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It's inevitable — college can lead to average \$25,250 debt

UNK graduate gets to work to start repaying loans

BY ERIK DODGE
Antelope Staff

UNK graduate Dusty Birge has slain a feral hog in Oklahoma, a Corsican ram in Texas and a mule deer in Nebraska. Now he is taking aim at the \$17,246 debt he acquired as an undergraduate at UNK.

Birge said his primary focus is to pay off his student loan debt in three years, which requires monthly payments of \$450. He graduated in May 2011 with a degree in industrial distribution and a personal pilot's license before he moved on to a job at General Electric Industrial Solutions



Courtesy
Dusty Birge gives a thumbs-up before takeoff. Birge got his private pilot's license while studying at UNK, which added \$4,500 to his student debt.

ter and working as a sponsored hunter for Cabela's, the company that inspired Birge to attend UNK.

"The reason why I came to Kearney was actually because I'm an avid outdoorsman and I wanted to work for Cabela's — that was like my goal out of high school," the 22-year old said.

A strong work ethic helped Birge accrue a below average amount of student loan debt compared to his peers at UNK. Students who graduated during the academic year ending in 2010 borrowed \$21,601 on average with 70 percent of students borrowing money. But student debt rates have been on the rise, and in 2005 the average loan debt was \$16,808 with product

tester 72 percent of students borrowing.

UNK Director of Financial Aid Mary Sommers said parents can help their students finish college with less debt by helping them select affordable public universities like UNK. Families can also take

in Plainville, Conn. His colleagues in the 2010 graduating class did not come out as well on average.

The two-thirds of graduating college seniors in the nation who borrowed money at any time through college left their institutions with a degree and an average of \$25,250 in student loan debt in 2010, according to The Project on Student Debt. Meanwhile, recent graduates faced an unemployment rate that climbed from 8.7 percent in 2009 to the highest annual rate on record at 9.1 percent in 2010 — though this rate is low compared to the 33 percent of recent high school graduates not enrolled in college and unemployed.

Birge worked at least five jobs during his college career. As a freshman, he continued completing work for Birge's Repair, the small engine repair business he started in his hometown of Benkelman. At several points in college, he worked two jobs at a time. His jobs included working as a student diplomat for the UNK admissions department, completing a work study for the industrial distribution department, working as a for Bowtech as a product tes-

"I wish I would have been more familiar with how everything worked. I mean we have things explained when we first start college but we don't even know what college is like."

Dusty Birge
UNK graduate

steps to help college bound students develop a sustainable college lifestyle.

"Another component to the student debt problem is helping and challenging students and their families to make good borrowing decisions based upon lifestyles that are prudent for somebody going to college," she said.

Setting up a college budget that takes tuition, room, board, fees, books, and other costs such as gas and trips to the grocery store into account is a helpful part of this

CHESS WIZARDS



Photo by Skylar Loseke

Tony Lopez, a senior mathematics major from Omaha, and Nathan Klatt, a junior philosophy major from Columbus, play chess against each other during the UNK Chess Club meeting. The Club was started back up last semester and takes place every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Room 142 of the Nebraskan Student Union.

the antelope

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NEW LEARNING COMMONS OPENS



Photo by Adam Konruff
Jingbo Sun, a senior business administration major from Qingdao, China, and Eric Thompson, a sophomore language arts major from Lincoln, welcome guests, like Director of Counseling and Health Care LeAnn Obrecht, to the ribbon cutting ceremony for UNK's new Learning Commons Friday in the Calvin T. Ryan Library.



Photo by Adam Konruff
Jordan Rehnstrom, a sophomore accounting major from Hartington, explains a project he has completed to Vice-Chancellor of University Relations Curt Carlson after the ribbons were cut. The two are pictured in one of the study rooms the new Learning Commons has to offer, with glass walls that will make students working in groups feel the same sense of environment as those not working in the quieter rooms.

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MACURH 2012 Bid Team

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National Communications Coordinator:
Katie Lawrence (RHA)

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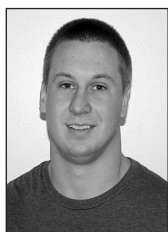
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America's new favorite pastime?

Statistics suggest football is overtaking baseball



BY NATHAN BOROWSKI
Antelope Staff

When someone asks you to play catch, what sport comes to mind? Baseball or football? For over a century, baseball has held the title of America's favorite pastime. But in recent years, it seems football has stolen that title.

Recent statistics and surveys suggest that football has indeed replaced baseball as America's favorite pastime. According to an online survey conducted by Harris Interactive last December, 31 percent of Americans say professional football is their favorite sport while 17 percent prefer professional baseball. College football received 12 percent of the vote.

The results of this survey reveal that not only is professional football significantly more popular than professional baseball, but also that college football is closing in on professional baseball in popularity among American sport fans.

Further evidence that football holds the title can be found in the number of viewers who watched the two sports' most recent championships. The recently concluded 2011 World Series averaged 16.2 million viewers per game throughout its seven-game duration. In comparison, the 2010 Super Bowl totaled roughly 106.5 million viewers for the single game.

According to Plunkett Research Ltd., the National Football League not only generates more viewers, but also more revenue than the Major League Baseball. The research company credits the NFL for earning \$9 billion in total revenue during the 2010 season; whereas, the MLB is listed as generating \$7.2 billion during the newly finished 2011 season.

So when looking at the professional level, football has more viewers, generates more revenue and is more popular. But when it comes to determining what is truly America's favorite pastime, more than just the professional level of these two sports needs to be taken into mind.

Take into mind the Division I college level. According to CNN Money, the top earning Division I college football programs during the 2010 season all made profits of over \$40 million. Meanwhile, the majority of Division I baseball teams struggle to generate enough revenue to make any profit.

Have you noticed how all of the conference realignment talks in Division I have been centered around the football programs? Football seems to knock baseball out of the park not only at the professional level, but in the college level as well.

How about the high school level? While there is no statistical evidence to suggest that football is more popular than baseball at the high school level, that conclusion is an easy one.

Look at Nebraska high schools, for example. Nearly every high school in the state has a football team while only the larger schools support baseball teams. Maybe Nebraska is alone in this characteristic, but that seems unlikely.

So has football stolen home and become America's favorite pastime? After further review... I'm not so sure. A pastime is an activity that everyone, people of all ages, can participate in and enjoy. So while football seems more popular among the high school, college and professional levels, what about to everyone else? What about the tee-ballers and little leaguers? Baseball seems to be the sport of choice for generation after generation of children.

There are countless factors to weigh and consider when deciding which sport should hold the title of America's favorite pastime. There are compelling and interesting arguments to be made for both sides. I say the easiest way to decide is by asking a simple question... "The Sandlot" or "Little Giants," which was the better movie?

Sudoku ★★☆☆☆

How to play:

Sudoku is a placement puzzle. The aim of the puzzle is to enter a numeral from 1 through 9 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			4		9	1	
	3			8	9		7	
	8	2	7			3		
5	7			1				
6	9		3		2		4	5
				5			8	3
		5			7	4	3	
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Find answer on page 10

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Lopers ranked No. 2 in 'Super Region Three' ranking

BY ERIK SWAZO
Antelope Staff

After dominating Fort Lewis College 54-7 this past Saturday in Durango, Colo., the Lopers football team headed home to wrap up the regular season with a game against No. 23 ranked Colorado School of Mines. The eighth ranked Loper team looks to continue its winning ways by wrapping up another playoff berth in the 24-team Division II playoff field.

The Lopers (9-1, 7-1 RMAC) took it to Fort Lewis, controlling most of the game especially on the defensive side of the ball. The Loper defense gave up only a total of 48 yards — 38 rushing and 10 passing in 49 offensive plays for Fort Lewis.

The 48 yards rank as the fourth lowest

in Loper history, with the 10 passing yards tied for fifth in defensive records. Since UNK joined Division II in 1990, these totals are tied for first (10 yards/passing) and second (48/total offense).

UNK, ranked second in the “Super Region Three” rankings, is currently in line to receive a bye in the first round. These rankings, which come out every Monday, determine the 24-team NCAA Division II playoff field. The top six teams in each of D2’s four regions qualify for the playoffs, which start Nov. 19. While the top two teams in each region receive a first round bye, the third and fourth seeds host games on Nov. 19.

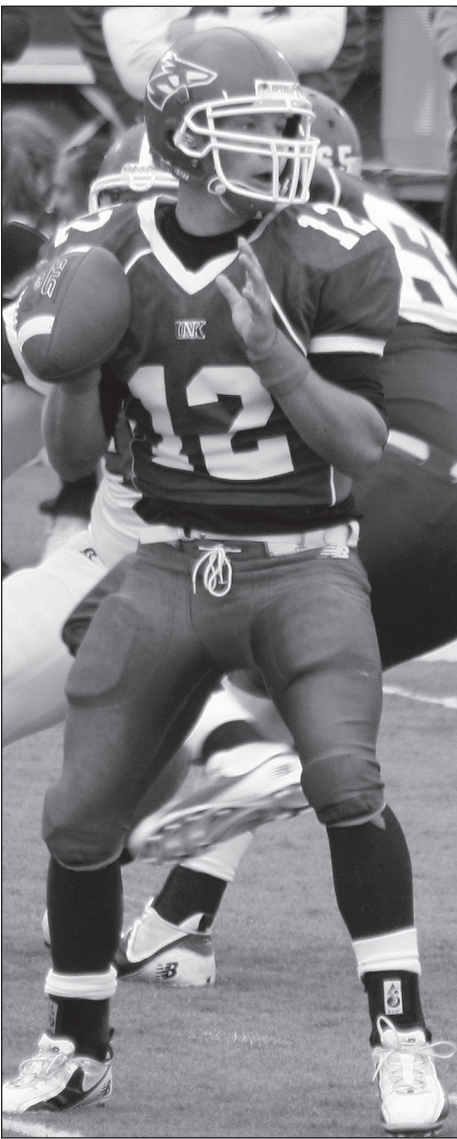
The playoff field will be announced Sunday at 4 p.m. Central Standard Time at www.ncaasports.com.



Senior quarterback Jake Spitzlberger from Lakewood, Colo., is lifted in the air by his teammates, senior tight end Dane Rudeen, from Overton, and junior offensive lineman Nathan Bryan, from Katy, Texas.



Kellen Werner, a sophomore linebacker from Grand Island, breaks down to make a tackle behind the lines of scrimmage. UNK’s defense forced four fumbles throughout the mid-season game against Chadron with tackles similar to this.



Jake Spitzlberger, a senior quarterback from Lakewood, Colo., looks down field for an open teammate. Spitzlberger threw for 191 yards with three TD’s in the 54-7 win against Fort Lewis on Saturday.

Photos by Kaytlyn Duden

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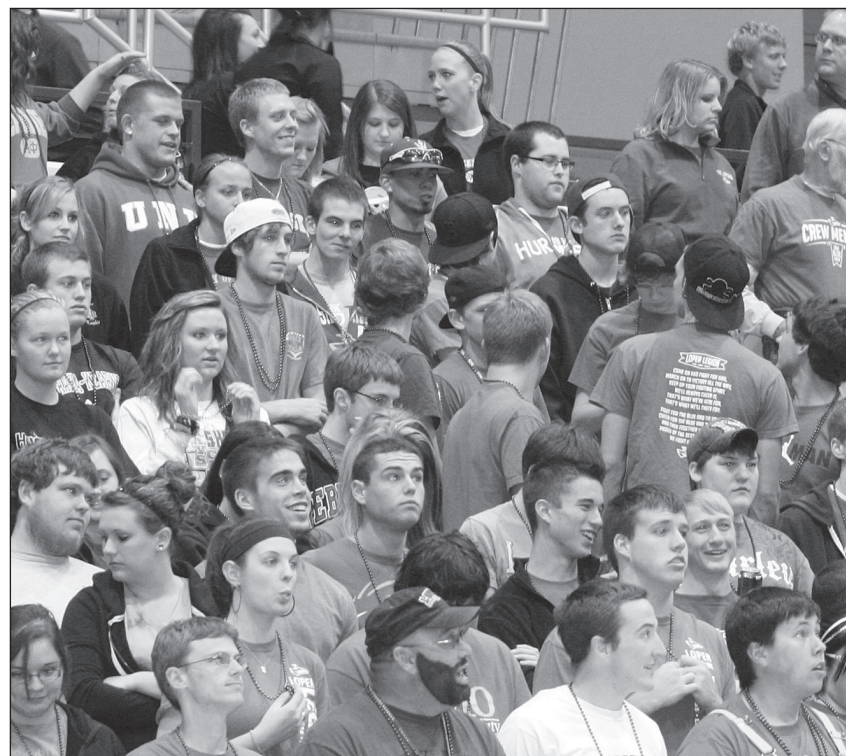
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RMAC tourney next for 6th-ranked Lopers



After avenging its only loss of the year, the sixth-ranked UNK volleyball team swept Colorado School of Mines in three sets, wrapping up the regular season, finishing with a 29-1 record and 17-1 in RMAC play. The 29-1 regular season record (96.6 win pct.) is the fourth best in school history. The Lopers now look ahead to the RMAC tournament, which started Tuesday night at the UNK Health & Sports Center, opening up against Regis University. With a win, the top seeded Lopers play Friday night.

Photos by Erik Swazo

FAR LEFT: Jenna Rouzee, a junior from Grand Island, prepares to serve against Wayne State. The Lopers defeated Wayne at home in four sets.

LEFT: Members of the Loper Legion look on as the UNK volleyball team defeated Wayne State at home. The Lopers now look ahead to the RMAC tournament which started Tuesday night at the UNK Health & Sports Center.

Fall golf season unpredictable, but team on course with spring in mind

BY AARON URBANSKI
Antelope Staff

Like the unpredictable weather of the fall—jacket one day, shirtless the next—the UNK Men's Golf team has

experienced its own ups and downs during these autumn months.

Despite recording impressive victories over the likes of UNO, Nebraska-Wesleyan, Hastings College, Doane College, and Midland University during its own invitational at the newly-opened Awarii Dunes Golf



GARRETT GOLDSBERRY

Course and the Nebraska Intercollegiate Invite in Fremont, the Loper linkers also had their fair share of troubles during RMAC play this fall season.

"Unfortunately, we didn't perform as well as we would have liked in the RMAC Invitational in Colorado," said Kris Koelzer, redshirt junior who finished 28th place in Littleton, Colo. last month.

During the Colorado Christian Invite, the Lopers placed ninth out of the 10 RMAC schools in attendance and failed to have anyone place in the top ten. Despite what turned out to be the worst outing for the Lopers this season, the team has still managed to stay on course with their spring goals in mind.

"Our goal is to make it to the super regional tournament in the spring. We started out this fall season in good position to make it, but hit a few rough spots along the way," added Koelzer.

But let's not forget about those bright spots, such as the Nebraska Intercollegiate Invite in which the Lopers secured their second team victory for its fall campaign and showcased five Lopers in the top 20 individually. Leading the way was UNK senior Garrett Goldsberry, who led the field with an impressive 147 over 36 holes with six birdies.

"He is a great guy, a great golfer, and



KRIS KOELZER

has a lot to look forward to [in the future]," Koelzer said. "He's a very competitive guy. Our freshman year we butt heads a few times playing for a spot, but now Garrett is one of my best friends."

As for Koelzer, he placed fifth overall at the Nebraska intercollegiate Invite with a scorecard of 154. "The final round this season in Fremont was a struggle but I still managed to pull out the 79. As a goal of mine, I didn't want to shoot in the 80s this fall and I was really happy with my overall scoring average."

The junior had also improved his approach to the green as well. "That tournament turned out to be my best finish, largely due to my short wedge game," Koelzer explained. "I had a few weeks to work at it earlier in the year so I got a lot of solid practice and never looked back."

As for the Lopers, they'll have to wait for the spring to continue their chase for a super regional appearance. But like the always predictably unpredictable Nebraska weather, who knows what the spring will bring for the Lopers on the links.

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Summer Student Research Program

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UNK Undergraduate Research & Creative Activity

Student Debt from page 1

process. At a time when most students are experiencing a relatively new level of freedom and entering a new setting, budgeting to decide on a loan amount can be a challenge.

"I wish I would have been more familiar with how everything worked. I mean we have things explained when we first start college, but we don't even know what college is like. Explaining to us how scholarships and all that stuff works — we've never even heard half those words before so we don't understand it the first time we hear it," Birge said. Sommers said students and families should make sure borrowing decisions are prudent.

"Students need to make borrowing decisions based on what you need to live, not what you want to have," she said.

Birge's student loan money primarily went toward paying for tuition, but he did not always use it for needs instead of wants. A prime example was his private pilot's license.

"It was a personal goal I had. It was a personal want. It was not a need. I was aware of that, but I was comfortable knowing that with my plan for a career and my involvement on campus and how it was going to lead into a career that I was willing to deal with the sacrifice of having a little bit more debt, but in turn achieve a personal goal slash want," he said.

His pilot's license added \$4,500 to his student loan debt, but he said he would not change his decision if given the opportunity.

Some financial planning for college should begin years before a student is ready to enroll, according to Sommers. Families need to discuss whatever they have been able to save for college and what the expectations are for their student to save money for college from high school jobs. Clarifying these issues can help students develop sound money management skills.

"The discipline that you need to have to be a successful money manager for your entire lifetime can begin with this college decision if families want to look at it that way," she said.

Exhausting all available scholarships and grants was the focus when Birge had a similar discussion with his parents before attending college. His parents helped him financially on occasion, but for larger expenses Birge preferred to pick up the bill.

"It was my education so I never really felt like it was my parents' responsibility



Courtesy

Disty Birge shows off his kill during the 2010 deer season. Birge worked as a product tester for Bowtech while studying at UNK. His Bowtech job was one of at least five jobs Birge held during college.

to pay for my college education. If I needed to pay for books, or if I needed \$500 to help pay for tuition, they were always more than happy to help and helped me out. For larger portions, I personally would rather take a loan out and not put that on my parents, because they had already done that for 18 years," he said.

Even by taking the previously mentioned steps and practicing disciplined money management, students and their families face a formidable challenge.

"I don't think we're living in a world right now where families can just assume that money is going to be there to help pay for college," Sommers said.

Addressing debt from a public policy

universities to function. And if institutions like UNK, and like our Board of Regents continue our commitment to keep tuition as reasonably priced as we possibly can, that would address the student debt problem to a large extent," Sommers said.

Pell Grants, which Birge used for financial assistance, are awarded through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The amount depends on financial need, costs to attend school, status as a full-time or part-time student, and plans to attend school for a full academic year or less. Pell Grants are capped at \$5,550 for the academic year ending in 2012, and do not need to be repaid. The Student Aid Alliance explained the value of federal financial assistance for higher education like the Pell Grant on its website.

"It is estimated that increases in national educational attainment have accounted for almost 30 percent of the growth in national income in the 20th century. Because they earn

more, save more and are unemployed less frequently, college graduates make fewer demands on the public purse and pay more taxes. When the federal government helps students attend college, it invests in our nation's future and ensures that students are prepared with the skills to perform the jobs of the 21st century."

Congress has released various preliminary proposals that suggest Pell Grant maximum award levels will be maintained at \$5,550 next year, but a number of cuts and modifications to



"I don't think we're living in a world right now where families can just assume that money is going to be there to help pay for college."

Mary Sommers
Director of Financial Aid

standpoint needs to be approached from three different angles according to Sommers.

"The way to address the student debt problem in my opinion is really three-fold. One is to maintain sufficient grant aid for the very neediest college-going students. So, you fully fund the Federal Pell Grant Program and maintain a commitment to the Federal Pell Grant Program. Then states must maintain commitment to high quality, low cost public education by appropriating the necessary funds for public

PROJECT ON STUDENT DEBT

The Project on Student Debt focuses on the increasing trends of borrowing to pay for college and works to increase public understanding of the trends and implications for American families, the economy, and society.

The Project on Student Debt is an independent, privately funded, non-profit organization which aims to conduct nonpartisan research, analysis and advocacy.

The organization is privately funded by donors such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

many federal programs aimed at helping students fund a college education have also been proposed.

At the state level, UNK students have received an increasing amount of grants and scholarships from the academic years ending in 2006 through 2010. However, need-based state grants and scholarships awarded to UNK students declined to \$878,343 in the academic year ending in 2011 from \$1,038,654 the previous year.

Scholarships and grants awarded by UNK based on need, excluding athletic aid and tuition waivers, totaled \$1,391,176 in 2011, an increase of more than \$243,000 from the previous year.

Despite rising costs and a troubled economy, Sommers said students should still invest in themselves through a college education.

"You are investing in yourself and you will be better able to earn a decent living and contribute to the economy, and have a successful life with a college degree," she said.

Birge, who returned to campus on Oct. 12-14 to recruit new employees at the Fall Career Fair, said he regrets a few choices like not pushing himself to attend more UNK sporting events or sleeping through the occasional class. But he does not regret taking out student loans.

"If I would have put the money I was earning in college toward loans, I wouldn't have been pleased with my spending, personally. I wouldn't have had money to do anything, so that wouldn't have been fun at all. One has to find the balance between how much money they need to have fun and do whatever, versus how much they're OK with owing a bank when they graduate," he said.

COST INCREASES AT UNK CONTINUE TO RISE

BY ERIK DODGE
Antelope Staff

Students face a variety of increasing financial demands to fund a college education including tuition, room, board and student fees, which have all increased in recent years, according to the common data sets available on the UNK website. Students who enrolled at UNK for the academic year ending in 2012 paid \$13,757 per year for in-state tuition, room and board, and student fees — \$2,001 more than the same student would have been charged three years earlier.

Although UNK students have seen lower tuition increases than students at many other universities across the nation, UNK has approved annual tuition increases near 5 percent each of the previous three years. For the academic year ending in 2012, the cost of in-state tuition increased by \$240 to \$5,048 for students taking two 15-credit-hour semesters. Out-of-state tuition rates have seen larger increases with the tuition rate reaching \$10,350 per year in 2012. Three years prior in-state tuition was \$4,365 per year and out-of-state tuition was \$8,940.

Room and board fees have experienced some of the largest increases. The figures in the common data set are calculated based on the price of a double occupancy room and the maximum meal plan and show that between the academic years ending in 2011 and 2012 the price of room and board increased by \$352 to \$7,558 per year. Three years earlier the cost was \$6,330. Approximately 2,000 undergraduates live in college-owned housing and all students living on campus are required to buy a meal plan, according to the UNK website.

The amount students pay in fees, which help pay for services including technology and the weight room, has increased each year between 2005 and 2009, according to the common data set on the UNK website. But fees remained stable at \$1,151 per year for the academic years ending in 2011 and 2012. Fees are \$90 higher per year compared to rates charged during the academic year ending in 2009.

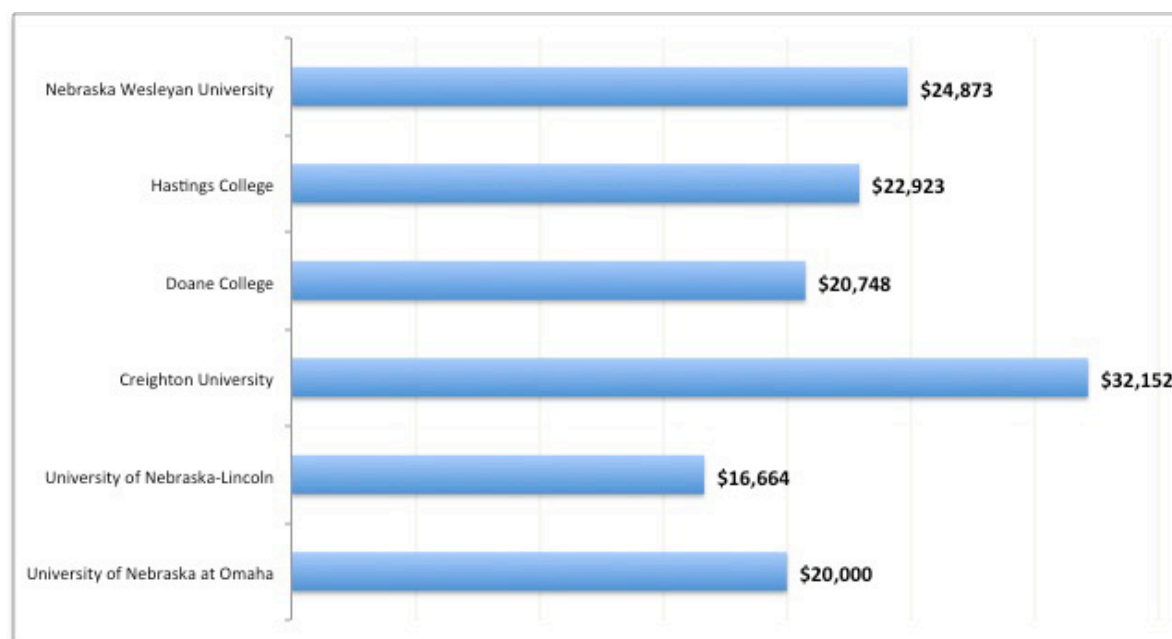
MORE INFO

From UNK website: The Common Data Set (CDS) initiative is a collaborative effort among data providers in the higher education community and publishers as represented by the College Board, Peterson's and U.S. News & World Report. The combined goal of this collaboration is to improve the quality and accuracy of information provided to all involved in a students' transition into higher education, as well as to reduce the reporting burden on data providers. The CDS contains data in 10 categories including enrollment, average student debt, and tuition rates.

The CDS can be found in the publications section of the UNK fact book on the UNK website.

http://www.unk.edu/factbook/CDS/Publications_and_Surveys/

AVERAGE STUDENT DEBT IN NEBRASKA COLLEGES 2009-2010



Citation: The Institute for College Access & Success, College InSight, <http://www.college-insight.org>.

WALKING THE LINE



Photo by Amanda Raffety

Beth Deardoff, senior organizational communications major from North Platte, goes over the checklist after pulling a long shift at Applebee's. Deardoff has worked her way through high school and college holding down different jobs at: The North Platte Children's Museum, Papa John's, a hotel maid, the registration office on campus and her current job as a server at Applebee's. Deardoff said she believes she handles the stress of a full course load and 35 to 40 hours of work well. A growing number of college students work and go to school full time.

FLYING SOLO IN BIG TEN TERRITORY

Decision to leave sports behind leads Chapman to summer internship in Minnesota

BY JAY OMAR
JMC 215

When it comes to academics and athletics it is up to personal opinion to decide what is more important. For 22-year-old senior Adam Chapman, it seems like his entire life has been one in the same in many different ways.

After 14 years of playing baseball, beginning with tee-ball and stretching to a year and a half on the UNK baseball team, Chapman made the decision to let the sport go.

"I no longer loved playing the game. It was just time to focus on more important aspects of my life," Chapman said, describing the day he walked away from the sport. "It became less of a game and more of a lifestyle. I didn't want to start hating what I used to love doing."

According to Chapman he made the right decision. As a senior, Chapman is getting ready to graduate with a degree in industrial distribution and currently holds an impressive 3.8 GPA in his department. But Chapman refuses to take all the credit.

"Athletics challenged me more than anything else I have experienced so far in college. Academics are very important, but athletics teaches you many other aspects of life"

This past summer, Chapman completed an internship, mandatory to gradu-

ate from the industrial distribution department, in the fairly small town of Red Wing, Minn.

Though this may seem as though it doesn't have anything to do with athletics, Chapman soon found the opposite was true.

Red Wing is located just a short four-hour drive from Madison, Wis., which happens to be the home of the Nebraska Cornhuskers football team's biggest and newest Big Ten rival.

"Since Red Wing is only four hours away from Madison, it's safe to say it

brought up some interesting arguments," Chapman said, remembering this wasn't the first time academics and athletics had clashed in his life. "In the end, football is just a game, and we all understood

that."

Chapman jokingly explained some arguments about the rivalry but mainly focused on the positive experiences he had in Red Wing. He talked about the friends he made, his inside jokes, his first skydiving experience and what Chapman described as his favorite moment during the summer. Summing up that story smiling, he said he didn't know you could get kicked out of a casino for touching the dealer's cards.

Chapman came back with a lot more than just work experience; he came back with memories and strong friendships.

"I still call my supervisor pretty often. We talk a whole lot about football, but we

"I didn't want to start hating what I used to love doing."

Adam Chapman
UNK senior



Courtesy

Somewhere above the clouds, Chapman enjoys his first skydiving experience. Skydiving was one of the many enjoyable activities that took place over the summer.

also talk shop and check on each other's families as well," Chapman said.

Andrew Szink, one of Chapman's co-workers over the summer, seemed to share nothing but good times and memories over Chapman's time in Red Wing.

"Adam is a great kid. Sure he's a Husker fan, but it goes past that. I like to consider him a good friend of mine more than just a co-worker," Szink said.

Over a long three-month internship, Chapman balanced friendships with rivalry and once again balanced athletics with learning experiences. When asked what he said to his co-workers about the season so far and the loss in Madison, he made a very modest but firm prediction.

"There is no doubt in my mind that we will get our sweet revenge in the Big Ten Championship at the end of the season," Chapman said.

Some make the decision to draw a fine line between athletics and academics, but Chapman said that he is just fine with letting the two cross over a little bit.

According to Chapman, nothing but positive outcomes came from letting his baseball career go along with taking his internship in what some would call hostile territory. When asked where all the experience and tough decisions will land him in ten years, Chapman smiled confidently: "Right where I need to be."

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Photo by Richard A. Todd
"Tiki" (second from right) leads the final rehearsal for the drumline, before a big performance at a football game.

KEEPING THE BEAT

'Tiki' Montes does his thing on percussion

BY RICHARD A TODD
JMC 215

Who says being a teacher can't be dangerous? Joel "Tiki" Montes dodges oversized tuba players as he leads a practice before the big game.

"You gotta be fast if you don't want to get stepped on," Montes says as he does a hop-skip move you would not expect to see from a drum instructor.

The Pride of the Plains Marching Band is preparing for their first public performance of a new piece. "They only got this music two weeks ago, and they have been rehearsing every night since," he said.

Montes also teaches percussion at KHS and is the drum-line instructor for UNK. He practices every day with his

students either at the college or at the high school. He performs in musicals and teaches private lessons to students who want to work one-on-one.

in marching band and met his mentors who inspired him to try teaching at the college level.

Montes, a senior, set out to earn his

background. "I was involved in a rough crowd coming from schools with not a lot of money, really poor, so having a chance to impact kids is what I wanted to do," Montes said.

Working with kids is his passion. He says he enjoys seeing them finally "get it," and takes great joy knowing he is a part of that success as an inspiration.

Whether dodging marching band students, teaching private lessons or just jamming out with one of his many local bands, Montes first love is music. "I have a real big problem saying no. If anyone ever needs anything, I'm like 'Yeah I'll do it,'" he says with a smile. He says his schedule is grueling. He teaches three days a week at the high school where class begins at 7 a.m., and he also attends all marching band events. In addition to his work with students, Montes also performs in two local bands and he even performed in UNK Theatre's "The Rocky Horror Show." No matter what he is doing, "Tiki" Montes is always doing his thing.



"I was involved in a rough crowd coming from schools with not a lot of money, really poor, so having a chance to impact kids is what I wanted to do,"

Joel "Tiki" Montes
Director of Percussion

"Tiki," as his friends and colleagues call him, moved to Nebraska as a teenager to Lexington where he played

bachelor degree in music education but decided to switch his emphasis from general music instruction to an emphasis in percussion. "My initial major was music education, through the influence of my band instructors in Lexington. I still want to teach, but specifically percussion. That's my major. I'm a percussion major," Montes said.

Montes says he came from a humble

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Once home to "The Tommies"

Thomas Hall previously a K-12 primary school

BY SKYLAR LOSEKE
Antelope Staff

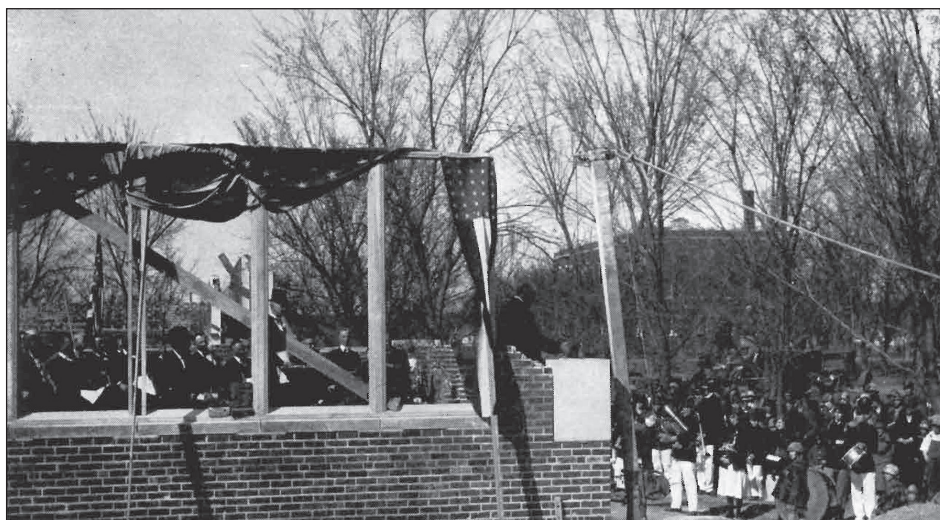
In the 1920s there wasn't a sufficient amount of K-12 students to make student teaching an easy job. The Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney attempted to create a solution when they proposed to build a laboratory school in 1925 for \$85,000.

The original plans were drawn to build the school in the shape of an "E," which stood for the education facility and college education classes. The south wing was designed as two stories for kindergarten and elementary classes and the center four stories would be for the high school.

Funds were made available in 1925 for the purpose of constructing the first section, the kindergarten and elementary wing. The cornerstone was laid March 20, 1926 and much of the construction was built by students of the Nebraska State Teachers College under the supervision of professor Verne C. Fryklund of the Industrial Training Department. Contracts were made to others to build the tunnels to carry steam pipes from the heating plant to the new building and another for the plumbing.

The building was going to be used as a school for the college's mission to train K-12 teachers for the state. The school taught kindergarten through 12th grade, and by 1935, 110 students were enrolled.

By December 1926 the construction was complete and the training school for teachers had moved in except grades five and six. Classrooms were designed to seat 20 to 30 children and included a conference room where the "critic teacher" and the "practice teacher" could consult.



UNK Archives

The cornerstone of Thomas Hall was placed on March 20, 1926. The building was originally built as an education school for kindergarten through high school. However, the school was closed eventually due to declining enrollment.

The school taught many subjects including sewing, shop, swimming, gardening and music. The school had a garden and taught the students how to plant and care for vegetables and flowers. The spring students prepared the soil and planted certain crops. The summer students continued the work and planted early maturing vegetables, and the fall students took the responsibility of gardening, harvesting and selling the crops. The profit from the crops was used to buy visual aids for the school.

The school also had a bi-monthly newspaper, called the Thomas Times. In the publication were events and sports reviews from their own football, debate and basketball teams. They often referred to the school's team as "The Tommies."

On Nov. 21, 1932 the State Board of Education for Normal Schools approved a request from the faculty and students that the building be named after the first president of the college, Augustus Orloff Thomas (A.O. Thomas). The building officially became known as the A. O. Thomas Laboratory School.

Due to the Great Depression, the A.O. Thomas Laboratory High School was closed at the end of the 1938-39 school year due to declining enrollment. At the end of the next school year grades seven and eight were dropped. The school was ordered closed in October 1963 and closed for good at the end of the 1963-64 school year.

The building was expanded and renovated in 1984 and the building now houses the departments of English, foreign languages and philosophy. Due to funding complications, the building was never finished as originally planned. A small western addition was added and dedicated in 1984.

CAMPUS CRIME LOG

Nov. 1: A two-car accident was reported in Lot 20.

Nov. 1: A male student reported \$450 and his debit card stolen from his wallet in the Fine Arts Building.

Nov. 1: Kevin Hall was given a warning for driving without headlights on and for no operator's license on his person.

Nov. 2: A color guard bag was reported stolen.

Nov. 3: Tannor Mroczek was issued a citation for failure to stop at the stop sign at Lot 32 and University Drive.

Nov. 4: Yasuhiro Uchibori was cited for no operator's license, no proof of insurance, no valid registration and driving without headlights on.

Nov. 4: A female student reported her car was vandalized in Lot 11.

Nov. 4: A female student reported an unknown person came into her room in Randall Hall, wrote on her mirror and urinated on her bed.

CAMPUS ALERT

On Monday, Nov. 7 it was reported to the UNK Police that in the early morning hours of Saturday, Nov. 5 an unknown white male entered the unlocked doors of several female residents of University Residence South. At no time did the male subject threaten or harm any of the residents. He entered the rooms and when asked to leave, he did so.

If you see or hear something suspicious contact the UNK Police immediately at (308) 627-4811 or 911. For more safety tips, visit <http://www.unk.edu/police>.

Sudoku answer:

Upside down, from page 3

1	6	8	5	2	9	7	4	3
7	9	5	4	3	1	6	2	8
2	3	4	7	6	8	5	9	1
3	8	7	9	5	6	4	1	2
5	4	1	2	7	3	8	6	9
6	2	9	8	1	4	3	7	5
4	5	3	1	9	7	2	8	6
9	7	2	6	8	5	1	3	4
8	1	6	3	4	2	9	5	7

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First president lauded, dismissed over protest

BY SKYLAR LOSEKE
Antelope Staff

Augustus Orloff Thomas, the first president of the Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney, was born in Old Oxford, Ill., in 1863. He was a graduate of Western Normal School of Shenandoah, Iowa and Amity College. He continued his education until he was awarded his Ph.D.

Thomas was the superintendent of the Kearney Public Schools when the legislation was enacted and approved the establishment of a normal school in western Nebraska. He was very active on several Kearney committees that worked for the location of the school in the city.

His selection as the first president of the Nebraska State Normal School came less than a month before the school opened on June 19, 1905.

Thomas was known for his great care of those who attended the school. Faculty members who were seriously ill were taken to his home and cared for. His house, built in 1906, still stands at 2222 Ninth Ave. and is now the UNK Alumni House.

In his visitation of ill students, he did what he could to make them more comfortable. According to the Buffalo County Historical Society, "Thomas noted that



a seriously ill student's mattress was in very poor condition, so he returned to his home, got a mattress and was seen walking up the street with the mattress on his back. He delivered it to the young man's room so that he would be more comfortable."

Rapid growth of the normal school at Kearney intensified budget problems and getting adequate funding was hard. When Wayne and Chadron State Colleges were added, the situation became more complicated. He continued to work for as much funding as he could acquire.

Information was circulated in the fall of 1913 that Thomas was being considered as president of the University of Arkansas. The School Board accused Thomas of seeking the position, which he denied. The Board stood firm in its dismissal of Thomas over the protest of citizen groups and students.

Thomas gave up the fight to retain his

UNK Archives

This photo of President Thomas' residence in 1912 was constructed of concrete blocks and was originally unpainted. In 1915, the house was sold to Laura Elliot who rented out portions of the house. The Harold W. Swan family purchased the property in 1932 and in 1954 restored the house to a single-family dwelling. The house was purchased in 1980 by what is now UNK and was placed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

position because he considered it to be in the best interest of the school. Whatever the reason for the dismissal, it was evident that the board would tolerate no strong administrator who demonstrated any degree of independence. George S. Dick replaced Thomas as president in 1914.

Thomas was discharged on Oct. 25, 1913. The discharge stated he was removed "for the best results to the Normal Schools of Nebraska, it is best that Dr. Thomas be removed."

Thomas went on to become the Nebraska State Superintendent of Public Instruction and took his place on the very Board that dismissed him from the presidency at the Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney. In 1917, he became the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the state of Maine.

At the time of his death in 1935, at the age of 72, he was serving as Secretary General of the World Federation of Education Associations. His home was placed on the national registry of historic places in 1980, and is now the home of UNK's Alumni Association.

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Born to fly

Terauchi takes his education to the skies

BY TATE SCHNEIDER
JMC 220

For many students, the decision to choose where you want your life to go after school is a difficult one. Some people are just hoping to land a job and figure out what they want to do with their life along the way. Then, there are people who are lucky enough to know their career choice from a very early age. Taiki Terauchi, an aviation major from Kawasaki City, Japan, is part of the elite group of people that know what they want out of life.

Terauchi has always had his eye on the sky and enjoys discussing things mechanical in nature. It was only natural that he would choose to become a pilot. For the past four years, Terauchi has been studying aviation through UNK. He has also taken several classes in economics; enough to be close to minoring in that field of study.

Terauchi is not one to be considered lazy. He is active in UNK Club Soccer that travels on weekends to schools in and out of the state. Between school and soccer practice, Terauchi can be found at Kearney Municipal Airport where he takes instruction and flies solo in preparation for his pilot's license.

The goal that he has been working for is well within reach, and Terauchi is on course to graduate this coming May. After

graduation, he hopes to work in the U.S. for a year through an internship program that allows exchange students to live and work in the country as guests. As far as Terauchi's future goes after this is completely up to him, but he doesn't lack ambition.

There's a considerable difference between American aviation and Japanese aviation that bothers Terauchi. "In America, large planes and small planes can fly into the same airport, but in Japan there is a lot more large planes and not a lot of demand for small planes," Terauchi said. According to him, the market for small planes and their pilots is untapped.

It doesn't take a degree in aviation to notice that there is serious potential in what Terauchi is saying. "I want to model Japanese airports after American airports," Terauchi said. If Terauchi can accomplish that, he will open a world of possibilities to Japanese aviation.

Smaller planes operating out of larger airports will increase traffic in and out of those airports, spreading air traffic controllers thin. Therefore, jobs would be created and when jobs are created anywhere, the economy benefits from the boost and flourishes.

Taiki Terauchi is facing a lot of challenges, but says he is ready to face any challenges foolish enough to face him.



Photos by Tate Schneider

Taiki Terauchi stands before the Cessna Skylane that he uses in his solo flights at the Kearney Municipal Airport



Terauchi inspects the wing and flaps for any defects that could affect flight.



Before taking flight, Terauchi needs to inspect all of the fluids in the plane, including fuel, to insure they do not have debris.