Gov. Ben Nelson reads the proclamation Monday afternoon that declares July 1 as University of Nebraska-Kearney Day.

Kearney celebrates move to university

By Gene Schinzel
Managing Editor

At the exact moment that the calendar changed months from June to July, a historical change took place in Kearney.

At the moment that the clock struck July 1, Kearney State College became the University of Nebraska-Kearney, leaving the state college system and joining the state university system.

The day of the name change had been long anticipated since 1989 when the state legislative bill, LB247, moved the institution from the state college system to the University of Nebraska system.

A full day of activities to celebrate UNK began at 6:30 a.m. with a fun walk which wound through the campus.

Kearney Mayor Ron Larson and Pete Kotsiopulos, Kearney city councilman and former chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges, led over 100 UNK faculty, students and community members on the walk.

At noon, Gov. Ben Nelson read a proclamation declaring July 1 as University of Nebraska-Kearney Day as part of a ceremony which took place at the Carillon Belltower.

"This is a milestone event for the University of Nebraska-Kearney, it's a milestone for the entire university," said Dr. Martin Massengale, chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. "Milestones mean progress. This campus has made a lot of progress the past several years."

State Sen. Doug Kristensen of Minden said it was hard for him to believe that the change to UNK was finally a reality. But he added that just because the institution is now a university, UNK must continue to forge ahead.

"The honor isn't getting to be part of the (university) system," Kristensen said. "The honor and responsibility is from today forward. We've known Kearney to be the shining star, now it's the brightest light. "I think this is the most aggressive, progressive campus in the university system and it will continue to be that way."

UNK Chancellor William Nester, Bob Young, president of faculty senate, and Bob Caldwell, president of student senate, also spoke to the crowd of nearly 200 people during the ceremony.

The day's events came to an end when Gov. Nelson planted a tree east of the Carillon Belltower to symbolize the beginning of UNK.

Inside...

Hikes, challenges, changes ahead for UNK pages 4 and 5
KSC history recounted page 8
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Successful past part of Loper athletics page 11
Theft occurs at complex

By Bob Lauterbach
Staff Writer

A VCR remote and monitor were reported missing from the University of Nebraska-Kearney Health and Sports Center at approximately 7:20 a.m. on Wednesday, June 19.

Campus Security Director Bill Davis said that initially a campus security officer was sent to investigate a vandalism report which involved the discharge of fire extinguishers and was then called back over to investigate the missing equipment. "We speculate that it was the people who did the vandalism (that also stole the equipment)," Davis said.

Davis said he doesn't believe the two incidents were related.

"It was just a coincidence," Davis said. "It just happened to happen on the same night."

By Paul Walkowiak
Staff Writer

The University of Nebraska-Kearney is receiving an upgrade of the electronic distribution system and an increase in the power provided to the university, according to Ron Smith, director of the UNK physical plant.

The remodel will raise incoming power from 4,160 volts to 12,500 volts. The increase in voltage will improve efficiency, reducing the cost to UNK over the long run, Smith said.

The work is being done in conjunction with Nebraska Public Power District. The contractor is Kayton Electric of Holdrege.

Construction continues on university campus

continued on page 14

GRE Exam to be given

The Graduate Record Examination will have a special summer testing date Friday, July 26, at 8 a.m. in Founders Hall, Room 2210.

The registration fee is $50 payable upon registration. Registrations will be accepted as long as space is available. For more information, contact the Office of Graduate Studies in Founders Hall at 234-8500.

GPRPF plays now on

Seven different plays will be performed this month at the third annual Great Platte River Playwright's Festival on the UNK campus.

The seven plays, and the dates and times they will be performed, include: "O Pioneers!," July 13, 14, 19, 24, 27, 31 and Aug. 2, all at 8 p.m. in the Miriam Drake Theatre, and matinees July 21 and 28 at 3 p.m.

"Black Elk Speaks" will be performed July 16 at 8 p.m. at the Hostleter Amphitheatre. "Coyote Tales," July 5, 12, 26 and Aug. 3, all at 8 p.m. at the Hostleter Amphitheatre. "Prairie Creek, Nebraska," July 6, 10, 17, 20, 23 and Aug. 1, all at 8 p.m. in the Miriam Drake Theatre.

"Cinderella" will be performed July 3, 7, 9, 18, 25 and 30, all at 8 p.m. at the Hostleter Amphitheatre. "The Frog Princess," July 12, 13, 26 and 27, all at 10 a.m. at the Hostleter Amphitheatre. "King Tridenn," July 5, 6, 19, 20, Aug. 2 and 3, all at 10 a.m. at the Hostleter Amphitheatre.

For more information about the festival or tickets, contact the UNK theatre box office at 234-8417.

Planetarium Presenting Shows

Shows about the sun and constellations are currently being presented in the UNK planetarium in Bruner Hall of Science.

Shows about constellations in the present sky will be shown every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. now through Aug. 3. Four shows about the sun and the solar eclipse that will occur July 11 will be presented Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. both days.

Admission to the shows is $2 for adults and $1 for children, students, senior citizens and KSC faculty and staff.

The UNK physics department is also selling eclipse glasses that will allow people to view the July 11 eclipse safely.

For more information, contact the KSC physics department at 234-8277.
Tuition increase raises tough questions

I met a student the other day who hadn't heard about the tuition increase for next fall in the context of the greedy faculty salary increase.

I wanted to frame him, but he was a non-trad who had read too many old-fashioned police stories and misunderstood me.

Oh, you haven't heard about the tuition increase for students either. Say, I've been away for awhile. Did the administrative leaders of education in Nebraska complain as loudly about how their salaries increase as they complained about ours? Did they offer to pay back a chunk of theirs to help us poor taxpayers?...Uh, just checking!

This is vacation time. Have you noticed how people willingly pay for every increase in their bar bill, their booze prices? Have you observed how people happily shell out big bucks for entertainment centers? Worlds of Fun, for example.

Maybe you have missed higher prices for Big Red tickets which has no effect on line prices (including Air Sununu). Actually, some of us are mad at Sununu because he is a government servant (using the word loosely, I admit), and we don't want government servants getting big business freebies.

But why is it that we are willing to pay more and more for our private pleasures and get grumpy about paying more and more taxes?

Why is it that students are known to pay more and more for books without much complaint (old KSC was the only college I know of that has no student-run book exchange to help students), and yet they lament about higher tuition.

There is a reason for this, of course. Capitalism. According to the tenets of capitalism, it's fair for the business person to charge what the market will bear, but it's not fair for the government to do so. Why? Because we allegedly have a choice to spend or not spend for free market stuff (like food, clothing, housing, medicine and the like), while we have no choice but to pay taxes which supports the poor, the homeless and helpless, the criminals, the students, teachers, professors, postage, bombers, Air Sununu, and the like.

It is a good principle, but there are some exceptions. For example, have you wondered why people continue to pay more for medical services? Is this free enterprise? As we vacation our way through this summer, let's pause and pray for a generous electorate who believes that just as in private business so in government we get what we pay for!

Some day, maybe, Nebraskans will discover that the price of patriotism and the quality of public citizenship is taxes! Taxes, generously paid and magnanimously distributed.

Some day Nebraskans will act like the blessed Christians they are (and purport to be on Sundays) and generously support what we all need: schools, roads, care for the less fortunate, etc.

Some day, I keep hearing that old TV ad that says, "Some Day Is Now!" (Yeah, I've been out in the sun too long.)

Congratulations UNK!
Students to face hike during fall semester

By Julie Eilers and Debbie Hurt
Staff Writers

Students enrolled at Kearney State College can expect more than the name change this fall.

The budget has changed, dragging along an 11.1 percent tuition hike for resident undergraduate students and a 13.6 percent increase for non-resident undergraduate students.

Tuition for graduate students has also increased. Resident graduate students will be adding on another 17.6 percent while non-resident graduate students can expect a 22.4 percent increase.

Earl Rademacher, UNK vice president of administration and finance, said UNK's funding will be $3.5 million.

UNK is receiving $350,000 in supplemental funds for the 1991-92 budget and another $350,000 for 1992-93. In addition, the legislature approved $275,000 to cover transition costs.

Rademacher said the amount is helpful but the funding deficiency is great and the availability of state funds has made the transition more difficult. He also added that we're the only institution in Nebraska to receive the supplemental funding.

While this funding deficiency may seem to be here to stay, Regent Margaret Robinson of Norfolk and Nancy O'Brien of Waterloo agreed that it may take a while to recover.

"A two-year budget is bad, but when the state funding is bad, everyone is hurt," Robinson said. "The real judgement needs to be made in five years."

O'Brien noted that it seems the state has taken less responsibility in educating students and put it on the backs of students. Although O'Brien was grateful for the funding, she was not necessarily satisfied. "The state pays less and students pay more, the only other way is cut programs which has a more negative effect," she said.

Regent Charles Wilson of Lincoln said the board was disappointed with money for the whole university system and, even though there is a tuition increase to make up continued on page 7

Challenges face UNK

By Julie Eilers and Debbie Hurt
Staff Writers

Challenges will continue for the University of Nebraska-Kearney as it enters into the university system and redefines its position in Nebraska higher education.

UNK became a reality Monday after a three-year struggle. The struggle will continue as UNK finds its place in the Nebraska system and is faced with major underfunding problems.

According to William Nester, chancellor of UNK, the transition is going well.

"UNK has been accepted as an equal partner in one with the University of Nebraska-Omaha and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the professional exchanges between the faculty and the administration have exceeded expectation," Nester said.

"Our institutions together are better. Because of our inclusion, all elements will assist each other in creating a better system."

Board of Regents member Margaret Robinson of Norfolk agrees. "Kearney is new and has had an impact on the state, people come from all over the state," Robinson said. "Kearney will continue to attract a state wide student body."

However, State Senator Doug Kristensen of Minden said he felt the whole attitude of the university system accepting UNK may take a while.

"We're an illegitimate child coming into a system that needs to want us," he said. "That's expected, when you change anything.

Kristensen said he does see the negatives as short-term and that the benefits outweigh negatives.

Regent Charles Wilson of Lincoln said he sees each of the universities conflicting and competing with one another. Wilson said that each university must remember to keep in mind its role and mission.

"The state can't allow duplication and tripling, if it does, we have three comprehensive graduate research institutions being three third-rate institutions," Wilson said. "We can't afford that."

Earl Rademacher, UNK vice president of administration and finance, said becoming a university is a benefit to students and will better serve Nebraska.

"Giving access to a university in the central part of Nebraska is a further improvement of quality," Rademacher said.
Deans believe change will enhance UNK

By Misty Leep
Staff Writer

Change is in the air and as with change of any nature, anticipation and uncertainty abound.

New policies, opportunities and problems now face administrators who must make adjustments in conjunction with Kearney State College officially becoming the University of Nebraska-Kearney on July 1.

According to the six UNK academic deans, the move to join the university system will enhance this institution as a whole in the long run.

Dr. Hal Bertilson, Dean of Natural and Social Sciences, said the administration has much to learn about the way other institutions in the system operate.

"One advantage of the transition is policies and procedures that UNO and UNL have that we don’t," he said.

Bertilson said new policy as a university provides for faculty governance at the College of Natural and Social Sciences level that had previously not existed.

Before the change, governance of faculty and programs rested on the dean and a council of various department chairs, some of whom were not directly involved with that particular school.

He said different disciplines think differently, but with the new policy, the faculty of the College of Natural and Social Sciences have an outlet to make the best decisions for their own departments without having to rely on those from other disciplines.

Opportunity for such localized governance now presents itself to all other disciplines as well, in that each discipline will have its own constitution in which to develop its own policies.

Dr. Bruce Becker-Theye, Dean of Fine Arts and Humanities, said the faculty of that college is excited about joining the university system. She said her staff sees it as an opportunity to make policy that has a more immediate impact on student’s needs.

"We’re very committed to quality and fostering creativity," she said. She said she feels the transition will augment such goals.

She said university status provides opportunities in terms of availability of resources from which to draw by enabling staff to work more closely with and learn from faculty of other universities in the system.

Becker-Theye also said that one important change taking place involves the titles of various disciplines.

Where the discipline had been called the "School of Fine Arts and Humanities," for example, it will now be called the "College of Fine Arts and Humanities," she said.

The same change will occur in all disciplines. According to Becker-Theye, as "colleges," the various disciplines gain recognition in Nebraska statute, where they did not as "schools."

Dr. Sam Reno, Dean of Business and Technology, said he also sees the tighter relationships with the other universities resulting from the transition as beneficial.

Reno said examining the programs at UNO and UNL and looking at how they interface with programs already in place here should bring about a more refined program for the College of Business and Technology in the end.

Reno addressed the issue of accreditation, saying he feels more avenues will be available for accreditation with the enhancement of university status. He said he feels the possibility exists for extended accreditation opportunities.

Dr. Doyle Howitt, Dean of Continuing Education and External Programming, said he believes the transition serves the institution’s best interests.

He said the university system, as a scholarly community, has developed a base from which UNK can learn a great deal and move to an even higher level of expectation.

He said he feels UNK can accomplish higher goals without losing sensitivity to the state’s needs.

"We have established ourselves as an institution sensitive to state needs in terms of availability of facilities for learning, particularly in out-state regions," Howitt said. "I don’t foresee changes there."

Howitt concurred with the other academic deans in his views on increased coordination and collaboration with other system campuses.

He said he thinks the closer working relationships between the campuses will enhance the off-campus instruction program as well.

According to Howitt, a transitional task force comprised of UNO, the Nebraska Medical Center, UNL, UNK and Agricultural Extension staff members developed a UNICOORD agreement, which spells out the necessity and goals of greater coordination between campuses in the university system.

He said, however, the agreement has not yet been approved by the Council of Academic Officers or the Board of Regents.

It will go before them for approval in late summer.

Dr. Kenneth Nikels, Dean of Graduate Studies, said he too sees the transition to university status as an overall positive change.

One change incurred by the transition deals with the university system’s higher standards for graduate teaching qualifications.

As a result, current staff members will be reviewed over the next five years to be sure they meet those standards, Nikels said.

"I don’t object to new expectations and requirements of our staff as long as we get the same support from the system as UNO continues to get," he said.

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1963 change showed slow, stable progress

By Paul Walkowiak
Staff Writer

The 1963 name change from State Teachers College to Kearney State College helped bring about slow stable growth which helped lay the foundation on which today’s transition to the University of Nebraska-Kearney is being built.

Harland Hoffman, KSC professor and chairman of the English department who was at KSC when the 1963 name change occurred, said he saw no drastic shifts after the 1963 name change and that internal changes are a very slow process.

"With the change of name, I think there was a growing perceptual change in what we did," Hoffman said.

He said the change occurred very slowly and that there were no immediate changes in the English departments curriculum.

"The name change took place in the early 60’s, but the full effect of the change was not felt until the 70’s," Hoffman said.

He said there were huge increases in enrollment after the 1963 name change. But the name change to KSC was not the only reason for the rapid growth in enrollment.

All across the country the baby boomers were coming of age.

"This meant substantial growth in college enrollment," said Dr. Charles Pickens, KSC professor and chairman of the department of mathematics and statistics, who was also at KSC in 1963.

Pickens said the growth was complimented by the Vietnam War.

"What was your choice, either you go to college or go to war," he said.

Pickens said KSC experienced a name change on October 21, 1963. It was a name change only.

The college remained under the same board of governors.

The change to UNK, however, is more complicated. The transition includes changes in policy and procedure.

In 1963, KSC was reorganized from eight divisions into five schools. With the present transition, today’s six schools will become Colleges of Education.

In 1963, Nebraska’s teachers colleges were functioning as state colleges.

"So we said, ‘call us what we are,’” Pickens said. "We had all these other degrees, we should be a state college.

In 1991, Pickens said KSC is saying the same thing.

"We have a comprehensive enough program, and a graduate program, we need to be called what we are, and that is a university," he said.
New logo greets UNK

By Elyse McShaw
Staff Writer

Symbols have come and gone at institutions, and now the University of Nebraska-Kearney has acquired a new symbol as it enters university status.

UNK has for the first time decided to design, adopt and register an official logo, according to Dr. Leonard Skov, dean of the education department at UNK.

Skov said three different logos have been decided upon: a signature line, which will be printed on college catalogues and other publications; the UNK logo, which appears on letters from the college, T-shirts and other items; and a round logo to be used in places where a regular logo would be inappropriate.

Skov said Virginia Brost, who has left UNK and now works in Gothenburg, along with a number of artists, designed the official logo.

Skov said Brost met with the chancellor’s administrative council and tried to get ideas of what was desired in a logo. Skov said bits and pieces were taken from different designs that she brought to the meeting.

In a second meeting, the designs were decided upon.

Skov said since the logo is officially registered, a license is needed to reproduce the logo if it is not for the use of the university.

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Deans—continued from page 5 and UNL," Nikels said.

He also said that the university system has a policy that graduate studies tuition should cost at least 25 percent more than undergraduate studies.

At present, Nikels said graduate studies cost five percent more than undergraduate studies, so tuition for graduate studies will rise gradually over the next four years to 25 percent more than undergraduate studies.

Dr. Leonard Skov, Dean of Education, said looking to the year 2000, whatever is here will conclude that this event was extremely important to the development of this institution.

According to Skov, one change taking place in the College of Education is the way that graduate programs are administered to graduate students. He said the approval process for new graduate programs will take longer and be more difficult because they must go through an additional level for approval.

"Any time we suddenly become accountable to someone else, it will change the way we operate," he said.

While all of the academic deans said they believe the transition from KSC to UNK to be in the school's best long-term interests, more immediate disadvantages do exist.

All of them said that the number of changes that must be made will require increased support staff and funding.

However, in light of the recent state-wide educational budget cuts, the task becomes a very difficult one.

According to Skov, the graduate teaching staff has new expectations in the area of laboratory research.

The university system expects staff to devote time to laboratory research, but the budget cuts make hiring more people to instruct classes so others can spend time researching very difficult, he said.

Nikels said UNO's graduate instructors, for example, carry average teaching loads of six to nine hours. Graduate instructors at UNK carry a minimum 12-hour load, he said.

Nikels said this is a very hazardous time because of budget cuts.

"When you have more money, it doesn't matter as much if you make a mistake when making changes," Becker-Theye said. "When you have no money, mistakes are much more costly."

Howitt said that though budget cuts affect continuing education and external programming during this time of change, no reduction in curriculum offered will be made.

He said he is concerned that as KSC becomes UNK, off-campus program expectations will be higher in terms of offering more courses from which to choose.

"Staffing and funding will be an excruciating experience," Howitt said.

According to Bertelson, the College of Natural and Social Sciences must deal with the same problem.

"Many changes will cost money we don't have, yet the changes are proper, appropriate and useful," he said.

Reno said he sees the budget cuts as a hindrance to change, but he also sees another possible disadvantage.

He said trying to be all things to all people might be a disadvantage of becoming a university if it is not examined early on.

"As an institution, if you try to service or be involved in too many types of things in the beginning, you won't do anything well," Reno said.

Reno said he thinks autonomy of individual units must be maintained so that certain things that should not be changed are not changed.

Nikels said time shortages make his job difficult.

"The university system loves to have meetings and often schedule them in Lincoln at times convenient for those in Lincoln. We have to drive 125 miles to get there," he said.

Skov said that he thinks this situation will improve over time, however.

Tuition hike ahead—continued from page 4 for lower state funds in Kearney, tuition is still lower than UNL and UNO.

UNK's tuition increase of 11.1 percent is the highest in the university system as UNL's tuition for residential undergraduates for 1991-92 was bumped by seven percent, raising the cost per credit hour to $57.25. UNO tuition jumps 8.9 percent, raising the cost per credit hour to $51.75.

However, even with the increase, Kearney's credit hour rate will be $45 this fall.

There is also a 10 percent tuition increase planned for the 1992-93 school year.

Despite tuition increases, UNK Chancellor William Nester said he doesn't think student enrollment will be affected.

"Students recognize that Kearney remains one of the biggest bargains," Nester said. "Raising tuition is a major disappointment, but the costs to the students is fair. The portion that is unfair is that the biggest part of the funding should have come from the state."
Normal School conception complicated

By Cindy Johnson
Staff Writer

There were heated debates, heated discussions, and heated editorials. All of them focused on Nebraska’s expansion of higher education. This, however, wasn’t the 1991 transition of the Kearney institution into university status, but the 1903 legislative decision to authorize the location of a second normal school in Nebraska. The first normal school was located in Peru.

According to Philip Holmgren, retired Kearney State College professor of history, the Nebraska legislature in March 1903 authorized the education commission to issue invitations for bids.

“What will you offer us for locating the institution in your community,” was the state’s message to the 15 towns that submitted bids. The State Board of Education visited all the prospective communities during the summer of 1903.

“In September, the board met at Peru and after 111 ballots, Kearney was selected on a four to three vote to be the next location,” Holmgren said.

In his book, “Kearney State College 1905-1980,” Holmgren documented the details leading up to the historical vote. Because the only state normal school was located in eastern Nebraska, it was “extremely inconvenient for many teachers in Nebraska who desperately needed the additional training offered by a normal school,” he wrote.

W.K. Fowler, state superintendent of instruction in 1903, suggested, among other things, that Kearney trade its Industrial School for Boys (Youth Development Center) with the State Normal School at Peru. This met opposition and it was decided the state provide a second normal school.

The school would be under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education. After the legislature’s amending process was completed “the House Roll No. 1 was passed on March 26, 1903, and sent to Governor Mickey for his signature,” Holmgren wrote.

It stated the governments appropriation was $50,000 (not the original $100,000), and the site had to be west of a line five miles east of the 98th meridian (placing Aurora and Central City within the favored area).

It also stated the Board would select the site and the original $10,000 cash or bond offer was eliminated.

Communities vying for the school were Alliance, Ainsworth, Long Pine, Fairfield, Central City, Lexington, Ord, Kearney, Gothenburg, Broken Bow, St. Paul, Hastings, Holdrege, Aurora, and North Platte.

Each community was convinced it was the logical site. Some thought Kearney and Hastings would be handicapped because there was already a state institution located in their communities. Hastings had the state mental hospital.

The possible economic impact provided incentive for many communities to become involved in the bidding process.

Holmgren said Kearney’s presentation to the Board was its strong point. It included not only support from the businesses, but also from the churches and individuals.

Kearney also prepared railroad schedules showing its availability. The city argued that a person could travel from any part of Nebraska to Kearney in one day.

The community also offered good, clean water, the Green Terrace dormitory, and the minimum land and money required by the legislature.

Since 1949 Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney, or the current Kearney State College, has been a university for some 86-year history.

“KSC has been a university for some 86-year history,” Holmgren said.

As KSC experienced growing pains, it also experienced name changes. Holmgren emphasized that the current name change will reflect what the institution already is.

“KSC has been a university for some time in the way we look at universities in the 80’s and 90’s,” Holmgren said. The desire, he said, was to get the name to reflect what the institution was.

The original name of the Kearney institution in 1905 was the Nebraska State Normal School of Kearney.

Holmgren said in order to better define the role of the institution, its name was changed in 1921 to the Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney.

In the 1900’s, a normal school represented the last two years of high school and the first two years of college. Normal schools did not give degrees, yet by 1915, a greater emphasis was placed on college degrees.

By 1970, there was 5,890 students. After a drop in the early 70’s, enrollment continued on page 13

Latest transition differs from past changes

By Cindy Johnson
Staff Writer

Not only is Kearney State College going through the transition of a name change, it is also facing a transition of governing boards, a unique situation to the institution’s 86-year history.

According to Philip Holmgren, retired KSC history professor and college historian, the institution has seen three past name changes and one past change in government. The last governmental switch was in 1910.

“That was a very painful experience,” Holmgren said.

As KSC experienced growing pains, it also experienced name changes. Holmgren emphasized that the current name change will reflect what the institution already is.

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In the 1900’s, a normal school represented the last two years of high school and the first two years of college. Normal schools did not give degrees, yet by 1915, a greater emphasis was placed on college degrees.

So you think you know everything there is to know about the college at Kearney? Well, we challenge you to take this short quiz about some events that have happened over the past 86 years at the college.

For your grades, Holmgren reported, “From a moral standpoint the board have selected the worst in the entire list of fifteen towns. A place that is noted the state over for its dominating saloon element and grafters in behalf of houses of prostitution.

“Indeed, it certainly seems that it is not to be the town that offered the best inducements and clean surroundings, morally, that should be entitled to this school, but the town that could show the least cash, the greater number of saloons, greater numbers of houses of prostitution and ungodly surroundings, should win this state prize, an institution that you desire to have your boys and girls attend to procure an education.

“Take the UNK quiz challenge

Take the UNK quiz challenge

5. What national political figure visited the college campus in May, 1968?
6. What year was the library renamed the Calvin T. Ryan Library?
7. What year were the Centennial Towers dedicated?
8. In athletics, who was the first Kearney athlete to earn 12 letters as a Loper?
9. Who was the first Kearney baseball athlete ever to be drafted by a professional team?
10. In 1964, one of the college’s teams became the first Kearney team to win a national championship. In what sport did that occur?

name of one college changed, they all changed.

“They (the governing board) wanted them the same, treat them all equally,” he said. “Of course, it’s not Kearney, Peru, Wayne or Chadron’s school, it’s Nebraska’s college. It (the colleges) just happens to be located there.”

Enrollment has increased dramatically over the past 30 years. In 1961, NSTC topped 2,000 students for the first time, and by 1970, there was 5,890 students.

After a drop in the early 70’s, enrollment was up to nearly 7,000 by 1979. By 1990, KSC had topped the 10,000 mark.

Holmgren said nothing magical happened on July 1 that transformed us from one institution to another. He said the change has already happened.

The first change of direction toward university status occurred in 1969.

“At that time, they moved the institution from divisions to schools,” he said.

It was a university-type setup. “We moved,” he said, “from seven divisions to four undergraduate schools and a graduate school.”

The last 10 years, Holmgren said, have shown a maturation of the whole program.

“Take the UNK quiz challenge

It has taken aggressive leadership for the change which helps us recognize what we have,” he said.

“It was a teacher’s college before the name change and it was a state college before the name change. In both cases, the name changes reflected what they were.”
Campus celebrates dawn of new era

"This is a milestone for the University of Nebraska-Kearney, it's a milestone for the entire university."

–Dr. Martin Massengale

Photos by Dana Toberer
Gene Schinzel
Mike Bechtold

Gov. Ben Nelson presents the proclamation to Board of Regent John Payne of Kearney. Dr. Martin Massengale looks on.

UNK Chancellor William Nester addresses the crowd Monday at the Carillon.

Student senate president Bob Caldwell, left, and Steve Stromp discuss matters at the ceremony on Monday.

Spencer Brown enjoys his lunch on the lawn east of the Carillon Belltower. The outdoor lunch was part of the festivities on Monday.

With a banner proclaiming the change from Kearney State College to the University of Nebraska-Kearney, about 100 people gathered to participate in the fun walk on Monday.
KSC Blue/Gold Golf Day

Gridiron star has Loper number retired

By Gene Schinzel
Managing Editor

Former Kearney State College football standout Randy Rasmussen knew he would become the center of attention June 4 when he returned to his alma mater as celebrity guest for the third annual Blue/Gold Celebrity Golf Day at the Kearney Country Club.

But what Rasmussen didn’t know was that by the end of the day, he would become only the second KSC athlete ever to have his number retired.

Rasmussen, a former Honorable Mention All-American at KSC and a professional football standout with the NFL’s New York Jets, was bestowed the honor by University of Nebraska-Kearney athletic director Dick Beechner and former KSC football coach Al Zikmund after the golf tournament was finished.

The only other Loper athlete to receive such an honor was Tom Kropp for his accomplishments on the basketball court. Kropp is currently co-coach for the Loper basketball team.

Rasmussen also made history for being the first guest celebrity who graduated from KSC in the history of the three-year event. In past celebrity golf day tournaments, the guests were former Oklahoma football coach Barry Switzer in 1989 and former Missouri football coach Warren Powers and Milwaukee Bucks center Jack Sikma in 1990.

Rasmussen, who graduated from Elba High School before attending KSC, played offensive tackle for Zikmund. The Lopers enjoyed enormous success during Rasmussen’s four years as they racked up a 31-6 record.

When Rasmussen began his career with the Jets, he was switched to offensive left guard.

Rasmussen spent 15 years with the Jets, highlighted by a victory in Super Bowl III in 1969 over the heavily-favored Baltimore Colts.

Rasmussen played 207 games during his pro career, which is second in KSC history in games played to the team’s current place-kicker, Pat Leahy.

“The key to having a long career is don’t get hurt,” Rasmussen said. “What ends more careers is a serious injury and I was fortunate enough to avoid that.”

He said even though salaries are higher today, the game isn’t much different today than it was 20 years ago.

“The game hasn’t changed, but the one thing that has changed is the athletes,” Rasmussen said. “They keep getting better and better each year.”

Today, Rasmussen is involved in the insurance business in Connecticut, where he now resides. During the fall, he works for PIA Radio Sports of Chicago commentating college football games. Last season, he worked mostly Big 10 and Southeast Conference games.

Beechner has tentatively scheduled Jim Mora, head coach of the NFL’s New Orleans Saints, as the celebrity guest for next year’s Blue/Gold Golf Day.

By Bob Lauterbach
Staff Writer

The Kearney State College name change to the University of Nebraska-Kearney has had little or no effect on recruiting, but according to some UNK coaches, the transition from NAIA to NCAA Division II has left scheduling in shambles.

Many of the UNK coaches said instead of the name change being the most significant aspect which has affected scheduling, it is the fact that UNK has gone from NAIA to NCAA Division II.

Last season was the first time UNK was eligible to compete in NCAA Division II playoffs.

Claire Boroff, UNK head football coach, said the transition from KSC to UNK probably isn’t the biggest factor in attracting recruits, but becoming an NCAA Division II team will play a bigger role in attraction.

Boroff said along with a diploma from UNK comes more prestige than one from KSC, and that may be one thing that might help out in recruiting.

Boroff said one of the biggest problems for the football team is not having a conference to play in. In past seasons, KSC has participated in seven or eight conference games a year. But now the team has to shoot for 11 games in a season with no conference.

Boroff said the team has certainly had it’s eye on a few conferences, and hopes to have a conference a few years down the road if possible.

Boroff said he feels that a couple of the positive aspects of the transition include the new sports complex and the Cushing College.

“Since NCAA competition doesn’t count against their ratings, teams such as Peru and Hastings may continue to play against UNK,” Boroff said. “If only two teams in the state will play you, your looking at 24 out-of-state games.”

Boroff said the team has to have at least 18 Division I or II games in order to be eligible for a playoff spot, and since KSC has not been in a conference for the past three years, it makes it quite difficult to obtain these games.

“Sixteen or 18 games are usually taken care of when your team is in a conference,” Wurtz said.

Wurtz feels that the transition carries a lot of community support. Although he feels that funds are inadequate because more money is needed for travel, he said that in the long run it will get better and better.

Wurtz said that he didn’t think there would be much of a negative side to the transition, and that it would help to compete with higher level teams.

“If you think about it, you should pretty much be NCAA,” Wurtz said.

A woman's basketball coach, said the transition from NAIA to NCAA Division II may cause some teams to drop UNK from their schedules because the losses may hurt their district ratings.

“Going out of a Kearney State College uniform and into the uniform of a Cincinnati Bengal is one of the transitions taking place for former Loper football standout Travis Vallin.

Vallin, a wide receiver who caught 51 passes and eight touchdowns for KSC last season, is headed for summer camp with the NFL’s Cincinnati Bengals.

“Going out of a Kearney State College uniform and into the uniform of a Cincinnati Bengal is one of the transitions taking place for former Loper football standout Travis Vallin. Vallin, a wide receiver who caught 51 passes and eight touchdowns for KSC last season, is headed for summer camp with the NFL’s Cincinnati Bengals.”

The day that I had to go to mini-camp at the end of April was one of the scariest days of my career,” Vallin said.

Vallin said the mini-camp was even harder since he was from a small school and was playing with people who play before millions on national television every Sunday.

Vallin was a standout athlete in high school at Long Island, Kan. He earned 12 letters in football, basketball and track during his high school athletic career.

Vallin also excelled as a sprinter on the KSC track team. In 1990, he earned NAIA All-American honors, and this May he finished third in the 400-intermediate hurdles at nationals in the NCAA Division II meet.

Vallin reported for mini-camp again at the end of June. He’ll report to summer camp in the middle of August.
Successful past part of Loper athletics

By Gene Schinzel
Managing Editor

As the name change is being made from a state college to the University of Nebraska-Kearney, the sports programs hope to enjoy as much success as a university as they did as a college.

As a Normal school, the Kearney football team began its tradition in 1905. But that year’s team not only went wireless for the season, but also failed to score a single point.

But the team enjoyed its first winning season in 1910, and after 1935, Kearney has amassed 44 winning seasons with four NAIA playoff trips. The team has only six that year’s team not only went winless for the season, but also failed to score a single point.

Kearney, the sports programs hope to enjoy NAIA playoff trips. The team has only six

The most successful Loper coach was Allen Zikmund, who coached Kearney State from 1955-71. Under Zikmund’s helm, the Lopers rolled up a combined for a 121-32-3 record. KSC was undefeated with 9-0 records in 1956, 1958 and 1967.

In 1958, Kearney outscored its opponents 389-42, including drubbings of Wayne State, 56-0; Dana, 73-13; and Concordia College, 71-0.

The most successful Loper basketball program is Jerry Hueser, who was the Loper’s head coach and has captured over 400 victories with KSC.

The Kearney basketball team has come a way’s tight, with a five-percent cut every year. “KSC has had an outstanding athletic program for many years. This could serve as a good foundation for years ahead,” Beechner said.

UNK volleyball coach Rosella Meier said her team hasn’t seen much of a significant change yet in the transition.

“Down the road maybe, but not until the word gets around,” Meier said. Meier said the transition to a university would probably have the most affect on out-of-state recruits. Dick Beechner, UNK athletic director, said being a university would make it easier to sell the school when it comes to recruiting.

“KSC has had an outstanding athletic program for many years. This could serve as a good foundation for years ahead,” Beechner said.
How was the challenge?

How do you think you fared from the quiz on page 8? Here’s the answers from the UNK quiz.

1. There have been seven presidents for the college. In order, they are: A.O. Thomas (1905-1913); George S. Dick (1913-1918); George S. Martin (1918-1936); Herbert L. Cushing (1936-1961); Milton Hassele (1961-1971); Brendan McDonald (1972-1981); and William Nester (1983-present).

2. Carrie Ludden served for the college for 48 years from 1906-1953. In 1961, a new residence hall was named in her honor.

3. Don Briggs received the first master's degree in 1957. Briggs had a nearly 40-year association with the Kearney Institute, teaching English and journalism and serving as public relations director and sports information director. Briggs retired from the sports information director post last year.

4. Copeland Hall is the oldest building. It was built in 1918.

5. Former President Richard Nixon visited KSC in 1968.

6. On October 31, 1963, the library was renamed the Calvin T. Ryan Library.

7. The Centennial Towers got their names in honor of the 100th birthday of the state of Nebraska in 1967. The residence halls were constructed between 1965 and 1967.

8. Gene Armstrong, who earned his letters between 1954 and 1958, was the last person to earn 12 athletic letters. The only other person to accomplish this feat is Doyle Fye.

9. Rich Osentowski was drafted by the Minnesota Twins in the late 1960’s to become the first professional sports draftee. Rich's son, Jared, was drafted this summer by the New York Mets.

10. The bowling team bought home the hardware as the first national championship team in the college's history.

The scoring system for the quiz is:

If you answered three or less correctly, better go back to the books.

If you answered four to seven correctly, you must be a Kearney graduate.

If you correctly answered eight or more, you must bleed blue and gold.

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**Congratulations UNK!**

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Normal School
continued from page 8
al needs are concerned.”
The Ord Quiz wrote, “The farce entitled
the new normal school in which the Normal
School Board were the chief comedians has
at least ended, at least as far as their acting is
concerned.
“The closing act of the comedy was the
location of the normal at Kearney, and the
funny part of the play was the fact that the
four men who placed it there knew from the
start it would go to Kearney after all junket-
ing trips had been had and the banquets of-
fered had been sampled.”
With Kearney winning the balloting, the
second Normal School of Nebraska had be-
come a reality. The land had been given and
the buildings provided.
The legislature, which met every other
year, had not appropriated funds to operate
the institution. Therefore, the beginning
classes were not until the summer session
of 1905.
The original salaries of faculty were
from $1,350 to $2,100. The president’s sal-
ary was $3,750.
A.O. Thomas was voted as the first presi-
dent. The institutions first summer session
didn’t have buildings yet remodeled.
Holmgren wrote in his book, “The first
classes held by the Normal School of Kear-
ney would be held in the Kearney High
School from June 19 to July 28, 1905. The
first two days of fall classes were also held
at the Kearney High School.”
“There were no floors on the halls...We
had little furniture on hand at that time, and
little equipment of any kind. Our enroll-
ment so far exceeded our expectations that
we were compelled to double our supplies
by subsequent orders, but during all of this
time the two or three hundred students en-
rolled were considerate in the extreme.”
Construction
continued from page 2

"The campus is wired in a 'loop system'" said Shane Higgins of Kayton Electric. "The loop system gives the campus a back-up capability that it didn’t have before."

Smith said the aesthetic quality of the campus will be enhanced because all overhead lines will be removed.

All of NPPD sub-station equipment, wire, transformers and switch gear will be replaced next summer by NPPD. Smith said the new system will be more reliable. The equipment in use now is more than 30 years old, Smith said.

The first buildings to be brought on-line will be University Residence South with additional buildings being brought on over the next 14 months.

The estimated cost of the project is $2.3 million which includes work for the computer system.
KSC nursing department holds weekend reunion

By Stacy Hughes
Staff Writer

With the last graduating class from the Kearney State College nursing department having left, the nursing department had its all-class reunion June 22.

This spring was the last graduating class from the KSC nursing students. The college of nursing will be known as the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing, in correspondence to KSC becoming UNK.

Since 1980, KSC has had 290 students graduate from the nursing program.

UNK is now the fourth division of UNMC College of Nursing. Students now have the choice of completing their bachelor of science in nursing degree in Omaha, Lincoln, Scottsbluff or Kearney.

According to Patty Newell, director of the UNK nursing department, the changes from KSC to UNMC are going to be difficult, but the long-term outlook is very positive.

"The main objective of the whole department is to make sure our students keep well-informed on all the changes during this transition," Newell said.

However, the current nursing students will graduate with UNK on their certificate and then the UNK department will be phased out by December 1994, Newell said.

According to Newell, there are many changes which will take place in the nursing college.

The changes include the nursing students will have to apply for financial aid and scholarships at Omaha’s Medical Center rather than UNK. The clinical aspect of the nursing classes also causes the tuition for a nursing student to be $51.25 per credit hour, unlike the $45 for other students.

Newell said in order to keep up with the university system, the campus needs to have a better communications system.

"I sometimes spend up to three hours on the phone talking to the main office at UNMC, discussing curriculum, paper work, staffing and funding for the college of nursing," Newell said.

Newell said she feels the competition will increase between the students and they will have the opportunity for the campus of their choice.

All students, however, will have to apply and be accepted to that division of the University’s Medical Center. Last year, 60 students applied to KSC college of nursing and only 27 were chosen.

According to Newell, the nursing students of KSC hold a real pride and respect toward their college of nursing.

"That right there proves KSC had a great nursing program," Newell said.

There are plans for an informational meeting at UNK about the transition process to the University of Nebraska’s Medical Center on Sept. 9.

Read the Antelope
Bookstores make change

By Debbie Hurt
Staff Writer

Pencils, papers, books — and sweatshirts. All are pretty popular items in a college students’ life.

It seems that becoming part of the university system surely wouldn’t change the role of these items, but beneath the etched initials and puffy bright colors, change is anticipated.

Folley’s Campus Bookstore and the Antelope Bookstore have been preparing their stores for the name change. Both stores have had Kearney State College items on sale since late March, and except for some pencils and notebooks, there’s not a lot to remind students of KSC.

Eric Fields, manager of The Antelope Bookstore, said they plan on keeping some Alumni KSC sweatshirts in stock for a few years, but if you’re a student now, there’s not a lot to hold on to.

If you have browsed through either store this summer, you know they’ve taken out the old and have brought in the new.

Besides the inventory change, The Antelope Bookstore has been busy changing its logo, its address to a few hundred vendors and of course, its advertising bookbags.