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Finals freaking you out? Campus programs are here to help

BY MEGAN WENZ
Antelope Staff

Cramming, all nighters and a lot of caffeine are usually finals week trends that college students seem to fall in to. Whether you procrastinated to the last minute or just haven't shown up for class for the last few weeks, cramming is like second nature.

With finals looming only a few days away, UNK has many resources that can help students such as tutors to help ace that final.

Students can walk into Academic Affairs and make an appointment for a tutor, or just go in Monday through Friday when tutors in all subjects are available.

Reaching out to meet needs, every night from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Academic Affairs offers tutors specifically for math and science in a group study type of session.

"We make it easier for them to understand their problem and what they need to learn," said Krishna Dallakoti, an accounting major from Nepal, who is a tutor for accounting, economics and applied calculus.

At this point in the semester you can still be tutored, and Dallakoti said that they would determine what the student was struggling with and then work the tutoring session from that point.

As for last minute study tips, Dallakoti said study hard and sleep well. If a last minute appointment is needed, a student should try to make it to the walk in hours available or go to the Academic Success Office and set up a time.

If tutoring isn't what is needed and you are cramming on a paper, the UNK Writing Center (located on the top floor of the library) is here to help. With appointments available all through finals week, a student can still get the help they need.

The Writing Center offers sessions based on the number of pages required for a paper. A one to three page paper requires a 30 minute session while a four to seven page paper requires an hour, and anything over would be scheduled for more than an hour. If a student needs more assistance, Amanda Granrud, director of the Writing Center said,

"If the paper is longer or if the student needs more time, we are available for appointments up to two hours per week."

Right now the Writing Center has the largest staff in UNK history ready to help. Granrud said that this fall they have had well over 1400 consultations.

"This is a very busy, successful writing center. We are open seven days a week and through finals week as well," Granrud said.

If you are not available to meet with a writing center staff member, they offer different handouts that can be downloaded online. The handouts vary covering topics such as 10 common errors, transitions or powerful paragraphs among other things.

Granrud also said to remember that your peers are going and getting the professional help, so you should as well.

Granrud also offered general tips to help ace the final paper: disconnect from technology, and allow time for multiple revisions.

So if you are struggling to cram it all in this last week just remember the campus resources that are here to help. Make an appointment and know that it will help you in the future.



Photo by Laura Schemper

On Thursday groups of students carefully constructed gingerbread houses in the Gingerbread House Competition. From left: Emily Burkey, an undecided major from Scottsbluff; Megan Faust, a business management major freshman from Petersberg; Phillip Boon, a freshman business management major from Fremont, and Jennifer Wegner, a freshman undecided major from Lindsay, work on their gingerbread house.

BY TARA PURDIE
Antelope Staff

On Dec. 4, the hands of several students had to fly to efficiently and creatively build a gingerbread house masterpiece in the Ponderosa Room of the Student Union for the annual Gingerbread House Competition.

The teams were given three cups of frosting, three packs of graham crackers and 25 minutes to complete their designs. Licorice, gumdrops, candy canes, pretzels, ice cream cones, peppermints and powdered sugar were basic staples included in almost each house despite the various themes. The gingerbread houses varied from log cabins to castles to towers and tree houses and included sleighs with reindeer, frozen lakes and even a hot tub.

Sophomore multimedia major Laura Housholder from Scandia, Kan.

said she had never built a gingerbread house before this competition but that she wanted to enter because it looked fun and she needed to escape from homework. Housholder's team took first place winning \$150.

"We were pretty relaxed about the whole thing. We definitely did not expect to win, which I believe in turn helped us do better because we were not stressing over it," Housholder said.

One of her teammates, Samantha Bohl, a sophomore biology pre-med major from Crete had also never made a gingerbread house before. Bohl said that this was a new experience for her.

Bohl said the thing she enjoyed most about the competition was, "getting messy with frosting and just having fun without really caring whether we win or not." Housholder and Bohl along with their teammate Brittany Weinandt said that they chose to create the White House.

"We knew making the White House would be a tough task, but we accomplished more than we thought we could. Also if you look at a picture of the White House you are able to see how much detail we tried putting into our house," Bohl said. The teammates both said that they want to build some-

thing that would be easily recognized and add a little Christmas spirit.

Photo by Laura Schemper

The grand prize winner of the Gingerbread Competition was the White House created by Laura Housholder, Samantha Bohl and Brittany Weinandt. The team won \$150.



Events organized by Japanese students cross cultural barriers



Photo by Sarah Ahlers

Kei Tachibana (bass guitar) and Mari Nakamura (saxophone) brought the mood of Christmas a little early during Funky Monkey Crazy Show Vol.3.

BY SEAN TAKAHASHI
Antelope Staff

People speak languages to communicate with each other. However, for international students on campus, language is a barrier against communication. Speaking in a foreign language is hard, and living where people do not speak one's native language is even harder. However, there is a way to communicate with others and express ideas and emotions without using a single word—music.

In the past few weeks, two music events sponsored by Japanese students did just that: Acoustic Japan Night Nov. 14 and the Funky Monkey Crazy Show Nov. 22.

Acoustic Night included singing, acoustic guitar and keyboard, and the

Funky Monkey Crazy Show Vol. 3, which was a live band event where nine bands performed.

Even though both events were organized by the same Japanese student, Yuki Kawakami, the atmosphere of those two events was completely different.

Kawakami, a senior business marketing major from Aichi, Japan, said the acoustic event evoked a calm atmosphere.

"I wanted them to enjoy rather quiet music. And the live event was to make them fully warmed up," Kawakami said. "But for the both events, I wanted to the audience to have really good time."

Kawakami also performed during both events. At the Acoustic Japan Night, he performed in two groups, and he played in three bands at the Funky

"When that ska band is playing, more people come to listen to their songs than any other bands. It is a good chance for everyone to have fun together."

Junior Maiko Sugahara, Funky Monkey Crazy Show pianist

Monkey Crazy Show.

Kawakami started playing the guitar when he was a freshman in high school. But at that time, he did not take it so seriously.

"After I got my first guitar in my freshman year in high school, there is a two year blank. I became interested in playing again when I got to the U.S.," Kawakami said.

Those who participated in those events as performers enjoyed a good time. During the Acoustic Night, Azusa Minoda, a senior organizational communication major from Kumamoto sang three songs: "Sakura" by Ikimono-nogakari, "Kaede" by Spitz and "Ai wo komete hanataba wo" (sending flowers with love) by Superfly, with Misako Koma, a senior organizational communication major from Tokyo as an accompanist.

Those songs were chosen from Minoda's favorite Japanese bands' songs. Minoda and Koma have performed in almost all the Japanese acoustic music events, and it was their last performance before their graduation.

Because the size of the audience almost doubled from previous events, performers were more nervous than ever. Minoda said her heart was fluttering because of the size of the crowd.

"And when I heard people other than Japanese were there, I got even more nervous because I had to speak to them in English," she said.

"We didn't have many rehearsals, and that is also why we got that nervous," Koma said. "Like Azusa said, we

didn't expect that many people to show up. Because of that, my hands were really cold, and hand warmers didn't even work."

Still, Minoda and Koma were glad to be able to have a chance to perform in their last semester.

"It is will be a very good memory," Minoda said. They also hope the Acoustic Japan Night will continue even longer and become a bigger event. "I want this event to grow and get more and more people involved. Maybe it can be too big for the Cedar Room," Minoda said.

Maiko Sugahara, a junior music performance major from Fukushima performed only in Funky Monkey Crazy show as a pianist. "I was in two bands. In one of them we wanted to try something original, so we arranged classical music like Pachelbel's "Canon," Beethoven's "Für Elise" and Mozart's "Turkish March" into rock music. The other one was a kind of jazz band with Mari Nakamura, who played the saxophone as a leading voice and the rest of us were accompanying her," Sugahara said.

Sugahara said it was fun creating new music from the classical work. "It was originally Ikumi Sawada's idea, and we tried to make classical music as

See Music Events

on page 2, more photos and Sean Takahashi's story in Japanese.

▼ Study Tips

- **Disconnect from technology**
- **Allow time for multiple revisions**
- **Limit breaks to stay focused**
- **Read the paper aloud, or have someone read it to you**
- **Study hard**
- **Sleep well**
- **Eat a hearty breakfast**
- **Relax**



Music lovers come together for FUN at The Roman

Photo by Sean Takahashi
Akihiro Sakai and Noriaki Naruse let loose and rock during the middle of the gig.

Music events from page 1

interesting as possible. We added lyrics to it, and everything we could to make it more fun. And for the jazz band, members other than Mari just had played cords, so it was challenge for us to come up with the best way for the saxophone to be enhanced.”

Of all bands performing in Funky Monkey Crazy Show, Sugahara especially liked a ska band, Skagged Out. “They picked songs audiences can really enjoy, so that everyone in the event can dance to it and have fun together,” Sugahara said. “When that ska band is playing, more people come to listen to their songs than any other bands. It is good chance for everyone to have fun together. We could listen to music, cheer, and dance altogether no matter where we came from. I think people from other countries, like Nepal, South Korea and China were also there. We were surely unified, and that’s what I like about that ska performance.”

Kei Tachibama, a senior travel and tourism major from Saitama, has recently noticed that more people know about him because of his music activities. Tachibana has participated in music events since he was a freshman. “A woman who was stranger came up to me at Perkins and asked me about my next performance,” Tachibana said.

Tachibana said, “I think Japanese students are starting to be recognized in a new

way in this community. Maybe people are seeing us not just as international students, but as a group of people who are doing something fun. There are many Japanese students who play in band, and there are also some students who start playing musical instruments after looking at those players. As an example, Satoshi Kawaguchi who plays drums just started playing drums last year, but he is now a very good drummer. The more new players like Satoshi create new bands and improve their skills, the more chance for people in Kearney to see them play. I think that’s why people think Japanese bands are cool and it is creating a new image about Japanese people.”

Noriaki Naruse, a senior construction management major from Kagawa, said that Funky Monkey Crazy Show was successful because of the number of students who love music. Naruse, one of the organizers of this event, also performed

in two groups. He performed at Acoustic Night as a guitarist. He said, “There are many music lovers among Japanese students, regardless of they are talented or not. And I assume people who enjoyed the Funky Monkey Crazy Show also really love music because I could tell they were having a good time, so it ended up as a really good event thanks to those people”

“... if the performers on stage are truly enjoying their music, I think the borders go away automatically..”

Noriaki Naruse
Organizer of both events



Naruse said. “At the end of the event, everybody in the event was one. We danced together, jumped together, cheered together and had a lot of fun together. It made me really happy as an organizer.”

However, Naruse hopes to bring more unification to the next band event. “I felt there was still some kind of border between Japanese students and other people. Japanese are always standing in the first row, and Americans and people from other countries are behind them. Next time, I want the audiences to get scrambled,” Naruse said. “I cannot come up with any strategy to make it come true. We set up a rule and asked performers not speak Japanese on stage, but if the performers on stage are truly enjoying playing their music, I think the borders go away automatically.”

Kawakami believes the success of both Acoustic Night and Funky Monkey Crazy Show could not be achieved without everyone who was at the event, including the audience. “So many people showed up, and many of them said they had a good time. Nothing can beat that as a compliment,” Kawakami said.

音楽を通じて一つになる世界
日本人主催の音楽イベントが文化の壁を越え、多くの聴衆を動員

BY高橋 尚三郎
Antelope Staff

人は言葉を使って会話を
する。しかし、留学生にとって言語は会話をする上での障害になってしまっている。外国語を話せるようになるのは難しく、そのため母国語圏外で生活をしようとするのはなおさら難しいことであるからだ。だが、言葉を使わずとも他人と交流し、それぞれの思いを表現する方法がある。音楽である。

数週間ほど前、11月14日にスチューデントユニオンのシダールームにて行われたAcoustic Nightと、11月22日にローマンにて行われたFunky Monkey Crazy Show Vol.3 を通して、日本人学生たちはそれを証明した。

Acoustic Nightは歌とアコースティックギターとピアノによる伴奏からなるイベントで、Funky Monkey Crazy Show Vol.3は九つのバンドが参加するライブイベントである。

この二つのイベントの主催者は河上祐輝さんという同一人物でありながら、イベントの雰囲気や目的はまったく違うものである。

愛知県出身のマーケティング専攻の四年生、河上さんは両イベントの主催者として活躍。彼曰く、Acoustic Nightには落ち着いた雰囲気が好きだったのだそう。「アコースティックの方は、みんな落ち着いた感じで楽しんでもらうみたいなのがあって、ライブのイベントは、

どのアコースティックの音楽イベントで演奏しており、今回のAcoustic Nightは卒業を控えた二人の最後の演奏となった。

今回イベントに訪れた客数はこれまでの二倍ほどだったそうで、参加者にとってはとても緊張するイベントだったようだ。蓼田さんは人を見ただけでドキドキした、と語った。「日本人以外の方も来て下さったから、これは英語話なきゃいけないだと思って、それでまたドキドキしてました」「リハーサルを長くしなかったからかもしれない。ちょびっとリハーサルしただけで本番臨んだから」とは蓼田さんの感想。「あずさも言ってたけど本当に緊張してて。お客さんがあんなに来ると思ってなかったし。手が本当に冷たくて、ホッカイロ使ってたのに暖まらなかった」

それでも、蓼田さんと粕さんは卒業前に演奏する場が持てたことを喜んでおり、「卒業前に思い出が出来たから、よかった」と蓼田さんは言った。また、二人はAcoustic Nightにもっと大きくなってもらいたいと思っているようである。「いろんな人を巻き込んでいて、もっともっと大きくなってもらいたい。もしかしたら、シダールームなんておさらばさ、みたいなことになるかもしれない」と蓼田さんは笑う。

福島県出身の音楽専攻の三年生、菅原舞子さんはFunky Monkey Crazy Showにピアノで参加。「ニグループにいて、一個のほうは、オリジナルなことをやってみたいっ

いたし、韓国人もいたし中国人もいたし。あたしは見てないんだけど、他の人たちがいたと思う。みんなで一体感になるっていうグループ感が出せるのはスリだったから、そこが一番好きだった」

埼玉県出身の旅行学専攻の四年生、立花圭さんは最近、自分が有名人になっていると実感する経験をしたらしい。立花さんは一年生の頃から、音楽イベントに積極的に参加してきた。「知らない女の人にパーキングで声かけられて、「今度バンドいつやるの?」みたいなこと言われたりしてます」

立花さんは、日本人の認知度やイメージが変化してきており、それはFunky Monkey Crazy Showのようなライブイベントによることが大きいからではないか、と語る。「最近になって、いろんな人から声かけられるようになって、このコミュニティでも、留学生って立場じゃなくて、なんか他に楽しいことやってる人みたいな感じで認知されてちょっとずつ広まってきた感じがする。おれらだけじゃなくて、そういうバンドやってる人たちとかが、そういう風に広がっていくことは新しいって感じがする。こういうイベント出た人たちって、バンド初めてやった人たちとかもけっこういるわけ。去年の今頃に一番最初のイベントやって、そこで初めて楽器を始めた人たちが、ずっと一年間やってて、すごくうまくなったりしてて。楽器をやる人たちのレベルがすごかくなってきてるから、コミュニティにとって、日本人のバンドってけっこういいじゃんって言われるような感じになってきているかもしれない。そういう意味では、新しいイメージを作ってるんじゃないかな、とは思いますね」

香川県出身の建築管理専攻の四年生、成瀬徳晃さんは音楽が好きなのがたくさんいてくれたからこそ、Funky Monkey Crazy Showは成功だったと考えている。Funky Monkey Crazy Showの主催者の一人として活躍するほか、成瀬さんはニグループに参加し、Acoustic Nightにもギターで参加していた。成瀬さんは、「この大学は日本人が多くて、しかもその中に上手い下手は関係なく音楽好きな人が本当に多くて。でも、俺らだけじゃなくて昨日楽しんでくれた人はホント音楽が好きだったと思うんで、その点で言えば、もうすごくいいイベントになったと思います。最後のほうは一緒になって踊って飛んで叫んでしてたんで。ホント主催の一人としてうれしかったですね」と語った。

成瀬さんが今後の課題としてあげたのは、Funky Monkey Crazy Showをさらに一体感のあるイベントにすること。「国境の壁っていうんですかね。どうしても日本人が最前列にいて、アメリカ人が二、三列目になっちゃうんで、ホントにみんなごちゃ混ぜになって、楽しめるような音楽を作っていきたい。そうするための対策は特にないですね。ステージの上で日本語喋らないとかそういう細かい規定を作る以外は、ステージに上がってて人が楽しく演奏していけたら自然と壁は崩れるんじゃないかな、と思います。」

河上さんは最後に、Acoustic NightとFunky Monkey Crazy Showの成功は演奏を聴きにきてくれた聴衆も含めた、イベントに関わった全員がいたからこそであると語った。「たくさんの方が来てくれたから。で、たくさんの方が楽しかったって言ってくれたから、それが一番ですね」と彼は言う。

theAntelope

FALL 2008 STAFF

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Photo by Sean Takahashi
Ikumi Sawada (bass guitar) and Akihiro Sakai relax and enjoy the show at The Roman.

‘Dreaming Again’ has something for everyone



BY KEVIN L. NENSTIEL
Guest Writer

I have a problem with recent mass-market short stories. They’re not short. Or anyway, they don’t want to be.

So many short story writers would clearly rather write novels. It’s branded all over their tales, which involve such massive content and casts of thousands that they read like outlines for full-length books.

Perhaps the problem is that most writers make their living as novelists and only publish shorts as publicity for their latest book. Whatever the reason, it leaves me feeling robbed when I buy a

magazine or anthology.

This is my problem with about half the stories in Jack Dann’s anthology of Australian speculative fiction, “Dreaming Again” (Eos, 566 pages, \$16.95). Then again, if half of them are a flawed production, perhaps that means half of them are just right.

This book follows “Dreaming Down Under,” edited by Dann and his wife Janeen Webb. First published in Australia in 1998, and republished in the U.S. in 2002, it established international names for a generation of Antipodean SF and fantasy writers.

This sequel hits worldwide English-language markets all at once. Which means as you wallow in the dread of Lee Battersby’s “In From the Snow,” belly-laugh at Janeen Webb’s “Paradise Design’d,” and puzzle over time squandered on Rosaleen Love’s “Riding the Q-Ball,” speculative fiction readers worldwide will be doing the same.

The introductory content of this book highly worships “Dangerous Visions,” Harlan Ellison’s 1967 anthology that threw wide the doors of science fiction, which at the time was a very conservative genre. Dann plainly wants to accomplish the

same goal, with a generous dose of G’day in the mix.

This volume draws the borders wider than Ellison did. This is perhaps not surprising, since speculative fiction is a much wider market than it was forty years ago. Dann includes plenty of fantasy and horror, but virtually no hard science fiction.

Sadly, some stories confirm my own persistent frustration with short stories. Adam Browne’s “Neverland Blues” is merely cute without ever deciding where it’s going. Rjurik Davidson’s “Twilight in Caeli-Amur” has a wonderful concept in search of a proper story.

Cecily Scutt, in her afterword to “Europa,” admits that she’s written the idea for a novel which she’ll pen later. How about, rather than telling us what you’re going to do, you just do it? Rowena Cory Daniells’ “Purgatory” has a promising concept but is so choppy that the first-person narrator dies two thirds of the way through the story.

“Grimes and the Gaijin Daimyo” by Australia’s semi-legendary Golden Age icon A. Bertram Chandler left me scratching my head. It was beautifully written, with intriguing characters and a smart situation. But the conclusion was so

obvious from the beginning that I felt I could have written this same story.

I had much the same problem with Trudi Canavan’s “The Lost Property Room.” I just felt like it was playing to an inevitable end.

Yet when these authors succeed, they do so in such a spectacular way that it outweighs the dud tales. Perhaps, if magazine and anthology editors in America held writers to the standards of the successful stories in this collection, they can breathe life back into the short story market.

Peter M. Ball’s “The Last Great House of Isla Tortuga” blends pirate gothic with zombie horror. This is what the “Pirates of the Caribbean” sequels should have been if they’d been good. It really fills me with sensual Lovecraftian creeping dread, but ends with a real sense of hope.

“Trolls’ Night Out,” by Jenny Blackford, applies cunning scientific reason to the beasts living under bridges. By mixing monsters, magic, and methodology, it brings together all the good traits of the genres lumped together as “speculative fiction.”

Some of the stories use mythic folk tropes in new ways, with mixed results. Angela

Slatter’s “The Jacaranda Wife,” loosely based on Aborigine myth, and Aaron Sterns’ ghost story “The Rest is Silence,” really made me look at the items of ordinary life in new ways.

But Richard Harland’s mummy movie knockoff, “A Guided Tour in the Kingdom of the Dead,” and Russell Blackford’s faux Irish fairy tale “Manannan’s Children,” both left me cold. Both had a paint-by-numbers feel, as though the authors felt themselves hostage to their plots.

It’s at horror that this collection most excels. Perhaps it’s something in Australian history: wild people in a wild land. Whatever it is, when these authors want, they really have the power to make me squirm.

Jason Nahrung’s “Smoking, Waiting for the Dawn” is a vampire story, but eschews the glam gothic of Bram Stoker or Stephanie Meyers. Instead it presents a bleak and blighted land with industrial-grade monster clearance performed by backstabbing characters lifted whole from Sergio Leone’s visions of an apocalyptic West. Evil never looked like such a good choice.

Margo Lanagan’s technologically blighted future, “The

Fifth Star in the Southern Cross,” is the closest this collection gets to hard sci-fi, but there’s no mistake that this is a horror story. Ben Francisco and Chris Lynch, in “This is My Blood,” blend religion and science fiction to sterling horrific effect without diminishing either the science or the religion.

And while I don’t rattle easily while reading, Kim Westwood’s “Nightship” had me quivering. Its vision of bare-knuckle survival in a global-warming ruin of Earth presents a future so bleak, yet so persuasive, that it’s easy to fear we’ll actually live in this world someday.

Space forbids me to write a laundry list of stories. The tales that succeed flourish brilliantly, while the ones which fail do so with aplomb. In fact, the failures are almost worth as much money as the successes, since it’s rare these days for writers to have the courage to truly suck.

Far from perfect, this anthology is still leagues better than most of the competition. Whether you’re a seasoned speculative fiction reader, a dabbler, or a shopper looking for authors to follow, “Dreaming Again” promises to be everything you need in a current anthology.

UNK Alumni Association builds connections between grads

BY AMANDA BAILLIE
Antelope Staff

The time that every senior has waited for is just around the corner, graduation. Now what?

It’s part of Michelle Widger’s job as assistant director of the Alumni Association to be available to help graduates headed out to find their first job.

Widger said, “If there was one piece of advice that I could give graduating seniors it would be stay connected. Staying in touch with those you already know may come in handy down the road. You never know when the relationships that you’ve built throughout your college life might present an opportunity for success in your career future.”

The UNK Alumni Association is one organization that encourages graduating seniors and UNK alumni to get and stay connected to other alumni in the career field.

This organization, free and available to all graduates, offers benefits through membership.

These benefits include a newsletter, UNK Today, which is sent out twice a year to alumni keeping them in touch with their alma mater. In the newsletter a Class Notes section allows you to keep your fellow alumni informed about where you are and what you are doing.

Other benefits include discounts at the Antelope Bookstore and AAA membership savings.

As a member of the UNK Alumni Association, you also receive a service called UNet-

work. This service helps graduates feel confident about life after college preparing graduates for the challenges of relocating and starting new careers.

And in case you’re not ready to give up all the fun activities that UNK provides, the UNK Alumni Association has access to Loper Links, a program that allows you to support your alma mater by assisting in UNK events in your community.

In addition, through your UNK connection you are never too far from the association, which has over 20 active alumni clubs across the nation so you can always stay involved.

So, how do you get involved in this organization? It’s simple. Every year around graduation time, the UNK Alumni Association puts on an activity called “Operation Graduation.” This free event introduces graduating seniors to the UNK Alumni Association. It provides a tour of the alumni house, free food and door prizes. This event gives graduating seniors an inside look into what a typical alumni gathering is like.

“We usually see a pretty big turn out for this event. Around 35 to 50 students attend and get involved with the Alumni Association,” Widger said.

The “Operation Graduation” spring event is scheduled for April 23, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Alumni House.

For more information contact Assistant Director Michelle Widger at the UNK Alumni Association, (308) 865-8474 or at mwidger@nufoundation.org.

International students share their countries’ holiday traditions

BY JENNY GIERHAN
Antelope Staff

UNK students are getting really excited for winter break. Americans celebrate Christmas by exchanging gifts and New Year’s Eve by counting down and watching the ball drop, but what about the international students? Three different country’s holidays and traditions are represented by UNK international students.

JAPAN

Yusuke Yamasara, an exercise science major from Japan, spends the holidays with friends.

“I celebrate the same holidays in Japan as Americans do. We have Christmas and New Year’s.”

He said both holidays are meant to be fun for all while enjoying time together. During the Christmas holidays, Yamasara said they eat special cakes, sushi and European style food.

New Year’s in Japan, consists of many families coming together for a nice traditional meal.

“We usually eat osechi. It has many different foods on the plate such as lobster and vegetables,” Yamasara said.

This year he plans to ring in the New Year in Kearney with friends, which make up for not being with his family, Yamasara said.

“I will probably be going out to the bars to celebrate,” Yamasara said.

CHINA

So what are the holidays like for the Chinese? Shuyao Yang, a junior accounting major from China said the holidays in her home country are centered on friends, family and food. She said that Dec. 31 is just like the American Christmas.

“It’s different in China though because in America during Christmas the streets are empty and shops are closed.

In China, everyone goes out on the streets to shop. The stores back home are open much longer,” Yang said.

Dec. 31 is similar to the American Christmas because older members of the family give presents to the younger members of the family. It is a one-way street with gift giving because only the children receive presents. It doesn’t matter how old you are in China, you are still considered a child.

In America it is tradition to have ham on Christmas and turkey on Thanksgiving, but in China, the traditional food is dumpling.

“On Dec. 31 it is tradition to travel to the father’s mother to say Happy New Year. All the young people play cards while the elders play mah jong. At night when it’s pitch black, there are fireworks,” Yang said.

The Chinese invented fireworks so the displays are very extravagant and loud. “You can’t hear one another speak the firework shows are so loud,” Yang said.

Americans sometimes get in a bind deciding which side of the family to visit for the holidays. Some families are able to take turns and sometimes it causes problems with families. In China, it is the general rule that the mother’s mother will be visited on Jan. 1 or 2 and the father’s mother on Dec. 31.

TAJIKISTAN

“This holiday break I will be celebrating Tajikistan’s Independence Day,” said Azim Hojaev, a freshman international studies major from Tajikistan.

Dec. 9 marks Tajikistan’s independence from Russia in 1991. There was no war or fighting for their independence; independence resulted from the fall of the Soviet Union. Hojaev said Russia’s control was good in the eyes of some and bad in the eyes of others. He said he thinks Russia’s control was kind of bad because no one could practice any religion.

“It’s always a good thing to have independence,” Hojaev said, “We celebrate by going out to restaurants for shish kabobs and then watch fireworks at night.”

Hojaev, the only student studying abroad from Tajikistan at UNK, said he can’t really celebrate Independence Day this year because he will be in Kearney.

Even though these students are from different countries, one thing is consistent, and that is who the time is spent with during the holidays. Family and friends make the holidays for all cultures.

“We usually eat osechi (during holidays). It has many different foods on the plate such as lobster and vegetables.”

*Yusuke Yamasara
Japan*

“In China, everyone goes out on the streets to shop. The stores back home are open much longer.”

*Shuyao Yang
China*

“We celebrate by going out to restaurants for shish kabobs and then watch fireworks at night.”

*Azim Hojaev
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Indoor track prepares for season-opener at Cushing

BY GARRETT RITONYA
Antelope Staff

The University of Nebraska at Kearney Indoor Track team begins their 2009 season on Friday, Dec. 12, when they host the UNK Pre-Holiday Open at Cushing Coliseum.

Leading UNK is Co-Head Coach Andy Meyer, entering his 7th season as the indoor track head coach. Joining Meyer on the staff as a co-head coach is Cross Country Head Coach Brady Bonsall. Bonsall was recently promoted to the position with a recommendation from Meyer.

The Lopers are looking to improve on a third place finish in the RMAC Championships last season by both the men's and women's teams. Returning for the women is seasoned veteran, senior hurdler Kelli Dring of Kearney. Last season Dring won three of the RMAC events, including the triple jump. She also had top five finishes in all of her other events.

"Last season we finished really strong with those third place finishes," Bonsall said. "We

graduated perhaps one of the best distance running groups in the history of the school, but we have plenty of upcoming talent to replace them."

While the men's side of the team is returning several key performers, the women are relying on a lot on their young talent. Bonsall said that while many of them may be freshmen, there are a few who have the potential to outperform their class rank and gather that much needed experience by the season's end.

Returning on the men's side is junior thrower Dane Tobey of Waco. Tobey returns this season after suffering a season-ending injury to his knee. He was tabbed by the RMAC as one of their top selections for their Preseason All-Conference team. Prior to that, Tobey was one of the top performers on the UNK squad, as well as among the leaders in the RMAC in throwing the hammer.

"We are excited to have (Dane) Tobey returning to the team this season," Bonsall said. "He adds experience to a relatively young squad."



The Lopers compete in several indoor track events this season, roughly four per month ending in February with the RMAC Championships and hopefully moving on to March when the NCAA Championships are held in Houston. UNK hosts three events this season, the first coming up on Friday.

"Cushing is a great atmosphere for our track team during competitions," Bonsall said. "It gets so loud in there, so we love every bit of support we can

Photos by Kevin Whetstone
ABOVE: UNK sophomore EJ Gannon of Kearney warms up before taking on the hurdles during indoor track practice Monday afternoon. The Lopers open the 2008-2009 season Friday with the UNK Pre-Holiday Open at Cushing Coliseum.

get from our fans as we look to get the season started and get our athletes qualified for the NCAAAs."



Sophomore Jessie Golden of Sidney jumps over hurdles during the Loper track team practice Monday afternoon. Both the men's and women's indoor teams placed third in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference last season.

Walkowiak named All-American

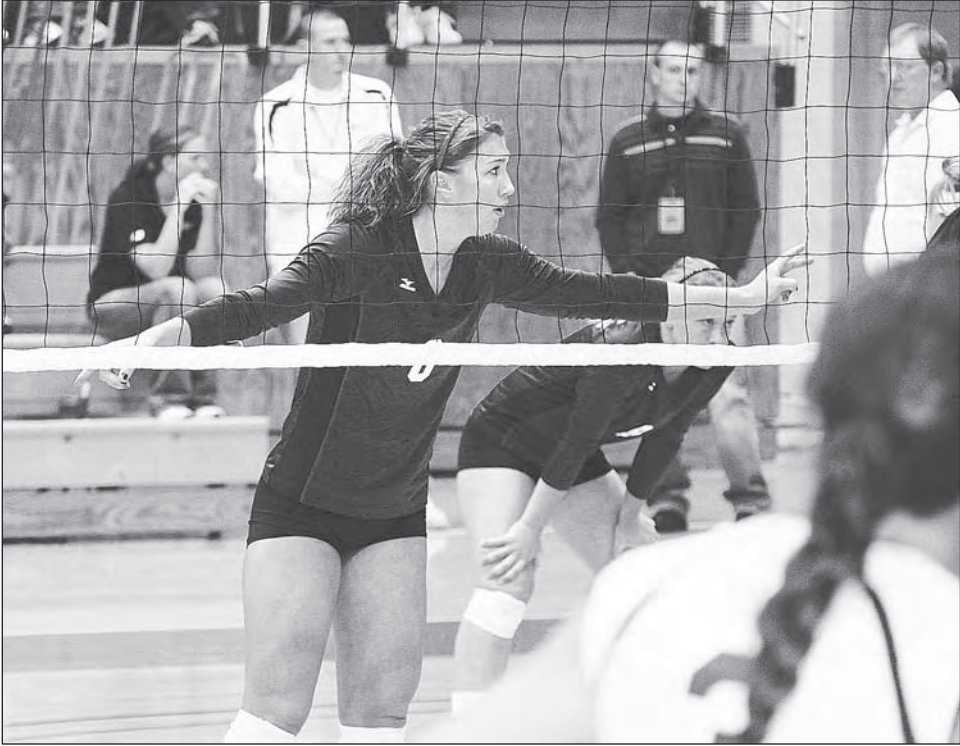


Photo by Sara Quisenberry

Jeri Walkowiak, a sophomore middle hitter from Grand Island, was recently named a first-team All-American by the American Volleyball Coaches Association. Walkowiak was also named to the Daktronics All-American third team. Walkowiak averaged 3.27 kills and .84 blocks per game for the Lopers this season. She also hit .335 and led UNK to a 32-4 record.

Aqualopers fare well at UNO

BY JEFF KONCABA
Antelope Staff

The UNK Aqualopers showcased more of their skills and made a splash at the Mutual of Omaha Invite Dec. 5-6 in Omaha.

The team finished in third place with a total of 455 points behind University of Nebraska-Omaha who finished first and University of Colorado-Boulder who finished in second place.

After the first day of competition, the Aqualopers were in third place behind UNO who had a commanding lead of 629 points.

Teresa Osmanski said she was excited for her team to be able to compete more at this event instead of being restricted to fewer competitions.

The UNK swimmers and divers placed third behind UNO and Colorado. Sophomore Kari Weihl of Omaha led the Lopers by scoring 63 team points.

"At UNO the girls were able to compete in more competitions as individuals, and the divers got to dive 11 times instead of only six," Osmanski said.

Some of the bright spots for the team were in the 100 yard butterfly where two Aqualopers placed high. Mandi Scheerer placed fifth, and teammate Heather Glodt placed sixth, earning the team 37 points combined.

Another team of individuals that scored well was the 400-yard medley relay that placed fourth earning 40 points for the effort.

On day two, Kari Weihl, a

sophomore from Omaha, had a good day finishing third in the 1000 yard freestyle scoring 21 points for the team.

Coach Osmanski said she is happy with where the team is right now individually and also as a whole.

"I am happy with the progress we are making as far as individual times and team times," Osmanski said. "I think we are where we need to be at this point in the season."

The team will be in action Jan. 16-17 at Grinnell Invite and is looking to keep making progress toward their goal of winning the RMAC.

Coaches speak at Loper Luncheon

BY JONATHAN CANNON
Antelope Staff

The UNK Athletic department presented the winter sports programs at the Loper Luncheon on Dec. 4.

Carol Russell, head coach of the UNK Women's Basketball Team, Tom Kropp co-head coach of the UNK Men's Basketball Team and Marc Bauer head coach of the UNK Wrestling Team, as well as head boys and girl's basketball coaches and head wrestling coaches from Kearney High and Kearney Catholic were also in atten-

dance.

Each coach spoke to the guests in attendance about the current progress of their teams, as well as reviewing and previewing previous and future contests.

This luncheon was also a time for coaches to give recognition to their athletes for outstanding achievements both academically and athletically.

All programs seem to share the same goals and purposes. While some teams may be doing better than others, this is a time for faculty, staff and the addition of the UNK student body to get an inside scoop on teams and enjoy lunch catered by Runza. This event costs \$5, but UNK students you receive a special rate of \$3.

Coach Carol Russell said that it was very important for

her to speak at the luncheon for season ticket holders as well as students and others who attend this event to hear a personal side of the athletes representing each of their programs.

Russel said she also felt that this luncheon should be more advertised to the UNK student body because a huge audience for campus sports teams as well as at the high school level is the players' peers.

The UNK Athletic Department will have the Loper Luncheon every other Thursday from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., and it will take place in the upper part of the Health and Sports Center. The next Loper Luncheon is Jan. 15. Students are strongly encouraged to attend this event to help support our winter athletic teams.

BY CALLIE ERICKSON
Antelope Staff

Whether it is football or golf, basketball or swimming, all University of Nebraska-Kearney student athletes are given the opportunity to tune up their abilities yet another notch with the strength and conditioning program offered to collegiate participants.

Located in the lower level of the Health and Sports Center, this facility is equipped with numerous machines and free weights to keep Loper athletes in tip-top shape.

A typical session consists of a warm-up, agility and plyometrics exercises and a lifting workout. The strength coaches create each sport's individual schedule based on the movements and muscles utilized most while performing their skills during practice and competition.

Sir Keevin Hardiman, a senior exercise science major from Long Beach, Cal., is a volunteer assistant strength and condition-

ing coach. Hardiman commits about five hours a couple days a week to his tasks in the weight room.

"I like helping develop the younger athletes and see the improvements they make over the course of the season," Hardiman said. "The hands on experience I gain from designing programs and coaching skills are some of the many things I enjoy about being in the weight room."

Hardiman's desire to work with athletic teams may be in part to his experience and involvement in UNK athletics himself. As a former football athlete, Hardiman came to UNK as a business major.

"I think being a former athlete helped influence my decision on choosing my current major," Hardiman said. "Before, as a business major, I really did not enjoy what I was doing. I knew I wanted to do something that would help others in life."

Other exercise science majors may choose to do an internship in the weight room, or, if in-

ternship credit is full, a volunteer strength coach. Head strength coach Jon Larsen and his crew of interns and volunteers make it a point to cover the basis of strength and conditioning programs for UNK athletes.

After completion of his degree, Hardiman's dream job is to design and teach sports enhancement programs at a youth sports performance gym.

"Because of the challenge the 'cleans' lift brings, that lifting technique has to be my favorite to teach," Hardiman said. "It is a complicated lift that some people fear to attempt."

The enjoyment he gets from teaching complicated lifts might explain why teaching a biceps and triceps lift is one he doesn't prefer.

"I like complicated lifts, Bi's and Tri's are just too simple of a lift," Hardiman said.

A team of their own, the strength and conditioning coaches make sure that UNK athletes are strengthening their way to nothing but perfection.

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Men’s basketball co-head coaches share same philosophy, goal: be prepared to win

BY JEFF KONCABA
Antelope Staff

The UNK Men’s Basketball Team has what most teams do not, two head coaches. It may seem this would be a hassle and hard to manage a team with two leaders guiding, but in many ways it is better for the coaches and the team.

Co-head coach Kevin Lofton is starting his 13th year alongside Tom Kropp, who is starting his 28th year of coaching at UNK.

While analyzing the theory of co-head coaches, many people will look at it and think that it would be too complicated to

work effectively, but coaches Lofton and Kropp beg to differ.

“We have been doing the same thing for years, and taking the same philosophy into each season, so when you look at it, nothing has changed except our title,” Lofton said.

Coach Lofton, who has been co-head coach for four years, works with the defense while coach Kropp has the offense.

This is used as a partnership, and the coaches work together to help both sides of the ball.

“The co-head coach title is misleading, because we both wear different hats, we both build on things together and we both work together to get the very best we can out of our

kids,” Lofton said.

Since both coaches are helping each other, it keeps them on track and on the same page. Kropp thinks their philosophy of the program is what keeps their teams working hard

“We take every kid that plays for us and get every ounce of energy out of them in order to get the best performance,” Kropp said. “We have the same expectations for every kid: we ask that they are hard nosed, unselfish, they have a great work ethic and they are always fundamentally sound. This is our philosophy, and it has worked of the last 12 years so we aren’t changing a thing.”

Kropp also likes having the

co-head coach system because it’s something that everyone can benefit from.

“We look at it as more of a benefit with two coaches working together and helping the team get prepared to win,” he said. “It is a mutual thing and it works out great.”

The team started last season 4-8, than reeled off 11 wins in the next 16 games to place second in the RMAC.

The Lopers are off to a slow start with a 2-4 record, but they are looking forward to conference play on Dec. 12 at Colorado State-Pueblo.

The Korth Awards



BY ERIC KORTH
College Football Columnist

Well folks, the time has come for me to finally graduate, which means that after two seasons of pretending to know everything about the world of college football my time has finally come to an end. I can’t think of a better way to end my tenure as the “College Football Columnist” than with a listing of awards, designed and voted on by none other than yours truly.

Many of the categories will be similar to the already established pattern, with certain awards going to the best players at their positions, but I’ve added a few new ones to the mix. Without further adieu, here are the 2008 recipients of the Korth Awards...

Mascot of the Year
The Oregon Duck

This was a tough category to pick, and though the Duck didn’t do anything outstanding this year, I have to give him the award because what happened last year when Oregon faced off against Houston. Needless to say, unless you want to get publicly humiliated, don’t mess with the Oregon Duck– He’ll bite back.

Game of the Year
Alabama vs. Florida – SEC Championship

Alabama’s stifling defense vs. Tebow and Florida’s high-powered offense was a battle between Titans, and though the Gators came out on top by 11, the game was back and forth until four minutes left in the fourth quarter.

Coach of the Year
Bo Pelini – Nebraska Cornhuskers

2007 – 5-7
2008 – 8-4.... Need I say more?
In his first year, Pelini has put things on the right track, or so we can only hope.

Quarterback of the Year
Colt McCoy – Texas Longhorns

Harrell had 4,747 yards; Bradford had 48 touchdowns, so what? Colt McCoy completed 77.6 percent of his passes this season, which shatters Daunte Culpepper’s record of 73.6 set in 1998– a record that was previously set by NFL Hall of Famer, Steve Young. Yards and touchdowns are flashy and all, but it’s the consistency that makes a quarterback outstanding.

Running Back of the Year
MiQuale Lewis – Ball State Cardinals

It’s Saturday, Sept. 20, Ball State is undefeated after three games, but your star, and potential first-round draft pick, wide receiver Dante Love has just suffered a career-ending injury. What do you do? Well, the Cardinals turned around and handed the ball off to MiQuale Lewis, who rushed for 166 yards and four touchdowns that game. With their best player out for the season, Lewis carried his Cardinals to a 12-1 record, and a Jan. 6 bowl date with Tulsa.

Wide Receiver of the Year
Dez Bryant – Oklahoma State Cowboys

I bet you were all assuming Michael Crabtree, but with 19 less catches than Crabtree, Bryant average five more yards per catch (17.7) and ended with 200 more total yards (1313). Bryant ended the regular season with 18 touchdowns, tying him for second overall with Crabtree.

Offense of the Year
Oklahoma Sooners

It’s hard to deny a team who puts up 60+ points in five consecutive games, especially when three of the five games were against ranked opponents. Oklahoma tallied up a total of 7,307 yards of the course of the regular season and put up over 450 total yards against TCU, one of the best defenses in the nation.

Defense of the Year
USC Trojans

The USC defense is found in the top five in nearly every statistical defensive category I can think of, but the stat that stands out the most, especially in today’s pass heavy world of college football, is that USC gave up an average of 122 passing yards per game.

Player of the Year
Colt McCoy

McCoy is the heart and soul of the Texas Longhorns. Without his presence of the field, the Horns would not be 11-1 and looking at the possibility at a shared national championship– if Florida knocks off Oklahoma and the final voters fare in favor of Texas. As a matter of fact, with the leadership of McCoy, the Longhorns were one dropped interception away from being 13-0 and playing against Florida in the national title. Down 32-24, McCoy led the Horns 80 yards down the field and scored with 1:29 left in the game to go ahead 33-32 with the extra point. If Texas’ safety, Blake Gideon, didn’t drop Harrell’s pass, Texas would have escaped Lubbock with a win and would have had a smooth path to the national title, and McCoy’s comeback drive would have gone down in college football history.

freshman to FRESHMAN



Photos by Cody Riedel
Jess McHargue, a freshman at UNK, coaches his freshmen team at Kearney High School on Dec. 3. McHargue is an education major and a former Kearney High Bearcat Basketball player.

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Nebraskats performance floods Recital Hall

BY KAYLIE PERRY
Antelope Staff

The Nebraskats performed an assortment of Christmas and popular Broadway songs last Wednesday, and the Recital Hall was nearly full with both young and old eager to see the holiday performance.

“Seeing the Recital Hall practically full gave us a huge rush of confidence and adrenaline, and I think that really made the show,” said Jordan Peterson, a freshman musical theatre major from O’Neill.

Among the performed selections were: “Seize the Day” from the movie musical “Newsies,” “You’re the one that I Want” from the Broadway hit “Grease,” “Life is a Highway” by Rascal Flatts, “All I Want for Christmas is You” and “You’re a Mean One, Mr. Grinch.”

“Nebraskats is so much fun, and there is awesome chemistry between all of us. We have all become friends and I think it makes our performances so much better,” Peterson said.

Members of the audience at the concert agreed.

“This is the first time that I have ever attended one of the Nebraskats’ performances, and after seeing tonight’s performance, I will definitely go to more,” said Dee Thrush, a freshman athletic training major from Burns, Wyo.

The Nebraskats, directed by Dr. Andrew White, a professor of the Department of Music and Performing Arts, is made of 14 members who were chosen based on a competitive audition in the spring.

The group was founded in 1967, which makes the Nebraskats the oldest college-level

show choir currently performing in Nebraska. Their performances feature a combination of song and dance to musical selections of various genres and eras, ranging from Broadway show tunes to medleys by popular composers. The Nebraskats also travel to different towns in Nebraska to perform.

The 14 members of the Nebraskats are: Rudi Sup of Albion, Alex Ritter of Columbus, Blake Thompson of Dalton, Maggie Sass of Firth, Michelle Conley of Grand Island, Patrick York of Grand Island, Phillip Zuehlke of Grand Island, Clifford Hollman of Kearney, Tray Henricksen of Kearney, Sadie Lubeck of Lincoln, Darci Boyer of Mullen, Jordan Peterson of O’Neill, Taylor Fahey of Ord, and Shawna Beeler of Woodland Park, Colo.



Photo by Sapana Upadhyay
The Nebraskats perform a Christmas song at the winter concert in the Fine Arts Recital Hall. Michelle Conley, Shawna Beeler, Darci Boyer and Sadie Lubeck organized the program. Several Christmas and popular Broadway songs were included in the performance.

Photos of the week

Photo by Mandy Brabec
RIGHT: Chris Meyer, a freshman business administration major from Elwood helps Aaron Johnson bowl at Buddy Bowling.



Photo by A Sanam Bhaila
RIGHT: For the first time at UNK, the international organizations ISA, JAK, CSSA and NESAK organized a garage sale on Dec. 7 from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. in the Health and Sports Center. More than 100 students bought items from the garage sale.



Photo by Josh Moody
LEFT: Justin Thorman, a graduate student with a criminal justice degree from Gothenburg, was among the UNK students participating in a glass blowing demonstration from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 8, held in Otto Olsen and hosted by the UNK Glass Club. Here Thorman heats glass as he constructs a vase. Thorman, who has been involved with glassblowing for three semesters, said that the creation process takes up to an hour and a half from beginning to end. The demonstration was followed by a sale with benefits supporting the UNK Glass Club.



Photo by Sapana Upadhyay
LEFT: Dr. Roger Davis, an adviser and professor in the history department, checks collected canned food. Phi Alpha Theta, the history honorary society, is sponsoring a canned food drive through Dec. 17. Drop-off boxes for the food drive are available on the main floor of Copeland Hall, at the office of Academic Success in Memorial Hall and in the Student Union.

Photo by Sean Takahashi
RIGHT: Daisuke Yamaguchi, a freshman studio art major from Ehime, Japan (left), and J.P. Tapia, a freshman computer science major from McCook (right), perform a flute duet during the Flute Studio Parlor Performance at the Frank House on Dec. 6.



Photo by Sean Takahashi
ABOVE: Anthony Ford, a sophomore music business major from Southfield, Mich., plays a solo at the UNK Jazz Rock Concert on Dec. 6 in the Fine Arts Recital Hall.