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#snowmageddon 2016 hits Kearney

Courtesy

On Feb. 2, UNK alumna Ashton Jackson posted this photo of her garage door to the Facebook page "Nebraska through the lens," where it quickly went viral.

"The door was repeatedly coming open from the force of the wind and snow behind it," Jackson said. Winds during winter storm Kayla gusted up to 50 miles per hour. "We had to use a weight lifting set to prop against the door to keep it closed," she said.

The photo earned nearly 9,000 likes on the Facebook page and made an appearance on CNN national news as well.

Students seek eagles

For field experience and to apply concepts from class, an ornithology class observes bald eagles in Lexington

RACHAEL FANGMEIER

Antelope Staff

On Thursday, Jan. 29, the UNK ornithology class of 23 students, instructed by Dr. Letitia Reichart, associate biology professor traveled to the Johnson #2 (J-2) Hydro Power Plant along the Platte River south of Lexington with a special mission. The objective? To observe the bald eagles in the area.

Reichart said this is an ideal trip for beginning birders. Bald eagles are large birds, easy to spot and magnificent to watch. Even though the class had to leave Bruner Hall early in the morning, the educational experience was well worth it.

Bruning senior Sara Bulin, a biology comprehensive with general emphasis and pre-veterinary medicine program major, took part in this trip. She said the birds like roosting in this area because they like to eat the fish that come into the creek behind the power plant.

The birds do not nest in the area, only feed. The bald eagles can be found at this location daily because the food source is reliable. Reichart said that bald eagles are scavengers and like to eat fish that die due to drastic pressure changes or the plant's turbines. Since the plant runs year round, the water does not freeze over, making their food easy to acquire.

To spot the bald eagles, the class stood inside the power plant looking out windows with binoculars.

"Personally, I was able to spot 21 total bald eagles: 18 adults and three juveniles. You can tell the difference



Courtesv

Ornithology students traveled to Lexington to observe bald eagles at a local power plant. An eagle sits on a branch in this photo taken through a student's lens.

between adults and juveniles by looking at their feathers," Bulin said. "The adults will have white feathers on their head as well as their tails, the rest will be dark brown. The juveniles are mostly brown with a few white feathers to speckle their body."

Reichart, an experienced birder, was able

I was dreading when my family would ask, 'So, how'd you two meet?'

The Tinder taboo



ALYSSA SOBOTKA Asst. Copy Editor

Swipe left. Swipe right. Congratulations, it's a match! These phrases may be common to students

around campus, but whether or not they are willing to admit it is another matter entirely.

The mobile dating app Tinder asks users to create a profile with a short bio and up to six photos of themselves.

The user's location is known, allowing the app to find potential matches within a reasonable distance. Users may also specify an age range and gender preference for the app to further filter potential matches.

The app was launched in 2012 and has been downloaded mostly by younger generations. One study conducted by Statista found that 41 percent of Tinder users are individuals between 25 and 34, while 39 percent are between ages 16 and 24.

Adults of a non-digital native age do not seem to comprehend this trend, as younger adults typically have more opportunities for engagement in traditional social environments.

In addition, the app has been notoriously criticized as a site that promotes and makes "hooking up" easy.

While it is undeniable this is a common practice among users, this negative view creates a social stigma that distorts and negates the reality.

The reality? Not everyone who chooses to use Tinder is hopeful for a

EAGLES, PAGE 11 TINDER, PAGE 11

Euthanasia: punishment or mercy?

Controversial view of assisted suicide is a global conversation



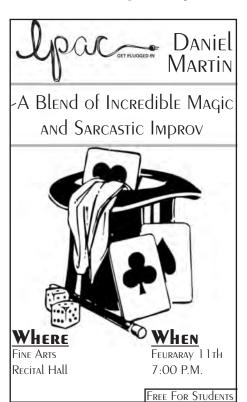
ANTHONY HUNKE Antelope Staff

week, Last discussed euthanasia and assisted suicide. That discussion may have flared some

resentment, but look at the following

I am sure many of us are familiar with the case of Brittany Maynard. In 2014, she caught national interest by publicly announcing her decision to end her own life. At only 29 years of age, Maynard was given a death sentence of brain cancer.

With only a few months to live, no hope for a cure and extreme pain to be her only companion, she opted for a peaceful end. However, since California does not have a law permitting assisted



suicide, the severely ill Mrs. Maynard had to travel over 600 miles to Oregon to complete her assisted suicide journey.

Maynard was terminal, but what about other circumstances where that is not the case? The Huffington Post (2013) did a story on twin brothers from Belgium who opted for euthanasia. Recall that, in Belgium, assisted suicide is legal. The twins were both deaf, but a worse fate befell them when they began to go blind as well. Distraught at the idea of not being able to see or hear one another, both made the decision to journey to the afterlife together.

They conducted this act in a country where it is legal, but what if that had happened in America? Would we be as understanding? Why should assisted suicide be limited to the terminally ill?

I cannot stress enough that with this scenario, it is our body and our life, and to not have the final say in what we do with them seems like a direct violation of the democratic system in which we

Another interesting example: In March 2015, a woman named Laura decided she wanted to end her own life in Belgium. However, this was neither a terminal illness case nor a scenario where she could not go on without a loved one. Rather, and just as significant to analyze, Laura wished to end her suffering of depression and anxiety.

At only 24, Laura was healthy, physically speaking. However, even as a child, she had always said, "Life, that's not for me." Even if assisted suicide were made legal by the majority, would it only extend toward terminally ill patients? Or could it envelope a series of other scenarios?

The biggest opposition to this concept is religion and the church. Do not misunderstand my intentions; I am not doing this to contradict any religious affiliation, nor am I trying to sway you from it.

However, I do believe that assisted suicide should remain beyond religion's grasp. How is it murder when the patient desires an end? How is it murder when relieving suffering is more of a mercy? The Church has placed such a heavy stigma on suicide of any capacity.

I really want you to think on this. Imagine a person who had committed themselves to helping others, to doing the right thing, following the law and such, and one day realized that there was an emptiness inside them. They could not explain it, but no matter what, it could not be filled.



6 6 I cannot stress enough that with this scenario, it is our body and our life, and to not have the final say in what we do with them seems like a direct violation of the democratic system in which we live."

Anthony Hunke

In the end, feeling life was devoid of meaning, they sought an end.

Would this person be condemned to Hell (or other religious comparatives), as many religions would dictate? Remember Robin Williams? This comical legend suffered from his own demons to the point of severing his material existence.

Do you think God turned him away when he got to St. Peter's gates? If so, he probably told a joke and snuck in while God was distracted.

Look around at the ecosystem enveloping us. Like any living system, it strives for balance. This equilibrium is found by managing the resources and the members of the community. In other words, there cannot be too many members present to exhaust the limited resources, including food, shelter, etc. It is a proven statistic that the Earth is

highly overpopulated the way it is.

Unfortunately, each plague, national disaster and other circumstance that result in a loss of life are balancing factors. If these events did not occur, we would be overcrowded to the point where we would be dying on top of one another. We would exhaust our food reserves, run out of clean water, expand all of our fuels and oils and our atmosphere would be completely intoxicated. The list goes on and on. It may be cruel to say, but if a person wants to voluntarily remove themselves, what right do we have to stop them?

"Many have called suicide a coward's act. I do not believe that is true. It takes tremendous courage." This line is from the movie "Cloud Atlas." I feel this quote is extremely powerful because it is an attempt to tear down the negativity associated with suicide.

Negativity stems from the loved ones of the victim. They feel the effects of the premature death, and many call it selfish for that reason. But, who is really the selfish one here? Is the victim selfish because they decided to stop suffering? Or is the family selfish for wanting their loved one to endure the suffering simply because they do not want to let go?

I am familiar with death. I have seen my share of loved ones on their death bed, or close to it. While my love and connection to them was blinding. I realized it would be better for them to reach an end of suffering. After all, that is the main thing people say after a death: "At least they are no longer in pain."

See citations online

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Share your opinion on this topic with us by leaving a comment on unkantelope. com or send us an e-mail at antelopenews@unk.edu.

Ready or not, here it comes: Valentine's Day

Hixson offers 'words to the wise' for surviving the holiday of hearts when Cupid's arrow misses its target



KORI HIXSON Antelope Staff

It's quickly approaching. The teddy chocolate and painfully cliché cards have been lining aisles

January. You can smell the annoyance in the air, the anxiety of deciding what to get for significant others, and the complete avoidance and refusal to acknowledge Valentine's Day from those of us who are single when this holiday rolls around.

Now, I don't want to come across as a love-hater, couple-mocker or any other name you can come up with for an increasingly bitter single girl in her twenties, but the realm of Valentine's Day is quite different for us single individuals.

THROUGH THE YEARS

Growing up, I truly looked forward to Valentine's Day. Making boxes, picking out the best candy and saving the coolest valentines for your best friends and "crushes." It was a time of year I was always looking forward to, wondering what notes friends might write or what kind of candy might end up in my box when I tore it apart after getting home from school.

Then we ventured to middle school. Things were different, as we all began to form "real" crushes on each other. Of course nothing was ever really done about these crushes, so we were all safe...for a

> Personally, I think it's important to not only tell those closest to us how much we love and appreciate them, but also show it to them with our actions, no matter the date on the calendar."

Ah, high school. I'm sure all high schools did things differently, but at my alma mater we had the option to buy flowers for friends, significant others and potential crushes. These were categorized with specific colors. A red carnation said, "I love you." A yellow carnation meant, "friends." I remember when I got a purple one, which meant "secret admirer," with a note that said, "You know who." I'm pretty positive I didn't receive a carnation from Voldemort, so it was just some shy guy in my high school, which now that I think about it - still remains a mystery.

in college. One who has had countless rewarding opportunities, wonderful friendships and lasting memories formed over the years. As much as I try to ignore my unwavering singleness, Valentine's Day is just the annual reminder I simply cannot

Looking back, I think I used to despise Valentine's Day. I saw it as a day filled with cliché, over the top gestures, which somehow acquired so much more significance on Feb. 14th. Personally, I think it's important to not only tell those closest to us how much we love and appreciate them, but also show it to them with our actions, no matter the date on the calendar.

ON THE OTHER SIDE

But where does that leave those of us without a significant other? It's easy to think that you'll never find "the one," or it's entirely hopeless to make connections from the withering pool of people you seem to encounter, but it is vital to remember that you're not the only single person. As much as you might not like to admit, it could be so much worse.

Think about it for a quick minute. You more than likely have a select group of friends and family who support you through thick and thin. Call them what you may - your crew, group, squad. Chances

And now I find myself a senior are they love you regardless of your relationship status.

WORD TO THE WISE

One thing I have learned over the years is that there is so much more to someone beyond their relationship status. I'm not sure why or how this little seed became planted in our heads that we "need" to be in a relationship, but it's there and we have to work through it.

Another piece of wisdom which has carried me through my 21 years of singleness is knowing I have gained such a good concept of who I am as an individual. I would be nothing without my friends and family who are always there. Being on my own has given me a sense of independence, responsibility and self-awareness in all of life's crazy scenarios.

So, whether you have a girlfriend, boyfriend or potential flame on the horizon, I challenge you to make sure those around you know just how much you love them, and as cliché as it may be, don't forget to love yourself. You are who you are for a reason, don't be afraid to take pride in that. Whether you are taking the night on with your best gal pals, having a bros' night in a basement, or enjoying a candlelit dinner with your eternal flame, I hope that your day is filled with love and great appreciation for not only those special people in your life, but also for yourself.

the antelope 2016 spring staff

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Valentine's Day is more than flowers, chocolates

"Of course Valentine's Day is a couples' holiday, but it is also a time for us to celebrate everyone in our lives that we care for," Dunbar says



KIRSTY DUNBARAntelope Staff

Before I graduated from high school, my family used to live on a small farm in the Sandhills. I loved

exploring our 100-year-old barns and the acre of woods behind our house.

One day while I was looking through one of the barns, I gathered my courage and went up a termite-riddled ladder to the loft. I was excited to finally see what was up there, but was disappointed to find that there was just an old heater, a bunch of bird poop and a small box in the middle of the floor.

Not wanting to miss anything, I carefully maneuvered around the piles of poop and missing floorboards toward the box. Inside I found an old notebook my mom had used in college and stacks of cards that my parents had written to each other before they were married.

Since I am pretty snoopy, I looked through everything, even the cards covered in poop. I began to realize that I had only seen one side of my parents. I had never thought of them as a couple, just as my mom and dad.

The letters showed me that they were very much in love. After reading through all of them, I dreamed of someday having the same kind of relationship that they did.

My parents have been married for over 43 years now. My dad constantly brings this up in conversation, and it is easy to see that he is proud.

I am now the same age my dad was when he and mom were married, and because I'm single, I've been having trouble

looking forward to Valentine's Day. I know, however, that I have been looking at it wrong for a long time now.

Of course Valentine's Day is a couples' holiday, but it is also a time for us to celebrate everyone in our lives that we care for. Why not look toward the family and friends that have been there for us or the people who have put up with our bad moods and moments where we probably weren't the sharpest tool in the shed?

We don't have to show them through things, but instead simply spend some time with them or check up on them to see what's going on in their lives."

Kirsty Dunbar

More than anything, I think that it is a time to be thankful for everyone we love. We don't have to show them through things, but instead simply spend some time with them or check up on them to see what's going on in their lives.

I don't mean to bash presents on Valentine's Day either. They are a great way to show that you care. I'm just saying that they aren't the only way to show how you feel.

While I'm still waiting for Mr. Right, I don't want to let the fact that I haven't found him get me down. I plan to spend time with my friends and family this year, and that is what I'm looking forward to most on Valentine's Day. The discounted chocolate after the holiday is over, however, is a close second.



Photo by Nate Abegglen

ABOVE: "It's hard to believe that San Pedro has been established since 2004 in Kearney. Numerous restaurants have come and gone, and yet San Pedro has remained steadfast," Abegglen said. San Pedro Mexican Restaurant is located at 3907 Central Avenue.

San Pedro stands test of time as staple restaurant



NATE ABEGGLEN Antelope Staff

Before I started attending school at UNK, there was one thing that I knew about Kearney. This one thing

was a restaurant that can be found on 39th street. This restaurant was San Pedro. This food establishment won my heart with the first bite of the oh-so-wonderful cheese enchiladas. Yes, I know this isn't the most gourmet thing that you could think of from Mexican cuisine, but it lasted in my memory as the simple, delicious masterpiece that is San Pedro.

Then there is the staple of the Mexican cuisine restaurants. The delectable appetizer that's served in most Mexican restaurants. I don't even want to get started on the chips and salsa because that only drives me to an "unsatisfiable" hunger.

The salsa that San Pedro deploys is nothing short of a spectacle. It may come short for some of you who love to have burnt tongues from spice because it isn't all that spicy, but it does have enough to provide excellent flavor. Admittedly, there have been a few occasions where I ate so many chips and salsa, I wasn't even hungry when our food came.

It's hard to believe that San Pedro has been established since 2004 in Kearney. Numerous restaurants have come and gone, and yet San Pedro has remained steadfast. Not only that, but they have remained true to the same restaurant that I held so dear of late.

I find myself asking myself, how exactly did this happen? Why has San Pedro found so much success when many of its food counterparts have opened and closed? Of course they have excellent food; but could that be the only reason?

I could no longer take this conundrum and decided to get some insight from the source itself. I visited San Pedro and spoke with one of the owners. I asked San Pedro's owner, Berenice Bavo, to what did she contribute the restaurant's success.

Bavo said she contributed much of the success to the "friendly staff, the awesome

SAN PEDRO, PAGE 11

Campus issues addressed

Political science leads chat about campus climate, student protests nationwide

SHELBY CAMERON

Antelope Staff

Each participant at the Fireside Chat at the Nebraska Student Union Fireside Lounge Friday, Feb. 5 was provided a sheet listing a number of "demands" related to student protests made by universities across the nation. Many of these demands pushed for a change in attitude, behavior and standards amongst faculty, staff, administrators and students in regard to respect for individual needs.

More than 20 students and faculty members attended the monthly discussion about campus climate and student protests, led by Dr. Claude A. Louishomme, associate political science professor. The monthly chat is hosted by the political science department.

Louishomme started out asking participants about feelings and views regarding recent news on the spread of current student protests.

"There have been 76 student groups who have protested about change, and most have talked about greater inclusion for voices that have not been heard," Louishomme said, referring to the list of demands made from students to administrators from other universities.



Some recent issues discussed included the University of Missouri and the University of Oklahoma. At both schools, protests related to racial equality gained a lot of media attention. As the number of racial issues continues to spike, many universities have taken time to consider what they are doing so those situations do not occur on their campus.

Louishomme reflected on conditions these students were protesting under.

"This goes back to whether a university should be a business or an educational process and what factors into it," said Joan Blauwkamp, a political science professor.

Before ending the talk, Louishomme mentioned the Concerned Student 1950 group from the University of Missouri. This group had campaigned and protested a number of racial issues that have surrounded their school. Many students at universities have been pushing for meaningful representation of their student body in recent years.



Photos by Shelby Cameron

LEFT: Claude Louishomme, political science professor, led a talk that reached out to students and faculty member and focused on making campuses a well-rounded environment.

RIGHT: Headshot of professor Joan Blaukamp.



Catch "Antelope Speaks" and "Antelope Sports" LIVE with broadcasters Nick Stevenson and Andrew Hanson: Thursdays 7-9 p.m.

Ready for showtime

Austin Koeller airing KLPR sports talk show this semester

CHRISTIAN SCHWARZ

Antelope Staff

Austin Koeller, a Grand Island journalism major, will be doing a sports talk radio show as a requirement for the Sports Radio Workshop class, Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m.

This type of show is new to Koeller, who wrote news and features for The Antelope and UNK Communications and has also worked for Kearney Hub for almost a year.

The senior, one of 13 students in the 339 Sports Radio Workshop class, is no stranger to radio broadcasting.

"I had a radio show last semester where I played rock songs with a little bit of odd talk topics mixed in," Koeller said. He took requests and used social media to remind listeners he was on the air. Koeller said, "It was a fun opportunity to expose listeners in the Kearney area to music they may not hear on the radio since there isn't really a mainstream rock station in this area.

"I am very excited to get this sports show started."

As for his future in radio, Koeller is unsure, but he thinks sports broadcasting would be a fun field to get into – "but I also want to do something with news writing," he said. "I guess we shall see where life leads me."



"I am very excited to get this sports show started."

Austin Koeller

You can catch Koeller for his sports radio talk show every Wednesday from 6 to 7 p.m. The show will cover football and basketball, as well as other sports stories for each week.

Since there are not any home games this week, he will not be broadcasting any games, but do not forget to check out other shows on KLPR 91.1.

Major snow makes school a no-go

A rare event, UNK closed for two days after 10-18 inches of snow and even higher drifts

MOLLY ANSON

Antelope Staff

Kearney is still reeling from the 10-18 inches of snow that fell on Monday night and Tuesday. Campus was closed Tuesday and Wednesday due to the snowfall, as well as many area schools and businesses.

Thursday everyone was still trying to dig out, and life was just getting back to normal. Students spent their snow days in many ways but according to most students, catching up on their favorite Netflix shows was the main event of the day.



"The snow days were nice because I had a chance to catch up on school work. I spent a lot of time relaxing, reading and watching Netflix."

> - Nate Abegglen, Senior advertising and public relations major from Chadron



"The drifts were halfway up our windows. Some guys...started helping get a path scooped. I'm allergic to the cold, so my roommate built a snow fort outside the window so I could feel like I was outside."

> - Holly Green, Senior organizational and relational communications major from Grand Island



"I mostly took time to catch up on some Netflix shows and Hulu. I also did some homework and slept. It was a pretty lazy couple of days."

> Katee Daly, Senior journalism major from Tryon



"I stayed in my bed all day, watched movies and did one paper. I have never seen snow like this in my whole life."

> Daniela Gonzalez Amor, Junior advertising and public relations major from Manizales, Columbia



"I watched Disney movies all day with my roommate. And my cousin lives in the building next to me, so she came over too."

> - Ellen Laird, Junior journalism major from Cozad



Photos by Jessica Nichols

1) Paths through the drifts allowed students to get to Antelope Hall Tuesday night.

2) Snow removal was difficult on campus when the snow plows got stuck in drifts.

Photo by Shawnee McCook

3) The commuter lot by Martin was filled with piles of snow taller than six feet from resident parking.



Photos by Michaela McConnell

4) Hastings junior James Struss, a social work major, spent most of his snow day on Tuesday attempting sledding down the hills at Kearney High School.

5) Brian Calvin, a senior from McCook majoring in criminal justice lies exhausted in the snow after trudging through the 12-inch deep snow to retrieve a sled blown away by the strong winds.



6) Struss, Calvin and Craig Frerichs from Kearney work to get Calvin's truck unstuck from a snow drift on the road to Menards. On Tuesday, roads were so bad in some places that vehicles with four-wheel-drive, like Calvin's truck, were getting stuck. The City of Kearney worked throughout the day to clear the streets, but due to high winds and constant snow, drifts continued to grow during the day.





Everitt raises the bar

UNK track and field high jumper Emily Everitt takes a strong start to her career as a Loper

KATTIE SADD

Antelope Staff

A sophomore from O'Neill, Emily Everitt has found herself competing for more than just first place at her meets.

Sitting third in the MIAA indoor performance list, Everitt is just centimeters from automatically qualifying for the National Meet.

"Honestly the thought of competing at nationals never really crossed my mind until recently, but it is definitely a goal I have for myself," she said.

Everitt has placed first in the high jump at three of four meets she has competed in this year and is in a three -way tie for fifth on the Division II indoor performance list according to the Track and Field Results Reporting System.

Though she is used to jumping vertically, Everitt finds herself competing in the horizontal jumps as well as a long jumper.

"I want to improve my marks in both high jump and long jump," she said, "but I also want to work on my consistency on the runway for long jump."

After spending one year at UNO as a member of the Maverick's track and field team, Everitt finds Kearney to have a little bit more of the home-town feel.

"Kearney is a better fit for me because it is a smaller town as well as a smaller campus. I enjoy getting to know my classmates better and interact with my teachers on a more personal level," Everitt said.

Graduate assistant coach Dillon Schrodt has great communication with Everitt and finds her fitting in with the team with ease.

"Emily instantly fit in with the women in our sprints and jumps group. Through communication and trust, she's been able to adapt to coaching styles and is really beginning to flourish," Schrodt

About Everitt

Full name: Emily Ann Everitt

Age: 20

Height: 5'8.5"

Major: Biology with a health science

emphasis (Pre-Dental)

Hometown: 0'Neill

High school: O'Neill St. Mary's

Parents: Cameron and Jill Everitt

said.

As a student athlete with busy schedules, and a pretty heavy workload, Everitt also finds herself mastering the skill of time management—or at least trying to.

"Balancing school and track can be a major challenge at times. The key for me is to stay on top of all of my classes and not to get behind in studying."

As if she doesn't seem busy enough, Everitt also spends her Thursday mornings volunteering at Northeast Elementary School. "I really enjoy this time getting to know the students and assisting those who need a little extra help with math."

So what exactly does Everitt have in store for herself after she gets done competing at the collegiate level? She is simply relieved that she has more than a few seasons left to compete.

"I hope to go to dental school and become a dentist. I ultimately hope to move to a rural area, practice dentistry and raise my family. I would also like to volunteer coach in my free time, as I hope to stay very active in the world of track and field."



Courtesy

Sophomore high jumper Emily Everitt (O'Neill) clears the bar with ease at the UNK Holiday Invitational earlier this year. Everitt placed first at this meet.



the thought of competing at nationals never really crossed my

mind until recently, but it is definitely a goal I have for myself.

Emily Everitt

Upcoming nearby meets

Concordia University Invitational

• Seward, NE | 02.12.16 | 2:00 p.m.

Nebraska Tune Up

• Lincoln, NE | 02.19.16 | 12:15 p.m.

UNK Loper Invitational

• Kearney, NE | 04.16.16 | TBA



Courtesy

ABOVE: Junior Andrew Riddell spent two years at Dodge City Community College before transferring to UNK.

Photo by Sean Laughlin

RIGHT: Riddell pitches in intersquad scrimmage in preparation for the upcoming UNK baseball season. The elementary education major from Sydney, Australia, hopes to have a huge impact for the Lopers on the mound this spring.

ABOUT ANDREW:

Class: Junior

Major: Elementary education Hometown: Sydney, Australia

The University of Nebraska Kearney is proud to be home to so many foreign exchange students. It brings different cultures to campus that you usually cannot find in Kearney. One student from Sydney, Australia, is not a part of the exchange student program, but that does not mean he has not faced challenges of being from another country.

In his first year here at UNK, junior Andrew Riddell spent his first two years of college at Dodge City Community College in Kansas. Riddell is here on an athletic scholarship; he is a starting pitcher for the Loper baseball team.

[LOPER OF THE WEEK] -

Junior Andrew Riddell leaves home in Australia to pursue his dream of playing professional baseball in America

From the *Land Down Under* to Kearney, Nebraska

SEAN LAUGHLIN

JMC 315

Q: What was the process that brought you from Australia to America to play collegiate baseball?

A: I had just finished high school in Australia and I wanted to continue play, so I sent some e-mails to junior college coaches here with a video attached of me pitching in Australia. From there I had multiple coaches from different schools contact me. Then after taking a couple visits to Dodge City, along with some junior colleges in Texas, I decided that I liked the coaching staff of Dodge City. The fact that it was a small town led me to choose there.

Q: Most college students just leave their hometown for college, but you left your native country. What was that like?

A: It was pretty nerve-racking at the start. Being away from family and friends definitely takes a little bit to get used to. But I knew I wanted to keep playing, so it was a sacrifice I had to make.

Q: After your two years at Dodge City, what led you to becoming a Loper?

A: The environment and the people here are what stood out for me. The facilities for a Division II baseball program are unreal, and I liked the coaching staff a lot. So, everything put together was what I was looking for.

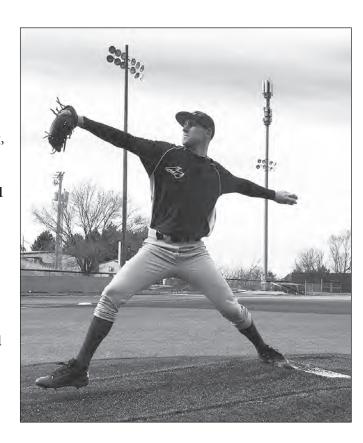
Q: Most athletes had a role model that inspired them to pursue a sport. Who was that for you?

A: I started playing baseball when I was about 14, which is pretty late. I started because of my dad, who played his whole life back in Australia. So, when he

decided to play another year, I decided to play and fell in love with it.

Q: I know you are an elementary education major, so what do you plan to do after you graduate?

A: Hopefully I can continue playing baseball over here. If that doesn't work out I will probably go back home and teach kindergarten back in Sydney and play in the professional league down there.



Lopers take UCM Mules in final 6 seconds

Photo by Jacob Rodriguez

CENTER: No. 31 sophomore Trey Lansman charges the basket and jumps towards the hoop for a perfect lay-up. Lansman, from Harlan, lowa, went on to score a whopping total of 22 points for the Lopers Saturday night.

RIGHT: Ethan Brozek, No. 32, shoots the ball over his opponent and makes a quick basket for the Lopers. The Lopers defeated the Mules in a close game by two points with the ending score being 57-55.

Catch the Lopers in action at home Feb. 18 against Lincoln University. Tip-off will be at 7:30 p.m.





It's elementary, Lopers are 'hit' in classroom



Photo by Sean Laughlin

Junior Easton Edmond, a sports marketing major from Lincoln, reads to two Meadowlark Elementary School kindergartners as a smile lights up the room. Coach Damon Day saw how students idolize the athletes and came up with the successful service project.

SEAN LAUGHLIN

Antelope Staff

The UNK baseball program would not be what it is today without the tremendous support from the Kearney community, and each week the Loper team gives back to the future of Kearney as a token of thanks.

Every Monday just past noon, a group of Loper baseball players goes to Meadowlark Elementary School to hang out with a first grade class and a kindergarten class.

In the first grade class, players usually spend the half hour playing a math game to help the students out with basic math skills.

The kindergarten class splits up the 30-minute session with an educational game for 15 minutes before the students pick books for the athletes to read to them.

"It started off as a social experiment with my son Cody John. I realized when he became of school age how much he listened and admired the baseball players and saw it as a great opportunity for my players to get involved with the community and impact the local kids," said UNK head baseball coach Damon Day.

Coach Day now has two kids at Meadowlark; Cody John is a first grader in Miss Vacek's class, and Emma is in Mrs. Fusby's kindergarten class.

The service to the community works. "The UNK baseball team is known throughout Meadowlark Elementary School and throughout the community. I get stopped at the grocery store; parents see me out and about, and they always compliment what the young men are doing in these classrooms," Day said.

The kids' faces always light up with joy when the players walk into their classes, which illustrates the impact they have on the young kids.

"The UNK baseball players are absolute rock stars in their eyes," Day said.

Even with the busy schedule the Lopers face this season in the MIAA Conference, the players will continue to visit Meadowlark throughout the spring semester.

TINDER from page 1-

one-night stand.

And I speak from experience, having inadvertently met my current boyfriend through the app.

While home over Easter vacation two years ago, I received a Facebook friend request from a stranger. This man and I had no mutual friends. The only thing I knew about him was that he was cute. Super cute.

After further checking out his Facebook profile, I learned that he was from a tiny town in South Dakota I had never heard of. After a quick Google Maps search, I discovered that he lived a reasonable distance from my northeastern hometown of O'Neill.

After accepting his request and inquiring if I had met him before, low and behold, I had matched on Tinder with his good friend.

Being the guys they are, they looked me up on Facebook and my boyfriend said to his friend: "Add her or I will."

Sure enough, my guy made good on his threat. We started talking and really hit things off with our shared sarcastic, sassy attitude.

When things got serious enough that my family was clued into the fact that I was seeing someone, they inevitably asked me the question I dreaded most: "So, how'd you two meet?"

The negative stigma society immediately places on Tinder made me uneasy and unsure how to answer their normal question. I could lie and say I met him through a mutual friend — and

to some, I did — or I could tell the truth and feel judged and shamed that I had not met in a traditional setting, but in a 'world reserved for hook-ups.'

While at this point, I could prove we were more than just a mere one-night stand, I did not believe my family would think it was a serious relationship that had any chance of surviving long.

There were only a select few in my family who knew the truth right off the bat, and it was only until recently, after hitting the one year mark with my boyfriend, that I began opening up about where he and I met.

It is not that I could not accept where we met, but rather the thoughts that would go through my family's head had they known we met on Tinder.

I am happier now that I have told my family how we met and do not feel as though I need to be apologetic about it anymore.

But that's the thing about Tinder; the experiences are as diverse as its users.

Whether users are looking for a onenight stand or a committed relationship, Tinder uses should be treated as a case-bycase basis.

For Aaron McCauley, a senior from North Platte, if he were to meet his significant other on Tinder he would not be ashamed.

"Since I'm a family studies major, we learn how often people meet through technology in today's society," he said. "It's way more probable and common than



AARON MCCAULEY

people think."

McCauley said he was originally drawn to the app because his social scene is hindered.

"I thought it would be a great way to meet different people that I'm not exposed to or see frequently," he said. "As a

gay guy in central Nebraska you have zero options. There's no bars to hang out at and I thought it would be a good way to get myself out there."

He said he deleted the app after his matches reinforced the app's hook-up stereotype.

McCauley is not alone in his feelings of Tinder.



SHAWNEE MCCOOK

"I don't think telling friends and family would be an issue," said Shawnee McCook, a sophomore early childhood education major from North Platte. "Some Tinder profiles say something like: 'We'll tell our family we met

on FarmersOnly, but I think it adds to the whole part of the story."

McCook knew about Tinder's reputation as being a hook-up site before downloading it but thought she would give it a chance and see if there were men looking for what she wanted: a committed relationship.

But she was disappointed in what she experienced.

"The two people that I did meet off of there, they tried to come across that they didn't (want to hook up), but in the end that's what they really wanted," she said. "After that I decided the app was not for me"



YIER JACOBS

Tyler Jacobs, 23 of Kearney, says his use of Tinder is sporadic and not too serious.

"When I first downloaded Tinder I thought: 'I know a lot of these people or my friends know these people," he

said. "It was awkward."

After using the app for some time he became more comfortable with it and began looking at potential matches for what they were: strangers.

"Today we're so digitally connected," he said. "In a certain regard it's almost the same thing as seeing a girl across the bar and approaching her, except through a screen."

He does not expect to meet his significant other on the app and says it makes him feel disposable.

Tinder may remain a mystery, but McCauley offers some advice.

"If you're going to use Tinder, don't go on hoping to find the love of your life," he said. "Go on with an open mind. If it works out – great, but if not, your hopes aren't crushed."

EAGLES from page 1 —

to spot 31 bald eagles. Reichart said she enjoyed seeing birds at different stages of development. This included a three-year-old bird who was transitioning to its adult feather colors and pattern. Bald eagles reach adulthood around four or five years of age.

Several hundred bald eagles can be found at the power plant throughout the winter. At times, the concentration reaches 100 birds.

Bulin said this trip was unique because the class was able to observe bald eagles at a relatively close distance. While observing the bald eagles, the students were to write down any observations about the birds. Observations included: feather arrangements, space between the outer primaries while in flight, and how they catch fish out of the river. Bulin said her favorite part was looking at how many eagles were there and then being able to see an eagle's nest, though at a distance. "The eagle's nest was not located at the plant, but a few miles down the river."

When looking at the nest, observers saw another adult, as well as a juvenile. Reichart said, "Students make the trip. I have a great group of students this year. For some of these kids, this is the first time they have seen an eagle, and they are getting to see it up close. I love watching them and answering their questions."

Other trips the UNK Ornithology class will be taking this semester include: touring the rain water basin, observing Sandhill Cranes in the early morning taking off at the Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary and possibly going on an evening Sandhill Crane viewing in Alda, Nebraska.

SAN PEDRO from page 4

food, and most of all, the fact that San Pedro has become a part of the Kearney community itself." She said that it is pretty cool that most of the staff has gotten to the point where they know the names of many of San Pedro's customers.

This makes sense to me, and I personally think San Pedro just has the perfect recipe for success in a college town. They make good, simple entrees and serve food at a reasonable price (not to mention their margaritas that aren't too shabby either).

Speaking of margaritas, college students should note that San Pedro does



Courtesy

A sample of San Pedro's Coronarita and chips and salsa.

have a \$0.99 margarita night, which hasn't been altered since they first opened.



Though snow blows, college activities must go on

"...Sometimes we need an event that won't cost a lot but will be fun for students, and laser tag is usually a hit for students who come."

KATEE DALY

Antelope Staff

For those suffering from a little cabin fever, Loper Programming and Activities Council picked back up with activities after the huge two-day blizzard, with the annual Loper Programing and Activities Council (LPAC) Laser Tag event Thursday, Feb. 4.

A few teams showed up right away dressed to impress. There were multiple teams with some very unique names such as Strawberry Gumdrop, Vicious and Delicious and Chicken Nugget\$. Teams signed a sheet to enter their team into the event, and then the fun really began.

The first two teams, including Strawberry Gumdrop, went through the rules and were put on each side of the laser. Once the horn rang, the teams began their first battle.

The room was darker, the idea was you would not see your opponent coming. Students ran from side to side trying to get the last team member out from each side. It is a timed event, so after about 10 minutes the team with the most points.

The games started at 7 p.m. in the Ponderosa Room of the Nebraskan Student Union. The crew from Tropical Extremes was already setting up, with the three people running the event. The company put up some really good props and set the scene up with dim lighting and cranked up music.

The team leader George Morris said the company was formed by two brothers who needed something for a bachelor party of one of the brothers. "They ended up forming this in the woods and decided to make it a thing."

As the teams battled on, the next team waited to come in from outside the room. The intimidation was high as they waited to play the next battle.

Vicious and Delicious team members and UNK students Karina Adame, Vanessa Valle, Abigail Elgueta, Peter Montoya and Bryan Escobar all agreed, they wanted to play when they saw the poster. Vanessa Valle said, "We are in it to win it." Followed by a comment by Abigail Elgueta, saying, "Unless we lose, in that case at least we tried."

Sydney Peak, UNK LPAC event organizer, said this event does not always have a good turnout, but it turns out great for the ones who come because it is really fun for them. "The people that have come in the past have continued to come every year. This is a filler; sometimes we need an event that won't cost a lot, but will be fun for the students, and laser tag is usually a hit for the students who come."

Teams came and went, and some

Photos by Ana Salazar

- 1) The wining team Strawberry Gumdrop take a moment to celebrate with a victory photo with their laser tag weapons.
- 2) Grand Island native Peter Montoya shields himself while firing and supporting his team the Vicious and Delicious against the Korean Army.
- 3) The Vicious and Delicious team at the sign-up table, ready for some laser tag action.

stayed for multiple games. Each team tried their best to win for the amount of time they were there. Team Chicken Nugget\$ said, "We really enjoyed ourselves. We gave it our best effort, and we had a lot of fun."

Strawberry Gumdrop ended up winning the whole event with the most points. The team consisted of five men: Njali Kowa, Kevin Gallardo, Zach Gascho, Traezon Henderson and Mai Chuol. They won a pizza party and some Loper apparel.