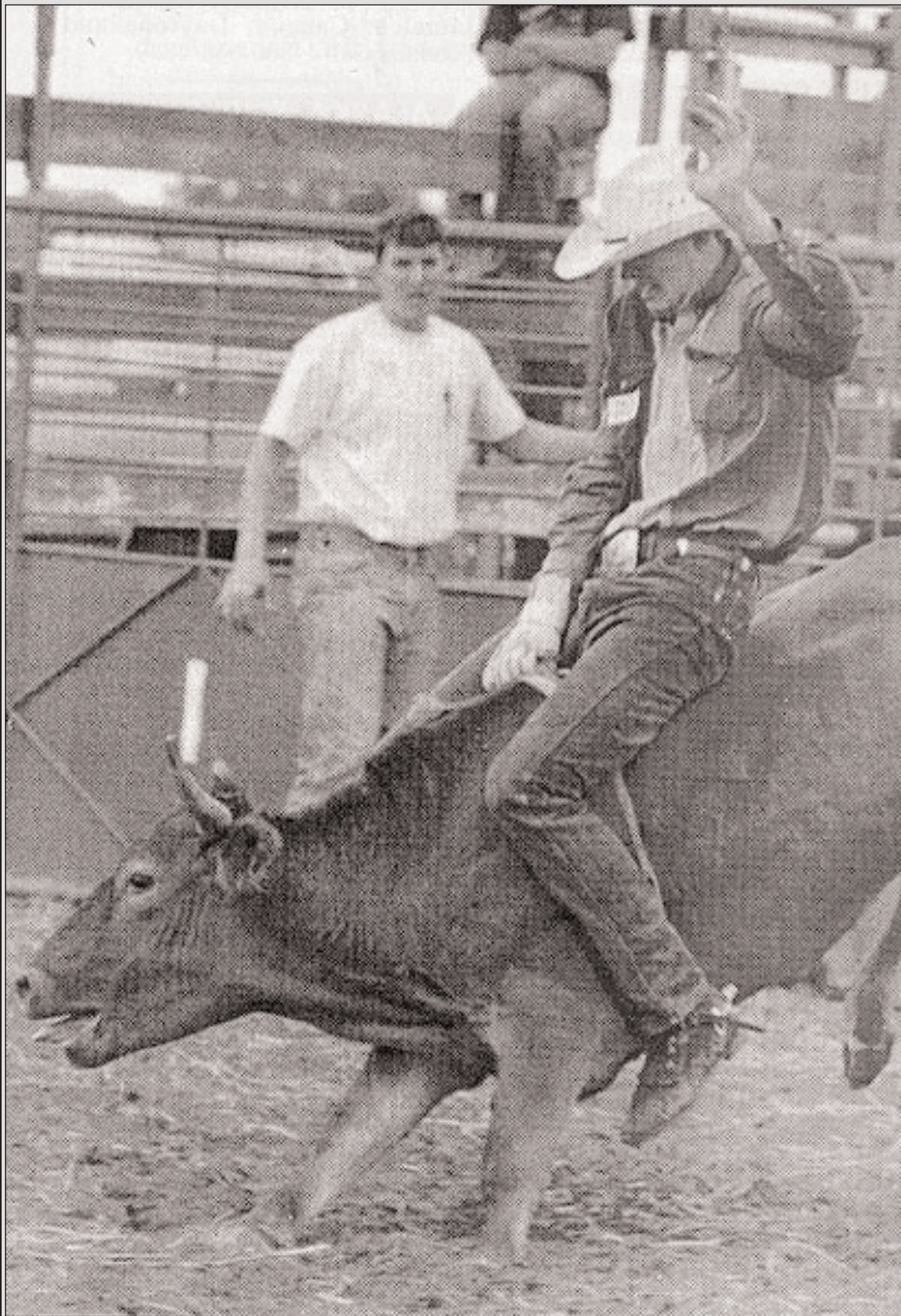
to host wild weekend

The University of Nebraska - Lincoln Rodeo Club will be holding their annual rodeo in Kearney on April 16-17. This rodeo is a National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association sanctioned event sponsored by First Inn Gold and Holdrege Irrigation.

Friday night's 7:30 rodeo performance will be followed by a live dance to get everyone livened up for Saturday's many activities.

Saturday is Kid's Day, with free admission for children 12 and under. The afternoon rodeo performance will begin at 1:30, with a Special Olympics rodeo to follow. The final go-round of the two-day event will be held at 7:30 Saturday evening, followed by another dance.

Tickets to these events are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the gate. Advanced tickets can be purchased at the Cow Poke, First Inn Gold, Hastings Books, Music & Video, or the Buffalo County Ag Association.



UNK Rodeo Club is still

riding after all these years

That is the question being asked by the UNK Rodeo Club, whose president, Jodi Smith, admits "our biggest challenge over the past few years is member recruitment."

The Rodeo Club was formed around 1968, when rodeo was a powerful sport not only in Nebraska, but throughout the country. The sport has seen declines and recessions throughout the years, but a recent slump seems to be a rough go-round. Rodeo participation and audience numbers are failing, many organizations are feeling this blow.

"When I remember it first as a little girl, they rodeoed at Clarence Marcus's, then they got to go to the Fairgrounds, and then they actually put on rodeos," Donna Posusta, UNK Rodeo Club advisor, said as she recounted the history of the club. "In the mid-70s they had some hard luck with the stock contractor and went under for a while, and then revived in the 80s. They reorganized and came to life again."

"We have had some kids that did compete on a team in the past. And we had some members that traveled with Lincoln. More recent years have lost the backing to have a team, and members have had to compete individually," Posusta explained.

The UNK Rodeo Club goes beyond the competition aspect of rodeo. Members also develop social and philanthropic ties through the organization.

"We have the same interests, it's what we love to do, and it's what we do on the weekends - all of us. If we aren't participating, we're going to rodeos every weekend," Jodi Smith, club president, said.

She is glad that she could find a common ground with some of her peers, and admits, "It's hard to find somebody else to be close friends with who enjoys those activities. I've grown closer to a lot of people that I probably wouldn't have known if it weren't for rodeo club."

The group meets on Monday nights, welcoming anyone who has an interest in rodeo. At these gatherings, members plan fund-raising and philanthropic events that they will participate in throughout the year.

Posusta would point out the reasons she continues to help with the club, "it's the satisfaction of keeping in contact with the sport, the camaraderie, and watching the youth take over."

Smith is quick to point out that the club goes beyond the sport of rodeo; they get to the heart of the true "cowboy spirit" in performing good deeds and philanthropic activities, as well as having a sheerly good time.

"A lot of people think that because we're a rodeo club, that you have to rodeo to be in this club," She said. "It's a lot more than that. If you like watching rodeos or want to learn more about rodeo, people are welcome."



Photo by Traci J. Witthuhn

Current members of the UNK Rodeo Club, President Jodi Smith and Denise Dearthmont