Students and Colleagues,

There are so many great things that go on at UNK every day that we begin to take them for granted. In the past weeks, as recent national events have unfolded and created anxieties for many, UNK faculty, staff, and students have engaged in forums and individual discussions to express different viewpoints in constructive ways. This is consistent with our values as affirmed in our strategic plan: that people matter and learning environment matters; that UNK is inclusive and explicitly values diversity of individuals, cultures, thought, and expression.

Together we maintain focus on the important work of learning, scholarship, and service while reaching out to those that are experiencing anxiety, and by adhering to our collective efforts to ensure that threats and intimidation have no place on our campus. I applaud the members of the campus community for their professional and personal approach.

I sincerely thank you for all you do to make UNK a great place to live, learn, and work.

Sincerely,
Doug

---

75th anniversary of Pearl Harbor

Just before 8 a.m. on Dec. 7, 1941, hundreds of Japanese fighter planes attacked the American naval base at Pearl Harbor near Honolulu, Hawaii. The barrage lasted just two hours, but it was devastating: The Japanese managed to destroy nearly 20 American naval vessels, including eight enormous battleships, and more than 300 airplanes. More than 2,000 Americans soldiers and sailors died in the attack, and another 1,000 were wounded. The day after the assault, President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan; Congress approved his declaration with just one dissenting vote. Three days later, Japanese allies Germany and Italy also declared war on the United States, and again Congress reciprocated. More than two years into the conflict, America had finally joined World War II.

The attack on Pearl Harbor was a surprise, but Japan and the United States had been edging toward war for decades. The United States was particularly unhappy with Japan’s increasingly belligerent attitude toward China. The Japanese government believed that the only way to solve its economic and demographic problems was to expand into its neighbor’s territory and take over its import market; to this end, Japan had declared war on China in 1937. American officials responded to this aggression with a battery of economic sanctions and trade embargoes. It seemed that war was inevitable.

**CAMPUS CALENDAR**

**Wednesday**
**Dec. 7**

International Justice Mission  
8-9 p.m.  
NSU Fireside Lounge

**Thursday**
**Dec. 8**

De-Stress Fest  
7-9 p.m.  
Cushing/Hyper Gym

**Friday**
**Dec. 9**

String Project Concert  
7:30-8:30 p.m.  
Fine Arts Recital Hall

**Saturday**
**Dec. 10**

Nebraskats Concert  
3-4 p.m.  
Fine Arts Recital Hall

**Sunday**
**Dec. 11**

Kearney Area Barbershoppers’ Concert  
2:00-3:30 p.m.  
Fine Arts Recital Hall

**Monday**
**Dec. 12**

Beginning of Finals Week  
Good luck!  
You can do this!

**Tuesday**
**Dec. 13**

Remanente Bilingual Campus Ministry  
8:45-10:00 p.m.  
NSU Cedar Room
Draining the swamp?

Gonnella is personally dreading next year, hoping tomorrow will be better

ELLIOT GONNELLA
Antelope Staff

The end is almost within sight; 2016 is almost over and looking back over the year, this may go down as one of the most draining years in recent memory, specifically in the realm of politics and governance.

Despite all odds, an angry, sentient Cheeto was elected to head the executive branch, and the circus train was violently derailed from there. Putting the year behind us, and to continue the tradition of columnists making bold predictions, here are my guesses as to what we will see within the next year.

• The recount effort, which I highly doubt will change anything, will play its part as a rallying cry along with the false claim Trump made about millions voting illegally. While it won’t shake up the election, it should go through to prove that the election process is fair.

It may take a while, though I have my suspicions that it will cost tens of millions to undertake as many of the critics of the recount will file lawsuits that will cost millions and drag out this affair longer.

individuals like him: tycoons, businessmen with the right last name, etc. Incidentally, that is the exact opposite of the populist campaign that Trump claimed to have run.

You can’t even argue that Trump ‘sold out’ because to sell out an individual has to have a moral compass to abandon. Ann Colter says it isn’t the voters’ problem that Trump might soon sell out.

To that, I have one remark: You elected him, he is your responsibility and I will gladly remind you of that fact when he doesn’t even attempt to fulfill all his bigoted promises.

• Evangelicals will be out and about for the next two to four years. The heart of the epidemic will stay in the Bible Belt, but more and more of these panhandlers and false shepherds will be gaining more mainstream viewings.

• Stalemates will continue in the House and Senate. While it is true that the GOP has a majority in both houses, they don’t have a comfortable super-majority. Because of that, constantly passing legislation and especially overriding a presidential veto will be fairly hard.

A little pessimistic/grim outlook? Perhaps, but then again look at 2016. Just look at what has happened and try to convince me that it was a “normal” year. There are times when my sharp tongue doesn’t make it any easier writing these segments, and even my deadpan humor has limits.

2017 is not going to be any better, but I will keep my head up and push forward with the hope that it can change today. If not, then there is always tomorrow.

Happy Holidays.
In pursuit of discovery

Bracewell off to a good start in first semester as professor

Lorna Bracewell gets animated teaching her poly sci class, Democracy as a Political Idea. This class examines the contested meanings of the concept democracy and traces its development as a political idea.

She is a sucker for action movies such as “Die Hard.” She said she loves it when the bad guys get caught!

When it comes to holidays, it’s usually a tradition for her and her family to water ski on Christmas Day. She says she probably won’t be doing that in Nebraska.

She is excited to build a snowman and go sledding for her first time this winter.

For more information about Lorna Bracewell visit unk.edu.

Political science assistant professor Lorna Bracewell says it’s the size and the students that make UNK a particularly rewarding campus for her.

Originally from Florida, Bracewell jokes about some of the major differences she has seen so far.

“I grew up with the ocean in my backyard.” Now, as a professor in the middle of Nebraska, she is a little further away from the ocean than she used to be.

Bracewell jokes about not living through a winter in Nebraska yet, ready for the cold surprise soon to come.

However, there are also some similarities that she says makes Nebraska so not so different. “I did my graduate work at the University of Florida at Gainesville, a huge football school.” She thinks she will adapt to our Loper and Husker traditions quite well.

She studied political theory while doing her graduate work in Florida, and says she’s surprised but glad she ended up in Nebraska. “I really like it. If you would have told me a year ago that I would be living in Nebraska, I wouldn’t have believed you.”

Bracewell first became interested in political science after a key event her freshman year of college. It was 2001, and less than two weeks into her first semester, the tragic events of Sept. 11 unfolded.

“I, like so many Americans, found that event horrifying, but it was also inexplicable and I couldn’t understand it at the time. I found myself diving into my studies of political science and political theory in search of answers.”

Bracewell says that tragedy probably solidified her interest in political science.

Now, for her first semester at the university, she says one of her favorite things is the freedom she has when it comes to “professing.”

“I have a lot of freedom and autonomy to design my courses in the way that I think is most relevant and most meaningful.”

She also explains what a unique experience it is to be a political science teacher, in the first semester at a new university and have an election cycle.

“Teaching during the election cycle has been a unique experience. I feel like I’ve had lot of freedom to bring those events into the classroom. It’s been really refreshing.”

She says the most enjoyable aspects for her are also her most challenging as a professor.

Having the freedom to create and build the curriculum in her own way has proven to be a challenge.

“It’s a challenge helping the students or enabling the students to see the connections and pushing myself to see the connections,” Bracewell says. “It’s the ‘so what’ questions. Like why does the stuff I’m teaching now matter? As a professor we have to be ever vigilant in answering those questions.”

“I try to be real. I try to be honest and open and try to acknowledge that there are things about the world that I don’t understand. I also try to make it fun. I mean, I devoted my life to this, and I derive great enjoyment from it. I try to bring that aspect out to my students.”

Bracewell strives to always keep her classes interesting and entertaining. Don’t be surprised if you walk into her classroom and hear Kendrick Lamar playing on repeat.

Lorna Bracewell gets animated teaching her poly sci class, Democracy as a Political Idea. This class examines the contested meanings of the concept democracy and traces its development as a political idea.

Teaching during the election cycle has been a unique experience. I feel like I’ve had lot of freedom to bring those events into the classroom. It’s been really refreshing.

“Teaching during the election cycle has been a unique experience. I feel like I’ve had lot of freedom to bring those events into the classroom. It’s been really refreshing.”
Exploring the cosmos at UNK

JESSICA MOSER
Antelope Staff

For thousands of years people have wondered what was happening in the cosmos and how it affected people on Earth. At the UNK Planetarium, college students and the surrounding community finally have an answer to that question.

“The Planetarium is one of our unique tools for outreach to the community,” says Dr. Mariana Lazarova, UNK’s Planetarium director. “We have the ability to basically control the night sky.”

The last public show before the Christmas holidays is: “The Pleiades” on Dec. 16. The Pleiades are a cluster of stars often referred to as “The Seven Sisters” and are surrounded by mythology.

All public Planetarium shows are free and begin at 7 p.m. The shows are usually around 30-45 minutes long and tickets will be handed out at the door prior to the show.

Shows in the spring semester are going to focus a lot more on solar eclipses, preparing for the total solar eclipse on Aug. 21, 2017. The last such eclipse visible from the Kearney area was in the year 1194 and the next one won’t happen until 2744.

“Faculty in different fields will actually give a perspective on the different effects of solar eclipses,” says Lazarova. “I think it is great that we can offer this wide range of perspective to the community.”

For more information on the Planetarium and upcoming events please visit the Planetariums website at: http://www.unk.edu/academics/physics/unk-planetarium/index.php

Sculptures donated by alumnus installed

JKE

Kearney State College alumnus Dr. Joe Shanahan has had an appreciation for art since he was a child. But it was his art professor at KSC, Jack Karraker, who inspired him to become a collector of art and donate more than 100 sculptures.

Shanahan donated two sculptures to the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Both are made of rusted corten steel and were recently installed on campus. He also donated sculptures to the University of Nebraska Medical Center and University of Nebraska Omaha.

“Having graduated from Kearney State College and UNMC, and having professor Jack Karraker influence both my life and my appreciation for art, I wanted to donate pieces to UNK and UNMC,” Shanahan said. “I thought it’d be nice to have some of my sculptures where I started, so they could be appreciated.”

One of the sculptures, created by Omaha artist Sidney Buchanan, is made of rusted corten steel posts, corten steel lintel and corten steel fabric-like sheets. The eight-foot tall sculpture weighs 2,000 pounds and is located southeast of the Nebraskan Student Union.

Left: Alumnus Joe Shanahan donated two rusted corten steel sculptures to UNK, including stacked cubes that stand 18 feet tall and weigh about 1,000 pounds. The sculpture is located north of UNK’s West Center and east of the Frank Museum.

Right: Created by Omaha artist Sidney Buchanan, one of two new sculptures donated to UNK by Joe Shanahan is made with rusted corten steel posts, corten steel lintel and corten steel fabric-like sheets. The eight-foot tall sculpture weighs 2,000 pounds and is located southeast of the Nebraskan Student Union.

Photo by UNK Communications

New UNK Planetarium Director Mariana Lazarova plans to offer more frequent public planetarium shows and telescope viewing sessions of Saturn, the moon and the sun.

Photo by UNK Communications

SCULPTURES, PAGE 11
Marijuana 'moolah' may make difference

With marijuana legalization becoming more popular, what does the future hold for cannabis industry in Nebraska?

RACHAEL FANGMEIER
Antelope Staff

Whether you are against it or in favor, marijuana legalization is sweeping the nation. Just a few weeks ago, California and Massachusetts legalized recreational marijuana and Florida, North Dakota and Arkansas legalized medicinal marijuana. The new states bring the tally up to six states with legalized recreational marijuana and 28 states with medicinal legalization.

Dr. L. Allen Jenkins is a senior faculty member and a professor of economics at UNK and is involved with Nebraska landowners who want to get hemp cultivation legalized. Growing interest in hemp cultivation in Nebraska follows the emergence of CBD, an anti-inflammatory, medicinal product.

Researchers have found hemp-based medical products have cannabinoids other than THC that are safer to use in place of medical marijuana. This breakthrough is especially helpful for young children who might benefit from use of cannabinoids to suppress inflammation.

Hemp and marijuana are from the same family, but hemp does not have the THC that marijuana contains. Hemp does not have the physio active element. “Hemp is the ditch weed that grows here normally. And marijuana has to be cultivated away from hemp because the hemp will pollinate the marijuana plant and take away the THC element,” said Jenkins.

Jenkins said that hemp and marijuana are from the same species, but are not the same. While a golden retriever is from the same species as a wolf, they are not the same animal.

Because of the 2014 Farm Bill, Nebraska universities are allowed to grow hemp for research purposes. UNL has completed the paperwork for the DEA permits and will be growing hemp this spring. UNK discussed the idea of growing hemp for research purposes, but has not completed the paperwork yet.

Jenkins shared the case of Deb Palm-Egle, a landowner in western Nebraska interested in getting hemp cultivation legalized.

“I think marijuana will be decriminalized at the federal level before it’s legalized in Nebraska. Those are obviously the kinds of predictions that are often completely wrong. But to date, the unicameral has shown no interest, none, in legalizing anything having to do with cannabis.

“At least at the federal level there is discussion about reclassifying marijuana from a Schedule 1 drug down to a lower level,” Jenkins said.

Schedule 1 drugs, such as heroin, are the most dangerous and have no redeeming value, Jenkins said.

The federal government takes a hard line on Schedule 1 drugs as do conservative Nebraskans.

Legalization in Nebraska?

Just last year, Sen. Tommy Garrett’s Medical Cannabis Act (LB 643) failed to pass.

Dr. L. Allan Jenkins, a University of Nebraska Lincoln senior faculty member and a professor of economics predicts that another medical marijuana bill will come up again in the legislature in January, but is unsure, even doubtful, it will pass.

“It will just become increasingly difficult (to postpone legalization). Some state will be the last state to legalize, and I would expect us to be one of the very last.”

Jenkins believes this to be the case for both recreational and medicinal uses.

“Again, I know that one person doesn’t mean anything, but it is not just one person. There is a growing body of evidence that access to a little bit of cannabis is probably pretty good for you,” Palm-Egle said.

Jenkins said research is looking at other important uses for primary health problems that will grow in years to come.

“There is a growing body of evidence that some CBD based or marijuana based remedies instead of marijuana, or to at least provide that option for those who do not want THC.

In her 20s. She began using medical marijuana before it was legalized. She is in her 60’s and is still functional. She has had MS for more than 40 years, yet she can still walk and talk. Palm-Egle credits her quality of life to the use of medical marijuana.

Palm-Egle’s success with medical marijuana sparked her interest in hemp cultivation because she wants to use CBD-based remedies instead of marijuana, or to at least provide that option for those who do not want THC.
The map outlines states in which recreation marijuana and medical marijuana use is legal (2016).

down with Alzheimer’s.” Jenkins said that as baby-boomers age, they will be more inclined to retire to the states where marijuana is legalized.

Marijuana sales have a huge economic impact on state tax coffers as well. “It takes activity that used to be underground activity, brings it into the open and then taxes it heavily. The evidence from Colorado, so far, much of the sales, for legal marijuana, were from people who were using illegally before. There are going to be some people who use legal marijuana who would not have wanted to take the risk [before legalization],” said Jenkins.

In 2015, marijuana sales in Colorado were right at a billion dollars. “It hasn't collapsed civilization. People are still going to work; they are still doing their jobs. They are doing what they have always done, except now the states are getting huge amounts of money.

“In Colorado, because all parts of the industry are in the state, the multiplier effect is very pronounced,” said Jenkins.

Unlike the fuel industry in Nebraska where hardly any of the money stays within the state because we do not produce it, marijuana sold in Colorado is grown in-state and is processed, packaged, transported, sold and consumed in Colorado. The revenue from the production of marijuana stays within the state.

In Colorado, every dollar spent on marijuana creates $2.40 in activity. In other retail markets, the amount created from a dollar in sales is closer to $1.80 in activity.

Since the legalization of marijuana, Colorado has been the location of more national conventions. “Instead of having a national convention in Las Vegas, where people could lose their money at casinos, they have their national conventions in Denver, where people have access to legal cannabis,” Jenkins said.

The legalization of marijuana has dramatically improved the job market in Colorado. “As more and more states legalize, obviously, Colorado's advantages will dissipate. The states that allow recreation use will see major benefits from conventions and tourism,” said Jenkins.

Jenkins said the downside of marijuana legalization is overuse, an issue that cannot be escaped. “The people who are inclined to misuse marijuana, the legalization has not much to do with them. ... Alcohol consumption is completely legal and is everybody drunk all the time? No.

“Twenty thousand people each year die from opioid overdose. Medical marijuana can substitute as a pain medication for many of those people. And guess how many people die from a marijuana overdose per year? ... "Zero," said Jenkins.

“The notion that marijuana is a gateway drug, well that's stupid. Life is the gateway drug. Alcohol is the clearest indicator of other drug use. If you start drinking alcohol early, you are probably going to do other drugs. Literally millions of people have tried marijuana and have not gone onto crack or heroin,” Jenkins said.

Like alcohol, people shouldn't use marijuana when they are young “There is some evidence that early, heavy use of marijuana will impact your mental development. But once you are 25 or older, the available evidence is that it actually increases brain function (when used moderately),” Jenkins said.

While no individual has died from a marijuana overdose, people have passed away from performing certain activities while under the influence.

Thus, some of the tax dollars are set aside for drug counselling.

Budgetary allocations in Colorado include uses people endorse readily: The first $40 million goes to local school districts to build and improve their facilities.

**Approved budgetary uses popular with voters include:**

- $40 million goes to local school districts to build and improve facilities.
- $2.5 million for marijuana education and prevention campaigns
- $2 million for bullying prevention programs
- $2 million for drop-out prevention
- $2 million for youth mentoring services
- $1 million for poison control center
- $1 million for local government marijuana impact grants
- $300,000 for substance abuse screening, intervention, and referrals
- $500,000 for marijuana education and prevention campaigns
- $1 million for local government marijuana impact grants
- $2 million for drop-out prevention
- $2 million for youth mentoring services
- $1 million for poison control center
- $1 million for local government marijuana impact grants
- $500,000 for substance abuse screening, intervention, and referrals
- $500,000 for marijuana education and prevention campaigns
- $300,000 for Future Farmers of America (FFA) and 4-H programs at State Fair
- $2 million for drop-out prevention
- $2 million for youth mentoring services
- $1 million for poison control center
- $1 million for local government marijuana impact grants
- $500,000 for substance abuse screening, intervention, and referrals
- $500,000 for marijuana education and prevention campaigns
- $300,000 for Future Farmers of America (FFA) and 4-H programs at State Fair
- $2 million for road side impaired-driving enforcement training

As to the future in Nebraska, researchers can answer some of the most important questions. Research studies will bring information to pertinent issues of concern.

“I am a very analytical person by nature. I am not some crazy hippie. The available evidence of cannabis far outweighs the costs. Whether its medicinal marijuana or bio fuels or plastic from hemp for us to not be actively researching all cannabis now, is crazy. It is crazy,” Jenkins said.

Marijuana is currently classified as a Schedule I substance, which is the ranking reserved for drugs with the greatest potential for abuse and with no medicinal value.

Heroin, ecstasy and LSD are listed as Schedule 1, while cocaine and methamphetamine rank one level lower than marijuana, as Schedule II.

Since marijuana was first classified Schedule 1, advocates have been fighting to “reschedule” it to a lower tier. They argue that the Schedule I classification isn’t justified on scientific grounds.

Marijuana is not considered highly addictive or dangerous except possibly for adolescents who smoke it while their brains are still forming. And the plant seems to hold medical promise in a number of areas. One drug that is derived from a compound found in marijuana has already been approved to treat nausea in cancer patients.

In order to change marijuana’s classification, today’s advocates can file another petition with the DEA, despite the repeated failures of the past. They could also hope for Congress to pass a bill that would order a reclassification.

At the University of Nebraska at Kearney, there are 17 varsity sports that compete at the Division II level. Within those 17 teams that make up the Loper athletic department, there are 57 senior student athletes. That is 57 individuals who will catch their last ball or shoot their last shot as a Loper in the 2016-2017 season. However, there is one athlete who has seen and played in games that no other Loper has.

Do the names Bryce Harper, Francisco Lindor, Wilson Contreras, Carlos Correa, Xander Bogaerts, Byron Buxton and Addison Russell ring a bell for any of you sports fans? Before they went on to win MVP’s, Rookie of the Year’s and most recently win a World Series, they played for their Junior National Teams in high school. These all-stars stood in the box against a now Loper pitcher.

Tanner Spencer is a senior starting pitcher for the Lopers from Craik, Saskatchewan, Canada; and he pitched against these now household Major League names.

“In high school I got selected to play for the Canadian Junior National Team, at the time I was the second youngest player to every be selected for the team... I was selected to play on the National Team my sophomore, junior and part of my senior year of high school until injuries prevented me from doing so,” said Spencer.

While on the national team, they traveled all across North America as well as Havana, Cuba, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic and Cartagagia, Colombia, it wouldn’t be a bad gig to travel the world and compete against the games’ best.

Unfortunately, injuries started to plague Spencer’s career. Two trips into his senior season, he was diagnosed with a SLAP tear in his left hip labarum while he was pitching against Team Cuba. After the hip injury, Spencer tore his UCL in his elbow, which led to the famous ‘Tommy John’ surgery.

Those injuries led him to Colby Community College in Kansas. After a couple years there he received a lot of attention from multiple four-year schools but fell in love with UNK along with head coach Damon Day.

“I always thought the pro-ball would be the next step, but four surgeries into a career at 22 years old means throwing without pain is a rare luxury. So, I believe the next step for me will be continuing my education at UNK as a grad assistant with the baseball program,” Spencer said.

Before he moves onto bigger and better things, Spencer will lead a pitching staff that has a chip on their shoulder after last year’s disappointing season. The Lopers open their season February 4th at Metro State University in Denver, Colorado.

Spring classes begin January 16.
Register TODAY!
308.635.6010
wncc.edu/jointhepride

Lack of funds, friends, or free time? #JoinThePride

Reinvent yourself and your educational goals! We’ll help you get back on track for a more fulfilling college experience.

From national team to Nebraska
Spencer who competes against game’s best players, now will lead Lopers into 2017 season with something to prove
Bombeck prepares for senior art showcase

SYDNEY NORRIS
Antelope Staff

Robert Bombeck, a senior with a major in studio art and ceramics, a minor in entrepreneurship and a second minor in visual communication design, has been working on his upcoming show all semester.

When he was younger, Bombeck said he liked to create things and whenever he wanted a new toy, rather than asking for one, he would create one.

He always loved taking art classes in high school and college. Even though he was planning on majoring in physics, his love for art always took priority, so he continued through with his major in studio art and ceramics.

The art on display was created with mostly ceramic and some with glass. Bombeck’s inspiration for his art came from the book “1984,” by George Orwell and from the primaries of the recent election.

Kiyun Eom, a senior studio art, with ceramics emphasis major from Seoul, South Korea, is a co-exhibitor.

MORE photos of Eom’s artwork online. Catch the work of both seniors until Dec. 16.

By Sydney Norris
Bobby Bombeck describes his finished artwork and talks about his inspiration: politics. He stands next to his favorite piece in his show, currently displayed in the Walker Art Gallery.

"The Majestic," one of Kiyum Eom’s sculptures from spring 2015 was created from stoneware, putty and spray paint. Eom said, "It is my kind of beginning piece and I just want to express great spirit or energy of lion. I want to make it bigger in the future."

PRESENTING AT
The Walker Art Gallery

SENIOR ART EXHIBITION
Bombeck
Eom

The work of seniors Bobby Bombeck and senior Kiyun Eom is currently on exhibit in Walker Art Gallery.

The art show will run through Dec. 16.

The senior reception is Dec. 10 from 2 to 4 p.m.

More Photos online @ unkantelope.com
Gingerbread houses pop up in Ponderosa Room

LPAC draws in 33 festive teams for annual holiday Gingerbread Competition

LAUREN WAGNER
Antelope Staff

LPAC gets UNK students gather in the Ponderosa to see who can build the best the gingerbread house.

“I like my role with the team because I get to taste the candy. It’s probably the best role that I could have been given.”

READY. SET. GO! The emcee, Mackenzie Cuba gives the go ahead and gingerbread house enthusiasts grab frantically at the construction materials around them.

The student government team of Stephanie Paulsen, Dallas Doering, Taylor Rieper, Drew Thompson, and Austin Partridge discuss their design and building strategies.

“Do we want a one story or two story house?”

“One story will be easier, but two story will be memorable.”

“We probably should’ve thought about this before the time started.”

Each team begins the competition with two packages of graham crackers and a bowl of frosting. The peppermints, gumdrops, candy canes, M&M’s, and other candies strewn across the table were brought by the team.

“This is our first time participating in this competition together,” said Dallas Doering. “We’re all in student government and we wanted a team building activity that we could all enjoy.”

The Loper programming and Activities Council has hosted the gingerbread competition for 11 years. This year they had 33 teams sign up and 175 in attendance.

“LPAC did a great job of putting on this event. The students involved had a lot of fun, it was a great way to finish up the semester of events.”

The student government team has resorted to a one story house after watching the second story crash to the table time after time.

“There’s only ten minutes left, we have to get the house standing on its own so we can start decorating” (said Paulsen)

Rieper dances around the table singing to “Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer” while Thompson taste tests the yard décor.

“You know Dasher, and Dancer, and Prancer, and Vixon”

“Oh gosh, this tastes so good, I just want to eat it all.”

The structure of the gingerbread house is finally self-standing after lots of sweat, frustration, and frosting.

The cobblestone walkway of peppermints leads up to the front door lined by green gum drops and gingerbread men.

“Five, four, three…just kidding, you still have five more minutes” Cuba said.

Ahh. The builders gave a sigh of relief.

“We’ll get back to work!”

Partridge and Paulsen work together to construct the back porch. Thompson assists by biting candy canes to the perfect length that will support the porch.

“I like my role with the team because I get to taste the candy. It’s probably the best role that I could have been given,” said Thompson.

The yard fills up with gumdrop trees, coconut snow, sprinkles everywhere, and a marsh mellow snowman.

The final seconds on the clock are winding down

“Where’s the blue food coloring?”

“We need to write UNK in the yard.”

“Someone put gumdrops on the roof.”

“Stop! Everybody stop! Hands in the air!”

Everyone had looks of relief mixed with worry on their faces while they stood with their hands high. The 35 minutes that felt more like 5 minutes was over. No more changes could be made to the houses and the fate of the team was up to the judges.

The judges made their way around the room, and finally they made it to table 22. They assessed the house in silence before giving feedback to the team.

“I like the UNK in the yard. It really stands out.”

“The house isn’t very big, but there is a lot of decorations to make up for it.”

“It is a typical gingerbread house that was decorated nicely. It’s cute.”

The judges moved on to the next table. The team was proud of their gingerbread house and the feedback that they received was mostly positive. All they could do now was wait.

Student government did not walk away from the competition with a victory, but they did walk away with memories and frosting everywhere.
Shanahan is a semi-retired emergency medicine doctor. He was involved with a number of highly-visible ER medical emergencies in the Chicago area over the years, from the 1986 Tylenol cyanide poisonings, 1979 O'Hare plane crash and 2007 Amtrak collision, to an anthrax case after the 9/11 scares.

Shanahan had nearly 150 large sculptures in his collection at one point. He's been downsizing his art collection over the years, and he currently owns around 20 pieces. He's donated sculptures to universities in the Chicago area, Brookfield Zoo in Chicago and other universities.

Although he doesn't consider himself an artist, Shanahan has created sculptures, including the stacked cubes at UNK.

"I was glad that I came from Nebraska. Cedar Bluffs had less than 300 people, and we played eight-man football. Coming from a small community like that, I learned that if you wanted to do something bad enough you could go out and accomplish it," he said. "I'm grateful for that."

Buchanan began sculpting in the early 1960s while attending UNO. His work is in the permanent collection of the Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha, Columbia Museum of Art in South Carolina, Springfield Art Museum in Missouri and at UNO, Omaha Public Schools, UNMC, city of Omaha and other museums and universities across the country.

**Weekly Crossword**

**ACROSS**
1. Came across a record concerning journalist (10)
2. Language of old city belonging to the French (4)
3. They'll get wrongly blamed for heading off escape of animals (10)
4. There's potato in Muni's pudding (4)
5. Style of cooking providing contrasts (5, 3, 4)
6. Country-loving Irishman in charge of containing disturbance (9)
7. Giving note to terrorists makes one angry (5)
8. One who latches on to another is a sucker (5)
9. Sailor's intent perhaps to be self-restraining (9)
10. A comment sure upset in due proportion (12)
11. Man told to get on his knees? (4)
12. Boundary rope may produce such a decision (10)
13. E.g. dogs returning from walk (4)

**DOWN**
1. Pretty girl gets some food (4)
2. Animal found in sea location (4)
3. Fat little Edward is biased (12)
4. The First Lady touring Oklahoma will awaken memories (5)
5. The threshold of delights (9)
6. Heartless robbers go off with a pet. The villains! (10)
7. Below, below, below (10)
8. Managed to get clergyman in dead awkward situation (12)
9. They are seeking work after demolition of aspic plant (10)
10. Steam railway takes on head of Railtrack to improve efficiency (10)
11. To perform in a different key, one's parts must be arranged (9)
12. Went on horseback around cowboy show (5)
13. Junk mail from the capital (4)
14. Nothing but a lake (4)
The crowd cheers. The whistle blows. With sweat dripping down Annie Wolfe’s face, she looks down at the court underneath her feet and exhales a deep breath.

A million thoughts roll through her mind, but all she can think about is defeating her opponent one last time to end the night. All the serves, aces, blocks and cheers of joy have come down to the last few points of the match.

Emporia State serves the ball right at Annie. She passes the ball to her setter who knows Annie is next in line to spike the ball. Hustling to her starting point she takes a big step towards the net with her left foot then a short step with her right, squats, and drives herself up into the air with her right arm extending back.

“Kill by Annie Wolfe,” the announcer says. Suddenly a wolf howl effect comes over the sound system to signify the kill was by Wolfe.

The crowd cheers and high fives each other. The set goes to UNK to end the final match of the night.

Lopers advance to the next round of the MIAA tournament.

Wolfe’s road to UNK wasn’t like the average college athlete. College basketball was her dream all through high school. She could see herself on the court passing the ball around to her teammates and getting buckets.

Junior year took a different turn for her.

At state volleyball in 2010 UNK volleyball head coach Rick Squiers contacted her to come play for him. That’s when Wolfe became interested and started to look into UNK.

A former high school teammate Ellie Pesavento, who was three years older than her, played at UNK and her father Chris Wolfe played basketball at UNK. Kearney was recommended to her from many sides.

With Wolfe is playing her senior year she has accomplished many goals she never thought was possible.

From starting with the MIAA Academic Honor Roll her freshman year to being named AVCA honorable mention All-American, honorable mention AVCA All-Central Region, first team All-MIAA, and MIAA Scholar Athlete her junior year Wolfe is an excellent student athlete.

“I wouldn’t put myself into the category of Liz McGowan who was an All-American and an amazing player. It’s hard to think it’s real. I just don’t feel like I’m in that category because all those players were good”, Wolfe says.

The connection with her teammates on and off the court is different than other years. “This year is just different. Everyone gets along and there is no drama for the number of girls we have unlike previous years,” Wolfe says.

“The upperclassmen are easy going and want to have fun. Because of this, the younger players respond with great attitudes and want to work hard,” Wolfe says.

The volleyball team may work hard at practice, but they also have fun. “We are all just pretty weird people,” Wolfe says.

“When we went to Boston there were ball staggers during serving time before the game. One guy was eating a bag of Fritos and a ball hit the bag and exploded all over the court. Tara was sitting on the bench and saw an extra Frito on the ground.”

One of the team’s favorite games to play is, “What are the odds.”

“What are the odds you eat this Frito. So, Tara took the dare and ate the Frito while the gym was completely silent. It was so funny and coach was dying laughing”, Wolfe recounts.

Wolf has finished her last season and accomplished her goal of having fun and playing the game she loves.

This talented senior might have finished her last season with the Lopers but she has a bright future ahead of her.

FACTS & FAVES

Jersey: #18
Favorites:
• Ice Cream: Mint Chocolate Chip
• Artist: Mumsford and Sons
• Place to visit: Mountains
• Color: Blue