

campus report

A NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS OF

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA STUDENTS

SPRING 2004 • VOL. 20 • NO. 2

University of Nebraska Parents Association

Executive Officers 2004

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Treasurer
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Tim Draftz
Sioux Center, IA

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Vermillion, SD

Dates to Remember!!

**Parents Association
Spring Meeting**
March 20, 10:00 A.M.–Noon
Visitors Center

Spring Break
March 14–21

Final Exams
May 3–7

Commencement
May 8

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Lincoln

PARENTS ASSOCIATION TUITION RAFFLE

Recipients of the 2003–2004 Raffle Funding

These are the grant proposals that the Parents Assoc. agreed to fund from the tuition raffle proceeds:

\$1,500 Husker Choices Peer Education (Drug and Alcohol Program)

\$1,000 The MedGem (a product to assist in the assessment and treatment of obesity, overweight issues, insulin resistance, diabetes and eating disorders)

\$1,000 Eating Disorders Awareness Week

\$1,000 Career Services for an occupational information system for UNL undergraduates.

\$1,942 Career Services for two Dell OptiPlex GX270 mini tower computers

\$3,558 Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid to help purchase furniture for the expansion and remodeling of the student reception area

Congratulations Raffle Winners

October 18, 2003

1st prize: Full year of tuition

Kathy Wozniak of Omaha (Student: Stephan)

2nd prize: 1 semester of tuition

Joyce Kittle of Indiana (Student: Carl)

Book Scholarship winners

Jeff Reed of Omaha (Student: Kelsey)

Linda Bolden of Bellevue (Student: Charles II)

Dave Kolarik of Bellevue (Student: Jared)

Autographed Footballs

Steve Brocky of Omaha (Student: Sarah)

Greg Easley of Illinois (Student: Katie)

Autographed Volleyball

Betty Wiefeld of Scribner, NE (Student: Jason)

Autographed Basketball

Samantha Hernandez of Lexington, NE

(Student: Nicholas Van Cura)

CAMPUS REPORT

Available Online

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln is proud to announce that the Parents Association Newsletter, *Campus Report*, will be available online beginning Fall, 2004. Due to the increasing costs of printing and mailing, the newsletter will no longer be mailed to individual households but will be available by accessing the web in the following way:

1. Go to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln home page <<http://www.unl.edu>>
2. Click on the Student tab
3. Scroll down and click on Student Affairs (<http://stuaffs.unl.edu>)
4. Click on the Parents Association tab
5. Click on Campus Report under the opening paragraph to the right of the picture

The newsletter can then be downloaded, printed, or read onscreen at your leisure. Try it out. The current and past newsletters are available now. Happy reading!

UNL Parents Association

2004 Executive Committee
Approved October 18, 2003

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campus report

Campus Report is a publication of the University of Nebraska Parents Association. Published for the benefit of all University of Nebraska parents, *Campus Report* is entered for postage at Lincoln, NE.

Advertising in *Campus Report* is subject to approval of the editor.

Rates and schedules available from:
University of Nebraska Parents Association
PO Box 81688, Lincoln, NE 68501

Because of production practices, parents who have more than one student attending the University may receive multiple copies of *Campus Report*.

UNL HOSTS 2ND ANNUAL

Big Red Road Show in Omaha, February 29

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln will host its second annual "Big Red Road Show" to be held at the Omaha Civic Auditorium, Sunday, February 29, from 1-4 p.m. More than 50 interactive exhibits, live performances, celebrity alumni appearances and exciting discussions will be open to the public, and admission is free of charge.

The Big Red Road Show is an open house event for adults and students of all ages to learn more about the academic and student life programs at the University. Representatives from UNL undergraduate colleges and departments and graduate studies departments, and student affairs offices such as Scholarships & Financial Aid, Career Services, and Admissions will be on hand. Some highlights of the event include:

The Maze
Big Fat Greek Philanthropy
"Preparing for College" presentation
"Financing your Education" presentation
"Becoming a Husker"
Ask the Master Gardener
Snakes of Nebraska
Professional Golf Management
Graduate studies, from "Frosh" to "Doc"
Photos with Herbie Husker or Lil' Red
Husker Pep Band
Kids Zone
NETV and Clifford the Big Red Dog



A student walks around the large piles of snow on the East Campus mall Feb. 2 between classes. Several storms over the last three weeks have left about 18 inches of snow on the ground, keeping UNL Landscape Services crews busy to keep sidewalks and streets clear. IANR photo by Brett Hampton.

500 STUDENTS ATTEND KICK OFF

University Night Life

UNL's new late night programming, funded through a grant from the UNL Parents Association, kicked off with a "Hit or Miss" Talent Show that brought more than 500 students to the Nebraska Union in November.

"University Night Life" is the name of the program series that was initially proposed through the NU Directions Campus-Community Coalition and adopted by the University Program Council (UPC), who oversees programming for student events. With the \$4000.00 grant from the Parents Association, UPC was able to create a slate of events designed for all students between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. In April of 2003, a student survey conducted by Student Involvement found that the vast majority of UNL students supported free late night activities on a Friday night. UNL is the last of the Big 12 to create such a program.

The "Hit or Miss" Talent Show, held on November 7, featured a \$500.00 prize and several smaller prizes for students who performed in front of a judges panel and audience. The event featured student talents in the form of clogging, singing, dancing, music, comedy, and even stupid human tricks from the audience. The turnout proved to be an enthusiastic endorsement of the new program.



Other "University Night Life" activities included a late night "Time Out Study Break" on December 12. The hope is that, as student interest grows, UPC will be able to find additional funding to offer late night events on a weekly basis in both the City and East campus unions.

WALL UNVEILED AT PARENTS WEEKEND

Leaders and Scholars of Distinction

UNL students, faculty and staff who have won various awards as scholars and leaders will be permanently honored on the second floor of the Nebraska Union. The "Scholars and Leaders of Distinction" wall display was unveiled Friday, September 26th at 4:30 p.m. during a special ceremony and reception during Parents Weekend.

The display highlights winners of a variety of academic, athletic, and leadership awards, many of which had no permanent display on the campus. The UNL Parents Association, the Office of Admissions and the Office of Undergraduate Studies provided support for the display, which is located at the top of the large circular staircase at the north entrance of the Union.

Conceived by a former Director of Student Involvement and initially funded through a grant by the UNL Parents Association, the wall display pays tribute to a diverse group of UNL students, faculty and staff, from

U.S. Fulbright Fellows to Outstanding Officers of a Recognized Student Organization. Awards featured include the Folsom Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation and Master's Thesis, the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, the NCAA Today's Top VIII Award, the Outstanding Student Leader Award, the Outstanding Recognized Student Organization Advisor Award, Sue Tidball Award for Creative Humanity, and many others.

"We wanted a dynamic campus display that recognizes the wide array of contributions made by students, faculty and staff," said current Student Involvement Director Linda Major, who leads a committee that designed, planned, and selected the honors for the display.

"Our goal was to honor all campus contributions, whether they were academic, co-curricular, or athletic. They all contribute to the pride we feel for the University," Major said.



UNL Academic Support and Advising Resources Free to UNL Students

Dear Parents,

The 2003 Fall semester has ended and your student receiving his/ her semester grade report. Please ask them to share it with you and speak with them about their academic experience, especially if they are first-year students.

UNL offers many different resources for our students who would like assistance with their coursework. Sometimes, students who are having trouble with classes do not seek support until later in the semester, and oftentimes, it is too late to improve their course grade. If your child does express such a concern to you, please advise them to take advantage of one of the many academic support services we offer

for students at no extra charge. We know that students who take advantage of academic enrichment achieve a greater understanding of the subject matter and frequently, perform better than those students who do not take advantage. By seeking support, the student also establishes a sense of personal responsibility for their own actions.

The following academic support services are available free to all UNL undergraduate students. Direct links to these academic support and advising services can also be found at the Office of Undergraduate Studies Website <<http://www.unl.edu/ous/>>

Rita Kean, Dean of Undergraduate Studies
www.unl.edu/ous/

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Chemistry Dept. Freshman Resource Room
228 Hamilton Hall, 472-3514
<http://buckyball.unl.edu/>

Computer Science & Engineering Resource Center
21 Ferguson Hall
http://cse.unl.edu/Student_Resources/FAQ.php

Department of English Writing Lab
129 Andrews Hall, 472-8803
<http://www.unl.edu/english/wac/wacmain.html/>

Math Resource Center
106 Burnett Hall, 472-4319
<http://www.math.unl.edu/>

Educational Access & Trio Programs
220 Administration, 472-2027
<http://www.unl.edu/multcult/>

Office of Academic Support and Intercultural Services (OASIS),
located at the Culture Center,
333 N 14th Street 472- 5500
http://www.unl.edu/oasis_culturecenter/

Spanish Tutoring Center
Food Court D, City Union
<http://www.unl.edu/UFP/SpainTutor.html>

Services for Students with Disabilities
<http://www.unl.edu/ssd/>

STAR Advising and Tutoring Center
Sandoz Residence Hall
<http://www.unl.edu/dgs/starc.html>

Supplemental Instruction
for students enrolled in courses that offer SI tutoring
33 Canfield, 472-6936
<http://www.unl.edu/dgs/sisschedf2003>

ACADEMIC ADVISING UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGES

Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
103 Agriculture Hall, 472- 2201

Architecture
232 Architecture W, 472-9212 or 4065

Arts & Sciences
107 Oldfather Hall, 472-4190

Business Administration
137 CBA, 472-2310

Education & Human Sciences
233 Mabel Lee Hall, 472-2913

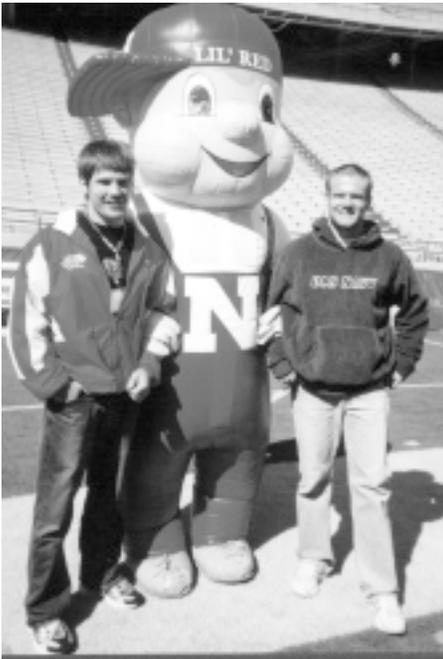
Engineering & Technology
W181 Nebraska Hall, 472-7094

Fine & Performing Arts
102 NC Woods, 472-9349

Journalism & Mass Communications
147 Andersen, 472-3041

Division of General Studies
33 Canfield, 472-3605

Parents' Weekend



▲ This is such a wonderful 'event' for the family! **Great job** — please keep this going . . . it's so needed to keep families in touch. Thank you
Jim and Dally Kalvelage, parents of
Matthew Kalvelage, student



▲ At Saturday breakfast, we heard the speech on binge drinking. With all the fun we are having this weekend and knowing we want our daughter to enjoy college life, we have to remember the reality of student drinking. We need to be aware of causes and educate.

Jan Buda, mother of Megan Buda, student



▲ Yay, Bowling at the East Union. I am super glad that they had some events over there because I had never been there before . . . I am glad to be able to come bowling. Now, I know where to go! I definitely plan on coming again! Thank you for the opportunity

Lindsey Cayer, student



▲ After breakfast we took a tour of Morrill Hall Museum and enjoyed the many fossils as well as the applicants for painted eggs in the state. Some were very intricate. After the museum we took a tour of Memorial Stadium, had our picture taken on the 50 yard line with Little Red and had lunch at the Hewitt Center. We had a great tour and saw the stadium from top to bottom.

Jan Ryerson, mother of Julie Ryerson, student



▲ Sunday we'll say good-bye, shed some (more) tears and talk about for days what we did here. Thank you for parents weekend, a fun filled calendar of events to do and see but more importantly for being able to spend time with my daughter and see with my own eyes she's okay, tired but ok.

Carol Geiser, mother of, Ashley Geiser student



◀ We won, we won, [the volleyball game] and we've had so much fun. Now our weekend is done. Our film is gone but we have come to realize we are truly Husker Moms

Lois Turner and Debbie Kleeb, mothers of
Elaine Turner and Landon Kleeb, students.

YWCA RECOGNIZES A BORN LEADER

Dori Bush

By Mike Bockoven (michael.bockoven@theindependent.com)
January 13, 2004, Grand Island Independent

The girl in the dark shirt and big smile, holding the "E" in a group of girls spelling "Y TEENS" in big letters, makes Dori Bush laugh.

"They taught all about leadership in the Y Teens, which was very big in my school in Omaha," Bush said, gazing at the younger version of herself. "Little did I know."

Leadership is Dori Bush's gift. She calls it the ability to organize, to put together disparate groups into organized ranks, and over the years it has served her well. Bush has served with the United Way, the Little Diana Fund, the Association for Child Abuse Prevention and has helped organize Children's Day at Fomner Park for more years than she cares to say aloud.

So it's interesting to Bush that in 2004 she is being honored as the "Woman of Distinction" by the organization that flushed out her talent as a youth -- the YWCA.

Anita Haumont, executive director of the YWCA in Grand Island, said Bush was nominated and received the distinction largely because of the breadth of her work, which spans many causes and positions. Bush will be honored at a banquet that is also a fund-raiser for the YWCA on Jan. 29.

"All the women of distinction are very actively involved in the community," Haumont said. "They are definite leaders who have made significant contributions and in Dori's case, it's her outstanding dedication and contributions that set her apart."

Bush was nominated by Irene Abernethy, who is a former YWCA Woman of Distinction herself. While Bush isn't actively involved in the YWCA currently, she said she was grateful for the background it gave her, and has always been fond of the organization.

Haumont said it goes a little deeper than that.

"She's Woman of the Year because she exemplifies the qualities the YWCA stands for," she said.

The YWCA is also working to exemplify the qualities of the YWCA by giving the public a chance to recognize important women in their lives through a list it will be publishing in its newsletter and the Woman of Distinction program. Anyone wishing to do so may call the YWCA at 384-8170 for more information.

The awards banquet to honor Bush will be at Riverside Inn in Grand Island, and will include dinner, a keynote address by Joni Ramsey, vocal music director at Grand Island Senior High, and music by the Wheel of Faith music group.

While Bush will give an address at the reception, she said the opportunity is one she is looking forward not so she can honor her own achievements, but to honor the hard work of those who work hard for the betterment of Grand Island.

"It's been proven to me time and time again that there are so many people who make a real difference that don't get a lot of recognition," Bush said. "Things don't happen in this community without hard work. I plan to accept the award for all those people who will never be on a podium."

Bush said she also plans on continuing her service to the community, and is thoroughly humbled by the award.

"When you feel good about what you're doing, you don't get tired," she said. "It's been a great ride for an activity junkie like me."

Dori Bush, an active and dedicated past president of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Parents Association

PARTICIPATE AND HELP THE UNIVERSITY

The University of Nebraska Ambassadors

Dear Parent,

As a parent of a student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln you may have an interest in participating in a University system wide organization that shares a common bond in their interest relative to the University of Nebraska. The University of Nebraska "Ambassadors" are volunteers across the state who share a commitment to higher education and to the University of Nebraska. If you would like to receive information about issues that the University and in particular UNL is facing, and learn how you can help the university remain successful in building academic excellence, we invite you to become an Ambassador.

The network keeps alumni, parents, donors and friends informed of important issues, including budget and legislative issues. We'll provide information in simple language that you can share with others as your time and interest permit. The program is informal, with electronic mailings or contact as needed and occasional gatherings to share progress and hear your concerns and ideas. You'll also find information and updates on the web at: http://www.nebraska.edu/news/leg_ambassador.shtml.

If you are interested, please mail or email your contact information and you will be included.

Mail to: Deb Thomas
Director of Special Projects
University of Nebraska
3835 Holdrege
Lincoln, NE 68583

email: dthomas@nebraska.edu

Yes, I would like to receive information about issues the University of Nebraska faces and learn how I can help the university remain successful in building academic excellence.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Email (if available): _____

Fax (if available): (_____) _____

Blackboard grows as a helpful teaching tool

by Mary Jane Bruce, University Communications

Students in some UNL classes complete assignments, work with others on group projects and meet with professors without entering a classroom or faculty office. The online interaction is possible with the use of Blackboard, a collection of Web-based tools that continues to become more popular and useful.

Most faculty use Blackboard to augment teaching and classroom experiences, said Wade Weichel, online learning and development specialist with the Department of Information Services. But entire distance education courses are also delivered completely online, he said. UNL committees and organizations can also use Blackboard.

Dann Husmann, associate professor of agricultural leadership, education and communication, posts handouts and presentations on Blackboard and lets students know about course schedules and changes in activities. He also uses Blackboard for online assessments of class-related materials. Students post assignments and projects and then review one another's work and provide feedback. Husmann said Blackboard is an informal environment where faculty and students can connect.

"This provides for synchronous and asynchronous communication at times that are most productive, efficient and effective for students and faculty," Husmann said. "Blackboard provides a platform to exhibit the course from a holistic perspective, allowing students to see what has happened, what is happening and what will happen related to course material."

The Blackboard program, accessed through the MyUNL Academic Portal, has grown in popularity among faculty and students since it was launched in 1998. At first, Weichel said professors had to manually develop courses and create accounts for students. The system became easier to access and use in 2000 when it was integrated with the Office of Registration and Records. Now, any course taught at UNL is automatically given space on MyUNL. All faculty, staff and students

are automatically assigned logins and passwords, making it easier to use the service.

"Every year we've had more and more users," Weichel said. "It's really a part of the student experience now because 80 to 90 percent of students will have at least one course that has some content on Blackboard."

Weichel said professors often start out on a small scale by using Blackboard for administrative purposes such as posting grades or sending e-mails to their students. As professors grow more comfortable with Blackboard, they can post assignments and course documents, offer virtual office hours, start online discussions with students or set up small group projects. Weichel said Blackboard adds experiences that enrich classroom learning.

"For example, the chat function can be used to bring in an expert," Weichel said. "You may not be able to afford to fly in a colleague from MIT to speak to your class, but you can arrange an online chat."

Online discussion groups have a different flavor than classroom discussions, Weichel said. They may be helpful for students who aren't comfortable speaking up in class. In addition, written responses give more time for contemplation so an online discussion can be a rich, in-depth experience for students.



Wade Weichel, online learning and development specialist for the Department of Information Services, says the Blackboard program has become more user-friendly and popular among UNL faculty and organizations. Photo by Brett Hampton.

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT JUDICIAL AFFAIRS

Meet Dr. Matt Hecker

UNL has a new director of Student Judicial Affairs, Dr. Matt Hecker. He has been working in the judicial affairs process in higher education for the past 13 years and before that he was a police officer. Dr. Hecker received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Colorado State and his doctorate from the University of Northern Colorado. He moved to St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota where he was the chief judicial affairs officer for four years. Before coming to UNL, Dr. Hecker spent three years supervising the judicial function at the University of Mary (North Dakota) and three years at Benedictine College (Kansas).

Dr. Hecker embraces the Student Affairs philosophy of educating students. He sees his role in the office as that of a teacher educating

students on how they violate the Student Code of Conduct and the risks and responsibilities associated with their behavior. He believes sometimes teaching is a reactive response to a situation while other times it is proactive in preventing violations of the Student Code of Conduct.

Dr. Hecker has a positive attitude on the current judicial system at UNL calling it "very sound and well thought out." He believes it is comprehensive and serves the students and the university well. Dr. Hecker hopes in the future the office can create more avenues for student involvement within the judicial system.

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln is an equal opportunity educator and employer with a comprehensive plan for diversity.

RECOGNITION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO STUDENTS

The UNL Parents Association co-sponsors with the Teaching and Learning Center the January 23 event honoring faculty and staff members for their outstanding service to students. Parents of UNL students are asked to nominate individuals who have made a lasting contribution to their son or daughter's development. This year approximately 200 individuals were recognized for their contribution to University of Nebraska–Lincoln students.



*Congratulations and Thanks
University of Nebraska–Lincoln Chancellor
Pearlman and Parent Association President
Sandy Wolfe present individuals with recognition
awards. Photos by Summer Latham.*

