



## Safe Walk makeover:

# Additional officers, phone lines added

BY JENNY GIERHAN  
Antelope Staff

Are you spending long hours in the library studying for finals? When you leave the library are the trees and the quiet enough to give you the willies? Did you get off work late and have to park over in Mantor parking lot even though your dorm is CTW? If so, call Public Safety for a safe walk home.

"The Safe Walk program has been in place ever since I've worked for the university," Michelle Hamaker said.

**"Anytime a student feels unsafe on campus, we want them to not hesitate and give Public Safety a call."**

Michelle Hamaker  
Police and Parking Services

Michelle Hamaker, Director of Police and Parking Services said. "It has been recently revamped in November of this year."

Students had vocalized their concern with only one public

safety officer on duty at night. With only one officer, that officer could be off taking another call or dealing with other issues and unable to provide the safe walk.

Now, Sunday-Saturday between the hours of 9 p.m. and 1 a.m. there will always be an officer on duty to provide safe walks for students on campus. You can still call after 1 a.m. but there will not be an assigned person taking calls.

"We wanted to make sure of two things with the new program. One, there will always be someone to answer the calls, and two, there will always be someone to provide a safe walk," Hamaker said.

Police and Parking Services added a second phone line just for safe walk calls and a third line for voice mails in case the second is busy.

When you call the officer will obtain your name, your location and any identifying information like clothing description or vehicle information.

"We really want our program to be utilized more often than it is. Anytime a student feels unsafe on campus we want them to not hesitate and give Public Safety a call," Hamaker said.

# "A Light of the World" pageant lights up night sky

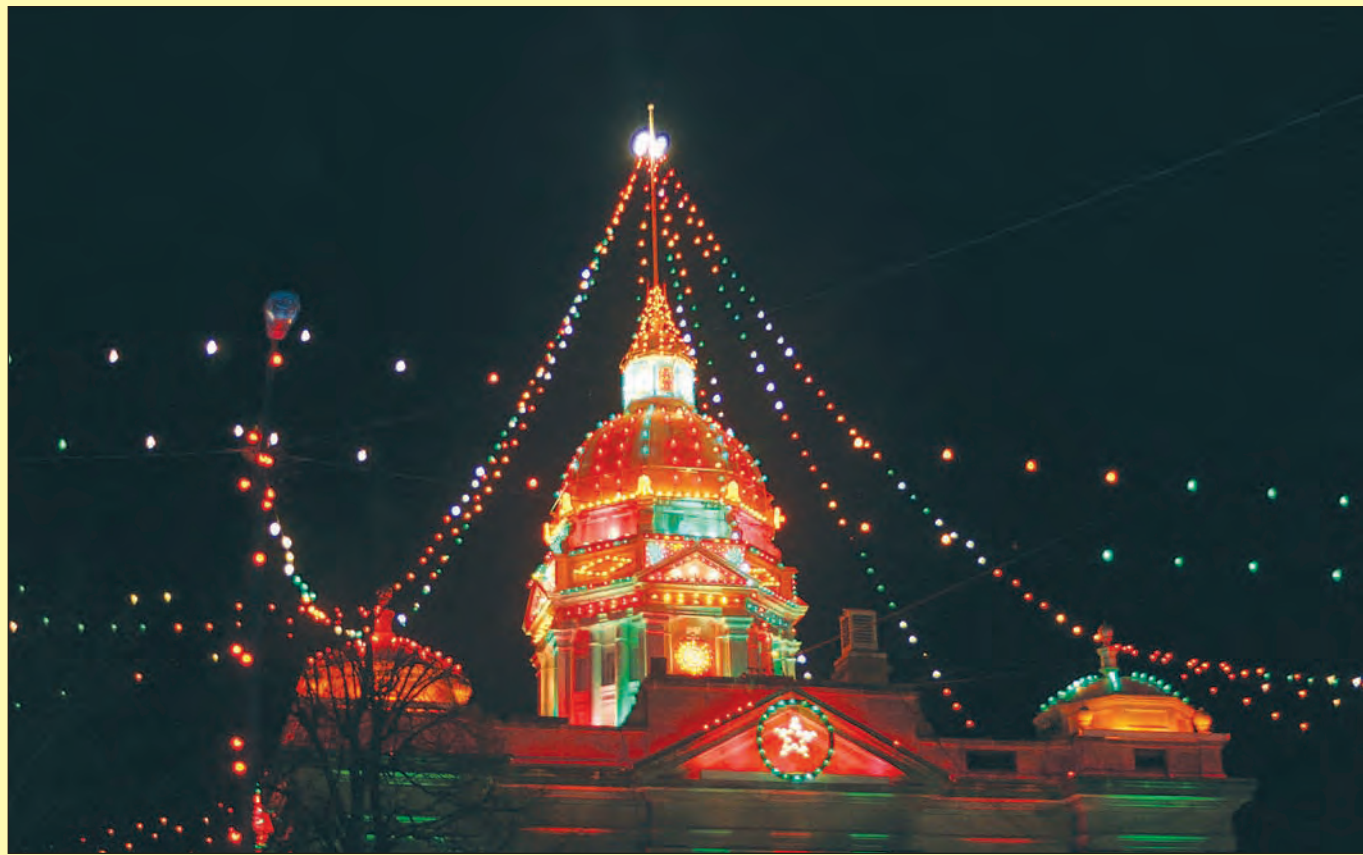


Photo by Nathan Speer

Minden, just a 25 mile drive from campus, lit up the night sky with Christmas lights decking the historic opera house following the annual pageant Dec. 7. The City of Minden lights over 10,000 holiday bulbs every year throughout the month of December leading up to Christmas.

# Student groups give back to Kearney

BY MEGAN WENZ  
Antelope Staff

It's the holiday season and therefore time to give and receive. A variety of campus student groups have chosen to give to local organizations to help those Kearney residents in need this holiday season giving back by donating time, money and service to local organizations.

RHA, the Residence Hall Association, completed a can food drive for the Jubilee Center of Kearney. They turned it into a competition called Can Food Castle, and all residence halls were encouraged to donate to make an actual castle of canned food.

"We were able to get student participation and help the Jubilee Center in the process," said Audrey Churchill, junior interior design major from Holstein.

**"We succeeded in collecting around \$1,200, which was then doubled by a local company to buy gifts."**

Audrey Churchill, junior interior design major who participated in the RHA food drive

The Residence Advisory Council also put on a philanthropic competition between all the Resident Advisors on campus. The RAs were challenged to collect money to be donated to buy gifts for families in need. Residential and Greek Life planned to wrap the presents and distribute them to the families around town.

"We succeeded in collecting around \$1,200, which was then doubled by a local company to buy the gifts," Churchill said.

There is still time to help out the local community on your own. The Salvation Army is always in need of bell ringers

and volunteers this time of year according to Major Dale Hixenbaugh, the Corps officer for the Salvation Army.

"The bell ringers are our biggest fundraiser because it pays for the perishables for the food baskets," Hixenbaugh said.

Student volunteers are also needed to move boxes of food to the trucks to be delivered to shut ins. After the holiday season, help is still needed for simple service to aid the shut ins and to volunteer at the Salvation Army store. Any available finances are gladly accepted for the families of Kearney in need.

Students willing to help can come in groups or by themselves.

"Volunteers would help hang clothes, sort items and clean the store. Snow removal and lawn care are also needed," said Brenda Wommer, Salvation Army store manager.

So whether you are able to help now or help later, giving back to the community is needed by organizations all around. Any time is appreciated and needed.

"Students can come to the office or the store to begin the process to help us," Wommer said.

# Stoeger's tradition spreads holiday cheer to all

BY KASSY KELLER  
Guest Writer

For Sarah Stoeger, a fifth year senior elementary education major with an ESL endorsement from Grand Island, the holidays hold a special place in her heart.

"This is my favorite time of year. I love to share with anyone and everyone that feeling inside," Stoeger said.

For the last couple of years, Stoeger has chosen to share this feeling with others by buying the ingredients, baking dozens of cookies and hand delivering or mailing them to places of need in the state of Nebraska.

The idea to help in this way came to her several years ago as a new freshman at UNK.

"I remember asking my mom what I could do to make the holidays a little more special. That is when we came up with the idea to bake cookies," Stoeger said.

Stoeger started out very small and each year, through the help of online sources, has found new places to add to her list, to expand her route of giving.

"Hundreds of my cookies have gone to women's shelters, Boys Town and Girls Town, as well as sexual assault centers in

Lincoln and Omaha," Stoeger said.

In the four years Stoeger has baked and delivered cookies, she has never experienced reactions from those who have received her cookies — which is exactly the way she wants it.

"I don't do what I do for the publicity. This time of year everyone should know that someone cares about them," Stoeger said.

Photos by Nina McRae

**MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS BE BRIGHT:** Sarah Stoeger, an ESL/elementary education major from Grand Island shares her love of the season with others. For the last four years, Stoeger has purchased ingredients, baked and delivered hundreds of Christmas goodies, but this season she decided to create a holiday star that could be passed on for years to come.



This year, however, will be new and entirely different for Stoeger. She has decided to change things up a little by taking a break from baking to try her hand at creating a gift that keeps on giving; her new idea — holiday stars.

"I wanted to come up with a gift that will last," Stoeger said. "You can give someone a tin of cookies that will be gone in five minutes, or you can create an

ornament — a star — that can be passed on for years to come."

Finding the time for holiday projects and schoolwork has become increasingly difficult for Stoeger; however, she is determined to make time to finish all of the projects she has started.

"I don't think that I've ever been busier than I am right now, but somehow I know that no matter what happens, I will make time to do whatever I set

my mind to. This is important to me," Stoeger said.

Next year, at this time, Stoeger hopes to be teaching somewhere in Nebraska where she hopes to be able to share with her students her love of giving.

"I want to show my students that it is not always about the holidays or Christmas; that people can give to anyone and

everyone no matter what the time of year," Stoeger said.

For all of us it is a good reminder, that no matter how busy or stressed we get through the holiday season, there is always time to spread a little joy.

"Whether you bake goodies or visit a lonely neighbor, there is always something that you can do to make someone's day a little brighter," Stoeger said.





WHO WILL BE AFFECTED?

## Making the switch to digital

*If you use an antenna to watch TV and do not subscribe to cable, satellite or other pay TV services, you will need to upgrade so you can receive uninterrupted TV programming.*

BY MEGAN OAKLUND  
Antelope Staff

You may have already noticed changes, but your television screen may be blank because of the federally mandated switch to digital television coming in February unless you have cable television or have made preparations by buying the necessary converter box.

Like most college students, Allison Blessing, a junior in pre-optometry major from Elwood, has not prepared. "I haven't paid much attention to what it is about," Blessing said.

Digital television, also known as DTV, is a broadband width type of over the air broadcasting that will enable TV stations to provide clearer picture and better sound quality. Over half of the full power television stations nationwide already offer digital programming.

DTV is touted to be more efficient and more flexible than the traditional analog way of broadcasting, one of the reasons the switch is being made. The best part about DTV is that television viewers can receive this clearer broadcasting free after purchasing the converter box.

By law, the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, all full power television stations will have to turn off their analog channels on or before Feb. 17, 2009.

Making the switch will also allow TV stations to improve their services with enhanced closed captioning, better pictures and sound and the ability to offer several channels of programming at the same time, known as "multicasting."

Who will be affected by this change? If you use an antenna to watch TV and do not subscribe to cable, satellite or other pay TV services, you will need to upgrade so you can receive uninterrupted TV programming.

On the UNK campus, students who already have cable don't have to worry.

"It really won't affect me personally. I live in U Heights (University Heights) and cable is part of what I pay each month. UNK has to worry about it not me," Blessing said.

Viewers can upgrade in several ways: by purchasing a DTV converter box for an existing TV set, purchasing a TV set with a built in digital tuner or by subscribing to cable, satellite or other pay TV services.

If you do need to upgrade your current programming the National Telecommunications and Information Administration is now issuing coupons for DTV converter boxes. Any household can apply for up to two coupons, which must be redeemed within 90 days.

# Glass blowing causes heat wave

BY KAYLIE PERRY  
Antelope Staff

With temperatures heating up to 1500 degrees, UNK's glass blowing class taught by Assistant Professor of Art Chad Fonfara, is a hot ticket, very popular and hard to get into.

"Many people tell me they want to take the class but can never get in, and my advice to them is to keep trying. It is worth it," said Nathan Trautman, a senior from Norfolk.

Most students learn about the opportunity from others on campus or through the open house every December.

"I first found out about glass blowing when I lived in Conrad Hall my freshman year when a friend of mine had taken it. I never heard that UNK had a glass blowing program before and was instantly interested in the art," Trautman said.

"I didn't know anything about the class until my boyfriend started taking it," said Megan Meline, a junior nursing

major from Red Cloud.

You don't need to be a major to take the class, and many of the students are not art majors.

Trautman said the variety of students with varied backgrounds make it interesting.

"What I like best about it is the wide variety of people who you get to interact with. We have a police officer, interior design majors and even a philosophy major. He said such varied backgrounds make for an interesting group of people to work with, and the ideas just multiply with the forms and colors you can do after your first semester.

Glass blowing is offered as an elective, a beginner class—often around ten students. The advanced group usually has around seven students.

Trautman said he had to try several semesters before he got the class on his schedule.

"I finally got in the spring of my junior year. Once you get past the basics, glass blowing becomes more of a hobby than a class atmosphere, and it helps

to just relieve some stress from all my other classes," Trautman said

Glassblowers shape the molten masses softened by heat by blowing air into it through a tube.

"It depends on what you are making, but it usually takes about an hour to an hour and a half to make a piece of art," said Claire Freeburg, a senior graphic

design major from Holdrege.

According to the students in the class, you don't need to know anything about the glass blowing when you take the first class.

"Chad Fonfara knows his glass, and with his help you can make just about anything by the time you are done with this class," Trautman said.

*"Many people tell me they want to take the class but can never get in, and my advice to them is to keep trying. It is worth it."*

Nathan Trautman, senior



Photos by Kaylie Perry

**RIGHT:** Nathan Trautman, a senior from Norfolk, shapes a piece of artwork during his glass blowing class after taking it out of the kiln. "I first found out about glass blowing with I lived in Conrad Hall my freshman year when a friend of mine had taken it. I never heard that UNK had a glass blowing program before and was instantly interested in the art," Trautman said.

**ABOVE:** Some of the glass blown by the students in the Glass Blowing class at UNK. "It depends on what you are making, but it usually takes about an hour to an hour and a half to make a piece of art," said Clair Freeburg, a senior graphic design major from Holdrege.



# Kills in Water shares Lakota history

BY TARA PURDIE  
Antelope Staff

With Hollywood leading the pack, there is greater importance in the meaning of names. The name Delores Kills in Water, fascinating as it is, is a cue not only to Native American ancestry but also striking enough to grab attention and fill the Ponderosa Room with students and others from the community on Dec. 11.

Freshman deciding major Catherine Peterson from Omaha said that she went in the presentation with an open mind. Peterson said she did not know what to expect.

"It was interesting to hear about how the women in the tribe were such a large influence when it came to the camp. Most people think that women didn't have a voice, but in the Lakota tribe, after Delores explained, the women's role you can tell that the women really did have

*"The presentation showed how hard they worked for everything. They didn't just sit around and do nothing."*

Kwynn Gracey, freshman

a voice," Peterson said.

Peterson also said one of the most interesting things about the presentation was looking at the artifacts that Kills in Water passed around. Peterson said they were cool to look at, handle and see up-close.

Kills in Water wanted to inform students on the importance of Lakota women and the duties that they had. She explained the great detail that went into duties such as sewing beading and sewing a knife sheath with sinew as thread.

Freshman Kwynn Gracey also had a favorite part of the presentation. "When she passed things around like that little box, the knife holder, and that game. I liked this because I'm a visual

learner, and it was easier for me to see the hard work that goes into making their things."

Gracey, from Ainsworth, said she also found it interesting when Kills in Water explained that the Lakota women used every part of the buffalo.

"The presentation showed how hard they worked for everything. They didn't just sit around and do nothing," Gracey said.

"It definitely gave me a new

*Photo by Kevin Whetstone*  
Delores Kills in Water, an elder from the Sioux reservation in Rosebud S.D., tells a story during her presentation entitled "A Lakota Sioux Family Tradition." Kills in Water also showed traditional Sioux items such as moccasins, bags and tools.

way of thinking about the roles that Native American women had," Peterson said. "Yes, they were the caregivers and keepers of the camp, but they were also very active in alerting the elders when something wasn't working

in camp and making sure that there were enough provisions at camp. These were major aspects that without them, everyone in the tribe could die."

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For more information on how the DTV switch may affect you visit:

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# Professionals say make it easier to keep your New Year's resolution by setting better goals

BY AMANDA BAILLIE  
Antelope Staff

The New Year is just around the corner, and everyone wants to bring it in on good terms. So, after all the parties are done and the ball has dropped, the famous New Year's resolutions come out. What is the theory behind those dreaded resolutions? Do people really keep them? If, not then why make one at all?

"I have learned not to make resolutions anymore because I never end up keeping them anyway," said Alecia Laurent, junior psychology major from Bridgeport.

"My resolution this year is to stop cursing," said Amy Kantaras, senior family studies major from Kearney.

"I would have to say that my resolution is to do better in school," said Crystal Nielsen, second level junior nursing major from Kearney.

"My resolution for this year is to be more organized," said Kevin Robinson, senior exercise science major from Milwaukee, Wis.

Dr. Richard Miller a professor in the psychol-

ogy department at UNK had a few tips on how to make your resolution and keep it this year.

"According to psychological research people are more successful in keeping the resolutions they make if they (1) take some time prior to New Year's eve to think about what they would like to change in their lives, (2) pick only one thing to work on, (3) don't keep making the same failed resolution year after year and (4) most importantly, think about HOW you're going to keep your resolution and not just the ultimate goal of the resolution," Dr. Miller said.

"The biggest problem with resolutions is that many people choose health-related resolutions. Those are often the most difficult to keep. Issues such as smoking and drinking are bad habits that require more than just a desire in order for a change to occur," Dr. Miller said.

Following Miller's advice. Choose your resolution carefully. The next time you tell yourself, "This is the year that I keep my New Year's resolution," take a few moments and really analyze the possibility of choosing something you will actually achieve.

# Year-end review for 2008: style trends

BY JENNY GIERHAN  
Antelope Staff

Every year new trends fill the shelves and line the aisles. Trends are evident in the clothing we buy and the way we present ourselves.

Magazines, specialized television such as TLC's "What Not to Wear" and Style Network give cable viewers an 'in' to the new trends.

Advertisements are constantly being slapped in our faces in magazines, on television, on billboards.

Clothing "Fashionistas" have a leg up in Kearney since the Buckle is headquartered locally. Many choose to work at the headquarters and in the store for the discount on the hot trends that price out in the mid-range and are geared to young people.

"I basically get my style information from other people. If I like something that someone has on, I ask them where they got it. Chances are, I'll find something else I'll like there too," said Brittany Davidson, a senior business major from Hastings. "I don't base my style off of what magazines say are 'cool' at that point in time."

Guys are usually a lot less in tune with what the styles are. In comparison to women, they just like to be comfortable and look good.

"Luckily for us guys, history has repeated itself— so we are just carrying styles over," said Andy Greer, a sophomore sports administration major from Grand Island. "I just think guys see the trends in television or go to the mall and find whatever. I don't really think we put a lot of thought into it really."

No matter how you look at

this year's fashion you can see a return of the formerly "fashion faux pas" styles of the 1980s. Bright colors and patterns, tight jeans with loose shirts and big hair are becoming a part of our daily fashion all over again. Critics swore they would never wear those kinds of styles ever again, but with some minor changes such as new fabrics and ditched shoulder pads the 80s fashion is here and thriving.

"I think one of the biggest trends for both guys and girls this year is argyle. As I look at stores, they are really taking that and running with it. I've rocked argyle for a while now, but I'm glad it caught on," Greer said. "I don't think it's going anywhere for 2009. People like it; it's classy and fun at the same time."

Trends usually come from larger cities on both coasts and

Davidson said, "It takes me quite a while to get used to the newest popular trends."

Greer said guys are basically two ways when it comes to trends. Some guys just follow the basic Hollister brand T-shirts and American Eagle jeans and shirts, whereas other guys are just trying to be completely different.

"For me personally, I am trying to get away from the casual look so much by dressing up with collared shirts and sweaters. I see that a little more from guys in college, but mainly the other guys I see walking around wear jeans and a T-shirt," Greer said.

Emily Richter, sophomore radiography major from Omaha said, "I think the trends this year have been a lot more conservative than in the past. Loose shirts and scarves that cover are really trendy. I think it's cool that you can dress classy and still look good."

Accessories are always a fun way to add to your outfit and this year they are really trendy. Scarves are making their big comeback this year along with hats that have always been around. "I think every guy owns at least one flat billed hat, some guys own hundreds," Greer said.

"My favorite trend of 2008 is the chunky, big and long necklaces. They are fun and dress up most outfits. I think they will stick around for 2009," Davidson said.

From UGG boots to argyle this year has brought us some sweet trends to love and hate. Next year will be filled once again with new trends on the shelves and consumers running to stores to "get 'em while they're hot!"

**"I think it's cool that you can dress classy and still look good."**

*Emily Richter  
Sophomore  
Radiography*

some costly trends such as the UGGs popular are more apt to come out as cheaper knockoffs before they get to Nebraska.

"UGGs and boots with fur on them are really popular right now," Davidson said. When trends first start they are usually more expensive. For example, the UGG boot phenomena. UGGs can near the \$180 range. Now, you can buy imitation UGG boots at Wal-Mart for \$10.



Photo by Laura Schemper  
Ashton Rieker, a business administration marketing senior from Eustis, says she plans to save money more by shopping less.



Photo by Laura Schemper  
Megan Baker, sophomore elementary education major from Gibbon, says her New Year's resolution is improving her GPA.

Photo by Laura Schemper  
Derek Lemburg, senior business administration and marketing major from Grand Island, says his resolution is to finish school.

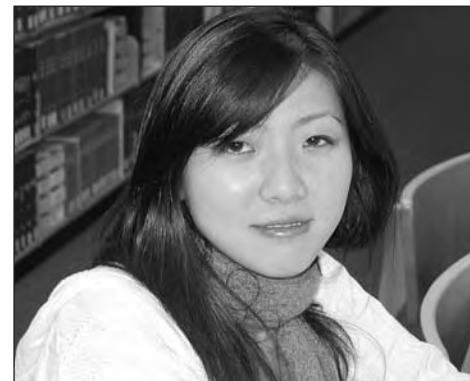


Photo by Laura Schemper  
Misha Koma, organizational communication senior from Japan, says her New Year's resolution is getting a job in Japan after she graduates this December.

# Anderson's new sci-fi novel is a hit



BY KEVIN L. NENSTIEL  
Guest Writer

Muad'Dib, it's about Paul.

These authors avoid the trap of trying to recreate Frank Herbert's style. Old Herbert was a unique mind.

But these two forget they are trying to honor an established classic. They allow their own work to get between the audience and the "Dune" that audiences have loved for over forty years.

If your only familiarity with "Dune" is the media adaptations through the years, you'll find this book confusing, as it follows the original novel. This recaptures much intricate nuance which the adaptations wrote out, but alienates newcomers. You cannot follow this sequel if you haven't read the original.

The authors pick up dribs and drabs Old Herbert left, and fleshes them out in detail. Remember the doomed alternate Kwisatz Haderach whom Scytale mentioned in "Dune Messiah"? Now he has a biography.

Likewise, Muad'Dib's Jihad, more implied than described in the original, gets mapped out in greater detail. And we get a glimpse of the strife-torn time Paul spent on Caladan before the Emperor packed his family off to Dune.

For all the war and struggle in this book, remarkably little is depicted in the actual text. Only climactic battles are actually delivered to us in so many words. The characters are more likely to tell old war stories than to lead us through the events.

There is only one point where I'm aware this book actually contradicts the original. In the first flashback to Paul's boyhood, his family flies to another planet to finalize an arranged marriage for Duke Leto, who has not bothered to tell anyone else his plans.

In the original, I recall

(through the haze of years) a scene when Lady Jessica tells Paul that she agreed not formally marry Duke Leto, allowing him to hold out promises of political alliance through marriage. This was a decision Leto and Jessica made together.

But now we find there was a marriage in the works, one which never came to anything. And we find that Leto kept his own council and left Jessica in the dark. I cannot accept this.

This book is not so much wrong as unnecessary. No "Dune" fan I know felt there was any missing detail in the original series. More likely, the Herbert estate felt there was money to be made on the name of the best-selling science fiction novel ever.

Brian Herbert, son of Frank, feels like a boy trying on Pop's slacks. And I suspect that Anderson, who has fleshed out work of writers from L. Ron Hubbard to George Lucas, saw this book as a paycheck.

But I cannot lay these faults on Anderson. And the reason I can't is because I've read "The Ashes of Worlds."

When Anderson writes his own setting, playing to his own end rather than one preset by a dead legend, the story pops nicely. High art this ain't, but it's nevertheless plenty of great fun.

This novel, too, is part of a longer series. In fact, it's the seventh of seven.

But don't let that deter you. Muscle through the first couple of chapters and you'll find it darts along without drowning in back story. Ignore "The Story Thus Far," which is prolix.

The dust flap copy calls this a "space opera," and that's apropos. It has all the highly wrought emotion, flamboyant majesty, and sword fights you'd

expect from Wagner or Verdi.

Kings, courtiers, and soldiers endure elaborately predictable but engaging conflicts, fighting to control an empire spanning several solar systems. Fans of character drama may not appreciate this book, but Anderson isn't writing for the literary set; he's targeting those who read big, expansive, cinematic books for sheer gut-level pleasure.

Though romance is only implied, the rest of the spectrum of human emotion is on high display through the entire novel. What isn't in evidence is slow, thoughtful narrative. Anderson's interest lies in battles and arguments; this book makes little room for exposition, much less for navel-gazing.

This book starts with a battle, moves through more battles, and culminates in a cataclysmic battle for the fate of planet Earth. Powerful, unrelenting action is the order of the day, and like the best Hollywood films, this book keeps the gritty tension high and rising all the way from beginning to end.

You may wonder why I don't mention any characters or proper nouns in talking about this book. It's because they don't matter. Highbrow literary fans will disparage the lack of nuanced characterization in this novel.

Yet despite my own literary pretensions, I couldn't put it down. This book is gobs of macho boy-time fun.

Anderson writes or co-writes about three books a year, sometimes more. He's the epitome of a sweatshop scribe. And like most such writers, his books sometimes hit and sometimes miss.

But I'm willing to stick with him, because when he hits, he hits really well.

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# Wrestling team faces tough competition at home

BY GARRETT RITONYA  
Antelope Staff

On Dec. 14., the third-ranked UNK Wrestling Team hosted the UNK Loper Open at the Health and Sports Center. The Loper Open was a pure individual event with no team scoring. It drew over 300 wrestlers from 29 different schools.

UNK saw five wrestlers place in the top four of the tournament with junior Ryan Ether-ton of Lincoln going 5-0 and winning his 149 pound weight class. Ether-ton is now 10-0 on the year.

“Ryan has done extremely well for us so far, winning two tournaments in a row,” said UNK Wrestling Head Coach Mark Bauer. “What most people don’t know is that he is coming off of a torn labrum and wasn’t released to participate until November. So for him to be performing this well this fast is extraordinary.”

The event saw constant action with eight mats featuring wrestling excitement, starting at 9 a.m. and ending around 7 p.m. This is one of the final meets be-

fore UNK begins its dual sched-ule in January.

Other Lopers finishing in the top four were 157 pound senior Keenan McCurdy (4th), 167 pound junior Taylor May (4th), second-ranked 174 pound junior Marty Usman (3rd) and 197 pound junior Derek Ross (4th). With the third place finish and going 5-1 at the tournament, Usman is now at 14-4 on the year.

“Marty, being a junior, has provided experience that is needed on this team that lost from last year,” Bauer said. “He is such an explosive wrestler and fun to watch. Needless to say he is one of the leaders on the team.”

Both McCurdy and Ross reached the semifinals of their bracket before losing to nationally ranked competitors. They each went 4-2 in the tournament, with McCurdy losing to T.J. Hepburn of Colby Community College. Hepburn, one of the top community college recruits, recently committed to join the Lopers for next season.

There were also Lopers who wrestled unattached from

the UNK team so that they could compete in the Open. Two of these were 125 pound freshman Stephen Weimer of Clovis, Calif., who went 4-2, and junior Mike Abril, who finished fourth at his weight.

The Lopers saw perhaps some of their best competition of the season, with schools coming from all over the country. Some of these schools included Division I powerhouses UNL and Oklahoma State, with other powerful wrestling schools such as UNO and the Central Okla-homa.

UNK will travel all the way to Reno, Nev., this upcoming Thursday Dec. 18 to compete in the Reno Tournament of Cham-pions, with a lineup much like what they faced in Kearney.

“This is by far the biggest this tournament has ever been with over 300 wrestlers. Last year this same invite had only 220,” Bauer said. “With all of the talent here, it should help our team immensely as we head into the dual section of the schedule. This team has all the potential to repeat, but everything has to fall in place just right.”

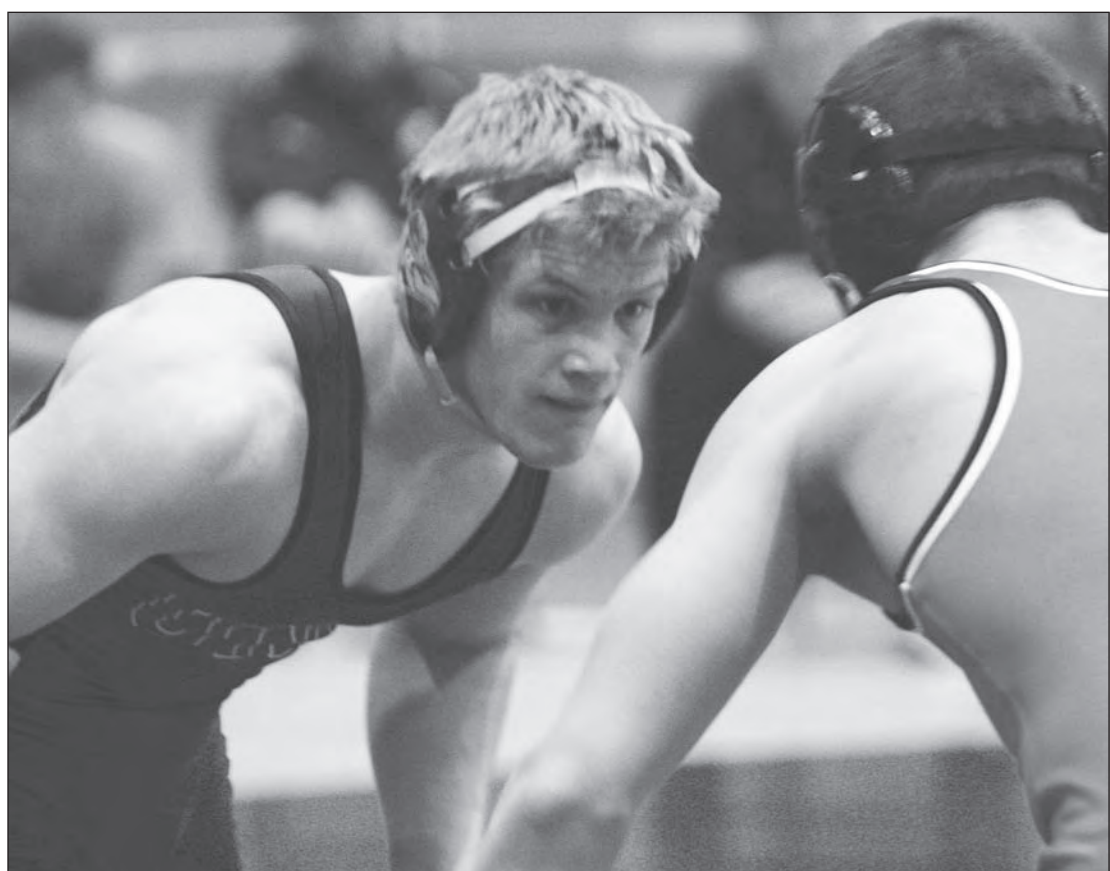


Photo by Garrett Ritonya  
Jordan Gienger, a redshirt freshman from St. Francis, Kan., looks for an opportunity to take down his op-ponent at the UNK Loper Open Saturday. UNK placed five wrestlers in the top four, including Ryan Ether-ton of Lincoln who won the 149-pound weight class. Ether-ton is now 10-0 on the season.

# Reicks gives up athletic career to fight a different kind of battle overseas

▼ Senior wrestler trades in his singlet for Army fatigues

BY JONATHAN CANNON  
Antelope Staff

Nate Reicks, a co-captain of the football team this fall, finally finished his football career at UNK and decided to give athletics one more try by wrestling for UNK this season. After finding early success, however, his plans were put on hold when he was called up for a second tour in Iraq.

Reicks, a senior business administration major from McCook, was introduced to wrestling at a young age by his father, Dean Reicks, a three-time All-American and a Hall of Famer at UNK.

While his father was a wrestling coach for McCook High School, a very young Reicks found his first love of sports in wrestling. His first wrestling tournament at the age of four in turn led him to the all the way to the state wrestling finals in 2003, where he placed first in the 189-pound weight class.

While preparing for and winning state in wrestling, Reicks continued playing football. His high school career led him to scholarship offers in wrestling and football. One scholarship offer was a dual scholarship offer to Chadron State where he would play both football and wrestling at the college level.

Most athletes find it difficult to be a multi-sport athlete at the college level, but that didn’t discourage Reicks in any way.

Turning down the scholar-

ship offers in wrestling, Reicks came to UNK to play football. He did wrestle his freshman year at UNK and redshirted in football, but that only lasted a year before he was called up to the National Guard in the fall of 2003. This delayed Reicks’ sports career at UNK; however, it proved to be a good opportunity for him to grow stronger both physically and mentally before returning from his first tour in Iraq.

In 2004 Reicks returned to UNK and picked up where he left off at deciding to focus all of his attention on football, and he was selected as co-captain in both 2007 and 2008.

Reicks was also part of the RMAC championship team in 2005. Since his football career is now over, Reicks, 23, took up wrestling once again.

“I honestly wanted to see how my body would feel since I hadn’t wrestled since 2003. I knew it was going to be demanding on my body, but I had to re-focus my whole disposition from football to wrestling all over again. Being involved in two different sports has it ups and its downs, one being the conditioning factor,” Reicks said.

“Being in football shape and wrestling shape are two to-tally entirely different types of athletic shapes,” Reicks said. “Just think about it. Playing foot-ball— each snap of the football, the play lasts anywhere from five to 10 seconds of play, with a 40-second rest in between. Now wrestling, on the other hand, a play goes two to three minutes straight, and you have different periods,” he said.

“The only difference is, you don’t have the opportunity to scout your opponent like you

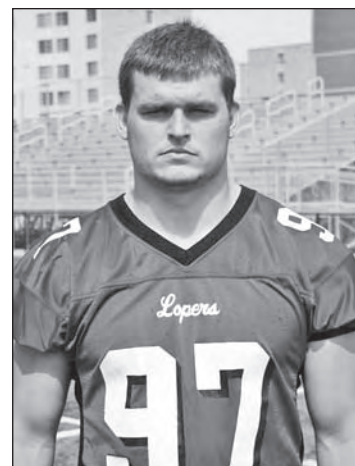


Photo courtesy of Lopers.com  
Nate Reicks, a senior from McCook, had a promising start to the wrestling season as he placed second at the UNO Kaufman-Brand Open. But he has since left the team to prepare for his second tour in Iraq with the National Guard.

do in football. In wrestling you don’t know who you’re matched with until you arrive at the actual meet.”

In preparation for the 2008-2009 wrestling season, Reicks wrestled at the nation’s largest one-day tournament, the UNO Open.

“I went up there with the idea of wrestling one or two matches just to see how my body would do in live action,” Reicks said. “And after winning the two, I kept going— which turned into five matches and got me second place in the amateur division.”

Unfortunately Reicks will not finish his wrestling career this season, and will focus all his attention on schoolwork and preparation to be deployed once again. Reicks will start the second tour in March of 2009.

# Baseball team excited about new “Big League” facility

BY JEFF KONCABA  
Antelope Staff

With winter approaching and the snow on its way, the UNK baseball team is usually looking for a way to escape the cold. This year they will find it.

The team and community have come together to produce a top-of-the-line baseball facility that will make it possible to keep practicing during the cold months.

The facility of 120x50 square feet includes an area for hitting, fielding and live pitching for the players. It also includes three offices for coaches, a study lounge equipped with a kitchenette and a bathroom.

First year assistant head coach Adam Neisius said the team and community are excited about this big league facility.

“This facility will be in the top 15 facilities in Division II baseball, and the best thing about it is that it’s located at the field,” Neisius said. “This will allow the kids to come to the field and do everything here— instead of running back and forth from campus. We will be able to accomplish more on a day to day basis.”

This facility will also allow more involvement with the community, which will help build a strong bond with the fans and athletes.

“We will work with Little League and American Legion baseball clubs in allowing them to work out in the facility also,” Neisius said. “Memberships will also be available to the community for kids who want to work on their skills anytime of the year.”

The team will also put on clinics and camps using the facility to help with revenues and again help build that strong relationship with the community.

Coach Damon Day said he is very pleased with what has progressed in the last few months with this facility.

Day said the community has been very helpful with patrons such as Nutter Construction and the Jiede family donating time, money and effort into making this the best facility possible. One of the rooms will be used as a study lounge and will be named the Jiede Family Baseball Support Center in honor of the family and all of their support and help.

This community-based ef-fort has made it easy for the team to jump-start this project

and help the team to get more things done in the winter.

When work on the new facility winds down, renovations on the old locker room and training room will continue.

The field is also getting a makeover in the outfield after a tornado tore down parts of the right field fence this last summer. A new fence and is expected to be complete before the season starts.

The team will start their home campaign on Feb. 14 against Montana State-Billings as they will make another run at winning the RMAC for a third straight year.



Photo by Ryan Seefus  
Luke Stamp, a junior outfielder from Council Bluffs, Iowa, takes batting practice inside Kearney’s new indoor practice facility. The facility, which includes areas for hitting, fielding and live pitching, offices, study lounge and kitchen, is among the top 15 facilities in Division II baseball.

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# Feeling the crunch? Economy down, optimism up

*Advanced Reporting students look at how tough economy influences college students trying to make ends meet just like everyone else.*

**BY MIKE BOCKOVEN**  
Adjunct Professor  
JMC 315  
Advanced Reporting

Any site, show or publication producing news will be glad to tell you, in big bold letters, we're living in frightening times. Global financial markets lie in ruins. Our banking and auto industries are restructuring or shutting down. Bankruptcies are starting to creep into our Central Nebraska haven.

But how is all this affecting you? The price of gas is low. Food prices are high, but manageable. Tuition is high, but that's a nationwide occurrence. The job market is tighter than usual, but we're not facing soup lines or double digit unemployment. The question is, with all the alarm bells sounding and talking heads trumpeting the financial end times on a nightly basis, how is this historic financial crunch affecting the student body at UNK?

As part of their final for an Advanced Reporting class, 17 student journalists set out to answer that very question. From

student groups to the specter of finding work; from the price of living on campus to the cost of driving home for the weekend; from the cost of the social time to the cost of falling in love, these students worked hard over the past few months to find some answers. Hopefully you find what they've uncovered illuminating.

Part of what made this assignment difficult for our reporting team is the uncertainty which permeates the entire issue. How bad will it get? How does the interconnectivity of the markets affect consumers in rural areas? Will the recovery take place before we truly feel "The Crunch" or will inflation increase, savings decrease and jobs disappear?

It's hard to say, but given most of America will assign these next few years significant historical weight, it's important to examine our situation both during and after this crisis. Faithfully submitted, this is our snapshot of UNK as we all experience a frightening and uncertain time in our history, a time that we're calling "The Crunch."

**BY TARA PURDIE**  
Advanced Reporting

Fluctuating gas prices, falling stock market, bank foreclosures, increasing credit card debt and climbing prices at grocery stores are current signs of the economic crunch. Spring break plans, vacations, dating, scholarships and loans for school have all been affected by this crunch. Students are now being faced with the reality of this economic recession.

Economists agree that America is facing economic downfall, however, economists cannot agree on the severity of the fall, the steps needed to overcome it or the actions consumers need to take in response. Economics professor Allan Jenkins has compared the U.S. economy to the economy of the Great Depression.

"The fall in housing prices in rapid growth areas like California, Arizona and Florida led to the worst financial crisis the country has seen since the Great

*"Worrying about the economy during a recession isn't really helpful. Every family should recognize that capital has a business cycle, and should set aside funds in the economic good times to tide them through the bad times."*

Allan Jenkins, economics professor

Depression of the 1930s," Jenkins said.

Although the economy is looking dim, Jenkins believes that the government is taking steps towards improvement.

"One bright spot is the rapid fall in energy prices, which will help the economy move forward," Jenkins said. "Governments all around the world are lowering interest rates, pumping resources into the financial sector and creating stimulus packages to spur economic activity. These actions do not create instantaneous results, but collectively the various government actions will begin to impact growth."

However, fellow economics lecturer Mary Rittenhouse dis-

agrees with the severity of the recent recession. "The economy has, obviously, slowed down considerably from the boom of the 1990s. However, the slowdown has been caused by poor financial decisions by both businesses and consumers. But, I don't feel that the economy is as bad as some newscasters would like for us to believe."

Rittenhouse places some of the blame on financial institutions and consumers for their part in the declining economy, "It is time to take responsibility for our financial decisions. But then, it is always time for this. The current 'credit crunch' has been caused by financial institutions giving loans that were questionable, but they were

taken out by people who should have questioned their ability to pay."

Associate professor of economics Craig Marxsen said "This will probably prove to be just another recession, and our government will probably steer us through it without any real catastrophe resulting."

Rittenhouse suggests that students should be careful making financial decisions and advises them to be aware of changes in the economy.

"Be smart by asking questions and finding the information needed for that decision," Rittenhouse said.

"Worrying about the economy during a recession isn't really helpful," Jenkins said. "Every family should recognize that capital has a business cycle, and should set aside funds in the economic good times to tide them through the bad times. College students need to recognize that the economy will likely experience fluctuations about every five years."

## Coming in January:

Be sure to read the Advanced Reporting stories on the current economic situation in the Jan. 21 issue of The Antelope.

Learn how to plan your spring break vacation on a budget, about the death of expendable income and about a new initiative banning affirmative action from Nebraska.

*It's hitting 'em right where it hurts—the wallet:*

## College students feeling the 'credit crunch' should beware credit card limits

**BY KLARISSA BELLAMY**  
Advanced Reporting

The credit crisis is starting to make its way to central Nebraska, and part of the problem may be in your back pocket. With more than 75 percent of college kids owning at least one credit card, it's no surprise that college students are one of the fastest growing markets for credit cards.

Yahoo Finance.com concludes college students and their parents are starting to change their money saving strategies, even considering cheaper colleges as an alternative. After the turmoil with the stock market, investors in college savings plans are watching their savings take a hit.

One factor that could break students right now is credit card debt. According to Yahoo Finance.com, having a high credit score is valuable to students, especially when it comes to obtaining a home mortgage loan or an auto loan. But the trick is learning how to get a high credit score with out being high in debt.

Anya Kamentez, a Yahoo Financial expert suggests using a credit card to build a positive credit score in moderation. Kamentez suggests using a credit card for a monthly payment, such as a

cell phone bill, and then paying off the balance each month.

Credit cards in particular can be harmful to students if the terms of agreement are not completely understood. For instance, many students apply for a credit card thinking of their credit line only, but looking at the annual percentage rate (APR) and deferment percentage are also important when it comes to paying back the balance.

Annemarie O'Connor, sales and service manager for US Bank's Kearney main location, suggests sitting down with a personal banker to decide the options that work best for you.

"Reading the fine print of any credit card offer is a must," O'Connor said. "Students need to be sure they understand what will happen if they make a late payment, default on the payment totally or even go over their credit limit. Each of these events can not only cause a late charge or over the limit fee, but they can also cause an increase to their current APR."

O'Connor also suggests using credit cards for necessity items only.

"Students should know that a credit card companies can reward card owners for good payment by increasing their credit limit," O'Connor said. "My suggestion is to charge only items to a card

that you would regularly buy such as gas or groceries, and every month pay off the full balance."

Understanding how the credit world works can be difficult, but students should stay informed. Many resources are available to students and adults that provide valuable information.

"There are several places to learn more about how to build credit and the importance of maintaining a solid credit score," O'Connor said. "The Internet, library and even talking with your local banker are all great sources. Checking your credit score at least once a year is a wise practice. This allows individuals to monitor their current accounts, and protect themselves from becoming victims of identity theft."

With the economy and stock market hitting all-time lows, it's important to stay ahead of the credit curve for the future. O'Connor suggests keeping a watchful eye on buying with credit.

"Students should remember that credit cards used properly are not always a nightmare," O'Connor said. "They can be used to build credit, itemize monthly spending and even earn rewards. It is just very important to keep track of your credit limit and balance. One common mistake I see is people making is using the card for items they don't need."

## Adding up your \$ + cents

**BY MEGAN OAKLUND**  
Advanced Reporting

Coupon clipping, price watching, bargain finding money maniac. After working as a checker at a grocery store I began to loathe the people that came to my lane with envelopes stuffed full of coupons from the Sunday paper. They would watch the screen making sure what I scanned was the correct price and would not surrender when their coupon was expired. This is what I have become, the people that used to drive me crazy.

The price of everything from gas to eggs has been on the rise in our nation and there is no time like today to take advantage of the discounts, coupons and bargains to help us along with keeping our daily costs down. Recently taking advantage of the free savings myself I have bartered and talked my way to a cheaper lifestyle.

Grocery shopping is no longer a matter of throwing items in my cart and heading off to the check stand hoping I didn't spend too much that month. It starts before I am even at the parking lot, checking local ads in newspapers and clipping those infamous coupons. Where I do my grocery shopping they offer to price match any competitors ads price for an identical item. I save the best savings ads, take them to where I do my

shopping and simply present the ad at check out and they match the price. Not only is this a simple way to save, I don't have to run all over town, wasting gas, finding the best ad deals.

Some stores take money off your final bill if you bring your own bags to sack your groceries in. The first few times I did this it was a little awkward, but stores wouldn't have that policy if they didn't want their customers like me to take advantage of it. I am always watching what the price of things are even if I don't purchase them. Some stores tend to put things on the end of the rows so they look like they are a deal. Sometimes they are but most of the times they are just the regular price.

I recently talked to a financial guru to help me straighten some things out with the possibility of consolidating loans to get a lower interest rate. However, it wasn't a simple answer as I thought. There were a lot of ifs and buts about the whole process. I decided to not consolidate at this time, but that doesn't mean it is a bad idea in general. Consumers should look into what kind of rates they can get from their own and other banks.

With dollars and cents always on the mind it can get a little stressing and take over your every thought and action. Just remember that while it is always good to save no one likes a cheapskate.

## Protecting yourself: 15 things that can

# HURT your credit score

1. Paying late
2. Not paying at all
3. Having an account charged off (creditors think you won't pay your bill at all)
4. Having an account sent to collections
5. Defaulting on a loan
6. Filing bankruptcy
7. Having your home foreclosed
8. Getting a judgment (court gets involved to make you pay your debt)
9. High credit card balances
10. Maxing out credit cards
11. Closing cards that still have balances
12. Closing old credit cards (you want to establish a longer credit history)
13. Closing cards with available credit (available credit shows that you haven't maxed out your credit line)
14. Applying for several credit cards (shows you have the potential to use up many lines of credit, leading to greater debt)
15. Having only credit cards or only loans (you need a mixture to show positive credit on both sides of the spectrum)

Info graphic by Sarah Mulder

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# PHOTOS of the week



*Photo by Sapana Upadhyay*  
**RIGHT:** Lily Kawamura, a senior tourism major, dances to the song "Square Face." Nineteen Japanese students from UNK performed 11 different dances at the Roman on Dec. 6.



*Photo by Kevin Whetstone*  
**ABOVE:** Noah Rogoff conducts the Kearney Symphony Orchestra as they play through Tchaikovsky's "Opus 66a" during "A KSO Christmas Carol" at the Merryman Performing Arts Center. The performance featured many classical Christmas selections, as well as a performance by the UNK Choraleers.

*Photo by Sean Takahashi*  
**BELOW:** The Underground Winds, including Franziska Nabb (flute), Lindsey Lund (oboe), Jan Harriett (clarinet), Roxanne Tilliotson (bassoon) and David Rozema (horn), play a wood wind quartet at the Frank house on Dec. 12.



*Photo by Matthew Noffke*  
**ABOVE:** Grant Saltzgaber (right), a junior physics major from Palmer, sits down to talk with prospective UNK Physics Department Head hire Dr. Kenneth Trantham at the Bruner Hall of Science. Trantham is currently an associate professor in the physics department at Fort Hays State University and is one of the final candidates for the position.



*Photo by Sean Takahashi*  
**BELOW:** Paul Niedbalski, Jeff Stelling (euphoniums), Wes Pendergrass and Mike Forbes (tubas) play Christmas tunes at the Frank House on Dec. 13.



*Photo by Nathan Speer*  
**ABOVE:** Minden community members play their part in the annual Christmas pageant held on Dec. 7. Usually performed on three sides of the square, the pageant organizers had to utilize only two sides this year due to the ice storm of 2007.



*Photo by Koji Kuwahara*  
**BELOW:** The recently reorganized Japanese Association at Kearney (JAK) provides both students and the community with various activities and events. The Japanese festival and Sakura festival are their biggest and most popular events. Current members include **BACK ROW;** left to right: Yuya Tanebe, freshman international studies major from Saitama; Yuto Furuta, freshman biology major from Kanagawa; Takayuki Mizoguchi, freshman aviation major from Kanagawa; Ryota Kawamoto, sophomore exercise science major from Hiroshima; **FRONT ROW** left to right: Tomomi Asakawa, sophomore sociology major from Tokyo; Ryuji Takemoto, sophomore economics major from Hiroshima; and Ko Muroga, sophomore aviation major from Aichi.



*Photo by Laura Schemper*  
**LEFT:** Members of greek sororities and fraternities pose for a group picture after a strolling/stepping demonstration. Members of Sigma Lambda Beta (front), Sigma Lambda Gamma (left) and Lambda Theta Nu (right) were involved.