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News

Project Hope grows

Creator aims to provide place to vent frustrations

BY ASHLEY LEEVER
Antelope Staff

Michael Currin knew he was meant for greater things than flipping hamburgers at Runza Restaurants.

Then one day Currin, a 2010 Kearney High graduate and former UNK student, decided not to go to work and let out all his frustrations on Facebook for the world to see.

"I just thought, 'What can I do? What can I do?'" and I started writing down all my thoughts, every bit of frustration that I had and I thought how good that felt. I thought, 'I'm going to put this on Facebook and just see what happens,'" Currin said. "I did that and I created a group for this thinking that maybe this could help someone else."

In two weeks time, Currin's Face-

'Occupy' protests sweep Midwest, nation, world

BY JAY SLOAN
Antelope Staff

The protest movements of the 60s and 70s have returned with new causes and growing fervor. Since Sept. 14, a growing contingent of protesters are exercising those rights and making their presence felt around the globe and right here in Nebraska.

The faction, now known as the "Occupy" movement, started domestically in New York City, when a collection of protesters "occupied" Zuccotti Park primarily protesting social and economic inequality, corporate greed and corruption within the government.

The movement has swiftly spread to over 70 major cities and 600 communities in the United States. It's estimated that over 900 cities worldwide have held protests similar to Occupy Wall Street.

Occupy movements across the globe have taken on the slogan "The 99 percent." Demonstrators believe that one percent of the American wealthy are corruptly influencing the government, thus buying governmental opinion which effects the other "99 percent" of Americans.

UNK political science professor Dr. Claude Louishomme thinks the movement is a positive display of the rights we have as Americans.

"In a democratic society, when things get out of sorts and the people believe the way the government is working is wrong, we can protest," Louishomme said. "Our government can't arrest us or beat us down. There are some rules we have to follow, but this is a natural part of our political system."

The simple lifestyle of the Midwest has not come out unaffected. Both Lincoln and Omaha currently host "Occupy" sites,



Photo by Jay Sloan

An Occupy Lincoln protestor stands next to her tent as she explains her stance on the legalization of marijuana. Other causes include financial corruption, unemployment, women's issues, anti-war protests, veteran's issues and a multitude of others.

full of protesters who pledge they're staying put. The Lincoln protesters have occupied the lawn at the Centennial Mall next to the State Office Building. The lawn is covered with tents, and the site has more commonly become known as "Occupy Mall Street."

Demonstrators in Lincoln say they are just one subgroup of the largest, interwork-

ing, interconnected movement. Leaders of the "Occupy Mall Street" protest estimate that they have 50-60 full time residents in the tent community. Individuals from that community say they continue living their regular lives, work their regular jobs, but instead of returning to their homes at night,

the antelope

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Dining contract revised

Restaurants can finally cater for campus events

BY ERIK DODGE
Antelope Staff

Two new exceptions in the UNK dining services contract are designed to save student organizations and the athletic department money and allow local restaurants to cater certain events on campus.

The exceptions contrast the previous contract which granted UNK dining services the exclusive right to cater events held on campus, including events such as student organization meetings and recruitment events. In the most recent contract, exceptions allow members of UNK recognized groups and departmental employees to provide carry-in food for events limited to members of their group.

Loper Programming and Activities Council (LPAC) Advisor Heather Wolf said the change will allow LPAC to organize events with less advanced planning. The flexibility is helpful to the organization because attendance at LPAC meetings ranges from approximately 25 to 40.

"I think it's a great change and a great exception that they're offering to students," she said. "It allows us to be a little more flexible in our meeting time and our meeting places and what we can provide

for students."

A second exception allows the athletic department to accept products or services as gifts to be used throughout the semester. This allows restaurants to provide meals for student athletes to eat before or after games. Under the previous contract, student athletes would not have been allowed to eat these meals on campus.

"So previously, if a pizza place in town wanted to donate them (an athletic team) 400 pizzas a season, they couldn't do that. They couldn't actually serve them on campus. The team had to walk across the street to eat it," Assistant Director of Business Services Jon Watts said.

Assistant Athletic Director Shawn Fairbanks said his department is excited about the opportunity the exemption presents and the interaction it can foster with local businesses.

"The exemption not only allows us to thank those businesses who help supplement our budget for recruiting meals and lodging, but it also is a positive reflection on good business between our campus and the community as a whole," he said.

Food Service Committee recommendations prompted the change. Committee chairwoman Peggy Abels summarized some of the committees recommendations when she wrote that not granting exclusive catering rights and allowing competition

would potentially improve the quality, service and price of catering on campus in an email sent Sept. 15, 2010. The email specifically noted the problems student organizations faced when attempting to cater their events.

"The lack of affordable options on campus is pushing some organizations to host events off campus, including recruiting events in some instances."

Current prices listed on the Loper Catering website include 16 inch pizzas ranging in price from a cheese pizza for \$9.95 to \$13.95 for premium pizzas. Boxed lunches which include a sandwich, roasted red potato salad, cookie and 12 oz. cola can be ordered for \$8.50 each, with a five-person minimum.

Despite price concerns, the Food Service Committee recommendations included the statement: "Most departments and organizations would like to have the convenience of getting their catering through the on campus food service."

LPAC has not made use of the exception yet, but Wolf said the group plans to by the end of the semester.

"We're excited to take advantage of the exception. We always do an independent training or an end of the year party. We do it every semester, so I'm sure we'll take advantage of it then," she said.

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Why **BLEED** Husker red?



BY NATHAN BOROWSKI
Antelope Staff

We all bleed red. It is the genetic makeup of all human beings to do so. But some of us bleed a different kind of red. A scarlet red. Husker red. And for those of us who bleed Husker red, there are few things in life more important than Husker football.

To Big Red fans, Husker football is more than hobby, it is more than an obsession. It is a lifestyle. In fact to some, my own brother comes to mind, Nebraska football is nearly considered a religion.

That is the way we are raised here in Nebraska, corn fed and Husker red. Just as Sundays are for church, Saturdays are for the Huskers. To parents in this great state the right path for their children in life is the red path.

But what does it mean to be a Husker fan? That is a question that can be answered in a number of ways. When people think of Husker fans, certain words and characteristics come to mind. Words and characteristics such as passion, loyalty, sportsmanship, respect and pride.

The passion displayed by Husker football fans is almost unparalleled in the college football world. Families travel from all corners of the state to fill the stands of Memorial Stadium and cheer for their Huskers. A trip to Memorial Stadium can best be described as the Nebraska equivalent of a pilgrimage.

Jason Peters, a former Husker defensive lineman, speaks of the passion of Husker fans and effect of that passion on Husker players in his book "Hero of the Underground." "Their love of football turns us into idols, into modern gladiators, fighting to the death for the honor of Omaha, Osceola, Hastings, Wahoo and the thousand other towns of Nebraska," Peters said.

Sportsmanship and respect are also characteristics that Husker fans are commonly associated with. Beano Cook, a long time college football commentator and historian, believes that Nebraska fans are perhaps the most respectful and respected fan in all of college football. "The two best things to ever come out of Nebraska are Johnny Carson and sportsmanship," Cook said. "Nebraska sets the standard for how fans should act."

The highly renowned and talked about sportsmanship of Husker fans was on national display last week and this weekend in the wake of the Penn State scandal. The actions of Husker fans did not disappoint.

Then there is the loyalty of Huskers, fans that make Memorial Stadium the record holder for most consecutive sellouts, with over 300 dating back to 1962. I once met an elderly couple at a Husker

game who said they have been season ticket holders since Bob Devaney was head coach.

Devaney retired from coaching in 1972. That means that the couple has held season tickets for nearly 40 years and they claimed to have only missed a handful of home games. This undying loyalty can be found throughout the hearts of all Husker fans.

Perhaps my favorite quote about the loyalty of Husker fans is from Peters, when in his book he writes Husker fans are "the most loyal, most crazy bunch of (explicit) you've ever seen...these people would die for their team." I am not so sure I would die for the Huskers, but that is one of only few things I wouldn't do for them.

Being a Husker fan does have its side-effects as well though. Each of the past few seasons has been an emotional roller coaster ride. With huge wins against highly ranked teams such as Michigan State, followed by losses to inferior teams, such

as Northwestern, the Huskers seem to tease fans with flashes of greatness only to break our hearts in the end.

But that is part of being a Husker fan. We expect greatness. We expect champions. We expect a team that won't be beat,

can't be beat. Anything less is a disappointment. But in return for our high expectations, we are willing to follow our team to hell and back season after season. Because that is what a Husker fan does.

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.

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			3		1			
5	9			2			3	8
		4	5		6	8		
7								5
		6	9		2	7		
6	3			5			7	2
			8		7			
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Iowa replaces Colorado in 'Heroes game'

Looks to start new rivalry for Big Red



BY ERIK SWAZO
Antelope Staff

Nebraska football fans don't have to worry about the traditional day after Thanksgiving game, as the University of Iowa Hawkeyes and the Huskers look to start a new rivalry for many years to come.

The Hawkeyes will replace the usual University of Colorado Buffaloes as the team Nebraska faces on the Friday after Thanksgiving.

This game won't necessarily be used to determine ownership of football bragging rights, but instead they will focus on honoring heroes of their respective states.

Both Nebraska and Iowa plan to honor one Iowa and one Nebraska citizen prior to each game played between the two schools. Individuals who are recognized on the field before the game will have their name and hometown etched on the Heroes Game trophy.

BLACK FRIDAY GAME PREDICTIONS



"Iowa has come on strong here in the past few years, but I see the Huskers taking the inaugural game 28-24."

Seth Webster
Senior/Recreation



"The Blackshirts will come out strong and start out a new rivalry with a win, winning 24-14."

Becky Seidel
Senior/Sports administration

'Crescent Classic' raises \$3,200



Photo by Erik Swazo

Members of the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority celebrate after their 5th annual Crescent Classic. The sorority raised \$3,200, with proceeds going to their international philanthropy donor Campfire USA and locally to the KPS Poverty Fund.

BY ERIK SWAZO
Antelope Staff

With 267 teams signed up for the 5th annual Crescent Classic, members of Gamma Phi Beta were certainly busy this past Wednesday night at the Big Apple Fun Center.

A busy, yet successful night of bowling helped the local sorority raise \$3,200. Current president Katlynn Killion was very proud of her chapter, acknowledging that all members put in countless hours to make this a successful event.

"There is a lot of logistic planning that is involved, and it takes a lot of time and effort from each and every member of the house in order to make this event run smoothly," Killion said.

Money raised from this event goes to two different groups. Half of the money that was raised is sent to the Gamma Phi Beta's international philanthropy donor which is Campfire USA. Killion said that the International Gamma Phi Beta matches what the local chapter makes, and then doubles what they contribute to Campfire USA.

The other half of the money is donated to their local philanthropy donor the "Poverty Fund," in the Kearney Public School system.

Current Philanthropy Chairman Sarah Siebrandt is proud of the work that she and the rest of the chapter accomplished this year.

"The event was very successful for us this year as we had more teams sign up than in the past," Siebrandt said. "It was a blast to watch everyone bowl and still help out the community."

Siebrandt also acknowledged the fact that the KPS Poverty Fund, an organization to help those in need in the Kearney Public school system (whether it is with travel, hygiene needs, or appointments) will be able to help out more students in need in the Kearney area to get what they need to succeed.

This year, Nate Schumacher and Roberto Gomez were the winning team with a combined score of 412 for the two games. Kamal Ebrahim was the lucky winner of the iPad 2 raffle.

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Lopers snag both win, 2nd seed



Photos by Adam Konruff
(LEFT) Shad Bride breaks through the Colorado School of Mines offensive line for a short run Saturday. The Lopers will have a bye weekend this coming Saturday, as they are preparing for Division II playoffs.

(RIGHT) Rustin Dring gets a short carry Saturday as the Lopers faced Colorado School of Mines in their last regular season game. UNK won the game, 45-21, to finish the regular season with a 10-1 record. The Lopers will host the first playoff game on Nov. 26. Their opponent in the matchup is yet to be announced.

Tommy Flanagan pulls down a Spitzelberger pass in the second quarter Saturday against Colorado School of Mines, and runs into to the end zone for the score. The fifth-ranked Lopers will have home-field advantage as the second seed in the Super Regional 3 in the Division 2 playoffs, which begin after Thanksgiving.



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A herd of Lopers, led by Jason Wilcox and Corey Morten, break through the Colorado School of Mines' line to sack their quarterback, Clay Garcia, Saturday. The Lopers finish division play with an 8-1 record.



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Campus Life

GEOGRAPHY AWARENESS WEEK

UP 'TIL DAWN



Photo by Skylar Loseke

Rudi Talbott, a senior family studies major from Albion, Markie Sup, a sophomore undecided major from Albion, and Deana Johnson, a junior family studies major from Grand Island, write letters to friends and family on Nov. 8 at St. Jude Up 'Til Dawn. This year's event was "Stayin' alive so kids can too" and about 500 students came to address envelopes to friends and family.

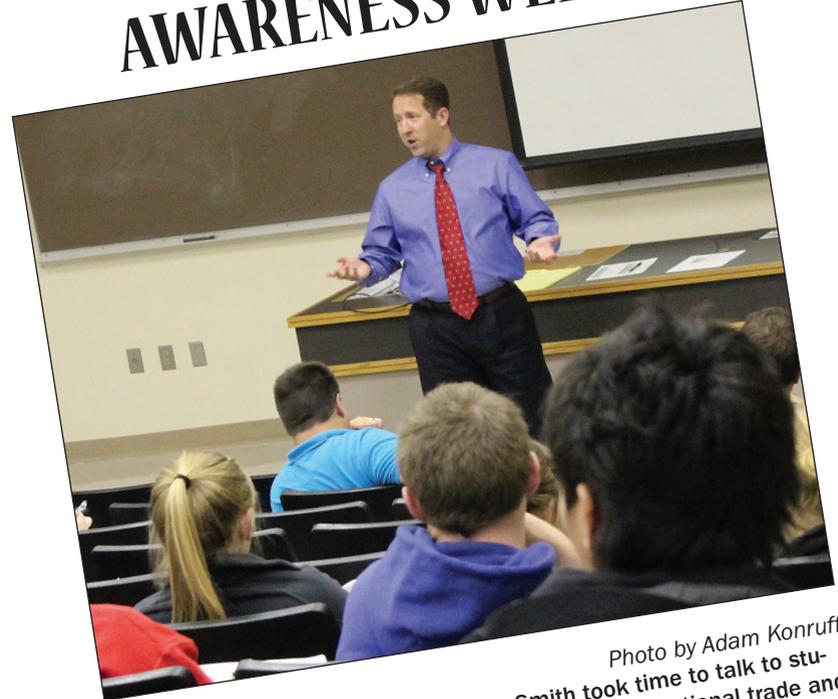


Photo by Adam Konruff

Nebraska's U.S. Representative Adrian Smith took time to talk to students and others at UNK last Wednesday about international trade and global engagement as part of Geography Awareness week.

WREATH LAYING CEREMONY



Photo by Skylar Loseke

Two ROTC students present a wreath in honor of veterans during the Wreath Laying Ceremony on Thursday, Nov. 10 by the UNK flag poles. The ceremony was introduced by Student Body President Jordan Gonzales and a speech was given by Jennifer Crane, an Afghanistan veteran.



Photo by Skylar Loseke
Students play a game on stage at St. Jude's Up 'Til Dawn event on Nov. 8. Last year UNK raised over \$65,000 in funds. It takes \$1.8 million to run St. Jude Children's Research hospital for one day and they do not charge anyone for services.

Livin' life at UNK

LEARNING COMMONS



Photo by Adam Konruff

Courtney Nelsen, a junior English & Spanish secondary education major from Minden, gets help with her Spanish translation from senior Spanish translation and interpretation major, Samantha Bohl, of Crete, in the Learning Commons in the Calvin T. Ryan Library last Wednesday.

INTERNATIONAL

FAIR



Photo by Makala Keaschall

Jane Soggo from Cote D'Ivoire, Africa is a junior majoring in psychology dressed up to support her culture at the International Fair. The International Fair had a wide variety of student organizations that were welcome to any student who wanted to join. There was also international food and drinks provided.



Photo by Emily SeEVERS

Stephanie Coello, a psychology student from Kearney, Betsy Lewis, a communication disorders student from Grand Island, and Rebecca Sevela, a history student from Omaha sit at the Queer Straight Alliance table in the Nebraskan Student Union selling T-shirts Nov. 14. Students can choose between two shirts sold for \$8 each.

BOW TIE WEDNESDAY



Photo by Skylar Loseke
Student Body President Jordan Gonzales, a senior political science major from Morrill, started UNK's Bow Tie Wednesday. He said the idea that wearing bow ties came from a bet during last year's election. He encourages all students to wear bow ties or bow accessories on Wednesdays.

Student nurses call shots at UNMC flu clinics

BY KOLE KLUVER
Antelope Staff

Shannon Linton steadied her hand. She found the site, cleaned the area and double checked the vaccination. She took a quick breath...

"And you're done."

Linton bore a wide grin after she administered another successful shot for the UNMC Influenza Clinic. On Oct. 17 from 5-8 p.m., the junior from Dalton participated in the student-run clinic as part of her nursing program.



SHANNON
LINTON

UNMC sponsors the clinic every year to give its students experience and to benefit the community. The shots run at only \$20.

"The whole clinic is going really smoothly. Everyone seems happy we are doing this and I haven't seen anyone

faint!" Linton said.

The clinic was the first of four on campus — three for students and the general public and one for faculty. Besides providing a service to the community, the clinic provided real-world learning for the UNMC nursing students.

"I have never given shots like this before. I have given shots to kids with diabetes, but this is my first time with the flu. It is a different experience," Linton said.

UNMC made sure their students were ready for this year's flu season. "We had to do testing on our own. We went through a group and they tested us with a series of stations, like actually giving the shot and then doing a follow up. It was a simulation of the whole experience that we had to pass before the clinic," said Linton.

INFLUENZA HITS NEBRASKA

- On Nov. 10, the first case of influenza A was reported in Omaha, according to news and television reports.

- Flu viruses are spread mainly by droplets made when people with the flu cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby.

- Those with the flu are able to infect others one day before symptoms develop and five to seven days after becoming sick.

- Between 1976 and 2006, estimates of flu-associated deaths in the U.S. range from 3,000 to 49,000.

- Flu shots are available around Kearney at locations such as Walgreens, Walmart and Good Samaritan Hospital

sources: cdc.gov and ketv.com
Infographic by Kole Kluver

The preparation paid off. Linton greeted each patient with a smile and prepped and administered the vaccination with practiced expertise. "As far as preparation on my own, it took about two weeks of studying," Linton said.

After the scare of H1N1 in 2009, vaccinations for the influenza virus are



Photo by Kole Kluver

UNMC student Shannon Linton administers an influenza vaccine to Janice Woods at the UNMC Flu Shot Clinic on Oct. 17. Linton and other nursing students immunized patients from the general public and UNK's faculty members and students.

becoming increasingly popular and available. The low cost is a very attractive price point. According to the Center for Disease Control, everyone six months and older should get a flu vaccine every year.

"I got the flu shot myself today. We gave them to each other if we hadn't had them yet," Linton said.

People of all ages, including infants, made their way to the first clinic in the nursing campus at West Center. "I give flu shots to adults only. The third semester students are giving pediatric doses. We are only trained to do adult doses," Linton said.

And the experience was much appreciated. Linton savored the hands-on

work and looks forward to her future in the field. "I love the nursing program so far. I am hoping to be a nurse practitioner, especially in mental health. I work in counseling health care right now. I really like the whole mental health aspect," she said.

The nursing program at UNMC of UNK is a four-semester program that accepts admissions once a year in the fall. The U.S. News and World Report consistently ranks UNMC in the top 8 percent of graduate programs.

"I love my classes and want to go as far as a nurse practitioner as I can. We will see how it plays out, but that is my interest right now," said Linton.

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United Way seeks support

BY REBECCA MCMICKELL
Antelope Staff

United Way of the Kearney Area is on a mission to connect people in need with people who care.

This year, United Way hopes to raise \$520,000 in donations from the community by Dec. 14 to help make that happen.

The 2011-2012 campaign kicked-off in mid-September. So far, United Way has raised more than half of its goal, but there's still work to be done said Lisa Reese Parish, executive director of the United Way of the Kearney Area, and student support is crucial to the campaign.



LISA REESE
PARISH

"We all know of a family that may be struggling to pay their utility bill this month or struggling to buy food, so it's important for those of us who have enough to give and make sure those families are sustained," she said.

With 21 partner agencies that benefit from campaign funds, a donation to United Way goes far Parish said.

Parish added that United Way benefits the Kearney area on many levels from income to education to health.

"It's also about investing in our community, making sure kids are growing up strong and giving people the opportunity to better themselves and others."

Kaitlyn Masters, a senior social work



KAITLYN
MASTERS

major from Bertrand, doesn't think twice about giving to United Way.

"My mom always encouraged me and my sister to give back to the community, so when I came here for school, it was just natural to give to United Way," she

said. "There are so many people who need help and I really believe that even a small donation can really do a lot of good."

To encourage first-time donors, this year's campaign features a new-givers drawing. Anyone who donates any amount to the United Way for the first time will be entered in a drawing for an Apple iPad.

In addition to the iPad drawing, donors contributing \$150 or more will be included in a drawing for a trip for four to Denver, a \$1,000 gift card to Ashley Furniture or a \$400 gift card to the Hilltop Mall.

While the incentives are nice, Masters said the best prize from United Way is the chance to make a difference in someone's life.

"I think this really is the best way to reach out to the community as a whole because the agencies that it helps do so many different things. For me, it's the best way to give back," she said.

To make a donation, visit www.uwka.org or call the United Way of the Kearney Area office at 237-6840.

Proposal changes regular dining hours

Subway may stay open longer

BY ERIK DODGE
Antelope Staff

Students wishing for a few more hours to visit Subway on campus may be in luck. A Student Government proposal would add more than 11 hours of operation per week at the popular restaurant in response to student complaints.

"Student government heard a lot of concerns of students who were not very satisfied with Subway only being open until 6 p.m. and rightfully so," Student Body President Jordan Gonzales said.

Gonzales' administration started the process to expand Subway's hours of operation with representatives from UNK business services and UNK dining services, according to the September Progress Report issued by the Office of the President.

The proposal would keep Subway open until 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and close one hour earlier Friday. Subway currently closes at 6 p.m. Monday through Friday according to the UNK website.

In addition, Subway will become the breakfast retailer next semester, allowing it to open at 7:30 a.m. according to Gonzales. The increased hours would come at the expense of Bamboo Asian, which would see its closing time shift from 9 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Although the process is underway, changes are unlikely to be seen before the

spring semester.

The proposal was presented, "in response to widespread student demand to make Subway more flexible to the schedules of UNK students and student-athletes," according to the progress report.

Gonzales said Student Government and Residence Hall Association (RHA) worked together to conduct a student survey and report the results to UNK business services. One of the primary

"Student government heard a lot of concerns of students who were not very satisfied with Subway only being open until 6 p.m. and rightfully so."

Jordan Gonzales
Student body president

concerns returned in the survey was that student athlete schedules made it impossible to eat at Subway before the restaurant closed.

"A lot of them have practice so they cannot meet the 6 p.m. deadline," Gonzales said.

Gonzales is working with Vice President Paloma Mena-Werth, and Chief of Staff Megan Faust from Student Government, as well as, Assistant Director of Business Services Jon Watts and UNK Dining Services Regional District Manager James Paul.

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Photo by Lacey McPhillips
 Britt Cudaback, a senior English creative writing/political science major from Kearney performs her poem during Open Mic Night Nov. 9 at Tru Cafe as part of the UNK Writing Center and Learning Commons' National Day on Writing festivities. Cudaback captivated the audience and judges and was awarded first place in the event. The night's entertainment included original writing on everything from short emotional poetry to novel excerpts to horror stories. All performers received prizes, while all audience members were eligible for door prizes given away between readings.

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CAMPUS CRIME LOG

Nov. 7: Multiple females in University Residence South reported a male entered their rooms on Nov. 5 between 5 a.m. and 6 a.m. and left when asked.

Nov. 7: A female resident reported that she has received harassing and threatening text messages the previous 30 days.

Nov. 7: Dylan Obermier was issued a warning for failure to stop at the stop sign in Lot 16.

Nov. 11: An unknown person cut some wires in the Foster Fieldhouse scoreboard.

Nov. 11: Samuel Swartz, Derek Comba and Michael Florance were issued conduct summons for trespassing on the football field. A representative from UNK Police said the incident was unrelated to damage done to the

scoreboard.

Nov. 11: Brittany Cornwell was issued a written warning for driving on the sidewalk and no operator's license on her person outside University Residence South.

Nov. 11: Ellen Thomas was issued a written warning for driving on the sidewalk by University Residence North.

Nov. 12: Michael Steele was issued a written warning for failure to stop at the stop sign at University Residence North.

Nov. 13: Jacob Hild was cited for failure to stop at the stop sign in Lot 32.

Nov. 14: A resident advisor at Centennial Towers East reported an unknown male student potentially entered a female student's room around 2:30 a.m.

NATIONAL DAY ON WRITING

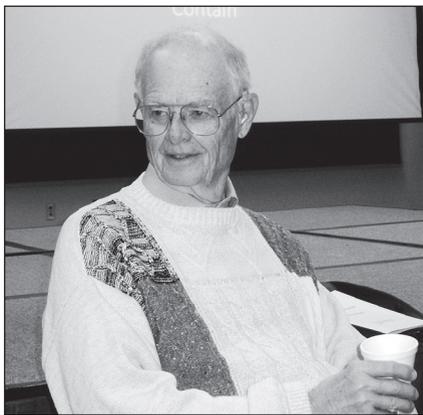


Photo by Lacey McPhillips
 Don Welch, former UNK English and philosophy professor whose statue stands south of the Calvin T. Ryan Library, shares his knowledge of writing as keynote speaker for the National Day on Writing on Nov. 9. The event was hosted by the UNK Writing Center and Learning Commons and the Residence Hall Association. Events included two sessions with Welch and workshops on graphic novels and creative, research-based and resume/application writing.

Sudoku answer:

Upside down, from page 3

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

the antelope run with it

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TIME FOR FLU VACCINES



Photo by Adam Konruff

First semester nursing student Matt Wecker of O'Neill pokes Dr. Julie A. Dinsmore with a flu vaccine. The vaccines were given in the Cedar Room at the Nebraskan Student Union Monday.

Project Hope from page 1

book group known as Project Hope has attracted 5,576 members.

"Everyday the numbers keep growing. It's not something that is just going to stop. I have really big plans for it now," Currin said.

Whether its kids who were bullied in high school or someone who needs to talk about an abusive relationship, Currin says the group is a place for anyone to find support when they feel like they have nowhere else to turn.

Currin said he is able to relate to many people's stories as a person who has dealt with anxiety and depression since he was in kindergarten. He said he was bullied throughout elementary, middle and high school, and dropped out of college while working a full-time job due to struggles balancing work and school.

Currin said he didn't have a place to talk about these problems at the time. "It's almost taboo in society today to talk about these kinds of things or vent even. People see it as weakness, but for me I see it as strength because if you can go out there and you can say those kinds of things to a thousand different people, then that's stronger than anyone I know."

Currin doesn't want to just stop with helping people via Facebook. He has been talking with students involved in the Kearney Community Learning Center (KCLC), a program that provides academic activities before and after school for Bryant, Central, Emerson, and Kenwood elementary schools in Kearney.

"I talked for 30 minutes about my experience in middle school and how terrible it was because I got bullied on, I would say, more than anyone in my grade," Currin said.

Currin told the students about his experiences in middle school being teased because he didn't know he was supposed to shower or wear deodorant. He then shaved his head and eyebrows and was taunted even more when kids called him "alien boy" or "cancer kid."

People have been able to release their stories to Currin but even with his hopes and dreams of changing his generation, Currin realizes that he can't do it all on his own.

Currin hopes to set up the group as a nonprofit organization with a board of directors that includes prominent community members, counselors and mental health practitioners.

Currin has already made appearances on the UNK campus last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, allowing Project Hope members to come out and tell their stories. He would like to continue this process by going to other college campuses, high schools and middle schools to help students.

In order to move forward with Project Hope, Currin has taken leave from his job and is planning to return to school in order to possibly pursue a degree in counseling.

But for right now, his hope is to change an entire generation to accept one another for who they are.

"To really change the world, you really have to have the arrogance to believe you can do what no one else has done before. You have to have the ambition to do so and for me, the humility to ask for help. For me, there are so many people supporting me and behind me that I'm realizing this is the right thing to do," Currin said.

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Occupy from page 1

they return to their tents.

The "Occupy Mall Street" tent city has adopted a very tribal community feel. Leaders of the community have established rules and guidelines. Daily meetings are organized, where any member of the community has the right to veto any idea that affects the collective community. Designated smoking areas are set up, and the so-called mother of the community, "Mama Jo," dishes out weekly cleaning duties.

While the group in Lincoln still stands firmly behind the core initiatives of the Occupy Wall Street movement, protesters said they have also added local topics to their slate of issues needing change. A forefront issue among the Lincoln protesters is the building of the TransCanada Pipeline.

Seven Occupy Lincoln protesters went to Denver last Friday to learn about cold-weather camping for their Lincoln organization. But they called for five others from Lincoln to stand in solidarity with the Denver protesters as police cracked down on the Colorado movement.

Louishomme says this kind of localized protesting can actually be very successful.

"Protest and people getting involved and people mobilizing is a major way that signals are sent and pressures are put on our elected officials to let them know what we as a people want to happen," Louishomme said. "This week our legislature held a special session for the pipeline. This



Photos by Jay Sloan

(ABOVE) An estimated 50-60 residents have "occupied" the lawn at the Centennial Mall in Lincoln. While the Lincoln group is well organized, within the last few days, protesters in cities across the country have been arrested in confrontational clashes with the police who have been ordered to protect their cities from "health and safety issues."

is how it works. People don't think this is the way it should be and they mobilize, and theoretically, governmental officials pay attention to that. It seems here, in the issue of the pipeline the government has paid attention."

UNK has even had a collection of students share their opinion. Protesters in Kearney organized a one-day rally known as Occupy Kearney. Event organizer Tarik Arram encouraged anyone and everyone to come and raise awareness to issues closely affecting them.

The Occupy Kearney event was held on Saturday, Oct. 15.

Arram said the event was primar-

ily about being solidified and standing up for his beliefs. He believes that everyone should have an equal and fair shot at the American dream.

Whether it be protesters in New York City, San Francisco, Chicago, Atlanta or Lincoln, one question still remains unanswered—when will they leave?

According to protesters in Lincoln, that's a good question.

"We'll leave when we see change," one Lincoln protestor said. "We'll leave when our government stops lying to us," said another. "We'll leave when the one percent stops corrupting our government," shouted another man.

(BELOW) Occupy Lincoln began in late October in the Centennial Mall parking lot. The movement was born out of similar "Occupy" demonstrations across the U.S.

