Wrestling team brings home 2017 MIAA title

Zach Stodden waits to make his move against FHSU’s Rakim Dean in the 184 lbs. semifinal match on Sunday. Stodden, a sophomore from Broomfield, Colorado, finished second place to help the Lopers capture the MIAA trophy.

Photo by Todd Rundstrom

Career and Graduate School Fair Feb. 15

Sydney Norris
Antelope Staff

UNK will be hosting the Career and Graduate School Fair today in the Health and Sports Center from 12:30 to 3:30. Recruiters from 67 employers and 13 graduate schools will be keeping their eyes out for students they hope will choose their program or company. The event is free and open to the public. Business professional attire is recommended for all events. All students are encouraged to attend.

The Spring Career Fair is organized by UNK Academic and Career Services. For more information, go to www.careers.unk.edu or follow UNK Academic and Career Services on Twitter @unkacs.

Check the website for a full list of attendees. https://unk.joinhandshake.com/career_fairs/1211/employers_list

Watch for the story next week about the Career Fair as well as photos showing a variety of businesses attending and the conversations happening between students and employers.

5 CONSECUTIVE YEARS

In this issue

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Greeks challenging stereotypes through action

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Panel answers anonymous student questions

Tune in Thursdays @ 6 p.m.
Antelope Speaks with Christian Schwarz

Volume 118, Issue 17 | 2.15.17 | www.unkantelope.com

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Leadership grows through Greek values conference

Kearney participants create unity, implement ideas for local chapters

MEGHAN WIEDEBURG
Antelope Staff

The University of Nebraska at Kearney’s Panhellenic council and Interfraternity Council (IFC) members traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana, Feb. 2-5 for the Association of Fraternal Values and Leadership (AFVL) Conference.

The AFVL Conference is held once per year and is the largest gathering of undergraduate Greek students in the United States. The event brings in thousands of participants, creating the ultimate setting for networking and idea sharing.

“Greek life can sometimes get a bad rep, but it has had an incredibly positive impact on me throughout my college career.”

/ Meghan Wiedeburg

Four Panhellenic and three IFC representatives made the trip to Indiana. Panhellenic is made up of sorority leaders from various chapters, while IFC represents the fraternity side of Greek life.

UNK faculty members Heather Wolf, assistant director for Greek affairs and student activities, and Brooke Poppe, student union office associate, traveled with these student leaders.

Wolf said witnessing the growth in student leaders that are lucky enough to attend is her favorite part of her job. “On campus they grow in their positions so much, but being exposed to over 200 other campuses and working with their student leaders is an experience that will change the way that lead and develop their skills much past college.”

Greek life is a huge part of our university and UNK’s active chapters pride themselves on providing members leadership development, academic support, community service and alumni networking opportunities. The Greek community at UNK represents over 650 diverse men and women belonging to the different chapters across campus.

Greek life can sometimes get a bad rep, but it has had an incredibly positive impact on me throughout my college career. I’m hopeful that the ideas being brought back from this conference will continue to strengthen our Greek community for years to come.

Clark Pohlmeier, IFC president who attended the recent conference, said he gained a greater understanding of the different types of Greek communities across the nation. “It’s also great to converse with other schools and see what is going well and not so well on their campuses,” he said.

As an active member of Greek life here on campus, I’m excited to see what ideas our representatives received from this conference. Being able to mingle and gather ideas from other universities is a great opportunity for us to learn and grow as a Greek community.

Panhellenic president Kylie Kennedy said, “Each of us came back highly motivated and ready to start our chairmanships and encourage our other council members. I’m excited to start working with those on other councils and truly begin to have events and activities for ALL of the councils together. Our Greek Week may have some new elements as well, and it’ll be exciting to see where that takes us as a Greek community.”

“I attended multiple sessions in regards to how to be an effective leader. I learned SO much about how to tune into everyone’s leadership styles, how to be an effective Panhellenic president, and how

University Women
Looking to make an Impact

New organization sponsored by UNK Women’s Center is looking for members to affiliate with American Association of University Women.

Contact:
Bailey Pond
UNK Women’s Center
bondbm@lopers.unk.edu

Greek Life looks to refocus attention on positive aspects

Stereotypes reflect community opinion

CODY MOSLANDER
Antelope Staff

What is the first thing that comes to mind when one thinks of a fraternity? What about a sorority? Often times the public bases opinion on negative experiences.

While members may talk of lifelong friendships, nonmembers may talk of their experiences with specific people or events. Often people don’t have any first-hand experience and form opinions based off of media portrayal as both entertainment and news.

It is no stretch to say that Greek Life around the country has had its share of recent bad press, despite efforts inside the Greek community to highlight the positive things that go on in those houses.

It would seem that stories of philanthropy and community service are not as exciting as scandal. Past and continual to be changes to the Greek system do not erase negative images. This is unfortunate. Greek Life is a part of the university system and puts that university under the scrutiny of the public eye.

Public perception is a powerful force. Ask any of the fraternity or sororities, all the way from the houses themselves, to the Greek university staff, all the way up to Chapters’ national headquarters.

The movement towards changing public image is a big one. The attempts to educate members on things such as responsible drinking, sexual assault and anti-hazing have been extensive.

And yet, some still choose the wrong decision, unfortunately. These things are not specific to schools outside of the community. They do indeed touch UNK as well.

To list these things would be arbitrary. One bad story could be met with another of someone doing great things. But they are still there.

Let it not be said that UNK Greeks have sat on their hands. They have been active in the prevention of bad occurrences, both on the university and Greek level.

Recently, the university has sponsored a bystander intervention event. At this event, Greek members were schooled on how to act when they see a suspect situation

Greek Values
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National Lampooning

With rising popularity of social media, public opinion forms quite differently

Elliot Gonnella
Antelope Staff

News, politics and, most importantly, comedy are now being told, responded to and dissected in real time. While mass broadcasting has given the established media a near instant platform to these events, with social media anyone and their uncle can weigh in on a certain subject mere seconds after it is released.

Because of that, political satire has become polarizing. This may not be entirely be because of social media, as comedy relating around politics is deprecating by nature. My favorite comedian George Carlin said “Comedy doesn’t work unless someone is being offended.”

At the end of the joke to make it work, someone has to have their pride challenged. Done correctly, the joke causes even the individual who is the butt of the joke to laugh. If not, then the thinly veiled insult allows the easy cop-out of saying it is just a joke.

This is brought to light comedic TV shows and stand-up shows, with “Saturday Night Live” (commonly shortened to SNL) and other late night shows bringing relentless unabashed criticisms about Trump and his administration.

The responses have been mixed, though aside from the childish antics of Trump and his various mouthpieces, his supporters fall into one of two camps. 1: The comedians have no right to do this. or 2: They weren’t as tough on Barack Hussain Obama.

The answer to the first one is bloody obvious. Yes, they do have the right to say these jokes because there is free speech. They are not supporting violence against the Cheeto in a suit or making threats against those who share his blood; they are mocking his inability to lead a nation and the circus that is his administration.

Besides, aren’t those conservatives who claim you can’t criticize the president the same ones who supported Ben Carson when he cracked a Holocaust joke while speaking at a ceremony honoring the bravery of a survivor? Please be consistent with your standards.

By that same standard, if it isn’t OK to make jokes about Trump, then it should have been totally illegal when Obama was in office. However, if anything, a very vocal group of conservatives began to make many jokes, deprecating comments and thinly cloaked threats toward him, his wife, children and his administration.

Some of them were hilarious but many were in poor tastes, using the veil of a joke to hide blatant racism. I don’t recall the press secretaries of the Obama administration shouting insults at comedians or other individuals who made those comments, though I am sure those with death threats were investigated.

That transitions into my second point, the only reason why it seems that Obama wasn’t joked about as much: he rolled with the punches, even on the occasion make some self-deprecating jokes.

SNL cracked many jokes about him and Biden, making the latter look like a 6 year old in an old man’s body whose Christmas wish was to have Batman trade jobs with him while the former was subjected to some pretty biting commentary about speaking out of two sides of his face and “F*cking with” foreign leaders over when debts would be paid and agreements honored.

Even at the annual White House correspondent dinners, Obama cracked jokes about himself alluding to what hacks like Sean Hannity and Alex Jones would say about him. A few zingers that stand out in my mind are “I am not the young, strapping Muslim socialist I used to be” or “I like Bernie. Bernie is an interesting guy. Apparently some folks really want to see a pot-smoking socialist in the White House.

We could get a third Obama term after all.”

But Obama was also keen at throwing them back tactfully such as my personal favorites. “These days, the House Republicans give John Boehner a harder time than me, which means that orange really is the new black,” or “Dick Cheney was supposed to be here but he is very busy working on his memoirs, tentatively titled ‘How to Shoot Friends and Intergorge People.’”

Trump, on the other hand, is the definition of “dishing it out, but can’t take it.” He berates and insults those who oppose him by constantly bringing up race or questioning it, (examples are calling Senator Warren “Pocahontas” because of her Native American ancestry and mocking Jon Stewart for changing his name).

But the moment Trump or family members are criticized, he goes on a temper tantrum that even 3 year olds would find excessive. That is why it appears he is being joked at more, because he makes a fuss about anything no matter how trivial.

The jokes against him are par for the course, and if he can take that, he should buckle up because he is in for a looooooong four years.

by Rachel Overby
Flaugh works to improve campus

Presidential beginnings in Men’s Hall spur student body leader

RACHEL AREHART
Antelope Staff

As president of Men’s Hall in the 2015-2016 school year, Rachel Flaugh was able to obtain a piano to replace the old residence hall instrument, which was out-of-tune and worn down.

As student body president of UNK in 2016-2017, Flaugh is working to improve the campus by renovating the Nebraskan Student Union and the library, and to better connect student voices to the Board of Regents.

Flaugh is a Hartington senior from who is majoring in chemistry with a health-science emphasis is minoring in political science. In addition to being the student body president, Flaugh is involved in the Honors Program and does research with the Chemistry Department.

Q&A

Q: What is your platform, and what are you doing for the campus?
A: The current platform that we are working on is following through with the Union renovations. Those are scheduled to go before the Board of Regents in March, which is really exciting. They have kind of been finalized, and I’ve been going to meetings regularly to help out with some discussions to express the importance of bringing renovations to the Union. It’s exciting to see how much the Union will change over the summer.

Additionally, we are currently in the process of working with the Board of Regents to analyze how students can really have a voice in expressing how important it is to have adequate funding to the University. We’re facing these budget cuts, and it’s especially important that students stay informed.

We are scheduled to have some renovations in the library, such as new carpeting and a face-lift. We are sending a survey out to students because we would like to hear their voice on this issue.

Q: How does being a member of the Honors Program benefit you?
A: Being a member of the Honors Program set me up with the right connections off the get-go as a freshman. I had great mentors and advisors encouraging me to get involved in things on campus. Dr. Falconer and Jane Christensen, as well as upperclassmen I met in Men’s Hall were really instructive in telling me which student organizations would best suit my interests and where I could personally make an impact and help out on campus.

Additionally, the Honors Program has given me a wonderful scholarship that has made me so grateful to this university and so committed to giving back. That’s encouraged me to get out there and assume leadership positions.

Q: What did you learn from being Men’s Hall president a year ago?
A: Men’s Hall was a confidence boost and a wake-up call because leadership positions in college are so much different than in high school. That taught me to go outside my comfort zone and realize what it meant to truly be independent with leadership, and so that’s what inspired me to run for student body president and also gave me some qualities that made me more capable as a leader.

Q: How has being a student leader of the campus changed your UNK experience?
A: I believe that everyone’s college experience is what you make of it. You can go into college, go to your classes and learn what you’re supposed to in order to get a degree, but being involved in leadership and student organizations adds so many qualities to what you would obtain in college.

Campus leadership teaches you how to be passionate about something, like representing people that you care about,” she said.

About Rachel

Major: Chemistry with health-science emphasis, political science minor
Graduation: May 2017
Hometown: Hartington
Favorite study spot: Coffee shops: Baristas or Starbucks
Current Netflix binge: “The Office” and “Friends”
Favorite Kearney restaurant: The Alley Rose
Dream job: Doctor
Favorite book: “Harry Potter” series

Student Research Day

Applications due Feb. 24
Apply at unk.edu/ugr

Event date 11 April 2017
Anybody up for Sex In The Dark?

Lights off as 'Sexpert' panel answers toughest sex questions anonymously

RACHEL AREHART
Antelope Staff

Students will be able to ask any questions they may have about sex and get real and immediate answers at Sex in the Dark, the event Feb. 15. The Cedar Room of the Nebraskan Student Union.

“Students can write in questions about sexual health and our panel of ‘sexperts’ will answer those questions. We know that many students have questions about sex but are often hesitant to ask them,” said Kiphany Hof, the Associate Director of Counseling Care and the Women’s Center.

This program will be an educational event meant to support sexual health among college students, answering any questions that students might have in a discreet and open way.

“The Women’s Center is proud to partner with Student Health and Peer Health for this sex education program called Sex in the Dark. Sex in the Dark takes a question and answer approach to sex education,” Hof said.

Knowing that students may be shy or hesitant to ask in front of their peers, the lights will be turned off during the event to remain discreet.

“We turn the lights off during the program to promote anonymity and to decrease any embarrassment students might have,” Hof said.

The Women’s Center and Student Health have sexual health resources available and staff to talk to about any further sexual related questions.

Randall leads community fighting HIV/AIDS

Jordyn Randall interns for the Nebraska AIDS Project to test for HIV and counsel those who are affected

ABBI ROHR
Antelope Staff

Jordyn Randall, a senior from Moscow, Idaho, recently accepted a very select internship with the Nebraska AIDS Project (NAP).

After her acceptance, she found that only 2 percent of those who applied were accepted. “The application process was simple,” she said, “I sent my resume and cover letter to the head facilitator along with an application form.”

The internship is one strong step toward her future of grad school and hopefully a career as a college professor.

Randall, a family studies major with a minor in psychology, heard about this internship through Janice Woods, the Director of Business Internships and Experiential Learning and family studies and interior design assistant professor Michael Langlais, her advisor.

NAP’s mission is to lead the community in the fight to overcome HIV/AIDS and its stigma through education, supportive services and advocacy. The organization helps to promote HIV education throughout the community in the hopes of decreasing the spread of the virus in the future.

Randall is certified in testing for HIV and counseling those who are affected.

She is required to follow confidentiality laws and assist clients through the testing process. “I am responsible for clients’ paperwork to be completed correctly, and that I review all options and resources with them to educate them on basic safety and to promote a safe community,” she said.

She said “I will help to promote NAP and advocate for a strong, educated, and supported community.” Randall is responsible for statistics and analyses collection, research in the field and advocating for AIDS education.

NAP provides free HIV and AIDS testing as well as testing for other STIs. The organization also helps those who have already been affected by the virus. Case Managers at NAP assist the affected by connecting them to medical care, financial assistance, therapy and so much more. NAP also provides support groups to those who are affected as well as family members and friends of those who have the virus.

Randall plans to take her experience to grad school. She has applied to four different graduate programs outside of Nebraska. “I am not from Nebraska originally, and I wish to take as many opportunities as possible to travel and gain new life experiences, including regional and cultural differences,” she said.

Later this month, she will know which colleges accepted her and where her next step will lead. “My top two are Colorado State and Indiana University – Bloomington,” she said. Her end goal is to complete a PhD in human development, family studies or social psychology. She later hopes to continue her career as a university professor and mentor.

She believes that this internship with NAP will help her in her future education and career. “When taking the training course, I knew instantly that I will be exercising my counseling skills,” she said.

The Kearney branch of NAP provides free HIV testing. It is open Monday through Friday by appointment only; appointments can be made by calling 308-338-0527.
Lady Lopers dominate Buckle court again

Nebraska-Kearney swept the week with two wins again at home on the Buckle court. The ladies took on Central Oklahoma Bronchos and the Northeastern Riverhawks on Feb. 9.

After the two victories, UNK’s record is now 9-14 with a 5-10 conference record.

Freshman Kelsey Fitzgerald slices between two Central Oklahoma defenders. UNK controlled the first two quarters, outscoring UCO 33-21 and were able to seal their fifth conference victory.

ELLEN LAIRD
Antelope Sports

Nebraska-Kearney swept the week with two wins again at home on the Buckle court. The ladies took on Central Oklahoma Bronchos and the Northeastern Riverhawks on Feb. 9.

After the two victories, UNK’s record is now 9-14 with a 5-10 conference record.

While taking on the ninth seeded Central Oklahoma Bronchos, the girls put up a total of 55 points to 52 Bronchos points. UNK beat UCO in the paint, and off the bench, but UCO tied 11 a piece for points off turnovers and 10 a piece for second chance points.

Coming off the board, the teams tied for ten offensive rebounds but UCO pulled down 41 total rebounds to UNK’s 33.

Junior guard from Norfolk Catholic Michaela Barry had a big night last Thursday scoring 22 points, 17 in the first half. The Bronchos only switched the lead once but came close again toward the end of the fourth quarter. Closing the gap and passing by only one point, the Bronchos couldn’t find the basket after the Lady Lopers quickly tied and took the lead.

On Feb. 11, the Lopers blew the Northeastern State Riverhawks out of the water with a 54-36 win Saturday.

Saturday was also senior night and seniors Courtney Aitken of Dannebrog; Kelsey Fitzgerald of Yankton, South Dakota; Alexa Hogberg of Chandler, Arizona; and Nieka Wheeler of Independence, Missouri were honored.

Lopers tipped off the game with a call and answer mentality. For every shot Northeastern State put up, UNK had an answer immediately on the other end of the court. After a long first half of a tight score, the Lady Lopers took off in the second half stretching the point gap to as high as 19 points, holding the Riverhawks to single digits.

High scorer was Hogberg for 12; following with 11 points was junior Imani Kyser and Barry with 10. UNK went strong in the paint putting 22 points up 16 off the bench.

Aitken came out on top with 11 rebounds out of UNK’s 45 total boards. After Saturday night’s win the Nebraska-Kearney, the Lopers are now tied with Lindenwood for 10th place in the MIAA standings.

The Lopers head to Edmond, Oklahoma, to take on the Bronchos again as well as the Riverhawks in Tahlequah.

More Photos online @ UNKANTELOPE.COM
Lopers win fifth straight MIAA title

The second-ranked wrestling team placed seven in the finals and scored 98 points to win a fifth straight MIAA Tournament Championship Sunday.

Sixth-ranked Central Oklahoma, the MIAA Dual Champions, had three champions and five third place finishers to stage a rally in the final session but ended up three points short.

Lindenwood (59), Hays (56.5), Newman, Kan. (31) and Central Missouri (24.5) rounded out the field.

Winning individuals titles for UNK were juniors Calvin Ochs (165 lbs.) and Keith Surber (149 lbs.). Both were All-Americans at those classes in 2016.

"We maybe have more star power and heavy hitters on our team but they are just solid from top to bottom," said Loper head coach Dalton Jensen. "They started to chip away on the backside round and that's where you can score a lot of points. They proved they'll be a contender come national tournament time."

Coming in second place were senior Destin McCauley (157 lbs.), juniors Kevin Barrett (285 lbs.) and Bryce Shoemaker (133 lbs.) and sophomores Isaac Deaton (174 lbs.) and Zach Stodden (184 lbs.).

True freshman Jacob Wasser (141 lbs.) was the Lopers lone third place finisher with true freshman Vlad Kazakov (125 lbs.) fourth. Finally, each school can bring three non-point scorers and UNK's trio each placed fourth. They were sophomores Jeff Bizzle (141 lbs.), Seth Harrington (157 lbs.) and Nick Babcock (165 lbs.).

Surber (Sparta, Ill.) needed just 1:50 to win two matches and reach the 149 pound finals. He recorded an 18-0 tech fall over Newman's Mario Rodriguez and then stuck FHSU's Jacob Kay in 47 seconds.

In the finals, he avenged an earlier loss to NU's Tyler Mies in, 8-0. Surber used a take down and a four-point near fall in the second period to score the majority of his points. He has now won seven straight matches to push his season mark to 11-2.

Ochs (Hoxie, Kan.) was just as dominant, recording three majors by a combined score of 32-5 to reach the finals and is now 19-4.

"The two guys I was most impressed with today in terms of performance was Keith and Calvin," said Jensen. "It's impressive Keith majored that guy after losing to him. That just shows how smart a wrestler he is; it takes time to adjust to a new weight. Calvin has only had a few matches at 165 and he's already beaten some top ranked guys."

Ranked third nationally, Shoemaker (Baldwin City, Kan.) gave up two reversals to LWU's Hunter Haralson, ranked fifth nationally, to lose 4-2 in the 133 pound final.

At 141 pounds, it was Loper vs. Loper for third place with Wasser (Kintnersville, Pa.) edging Bizzle (Tahlequah, Okla.), 3-0. Wasser, ranked 11th in this class, won his final three matches after an opening round loss.

On Thursday, FHSU redshirt freshman Greg Tooley beat McCauley (North Sioux City, S.D.), 5-1, in the first sudden victory period. It appeared things were headed that away again but Tooley recorded a takedown as the clock was winding down.

UNK heads to the NCAA West Regional the weekend of Feb. 24-25 in Golden, Colorado.

More @Lopers.com
International athletes impact NCAA teams

With excitement for a new challenge but questioning how to adapt, high school graduate students from all over the world decide to leave everything behind them and get into a new journey that will change their lives forever.

Other parts of the world do not offer college sports to students. This means that once high school ends, student athletes have to choose between attending college and getting an academic degree or becoming a professional athlete. The combination of the two does not exist outside of the United States.

The reality of sports means no successful future is guaranteed. There are so many aspects of a professional athlete’s life that can go wrong and no tomorrow is assured. For these aspiring athletes, the motivation to go out and explore the world comes from the desire to continue both athletic and academic pursuits. Therefore, having the chance to study abroad without paying a penny while playing a sport the athlete loves is an opportunity that should not be ignored.

International student athletes’ recruiting processes are basically the same as any athlete from the United States would go through. As coaches receive videos of the athletes performing, they look up different statistics of the athlete and communicate with the athlete through email, phone calls and Skype.

The coach provides all different kinds of information about the school and if the coaching staff is interested in the athlete, a scholarship offer is made.

International student-athletes have to provide extra academic documents besides a high school GPA. Passing scores on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) are required to meet both the university and the NCAA standards.

International athletes also have to apply for student visas and renew them annually to avoid deportation.

The one thing teams and universities must address when dealing with an international student-athlete is problems with cultural adjustment. This cultural adjustment is reflected in both sides of the team.

For example, on the University of Nebraska at Kearney tennis team, there are currently 10 international student-athletes out of the 17 players total. For the United States-born players, it definitely is an adjustment spending so many hours with teammates that are from all around the world. How cool of an adjustment is this, right?

Creating a strong team bond early in the semester is crucial for making international student-athletes feel at home. These athletes are far away from their families and friends and all they share in common at first is a passion for a shared sport. Having strong relationships with their teammates is the easiest way for foreign-born athletes to quickly feel comfortable in their new environment.

There are so many advantages of having a diverse college team. International student athletes bring so much more to the table than just talent. The culture shared with others and the tolerance athletes learn to have towards their teammates, ignoring what they look like, their color, or their beliefs, creates a unique unity between these athletes. Your teammates become not only your best friends, but also your family. A diverse college team creates a lifelong bond that will forever change the way these athletes understand and appreciate relationships.

Students share similarities, enjoy differences

When it comes to finding variety and diversity, there is no better place than the International Student Organization (ISA), where multicultural events, meetings and diverse activities constantly take place around campus.

ISA brings together domestic and international students to share amazing experiences. It offers many opportunities to make friends, meet people from all around the world, learn about other cultures and understand that every single person has experiences to share.

For many international students, the organization represents their home away from home. Honestly, it has given me a lot more comfort to go out and talk to people. It is not just the place that makes students feel safe, but through ISA, members establish multiple relationships.

UNK is a little world full of richness in knowledge and every kind of point of view. Around campus, there are plenty of cultures and many different perspectives that can bring students changes in their lifestyle, new ways of communication or new opinions that could definitely broaden their mind.

Smiles serve as a representative of the gratitude international students feel to the Kearney community. It is always a pleasure to share our culture and receive smiles in return. We came to UNK to learn, experience, help, teach and enjoy our stay in Kearney and ISA bring us a really great opportunity to make our expectations come through.

Everyone is invited to go to the International Student Association located at Welch Hall; there are always people happy to talk more about the organization.

I.S.A. members Uppalavanna Shakya, an advertisement and public relations major from Nepal; Show Takei, an aviation major from Japan; and Ana Rodriguez, Lexington, carry ISA posters during the 2016 welcome parade in downtown Kearney.

Photo by Daniela Gonzalez

PAULA JIMENEZ
Antelope Staff

With college sports becoming a roaring business in the United States, there are currently around 500,000 student-athletes competing in the National Collegiate Athletic Association. About 17,000 of these student athletes are foreign-born.

With excitement for a new challenge but questioning how to adapt, high school graduate students from all over the world decide to leave everything behind them and get into a new journey that will change their lives forever.

Other parts of the world do not offer college sports to students. This means that once high school ends, student athletes have to choose between attending college and getting an academic degree or becoming a professional athlete. The combination of the two does not exist outside of the United States.

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Students share similarities, enjoy differences

When it comes to finding variety and diversity, there is no better place than the International Student Organization (ISA), where multicultural events, meetings and diverse activities constantly take place around campus.

ISA brings together domestic and international students to share amazing experiences. It offers many opportunities to make friends, meet people from all around the world, learn about other cultures and understand that every single person has experiences to share.

For many international students, the organization represents their home away from home. Honestly, it has given me a lot more comfort to go out and talk to people. It is not just the place that makes students feel safe, but through ISA, members establish multiple relationships.

UNK is a little world full of richness in knowledge and every kind of point of view. Around campus, there are plenty of cultures and many different perspectives that can bring students changes in their lifestyle, new ways of communication or new opinions that could definitely broaden their mind.

Smiles serve as a representative of the gratitude international students feel to the Kearney community. It is always a pleasure to share our culture and receive smiles in return. We came to UNK to learn, experience, help, teach and enjoy our stay in Kearney and ISA bring us a really great opportunity to make our expectations come through.

Everyone is invited to go to the International Student Association located at Welch Hall; there are always people happy to talk more about the organization.

I.S.A. members Uppalavanna Shakya, an advertisement and public relations major from Nepal; Show Takei, an aviation major from Japan; and Ana Rodriguez, Lexington, carry ISA posters during the 2016 welcome parade in downtown Kearney.

Photo by Daniela Gonzalez

PAULA JIMENEZ
Antelope Staff

With college sports becoming a roaring business in the United States, there are currently around 500,000 student-athletes competing in the National Collegiate Athletic Association. About 17,000 of these student athletes are foreign-born.

With excitement for a new challenge but questioning how to adapt, high school graduate students from all over the world decide to leave everything behind them and get into a new journey that will change their lives forever.

Other parts of the world do not offer college sports to students. This means that once high school ends, student athletes have to choose between attending college and getting an academic degree or becoming a professional athlete. The combination of the two does not exist outside of the United States.

The reality of sports means no successful future is guaranteed. There are so many aspects of a professional athlete’s life that can go wrong and no tomorrow is assured. For these aspiring athletes, the motivation to go out and explore the world comes from the desire to continue both athletic and academic pursuits. Therefore, having the chance to study abroad without paying a penny while playing a sport the athlete loves is an opportunity that should not be ignored.

International student athletes’ recruiting processes are basically the same as any athlete from the United States would go through. As coaches receive videos of the athletes performing, they look up different statistics of the athlete and communicate with the athlete through email, phone calls and Skype.

The coach provides all different kinds of information about the school and if the coaching staff is interested in the athlete, a scholarship offer is made.

International student-athletes have to provide extra academic documents besides a high school GPA. Passing scores on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) are required to meet both the university and the NCAA standards.

International athletes also have to apply for student visas and renew them annually to avoid deportation.

The one thing teams and universities must address when dealing with an international student-athlete is problems with cultural adjustment. This cultural adjustment is reflected in both sides of the team.

For example, on the University of Nebraska at Kearney tennis team, there are currently 10 international student-athletes out of the 17 players total. For the United States-born players, it definitely is an adjustment spending so many hours with teammates that are from all around the world. How cool of an adjustment is this, right?

Creating a strong team bond early in the semester is crucial for making international student-athletes feel at home. These athletes are far away from their families and friends and all they share in common at first is a passion for a shared sport. Having strong relationships with their teammates is the easiest way for foreign-born athletes to quickly feel comfortable in their new environment.

There are so many advantages of having a diverse college team. International student athletes bring so much more to the table than just talent. The culture shared with others and the tolerance athletes learn to have towards their teammates, ignoring what they look like, their color, or their beliefs, creates a unique unity between these athletes. Your teammates become not only your best friends, but also your family. A diverse college team creates a lifelong bond that will forever change the way these athletes understand and appreciate relationships.
Students challenge physiques with ‘bouldering’

Last spring semester Jacob McCann, head of Outdoor Adventures and the rock wall, jumpstarted the boulder tournament with the previous leadership. He said they received the inspiration of creating a competition through various other institutions implementing it for their own rock walls.

McCann described bouldering as something similar to a bowling league, although your fingers are supporting your weight 15-20 feet instead of a bowling ball with both feet planted on the ground.

Sport climbing is referenced by taking routes; while bouldering is referenced using problems. They’re both extensive and intricate workouts; but bouldering makes a climber think about where they will place their feet and hands as well as how they want to hold themselves before they take that next step.

When McCann helped start the tournament last year, they were running the problems week to week. This year he has an idea about how it works for students with various skill levels.

Some students only climb during the tournament, and McCann makes sure he has nine levels of problems ranging from beginner to advanced.

The technical term used to refer to where you grab onto the wall is “holds.” In preparation for Wednesday night’s bouldering, McCann and a team of three other people will unbolter the holds and arrange them to reach the various skill levels of competitors.

McCann said, “One of the routes I did, the beginner one to the right. If you look at it, you’ll notice that you’ll grab two of the same holds while your feet are on two of the same holds. It’s a free flow. More of an art than anything.”

The tournament lasts 15 weeks over the semester and is 6-8 every Wednesday night at the rock wall.

Photos by Micaela Klassen

ABOVE: Mitchell Glause, agribusiness major from Palmer, reaches the top of a problem.

RIGHT: Sam Kincade, business administration junior from Gretna, begins a new problem towards the end of his hour climb during the second week of the bouldering tournament.

Left: From left to right: Juniors, Glause, Dexter Griebel, an industrial distribution major from Sargent, and Kincade “throw the lopes” after successfully completing all their problems last Wednesday night.

MICAELA KLASSEN
Antelope Staff

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Stay up to Date
To keep up to date with the Climbing Wall follow them on Facebook: UNK Outdoor, Twitter: @UNKOUTDOOR and Instagram: @unk_outdooradventures; and check out their page on unk.edu.
Cast prepares 2 Tennessee Williams plays

LARS JOHNSON
Antelope Staff

The cast and crew are waiting with anticipation as Two x Tenn opens tonight, Feb. 15. Two x Tenn is the first show of 2017 for the UNK theatre department and is being directed by Jack Garrison.

“‘Twenty-seven Wagon Loads of Cotton’ is the more well-known of the two Tennessee Williams’ one-acts,” Garrison said.

“...in fact I had never even heard of ‘Some Problems for the Moose Lodge’ before I started looking for one acts,” he said. “I chose them because the themes come out very clearly, and they contrast very well.”

The show consists of two separate one-act plays written by Tennessee Williams, one of the most important American playwrights of the 20th century. “Twenty-Seven Wagon Loads of Cotton” is a dramatic story that deals with a woman’s struggle with pain and oppression on a southern cotton plantation. The second one-act, “Some Problems for the Moose Lodge,” is a tragic comedy centered around one dysfunctional family after the death of a family member.

“The first play, ‘Twenty-seven Wagon Loads of Cotton,’ was written in 1946, and the second play was written in 1980,” Garrison said. “They sort of bracket out Tennessee Williams’ life as a playwright. I’ve always liked to do Williams’ plays. This gave me an opportunity to play around with his styles... He writes about some pretty ugly things, like distortion and abuse. All of these are to illustrate his theme that he thinks that there are two kinds of people in the world: the animals, the brutes and the delicate, vulnerable victims. You see these illustrated very well in these two plays.”

Many of the students involved with this production are new to the theatre program. “It’s been very impressive to see the whole cast come together as a group and tackle these hard subjects, especially with so many newer actors,” said Mikayla Stephenson, a senior psychology major in the cast. “This is what educational theatre should be.”

The shows are in the Studio Theatre, located in the basement of the Fine Arts building. Because it is a smaller space than the Miriam Drake Theatre upstairs, audiences will be up close and personal with the action happening on-stage.

I’ve always liked to do Tennessee Williams. I’ve done two or three of his full-length plays. This gave me an opportunity to play around with his styles.”

/ Jack Garrison

Top: Brenden Zwiebe, a sophomore theatre major from Lincoln, confronts freshman theatre major Megan Hayhurst, Scottsbluff, during a front porch scene. Zwiebel plays Jake, an abusive plantation worker, while Hayhurst plays Flora, his battered wife.

Bottom: Freshman theatre major Tiffany Hall of North Platte speaks to senior psychology major Mikayla Stephenson from Scottsbluff. Hall plays an aging mother named Bell McCorkle, and is comforted in this scene by her longtime friend Jessie, played by Stephenson.

Two x Tenn runs through Feb. 15-19.
Tickets are available at the Box Office located in the FAB near Java Notes, and are free for UNK students.
The show contains mature themes and language.

Cast List @ UNKANTELOPE.COM
to set efficient goals for the council. Also, learning about the others on Panhellenic, IFC and MGC was so fun, and I know our friendships moving forward will support the entire Greek community,” Kennedy said.

Lainey Russel, Panhellenic’s vice president of external recruitment said, “Throughout the conference and UNK’s councils, there was a lot of talk about the desire for community and unity, and that will be carried throughout IFC, MGC, and NPC. I absolutely looking forward to that. I am also looking forward to the atmosphere we will be creating among Panhellenic and throughout the sororities on campus. Unity, bonding, and building of connections and our community will be a main goal through new activities and opportunities.”

What Russel said stuck out to me, as it's easy for different chapters to be divided and almost have a sense of competition with one another. Creating more unity and connections between chapters will make for an effective, strong and positive Greek community at UNK.

An all-Greek organization, Greeks Advocating Mature Management of Alcohol (GAMMA), was there helping at the event. This organization was not present when I first began attending UNK.

The Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council have themselves cracked down on incidents placing the Greek system on probation.

Full disclosure, I am a member of the Greek System. One person's particular opinions only go so far, but I would caution the public to be so quick to judge. Assumptions and accusations are easy to make, but without a sure footing, could collapse very easily.

And to those in the Greek system and those soon to join, recognize the position you are in and the opportunity you have. You have the power to reinforce stereotypes; to add to the list of scandal. You also have the opportunity to show a different side and be an example.
Common illnesses like a cold do instill fear in the minds of most college students, but living in fear of a minor illness is reality for Marisa Miles, a junior from O’Neill.

Juvenile systemic idiopathic arthritis or Still’s disease can turn a common cold into a serious issue.

Miles was diagnosed with Still’s disease when she was 17 years old. Still’s disease “is characterized by a raised salmon colored rash, high fevers, joint pain and swelling and affects internal organs and the lymphatic system,” Miles said.

Miles says she fights every day to stay healthy and avoid dangers like a cold, which can send her to the hospital.

Last spring Miles had to spend months in and out of the hospital because she contracted mono. She ended up also getting Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis which stopped her body from being able to fight off the mono and caused her to contract another, more deadly, autoimmune disease.

Miles says she is proud of her sorority and thankful to be a part of it. Alpha Omicron Pi supports arthritis research and the American Juvenile Arthritis Organization, helping people around the country just like her.

Miles saw a pediatric rheumatologist at Children’s Hospital in Omaha but had to miss class frequently while still in high school to travel from O’Neill to her doctor.

Now into the second half of her college career, Miles is still dealing with the hardships of her disease. She says she is now in more control since she can plan her schedule and more closely manage her commitments.

During all my time in and out of hospitals, clinics and emergency rooms, the nurses were always the ones who made me feel safe, welcomed, and that I was going to be able to make it through my illness; I want to be that person for someone who is struggling with their health.”

Miles is a member of a sorority on campus, Alpha Omicron Pi, and with their support she is still able to manage school and her disease. She is quite far away from her parents and her new adult rheumatologist, who works out of Yankton, South Dakota.

She was heavily involved in high school extracurriculars, but after her diagnoses, she had to quit sports and other activities. Severe fatigue and pain stopped her from participating in her school activities.

Miles credits the assistance from others to help her stay on track, but her strength and resilience has kept her pursuing her dreams and working toward a college degree.