

# the Antelope

University of Nebraska at Kearney

Run With It

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Photos from D.C.


WEATHER

FRIDAY

Partly cloudy

High 55

Low 29




SATURDAY

Partly cloudy

High 63

Low 37




SUNDAY

Sunny

High 65

Low 39



## Education adds a New Flavor

Lisa Elson  
Co-Managing Editor

Carving pumpkins is a common tradition for October, but about 350 UNK students started a new tradition last Friday by attending the second annual OkSOBERfest.

The evening was full of games, prizes, karaoke and awe-inspiring digestive techniques.

“It was an awesome night. I am kind of sad it’s all over,” Health Education Coordinator Ismael Torres said. “I was so glad that everyone participated in all the night’s activities.”

“I was impressed with the turnout, not only for a Friday night but also for any night in general,” Peer Health Educator Rex Bauer, a senior computer information systems and telecommunications management major from Amherst, Neb., said.

“I hope Peer Health Education can build off this year’s event and make an even more interesting one next year,” Bauer said.

New to OkSOBERfest was UNK Fear Factor. The event consisted of four rounds of edible, but seemingly-inedible foods.

Eleven contestants started out the event and were gradually eliminated until two were left for the final round.

In order to make it to the final round, Cody Spencer, an English and Japanese major from Cheyenne, Wyo., and Joshua Jones, a sophomore industrial distribution major from Huntley, Neb., devoured edible puke, salty gelatin with sour gummy worms and chocolate mint soup with Little Smokies and meal worms.

The final round was a head-to-head challenge to see who could eat the most meal worms, crickets and ants in the shortest amount of time. Spencer consumed the most bugs and took home a new iPod Nano as his prize.

Sophomore Peer Health Educator Janae Nienhueser, a physical education and sports administration major from York, Neb., said, “I helped make everything for the event and felt sick to my stomach just making it. These guys actually ate all the stuff and were fine. They acted like it was nothing at all. What a bunch of champs.”

The Peer Health Educators

Peer Health Education uses OkSOBERfest to promote alcohol-free fun

put in a lot of time preparing for the event. All the food for Fear Factor was created based on ideas from the peer educators.

“I think people had a lot of fun participating and watching it,” Lynda Tran, a sophomore Peer Health Educator majoring in psychobiology from Lincoln, Neb., said. “It took a lot of time to plan and organize the event because so many little details must be taken care of ahead of time so the actual event could run smoothly.”

Josh Bauer, a sophomore Peer Health Educator majoring in Biology from Amherst, Neb., said, “The Fear Factor competition was much more competitive than expected, which was awesome. I never would’ve guessed that people would eat that kind of stuff for an iPod Nano.”

The Peer Health Educators plan to keep Fear Factor on the agenda for OkSOBERfest 2008.

“I think we will need to make it a lot harder because obviously UNK students weren’t grossed out enough this year,” Nienhueser said.

“It was great to see so many students willing to partake in Fear Factor, I guess next year we’ll have to make it a little more slimy and gross,” Torres said.

A total of ten Peer Health Educators and approximately 20 volunteers from GAMMA, UNK Counseling and Health Care and other organizations on campus were responsible for making OkSOBERfest happen.

“We’re very lucky to have so many volunteers from GAMMA and other supporting organizations. I hope we can do even better and bring more students for next year,” Tran said.

The ten Peer Health Educators were responsible for planning and organizing the event.

“All of the credit for this event goes to all of the Peer Health Educators. They dedicated their

Photo by Lisa Elson  
Right: Joshua Jones and Cody Spencer compete in the third round of UNK Fear Factor as Peer Health Educators Janae Nienhueser and Josh Bauer cheer them on.

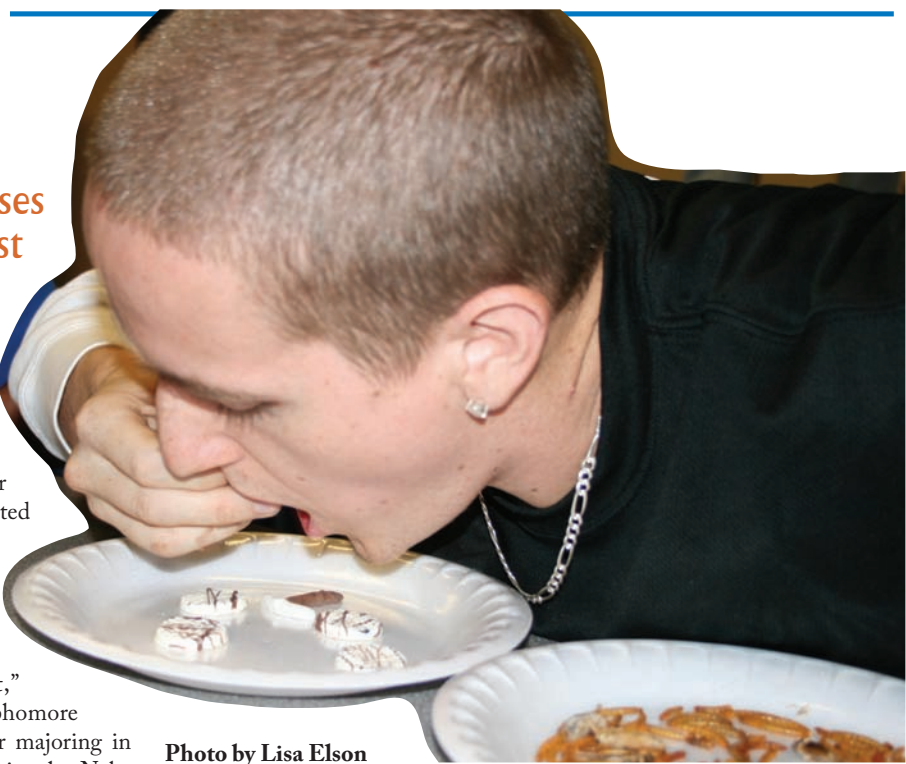


Photo by Lisa Elson  
Cody Spencer, the winner of the UNK Fear Factor competition, devours chocolate covered insects in the last round of competition.

time and energy into making this all happen and it showed by how the event turned out,” Torres said.

Students in attendance had the opportunity to register to win a Nintendo Wii after completing an alcohol use survey from Counseling and Health Care. The results from the alcohol screenings are used as tools for students’ own personal knowledge of their alcohol use.

Will Jackson, a sophomore business major from St. Paul, Neb., was the winner of the Nintendo Wii. Jackson also won the prize for best individual costume for his Capital One Viking costume. Jackson participated in the Fear Factor competition but was eliminated after the second round.

“I don’t play video games, so I sold it and bought a season pass to the Loveland Ski Resort where I will be snowboarding all winter long,” Jackson said.

Throughout the night, students were able to play Dance Dance Revolution, Guitar Hero II, Duck Hunt, Mario Kart and various table poker games.

The winners of both the Dance Dance Revolution and Guitar Hero II competitions took home the game as a prize.

Tyler Cobb a sophomore from McCook, Neb., majoring in music education, won the Dance Dance Revolution competition and Sandy Clark, a freshman from Loup City, Neb., majoring in social work won the Guitar Hero II competition.

“I think the event went

extremely well. Everyone in attendance surely had a good time.” Nienhueser said.

OkSOBERfest is designed to encourage students to partake in a night of alcohol-free fun. Officer Derek Luke from Kearney Police Department conducted mock sobriety tests with students wearing beer goggles. Students also attempted to play catch with simulated drinking-impaired vision.

“OkSOBERfest was a wonderful way for other students to make new friends and have a good time,” Jackson said. “I will definitely be going next year, and I hope everybody else does the same.”

Everyone in attendance was required to wear a wristband and keep track of the number of drinks they consumed. At the end of the night, blood alcohol level charts were available for students to determine what their level of intoxication would be, if they were actually consuming alcoholic beverages.

“I would like to see more events like this in the future,” Criss Salinas, a junior Spanish education major from Schuyler, Neb., said. “I think it would help encourage more students not to drink.”

Root beer from Thunderhead Brewing Company of Kearney was available for students to enjoy in their souvenir OkSOBERfest cups. Chartwells catered the event with hot wings and pizza.



Photo by Lisa Elson

Above: Phillip Lempke and Riley Howsden battle against each other during a round in Dance Dance Revolution.



Photo by Ismael Torres

Above: Peer Health Educator, Janae Nienhueser, tries to see straight enough to walk the line wearing a pair of beer goggles.



Photo by Lisa Elson

Above: “Sometimes the best beer is root beer.” Rashawn Harvey pours Thunderhead-brewed root beer for OkSOBERfest participants.



Photo by Lisa Elson

Above: Rashawn Harvey marked wristbands for each drink consumed by the students.



Photo by Lisa Elson

Above: Will Jackson and Jared Jensen listen as Officer Derek Luke informs them about the differences between the beer goggles.





Layout by: Janee Mlinar

# Get your soda and popcorn ready

## New theater nears construction completion in Kearney

Jared Hoff  
Antelope Staff

UNK students and Kearney residents alike have probably noticed the huge new building being constructed on 2nd Ave. A big red sign says it loud and clear: “Kearney 8, grand opening on November 21, 2007!”

The new theatre will bring movie lovers from all over the area to watch the new shows playing. Blessing Construction of Kearney has been working with CONSteel Erectors, Inc. (CSE), Norms Plumbing, Heating, and AC, Walters Electric, and Custom Concrete, all Kearney businesses, on the huge project.

Cory Whitmore of Custom Concrete says that the job has taken about a month so far.

“We started on Oct. 1. We have to be done by Nov. 20 because the theatre is hosting a VIP night

on that evening,” Whitmore said. The theatre will feature 8 individual theatres, as the name

“  
**It will be great to have a nice new theatre in Kearney...**”

Amy Johnson

implies. Whitmore estimates that there will be “roughly 1,200 seats available.” Senior Dana Wright estimates that he goes to movies in the theatre about 3-4 times a month.

“At the Hilltop theatres, there isn’t much variety in movies they offer. They don’t get new movies very quickly, and they don’t have a good flow of new movies,” Wright said.

“I would probably go more if there were more options, which I think Kearney 8 will offer. I am also very excited for the stadium-style seating!”

Junior Amy Johnson is also excited for the opening.

“It will be great to have a nice new theatre in Kearney,” Johnson said. “The theatres at the mall and the one downtown are old and poorly maintained.”

Junior Lindsey McGee says she would definitely go to the new theatre as well.

“I would certainly go to it because everything will be brand new and clean. I am curious to see it and will probably go to a movie there fairly soon after it opens,” McGee said.

The large-scale project has certainly provided some challenges for the workers. According to Whitmore, time has been a constant issue on the jobsite.

“The time frame has been the most challenging aspect of the job. Construction has been pretty rapid since we only have a little over a month and half until the target completion date,” Whitmore said.

Weather has also had a role in the construction process. Rain in the area has forced the companies to rethink some plans and wait until the muddy conditions cleared up.

“Other than time, the rain we have gotten in Kearney has been interesting to compete with. There has been a lot of rainfall throughout the duration of the project,” Whitmore said.

Kearney 8 is scheduled for a grand opening on Wednesday, Nov. 21.



**Photo by Jill Kempt**  
The Kearney 8 theater on 2nd Avenue will be open for a VIP event on Nov. 20 and a grand opening Nov. 21.

# Disability awareness enables understanding

## Acedemic Success and Collegians for Integration and Accessibility will sponsor events at UNK

Ben Webb  
Antelope News Staff

The 14th Annual Disability Awareness Week is scheduled to take place during the week of Nov. 12-16.

Sponsored by Academic Success and the UNK student group C.I.A. (Collegians for Integration and Accessibility), the purpose of this week is to illustrate the difficulties that come with having a disability but also to show everything a person is capable of despite it.

Kathy Morrow, coordinator

for Disability Awareness Week and interpreter for the deaf, hopes for a “wonderful turnout.” She encourages students, faculty members, teachers and members of the community to come to whatever events they would like.

Over the years, she has seen an encouraging growth of support for C.I.A. and their concerns about their access to campus and universal learning. The group itself meets twice a month on Thursdays at five p.m. and it is open to anyone who wants to be a member.

For those who do not live with a disability, it can be difficult

to understand what people who do live with one go through on a daily basis. Morrow shed some light on why this is.

“It is difficult for most people to see people for who they are in spite of what they can’t do. When you start to see the person and their abilities, you start to forget what they can’t do because of their disabilities,” Morrow said.

Starting on Monday, Nov. 12, there will be an “Eradicate the Stigma, Stand up for Abilities” march which will begin at the Cope Fountain at 11:30. The walk itself will start at noon, and anyone who

“**When you start to see the person and their abilities, you start to forget what they can't do because of their disabilities.**”

**Kathy Morrow**  
Coordinator for Disability Awareness Week and interpreter for the deaf

places abilities above disabilities is invited to attend.

A discussion about career opportunities and information about agencies that serve individuals with developmental disabilities in Nebraska will be held Tuesday, Nov. 13. Panelists from various agencies will be there to discuss their missions and advocacy roles in the community.

This will be held in the Nebraskan Student Union, room 312, 2-3:15 p.m.

Comedian and inspirational speaker Jerry Traylor will be in Copeland Hall room 140 at 7 p.m.

On Wednesday, Nov. 14 the activity “Survival UNK” will demonstrate various techniques to cope with disabilities. This will be in the Nebraskan Student Cedar Room from 3-5 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 15 will have the College Students with Disabilities Panel Discussion where college discuss their challenges as well as their ways of being successful. This will be in the Nebraskan Student Union Room 312 at 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. In the evening, comedian and inspirational speaker Al Foxx will be speaking in Copeland Hall room 140 at 7 p.m.

# Project will empower youth, improve rural communities

Elizabeth Weaver  
Antelope News Staff

The population of rural Nebraskan communities continues to decrease, but a new project designed to help these communities improve their quality of life will soon begin at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Dr. Peter Longo and Dr. John Anderson, political science professors at UNK, are spearheading a project that uses young people to conduct research and design community improvements.

The project will include five Nebraska towns with populations under 5,000. Up to ten high school sophomores, juniors and seniors from each town will be trained to research and identify their community’s most urgent needs.

Dr. John Anderson said that they will include a wide variety of communities from different parts of the state in the project.

The project’s main goal is to identify the positive features that Nebraska’s rural communities offer, which will in turn encourage young people to stay in the state.

The team of students from each school will work with UNK political science faculty to conduct research and engage their communities in a discussion about the positive and negative features of the community itself.

Most of the data collected for the study will be collected from surveys and focus groups conducted by the students.

Dr. Anderson said that the students will then use the information they collect to find ways to improve their communities. The students will be expected to work together to author a plan to present to community leaders and policy makers.


Anderson said that the data collected during the project could be revealing, as it will originate from and be analyzed by the part of the

population that is the most prone to relocation. The project also gives students the opportunity to engage with civic leaders who may have a different perspective on life in their communities.

Anderson said the project is a way to “leverage greater student engagement in the civic life of their communities.”

Anderson and Longo hope that the research will reveal the positive features of small town rural life to the students involved and encourage them to stay in the state.

Longo and Anderson will be collaborating with their colleague Chris Plein, a professor at West Virginia University, who has conducted similar work in rural areas of West Virginia. They will also work closely with the Nebraska Network for Educational Renewal to select the schools involved in the project.



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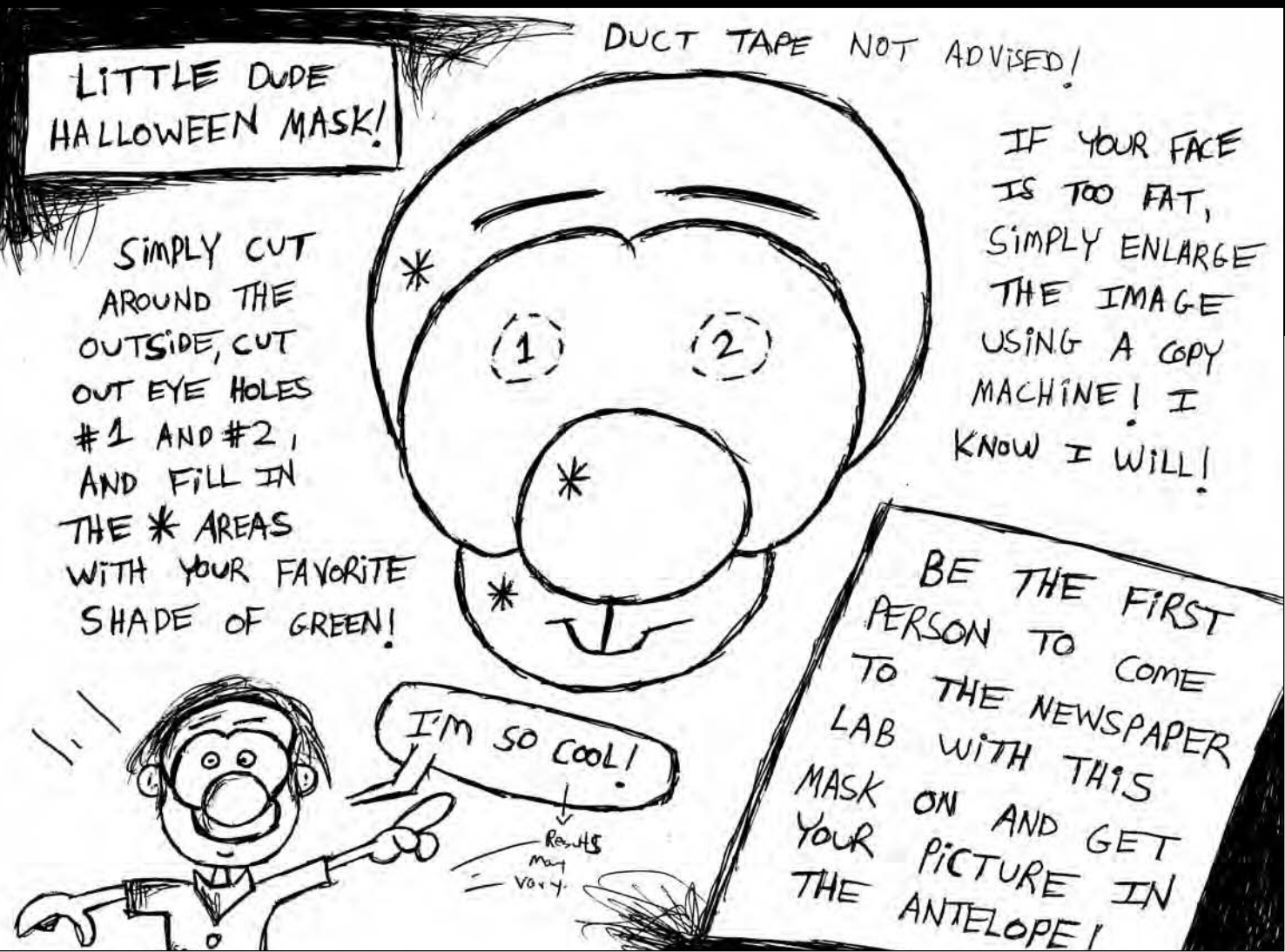
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Layout by Ashley Stuhr

Hide your Halloween hangover



'Kaleidoscope' offers chance to purchase local art for holidays

Derry Stover  
Antelope Staff Writer

Local artists will get an opportunity to show and sell their creations to the public at the annual “Kaleidoscope, A Benefit Gift Boutique” hosted by the Museum of Nebraska Art Guild.

Over 30 Nebraskan artists will display their works Saturday Nov. 3, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 4, 1-5 p.m. at the Museum of Nebraska Art. “Kaleidoscope” will include works of art such as jewelry, ceramics, glass, paper products, and paintings aimed for art shoppers and enthusiasts.

Kristin Gebhardt, ARTreach Coordinator at MONA, says the event is a great way to find unique, high quality gifts for the season.

“We’ll have beautiful, reasonably-priced artwork that would make great holiday shopping for

We'll have beautiful, reasonably priced artwork that would make great holiday shopping for students.

Kristin Gebhardt  
MONA ARTreach Coordinator

students,” Gebhardt said. The event usually attracts more than 300 guests and shoppers every year. Refreshments will be served, and proceeds from the event will benefit MONA programs. For more information, contact the museum at (308) 865-8559.

Taking on life, one nano at a time

Dr. Darveau, Dr. Exstrom inducted into UNMC for their research efforts

Mark Hayden  
Antelope Staff Writer

The University of Nebraska at Kearney has some new bragging rights: Dr. Christopher Exstrom, professor of chemistry, and Dr. Scott Darveau, associate professor of chemistry, have been inducted in the Nebraska Center for Materials and Nanoscience at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. It is quite an accomplishment for the two, as they are the first from UNK to do so.

The two have developed a reputation with their research in nanotechnology and have taken the next step in helping develop better resources for solar energy.

If you have ever thought about seeing life on a smaller scale, then you are not much different than Dr. Christopher Exstrom and Dr. Scott Darveau.

Both of these men see promise in the future of nanotechnology combined with solar energy.

and have been studying since this past spring on how to make a contribution to converting sunlight into electricity more efficiently, and at the same time, making a positive impact on the environment.

The four elements, copper, indium, boron and diselenide, and the construction of these elements are the root on this approach to converting sunlight to energy. This is where nanotechnology comes in to save the day.

“Nanotechnology is based on the construction of material from very small fine particles called nanoparticles or nanocrystals and they are ... finer than any grain of powder, salt or sand that you could see.

“In our area, we are trying to develop new solar cells that convert sunlight to electricity more efficiently. And what we have found was that making these materials into nanocrystal form has been a more efficient way of coming the elements the way we need to combine them together,” Exstrom said.

Our energy-loving society has been trying to develop the cleanest and cheapest ways to supply electricity, and nanotechnology shows a strong presence for the years to come.

“This technology is developing rapidly enough that we can see the increase of solar cells in the near future, and solar energy will have the capacity to provide a significant percentage of our energy needs,” Exstrom said.

Using such a complex rarity that the naked eye is unable to see might seem costly in the eyes of many, but Exstrom and Darveau will assure doubters that it is something that could change the way we live for not as much as you would think.

Taking the steps toward a cleaner environment has been on the minds of many in today’s world, and maybe solar energy can make those steps not seem so small.

“We hope to be working on the development of new material for fuel cells ... using long thin rods, so they could lay them down and they could serve as the medium through which you get the reaction

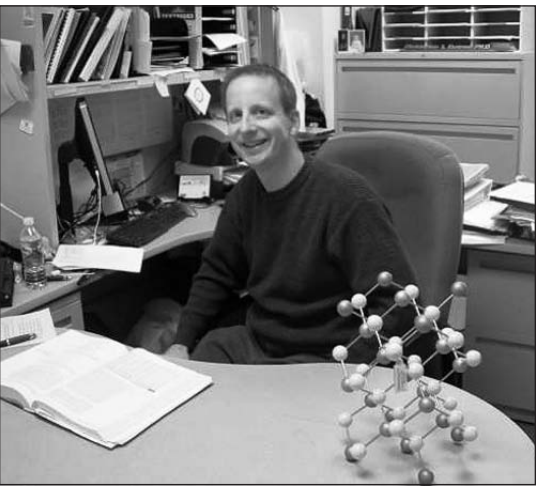


Photo by Sean Takahashi

Dr. Christopher Exstrom, left, and Dr. Scott Darveau are involved in research in nanotechnology. The pair have been inducted to the Nebraska Center for Materials and Nanoscience at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



in generation of electricity through a fuel cell,” Darveau said.

Their students are even tackling this latest endeavor with the help of Exstrom and Darveau. Five undergraduate students, Ty Haussler, a senior from Arapahoe; Matt Ingersoll, a sophomore from Kearney; Andrea Martinez-Skinner, a senior from Norton, Kan.; Anatole Mirasano, a sophomore from Kigali, Rwanda; and Ashley Vandeventer, a junior from Omaha.

They have taken these students under their wings and have been putting their minds to work to help come up with a solution to our ever-growing problem with that pesky ozone layer.

“Within our department, most faculty, have ongoing research projects, and we invite students to join and participate as research students. The students are the ones doing all the lab work, so we guide and help with construction,” Exstrom said.

Other methods have been utilized, such as, high-end vacuum methods, but Darveau says that using nanotechnology and the mixture of these particular elements have proved to be the road to take.

“I think the biggest thing that the NCMN serves to do, is to serve as a consort as a faculty working together and pooling resources and equipment. It’s a lot more efficient

to have in a center, a certain piece of equipment, rather than having every person buy that certain piece of equipment ... you can focus by having a broad array of resources at your disposal,” Darveau said.

Maybe in the near future we will see the names of our very own Dr. Exstrom and Dr. Darveau

stamped in the history books as pioneers in the road to developing cheaper and more efficient ways of converting sunlight into electricity.

Induction into the NCMN is definitely an important sign of things to come.

“This technology is developing rapidly enough that we can see the increase of solar cells in the near future.”

Dr. Christopher Exstrom  
Professor of chemistry

Both Dr. Exstrom and Dr. Darveau teach Chemistry 101, as well as organic chemistry (Exstrom) and physical chemistry (Darveau).

The two have combined their knowledge and have come together to study nanotechnology to help better lives.

They have united their minds

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# LOPER BASKETBALL PREVIEW

## Women use Elite Eight as motivation for 07-08 season

Kayla Laird  
Antelope Staff Writer

The UNK women's basketball team has only one goal in mind – to be playing in March in Kearney when the Elite 8 will again be held at the Health & Sports Center for the 2007-2008 season.

The Lopers, picked as the favorite to win RMAC, have all the ingredients to make that happen as they return four starters, all of whom received All-RMAC honors last season. Coming off a 22-10 record and a Sweet 16 appearance last season, the Lopers add only three new recruits, giving them a solid, experienced squad.

The blue and gold will have to replace Liz Fisher, the leading scorer for the Lopers the last two seasons and lone senior from last year's team.

Looking to do so will be the senior duo of Amy Mathis, a forward out of Millard North, and Melissa Hinkley, a two-sport athlete out of Lincoln East.

Mathis, who was chosen preseason first-team RMAC and All-East Division teams, is a mere 71 points away from reaching the 1,000 career point milestone and is the Lopers' leading returning scorer with 12.2 points per game. Last season Mathis missed only nine free throws, making 91 out of 100 attempts. She also has 93 career made three-points and was the second best three-point shooter off last year's squad.

Mathis said, "Since we ended last year so well, we started this year with the highest expectations since I have been a part of this program. It is pretty special having the Elite 8 tournament here again, and after having to watch it last year it really made our team refocus on what we want to accomplish this season."

Hinkley, who is also on the preseason All-East Division team, led UNK in steals and blocks last season while averaging 10.4 points and 7.4 rebounds per game.

The Lopers will look to have some size down low this season as Mathis, Hinkley, and sophomore Megan Becker, all 6'0", will be joined by 6'2" junior Ashlee Schneider, a Fort Hays State transfer.

Schneider, who had to sit out a year due to transferring within the conference, was able to practice and get a feel for the system last season, so Coach Russell expects her to be able to help out right away. Schneider scored 362 points, ripped down 231 rebounds, and blocked 45 shots in her two years as a Fort Hays State Tiger.

Becker, a Southern Valley native, appeared in 30 games last season as a true freshman and was one of the Lopers top reserves. Becker averaged 5.6 points and 2.5 rebounds per game while shooting a team-best 51.2 percent from the field, a goal she looks to achieve again this season.

"I expect a lot of great things this season," said Becker. "We have been working extremely hard in the off-season and all of us are excited for game time."

Becker explained the Lady Lopers one goal of playing at home in March. "We all decided that instead of coming up with a lot of team goals like winning RMAC and being undefeated at home, we would just come up with one goal," said Becker. "If we get all of our other business done, everything else should work itself out."

The Lopers lost not only their leading scorer in Fisher, who averaged 15.7 points per game, but also their

point guard, a position that requires leadership. The leading candidates to fill that position include Kassi Schuppe, a junior from Iliff, Colo., and true freshman Kaitlyn Petri, a Kearney Catholic graduate.

Schuppe appeared in 26 games last season where she dished out 17 assists and scored 26 points. Dealing with shoulder problems the last two years, the Sterling, Colo., alum will strive to use her experience from the previous two years in the program in order to lead on the court this year.

Freshman Mallory Nutt, coming out of Cozad, will become another ball handler and shooter for UNK this fall.

The wing positions will feature the "M-squared" junior duo of Jonni Mildenerger (Sterling, Colo.) and Jade Meads (Elm Creek). Mildenerger and Meads teamed up last season to average 20 points and 10 rebounds per game while each earning honorable mention All-RMAC.

Meads ripped down a team-best 102 offensive rebounds last season, which is quite an accomplishment for a perimeter player.

Mildenerger, on the other hand, was the Lopers second best free throw shooter behind Mathis with a 70.6 percentage from the charity stripe.

Sophomores Katie Hall (Nebraska City) and Kaitlyn Peterson (Gothenburg) will also be battling for playing time on the wings. Hall played in 20 games last season while Peterson appeared in 10.

Junior Tana Nelsen, a transfer from Hesston, Kansas, will look to buy into the Loper's program and help out with her three point shooting abilities.

Hall said, "One of the best things about our basketball team has to be our chemistry. We genuinely enjoy each other and I think that shows when we step on to the court."

Becker said, "I think we are unique in the fact that we all get along so well and we know each other's strengths."

You can catch the close-knit UNK women's basketball team in action as they take on the Huskers in an exhibition game in Lincoln Nov. 1 at 7:05 p.m. First home game is set for Nov. 19 vs. Wayne State in the Health & Sports Center. Tip-off is at 6 p.m.

## Men's team relies on young squad to fill experienced shoes

Derek Wurl  
Antelope Staff Writer

With only four players returning from last year's 24-7 team, the UNK Men's Basketball team is looking for some major holes to be filled by some young talent. The team last year was led by seniors Dusty Jura, Chad Burger and James Lane, who accounted for about 70 percent of the Lopers' points last year. The Lopers also lost four players who transferred.

"Losing the three seniors definitely hurt us, but we are looking for Drake Beranek and Jeff Martin to step up and take on their roles," co-head coach Kevin Lofton said. "They started most of the season last year and got some valuable experience playing with those guys." Lofton also said sophomores Josiah Parker of Lincoln and Matt Starks of Omaha will be relied on heavily.

Beranek averaged 11.1 points per game and Martin averaged seven. Parker and Starks got limited time last year.

The Lopers, who are picked to finish third in the RMAC, are working with seven new-comers: Garrett Lever from Arizona, Jeremy Cruise from St. Edward, NE, Jake Johnson from Grand Island, Max Froehlich from Pierce, Ben Klein from Plainview, Shane Cooney from Ogallala, Matthew Day from Loup City, and Justin McCullough from Arizona. Starting his 13th year at UNK and third as co-head coach, Lofton said this is the youngest team he has seen at UNK.

"The last team we had with the least experience was a down year. Working with young guys you've got to be patient and take things day to day. They have to be willing to work hard while things take time."

With few scorers coming back, Beranek is looking at Martin and Parker to help, but also 6'7" 225 lbs. McCullough.

"We need to make the open shots we get. An inside presence is necessary and Josiah (Parker), Matt (Starks) and Justin McCullough will be looked at for the presence."

The Lopers have accumulated 20 or more wins in 10 of the last 11 seasons, with 30-3 being their best record in 2002-

03. Also, the Lopers have made the NCAA Tournament nine of the last 11 years. Past teams have always had experience and scorers.

"Past years we've always had enough fire power and had a great chance of going to the tournament. This year is different but exciting. The expectations are there even though we are a young team. We need to get better as the year goes and play our best when the season is ending," Lofton said.

Comparitively, the Lopers are the youngest team in RMAC this year.

"It could be a tough year, definitely a rebuilding year. The freshmen need to realize this isn't high school and it's a huge step up because our conference isn't a cake walk. We've just got to get better everyday," Lofton said.

Parker said the coaches are doing great getting them ready for the stiff competition ahead. "We've got some games before conference play and hopefully we can take those games and turn them into positives for our team. We all have to step up and be leaders. We are young but we have the talent to win some games."

Practice has started for the men and every day is a step towards where they want to be. "We get better every day. If we take it in steps, the steps will get bigger everyday," Parker said. Beranek said the team goals are to play hard-nosed basketball. "We want to give ourselves a chance to win every game. We want to prove the people wrong that think we are too young to be as good as the past teams."

The Loper men start the season in an exhibition game at Indiana State, alma mater of NBA great Larry Bird and the 1979 Division I runner-ups, on Nov. 4. The first home games are Nov. 15 against Doane College and Nov. 17 against Hastings College.



**File Photo by Eric Korth**  
This year's men's team will look to younger players, like Drake Beranek, to step into leadership roles this season.

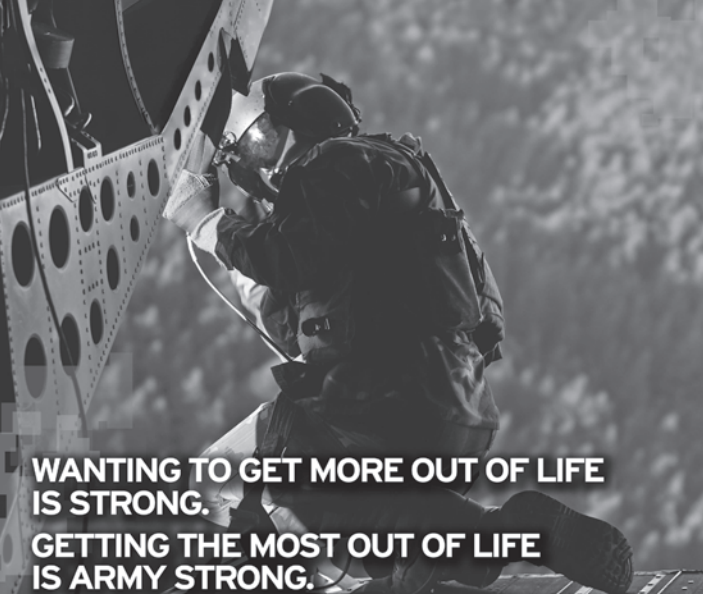


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# Aqualopers dive into new season

## Despite small numbers swimming and diving teams still competing hard

Mike Vamosi  
Antelope Staff Writer

They may not be the biggest team on campus, but that doesn't stop the UNK swimming and diving team from doing their best. UNK has six on its team roster for this season.

"Being a small team is out greatest hindrance," said coach Teresa Osmanski.

This hasn't stopped the Aqualopers from giving their all from meet to meet this season, even if they swim at numbers disadvantage. Due to the situation, it gives the athletes on the team the opportunity to compete in more events due to the team size.

So even with the adversity that the team faces being a small team, it hasn't dampened the spirit of the team, even with how the results have gone so far this season.

UNK started the season off at the Colorado College Triangular in Colorado Springs. The Lopers went 0-3 in this meet losing head to heads to Colorado College 33-77, 53-57 to Metro State College of Denver and 48-62 against Grand Canyon University.

Coach Osmanski said that the score with Metro was close the entire way, but in the end Metro

was able to come out on top with a four-point win against UNK.

Two weeks ago UNK traveled out to Colorado Springs again: this time to compete in the Air Force Invite which the Lopers were able to beat Grand Canyon University. Even against bigger teams again the Aqualopers were able to do some good things in losses to Colorado College, Mesa State, Colorado Mines and Metro State.

Saturday, the Aqualopers traveled to Omaha and took on Nebraska Omaha in a non-scored dual. The Lopers did a nice job in this dual against the larger Maverick team in their first swim meet that didn't take place in Colorado.

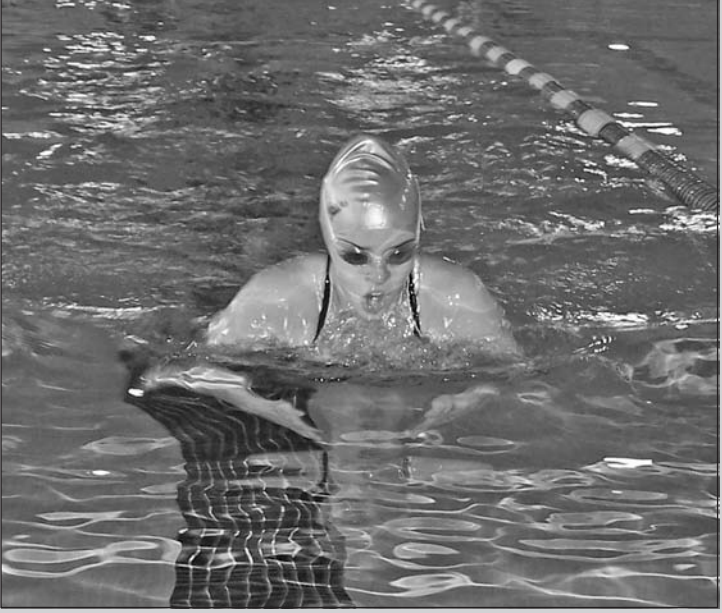
The Aqualopers travel to Omaha again November 30<sup>th</sup> to take part in the Mutual/UNO Invite.

So even with the tough start and having a small team, how is the team doing right now?

"We are stepping up the intensity of our practices and the athletes are handling it well," said Osmanski

Coach also said that the meets in Colorado Springs have been disappointing, since they were swimming up at altitude having an effect on times of the swimmers.

"We are looking forward to meets at the altitude we train at and seeing our true race times" said



**Photo by Hannah Hotovy**  
This year's Aqualoper squad hasn't let their small team size slow them down. The team hits the water again Nov. 30 at the Mutual/UNO Invite.

Osmanski. UNK won't return to the mountains until next semester when they travel out to the RMAC Championships held in Golden.

So who are some of the stars of this year's team? How about a freshman swimmer named Kari Wehl out of Millard West in Omaha. Wehl has been a big impact so far for the Aqualopers in three different races this year.

Then standing out for the

Lopers this year are a pair of divers on the team. Sophomore Annie Moyer out of Lincoln East and Junior Jennifer Kirkland, a local product of Kearney High, lead the team on the diving end of the team.

Coach said that both divers have a realistic possibility of making the national meet later in the season.



# UNK VS. CHADRON STATE

## in-state rivalry continues



Photos by Brandon Moore  
Above: No. 6 Cory Sleeth, a wide receiver from Northglenn, Colo., eludes Chadron defenders during the 66th meeting between the Lopers and Eagles.

Right: No. 16 Dennis Havrilla scrambles from Chadron's Thomas Wells during the second quarter. Havrilla threw for 256 yards and one touchdown against the No. 3 ranked Eagles.

Photos above by Garrett Ritonya  
Top left: quarterback Dennis Havrilla hands the ball off to running back Jake Richards against Chadron State on Oct. 18.  
Top right: Kearney native Geoff Carnahan nails a 48-yard field goal early in the second quarter to put the Lopers up 6-0. Carnahan was 3-3 for field goals in the game.



# Unpredictable upsets

## Even the powerhouses are not safe

Nathan Osterloh  
Antelope Staff Writer

Every year, sports fans get geared up for a new and fresh football season, each fan arguing non-stop about who's really the number one college football team in America? This year people figured the top team in all the land is no doubt USC, but not so fast.

We are well over halfway through the season, and not one team in America seems to have what it takes to be the top dog. There have been several candidates, each one claiming to be the team to beat, and it turns out they are the team that was beaten.

USC and LSU both were thought to be untouchable. USC, with their four running backs who could easily all go pro early and a Heisman hopeful quarterback, and LSU with their tough defense and a veteran fifth year senior as a quarterback both have been proven to be "over-rated."

But it doesn't seem to be that the number one team in the land is the target this year. The number two team in the nation is continuously getting

taken out each week, leaving the BCS polls with a huge mess to clean up. LSU, South Florida, USC and Cal have each held the position and lost it. Boston College has taken the position for a spot in the BCS championship game, but can they make it throughout the season?

With four games left in the season, Boston College has a very tough ladder to climb. With Florida State, Maryland, Clemson and Miami waiting to get a piece of the number two team in the nation, it looks very unlikely that the Eagles will finish the season undefeated, not to mention the ACC championship game at the end of the season.

As this season seems to be going on, the past few weeks doesn't help BC's chances either. With LSU sitting in the number three spot right now, it looks as though the Tigers will get their chance at the coveted Sears Trophy for the BCS Champion at the end of the season. Even if the Eagles do go undefeated throughout the season, the Tigers could jump them to make it to the big game in January. Due to the strength in schedule and the unorganized and often scrutinized BCS polls the thought of this happening is a

very good assumption.

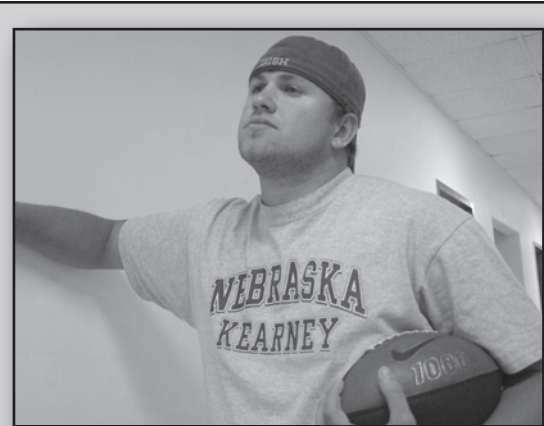
Ben Griess, a senior psychology major said, "It's a good thing and a bad thing. I like it because it makes the teams play hard all year and it keeps them from coasting into the bowl games, as many NFL teams do when they have clinched a playoff spot. It's negative in that a team in a weak conference can have a perfect season, and a team like USC can have a loss to Stanford and still make it to the BCS Championship game."

The conferences have a huge impact on your ranking. And it is becoming apparent as of late. There are only five teams in the entire nation that still to this week carried an untouched record. Two of those teams, Kansas and Hawaii, aren't even ranked in the AP top ten, Kansas mostly because of their preseason expectation and Hawaii, obviously because of their conference. Perfection isn't enough anymore in today's college football rankings. If you don't play anyone good, then it doesn't mean anything if you are undefeated.

Kansas is in a major BCS conference being a part of the Big 12; however, the Big 12 is beating up on each other, making it hard to keep

a perfect season on track. Therefore, the teams in the Big 12 have at least one if not two losses, with Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma being the exceptions. Even though Kansas is in the same conference and plays the same competition as Missouri and Oklahoma, they are still only ranked No. 12, with Missouri being the No. 13 team in the nation. Oklahoma is ranked No. 4 with national title thoughts still very much alive, where as a currently perfect Kansas team is not even thinking about playing at the same level as the Sooners or LSU or any of the top teams in the country.

Whether you like it or not, college football is becoming a huge market and has been for years. The talent is so widespread right now that even the schools who are not traditionally powerhouses are constantly competing, and sometimes beating the yearly top dogs of college football. Players are looking to start their own winning tradition by going to the schools that are usually not that good and allowing these teams to build around them. College football Saturdays are the new football Sundays.



# No ordinary JOE

ERIC M. KORTH  
Sports Editor

With betting on sports, steroids and the infamous recruiting scandals at Colorado, it's hard to measure the heart of the collegiate athlete nowadays. But one special player has shown how large his heart is when it comes athletics. That player is Joe Ganz.

After being a faithful backup for the Huskers for three years now, Ganz will start against Kansas after the season ending injury of Sam Keller. Nebraska will look to Ganz to jump in right away and take control of team in desperate need of direction.

Having such little game-time experience, people are questioning whether or not the junior can lead the Huskers.

After seeing him take snaps in the Red-White game earlier this Spring I had total confidence in Ganz. In fact, I felt that Ganz performance was equal to, if not better than Sam Keller's performance in the spring game.

Here's a little bit of background on the right-hander from Palos Heights, Ill.

Ganz was a three-starter at quarterback in high school and threatened defenses with both his arms and his legs. His career numbers at Amos Alonzo Staff High School totalled 3,428 yards passing and another 1,328 yards on the ground. He led his team to the state playoffs both his junior and senior years. He was offered scholarships from Eastern Michigan and Northwestern, but opted to come to Nebraska instead.

Ganz will get the starting nod for the first time in his college career this Saturday against the No. 8 ranked Kansas Jayhawks. So far in his career Ganz has completed 10 of 17 passes for 158 yards and four touchdowns. Ganz has not yet thrown an interception in his college career.

Coming into the game Saturday, Ganz' most memorable play as a Husker came last year when he lined up as kicker against Colorado and fooled the Buffaloes by throwing a 29-yard fake field goal pass to defensive end Barry Turner. The play was a giant momentum builder that helped catapult the Huskers to a 37-14 victory.

Let's hope Ganz can top his Colorado performance and lead the Huskers to a victory in Lawrence.

### KORTH'S HEISMAN WATCH

MATT RYAN - BOSTON COLLEGE QB

When it comes down to the wire, I can't think of a better to be person taking snaps than Boston College's Matt Ryan. He definitely proved his worth last Thursday after managing two touchdown drives in the last two minutes of the game to defeat the No. 8 rated Virginia Tech Hokies on their own home field nonetheless.

If you take a look at QB ratings this year, you won't find Matt Ryan in the top 40, but don't let that fool you. This guy steps up when his team needs him most. Reliability in the clutch is a key ingredient when it comes to being a Heisman winner. Just look at some of the past winners: Reggie Bush, Eric Crouch and who could forget the other great BC quarterback, the 5'7" giant from Canada, Doug Flutie.

Ryan is already considered a front-runner for the Heisman race, but it will take a flawless finish to the season for Boston College to catapult him to a unanimous choice. The Eagles have the chance to finish out undefeated, but they will be challenged with back to back away games against Maryland and Clemson.

If you would liked to see anything covered in the Antelope, feel free to e-mail me at [korthem@unk.edu](mailto:korthem@unk.edu)

## Sports Picks

### This Week's Top Games

UNK vs. NM Highlands

Nebraska at <sup>8</sup>Kansas

<sup>3</sup>LSU at <sup>17</sup>Alabama

<sup>15</sup>Texas at Oklahoma St.

<sup>6</sup>Arizona State at <sup>4</sup>Oregon

Game of the Week

New England at Indianapolis

Pro Game of the Week

RECORD

ERIC KORTH

Sports Editor

UNK

Nebraska

LSU

Texas

Oregon

New England

27-20

CORY HELIE

Sports Fan

UNK

Nebraska

LSU

Oklahoma State

Oregon

New England

25-22

CHAD BOROWSKI

Sports Fan

UNK

Kansas

LSU

Texas

Oregon

New England

30-17

### SPECIAL GUEST

MATT RINGEN

UNK Student

UNK

Kansas

LSU

Oklahoma State

Arizona State

New England

27-20





**Photo by Kristen Brockman**  
Members of the HSA Alumnae Panel, left to right, Eddie Quintana, Jorge Ambriz, Casey Mendez-Symington, Dr. Rolando Diaz, OMA Director Juan Carlos Guzman, Cesar Godinez, and Gladys Godinez share their favorite memories during the dinner celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the founding of HSA on October 18 in the Ponderosa Room.

# HSA celebrates memorable tenth year milestone

**Kristen Brockman**  
Antelope Staff Writer

It's a celebration this week as the Hispanic Student Association marks two big events: the closing of Hispanic Heritage Month and the 10th anniversary of the founding of the organization.

The Hispanic Student Association (HSA) was founded in the Fall of 1997 by a small group of 7-10 students from the Office of Multicultural and International Students (OMIS). It was one of the first student organizations of OMIS and was established as a way to better recruit multicultural and international students.

According to Juan Guzman, HSA co-advisor and director of the UNK Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA), the organization has grown significantly over the last 10 years through promotion of cultural awareness, academic excellence and financial aid.

Many HSA members have also branched out to become involved

“It shows that the students belong on campus and have support from the faculty and staff.”

**Juan Guzman**  
HSA co-advisor and Director of the UNK Office of Multicultural Affairs

in other aspects of campus life and contributed to overall cultural diversity, the most recent being Schuyler, Neb, junior Criss Salinas who won the 2007 Homecoming King election.

HSA is now one of the largest student organizations on campus and represents UNK throughout the state, according to HSA co-advisor Dr. Sam Lopez.



**Photo by Kristen Brockman**  
HSA Officers and OMA volunteers serve guests a traditional Mexican meal during the Hispanic Heritage Month Closing Ceremony in the Ponderosa Room on October 19.

Lopez sees the 10-year anniversary as a significant event. “It shows that the students belong on campus and have support from the faculty and staff,” Lopez said. He also notes that HSA makes the community aware of the contributions of Hispanics to the state of Nebraska and the communities while providing an opportunity to educate the campus through activities and programming.

Guzman has high hopes for the future of HSA. He not only hopes to have another celebration in 5-10 years from now, but he wants to continue to graduate multicultur-

al students and provide financial assistance to those who want to come to college.

“We have to start small, but we plan to establish a scholarship fund with the help of some HSA alums and hope to host larger activities in the future”, Guzman said.

Lopez hopes to see HSA students continue to be involved in different aspects of campus life. “Students have so many opportunities, and I hope that they continue to incorporate themselves into the campus community”.



**Photo by Kristen Brockman**  
Members of Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Inc. perform the fraternity's customary dance, known as strolling, as part of the entertainment portion of the Closing Ceremony Dinner.

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**Q.** What did you do for Fall Break?

# STUDENTS SPEAK



**A.** "I went with my sorority sister to visit her family in South Dakota."



**Corrina Wright**  
Junior, Interior Design

**A.** "I used the break to catch up on homework and work."



**Jessica Wagner**  
Sophomore

**A.** "I got to hang out with middle school kids all day ... while student teaching."



**Brett Berry**  
Senior, Secondary Education

**A.** "I went with my roommate to Wyoming to visit a few friends and just get out of Kearney for the weekend."



**Katie McCarthy**  
Senior, Respiratory Therapy



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# Psych department leads research

## False confessions of true crimes focus of investigation

**Lisa Becker**  
Antelope Staff Writer

Imagine yourself in an interrogation room, being grilled by detectives about a crime that you did not commit. Would you confess to the crime? Seems like an easy question to answer; however, false confessions do happen. Why would anyone ever confess to a crime that they know they did not commit, knowing all of the consequences? Virginia native and UNK associate professor of psychology Dr. Krista Forrest is trying to find an answer to this question.

Forrest has taught at UNK for 10 years. She received her bachelor's degree at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va. She then went on to get her master's degree and her Ph. D. at North Carolina State.

Forrest is currently involved in many research projects. One of those projects is regarding academic group work. The focus of this research is to discover how people in groups work together and if they are happy with the procedures.

Another project that she and her students are working on is regarding juror reactions to interrogation techniques used by police.

"Police can legally deceive suspects into thinking they have evidence against them based on the suspect's demeanor, science evidence, like DNA or finger prints or eyewitness testimony. Our goal with this research is to determine whether jurors perceive all types of police deception in a similar way or whether they think some police lies are justified while others are not," Forrest said.

Forrest's study of false confessions has two parts. First, the experiment was done with students from UNK. Most of the students sign up in a psychology classes for extra credit. Now that Forrest and her students have completed this part of the experiment, they will ask eligible jurors from the Kearney community to participate in the research, and then compare those findings to those of the college students. The team at UNK is also working with a research team from the University of Northern Colorado.

Forrest's decision to go into psychology was based on her research work with a mentor she had while at Old Dominion University. She enjoyed the research and knew that she wanted to do more. She

knew that teaching would allow her to continue her research and be able to help students at the same time. Forrest began teaching at Elon University while getting her Ph. D.

After graduating with her Ph. D. in psychology, Forrest came straight to UNK. She currently teaches five classes at UNK including general psychology, human development, adolescent psychology, group dynamics and psychology and law.

She is a member of Sigma Xi and Phi Kappa Phi, and a reviewer for the Journal of Psychology Inquiry and the American Psychology-Law Society conference. In 2007, she received the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Early Career Award for her research in teaching and her work in police interrogations.

Forrest has had her research findings published in various psychology publications, such as the College Student Journal, Teaching of Psychology, American Education and Research Journal and many others. She has presented her research at various locations around the world, from Washington to Texas to Edinburgh, Scotland.

Her knowledge on the subject of false confessions has also been put to use in court hearings regarding factors contributing to false confessions. She has served as an expert witness in two different trials in 2002 and 2003.

In 2006, two people were found shot to death in their home in Murdoch, Neb. The detectives had no solid leads, but focused mainly on family members. One name did come up from the family: Matt Livers, the victims' nephew. Livers is mentally disabled and was asked to come in for questioning.

After being grilled for over 18 hours and confronted with false evidence indicating him as the perpetrator, he confessed. Later, evidence proved that Livers was innocent and proved that someone else was responsible for the murders.

This topic of false confessions is very underresearched, partly because the concept is fairly new and because it is a hard topic to research, Forrest said. She also said that in order to research effectively communication between social psychologists and police is vital but not always easy. Creating a situation that is comparable to that of being interrogated is also not an easy task.

To identify a cause for the false

confession is not easy either. It is more complex than blaming police.

"I have never met a police officer who I believe would intentionally elicit a false confession," Forrest said. Many other things like personal characteristics and interrogation techniques need to be evaluated.

Currently, laws that regulate the interrogation of mentally retarded, mentally ill and juvenile suspects are vague and almost non-existent. Forrest believes that there needs to be some regulations or a checklist of items to go through before the interrogation begins to determine if the person is in the right mental state to answer the questions.

No one actually knows how many crimes have had false confessions and how many people are serving sentences for crimes that they did not commit. Currently, 208 people have been exonerated from crimes to which they falsely confessed to or were wrongly convicted of, 123 from death row.

"Every time you don't get the right person, the person who committed the crime is still out there," said Forrest.

Forrest expects this research to keep her and her students busy for a very long time. In the future, she is also interested in researching the use of props in interrogations and if

Simonsen is a post-graduate student from Superior, Neb., who is in between her bachelor's and master's degree. She graduated with her bachelor's degree from UNK with a double major in Psychology and Criminal Justice. She always found psychology interesting and knew that she wanted to do something in the field. Simonsen is currently helping Forrest with the research projects on group work as well as police interrogations.

She hopes to finish writing up the findings from her research and submit the paper for publication by the spring semester.

"I really enjoy working with her

in New York and from the University of Texas El Paso. She said that Forrest has helped greatly in her search of a graduate school.

To other psychology students, Simonsen definitely recommends getting involved in research. "The psychology program is very good and very heavy in research." To get involved simply speak with your advisor or professor.

The other two students helping in the research are assisting with the research regarding juror reaction to interrogation techniques.

Sara Brady is a senior at UNK from Ogallala, Neb. Brady is a psychology major with a minor in sociology. She is also an active member with the Office of Multi-Cultural affairs and is a peer leader for the First Year Program.

Brady is planning on graduating in the spring of 2008 and then plans to go to graduate school. Her main focus is research and would like her research to focus on motivation, achievement and cultural studies regarding how stereotypes affect people.

"Dr. Forrest is very talented in what she does and expects nothing but our best ability, she forces us to grow as students and working with her has made me a better student and researcher," Brady said.

She is planning on taking an independent study course next semester involving sports psychology and motivation and achievement.

The second student assisting in the juror reaction research is Keller Batterman. Batterman is a senior psychology major from Bridgeport, Neb., and a member of the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity. When taking his introduction to psychology class, he said that he liked the class and understood it and wanted to get involved to help people. When he graduates, he plans on applying to graduate school in the area of school psychology.

This is Batterman's first independent research project. He took one of Forrest's classes and learned about the research and asked if he could get involved. He will be gathering the information from the potential jurors from the Kearney community and then comparing his findings to the findings for the college students.

"Dr. Forrest is really awesome to get along with and is very flexible. She pushes us to learn as much as possible," Batterman said.



Photos by Lisa Becker  
From left to right: Stacy Simonsen, a post-graduate student from Superior, Neb., Dr. Krista Forrest, Sara Brady, a senior from Ogallala, Neb., and Keller Batterman, a senior from Bridgeport, Neb.



Police training is also important to help stop false confessions. Forrest said that we need to find out what techniques are more likely to elicit false confessions and what techniques are more likely to elicit true confessions, and then we can eliminate the techniques that result in the false confessions. To do this effectively, video taping the interrogations is important, Forrest said.

this increases the likelihood of true confessions without increasing the likelihood of false confessions.

Forrest is not doing all of this research on her own. She has three UNK students assisting her in gathering and compiling the data. "I couldn't do everything I do without them," said Forrest. The students are Stacy Simonsen, Sara Brady and Keller Batterman.

[Forrest], she is very intense, ambitious and driven. She influences us and other students to strive for our goals. Even though she pushes us it is nothing that she wouldn't do herself," Simonsen said.

Simonsen is also currently researching graduate schools. Through researching and working with Forrest, she has met top people from John J. College of Criminal Justice

# New MONA exhibit depicts midwest winter wonders

**Derry Stover**  
Antelope Staff Writer

As one would expect in Nebraska, the approaching winter promises cold weather, snow storms, ice, and sleds. While this is occurring outside, the Museum of Nebraska Art will be capturing these trademarks of winter in their new exhibition "Sleds and Sleighs."

Opening Nov. 1 and running through Jan. 6, "Sleds and Sleighs" is one of the many events planned for MONA in the coming months. The exhibit will feature works of art that portray the youthful fun and careless joys of Midwestern winters.

Kristin Gebhardt, ARTreach Coordinator at MONA, says the museum will utilize winter-themed pieces from their own collections for the exhibit.

"This grand theme of winter will be brought together by artwork showing scenes of sleds, sleighs, skates, snowballs, and snow angels," Gebhardt said.

The exhibit will highlight works from four Nebraska artists, including renowned illustrator John Falter. At the center exhibition will be a rare, MONA-owned original cover for The Saturday Evening Post illustrated by Falter.

The cover was Falter's final of 128 illustrations he created for The

Saturday Evening Post. Originally printed in December 1979, the cover displays a panoramic winter wonderland scene of cold weather activities.

Gebhardt says possessing an original cover from The Saturday Evening Post is fairly uncommon. "It's a really special thing to have an original Falter cover," Gebhardt said.

The background story of the artwork is as interesting as it is rare.

Cliff's Notes, the company that publishes the yellow student study guides, donated the piece to the museum. Cliff Hillegass, founder of Cliff'sNotes, once served on

the MONA's Board of Directors.

"Cliff and his wife Mary were very gracious supporters of our mission," Gebhardt said.

Another artist featured in the exhibit will be Grant Reynard. MONA holds over 3,000 of Reynard's works, many of which are drawings on scraps of paper, or on paper items such as music programs.

"We'll be showcasing a number of charming sketches by Reynard that have never before been seen by the public," Gebhardt said.

"Sleds and Sleighs" will also feature works from Nebraskan artists Aaron Pyle and Terrence Duran. Pyle's paintings are of a style

called regionalism, an art movement depicting scenes of rural life.

"Pyle is considered Nebraska's quintessential regionalist artist," Gebhardt said.

MONA is located at 2401 Central Ave., and admission is free.

So no matter what kind of weather is occurring outside this winter, the essence of winter fun will be visible all season long at MONA.

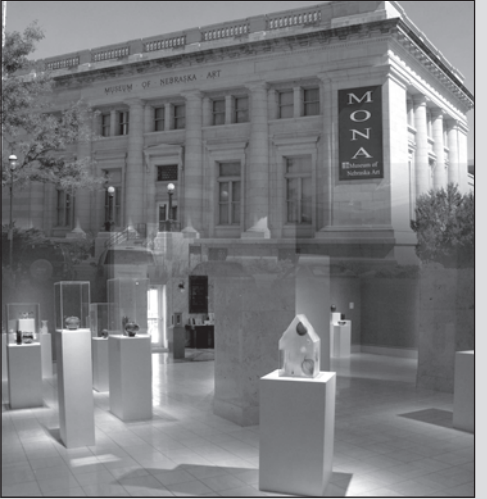


Photo by Jill Kempt  
MONA is downtown at 2401 Central Ave.

Antelope Classifieds

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# Students participate in exchange

## UNK and University of Rockstock offer diverse experiences

Elissa Martin  
Guest Writer

The UNK participants in an exchange program with the University of Rostock in Rostock, Germany may spend only a short 15 days abroad, but many say the experience has changed their lives in a big way.

“My world view has expanded so much. I’m more mature, and more prepared for a career and the real world,” said Keisha Anderson, a junior Middle Level Education major with endorsements in math and science from Central City, Neb.

The exchange program began in 1999 when the Dean of the College of Education, Marilyn Hadley, went to Rostock with her husband, Galen Hadley, the Dean of the College of Business. Galen Hadley had been working with Rostock University to develop a partnership for the Construction Management majors at UNK.

While in Germany, Marilyn Hadley met Dr. Franz Oberlaender and decided that the College of Education should have a similar program to offer their students. Thus, a successful exchange began.

According to Ken Mumm, a lecturer in the College of Education and coordinator for the UNK end of the program, the first students from Rostock came to UNK in July of 2001. The exchange got off to a rough start after the Sept.

11 tragedy in New York. The students were terrified that they weren’t going to be able to return home, and Dr. Oberlaender was not able to visit until 2003 because of all the travel problems related to the attack in New York.

The UNK half of the exchange began in May of 2003. Since then, the UNK College of Education has taken ten College of Education students every other May. This year’s group included eight students, two recent graduates, Mumm and his wife, Bonnie.

While the German students are in Kearney for three months, the UNK students spend only 15 days in Germany. The majority of the time is spent in Rostock, with a few days at the end of the trip devoted to Berlin. “It is an experiential trip, not a requirement,” Mumm said. The trip includes sightseeing and historical tours around Rostock, excursions to the Baltic Sea, visits to German schools at all levels and a few days in Berlin.

Dr. Oberlaender continues to promote the value of the cultural and idea exchange. “It is interesting to have another impression of schools. To be a teacher, it is good to have experience in other places. There are good solutions in other countries. Not all things are so bad that are going in a different way,” Oberlaender said.

Students and alumni who have participated in the trip also say that the exchange is beneficial. Kevin Moon, a May 2007 UNK graduate



### Courtesy Photo

Left: UNK students pause by a fountain in the gardens of Schwerin, the capital of the German State Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. Pictured from left to right, are Cody Waldman, Rostock University student Henrike Stuhr, Jennifer Renaud, Tim Franco, Keisha Anderson, Molly Weitzenkamp, Elissa Martin, Danica Hellner, Jeannie Pritchard, Danni Kreher, and Kevin Moon.

UNK students and alumni participating in the Rostock exchange for this year were Keisha Anderson, Tim Franco, Danica Hellner, Danni Kreher, Elissa Martin, Kevin Moon, Jeannie Pritchard, Jennifer Renaud, Cody Waldman, and Molly Weitzenkamp. The seven students from Rostock who spent July through October at UNK are Maxi Jungnickel, Janina Koehler, Antje Kowmatzki, Antonia Muller, Julia Peters, Doreen Wangelin, and Sabine Wowarra.

with a BA in Health and Physical Education K-12 said that the exchange will impact his teaching because it has helped him to be more understanding of different cultures. “It will help me be as welcoming as possible with my students,” Moon said. Moon is now working for Omaha Public Schools at King Science Center.

The best part of the exchange for junior Cody Waldman, a social studies and Spanish secondary education major from Hickman, Neb. was getting into the culture, not taking the guided tour. Since the UNK students stayed with Rostock students while they were on the exchange, they got a more realistic taste of the German culture than most tourists would.

Waldman also feels that the experiences gained on the trip will benefit him as a teacher, especially as a teacher of a second language. Waldman said that his experience in an unfamiliar cul-

ture and language will help him to identify with students in his future classroom. “How many second language students, students with disabilities, or students who just don’t get it will we have in our classrooms? Having this experience helps give us a feel for how they are feeling,” Waldman said.

“Right,” added Jeannie Pritchard, a senior from Spalding, Neb. majoring in Elementary Education and K-6 Physical Education. “Now we can help students from different cultures feel safe in our room.”

Getting inside of the German school system and seeing the differences between the structure and the American system was also an eye-opening experience for the UNK students. “I was in awe that they were learning the geography in English, their second language,” Waldman said. “That doesn’t happen here.”

The German schools put more emphasis on problem

solving and asking students to justify their answers, a trend that is only beginning to gather force in the United States.

Exchange participants say that despite the linguistic and cultural differences, children are children, no matter what language they speak, and what they need to be taught remains essentially the same. “We do the same things but teach them in different ways,” said senior Tim Franco, an Omaha native who is majoring in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Unified.

Seeing American schools at work was also an interesting experience for the German students, who have been observing at Meadowlark Elementary School here in Kearney during their stay. “Everything is different. The clothing of teachers—they have to dress up, no jeans are allowed. In Germany, you can wear whatever you want,” said Janina Koehler, a math and English secondary education major from Prenzlau, Germany. “[In America], every day is the same, very organized, and it is the same teacher for everything except art and music.”

The German students were also surprised at both how much, and how little, American elementary students know. “I was surprised how much they already know in their reading and writing,” said Antje Kownatzki, an Elementary Education

major from Gadebusch, Germany, who will graduate from Rostock University in about two years, “But they didn’t progress much further at school. They get drilled for tests, but don’t learn how to think.”

Dr. Oberlaender agreed. “Students here are at a high level at the beginning of the year, but they don’t progress as much at school as they do in Germany,” he said.

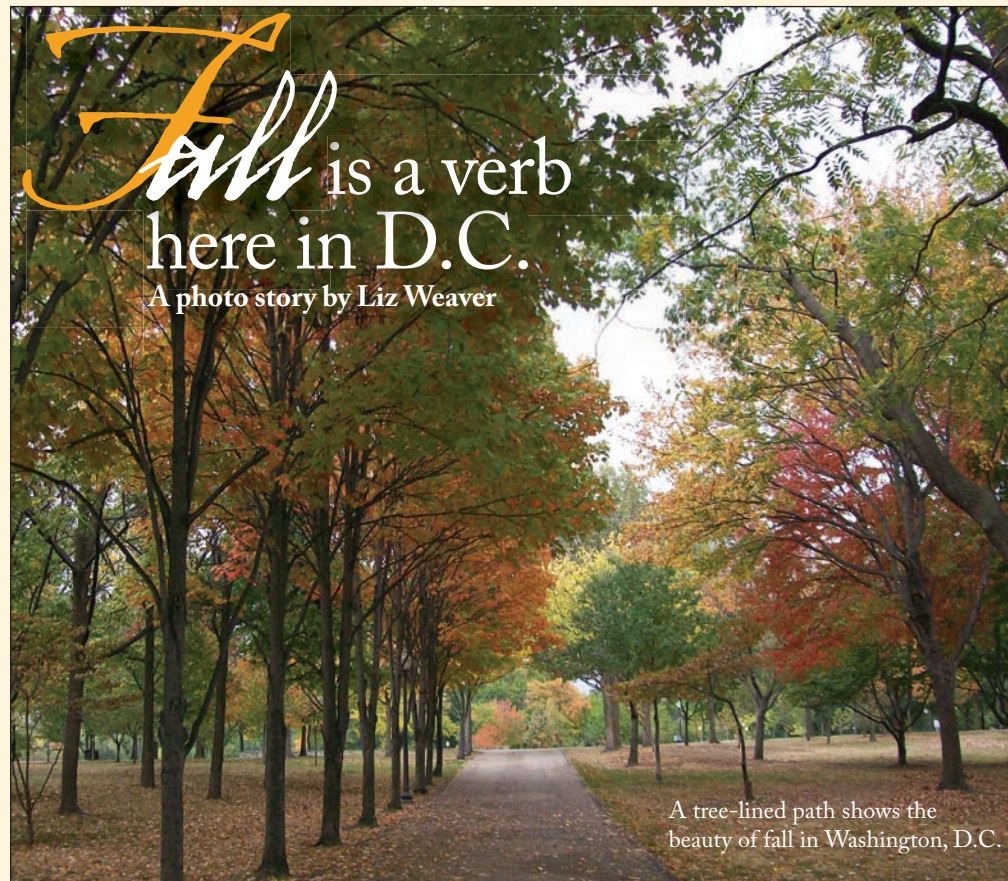
Kindergarten is also very different in Germany. In Germany, kindergarten is more like American pre-schools, and the focus is for the children to learn how to socialize and get along with other students. Academic learning is secondary. German students said that here in America, kindergarten is much like Germany’s first grade, where students learn to write, learn their numbers and begin learning to read.

German students also see similar benefits in the exchange. “The experience to learn vocabulary, visit the school, meet people and being away from home has helped me. My English is more fluent. I got to see the normal American life, and how everything is so different,” Koehler said.

The next trip from the College of Education will be in May of 2009. If you have questions or are interested in participating, contact Mr. Ken Mumm in the College of Education at 865-8805 or e-mail mummko@unk.edu.



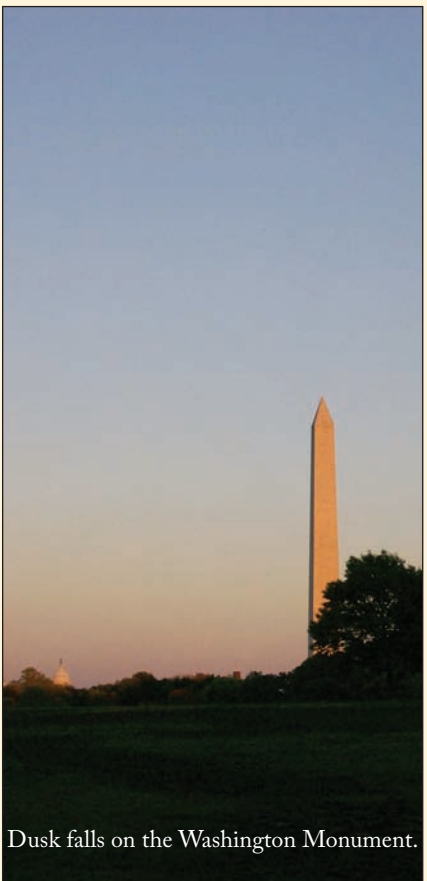
**Photo by Elissa Martin**  
Above: Regardless of whether he is at home in Germany or on campus at UNK, Dr. Franz Oberlaender constantly interacts with students. Here, Dr. Oberlaender visits with UNK student Jeannie Pritchard and Rostock University students Antonia Muller, Doreen Wangelin and Maxi Jungnickel.  
**Courtesy Photo**  
Right: UNK alumnus Molly Weitzenkamp and UNK student Elissa Martin get to know a German sixth grader from a special education school in Rostock. The sixth graders had already learned enough English to be able to carry on a conversation with the non-German speaking UNK students.



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A photo story by Liz Weaver  
A tree-lined path shows the beauty of fall in Washington, D.C.



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Dusk falls on the Washington Monument.