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More pictures from the LPAC-sponsored concert

Results from last week's online poll at unkantelope.com



This week's online poll question:
Should gay marriage be legalized?

See story on page 2

Vote at www.unkantelope.com

Conference celebrates English students' best work

BY CAITLIN OSTBERG
Antelope Staff

College is the window to the professional world, and because of the Student Conference in Literature and Language hosted by the English Department, students are given a glimpse into what it's like to present written works in a professional setting.



MARGUERITE
TASSI

"This is a conference that we put on annually in the English Department," said Dr. Marguerite Tassi, professor of English. "It's a celebration of the best work we've seen from our students from the year. It's a series of critical essays, as well as creative writing."

The daylong conference Friday in Thomas Hall will consist of five sessions,

each themed to represent the work being presented.

Though she's not sure how long the conference has been occurring, Tassi said that when she arrived at UNK 15 years ago, the conference was an annual event.

"It was definitely one of the big things for the department. So, it goes back probably a few decades," Tassi said.

The topics explored in various papers range from Anglo-Saxon Literature, to the Holocaust, to Arthurian Legend, meaning that those who attend would find a session that piques their interest.

But for the 27 students presenting, the conference is an honor. For the chance to present at the conference, students were encouraged to submit their best work.

"Faculty agree to sponsor these student and they turn in all of their submissions," Tassi said. "We have a committee

CONFERENCE, PAGE 11

OUTSTANDING AWARDS

Outstanding Work in Graduate Studies

Celeste Lempke

Outstanding Undergraduate Essays in Literary Criticism

Amy Hadley, Eliot Wondercheck

Outstanding Applied Research

Lacey McPhillips

Outstanding Essay in Expository Writing

Danielle Cook

Outstanding Work in Creative Writing

Lacey McPhillips

FORENSICS HOST NATIONALS SHOWCASE



Photo by Yena Oh
Brooke Alstrom, junior organizational communication major from Bassett, and Kara Loeffler, sophomore park and recreation major from Shelton, perform their Duo Interpretation about untalented but famous women. UNK Forensics team members hosted "The Night before Nationals Showcase" on April 3 in Thomas Hall. Five members of the UNK Forensic team competed at the American Forensics Association's National Individual Events Tournament at Texas State University-San Marcos on April 7 to 9.

the antelope

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stop the hate

Omar says gay community deserves respect



BY JAY OMAR

Antelope Staff

Everyone is different and everyone has the right to live the life they want. We all have freedom to do what we please and believe what

we choose to, but why does the freedom stop when it comes to choosing who to love?

The U.S. Constitution was written to protect our rights as human beings, but in the year 2012, the gay community is still ridiculed and denied happiness.

This needs to change. When I talk to someone who believes that gay marriage is wrong or immoral, I ask a few questions for which no one has been able to give me a straight answer. First, I ask, "What if the roles were reversed and you were looked down upon because of who you love?"

I hate to use such an old cliché, but take a walk in someone else's shoes, my brother for example. My younger brother Zach is a 19-year-old college student at UNO and has been openly gay for almost two years now.

After years of depression and difficulty holding onto friends, Zach finally confessed his sexual orientation and has been happier since.

So for those against gay rights, switch the roles. How would you feel locked in your bedroom afraid of being told you're going to hell or called a fag? Something is wrong with our society if people like Zach are afraid to be themselves out of fear. We are in the year 2012, not 1950; it is time this hate stops.

The second question I ask members of the anti-gay club is, "How, in any way, does a man or woman's decision to love another man or woman affect your life?"

The answer is simple, it doesn't. It is not like homosexuality is a brand-new fad; it has been around since the beginning of time, and society has survived. homosexuality is not the end of religion or defiling the sanctity of marriage, but simply two people who want to be happy. The choice has nothing to do with me or anyone else.

Even though someone's sexual orientation does not affect anyone else, our so-

ciety has everything to do with repressing the rights of the gay community. When a state like Nebraska refuses to even propose a bill to allow gay marriage, we are not just being a conservative state; we are denying people their happiness. If someone is gay, it doesn't make him or her a bad person, so why should they be punished?

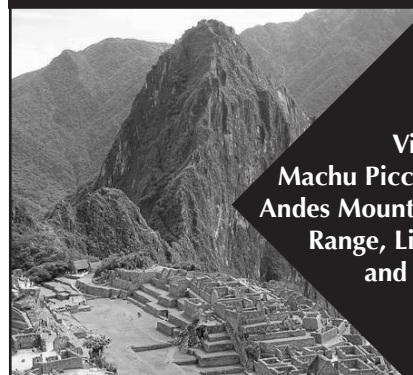
When I hear a presidential hopeful like Rick Santorum say that being gay is just as bad as being a pedophile or committing bestiality, it makes me sick. The gay community deserves to be happy just as any of us do, and who has the right to simply deny them that?

What often gets overlooked as well

is the effect this issue has on everyone in America, even here in Kearney and not just in New York or Chicago. People in our city are struggling every single day to get out of bed because they feel they are not accepted. They are just trying to live their lives knowing that the second they go outside, others are going to try to make them feel like they don't belong.

I just wish that this would stop. I wish it would stop for the people fighting for their rights everyday, for the kids who are scared to tell their parents because they think they won't love them anymore, and for people just like my little brother who deserve just as much fairness and acceptance that I have received in my life.

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AN EGG-CELLENT EASTER



Photo by Yena Oh

(Left to Right) Breanna Payne, Joseph Orr and Timothy Orr, all from Kearney, pose with their Easter egg baskets. The “Easter Egg Hunt” was held at the Frank House on Saturday, April 7. This event was open to children ages one to ten. The children found the eggs, filled with candy, fun facts and prizes, hidden on the Frank House grounds.

Sudoku ★★☆☆☆

How to play:

Sudoku is a placement puzzle. The aim of the puzzle is to enter a numeral from 1 through 6 in each cell of a grid. Each row, column and region must contain only one instance of each numeral. Completing the puzzle requires patience and logical ability. The puzzle initially became popular in Japan in 1986 and attained international popularity in 2005.

		5			
				6	
	3		5	1	
3	1		4		
	4		2		

Find answer on page 10

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

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Central Nebraska Business Plan prizes awarded



Courtesy Photo

The five finalists for the Center of Rural Research and Development's 2012 Central Nebraska Business Plan Competition pose for a photo after presenting their business plans to a panel of judges on Wednesday, March 28. The top three finishers were Her View From Home, the Stoll Tool and Keepsake Quilts. Also taking place in the final presentation was Lucky Lady Tasting Room and Niobrara Valley Vineyards.

BY NATHAN BOROWSKI
Antelope Staff

UNK's Center for Rural Research & Development (CRRD) hosted the first ever Central Nebraska Business Plan Competition this month with \$13,500 of total prize money on the line. Five finalists competed for the \$10,000 first prize, a \$3,000 second prize and a \$500 third prize.

Shawn Kaskie, director of the CRRD, said that the competition was about much more than the prize money, however. "The purpose of the competition was to support a culture of entrepreneurship in central Nebraska," Kaskie said. "The money is an incentive to encourage people with good business ideas to develop and comprehensively consider the viability and future of the concept."

Kaskie and the CRRD office received 18 submissions from a number of rural communities including Amherst, Columbus and Kearney. "The main criteria for the event was to present a purposed or existing business with a rural focus, not one inside the Omaha or Lincoln metropolitan statistical area," Kaskie said.

The business plans were then evaluated by local professors and business leaders based on additional criteria. "Like most business plans, there were several major sections of the plans, and that's how the participants were graded," Kaskie said. "A few areas were given a little bit more weight and those were the competitive advantage — the market analysis and the risk factors."

Among the five finalists for the competition was UNK student athlete Nicolas Stoll, a junior geography-GIS major from Marysville, Kan. Stoll, a member of the UNK football team, was able to take home

the \$3,000 second prize with his business plan for Stoll Manufacturing and the Stoll Tool, his innovative version of a socket holder.

What makes the Stoll Tool different from other socket holders is its unique design that incorporates a bail, or pivoting guard rail, that ensures that the sockets stay in place. "Our socket holder with a bail is designed to make the sockets easily accessible, identifiable and transportable," Stoll said.

The first prototypes of the tool were produced in the summer of 2011 after Stoll grew fed up with his endless search through unorganized tools. "The idea to create a better way to organize our hand tools came from the constant search and

disorganization experienced working in our shop," Stoll said.

Stoll entered the Central Nebraska Business Plan Competition in hopes and enhancing his business and the Stoll Tool. "I wanted to provide the boost I knew I needed to enable us to actually get started selling them," Stoll said.

Now, with \$3,000 to provide that boost, Stoll plans to expand his business by purchasing new equipment and extending his inventory. "I plan to start getting my product available for door to door sales and continue working on other product development including the tool box and trays," Stoll said.

Additional prizewinners of the 2012 Central Nebraska Business Plan Competi-

tion included "Her View From Home" by Leslie Means, Heather Riggleman and Jennifer Sill, all of Kearney, who took home the \$10,000 top prize sponsored by the University Technology Development Corporation.

"Her View From Home" is an online magazine/social website for women of central and western Nebraska that focuses on features such as faith, food, family, self, community, home and more. The website is currently in the works, and the trio plans to use the prize money on upgrading their web server technology. Upon completion, the website can be found at www.herviewfromhome.com as well as on Facebook.

Winner of the \$500 third prize award, sponsored by the Economic Development Council of Buffalo County, was "Keepsake Quilts" by Jaime O'Byrne of Eagle and Lisa Soflin of McCook. The duo plans to open a fabric and quilting store in the downtown McCook area.



Courtesy Photo

Nicolas Stoll, a junior geography-GIS major from Marysville, Kan., is presented his prize for second place in the competition from Shawn Kaskie, director of the Center of Rural Research and Development. Stoll's business plan was based on the Stoll Tool, a unique socket holder that he designed and created himself. Stoll plans to use the prize money to expand his business and the Stoll Tool.



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FIJI BLOOD DRIVE



Photo by Freddie Arnold

Sarah Mitchell, a sophomore nursing major from Liberty, squeezes down on the ball to get the blood pumping as she gives back by donating blood Thursday afternoon at the Fiji blood drive. "I like the way it makes me feel afterwards," Mitchell said.

CAMPUS CRIME LOG

April 3: Katie Berglund was issued a citation for a stop sign violation in lot 14.

April 3: Heidi Caufield was issued a citation for driving the wrong way in a one-way street.

April 4: Chelsea Miller was issued a written citation for speeding.

April 4: Heather Checkley was issued a citation for speeding, lack of operators license and no proof of insurance.

April 7: Joseph Klingelhofer was issued a defect card to have his non-working taillight fixed.

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Healthcare bill takes fire from Supreme Court



Courtesy Photo

The health care mandate, signed into law by President Obama, aims to provide health insurance to more than 30 million previously uninsured Americans. But Republican opponents have argued the law is unconstitutional. The Supreme Court's ruling is expected shortly before the 2012 presidential election.

BY JAY OMAR
Antelope Staff

The Supreme Court took on an unprecedented case last week when the nine judges heard arguments for and against President Obama's new Affordable Health Care Act.

Lawyers and politicians fought for the life of the bill as the case dominated national news.

The argument regarding the Affordable Health Care Act, or Obamacare, is about whether the bill falls in the boundaries of our constitution.

Although the health care bill sits at over 2,700 pages long, the Supreme Court is focused on one particular mandate. Within the Affordable Health Care Act, which was passed last year, lies a mandate that forces every American to purchase health care or face a large tax penalty. This mandate is being called unconstitutional.

The argument does not lie in whether everyone should have health care, but rather if Americans should be forced to purchase it. Former president Bill Clinton believes they should.

"Nobody knows how well it's going to work, because it's just now being implemented. But I don't think it was unconstitutional in any way, shape or form," Clinton said in an interview with MSNBC.

The conservative party has argued

strongly against this bill, often referencing the founding fathers of America and what they would believe. Clinton feels the founding fathers would share his conviction.

"Even in the 1790s, George Washington mandated that shipping companies insure their employees. He signed a bill mandating that able-bodied citizens have firearms in their home because they thought the British were coming again. John Adams signed a bill to mandate that individual seamen have hospitalization insurance. To me, it's hard to take the constitutional argument seriously, so I think there's a little more politics."

Clinton's belief is not strongly supported by the members of the Supreme Court. After a full week of argument, the future of the Affordable Health care Act seems bleak.

While the act has other important parts, such as required coverage for citizens with pre-existing conditions, the judges believe the entire act suffers without the mandate forcing citizens to buy insurance.

Even though the members of the court are split between five conservatives and four liberals, no one expected the little support the health care reform would receive in the courtroom.

The final decision will not be made until early June, and possibly no decision will be finalized until the healthcare plan goes into full effect in 2014.

Loper football players look to fill shoes of successful 2011 team

Senior Arthur Hobbs, Associated Press Little All-American corner, heads out to the field to talk to players about the upcoming season

ARTHUR HOBBS
Antelope Staff

After coming off a solid 2011 football season, making it to the second round of the Division II playoffs and suffering only one loss to the RMAC champions Colorado State Pueblo, the UNK football team is on its way to a new conference. The Lopers expect to face new talent, new obstacles and tougher opponents. The team also has a new offensive coordinator.

Players from every position have weighed in on how they feel on the situation, but the three players who stuck out the most in my mind were senior receiver Tommy Flanagan, senior quarterback Kevin Romero and junior cornerback Kenny Hill.

Flanagan, an exercise science major and standout receiver from Lakewood, Colo., came into UNK with his head on straight. Flanagan came into training camp last year with this "I want to be that guy" mentality, and that's just what he did.

Despite playing only 10 games to other players 12, Flanagan still managed a team best at receiver with 45 catches for 704 yards, eight touchdowns and an average per game 70.4 yards. Not only was Flanagan that guy last year, but for the upcoming year he was elected as one of the five captains.

Flanagan has already adapted that captain mentality and wants to be in a position to help. He says he hopes other players will come to him both on and off the field. "I will not change my leadership or playing style based on the role of captain. The one thing that I think it will bring to the table, though, is hopefully the team will know they will be able to come to me for not only things on the field but off."

Kenny Hill, the redshirt sophomore/sports administration



Tommy Flanagan, a junior exercise science major from Lakewood, CO, shakes a couple tackles during UNK's spring scrimmage in Kearney. Flanagan's presence as a wide receiver will be felt this coming season as one of the top receivers for UNK.

Photos by Blake Beideck

major from San Diego, had a fair share to do with success in the last year of the RMAC. The sophomore tallied up 37 total tackles and 16 pass deflections in that very stingy defense that rarely gave up passing touchdown. Last year Hill was the No. 2 corner and looks to claim his throne as the go-to corner. Hill is mentally and physically preparing himself to take on that big role this year. Hill calmly says "As

an athlete, you train yourself everyday for that big opportunity to be the guy. We as athletes live for this moment, and when my time comes I will step up to the plate like I know I can."

The biggest story of the three could be that of Kevin Romero. The six-foot two-inch quarterback from Hawthorne, Calif., is fighting for a starting position his last year in college football. If you saw the Lopers play at all last year, then you know that they had this short but very elusive quarterback by the name of Jake Spitzlberger. Spitzlberger at times was a run first kind of guy who made plays with his feet as well as his arm. The offense now has a new style of quarterback, and no one is feeling the pressure more than Romero.

"Well, Jake was a special football player, and I think it would be hard for anyone of our guys to do what he had done here. I just have to execute the offense to the best of my ability, and when I have to run I'll protect the ball and pick up as many yards as I can. I like to stay in the pocket and try to get the ball to the guys who can run all over the field because that's what they are here for, to catch and run, and the quarterback is here to deliver the ball," Romero said.

Players may be a little frustrated because of the changes made to the offense, but since new offensive coordinator Andy Siegel has stepped into town, no one knows and thinks so highly of the new coach's knowledge more than Flanagan. "I cannot say enough good things about the new OC. He brings a lot of knowledge to the table. He has been critiquing our offense and making it much better. I love the ideas he has. The new thing that I love most is he uses our player's strengths. Every coach wants to put his players in a position to succeed, but I feel he wants to do it much more than most I have ever been around. This coach is going to be a huge compliment to our success."

Coach Siegel's rap sheet looks pretty good on paper, and the people are just waiting to see what he can do with this offense.

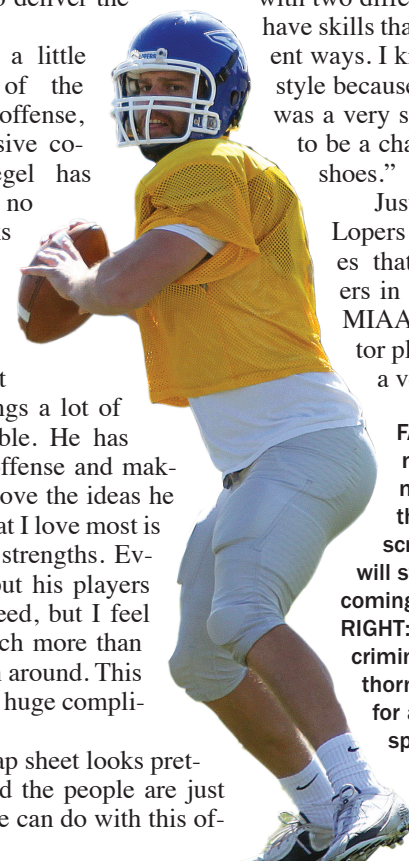
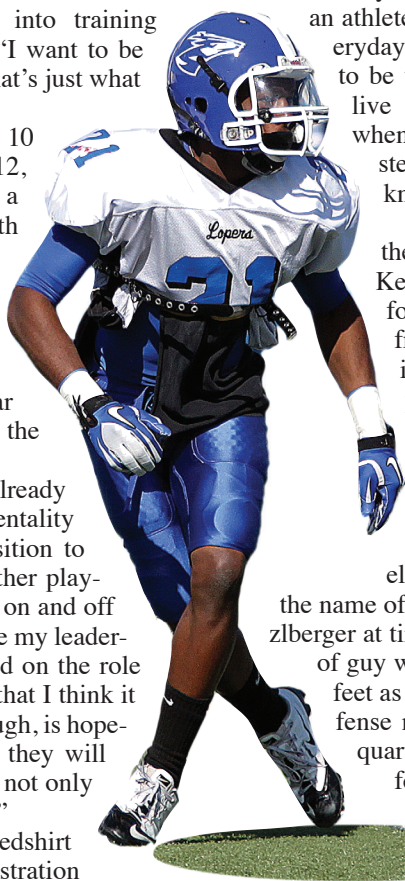
The big question is who will take the place of the starting QB? Head coach Darrell Morris has brought in a new guy, Sam Brauer, who really resembles Spitzlberger. Now it looks like Romero will not only have to practice well but will have to beat out another guy for his starting spot.

Romero doesn't doubt his ability. "I have what it takes to play the position, and Sam and I are two different quarterbacks with two different playing styles. We both have skills that can help the team in different ways. I know certain coaches like his style because it resembles Jake, but Jake was a very special player, and it's going to be a challenge for anyone to fill his shoes."

Just finishing spring ball, the Lopers look to fill the missing pieces that can make them contenders in the tough conference of the MIAA. A new offensive coordinator plus a new quarterback equals a very interesting season.

FAR LEFT: Kenny Hill, a sophomore sports administration major from San Diego, eyes the quarterback at Saturday's scrimmage at Foster Field. Hill will start as a cornerback this coming season.

RIGHT: Kevin Romero, a junior criminal justice major from Hawthorne, Calif., looks down field for an open receiver during the spring scrimmage Saturday at Foster Field. Romero is competing for the starting quarterback position for this coming season.



Derby rolls into Kearney

BY BRIANNE WETOVICK
Antelope Staff

In what sport can ladies expect to run others into walls and shove one another for points? And, oh wait, while on roller skates?

Roller derby, of course.

Last week I brushed up on the sport, and learned a lot more about the Kearney area Tri-City Rolling Thunder team. From who can play to what's involved, these women had plenty to say.

So what exactly is roller derby? Basically, players skate around an oval track, trying to win points, with specific team members for certain aspects of the game. A pack of blockers (four per team) skates around the track, with jammers (one per team) scoring points for their team by legally lapping each opposing player. The blockers help the jammers score by playing offensively and defensively. They can incorporate strategies, change the pacing of the pack, and obviously, block their opponents. The women incorporate between 40 to 50 skills playing offense and defense at the same time while skating in a pack vying to create openings for the jammer.

Matches between teams are called "bouts" and last for 60 minutes, in two 30-minute periods.

Roller derby got its start in 1935, and now there are over 692 leagues in the U.S. Kearney is one of four leagues in Nebraska. Members of Kearney's own Tri-City Rolling Thunder answered some questions about the sport.

Why Kearney? Why now?

Florence Welts (Steph Galloway, co-captain): Roller derby is one of the fastest growing sports in the world. In Nebraska, Lincoln and Omaha have had teams for six years, so gradually more people are discovering derby, and then becoming fascinated with watching it or wanting to be a part of it. It's only natural derby would start to spread beyond the major cities. I think Kearney is ready for a derby team, and it definitely seems like there's enough interest in the Tri-City area and surrounding smaller communities to support a lo-



Courtesy photo

Florence Welts (Steph Galloway) is the co-captain of the Tri-City Rolling Thunder. Welts says her worst injuries while skating include a torn hamstring, "derby knee" and bruises.

cal team. We've had a few away bouts this season already, but we really can't wait to start having home bouts and for everyone to come see what we do.

What are some qualifications to be a player or on your team specifically?

"No Pity Pattie" (Brandy Klingelhofer, co-captain): ...good attitude and willingness to work hard to start. Skating skills can always be improved.

Welts: Anyone can learn (or remember) how to skate. When we started, some girls on the team had never done it before, and others hadn't strapped a pair of quads on their feet since they were 12. But once you get that down, we have other skills tests we have to pass that include skating skills, hitting techniques and learning how to fall. Just a matter of knowing that when you go down, you want to fall in a way that will minimize your risk of serious injury, or the risk of you causing others to fall and become injured. Roller derby is real. You get hit, you get hurt, you fall down. BUT, you get back up again. If you have patience and dedication, anyone can be a derby girl. Oh,

if you're over 18 of course.

Can you give me some pros and cons of being on the team?

Pattie: Pros: hanging out with fantastic, strong and dedicated women, feeling more physically fit than I have in years. Con: finding a way to balance the time along with work and family.

Welts: One of the best things about derby is definitely all the people you meet— and not just within our league, but from other teams we play or meet at boot camps or mixers. Something about this sport attracts a wide range of characters. Sure there are the girls with the crazy hair and tattoos, that fill the stereotype of what you think of when you think of a roller girl, but there are also moms with husbands and kids cheering them on from the crowd and working professionals. We've got teachers, television producers and newspaper reporters on the team and students who are in college working toward degrees. So we're a diverse bunch, but everyone is awesome, and for a large group of women spending so much time together, it's amazing how drama-free the environment is— probably because everyone can take out their frustrations on the track.

That's the other pro I'd list, is the physicality of it all. How often are women allowed to be physically aggressive? We grow up encouraged to be "ladylike," stay clean, and not play in the dirt or get dirty. But getting to hit something or someone with your body can actually be quite a release and really freeing. It's really cool to experience that physical feeling of power as a female.

What's a typical practice like?

Welts: Typically we practice three days a week. Leading up to a bout, a practice might be heavier on endurance drills, but we also run drills focusing on strategy, as well as still working on basic skating skills and techniques, and some scrimmaging. Recently we've started incorporating plyometrics off-skates at the beginning of practice to really work our thigh/leg muscles and strengthen those areas to help prevent injuries that might occur on the track.

TRI-CITY ROLLING THUNDER

- Started recruiting last summer
- Started practicing in August
- Coached by Brandon Graves
- Does volunteer work and charity fundraisers
- Donates 20 percent of proceeds to Food Bank
- Plays on the road and currently does not have a permanent home for bouts. Check tricityderby.com for venue information.

Upcoming bouts:

- April 14 — vs. the Bruizin Bettys
- May 12 — Home Scrimmage
- June 23 — vs. the Dames of Anarchy
- Oct. 27 — vs. the Dames of Anarchy @ Mason City, IA

Interested in becoming a part of Tri-City Rolling Thunder?

To learn more about local roller derby, contact some of UNK's members of Rolling Thunder: Charisa Ramsey, a theatre major from Lincoln, and Laura Fear, a visual communication design major from Overton, who have recently gotten involved with the team. Also, Welts says that another skater from Norfolk's team will be joining the Rolling Thunder this fall, when she transfers to UNK. So look out for Marissa "Cream Ur Soda" Pfeifer because her derby career is only getting started.

You can also check out the Tri-City Rolling Thunder's Facebook page for more info, or go to tricityderby.com to check out the derby girls' profiles and to stay up-to-date with derby events.

LOPERS HIT HOME-RUN AGAINST CHADRON STATE



Photos by Adam Konruff

(Left) Lopers pitcher Kirstie Hiatt winds up for the pitch in the fourth inning of a double-header against Chadron State Saturday at Dryden Park. The Lopers swept the series, 6-3 and 6-2. (Right) UNK's Whitney Frederick hits a line drive in the third inning of the same game which was the beginning of a three-run inning that put the Lopers on top of the Eagles for good. The Lopers softball team is playing at just above .500 with a record of 19 wins and 17 losses.

Coaches suspended, fines levied: What would you do?

BY ARTHUR HOBBS
Antelope Staff



NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell has suspended New Orleans Saints head coach Sean Payton without pay for the 2012 season. Defensive coordinator Gregg Williams has been banned indefinitely for statements that came out about their bounty program, which targets other good players to hurt them for money.

The punishment is a well-deserved one considering that this program paid thousands of dollars to players who hit other players so hard that they knocked them out of the game. Goodell has also

suspended the Saints' general manager Mickey Loomis for eight games of the next regular season and assistant coach Joe Vitt for the first six.

On top of the punishment, Goodell has also fined the Saints \$500,000 and taken away their second-round draft picks for this year and next.

After allegations came out, the NFL made its investigation public in early March. Williams did admit to running this frowned upon program but did not say how long it had been going on. Since Williams was the defensive coordinator coach from 2009-11, one can assume that it has been going on for two years. Williams was suspended but will have his case reviewed by Goodell after the upcoming season.

Who will coach the Saints this year?

That is a question they are asking themselves right now. Payton's suspension is effective April 1, and now that the coach is out, who will make roster moves and key decisions?

Payton and Loomis took all the blame for this harsh act according to Saints owner Tom Benson, and "had nothing to do with it." This bounty pool was a strategic move. In 2009 when the Saints won the Super Bowl, this pool once got up to as high as \$50,000.

Anywhere from 22 to 27 defensive players were paid for this bounty. Individually, players were rewarded \$1,500 for knockout hits and \$1,000 if the player was carted off. If that isn't pretty messed up, then I don't know what is. What makes it worse is that money could be doubled and

even tripled during playoff season.

It is illegal for a coach to pay a player for an interception or for causing a fumble, etc. Players have come forth and admitted to having their little buddy bets, but having money exchanged between players with friendly bets isn't against the rules. The players who were found guilty of accepting money for this have not been punished yet, but their punishment is currently being decided.

Goodell has ordered the owners of every NFL team to make sure that they are not doing anything illegal, such as offering bounties. If you were a player on a NFL team that was paying for the food your family eats, and your coach demanded you hurt other players, would you do it?

MLB season underway

Offseason blockbuster deals may pay off on field

BY ERIK SWAZO
Antelope Staff

After opening weekend of the 2012 MLB season came to an end on Sunday, there are a few surprises in each division. But this is what is great about professional baseball; there is a long way to go until you see who will actually make the playoffs. Most teams have 159 games left in their season. So for fans of a certain team, no need to worry about your team falling too far behind in the standings. That is why I feel baseball is one of the best sports out there.

After an offseason with blockbuster signings for free agents including former St. Louis Cardinal Albert Pujols, Pujols left the Cardinals and jumped leagues to the American League Los Angeles Angels. Pujols signed for 10 years and over \$240 million dollars. With Pujols, the Angels are a legitimate contender to make not only the playoff, but possibly win the World Series.

But the Angels weren't the only team that made a huge deal in the off-season. The Detroit Tigers, also of the American League, signed free agent Prince Fielder. Fielder signed with the Tigers for nine years and \$214 million dollars. Adding Fielder to their lineup made Detroit a huge favorite to win the Central Division once again this year, and a favorite to also make the World Series. Adding Fielder also impacted their lineup, moving another star player, Miguel Cabrera, to third base. With Fielder and Cabrera on offense, and adding in last year's Cy Young award winner and American League MVP Justin Verlander to the mix, you have one stacked team that rivals should fear when they face the Tigers this year.

In the National League, defending World Series champion St. Louis Cardinals did lose their go-to player, but the Cardinals won't go away that easy. They still are a favorite to win the Central division, looking to their pitching staff to keep them in many games this year.

Another favorite to come out of the National League is the Philadelphia Phillies. The Phillies have one of the best pitching rotations in the majors, with Roy Halladay leading the way. Halladay, who last year won 19 games



Courtesy Photo

Prince Fielder is one of a handful of free agents that signed with new teams during the off-season. Fielder moved from the Milwaukee Brewers to the Detroit Tigers this season.

for the Phillies, looks to do the same this year.

One thing fans should realize is that

the MLB season is a long one, so if your team is struggling out the gate, just remember, there is always tomorrow.

MLB TV SCHEDULE

4/11 Florida Marlins at Philadelphia Phillies	6:00 p.m. (CDT)	ESPN
4/15 L.A. Angels at New York Yankees	7:00 p.m. (CDT)	ESPN
4/16 Minnesota Twins at New York Yankees	6:00 p.m. (CDT)	ESPN
4/18 Texas Rangers at Boston Red Sox	6:00 p.m. (CDT)	ESPN

Segovia receives 2012 'Alumnus of the Year' award

NEWS RELEASE

Martin Segovia, vice president and athletic director at Garden City High School, has been named the Nebraska Cultural Unity Conference "Alumnus of the Year" for 2012 at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Segovia received the award at the conference, which was held recently on the campus. Segovia graduated from UNK with a double major in history and physical education in 1995. During his time at UNK, Segovia was a three time All-American and two time National Runner Up at the NCAA II national wrestling tournaments. He was inducted into the UNK Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009.

After graduating from UNK, the Garden City native returned to coach wrestling and football at Garden City High School where he served as the head wrestling coach.

In addition, Segovia has been active in the community with several Christian youth groups and established a wrestling program for youth that uses wrestling to teach character, ethics and leadership skills.

"In recognition of Martin Segovia's successful career in education, for being an excellent representative of UNK and for all of the positive things he has done for the kids of Garden City, we were pleased to recognize him as the Nebraska Cultural Unity Conference Alumnus of the Year," said Dr. Ed Scantling, dean of the UNK College of Education.

"In addition, over the years, Martin has brought several groups of Garden City students to UNK for the Nebraska Cultural Unity Conference."

"We were pleased to recognize him as the Nebraska Cultural Unity Conference Alumnus of the Year."

**Ed Scantling
Dean of College of Education**

van der Noll living a different, busy life through theatre, music



Photo by Eunjung Kwon

Willemijn van der Noll, a sophomore theater major from Middelburg, Netherlands, applies her rouge in her makeup class. She was made up to appear as a person from the Middle Ages.

BY EUNJUNG KWON
Antelope Staff

We all sometimes imagine living the lives of others. It might sound impossible and somewhat ridiculous, but there are some people who can: actors. Theatre students live vicariously playing in musicals, plays and concerts in order to show their talent to other students.

This semester, one exchange student from the Netherlands has lived a very different life than other theatre students.

Willemijn van der Noll, a sophomore theater major from Middelburg, Netherlands, started studying vocals when she was eight when her mother let her participate at a national audition. Though her childhood dream was to be a nurse, she enjoyed playing characters she never thought she could be. One time, she dressed herself up as a beggar and went to the street, and she really enjoyed the reactions of the people.

She says she loves to take opportunities to do something different. She has traveled many places in Europe and tries to enrich her life in other cultures. She once lived in France to learn French. Af-

ter spending one summer in France with her host family, she speaks French quite fluently. In Kearney, she is experiencing different things again. She says the people are less busy compared to the European society. By spending just a semester in America, she is learning a different way of life.

Her university in the Netherlands is really small and has only 600 students. She can take only three theater courses there, each for four credits.

Now, van der Noll is busy taking nine classes and 19 credits in Kearney. She goes to the gym and swimming every night and exercises. She says, "I'm very bad at doing nothing."

She has also participated in UNK's concert choir, Choraleers, and is going to help with a concert by being backstage from April 18 to 22.

After finishing the semester at UNK, van der Noll is going back to the Netherlands and will continue her studies. She is just a sophomore and she doesn't have a specific plan right now. She said she is thinking about going to film school in London after graduating from university.

Let's just fly a kite

Unusually warm temperatures tempt students



BY CAITLIN OSTBERG
Antelope Staff

It seems to be that most commonly dreaded time of the year again. Spring break is over, and everyone has begun the homestretch to finals week.

But since March acted like May, and April seems to be following suit, productivity is taking a big hit when the only thing on students' minds is to relax outside rather than study in a stuffy library.

Don't get me wrong, I plan on finishing this year as well as I possibly can, but the constant stream of warm days has me longing for summer.

Unfortunately, this means that I must resist the desire to spend all day flying a kite and hit the books. So here are a few tips of my own and from other students about how to stay focused in this final month.

Prioritize: "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," so remember to have some fun. This could mean spending all Saturday inside doing homework, but leaving Sunday wide open. Also, check the weather and do your studying on days that the temperature dips.

Study outside: "When it's nice outside, I would usually try to study outside. Any type of reading assignment is much more enjoyable when you are enjoying the weather. And, as an added bonus, time seems to go by much quicker," said recent graduate Carl Corder of Kearney.

Go on lockdown: "When it's nice outside and all I want to do is lie in the sun or go for a jog, I make myself close the curtains and turn on some music like Vitamin String Quartet. It usually helps get me back into the studying groove," said Emily Slattery, junior graphic design major from Indianola.

"I allow myself little breaks for sunshine. It helps me to focus."

Kimber Morwitzer
Senior/Elementary education
Ashland

Pay attention to due dates: Addison Heeren, junior musical theatre major from Juniata, said, "I'm one of the biggest procrastinators you'll ever meet. But I do keep a calendar that has all the due dates of projects and papers that any overworked college student could dream of."

Be a night owl: "On most nice days I enjoy my time outside before it gets dark when the real studying begins," said Jennifer Zumwalt, junior music education of Lincoln.

Take short breaks: Kimber Morwitzer, senior elementary education major from Ashland said, "I allow myself little breaks for sunshine. It helps me to focus."

So when studying becomes a chore and the temperature continues to rise, remember these tips and finish the semester strong.

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Sudoku answer:

Upside down, from page 3

1	3	2	6	4	5
6	5	4	2	1	3
2	1	5	4	3	6
3	4	6	1	5	2
5	6	1	3	2	4
4	2	3	5	6	1

Mother of 8 in college to fulfill lifelong dream

BY MAGGIE SOWL
Antelope Staff

"If silence could talk it would say Sssshhhhhh! Quiet! There's a mom in here," said UNK junior Joene Crocker.

This thought ran through Crocker's mind on the first day of classes the first day of the term. "I could hear much chatter of conversation. Upon entering the room, the atmosphere turned totally quiet."



JOENE
CROCKER

er education.

On Dec. 1, 1987, Crocker married her

husband, Steve. A child followed a year later. Today, Crocker is the proud parent of eight children that range from the ages of 23 to 10. Two of her children are students at UNK as well. Her son, Timothy Crocker, a junior, is proud of his mother for going back to school. In an email interview, Timothy said "I think that it is the best decision that my mother could have chosen. She wants to go to school to find a career that makes her happy. Ever since my mother has been going to school, I have not seen her happier."

Between the years of 1982 to 1983, Crocker attended Kearney State College. Later, she changed course and completed classes at a two-year Bible College. After the birth of her first child, she chose to become a stay-at-home-mom. In order to help supplement the family's income, she and her husband began running Crocker Monogramming out of their home. In 2006, they sold the business and started Crocker Painting, which finally allowed her to work outside of the home.

Eventually, Crocker became restless with the painting business. She decided to leave the painting to her husband and find herself another job. When she found a position that interested her, Crocker noticed she possessed several of the required skills but not the bachelor's degree necessary for the job. Soon after this, she enrolled in UNK as a full-time student at the age of 46.

As if being a mother and full-time student wasn't enough, Crocker also works 10 hours a week as a paid student staff member in the UNK Equipment room.



Photo by
Maggie Sowl
Joene Crocker
prepares for
her next class
in the commu-
nications lab.
Crocker spends
most of her day
on campus but
heads home
before her
youngest child
arrives home.

She described her schedule with one word, "chaotic." For Crocker, the day starts early. She gets up, attempts a quick workout and tries to get simple household chores done, before getting the kids off to school. She then walks to school, where depending on the day she either goes to class or work first. She remains at campus throughout most the day, trying to be home by the time her youngest child gets home. Once home, her evening duties continue with picking up the kids from activities, preparing supper for the family, socializing, and attempting to study her homework, while also helping her children with theirs.

"There are days when I am the last one to go to bed," she said

When life gets overwhelming, she tries to relax through quilting or working out, but it is by far her strong support system that keeps her sane. "My husband supports me. My parents are proud of me. My

friends applaud me," she said.

Despite her hectic schedule, Crocker maintains a high GPA. Communications professor Keith Terry applauds Crocker's decision to go back to school. "The fact that she has so many obligations to her kids and can balance their needs with her own is an accomplishment," he said.

Crocker is proud to be a non-traditional student. She says she is content and has no regrets about going back to school later in life. "Colonel Sanders inspires me. He was 62 years old when he opened his first KFC restaurant. I am glad at the age I am to be able to experience UNK. I see my past choices as a great foundation for my future career," said Crocker.

Crocker's advice to UNK students both traditional and non-traditional: "Stay teachable, continue learning at any age, and apply what you learn to you personally."

Conference from page 1

that sits down to accept or reject, and then decide who the award winners are."

Students who submitted papers had a chance to win "Outstanding" awards for their work in Graduate Studies, Undergraduate Essays in Literary Criticism, Expository Writing, Creative Writing and Applied Research.

"The types of awards might differ from year to year," Tassi said. "An unusual one this year is the Outstanding Applied Research. There was a student who had written a paper based on research she had done in a classroom with pre-school or kindergarten children."

The topics of the papers also vary from year to year and depend on the courses that are being taught that year.

"There's one constant that we've had for a few years running now, which are papers on the Holocaust," Tassi said. "Often we have papers about revenge that come out of my women and revenge course."

There will be five sessions held with

different categories running simultaneously during the conference. The final session, however, will be a presentation of parodies about different adolescent and children's literature.

"Last year the graduate students did a parody panel, so they all parodied critical interpretations or theories of 'Moby Dick.' This year we're having a special Sigma Tau Delta session, which will include grads and undergrads that will do it," Tassi said.

Regardless of the presentations being serious or humorous, Tassi said that the conference is a great experience for undergraduate and graduate students to present their work.

"It's a bit like the professional literature conferences that I go to, that all the professors here go to," Tassi said. "Some of these students go on for a Master's program; some are going out to teach, so it's great experience for them to present their work publicly."

Classified Ads

Campus Activities

Battle of the Sexes

UNK Adventure Race 2012

- April 11, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.
- \$20 per team of two
- Must be 19+ years of age to participate
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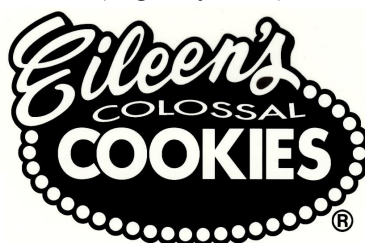
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All-American Rejects 'Swing, Swing' on campus

BY EMILY SEEVERS
Antelope Staff

A line of nearly 200 people, mostly in their teens and early twenties, line up facing a small table with four chairs behind it. The anticipation is palpable and adrenaline high as they wait, wide-eyed for Tyson Ritter, Nick Wheeler, Mike Kennerty and Chris Gaylor of the All-American Rejects to take their seats and meet the line of their fans. The down-to-earth band smiles and greets each person, responding accordingly to the comments of "I love you guys!" and "You were amazing tonight!"

Amazing, is one word to describe their performance, for a crowd of approximately

1,500 fans earlier that evening.

A Rocket to the Moon opened for the All-American Rejects at 7 p.m. April 5. Cheers erupted from the floor of the Health and Sports Center, where the LPAC concert was held. The majority of the crowd belted out lyrics as A Rocket to the Moon's front man Nick Santino sang into the microphone. Andrew Cook, Justin Richards and Eric Halvorsen induced a few swoons from the crowd of "fan-girls."

As the already riled up crowd's excitement levels rose around 8:00 p.m., the All-American Rejects came onto the stage and began playing songs from their new album "Kids in the Street" that was released March 27.

Other songs the band played during their two-hour performance included songs from three other albums, their self-titled "The All-American Rejects" from 2002, "Move Along" from 2005 and "When the World Comes Down" from 2008.

The band, originally from Stillwater, Okla., met in high school and bonded over their shared interest in music and more importantly, playing music. The band persistently played in small towns throughout Oklahoma and released a few independent albums, but got their break in 2002 when they released their third album "The All-American Rejects." "Swing, Swing" got them on to Top 10 lists and popular radio shows throughout the country. The band

was signed to DreamWorks Records and by that point had formed a very solid, loyal fan base.

During the concert on Thursday, the band's lead singer, Tyson Ritter, asked the crowd if they became fans of the All-American Rejects when the song "Swing, Swing" came out. Screams, claps and cheers confirmed that they had. Ritter thanked the crowd, exclaiming that it has officially been 10 years since that song came out, saying "If you were 12 years old, jamming out to this song in your room, we thank you!"

LPAC can consider this year's concert a total success. They could not have chosen a nicer, funnier and more humble group of talented men.



Photos by Emily Seever

TOP LEFT: All-American Rejects front man Tyson Ritter serenades the audience. **TOP RIGHT:** All-American Rejects guitarist Mike Kennerty donned a mask that resembles a man from their "Kids in the Street" album cover. **BOTTOM:** The All-American Rejects members Tyson Ritter, Mike Kennerty, Chris Gaylor and Nick Wheeler pose for pictures with fans.