



The Antelope

{ University of Nebraska at Kearney }



MADE AT UNK.

Hollywood Covell comes to UNK

Julia Stumkat
News Editor

Students in Mass Media (SIMM) will bring producer and former UNK student Sean Covell to campus for a screening and interactive presentation of his movie, "Napoleon Dynamite," at the Fine Arts building on Nov. 9.

"Napoleon Dynamite" is about the growth of a friendship between Napoleon, a nerdy teenager from Preston, Idaho, who likes to draw fantasy pictures, and his Mexican friend, Pedro, who wants to run for class president.

"Everyone knows what it's like to feel like a nerd, like someone who doesn't fit in," Covell said in an interview with Anne Cady, a former Antelope staff writer last semester. "We figured if we made a movie about outsiders, people will dig it."

Fox bought "Napoleon Dynamite" at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival. The film then went national. Covell said the movie's popularity has far exceeded the expectations and opened important doors for its contributors.

"We have achieved access," he said. "The people we want to contact return our calls now and are excited when we pitch ideas to them."

The success of the movie has landed Covell and his business partner, Chris Wyatt, their first deal with a major Hollywood studio.

Among various awards, the two producers were recently recognized at the prestigious IFP Spirit Awards for their achievements in producing.

Covell, 29, of Edgemont, S.D., graduated from UNK in 1998 with a degree in broadcast management and theater. Then he moved to San Francisco, Calif. where he started working at a temp agency to pay his bills. After a while, he quit his job and became a technical consultant. Although he had success and was able to open his own consulting firm, he did not feel satisfied.

"I was making great money as a consultant, but it wasn't fulfilling," Covell said. "I got more of a rush helping my friends out with short films than I did closing a big business deal."

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Photo courtesy of Sean Covell

Sean Covell, a former UNK student who majored in broadcast management and theater, produced the hit film "Napoleon Dynamite." Covell is returning to UNK for a presentation of "Napoleon Dynamite" on Nov. 9.

Crew teaches American History



Photo by Matt Ringen

Matt Morehouse, UNK sophomore, performs in a Civil War reenactment featured by 1848 Venture Crew.

Matt Ringen
Staff Writer

Black powder smoke from the .58 caliber Springfield rifles clouded the blue sky at the Kearney Archway Monument in the early afternoon of Oct. 15 as a Civil War reenactment entertained a crowd of all ages.

Matt Morehouse, Shea O'Brien, Adam White and Adam Dahlkoetter, four students at UNK, are members of the 1848 Venture Crew, also known as C Company Nebraska First Infantry. The group, formed in November 2002, reenacts the American Civil War to educate their audience about the Native American history and pioneers of the Oregon and Mormon trails.

Morehouse, a sophomore, has been active in the group for a year. He encourages young and old to become involved with the group and see American History from a broader perspective.

"The group allows you to learn to appreciate what our fore fathers and the Union soldiers of our country did to keep our country united during the Civil War," he said.

The Civil War performance featured a number of Union and Confederate

army soldiers recreating a battle scene. Dahlkoetter who participated for the first time, said, "I think the recreations are really important because some people only see one perspective of American History. Actually seeing it acted out gets the point across a little better."

After the performance, the venture crew taught the spectators how to load guns, showed different shooting formations and answered questions about the war.

Teaching children history

"The children are learning history and keeping the memory of those who fought for our country."

Dr. Joseph Carlson
Senior adviser of 1848 Venture Crew

is one of the main fulfillments of the group. "The children are learning history and keeping the memory of

See **Venture** on page 4

Diversity brought to campus

Kathlene Jordan
Photo Editor

UNK Assistant Journalism Professor Dr. Beverly Merrick brings diversity to the department of communication through an interactive classroom between students enrolled in Advanced Reporting and Editing and students at Grigol Robakidze University in the Republic of Georgia, Russia.

"We have killed more in this century than all of collective history. This is an opportunity to build, not to destroy," Dr. Merrick said. "I want to do one small thing to build a better world."

Merrick, of Troy, Kan., arrived two weeks ago in Georgia to begin working for the university via a Fulbright Scholar Program administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars.

Merrick was awarded the Senior Specialist Program grant, a short-term compliment to the traditional Fulbright Scholar Programs. The grant is awarded for a period of two to six weeks. Activities of the program are designed to provide U.S. faculty and professionals opportunities to collaborate with professional counterparts on curricu-

lum and faculty development and institutional planning, among others.

"I am going to be teaching mass media law, mass media ethics, mass media and culture, photography, news reporting and public affairs reporting," Merrick said.

She will present graduate and undergraduate lectures, lead seminars in journalism, conduct institutional research, assess Georgia's journalism program and collaborate with students to prepare a book about mass communication.

Merrick's students in Georgia have sent articles to The Antelope for publication to share their culture with American students.

Merrick began working as professor and adviser of The Antelope newspaper in the fall of 2004. Before moving to Kearney, she taught at New Mexico State University. From 2002 - 2003, Merrick served as the managing editor of the Custer County Chief.

She has received awards for research, public service, teaching and poetry.

Five years ago, she was not awarded the scholarship. Merrick said she did not give up her goal in sharing mass media among different cultures.

She will return in mid-November.

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Think YOU have the best Halloween costume?

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FRIDAY
Few Showers
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Low 34



A father forgives: Bud Welch's story

Heather Berney
Entertainment/Layout
Editor

"The day we took Timothy McVeigh from his cage to kill him was a day of revenge, retribution and hate. Hate is exactly why my little girl and 167 others are dead."

Bud Welch presented these words during his keynote speech at the Nebraskans

Against the Death Penalty banquet, held on Friday, Oct. 14 at the Wesleyan campus in Lincoln.

Welch is the father of Julie Marie Welch, who was killed in the Oklahoma City bombing in 1997. Julie Welch was 23 at the time

and a graduate of Marquette University.

Welch belongs to many groups opposed to capital punishment and is on the board of directors for Murder Victims' Families for Reconciliation. After owning a Texaco service station for over 35 years, he said he has decided to make his living out of speaking out against the death penalty across the country. He said he intends to spread his message of forgiveness in areas such as Texas, Arizona and San Francisco, Calif. in the coming months.

Welch has also spoken in London on eight separate occasions and visited Africa to meet with other Oklahoma City Bombing victims' families

"Nairobi, Kenya was, by

far, my favorite place to visit so far," Welch

said. "I've never seen anything like it."

Welch was forced to rethink his long-time status of opposing capital punishment on April 19, 1995 when rescue workers began the two-week chore of pulling men, women and children from the rubble.

Two days after the bombing, Tim McVeigh was charged with the crime. The next day, the body of Julie Welch was found.

After about nine months of anger and grieving, Welch said he began to come to terms with the tragedy and realized that he would not benefit from the execution of Timothy McVeigh. Welch met with Bill McVeigh, Timothy's

father, on several occasions and began to publicly rally against the lethal injection that would mark the first federal execution since 1963.

Despite Welch's and others' opposition to the execution, McVeigh, himself, took no action against it.

McVeigh waived all rights to future appeals, waived his right to a spiritual advisor, asked that his family not attend the execution and said no final words.

According to a statement found in the CNN archives, his lawyer, Robert Nigh, said, "Quite frankly, he's ready to die."

Ten members of the victims' families and survivors of the bombing witnessed the execution from a room beside the death chamber.

In a CNN article written in 2001, directly after the execution, one of the witnesses' was quoted as saying, "It's a demarcation point. It's a period at the end of a sentence. It's the completion of justice and that's what I'll remember about today."

In his speech, Welch spoke of a victim's mother that he knows personally.

He said that this woman wanted to see McVeigh die more than anyone.

"Nothing about that procedure brought her peace," he said. "The killing of McVeigh was not a part of her healing process."

These two differing viewpoints continue to foster debate regarding the subject of capital punishment. Welch contests that those

killed weren't the only victims. Their families are victims as well. He also said that the idea of closure never really comes, even after an execution.

"A part of my heart is gone," Welch said. "Julie's death still grips me every single day. But I no longer carry that horrible vengeance and rage. That would only destroy me."

Nebraskans Against the Death Penalty is a statewide organization, whose members lobby for the abolition of capital punishment in Nebraska and the United States.

For more information, visit the group's Web site at <http://www.nadp.net>.

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Hello from the Republic of Georgia



Students at the Grigol Robakidze University communicate with staff members of The Antelope and UNK students.

Above photo by Irakli Kvernadze

From the left, Mary Papuashvili, Giorgi Chachua, David Norakia, Elene Tsintsabadze, Nino Svanishvili, Irma Okropiridze and Soso Todua.

Right photo courtesy of Beverly Merrick

Nini Chkheideze, standing, and Otto Kantaria, sitting, are young intellectuals who share the perspectives of the Georgian people with Professor Beverly G. Merrick while sharing her office chair at Grigol Robakidze University, Tbilisi. The English, Russian and Georgian languages are spoken on television and in the university. American artists are featured, and jazz is especially favored by the young Georgians. Many want to come to America to learn more about freedom of expression.



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THURSDAY OCTOBER 20, 2005

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Reader's Opinion

Irakli Kvernadze
Guest Writer

To avoid being unjust, shouldn't this be the concept held by everybody?

Mankind is going in the direction of self-destruction. Not to be linear in the aggressive way of thinking and not to think that as one is the richest and strongest, one has the right to use political and military power against anything and everyone.

Someone might think, "Arabs are terrorists, and therefore, they are bad; so we cannot possibly negotiate with them."

These people are just the same as you and I. They had childhoods and dreams of happiness. However, you made them think that happiness is in the things on TV: advertised goods that do not bring any kind of feeling but self-satisfaction.

This feeling will pass soon after you have obtained what you thought to be important. Whether it is the newest model of

mobile phone or the brand-new Mercedes (e.g. CLK 600, black with soft-top), if one has more than the other does, one has moral obligation to SHARE.

If you dare to call yourself a human, you must ask yourself why.

Why are you better than an Arabian, a so-called terrorist, who thinks that you need his oil, nothing else? He is an owner of the land. You are an owner of nothing but the land of Mohicans and Hurons and many other people killed by Spanish invaders.

Why did they kill Native Americans? The Spanish wanted more gold! Why did they need more gold?

So, why kill people on the other side of the planet for it?

Everyone has the opportunity to learn what to do when one is hungry; one has two ways: either to cultivate some plants and animals that give us food or to go to the place where food is already produced.

When you ask for food with respect to your guest,

he or she surely will feed you. But, if you ask for more, the host might demand something from you.

Isn't it a human being's moral responsibility to obey his host's demand and to help him in his work or in his business?

However, no one did it on your land: France, England and Spain invaded whole continents and extinguished many kinds of humans, because they thought that if they are not like them, they are savages. The same colonialism happened in Africa and the Middle East.

Who are savages? Are they Africans, who are the oldest; Asians, who invented paper and many other things; or greedy Europeans, who did nothing but invade other lands?

Human beings have genes. Your genes are flooded with the blood of innocent humans. How can you have \$100,000,000,000 in the bank and sleep at night, after watching hungry and angry people on television?

But, you will not worry about it.

"It's not my problem"—one will think.

If you go to the house of an Arabian and ask him to feed you, what will he do? I can tell you: he will hurt you. You know why? Because, you do not know how to ask for something with respect.

What is respect? We Georgians have never had problems with food or wine. We never had to worry about that, because our land is very fruitful. We did not need to build huge buildings to prove that we are the strongest.

We never invaded, but we were invaded. We never asked for food, but we were asked for food. We gave it. And, we had more at home,

not only for us, but also for a guest.

If there is a stranger in a village, there are fights among villagers about whose house in which the guest will stay. Everybody wants to be a host, because it is believed that the guest is a gift of the God. It is of no importance whether a guest is dressed like a rich man or a poor man, whether he will help villagers in their work or continue on his way. However, the guest must behave like a man.

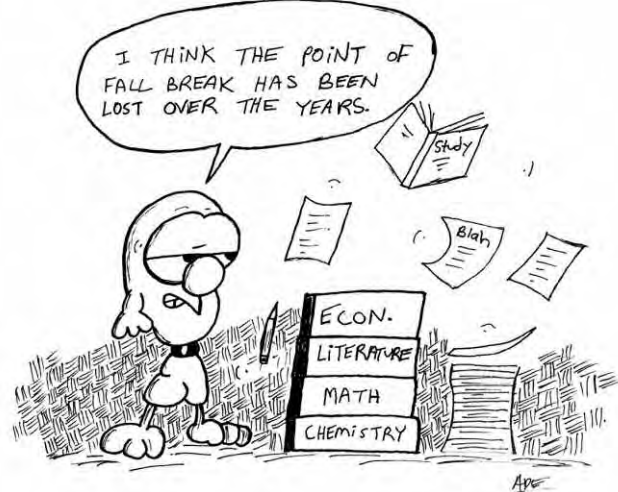
Morality is something that cannot be taught in school or in the university. It is something that one has or does not have.

There are many examples in history, in the Bible, in the Koran, in the Torah or in the Talmud, and in many more great books. Religion is something that can strengthen one's morality and ethics.

You cannot persuade somebody of your truth, if your behavior is wrong. You should not tell lies to a human being, because you do not want others to tell lies to you. You should not kill a human being, because you did not give life to him or her. You should not teach anything to a human being if you are not taught by someone who is smarter than you are. Better because he or she has not done anything that he or she knew was wrong.

Ask yourself, isn't killing for any purpose wrong? Isn't ambition a priority in any case wrong? Aren't all wars and colonization of the last several centuries horrible mistakes of humankind?

I want to finish with the words of Cervantes: "Only then you can look at a man from above when you are trying to help him stand up."



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FAX	865-8708
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c/o the Antelope Editor**

**Mitchell Center
University of Nebraska at Kearney
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