

the Antelope

University of Nebraska at Kearney

Run With It

A walk to *really* remember

UNK students and local residents put on walking shoes to support cancer victims

BY KELLY BERNT
Antelope Staff

Walking for 12 hours straight may seem crazy to some. However, to those participating in the Relay for Life, it was a small sacrifice to contribute to a very worthy cause. Between 7 p.m. Friday and 7 a.m. Saturday, the indoor Loper track was filled with supporters in the fight against cancer.

The event opened with the Nebraskats singing the national anthem. UNK junior Brittany Davidson, a Nebraskats member,

said she felt honored to sing as part of the event. "This is about honoring those with cancer," Davidson said. "I am grateful to honor them, even if it's just with singing."

The new Student Body President and Student Regent, junior Tim Hruza served as the DJ for the Relay for Life. The political science/economic major felt privileged to be part of the event. "It's honestly just an honor," Hruza said. "It's great to see so many people stay up all night to help others. It definitely says something about students

at UNK and the people of Kearney."

UNK senior KaDene Deke got involved with the walk for personal reasons. "I heard about it a couple years ago," Deke said. "My brother was diagnosed with cancer, so I got involved."

This is Deke's second year,

and she planned to stay the entire 12 hours again this year. Deke's sister, Megan, also participated in the walk.

"I think it's rewarding to know you're helping people," Megan Deke said. "My family went through this, so it's good to help others."

KaDene and Megan both participated as part of the Chi Omega team. "The team keeps us going. We have a lot of energy," Megan Deke said. "One of our sorority sisters is a survivor, and I think she appreciates us being out here. We support each other."



LEFT: Maria Sampugnaro, sophomore, and Stephanie Cunningham, sophomore show their support for Relay for Life. Pop was available for a donation of 50 cents. *Photo by Sarah Ahlers.*

ABOVE: The Nebraskats performed at the opening ceremony before Relay for Life. *Photo by Kelly Bernt.*

TOP RIGHT: Keisha Anderson, senior, places glow sticks in bags in honor of those who have been diagnosed with cancer. Their names were written on the bags. *Photo by Sarah Ahlers.*

RIGHT: UNK students and Kearney residents showed their support during Relay for Life by walking 12 consecutive hours. The event started at 7 p.m. Friday and continued until 7 a.m. the next morning. *Photo by Kelly Bernt.*



Hofstetter brings raucous laughter to UNK

BY GARRETT RITONYA
Antelope Photo Editor

Steve Hofstetter is not your typical, run-of-the-mill comedian. He is what most people consider the "thinking man's comic," offering insight on politics, sports and sometimes, life.

Hofstetter brought his comedic style to UNK on Thursday night in the Health and Sports Center, despite the unusual snowfall, which almost kept him from appearing.

"We were performing in Wyoming, and because of the snowfall there, they closed Interstate 80, blocking our way to Kearney," Hofstetter said.

The road for Hofstetter to comedy stardom has been in the making since he was only 13-years-old, when a cute girl convinced him to join the local improv club. Little did he know that only two weeks later that same girl would quit, but Hofstetter was hooked.

"I began doing the improv

bit which turned into a full-time comedy job," Hofstetter said. "I have now been doing it for six years."

The event was put on by CTW and required months of advertising and hours of setup once the show was confirmed to go on as scheduled. CTW Resident Advisor, Matt Tomjack did most of the work behind the scenes.

"Putting together the show required three months of non-stop work from myself and CTW Hall Director Scott Benson," said Tomjack, a sophomore from Wahoo. "Our executive board really stepped up and helped coming down the stretch."

Some of Hofstetter's jokes included poking fun at the UNK mascot, weak high school mascots and embarrassing UNK classes. The last two involved crowd interaction and provided for many laughs. About 250 UNK students and faculty were there to enjoy the show.

"I thought it was great that CTW brought in this outside



Photo by Garrett Ritonya
Comedian Steve Hofstetter makes an intriguing point during one of his joke sets Thursday night. Hofstetter made his first appearance ever on the UNK campus thanks to the work of CTW.

event. It was obvious the students loved it and hopefully it will lead to more events like this," said CTE Hall Director John O'Malley.

Hofstetter also provided advice on life and taking chances, encouraging those who are afraid to stand up before a crowd to give it a try.

"When you're up there, you're already doing something the audience admires. You're already halfway there," Hofstetter said. "It will give you the confidence to take on the most daunting of tasks, such as girls."

Hofstetter has written and published three books titled "College Body Shots 1 & 2" and "Balls!" The purpose behind his "College Body Shots" books is to relate everyone at one point in the stories.

"The best things I have heard from people who have read them are when they say 'Hey do you remember that one time?'" Hofstetter said. "College is so great because of the shared experience. It's like going to camp

and work at the same time."

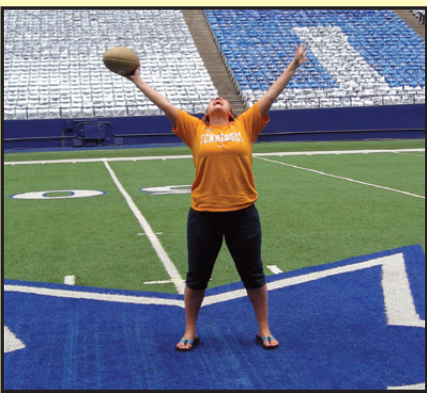
Next semester, UNK has planned to bring several live events to campus within the first couple weeks of school, with a possible return of Hofstetter. The idea of an encore would not upset any of those in attendance Thursday night, including Shane Riley, a sophomore geography/history major from Arapahoe.

"It was amazing and I would love to see something like this on campus again," Riley said.



Photo by Laura Schemper
Jason Thompson opened for Hofstetter.

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5 HPERLS students went to Texas to develop professional skills.



6 A CEO visits campus to talk with students. Read about it on page 6.

NEXT WEEK



Did you know UNK has a Rodeo Club? Read all about it next week.

Coming soon to UNK:

Loper Baseball
April 18-20, various times
Memorial Field

Fun5k Run/Walk
Saturday, April 19 @ 9 a.m.
Cope Stadium

Luncheon scheduled to celebrate excellence at UNK

BY LISA BECKER
Antelope Staff

On Thursday, UNK and the community will come together for a luncheon to celebrate the service of the UNK faculty and staff.

“The luncheon started over 20 years ago. Originally, the retirement luncheon and the service awards were held at separate events. The two were combined about 14 years ago into one event,” John Lakey, director of human resources at UNK said.

“This event is a way for family and friends to come together as a campus and honor those who have given years of service to UNK,” Lakey said.

The luncheon will be in the Nebraskan Student Union Ponderosa Room at 1:15 p.m. “Tickets can be purchased at the cashiers window in the Finance Office for \$9.10,” Lakey said.

The luncheon will begin by honoring those staff and faculty members who will retire after the spring 2008 semester.

Those who will be retiring and honored at the luncheon include: Karen Atteberry, Uni-

versity Relations; Dr. Margaret (Peg) Camp, accounting/finance; Verna Cope, Human Resources; Jerald Fox, International Education; Kim Gronewold, biology; Judith Holoubeck, video services; John Horvath, video services; Dr. Don Kaufman, chemistry; Dr. Kenneth Mumm, Teacher Education; Dr. Charles Peek, English; Dr. Jim Roark, chemistry; Jim Rowling, library; James Rundstrom, alumni services; Dr. Donald Sluti, management; and Janice Walker, Museum of Nebraska Art.

Jerald Fox came to UNK in 1975 after he served in the Air Force and is in charge of the comprehensive international education office.

Fox earned his bachelor’s degree from Kearney State College and his MA from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. He took classes for his PhD at Ohio State. He also studied at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Calif., The University of Quebec in Trois Rivières, Quebec and University of Heidelberg in Heidelberg, Germany.

Fox says that his family is very supportive of him retiring. “I am choosing to retire, so obviously I am looking forward to

it,” he said.

His plans for retirement are “to try to make good wine, cheese and sausage,” Fox said.

The next thing on the agenda will be to honor those who received employee of the month for 2007. Those being honored are as follows: Fauneil Meier, January; Diana Jones, February; Ismael Torres, March; Marilyn Karash, April; Deb Hurtya, May; Brian Peterson, June; Lois Flagstad, July; Michelle Cate, August; Patricia Rivera, September; Lisa Neal, October; Art Hasbrouck, November; Dawn Adams, December.

Those receiving KUDOS by the Board of Regents will also be recognized during the luncheon. Those people being recognized are Jane Peterson from Information Technology, Wes Hird from Music and Performing Arts, Barbara Harshbarger from Political Science, Rick Larsen from Residential and Greek Life and Dee Goedert from the Library.

The service award recipients will be honored for number of years that they have given service to UNK. Those being honored for 10 years of service are: Toby Badura, Facilities Management & Planning; Jolene Berg, Finance Office; Dr.

Kurt Borchard, sociology, geography & earth science; Cheryl Bressington, EO/Affirmative Action; Rich Brodersen, Athletics; Charlene Copple, counseling; Dr. John Damon, English; Cherie DeFreece, modern languages; Paula Fuestman, Finance/Accounts Payable; Amy German, Academic Advising; Brandon Hammond, Information Technology Services; Dr. Patricia Hoehner, educational administration; Dr. David Hof, counseling & school psychology, Michael Jensen, library; Matthew Johnson, Financial Aid; Dr. William Jurma, Fine Arts & Humanities; Christie Kneher, Residential & Greek Life; Eric Larson, Facilities Management & Planning; Dr. Joan Lewis, teacher education; Lisa Neal, Institutional Research; Dusty Newton, Admissions; Daniel Rookstool, Facilities Management & Planning; Steven Dean Walker, Information Technology Services; and Clayton Willis, Facilities Management & Planning.

Those being honored for 15 years of service are: Dr. John Anderson, political science; Dr. Ruth Brown, communication department; Marcia Burman, Fine Arts & Humanities; Lon-

nie Baxter, chemistry; Dr. Joseph Carlson, criminal justice; Tim Danube, student union; Dee Ellingson, psychology; Marcia Gugelman, student union; Dr. Nanette Hogg, communication department; Dr. Martha Kruse, English; Debby Maire, art & art history; Margaret McCollough, Teacher Education; Maureen Miller, Admissions; Billy Rayburn, Sponsored Programs; Patricia Rivera, Facilities Management & Planning; Richard Schuessler, art & art history; Stephen Slominski, Business Services; Dr. Gail Zeller, Academic Success.

Those being honored for 20 years of service are: Gregory Anderson, library; Mark Brosamle, HPERLS; Linda Clark, Human Resources; Dr. James Gilbert, criminal justice; Dr. Stephen Glazier, sociology, geography & earth sciences; Eve Green, athletics; Nancy Kneen, Career Services; Dr. Ron Konecny, management; Dr. George Lawson, communication department; Dr. Peter Longo, Student Life; Dr. Phyllis Markussen, family studies; Janet Mitchell, Graduate Studies & Research; Dr. Donald Morgan, accounting/finance; Sheila Scott, Public Safety; Dr.

Samuel Umland, English; Janet Wilke, library; and Glenda Wilson, library.

Those being honored for 25 years of service are: (Shahram) Abdoulelahe Alavi-Behbahani, computer science; Sonja Darveau, Finance Office; Bruce Elder, accounting/finance; Jenny Holen, Multicultural Affairs; Richard Hunt, Residential & Greek Life; Dr. Tom Kropp, HPERLS; Darla Morris, Nebraska Safety Center; Donna Posusta, Human Resources; Dr. Robert Rycek, psychology; and Gary Schaaf, music & performing arts.

Those being honored for 30 years of service are: Dr. Richard Ashman, industrial technology; Janet Beerbohm, Finance Office; Diana Keith, library; Colleen Lewis, library; and Dr. William Wozniak, psychology.

Those being honored for 35 years of service are: Glen-nis Nagel, University Relations, and Riley Oestreicher, Facilities Management & Planning.

Those being honored for 40 years of service are: Jack Garrison, theatre; James Rundstrom, alumni services; and David Webster, Facilities Management & Planning.

UNK Registrar receives Founder’s Award for Leadership

BY KRISTEN BROCKMAN
Antelope Staff

Kim Schipporeit, UNK Registrar, has received the Founder’s Award for Leadership from the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.

The AACRAO is a voluntary nonprofit professional organization. AACRAO includes more than 10,000 admissions and registration professionals from approximately 2,500 institutions in over 30 countries. The primary mission of the organization is to provide professional development, guidelines and voluntary standards to higher education professionals. The organization will celebrate its centennial in 2009.

Schipporet was nominated for the award by a colleague. She has been an employee of UNK for 28 years. Schipporeit received her undergraduate degree



Courtesy Photo
Kim Schipporeit, UNK Registrar

in French and German and her masters in educational administration from UNK. She came to work at UNK by completing a work-study in the Foundation Office and the Admissions Office. She joined the Admissions staff upon graduation.

During her time in Admis-

“I love my job...the challenge is to stay ahead and find new ways to serveice the students and faculty.”

Kim Schipporeit

sions, she worked with the transfer and orientation programs. After moving to the registrar’s office, she worked as assistant registrar and was promoted to registrar 19 years ago.

“We [the registrar’s office] serve the entire student body by providing services, including degree completion, NCAA certification, class schedules, class room assignments grades and registration,” Schipporet said.

Besides overseeing student information, Schipporeit’s duties also involve strategic planning, assisting the administration in making good decisions and any other responsibilities given to her. No matter the responsibility, Schipporet welcomes the challenge.

“I love my job,” Schipporet said. “The challenge is to stay ahead and find new ways to service the students and faculty.”

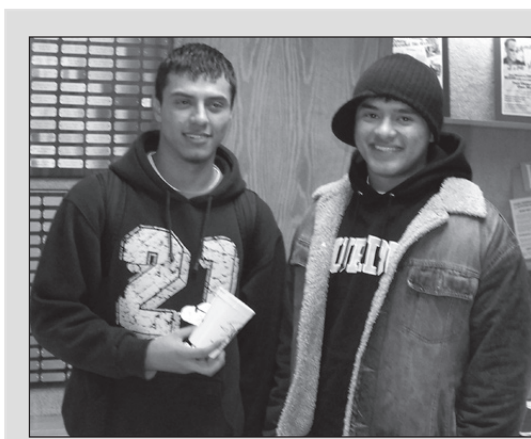


Photo by Laura Schemper
Dayvid Cardenas, a sophomore music education major from Lexington and Jorge Cardenas, a freshman art education and graphic design major from Lexington try the ring toss while wearing bear goggles to show how much alcohol impairs your judgment.

Fast stats on College Drinking

- ▶ 68% of UNK students reported drinking in the last 30 days, while 98% of UNK students believe the typical student drank in the last 30 days.
- ▶ 52% of UNK students make responsible choices when it comes to alcohol.
- ▶ More than 150,000 students develop an alcohol-related health problem and between 1.2 and 1.5 percent of students indicate that they tried to commit suicide within the past year due to drinking or drug use.

Alcohol screenings

Photo by Laura Schemper
Laurel McKellips, Tina Chasek, Ann Gillen, Abby Kovanda held a free alcohol screening for students on Thursday. McKellips and Kovanda are from the Women’s Center. Chasek and Gillen are from the Counseling Care Center.

- ▶ 2.1 million students between the ages of 18 and 24 drove under the influence of alcohol last year.
- ▶ 18% of UNK students reported driving after having 5 or more drinks.
- ▶ About 25 percent of college students report academic consequences of their drinking including missing class, falling behind, doing poorly on exams or papers and receiving lower grades overall.

UNK facts provided by UNK Counseling and Health Care. Other facts provided by a college drinking study released by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Task Force on College Drinking

Mellow sets sights on Unicam

BY LAURA LARSEN
Antelope Staff

The race for Unicameral seats in the Omaha area has been joined by another young face in Nebraska politics. Heath Mellow is currently seeking the fifth district seat, which includes the areas of Bellevue and South Omaha.

The seat is currently occupied by Don Priester, who is forced to step down due to term limits. Priester has formally endorsed Mellow as his predecessor.

When asked what inspired him to seek the seat Mellow said, “I decided to run for Legislature because our state will be facing numerous challenges over the next 10 years and I wanted to bring a fresh, pragmatic perspective to the table in order to solve some of these challenges.”

Mellow is no newcomer to the political scene. While attending college at the University

of Nebraska-Lincoln, Mellow worked on U.S. Sen. Ben Nelson’s first campaign.

“That campaign sparked my desire for public service and his realization that, with the proper leadership, government can be a tool to help those who work hard and play by the rules,” Mellow said.

Following his campaign work, Mellow went on to work for Sen. Nelson during Nelson’s first term as well as on Nelson’s re-election bid in 2006. Currently, Mellow serves as the Coordinator for the Metro Community College Foundation.

Mellow believes the future for Nebraska’s young population is a bright one.

“Whether it be testifying at the Legislature or creating a Facebook group for a cause they believe in, our younger Nebraskans are blending today’s technologies with their passion to make Nebraska a better place live, work, and raise a family,” Mellow said.

As far as the issues facing

young Nebraskans, Mellow has been vocal about the effects the “brain drain” on the future of the state.

“If we are unable to create a long-term vision for Nebraska to remain competitive in the global economy, I’m afraid our younger Nebraskans will continue to leave our state for more lucrative schools, jobs, and communities,” Mellow said.

Among the issues that are causing the “brain drain,” Mellow cites higher education opportunities, the tax structure of the state and workforce development as areas that must be addressed.

This year the opportunities for young people to become involved in the political arena are abundant. The Mellow campaign is offering student internships as a means to bring more young people into the discussion about the future of Nebraska’s fifth district and the state as a whole.

“We can only hope that more students continue to learn about their state government

and the younger candidates like myself who are trying to bring a fresh, pragmatic perspective to the conversation,” Mellow said.

Senior sports administration major of Fremont Nathan Osterloh, thinks it is a positive step to see young faces running for public office.

“It is refreshing to vote for candidates that relate to things I’m going through and understand the issues that are facing the area’s young people. I hope if elected he is responsive to young voters within his district and statewide,” Osterloh said.

Mellow’s first test in his quest for office will be on May 13, during the state’s primary. There are two other candidates seeking the fifth district seat, Ben English and Rebecca Barrientos-Patlan.

The two top vote getters in the primary will advance to the general election in November. For more information about Heath Mellow and his policy stances check out www.heathmellow.com.

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Students in Free Enterprise continue success as team

BY HILLARY KRUGER
Antelope Staff

The Students in Free Enterprise started strong and carried through. After they were named the 2004 Rookies of the Year, they were one of the Top 20 National Finalists for the 2007 Financial Literacy Individual Topic competition. Recently, they were named in the top 20 again.

SIFE is a global, non-profit organization that offers students the opportunity to develop leadership, teamwork and communications skill through learning, practicing and teaching the principles of free enterprise.

Member teach important concepts through educational outreach projects, including market economics, entrepreneurship, personal and financial success and business ethics.

UNKs SIFE team started in 2003. Since then the team has won numerous awards, including a \$5,000 SIFE Leader Scholarship awarded to this year's team president, Chelsey Brock, a senior marketing major from Gothenburg. One scholarship is awarded in the nation each year.

The mission of the SIFE team is to build a strong team member base, expand and improve outreach projects and to establish new collaborations.

Susan Jensen, Assistant Pro-

fessor of Management and the advisor for the SIFE members, said all students and all majors are welcome.

"There is often the preconception that SIFE is just for business students. However, both undergraduate and graduate students, regardless of their major, are welcome," Jensen said.

Currently, there are 11 active members. Team members receive no college credit for their SIFE involvement, and the team GPA is a respectable 3.50.

Linda Lange, a sophomore business administration major from Randolph said, "The most rewarding thing to me was just to see how much we have helped out our community and fellow students on campus. Hearing positive feedback gives me a

great deal of accomplishment."

Jensen said that this year's team is a really cohesive group that gets a lot done. The valuable lesson that they have all learned is learning how to leverage.

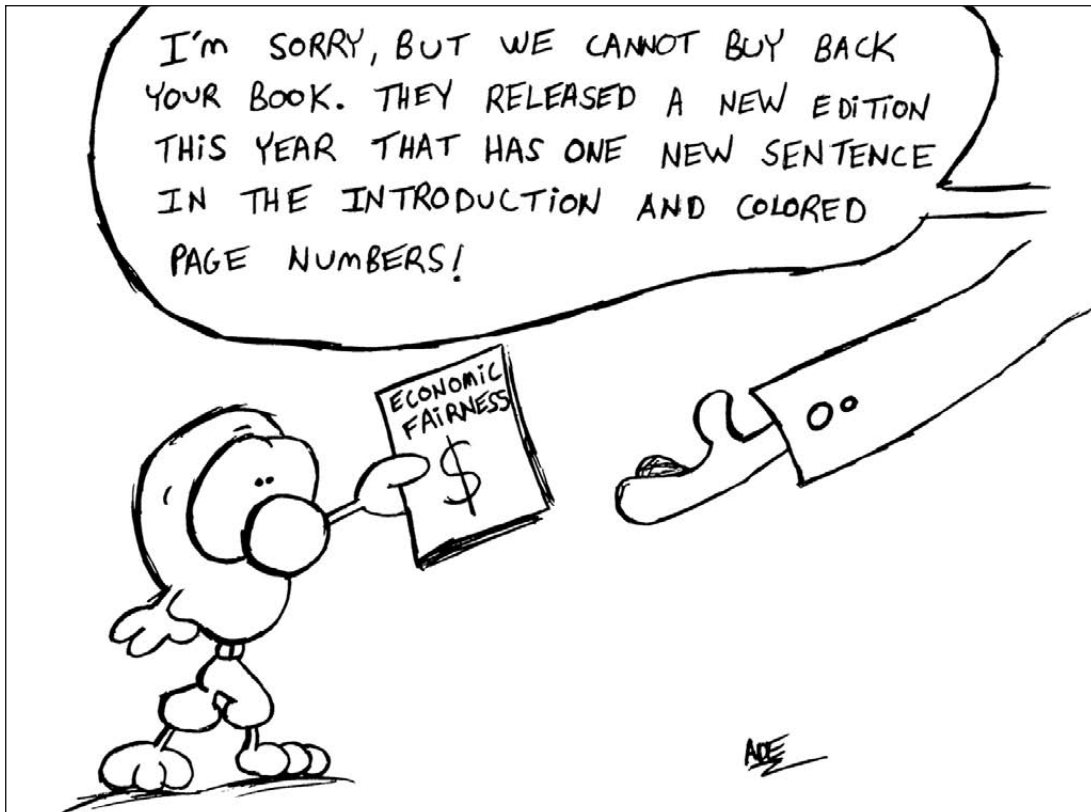
"A sense of personal growth can be gained from SIFE. By taking on a leadership role and projects that really matter, students get to know a lot of people. Today, contacts are incredibly valuable," Jensen said.

The philosophy of SIFE is, "Tell me and I will forget, show me and I might remember, involve me and I will understand."

For more information on how to become a SIFE member, contact Susan Jensen or Kathryn Zuckweiler.

UNK SIFE Awards

- **Rookie of the Year award and second runner-up at the 2004 Regionals**
- **Regional Champ and winner of all four individual topic competitions at the 2005 Regionals**
- **Financial Literacy individual competition winner-2006 Regional Competition**
- **Top 20 National Finalist for the 2007 Financial Literacy Individual Topic Competition**
- **2007 Nebraska Governor's Point of Light award \$5,000.00 SIFE Servant Leader Scholarship awarded to Chelsey Brock**
- **Top 20 National Finalists in the 2008 Financial Literacy Individual Competition**



Letter to the editor

Dear Editor:

The April 2 issue of The Antelope included an article that greatly troubled me. "Vatican speaks out – do modern times create modern sins?" was based on a misinterpretation of an interview with Bishop Gianfranco Girotti regarding the need for Catholics to receive the sacrament of reconciliation more frequently.

I will not, in this editorial, attempt to explain the truth about what the news media has labeled as "new sins." I trust that the informed reader will seek his or her own sources of accurate and truthful information. However, I will argue that this article should never have been published because it presents a biased and anti-Catholic viewpoint.

First, the limited information the writer included in her article was drawn from Yahoo, which received its information from Reuters. Since the writer

did not even cite Reuters, it is almost certain that neither the writer, nor her interviewees, read the original interview source.

However, what troubles me more than the inaccurate information presented in the article is the biased way in which the article was written. In her article, the writer posed the question "... what do UNK students think about this claim [about modern sins]?" To answer this question, she included several quotations from three non-Catholic students, who each gave a negative view of the Vatican statement. I do not object to these students being quoted; they are entitled to their opinions and to have those opinions published. However, a newspaper article should not quote opinions on only one side of the issue. Such slanted views create a clearly biased report. Any credible article must include multiple viewpoints on both sides of the issue.

If the writer had truly intended to answer her question, she should have interviewed a broader, more diverse group of students. Rather than only interviewing non-Catholics, she could have interviewed a Catholic, a non-Catholic, and even a non-Christian student. Interviewing only three students, no matter their religious beliefs, would not in any way represent the opinions of the entire UNK student body. However, it would help prevent the article becoming biased and one-sided.

The Antelope staff demonstrated poor judgment in allowing this clearly biased article to be published. I sincerely hope that, in the future, they will choose articles that are accurate and unbiased in nature. Reporting facts, not just opinions, is the job of a newspaper like The Antelope.

Rita Vogel

National Donate Life Month: What are you willing to give?

BY SHELLY FOX
Antelope Staff

We all know that being an organ and tissue donor can help save someone else's life, and with April being National Donate Life Month we are hearing about it more and more.

But what do our fellow students think about this miracle of giving life to others, and how did they decide whether or not they want to be a part of it?

Junior elementary education major, Amanda Engler of Hildreth, said she really didn't put much thought into the decision.

"When it came time to check the little box, I just thought 'sounds like a good idea'," Engler said.

Sam Diamont, a junior criminal justice major from Keeline, Wyo. said he always wanted to be an organ donor.

"Ever since I found out what it was... who ever thought of it was on the right track," Diamont said.

Reasons for becoming a donor can vary greatly from person to person, whether it's because someone close to them was saved by organ and tissue donation, or even just because everyone else was doing it.

Sometimes they're not even sure why. "I don't know anyone personally [who was affected], I just thought it was a good thing," Engler said. "Plus my mom is one."

Diamont's reason for becoming an organ donor was even more random.

"Well I'm not going to need them," he

said.

However, there are some students who, despite all its benefits, just don't feel quite right about being an organ donor.

One student who wished to remain anonymous said, "I don't like the idea of being cut open and having people take parts of me; it's just too weird."

"I know I could save someone's life, and maybe someday I'll change my mind," the student said, "but for now, I want to be buried intact."

This student, however, is not the only one who could be convinced to change their opinion about being a donor; both Engler and Diamont said there are circumstances where they could be convinced to change their mind.

"If I found out I had some disease where my organs couldn't be used," Engler said.

Diamont, however, had a different concern.

"If they were going to take certain parts that I want to keep—" on that note, he wouldn't go into too much detail.

It seems the majority of UNK students fully support organ and tissue donation, and even those who don't may be persuaded to change their minds in the future.

National Donate Life Month seems to have a strong following at UNK.

- **Find your State Donor Registry**
- **Order a free donor card**
- **Order a free organ donation lapel pin**

GO TO

http://www.organdonor.gov/get_involved/donate-lifemonth.htm

the Antelope

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Readers' Opinions
c/o the Antelope editor
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Kearney, NE 68848

Any of your questions, comments, concerns or suggestions should be sent to the address above.

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Kearney: There is no place like home

Two Lopers venture away from home only to return to UNK to play

BY GRIFFITH WATSON
Antelope Staff

While many of the members of the Loper baseball team are from around the state and even around the country, a few of the players are playing in the town where they grew up. Two of these Kearney natives ventured away from home after high school, only to find themselves at UNK to finish their educations and their collegiate baseball careers.

Seth Svoboda and Ryan Sheldon both graduated from Kearney High and took their baseball and education careers to Kansas to attend junior colleges. From there they took different routes back to their hometown.

Svoboda, a senior business management major, attended Independence Community College in Independence, Kan. his freshman year. "I chose Independence because I knew the coach," Svoboda said. "I wasn't sure what I wanted to do for school or baseball, so I thought junior college was the best choice for me."

After his freshman year at Independence, Svoboda transferred to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. "I decided to go to Lincoln because I was tired of junior college," Svoboda said. "I also saw it as a good opportunity to play Division I

baseball."

Svoboda spent his year at Nebraska redshirting and rehabbing an elbow injury he endured while playing summer ball. He decided to leave the Huskers after just one year. "I hadn't really enjoyed my experience that much in Lincoln," Svoboda said. "It was that spring that I decided to transfer again."

The third school that Svoboda chose was UNK, where he has spent the last three years.

"Coming to UNK just felt like the right fit for me, and it has been," Svoboda said. "I have a lot of friends that go to school here, and I wanted to go to a school where I could play and make an impact on a program."

Since Svoboda has joined the team, the Lopers have had two winning seasons, captured an RMAC title, and made the team's first ever NCAA Regional appearance.

Sheldon, a junior chemistry major, attended Barton County Community College after he graduated high school. "I wanted to become a better pitcher, and I wasn't recruited out of high school," Sheldon said. After he spent three years in junior college, including a redshirt year, Sheldon chose to attend UNK to further his education and to continue his baseball career.

"I got offers from Emporia



Photo by John Reed
UNK pitcher Ryan Sheldon began his baseball career at Barton County Community College before coming back to his hometown of Kearney. Sheldon was recently named RMAC pitcher of the week for his performance against No. 9 Metro St. when Sheldon struck out 15 batters.

State, Fort Hays and a bunch of other schools," Sheldon said. "But I chose UNK."

"Coach Day talked me into coming back home." This is Sheldon's first year playing for

the Lopers.

While Svoboda and Sheldon took different routes to wind up back at home, both feel that they made the right decision to finish up school in Kearney. "I'm glad

to be here because I enjoy the team and being close to family and friends," Sheldon said.

"I really enjoyed finishing up school and baseball at UNK," Svoboda said. "I'm proud to

have had a part in turning the baseball program around here, and I hope the good things continue."

They've got spirit, yes they do

Cheer and dance tryouts draw in promising talent

BY KELLY BERNT
Antelope Staff

On Saturday, young, talented girls filled the UNK indoor track hoping to earn a spot on the UNK cheer squad or the dance team.

One of these individuals was Omaha native UNK sophomore Kellie Stopak, who was looking to earn a position on the dance team. "I decided to come out because

I am a returning dancer, and I enjoy being part of the games," Stopak said. "The best part of being on the team is meeting these girls and getting to hang out with them."

Lacy Mortensen is serving her second year as the Cheer coach at UNK.

"It's good to have two days of tryouts, because it's frustrating to acquire everyone with proms and busy schedules."

Mortensen said she enjoys the interaction with the team, and participating in cheerleading.

"Cheerleading brings something to help the crowd participate in the game," Mortensen said.

UNK sophomore Katie Lampe, of Arapahoe, taught dance moves to the girls trying out for the squad.

"This group is learning fast. I am impressed," Lampe said. "They should be a good group for the fu-



Photo by John Reed
(left to right) New UNK Cheerleaders Cassie Miller of Sidney, Rachael Peterson of Omaha and second year cheerleader Tricia Shumm of Ogallala learn new routines during last Saturday's cheer and dance tryouts.

ture."

Baker, a freshman from Gibbon feels cheerleading is an important part of UNK activities. "I think it's important to have school spirit,"

Baker said. "I like to spread school spirit around and get everyone involved."

"I've been doing cheerleading all through high school and also par-

ticipated through my freshman year in college," Megan Baker said. "I think everyone's catching on to the routine and beginning to enjoy themselves."

Dlagnev wins national tourney, heads to Las Vegas next week

BY PETER YAZVAC Guest Writer

Wrestler Tervel Dlagnev recorded another milestone victory this past weekend winning his weight class at the University National Freestyle Championships in Akron, Ohio.

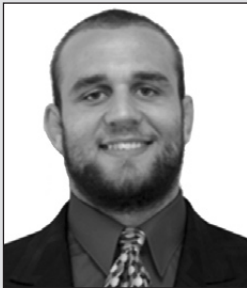
In the first place match at 264.5 lbs., Dlagnev beat Aaron Anspach 1-0, 7-0. Anspach wrestled collegiality at Penn State and was the 2007 NCAA Division I runner up.

Talking to Gary Abbot of USA Wrestling, Dlagnev said, "That guy in the finals was tough. He made me wrestle. I had a lot of tough competition here. It will help me get ready for the U.S. Nationals."

Dlagnev went 5-0 in the tournament and recorded pins of Jim Connors (Graybird Wrestling Club) and Konrad Dudziak (New York Athletic Club/Duke/Poland National Team).

He also had a tech fall of Blake Gillis, the 2007 Division III national champion, and beat Dave Zabriskie of the Cyclone Wrestling Club in the semifinals, 4-0, 6-0. A third-year sophomore at Iowa State, Zabriskie placed eighth at the NCAA Championships this year.

This past fall, Dlagnev won his weight class at the Sunkist Kids International Open. Now a member of the Sunkist Kids WC, he will next compete at the nationals.



DLAGNEV

Cochrane vaults to provisional mark

Pole vaulter joins five other Lopers on list of provisional qualifiers to nationals

BY MIKE PENNETTA
Antelope Staff

When the UNK track team headed to Kansas for the Fort Hays State Quadrangular, they had all the intentions of making a statement.

Although both the men and women lost to Pittsburgh State and Fort Hays in great efforts, both squads beat Chadron State, and were able to muster up 19 top three finishes; including seven first place efforts. Fairbury junior, Dakota Cochrane, joined five others on the NCAA provisional list as he cleared 15'9.25" to easily win the pole vault.

"It was a really good event for me, and I was very happy with myself being able to clear that height," Cochrane said.

"I've been to nationals before indoors, but this would be my first time making it outdoors," Cochrane said.

Cochrane is currently ranked 13th in the nation, and has to clear 16 feet in order to qualify for outdoor nationals.

"Currently I have been practicing with 16 feet or higher, sometimes 17 and a half," Cochrane said. "I've had some good jumps."

This weekend Cochrane and the UNK track teams participated at Emporia, Kan., where

the men finished fifth and the women tenth. Cochrane vaulted 15'1".

"My goal is to clear 16 feet, I've been working very hard and I think that I can clear that height," Cochrane said. "There will definitely be some of the top competition there this weekend, so that should also get me prepared for what outdoor nationals should be like."

Cochrane says even if he is unable to clear his goal of 16 feet at the L, he will continue to set it and that standard or above as he is determined to make his first trip to indoor nationals.

The Lopers will be traveling to Crete for the Doane Relays this Friday and Saturday. The meet begins at 4 p.m. on Friday and 11 a.m. on Saturday.

What is a provisional mark?

A "provisional" mark set by the NCAA earns the athlete the chance to qualify to nationals. After all the automatic entries are filled, the top provisional qualifiers are selected to fill the event. UNK currently has six athletes who have met the provisional mark in their event.

- Jacquelyn Dibern - 3,000 steeplechase
- Kiley Peterson - Shot Put
- Brandon Karlin - Hammer Throw
- Jarrod Holz - Hammer Throw
- Drew Onnen - Discus
- Dakota Cochrane - Pole Vault

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UNK networking in the Lone Star state

HPERLS students develop professional skills at AAHPERD conference

BY SCOTT LEVY
Antelope Staff

BBQ, baseball and interactive sessions were all part of the educational experience students in the Sports Administration Majors Club had while in Fort Worth, Texas.

The club attended the AAHPERD, American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, conference last week.

The conference helped students meet and network with professionals from the sports industry and related fields.

“The conference was fun. They had a bunch of games on display for PE teachers, and they let you try them out,” Amber Gigstad, a senior parks and recreation major and president of the Recreation Majors Club, said.

Attending conferences like AAHPERD can give students an advantage in a competitive industry like the sports industry.

Several of the sessions stressed the importance of networking. They featured a variety of panelists who provided a personal account of how they became successful in their careers.

“I really enjoyed the opportunity to talk to people who have a career similar to what I want in the future. I made a point to ask them how they got to where they are today, and if they had any

advice for me,” senior sports administration major Ashley Krause said.

A total of ten SAM Club members went to the conference. Eight were sports administration majors, and two were recreation majors. All ten students had a positive reaction towards the trip.

Tom Strauss, a senior sports administration major and SAM Club president said, “It was a great experience for all of us. We went to meetings all day, and we learned more about our major and that gave us a step up on everyone else trying to enter into the sports field.”

In addition to attending meetings, the SAM Club members also had the opportunity to tour a professional-level athletic facility.

They chose to tour the current Dallas Cowboys Stadium, since they are in the process of building a new stadium, which is estimated to cost close to \$1.1 billion.

The tour took them through the front doors of the stadium, into a luxury box suite, the player’s locker rooms and finally directly on to the field.

Cody Reinert, a junior sports administration major and Sam Club president elect said, “To see the Cowboys Stadium was an amazing site. The stadium showed me why a team would need to build a new stadium worth a billion dollars. There



Courtesy Photo
HPERLS students reenact the Dallas Cowboy's line of scrimmage at Texas Stadium in Irving, Texas. The stadium will soon be replaced by an estimated \$1.1 billion stadium that is currently under construction. The students toured the stadium as part of their educational experience during the AAHPERD conference last week.

are many factors that contribute to why teams build stadiums, but to see them for yourself was an outstanding experience for me that I could not get in the classroom.”

The club also went to two

Texas Rangers baseball games with several thousand fans in attendance.

This experience let them see how everything comes together for a major league baseball game to run smoothly. The stu-

dents can learn in classes about facility management, game day promotions and risk management, but first-hand experiences provide something a textbook cannot.

“There was a streaker!

You don’t really think about something like that during your classes. The guy had to pay a \$2,000 fine and spend the night in jail, but I bet he made ESPN,” Krause said.

Youngsters discover magic at Kidz Explore

BY JARED HOFF
Antelope Staff

Kidz Explore 2008, “Experience the Magic,” was held last Saturday April 12 and Sunday, April 13.

Coordinating the event was the Kearney Hub in partnership with Kearney Area Children’s Museum. It’s the 12th year for the Hub to coordinate and present the event.

Kidz Explore has grown into one of the largest festivals for children with lots of hands-

on activities, with a great mix of both educational and fun activities.

There were more than 50 exhibits with hands-on activities for kids ages 2 to 12 years.

More than 8,000 people attend each year. A portion of the proceeds go to the children’s museum, area children’s charities and area schools.

In the past 11 years, Kidz Explore has donated more than \$71,000 in cash donations and in-kind ticket donations.

UNK senior travel and tourism major, Mary Bendig worked

a booth at this year’s event.

“I worked the teepee decorating booth,” Bendig said. “I did it for my internship, but also for the kids. The kids got to see some pictures of actual teepees and observe some Native American artwork on the teepees.”

UNK is one of the biggest supporters of the event. Other exhibitors such as Good Samaritan Hospital, the Kearney Police Department, Buffalo County Sheriff’s Office, the Nebraska State Patrol, as well as about 50 other businesses and organizations help sponsor the event.

Youths were able to see Jimmy Neutron from “Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius” which was sponsored by Charter.

Professional magician Jeff Quinn was also on hand for the children to enjoy during the festival.

“I got to see Jimmy Neutron from the Nickelodeon show,” Bendig said. “He was really interesting and I think the kids really enjoyed him.”

Other activities for the kids included the chance to enroll in “Kid’s University”, where kids had to complete four activities

and a class schedule to graduate.

The fun never stopped as kids were able to shoot, tumble and kick in the fun-filled Kearney Family YMCA booth. There was a big inflatable obstacle course complete with slides and trampolines.

Non-stop entertainment on stage was enjoyed with hosts from KGFW/Y102/Hits106. Skating on the FirstTier Event Center ice was also a very popular activity with the kids.

New this year was the na-

tional Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity mobile exhibit. This was a 67-foot semi trailer exhibit with several outside tents featuring activities for both kids and adults.

Inside the trailer, the nine-minute experience connected Kidz Explore visitors with the sights, sounds and feel of sub-standard housing and informed them about what they can do to address the issue.



Kaczor prepares for NFL debut

BY JOSH KAUFMAN
Guest Writer

NFL mini camp is fast approaching and so is the pro coaching debut of Nate Kaczor.

Kaczor, a former Loper assistant football coach, was hired by the Jacksonville Jaguars as an assistant special teams coach Feb. 14.

“It came as a surprise when I was contacted about the position,” Kaczor said.

“However, once I knew there was some interest, I expressed a serious interest.”

Kaczor will help coach special teams, as well as offense from time to time. He will also aid with planning meetings and off-season player development and evaluation.

Kaczor began his coaching career as an assistant at his alma mater, Utah State.

“Coach Kaczor is good with young people. He shows a lot of passion and understands the game.”

*Darrell Morris
UNK Football
head coach*

Kaczor joined the UNK football staff in 2000 as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach.

Under Kaczor, the Lopers experienced an explosion of success on offense. The offense tied or broke 31 records and averaged 35 points and 442 yards per game during his tenure.

Kaczor left Nebraska-

Kearney at the end of the 2003 season to take a coaching job at Division I Idaho. He left Idaho after the 2005 season to join the Louisiana-Monroe coaching staff, where he spent the last two seasons.

Despite the quick rise up the ranks, Kaczor said he hasn’t forgotten where he came from.

“At UNK, I learned that you need to treat each place as if that is the best job in the world,” he said.

“I believe if you do a good job where you are, things will take care of themselves.”

Current Loper head coach Darrell Morris believes that Kaczor has the skills necessary for success at the next level.

“Coach Kaczor is good with young people,” Morris said. “He shows a lot of passion and understands the game.”

Western Carolina wide re-

ceivers coach Andy Follett, who coached under Kaczor from 2000-2003, describes Kaczor as a perfectionist, on and off the field.

“He doesn’t have much of a life outside of football,” Follett said.

“Even when he isn’t coaching, he is usually watching or talking about football.”

Kaczor has one thing in mind for his first NFL season.

“The goal is to win,” he said.

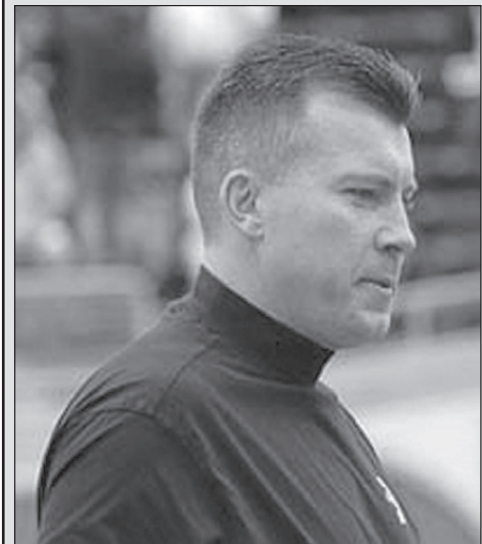
Kaczor wants to continue to climb up the coaching ladder, but he says he’s happy as long as he can continue to coach.

“I have the aspiration to be a head coach someday,” he said.

“But as long as I am in a position of leadership, which exists even when you only coach one person, I am happy.”



Photo courtesy of Jaguars.com
Nate Kaczor joins the Jacksonville Jaguars staff after coaching for 17 years in the college ranks. Kaczor was the mastermind behind UNK’s record-breaking offensive attack from 2000-2003.



NATE KACZOR COACHING TIMELINE



Utah State 1991-1999
Assistant coach



Nebraska-Kearney 2000-2003
Offensive Coordinator
Quarterbacks Coach



Idaho 2004-2005
Co-Offensive Coordinator
Tight Ends Coach



Louisiana-Monroe 2006-2007
Tight Ends Coach (2006)
Co-Offensive Coordinator (2007)



Jacksonville Jaguars
Hired as Assistant Special
Teams Coach Feb. 14

Book drive benefits Better World Books

Phi Eta Sigma helps fund shipping, printing of books to educate world

BY ALISSA ROBERTS
Antelope Staff

Phi Eta Sigma, the freshman honor society, teamed up with Better World Books to host a book drive to profit charitable education organizations.

After the books are donated, they are sent to one the four following organizations Books for Africa, Room to Read, the National Center for Family Literacy or the World Education and Development Fund.

Caprice Miner, a junior business management and finance major of Kearney, and Heather Shotkoski, senior language arts major from Palmer, are two of the Phi Eta Sigma members helping to organize the Better World Books drive.

The book drive collection boxes will be put out around April 17 or April 18 and will stay out until the end of finals week.

The collection boxes will be set up in Thomas Hall, the Fine Arts building, the Nebraskan Student Union, Follett's, the

College of Education building and West Center.

Last semester, the Phi Eta Sigma members were amazed by the results of their first book drive.

"I was impressed with how well it went. We received well over the amount that we had expected. We were able to ship off 19 boxes of books," Miner said.

Phi Eta Sigma also received funding from Better World Books to help support their other service projects and social events.

Some of the other service projects Phi Eta Sigma has participated in are the Power Drive, the Big Event and Relay for Life.

"This year we focused on Better World Books. Service projects aren't required of our group. They're something the group enjoys doing," Shotkoski said.

A visit to betterworldbooks.com will inform those interested about the types of and quality of books accepted. Donations are also explained as to how the books will be used.

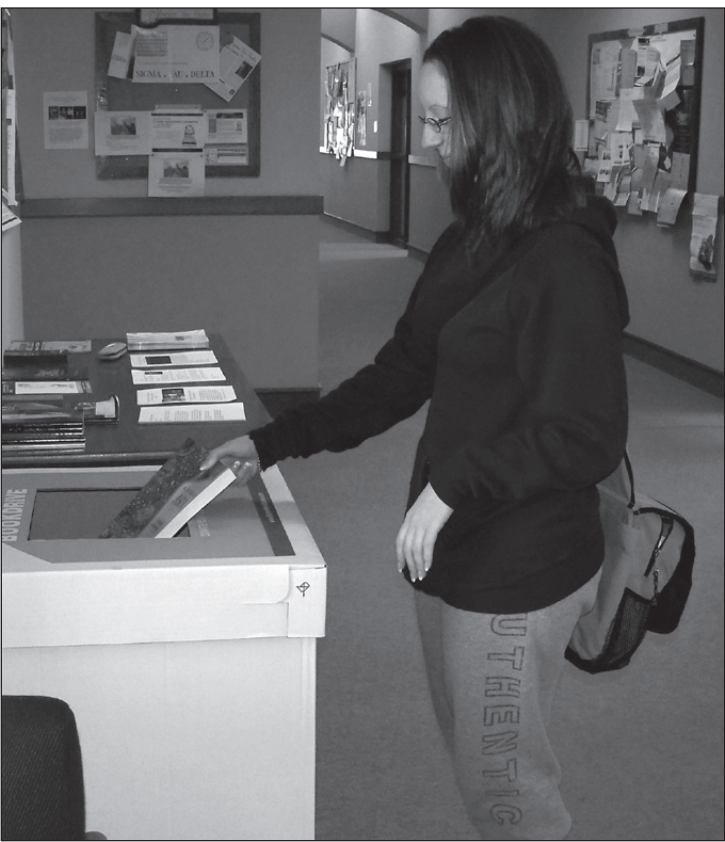


Photo by Laura Schemper
On Monday, April Carson, a junior secondary education major from Kearney, drops in a textbook into the receptacle on Thomas Hall's second floor.

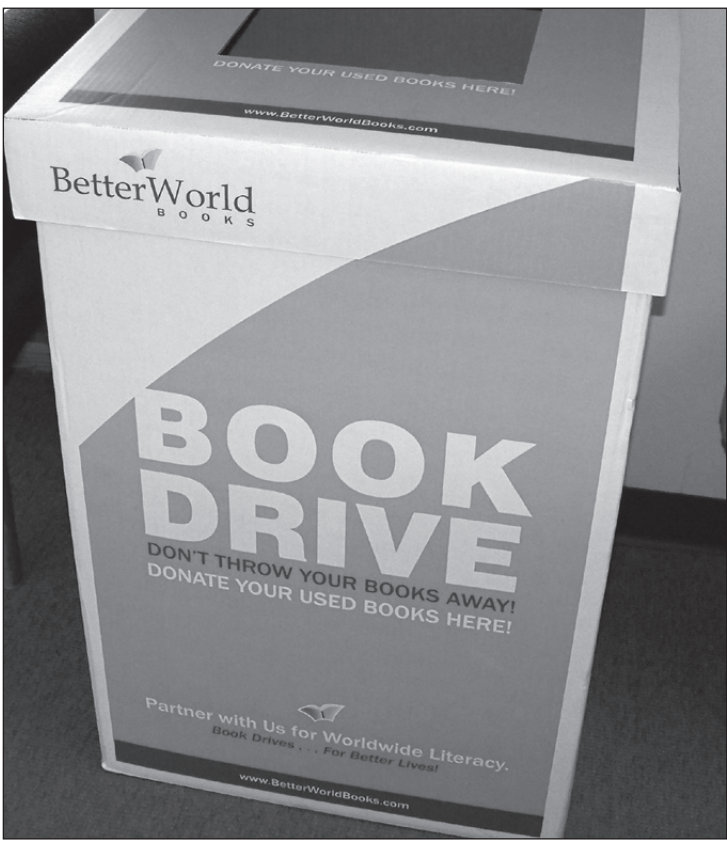


Photo by Laura Schemper
Phi Eta Sigma's second book drive begins this week and lasts until the end of the semester.

How can donating my old books help?

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500 books • funds the shipment of 2000 books, enough to provide for two African school libraries.
1,000 books • funds the shipment of 4,000 books, enough to provide for four school libraries
5,000 books • funds the shipment of 20,000 books, enough to provide for 10 African schools.
10,000 books • fund the shipment of 35,000 books, enough to provide for 20 African schools.

Room to Read

100 books • funds the printing of 100 new local-language children's books.
500 books • funds the printing of 500 new local-language children's books.
1,000 books • funds a computer, training and support of a computer lab.
5,000 books • funds the printing of 5,000 new local-language children's books.
10,000 books • funds most of the cost of constructing a new primary school.

Help Educate the World

100 books • provides five literacy programs with a subscription to a national magazine.
500 books • funds the purchase of a new lending library for a family literacy program.
1,000 books • funds 50 adult education classrooms with job preparation software.
5,000 books • helps 200 parents learn English and support their children's language development.
10,000 books • funds five trainings for parents wanting to learn how to teach their children to read.

Info from www.betterworldbooks.com

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Young CEO visits UNK to speak in lecture series

BY DANIEL APOLIUS
Antelope Staff

Can you imagine starting your own company by the age of 12 and at 16 being nominated by Inc. Magazine for "Entrepreneur of the Year"? Ben Casnocha, now 20, founded Comcate Inc., a leading e-government technology firm.

Casnocha was the third speaker in the Baldwin Free Enterprise Lecture Series presented at the Ponderosa Room on April 9. He spoke about his book entitled "My Start-Up Life" and about how he achieved his success.

Casnocha appeared confident, charismatic and captivating in his lecture. His style was personal, and he fired off a few explicit remarks as he laid out his philosophy on how a person can become a CEO of their own life.

The focus of his lecture was centered on how each individual can accomplish something in their own lives by cultivating a sense of self-improvement and empowering themselves to entrepreneurship.

One personal improvement that Casnocha stressed working on was an emotional need to be happy.

"Just like any other skill, a person needs to work hard at being happy. It doesn't just happen."

He said breakthrough in the business world (Comcate Inc.) wasn't about creating a whole new system but fixing a broken one. He wanted to complain to the city of San Francisco about the terrible conditions at Candlestick Park on-line. There was no way for him to lodge a complaint or to have his voice heard. Over the next couple years he helped develop



Photo by Erik O'Brien
Ben Casnocha, author of "My Start Up Life: What a Very Young CEO Learned on His Journey Through Silicon Valley," gives pointers on how to become an entrepreneur.

the software for the city to filter complaints on the internet.

He didn't attribute his success to any extraordinary skill or great genius on his part. Casnocha said he achieved success by drawing from mentors with knowledge around him. He showed humility as a young man to seek out those with the heart of a teacher and experience to help him develop into the person he is today.

Casnocha referenced several books in his speech illustrating his need for knowledge and his pursuit to understand the world around him. He allowed a question and answer period following his speech and covered many topics.

When asked why people with great ideas fail, Casnocha had this to say.

"Most people are afraid to try, they mitigate risk out of

shame or embarrassment and they are not really willing to go for the long haul," Casnocha said.

Another asked if it would be better to find a niche in the market and aim for it.

Casnocha said, "Pick out a small segment of the population and reach out to them. Start small, and when you can satisfy their needs, move up."

Although he has traveled to 25 different companies and has talked with powerful people in the computer industry, Casnocha still has the desire to connect to his own age group. He is a college student in a community college in Los Angeles County and has a blog to discuss and advance his own interests.

You can read about his book online at www.mystartuplife.com or check out his blog at ben.casnocha.com.

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Birge could teach ‘Entrepreneurship 101’

BY GRANT CAMPBELL
Guest Writer

Many of the students on campus are pursuing a degree to attain a job in the workforce. However, there is one student on campus who already has a head start on building his own business career.

Dusty Birge, a freshman industrial distribution major from Binkelman, Neb. is the owner of his own small business. He successfully started, operates, and maintains a small engine repair shop in his hometown.

“I started my business because I saw a need in my community,” Birge said. “There are several farmers who get pretty busy during planting and harvest time, and I saw an opportunity to help them.”

As a full-time student at UNK, Birge still finds time

to provide his service for his customers. “It’s tough,” Birge said. “It helps that I don’t have to go home everyday. I can service the engines on the one weekend a month when I go home.”

During the summer, Birge retreats to Binkleman where he completes the majority of

his work. But for Birge, doing what he enjoys makes it all worthwhile. “I love what I do. And because of that, I make time for it,” Birge said.

Mason Doughty, a junior business management major from North Platte, hopes to someday achieve what his fellow peer has already at-

tained.

“My goal when I get out of college is to immediately gain experience,” Doughty said. “With actual hands-on skills, I will have the tools I need to eventually become an entrepreneur myself.”

Doughty says that he would like to start up his own fitness center someday. “I hope I can have the same success [Dusty] Birge has had,” Doughty said. “With hard work, anyone can accomplish their goals.”



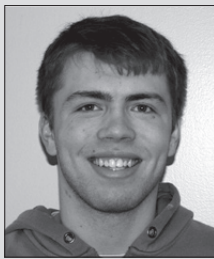
Photo by Grant Campbell
Dusty Birge, a freshman Construction Management Major from Binkelman, Nebraska, is the owner of his own small engine repair business. Birge is able to effectively balance the operation of his business and still be a full time student at UNK.

If you
could run
your own
business,
what
would it
be?



“My own private investigation firm.”

*Noah Lauby
Sophomore*



“Maybe an IT (Informational Technology) consulting service.”

*Clay McPeak
Sophomore*

“I would like to start my own clothing line.”

*Amber Kirkover
Sophomore*



UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS STUDENTS HAVE INDEPENDENCE IN CAMPUS HOUSING

BY CATHY CLINARD
Guest Writer

Going to college full-time and working to pay rent is sometimes a tough combination. Renting a place just for you, or you and your family can be a bit expensive. But, UNK does offer something to help you when you need your own space but can’t afford to go to school full time AND work full time to pay the bills. The solution is University Heights.

University Heights is part of the UNK campus housing, but is unlike the housing that is offered right on campus. UH is for married students, single parents or students over 21 years old.

Built in the 1960s, the

facilities haven’t changed much. The apartments are reasonably priced in two styles: efficiency for \$285 and one-bedroom for \$350.

Leased through Residential and Greek Life, UH does offer an advantage over other apartments in the area with semester-to-semester contracts. However, there is a catch; you have to be a full-time student. According to Jennifer Harvey, a hall director in her sixth year at UH, UH fits the budget of the residents, since there are some young married people.

University Heights offers a diverse group of people. There are young married couples, older couples, couples with kids, single parents as well as single students



“I don’t mind the no alcohol thing. I don’t drink anyway. Why would I sit here and drink by myself?”

*Deb Ecklund
Junior, Construction management*



“You have your independence. You have your own place.”

*William Barrera
Fuentes
Graduate Student, MBA*

and international students.

According to Harvey, about 40 percent of the resi-

they are able to cook their own meals.

Much like the dorms, UH offers activities for the residents, but according to Harvey the outcome is much like the dorms. UH has those that attend the activities and those that don’t due to work or other activities. Harvey also said that she thinks the activities are a good way to meet other residents and make connections.

UH also has some of the basic rules like the dorms: no candles allowed, no alcohol and required semester compliancy checks.

Deb Ecklund said, “I don’t mind the no alcohol or anything. I don’t drink anyway. Why would I sit here and drink by myself?”

Most of the students living in UH are a little older and respect each other. William Barrera Fuentes, a graduate student working on his MBA, has lived in UH for two and a half years, and enjoys it.

“It’s quiet, there’s no parties around, you don’t have noise. Everyone respects the privacy of others.”

While UH was built in the 1960s and apartments do seem small by today’s standards, Harvey said that back then it was normal to have families living in the size of the apartments, but that with today’s expectations, the units could probably be a little bigger.

Fuentes said that he wishes they were a little more modern as well, with a new

fridge, newer stove and the Internet. (Residents have to provide their own internet access.)

Ecklund said she doesn’t mind that the apartments come uncarpeted, and likes it that way. She said it’s easier to see and keep clean that way. While she only stays at UH during the week and goes back to Atkinson on the weekends to be with her husband, she said she plans to stay at UH, “until I graduate or they bulldoze them down.”

ABOUT UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

- University Heights replaced the old Veteran’s Housing on campus originally rented for \$30 per month.
- Talk of University Heights began around 1957 and was built in the 1960s.
- When University Heights first opened, rent was \$65 per month with utilities.

- University Heights sits about one mile from the campus, and when originally built, had a view of Kearney Lake
- Originally built with 72 one-bedroom and 36 efficiency apartments, University Heights now has 64 one bedrooms and 36 efficiency apartments as the others have been put to other use.

Photos by Cathy Clinard
LEFT: The sign on the door to the UH office. Office hours vary when there’s a holiday or break.

MIDDLE: Inside the UH office. The office allows residents to receive and send mail and report problems to the UH staff.

RIGHT: The playground at UH is for residents and their kids. The playground is one of the areas where kids can play and roam. In other open areas, there is space for family barbecues and space for things such as soccer and football.



Infographic by Cathy Clinard

Source: Rick Larsen, Director of Residential and Greek Life and UH Contract Information and Housing Policies

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Writing Center Essay winner announced

BY KIMBERLY TOMJACK
Antelope Staff

What would you do if you knew you could not fail? That was the essay question the Writing Center presented for this spring’s essay contest. Contestants were asked to explain in 500-600 words what they would do if they could not fail.

This contest was for undergraduate students, and the winner received tickets to a Tri-City Storm game. Kris Houseman, a freshman from Longmont, Colo., was the winner.

Houseman wished to be the president of the biggest engineering company in the world. He received four tickets to the April 4, Tri-City Storm

hockey game. Houseman, a radiology comprehensive major, said his family somewhat had an influence on his choice. “My mom is always sending me e-mails and talking about how inefficient we are,” Houseman said.

Colorado freshman Kris Houseman takes the prize

Amanda Granrud, director of the Writing Center, got the idea for the question from an unlikely place. “I actually found the quote on the chalkboard of the bathroom at Baristas,” Granrud said.

Granrud was very impressed with how Houseman’s

response reflected intention of the essay. “I thought it was progressive in thought and really captured the heart of the question,” Granrud said.

This is the second essay contest the Writing Center has had. Last fall the contest was held for international students, and Mira Sabbah won 4 hockey tickets.

“Our partnership with the Event Center and the hockey team is great,” Granrud said.

Granrud hopes to have an essay contest every semester with the support of the hockey team to continue giving tickets. Judges for this contest consisted of the tutors on staff, grads and undergrads.

Granrud encourages more students to use the Writing Center and enter in the contests.

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Design program wins by putting fine arts first

Art department took home 23 awards at American Institute of Graphic Arts Competition

BY ANN BIERBOWER
Guest Writer

The design program at UNK stands out against a background of larger universities in larger cities.

The Visual Communication and Design Program, or VCD, prepares students for a career in the development of graphic arts and officially began in 1996.

Richard Schuessler, a design professor who has taught at UNK for 15 years, explained that the current program is an updated and revamped version of the prior prgram.

The program has grown in size and prestige. "It holds its own," said Cassi Ellenwood, a senior in the program.

Ellenwood originally had trouble deciding between the American Art Institute at Denver or her hometown of Kearney when choosing a college.

"I came here because I knew I would be attending Denver for all the wrong reasons," Ellenwood said. "I wanted the bigger city and to not be in my hometown, but there were too many good things about UNK."

Mark Hartman, chair of the art department since 1997, attributes the program's success to the department as a whole. "Our design students are fine art students first," Hartman said.

At larger or specialized schools the students are set free initially and start designing right away. "What do they even need teachers for?" Hartman asked.

Hartman emphasized the importance of building a strong and diverse foundation first.

"All of our decisions are based out of what we see as the needs of the students, in order to unlock their abilities," Hartman said.



Photo by Ann Bierbower
Professor Richard Schuessler assists and critiques graphic design student Manami Nakai in his typography class. In this class, students study the art and use of letterforms.

"The program is like a fine art foundation with a design emphasis," Schuessler said. "The students take classes like printmaking, drawing and painting, which are essential to the program. It is a big umbrella with design as the shaft."

Students are even able to gain experience in mediums such as glass blowing. Claire Richmond, a junior in the program, said that she had tried the more typical classes such as sculpture and painting but found she enjoyed glass blowing much more.

The students work with molten glass and ovens that range from 900 to 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

The design students get a chance to compare their work

to others and receive outside feedback by attending events such as the American Institute of Graphic Arts Conference, or AIGA, which is a national competition and networking resource that was in Denver last year.

The department took home 23 awards. No other single school won more than 11.

The department also participates in other networking conferences such as "Meet the Pros," which is available to all students in areas linked to journalism, advertising and design. The conference takes place annually in Omaha, and the Kearney chapter of AIGA helped fund 20 students to attend this year.

The program recently

underwent a large turnover of faculty, some of whom had been there for over 30 years and were part of the initial program. Between 2000 and 2006, seven core faculty members left the department for various reasons, mostly retirement.

"Our design students are fine art students first."

*Mark Hartman
Chair of art department*

"The program is a little different in format now, it's a matter of getting to know your staff and reassessing due to what everyone brings, but our mission is still the same," Schuessler



Photo by Ann Bierbower
Paul Engler, senior, who has blown glass for five years, rotates a steel rod inside the 2,000° "glory hole" as glass melts on the other end. This is the beginning of what will become a 12 inch vase.

said.

Ellenwood, who was a student through the turnover said, "There was a rocky year, where it was all transition, but I think the program came out even stronger. Even through all the changes, I'm glad I came here."

Ellenwood began the program, which often takes five years to complete, with 36 students. Next December, she will graduate in a class of nine.

"The program is so labor intensive, you find out pretty quickly whether you can handle it or not," Ellenwood said.

The art program includes a diverse group of professors, one a nationally renowned printmaker and illustrator from Russia, Victoria Goro-Rapaport. Like her fellow professors, she is often found in the art building late at night and early in the morning working on her personal pieces and being a resource to her students.

"She is intense," Yves Gadjoro, a sophomore in the program said. "Her work is

amazing."

The students say they have the benefit of close relationships with their professors since both student and professor are spending such long hours in the building.

"They have a clear passion for the students to succeed," Ellenwood said.

The program's mission statement revolves around successful problem solving through artistic expression.

"Each person has their own talents and solves problems in their own way and we teach them how to find it," Schuessler said.

The Walker Art Gallery, which displays student work from all areas of the art department is open Mon. through Fri. 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. It is currently displaying the senior projects of five VCD students. The projects are often the students' best works and demonstrate a culmination of their aquired skills.

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