

To fans, they were faster than a speeding bullet and more powerful than a locomotive. They were the undefeated 1916 Cornhusker football team boarding a train to Oregon. They encountered stowaways and six inches of snow. The game was a nail-biter to the end. Care to guess who won? Why, of course, it was the boys from the University of

NEBRASKA

QUARTERLY

**ALSO:
WOUNDS OF
WHITECLAY**

In a northwest Nebraska town of 12, millions of cans of beer sell each year.

PAGE 38

LESSONS LEARNED

Student-athletes travel to Nicaragua to learn, grow and give back.

PAGE 52





NEBRASKA

ALUMNISM

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NEBRASKA.

IT'S PART OF YOU WHEREVER YOU GO.



Nebraska Quarterly tells the most interesting stories about the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for alumni like you. Members of the Nebraska Alumni Association get the full story four times a year.

Review the full list membership benefits at huskeralum.org/membershipbenefits.





FIELD OF DREAMS

Herbie's Close-up

The 2018 Nebraska Alumni Association calendar will feature Herbie Husker as he showcases each of the nine colleges through photographs.

WHICH COLLEGE IS THIS PHOTO SHOOT FROM?

The College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, which we lovingly refer to as CASNR.

HOW DO I GET ONE?

Members of the alumni association will receive a calendar with the winter issue of *Nebraska Quarterly*. Non-members need to join the association to reap this reward.



JAMES BOLTZ

FALL

Contents

2017

Inside you'll find a reimagined university news section called Fall, a name that will change with the seasons. It includes news from each of our nine colleges. **P10-26** We're delighted to feature original photography by Husker alumni, like Wyn Wiley, who took photos of Megan Elliott, the founding director of the Johnny Carson Center for Emerging Media Arts. We used curtains reminiscent of "The Tonight Show" for the backdrop. **P11** The Voices section gives you a chance to read how professors, thought-leaders and novelists view the challenges facing the university and our world today. **P29-37** Brittany Jones-Cooper falls in love with broadcasting and the building that fostered that passion: Andersen Hall. **P72**

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 It was October of 1916 and the Cornhusker football team, band and fans were headed to Oregon — on a train.

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Nicaragua
 Softball player Mattie Fowler reports from Nicaragua where 21 student-athletes spent a week in May learning and working.

CONTRIBUTORS



ABIGAIL ERVIN

Abigail Ervin is a Lincoln-based artist and a former UNL student. She got her start at a young age with chalk drawings on the sidewalks outside of her California home. Abigail is currently illustrating three children's books and creating murals for Lincoln businesses.



MATTIE FOWLER

Mattie Fowler graduated in 2015 with a bachelor of science degree in finance and completed the MBA program in May. Mattie played on the Husker softball team and served as its team captain four times. The Tucson, Ariz.,-native is now a development operations director for Husker Athletics.



CHUCK GREEN

Chuck Green ('93) attended Heritage School as a fourth-grader at Holmes Elementary in 1976 — the first year Lincoln students began visiting the schoolhouse. He recalls carefully packing his lunch with food appropriate to the late-1800s (maybe cheating with a Twinkie or two). Green's journalism career has included reporting and editing roles at newspapers and magazines.



WYN WILEY

Wyn Wiley is a 2014 graduate with degrees in advertising and entrepreneurship. He lives in Lincoln enthusing "people are really nice here, and they smile which is why I'm based here." However, he does travel the world on assignment for commercial and portrait shoots. Wyn teaches in the College of Journalism and Mass Communications, speaks at conferences and is passionate about volunteering and giving back.

NEBRASKA

QUARTERLY

Fall 2017

VOLUME 113 NO. 3

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Now's the Time

Featuring
Mark Rothko's
Yellow Band (1956)
On view through
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LUNCH WITH THE EDITOR



Chili and cinnamon rolls were a staple of Kirstin Wilder's childhood thanks to the cafeterias in Lincoln Public Schools. As an adult, she hosted Husker football-viewing parties in her Los Angeles home and would serve the kooky combo to perplexed Angelenos.

nature. But, there is plenty of fun in these pages too.

For me personally, change also has been good. I moved from Los Angeles back to my hometown of Lincoln to become editor of this magazine. I had spent 25 years in L.A. working as an editor for *Variety* magazine, and it was time for a new challenge. My husband and I are enjoying raising our two daughters in the Midwest, with extended family as a part of our daily lives.

Simultaneously with this magazine redesign, we are reimagining its online presence. You can find select *Nebraska Quarterly* stories at huskeralum.org. We also have a strong social media presence. You'll find us on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. In addition, we email a monthly newsletter to 120,000 of you. To opt in to that news source, contact us at alumni@huskeralum.org.

Like you, I'm a passionate and proud graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and I'm eager to hear your stories. Please send me your feedback, submit story ideas and share your memories. I hope these pages keep you connected to your past, inform your present and make you think deeply about your future. You never know when change will be right around the corner.

—Kirstin Swanson Wilder ('89)
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(402) 472-4229

CRISTO CHANDLER

Q • Why did you redesign the alumni magazine and change its name to *Nebraska Quarterly*?

A: THE SHORT ANSWER IS THAT it was time for a change, and change is good for the soul — for all of us.

It is a formidable task to alter a storied publication like this one. Rest assured we didn't do it without a thoughtful, year-long process. We solicited feedback from readers and hosted meetings with key stakeholders and respected journalists.

We then took a top-to-bottom look at the publication to see what could be done to freshen

it up and appeal to alumni of all generations.

The first alumni magazine — called *University Journal* — was published in 1904, and since then the magazine has undergone many iterations and title changes. By 1924 it was named *Nebraska Alumnus*. In 1994 its name changed to *Nebraska Magazine*.

While the title change to *Nebraska Quarterly* isn't revolutionary, it quickly lets readers know how often we publish and better alludes to its scholarly

ON LOCATION

The Willa S. Cather Dining Complex (where this photo was taken) opened in June as the newest dining option for students.

Graduate
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BOUTIQUE HOTEL ROOMS



RESTAURANT & BAR



MEETING & EVENT SPACES

COMMUNITY



PICTURE MAN

Allen Schaben ('93) grew up in Seward, Neb., and has been a staff photographer at the *Los Angeles Times* for 23 years. In June, he won first place for sports photography at the Los Angeles Press Club Awards. Look for him surfing in Orange County on his big, red, Husker surfboard.



That's the Ticket

Madalyn Nelson, 17, of Orange, Calif., celebrates winning tickets to the first Nebraska football home game against Arkansas State along with her dad, Mike Nelson, left, who was born in Sidney, Neb., and mom, Kathleen Nelson, second from left. They attended the annual Californians for Nebraska summer picnic at William Mason Park in Irvine in July. The Nelson family, who are big Nebraska football fans, are planning to travel to Lincoln for the game. More than 120 people attended the picnic, which featured games, Husker-decorated cookies and, of course, football, making it one of their largest picnics ever.

On Holiday Interlaken, Switzerland

Twenty-five Huskers (along with other alum groups) explored Europe for 12 days this summer as part of the Alumni Adventure Travel Program. They visited four countries and cruised the Rhine River. Sarah Haskell, left, hosted the trip with her Kansas University counterpart, Tegan Thornberry. We offer 15 domestic and international trips each year. To find out where we're off to next, or to join us, visit huskeralum.org/travel.



Coming Up:

WINTER ISSUE

Read about the new home of the College of Business and see it up close. The \$84 million, privately-funded building is the largest academic building project in recent history at the university. We'll also fill you in on all things Herbie Husker (including the 2018 Alumni Calendar starring our famed mascot) and introduce you to the 2017 Alumni Masters. To join the alumni association and receive all four magazines each year, visit huskeralum.org/join.

Class Quotes

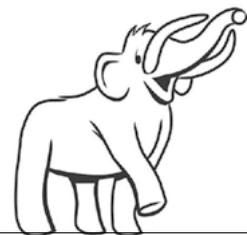
Don't miss reading Class Quotes on pages 68-69. Do you want to be featured in the winter issue, due out Dec. 1? Email your answer to the question below to kwright@huskeralum.org.

WINTER QUESTION

What is the best gift you received during college?

Find Archie!

Morrill Hall's famed Archie is hiding somewhere in the magazine, like only a 20,000-year-old mammoth can. Find him first and win a prize. Email us at alumni@huskeralum.org.



FROM LEFT: ALLEN SCHABEN (2); COURTESY SARAH HASKELL; JEFF SHEDLER

OUR STUDENTS OUR FUTURE

Nebraska senior Maggie Witzenburg can't imagine herself anywhere else.

She's a student in the Jeffrey S. Raikes School of Computer Science and Management and a former Google intern — most recently with the Google Search team in Chicago.

She credits the Raikes School for her success. "It's why I've gotten this far," she says.

Maggie knows she's also benefited from the generosity of university alumni and friends, who have supported student scholarships and programs.

Our Students, Our Future is a university initiative to raise \$200 million **by the end of this year**. This effort will positively impact our state's future by supporting students and the programs that greatly enhance their learning, such as the Raikes School. Your generous gift today will touch the lives of students now and for years to come. Please help us transform young lives and invest in the future of Nebraska.

Visit nufoundation.org/ourstudentsourfuture to learn more.

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At 50, Mabel Lee Hall is getting a makeover.

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Husker nails wrap up your game day look.

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BUSINESS

College of Business opens its new doors.

FALL

“I’ve always been fascinated by play, interactivity, storytelling and media, and the possibilities have simply multiplied as new technologies emerge.”

—MEGAN ELLIOTT

FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Heeere’s Megan

MEGAN ELLIOTT IS A LONG WAY FROM HER NATIVE Australia and that is just fine with her. She has taken a liking to biking around Lincoln and has settled in downtown with her husband, Brendan Harkin, whom she wed in December with the help of samedaymarriage.com. “I got the job, my hair cut, went to an awards ceremony and got married — all in one day,” she says.

Elliott is the enthusiastic, founding director of the Johnny Carson Center for Emerging Media Arts which aims to be operational by fall 2019. She has already put together an impressive advisory council including Alex McDowell, a production designer on the next “Star Wars” film. Elliott is filled with loads of ideas on how to make Nebraska the center of cinematic storytelling across many sectors.

“What I’m most excited about is co-creating a truly interdisciplinary program that celebrates the dynamic relationship between storytelling and emerging media arts and building an internationally unique, forward-looking center that honors the name and innovative spirit of Johnny Carson,” Elliott says.

She was previously the manager of leadership and community connections at the University of Technology Sydney in Australia and former director and CEO of digital media think-tank X Media Lab.

The center, made possible by a \$20 million gift from the Johnny Carson Foundation in 2015, will focus on virtual production, film, design, technology and commerce. Students will explore the boundaries of where cinematic storytelling intersects with artificial intelligence, science, the humanities, computer science, engineering, music, fine arts and other disciplines.

WYN WILEY





MEGAN ELLIOTT

Emerging Media Arts

The Johnny Carson Center will be an internationally distinct program focusing on virtual production, film, design, technology and commerce.

WHERE WILL IT BE HOUSED?

The center will be at 1300 Q St. and is scheduled to be completed by fall 2019. That location housed Nebraska Bookstore until its closing in June 2015.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE?

Courses and curriculum are being developed by Elliott right now, and students are expected to begin enrolling for fall semester 2019.

Girls from Carrington (N.D.) High School spend part of their 1939 summer vacation cultivating a shelterbelt.



ARCHITECTURE

Lasting Legacy of FDR’s ‘Great Wall of Trees’

TWO NEBRASKA RESEARCHERS ARE conducting the first comprehensive analysis in more than 40 years of a massive 1930s New Deal project that proposed a “Great Wall of Trees” to slow the wind erosion that caused the Dust Bowl.

From 1935 to 1942, Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s “tree army” — Civilian Conservation Corps and Works Progress Administration workers — planted more than 220 million trees in a 1,300-mile zone bisecting the Great Plains from Canada to Texas.

FDR’s grand shelterbelt project was headquartered in Nebraska. Its archives, based at the National Agroforestry Center on the university campus, provided researchers Sarah Thomas Karle, an assistant professor of landscape architecture, and David Karle, an assistant professor of architecture, a matchless vantage point for documenting the project’s history.

In partnership with researchers at the agroforestry center, the Karles are using aerial photography and dig-

ital maps to track how many shelterbelts remain. Their study of the Prairie States Forestry Project’s history leads them to believe FDR’s approach to conservation politics might provide guidance to leaders grappling with today’s environmental and climate issues.

“In contrast to the way current government entities address environmental problems, Roosevelt’s administration understood environmental crises less as problems to be fixed in the short term and more as opportunities for crucial comprehensive, long-term engagement with the underlying conditions that caused the problems,” they wrote in a new book, “Conserving the Dust Bowl: The New Deal’s Prairie States Forestry Project.”

The project provided thousands of jobs for unemployed workers and it produced nearly 19,000 miles of disconnected shelterbelts on 33,000 separate farms between 1935 and 1942. Originally envisioned as a \$100 million program to create publicly owned windbreaks, it became a cooperative program between private landowners and government.

COURTESY OF THE FOREST SERVICE, U.S.D.A.

Even though the shelterbelt plan was based on cutting-edge forestry science, it was a subject for debate even at the time, Sarah Karle said. Even those in the forestry profession were divided whether planting trees in the grasslands of the Great Plains was feasible or wise.

Gradually agronomic approaches, such as low-till and no-till farming practices, crop rotation and planting grasses, won out, Sarah Karle said. The coming of mechanized irrigation helped reduce wind erosion by enabling farmers to keep soil moist even during periods of drought.

Yet the trees provided other benefits, David Karle said. By buffering the winds, the trees allowed Plains dwellers to add more doors and windows to their homes and schools. Fewer barns were needed to protect livestock. The forest-like shelterbelts — they were designed to be more than 100 feet wide, with as many as 17 rows of trees — provided habitat for game birds and other wildlife. In the winter, they protected highways and railroad tracks from drifting snow.

A preliminary analysis centered on Antelope County, Nebraska, shows a significant number of shelterbelts still survive, although many were demolished or reduced in size to make way for more cropland, bigger farm equipment and, often, the arc of a center pivot irrigation rig.

With the surviving trees now about 80 years old, land owners and policymakers soon face tough decisions about whether to replace or remove windbreaks, Sarah Karle said. Though the trees are part of an ecological system with impact beyond erosion control, restoration can be expensive. The potential environmental benefits must be weighed against the economic costs before mounting a restoration effort.

—LESLIE REED



Architecture professors David and Sarah Thomas Karle are researching the erosion of shelterbelts in the state.



AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

East Campus Boasts New Vet Center

IT WAS 1975 WHEN THE UNIVERSITY BUILT ITS first vet center and it was June 9 when the new 65,000-square-foot building was dedicated in the northeast corner of East Campus. The new Nebraska Veterinary Diagnostic Center provides improved laboratory services for veterinarians and Nebraska livestock owners, and it also enhances the learning experiences of students in the Professional Program in Veterinary Medicine.

“With our new interactive spaces, we’ve created a state-of-the-art space for our students to study as well as gain hands-on veterinary experience,” said Alan Doster, the center’s director.

The center will continue to do research and offer necropsy, histopathology, virology, bacteriology, serology, toxicology and limited clinical pathology services. The increased space and new state-of-the-art equipment, will enable the center to more quickly and accurately diagnose disease-causing organisms.

The 1975 building was considerably smaller at 18,000 square feet and had become insufficient to meet modern laboratory needs and biosecurity requirements. Recognizing the state’s need for a new center, the Nebraska Legislature committed \$40.6 million in funding through the Building a Healthier Nebraska initiative announced in 2012 with \$4.1 million required in private donations.

“The Vet Diagnostic Center is a great public-private partnership that will serve the needs of all of Nebraska. It represents what is possible when the legislature, commodity groups and the university work together,” Doster said.

Vet students’ learning experience will be enhanced with the new veterinary center.

Cranes Lift Tourism

According to a study led by the University of Nebraska at Kearney, the economic impact of tourism on Nebraska during the Sandhill crane migration was \$14.3 million in 2017. Every spring, more than 600,000 Sandhill cranes stop in Nebraska’s Platte River valley before heading further north to breeding grounds. The cranes lead to tourists, who spend money. The study said 46,500 people visited Central Nebraska during the crane migration and 93 percent were from outside of the region. The tourists spent an average of \$93.37 each day.





IN VIEW

As Mabel Lee Hall approaches middle age, it has been approved for a \$40 million makeover. Completed in 1968 as a physical education facility, Mabel Lee (located on 14th between Vine and W streets) still houses an outdated swimming pool, two gyms, a dance studio and locker rooms. A glass, three-story atrium (shown here) will be added to the front entrance of the building which will brighten up the dank interior. The new building will feature interactive and collaborative learning spaces as well as traditional classrooms and lecture halls to be used primarily by the College of Education and Human Sciences. The project is expected to be completed by 2021.

EAST CAMPUS

Movin' on up

THE NEW RESIDENCE HALL WHICH OPENED ON EAST Campus in August has been named the Massengale Residential Center in honor of Martin Massengale, president and chancellor emeritus and founding director of the Center for Grassland Studies and foundation distinguished professor.

Offering 374 beds in a mix of traditional and apartment-style units, the new residential center is immediately north of C.Y. Thompson Library and east of the Nebraska East Union. The new center replaces the 300-bed, 1950s-era Burr and Fedde residence halls. In June, nearly 350 people turned out on East Campus for the Burr-Fedde and Friends Reunion to get one last look around their former campus residence before it was demolished. Attendees included residents from every decade since Burr and Fedde were built in 1957, and came from as far away as Kodiak, Alaska.

The all-new Massengale Center features an open layout, more common area spaces, floor lounges and large meeting spaces to accommodate group study. The hall has a courtyard and fire pit area with views of a prairie grass planting area to the east and the Earl G. Maxwell Arboretum to the south.

Massengale is transitioning into retirement after more than four decades at the university. He first came to Nebraska in 1976 as vice chancellor of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and became Nebraska's 16th chancellor in 1981, a post he held for 10 years. "Martin Massengale provided the university with tremendous leadership for decades and that started on East Campus," Chancellor Ronnie Green said. "It is most fitting that his legacy lives on through this residential center, where our students can be reminded of his impact for many years to come."

DEVOUR

IN HUSKER COUNTRY

STAY

Graduate Lincoln

What was once the Downtown Lincoln Holiday Inn at 9th and P streets has been radically transformed into a kitschy, 16-story, 231-room hotel rebranded as the Graduate Lincoln. Its vintage flair pays homage to, not only city and state, but also the university with room keys resembling student ID cards for Brook Berringer and Johnny Carson. Splurge on one of the four suites (up to \$839/night on popular weekends).



WEAR

Husker Nail Designs

If you're looking to nail down your Husker game day image, look no further than Jamberry. Two Nebraska designs are available which are sold in sheets of 18 nail wraps. Cost: \$17.50/sheet.



DRINK

Caramel Frappuccino

The City Campus Student Union opened a full-service, licensed Starbucks this semester, replacing the Caffina Café which simply brewed the brand's coffee.

What this really means is there will be more baristas, expanded food offerings and Starbucks gift cards will now be accepted.

CARRY

Clear Bags

Beginning this fall, a clear bag policy will be implemented at all Nebraska sports venues. But don't fret, the University Bookstore in the Student Union carries three stylin' versions for you, like this one which retails for \$32.



EAT

Chicken Caesar Asiago Wrap

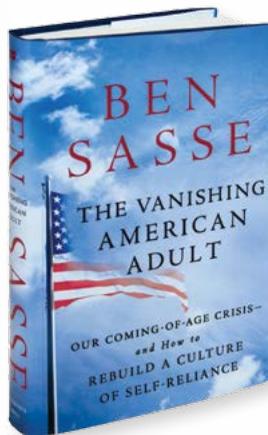
The Mill, which opened its doors in 1975 in the Haymarket, has added a third Lincoln shop at Nebraska Innovation Campus. The Mill Coffee & Bistro features, not only coffee, but beer on tap and food.



READ

"The Vanishing American Adult"

The Republican senator from Nebraska gives advice on how to raise resilient, responsible children in his new book, which spent numerous weeks in the top 10 of *The New York Times*' best seller list for hardcover nonfiction. "It's about this distinction between adolescence, which is a really special thing, and perpetual adolescence, which is really dangerous," Ben Sasse said.





ENGINEERING

Recharging a Classic

STUDENT TEAM CONVERTS '64 CORVAIR TO CRUISE VIA AN ALL-ELECTRIC MOTOR

INSPIRED BY AN ELECTRIC VEHICLES COURSE LED by Don Cox, adjunct faculty in the College of Engineering, May graduates Arthur Fischer, Eric Peterson and Sam Wildman completed a senior design capstone project by converting a 1964 Chevy Corvair from an internal-combustion engine to full electric power.

The “Retro-Vair” is designed for a city commuter

and will travel for at least 30 miles on a full charge. Top cruising speed is about 70 miles per hour. The students developed the project in the last three years, completing the build in the previous 18 months.

The Retro-Vair runs on 48 12-volt batteries — which are similar to the batteries used in children’s toy riding cars. It takes about nine hours to fully charge the vehicle. By dividing the batteries between



BIG BRAG

UNL has been designated a “Best Buy” in the Fiske Guide to Colleges 2018. Nebraska is one of just 20 public colleges and universities to receive the designation, which is earned through academic quality and affordability.

The Retro-Vair student team included, at left, Sam Wildman and Arthur Fischer. Above: Batteries line the front-end trunk of the engineering team’s Retro-Vair.

space in the trunk (which is in front) and the rear engine compartment, the student team was able to better distribute weight, increasing the operating safety of the car. In his 1965 book, “Unsafe at Any Speed,” Ralph Nader outlined the dangers of the Corvair design. One reason highlighted in the book involved the rear-engine design, which shifted too much weight to the back of the vehicle and made it difficult to handle. To this day, the Corvair remains the only American-designed, mass-produced passenger car to use a rear-mounted, air-cooled engine.

While much of the Retro-Vair project was completed by the students in a garage, resources available in Nebraska Innovation Studio played an important role in getting the car on the road. Fischer said

Innovation Studio, a makerspace that offers a variety of tools to the campus community and public, allowed the team to design and craft mounts and other specialized pieces to complete the project. He said the laser cutter was especially useful.

The overall cost of the build was about \$12,000, with major support provided by Interstate Batteries and Lincoln’s Lester Electrical. The Retro-Vair was among the final projects the students completed prior to spring graduation. All earned their bachelor’s degrees during May commencement exercises — Fisher in electrical engineering, Peterson in mechanical engineering, and Wildman in mechanized systems management.

—TROY FEDDERSON

“Science requires a habit of thinking and problem-solving that is so important for little kids to develop. It also affects children’s social skills and vocabulary development, which is important for later school success.”



—SOO-YOUNG HONG, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF CHILD, YOUTH AND FAMILY STUDIES, who is exploring how a professional development program could help preschool teachers integrate science into their daily classroom activities.

LAW

Children Will Benefit From New Clinic

THE COLLEGE OF LAW HAS ADDED A Children’s Justice Clinic to the four clinics it already offers.

Third-year law students in the clinic will have the opportunity to serve as a guardian ad litem for children in the child welfare system. The newest of Nebraska Law’s clinics results from a partnership between the college and the university’s Center on Children, Families and the Law.

The inaugural Children’s Justice Clinic course has eight students and will be located in the college’s recently opened Marvin and Virginia Schmid Clinic Building.

“The work that our students will do in the clinic will affect generations of Nebraskans and ensure that the state’s youngest residents receive high quality representation in the juvenile court system,” said Richard Moberly, dean of Nebraska Law.

In addition to providing practical skills training to law students, the clinic will help address the state’s need for qualified guardians ad litem, or GALs.

A 2009 study by the National Association of Counsel for Children found numerous gaps in the representation of children in the state, concluding that though GALs in Nebraska may have competent skills in court, they would be well-served by additional training in child development, family dynamics and dysfunction, and the utilization of multidisciplinary experts for consultation to provide effective service for children they represent.

It joins the Civil Clinic, Criminal Clinic, Immigration Clinic and Weibling Entrepreneurship Clinic at Nebraska Law in giving students hands-on experience serving real-world clients.

BIG BRAG

Nebraska researchers have produced the brightest light ever produced on Earth by focusing laser light to a brightness 1 billion times greater than the surface of the sun.

JOURNALISM & MASS COMMUNICATIONS

Sporting a New Major

STARTING THIS FALL, STUDENTS CAN DECLARE A major in Sports Media and Communication. The new program will be led by Emmy-award winning broadcaster and journalist John Shrader, who is returning to his alma mater after teaching journalism at Cal State, Long Beach and San Jose State.

This interdisciplinary major will draw on the college’s strengths in advertising and public relations, broadcasting and journalism to provide students with a one-of-a-kind program in sports. Students will take core courses to build foundational skills in

sports media and communication and select electives to focus their education and future career path.

Placement in a Big 10 institution, strong relationships with Husker Athletics, HuskerVision and the Lincoln Saltdogs, along with faculty expertise in sports, writing, reporting, radio and television broadcasting, photography and videography, sports media relations and promotion, data literacy and analytics in sports, provide the college with a unique position to offer a world-class program in sports media and communication.

ARICATI EMVIN

Co-Create the Future

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You know NEBRASKA is home to makers, doers, and creators. We're a diverse community of scholars who have come together to create new knowledge, build on each other's experiences, and forge a better future—our future. Together we make a difference. Who do you know who has the makings of a Husker? Refer a high school student at go.unl.edu/FutureHusker



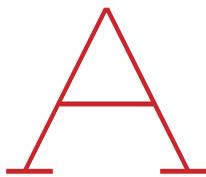
The grant won by Lorraine Males supports pre-tenure faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through research.



EDUCATION AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Math Under a Microscope

RESEARCHER'S AWARD WILL BOOST TEACHER EDUCATION, STUDENT LEARNING



textbook research.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR LORRAINE Males has earned a five-year, nearly \$630,000 Faculty Early Career Development Program award from the National Science Foundation to conduct

Mathematics is one of the most textbook-dependent subjects in school, and much research goes into developing math curricula. Relatively little effort, however, is spent helping K-12 math teachers use textbooks effectively, according to Males.

To support future teachers in employing math curricula, Males will research how teachers currently approach textbooks. She will use these results to develop teacher education materials for college-level courses, with the goal of better preparing students for future teaching positions.

"The point of a textbook is to help students learn something," Males said. "But if the teacher isn't using the textbook as intended, then that isn't going to help students learn."

Males and her team will first research how teachers currently use textbooks to develop lesson plans, answering such questions as what teachers attend to on the page, how they interpret the material and the decisions they make in response to those interpretations. To clarify this, Males will interview teachers while they are actively planning a classroom les-

son and ask them to explain their rationale as they move through the planning process. With eye-tracking glasses she previously obtained through a grant from the nonprofit CPM Educational Program, Males will also be able to observe exactly how teachers visually approach the material.

From the research results, Males will develop college-level instructional materials to prepare future teachers to use math textbooks effectively. She'll initially use the materials in the university's education courses.

To evaluate the materials' effectiveness, Males and her team will follow up with former students as they begin their teaching careers in Nebraska classrooms. This interaction also will serve to support new teachers, providing assistance in what can be an overwhelming first few years in a teaching career, she said. The additional support also could improve new teacher retention throughout Nebraska.

"Trying to figure out how I can help, as a university instructor, prepare my teachers to do this work is very important," said Males, a former middle and high school math teacher. During her time in the classroom, she developed a personal interest in using curricula well and uses that experience to inform her research and instruct her college students.

Once the materials have been fully developed and assessed, Males will make them available nationally.

—GILLIAN KLUCAS

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NEBRASKA

— ALUMNI —



New Music Maker

Sergio Ruiz has been named the new director of the Glenn Korff School of Music. Ruiz, a Steinway artist, has been chair of the Georgia College Department of Music since 2013. Prior to that, he was director of keyboard studies from 2004-13 and director of the Institute of Latin American Music Studies from 2007-13 at Sam Houston State University School of Music in Huntsville, Texas. He earned a doctorate of musical arts in piano performance from Rice University, his master's degree in music from Cleveland Institute of Music and his bachelor of arts from Santa Clara University.



CRAIG CHANDLER



HORNS UP

Reunion Weekend

The Band Alumni Association was founded in 1974 and performed its first halftime show in 1975. They have performed every year since, except for 2001 after 9/11. This year they perform at the Sept. 2 Arkansas State game.

WHO'S THE TRUMPETER?

Wayne Shipferling, 80, played in the band from 1954-57 and started performing with the alumni band in 1979. His fondest memory is the band trip via train to Miami for the 1955 Orange Bowl. He says they played Husker songs in train stations along the route, getting booted from Union Station in Kansas City. He last performed on Sept. 3, 2016.

December 3, 2016 6:00 PM Check in 6:30 PM Meeting/Registration 7:30 PM Food Refreshment 8:30 PM Lunch 6:15 PM Performance 6:45 PM Line up 7:00 PM Alumni		1:30 Outside 1:30 Inside 6:00 1:30 Inside 1:30 Outside 6:00
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Nebraska Engineer Builds a Personal and Professional Foundation

— in Her Favorite Place

On any given day, Environmental Engineer Amanda Fox can make a number of decisions, from calculating the flowrate of water in a pipe to designing structures to support Nebraska's most precious resource. On every given day, however, there's one decision she doesn't have to think twice about: choosing Nebraska to grow her career.

"After spending six years in Indiana and one year in Chicago, we moved back to Lincoln. In Nebraska, I've had the opportunity to practice specialized engineering, work with outstanding people, and be surrounded by relatives. It's been a great fit for our family."

Fox and her husband's move back to Nebraska in 2012 followed a whirlwind of out-of-state experiences for both native Nebraskans in the engineering and consulting sectors. While she had planned to work at home following the birth of her second child, more than one Nebraska engineering company had other plans. Fox received recruitment calls from two Lincoln firms within weeks of her move home, which ultimately led to her role as a project manager at a small consulting firm. By 2013, her work on wastewater projects and water regulatory issues had paved the way for new responsibilities at Nebraska's Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Having an opportunity to be a Dam Safety Engineer for the DNR and work with Nebraska's Natural Resource Districts (NRDs) increased her knowledge – and passion – for water resources engineering.

"I love Nebraska's topography and appreciate our unique landscape because I grew up in the Sandhills. Nebraska is rich in water and our NRDs are unique. There

is a strong need for knowledge about floodplains, dams, and integrated watershed management and the DNR and NRDs are facilitating this work. The connection between surface water and groundwater is more emphasized here than in other states where I've worked, making

Nebraska a great place to build engineering skills in hydrology and hydraulics."

Fox says her work in the public sector undoubtedly prepared her for her current role in the Nebraska-based HDR Engineering. Her job now consists of hydrologic and hydraulic engineering for dams and levees, design of wastewater conveyance and treatment processes, and regulatory compliance assistance. She is currently involved in the Omaha Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO!) program, also known as Cleaned Solutions for Omaha. The city-implemented CSO! Program has been in operation since 2010 and was created to improve water quality to meet Environmental Protection Agency standards by 2027.

Fox appreciates company leaders' emphasis on well-known Nebraska values, not unlike her childhood in Alliance where she remembers her parents working hard to create new opportunities for another generation of Nebraskans. In 1997, Fox became the second in her family to go to college as her mother was just graduating. Both received their undergraduate and graduate degrees from UNL. Nearly twenty years later, Fox is still using those Nebraska experiences to grow her own family's roots - and build relationships in the state's engineering industry.

"Our motto at HDR is: 'We do the right things for the right reasons.' Working with integrity and purpose drives the success of HDR, which is now celebrating 100 years of service. HDR still has its corporate headquarters in Omaha."

Fox graduated from UNL in 2001 with a BS in Biochemistry and in 2003 with a master's degree in Environmental Engineering. She has since obtained her Professional Engineering license in Indiana and Nebraska. Fox says her Nebraska education and experience in wastewater and water resources engineering contribute to her commitment to creating safe and sustainable Nebraska communities.

"In Nebraska, our quality of life depends on the quality of our water," Fox said. "Working to preserve that, in the place that my family has called home for generations, has been a wonderful opportunity. This is a great place to make a living, as well as raise children in safe neighborhoods and great schools. Nebraska, for us, has been an excellent way to effectively balance work and family."



Nebraska's Department of Economic Development is committed to retaining and bringing talented Nebraskans into the state's workforce. For assistance regarding opportunities contact Allison Hatch at Allison.hatch@nebraska.gov.

NEBRASKA

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BIG BRAG

Nebraska has been named one of the 100 safest college communities in the United States by the National Council for Home Safety and Security.

ARTS AND SCIENCES

What's In a Name?

RESEARCHERS MAP CHANGES IN EMPATHETIC RESPONSE BASED ON NAMES

NEW UNIVERSITY RESEARCH HAS shown that names have the power to mold empathy. Psychology graduate student John Kiat and Jacob Cheadle, a Husker sociologist, were able to map brain functions to show empathy is altered — for better or worse — by putting a name to a face. Because empathy is known to increase kinder behavior, understanding this experience of feeling another person's condition from their perspective is important to building lasting social change, Kiat said.

“If you talk about racism, sexism or classism — all these things — one of the primary drivers is a lack of empathy,” Kiat said. “Empathy is caring, and until

you get enough people who care, things don't really change. And this shows names matter.”

Empathy is often studied from developmental or psycho-social frames. Researchers only recently have begun to examine empathy through the functions of the brain. Kiat and Cheadle's work is the first study in which electroencephalogram, or EEG, technology was utilized to map electrical impulses in the brain and examine the link between attentional neural responses and names, in the formation of empathy.

Using computer-generated faces, volunteers first were shown a resting face, then viewed the face with a grimace of pain and were asked to rate the pain they were seeing. This task was completed with 36 different faces. The experiment was repeated, but





in the second series, a name was given prior to the resting faces and pain expressions. When the names were added to the pictures, the neural responses changed a lot.

“During the experiment, when we saw how their brains were responding to the named faces, we could predict almost 50 percent of participants’ empathy levels,” Kiat said. Kiat described this as possibly being due to a strong relationship between empathy and the perceptions previously held toward different identifying labels. “If you know and like a Sarah and you think Sarah is tough, that may well influence the empathy you have not only for that Sarah but for other Sarahs as well,” Kiat said.

The study demonstrates that what drives our empathy is deeper than what we directly perceive, Kiat said. “Information regarding identity is important, and names clearly shift the informational bases of empathic response,” he explained.

—DEANN GAYMAN



BIG BRAG

The men’s gymnastics team claimed its first-ever College Gymnastics Association National Academic Team title after finishing the 2016-17 school year with a combined team grade point average of 3.505. Nebraska came ahead of 15 other teams, including second-place Stanford and three-time defending academic champion William & Mary.

BUSINESS

Open for Business

HOWARD L. HAWKS HALL IS THE new home for Nebraska’s College of Business which formally opened in August. “I have been fortunate to receive extraordinary benefit from my experience and education at the College of Business,” Hawks said. “I am happy to have the opportunity to help students and faculty benefit from an exceptional educational facility.” The 240,000-square-foot building at 14th and Vine streets provides a place for innovative teaching and high-level research. The facility features experiential learning spaces and high-tech classrooms.

OVERHEARD

“Even in the face of (budget) challenges, we must continue to educate Nebraska’s future workforce, deliver outstanding research, and apply our expertise to the world’s most difficult problems.”



—HANK BOUNDS,
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA PRESIDENT

“I want to help future generations in my country be better farmers and entrepreneurs. If I don’t do it, who is going to do it?”



—BORIS ROMUALD, ONE OF 25 EMERGING LEADERS from 20 African countries who attended the Civic Leadership Institute over the summer at UNL as a Mandela Washington Fellow. The overall goal of the institute was to help participants learn new concepts and tools to take back to African communities when they departed Lincoln.

“For the most part, 17th Street will be permanently closed between Vine and R streets. The city is vacating this stretch of the public street and it will become university property.”



—MARK LUTJEHARMS,
SENIOR TRAFFIC ENGINEER FOR THE CITY OF LINCOLN, on the closed stretch of 17th Street which will become a pedestrian mall similar to those that exist on City Campus along 12th and 14th streets — both of which were once traffic lanes.

A BRIGITTE ERVIN

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Nebraska

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TODAY IS THE DAY I WRITE MY STORY.

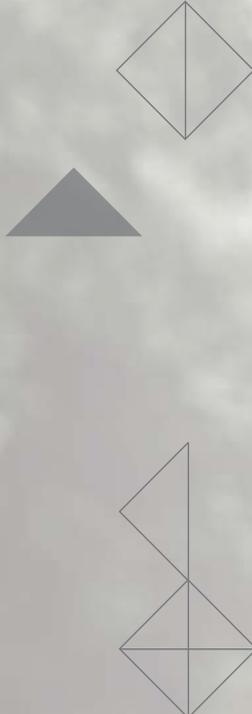
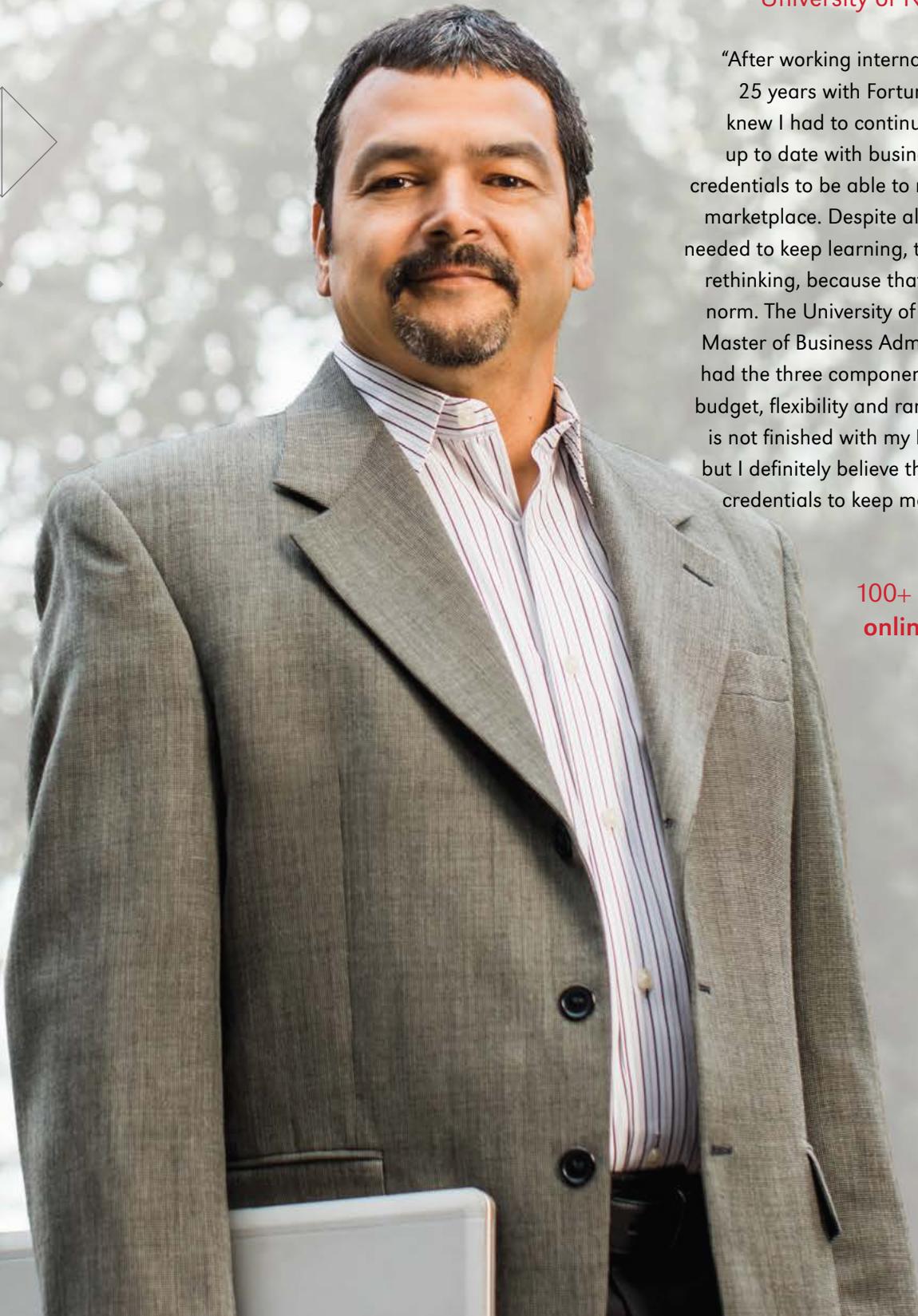
Pedro Londono

Master of Business Administration
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

"After working internationally for the past 25 years with Fortune 500 companies, I knew I had to continue to find ways to be up to date with business trends and have credentials to be able to move forward in the marketplace. Despite all of my experience, I needed to keep learning, to keep thinking and rethinking, because that's the new business norm. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Master of Business Administration program had the three components I was looking for: budget, flexibility and ranking. My education is not finished with my MBA, I guarantee it; but I definitely believe that with it I have the credentials to keep moving up the ladder."



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To fans, they were faster than a speeding bullet and more powerful than a locomotive. They were the undefeated 1916 Cornhusker football team boarding a train to Oregon. They encountered stowaways and six inches of snow. The game was a nail-biter to the end. Care to guess who won? Why, of course, it was the boys from the University of

NEBRASKA

QUARTERLY

ALSO:
WOUNDS OF WHITECLAY
The northwest Nebraska town of 12, millions of cans of beer sell each year.
PAGE 38

LESSONS LEARNED
Student-athletes travel to Nicaragua to learn, grow and give back.
PAGE 52



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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

VOICES

Since the 2016 election cycle, more students than ever are flocking to declare PoliSci as a major ... “Call of the Corn” heroine, Laura, stumbles upon her new passion in the third installment of our novella.



▲ ROBERT COLESCOTT *THE OTHER WASHINGTONS* (DETAIL)

Oil on canvas, 1987, 90 x 114 inches

SHELDON MUSEUM OF ART, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN, OLGA N. SHELDON ACQUISITION TRUST, U-6463.2015

PHOTO © SHELDON MUSEUM OF ART

PoliSci Majors Step It Up

The number of students declaring a major in political science increased by 11 percent after the brouhaha from last November's election

BY KEVIN SMITH

Professor and Chair of the Political Science Department

ILLUSTRATION BY EDMON DE HARO

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RESIDENT DONALD TRUMP, TO PUT IT mildly, is a different sort of president. He was an unconventional candidate, who ran an unconventional campaign, and is proving to be an unconventional chief executive unafraid to break with the customs and norms traditionally associated with his office.

That is having a profound impact on the nation's political (and even social) landscape. Trump has forwarded outside-the-line nominees for powerful positions in the executive branch, uses Twitter as a powerful 140-character bully pulpit, spars with the nation's press, and has often ditched diplomatic niceties in his dealing with foreign leaders. A less noticed effect of Trump's electoral victory even has implications for undergraduate studies. Here at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, we have seen a notable surge in political science majors since the November election.

We are pretty confident that this surge is, at least in part, tied to the unique nature of the last presidential campaign and the election of Trump. Presidential election years generally tend to coincide with a

small increase in the numbers of majors between the spring preceding the November election and the spring following. And it makes sense that we'd see this sort of an election-year bump. From the primary to the general, the presidential electoral season is a high-profile staple of the news cycle for the better part of the year. Parties and special interest groups will buy ads and mobilize voters, and candidates and their campaigns will do their persuasive best to get citizens to back their cause. Politics becomes part of the national conversation.

The political events of a presidential year, no doubt, attract the interest of those who are about to go off to college, and/or undergraduates who are unsure of what major they want to pursue. High profile election campaigns put politics on their radar, rams home the importance of governance and public policy, and helps put the study of politics — political science — on the radar of students narrowing down their list of potential majors.

The election of 2016, however, seems to be something special in this regard. In the four presidential election cycles between 2000 and 2012 there was, on average, a 4 percent increase in the number of political science majors between the spring semesters bracketing the election. In the comparable time period for 2016-17 we saw an 11 percent increase.

It is not just the numbers, though, that lead us to believe that the 2016 presidential election has led to a significant jump in the number of undergraduates who decide to major in political science. Students typically consult with an adviser before declaring a major, and our departmental undergraduate adviser does a terrific job of getting students set up for academic success. She also typically asks students why they want to major in political science. Probably the most common response we get to that sort of query is that a student is interested in going to law school. Political science is one of the dominant pre-law majors, and roughly a third of poli sci majors here at Nebraska are pre-law. Other typical reasons volunteered for studying political science are a desire to enter public service in some capacity, or get professionally involved in politics. So, for example, a student may have ambitions to work for a federal agency, or be a city administrator, pursue a military career, become a lobbyist, or even run for office themselves (the Unicameral includes several of our alums).

In the past six or seven months, however, we have seen a notable shift in the reason undergraduates give for wanting to study political science: the November 2016 presidential election. This is especially notable for incoming students, those who officially become Cornhuskers in fall 2017. While we have no firm numbers — no one has ever thought to collect data on reasons given for majoring in political science — the anecdotal evidence

is pretty persuasive. The last presidential election, and the ascension of Donald Trump to the nation's highest executive office, seems to have prompted an increasing number of students to devote their undergraduate years to the study of politics.

While the pros and cons of the Trump presidency can be debated, from my position as chair of the Department of Political Science, this increase in majors is, without doubt, a good thing. Having increasing numbers of young adults with a deeper understanding of the Republic, its government, political processes and policies, its role in and relationship with the rest of world, is a social good. No

one knows what the political future holds, but it's nice to know that the future is going to include a larger group of smart, knowledgeable Huskers with a particular expertise in politics and government.

As lawyers and lobbyists, holding political office or military office, negotiating foreign trade deals or horse trading to get a local road built, the new bumper crop of majors will undoubtedly leave their mark. And maybe, just maybe, they will be willing to do something about the divisive and often angry politics that were so notably characteristic of the last election. That would be something our department, college and university could indeed be proud of. **N**





The Call of the Corn

Laura stumbles upon her calling

BY AD HUDLER

ILLUSTRATION BY BRIAN STAUFFER

LAURA AND RICHARD always got their own motel rooms on the road, even though it was unnecessary. He seemed to be as asexual as her rubber traveling companion, Safety Man, and that was just fine with her. Also, Laura's

libido had ebbed these past few months. Who could feel sexy while immersed in her new surreal life, zipping about the northern Midwest with someone who seemed more like a cartoon character than a warm-blooded man?

Laura had talked him into letting her join his Comma Cowboy show as an assistant. She dreamed up a character named Grammar Gail and together they preached the ills of social media and its impact on the verbal and writing skills of today's youth. Before she embarked on her teaching adventure, she'd gone home to tell Ty about her plans.

"Well then I guess this means we're done with," he said.

"What do you mean?"

"On the road with another man?"

"Don't be so melodramatic, Ty, there's nothing there," Laura said. "I get a little gay vibe from him

anyway. ... This is purely professional."

"And tell me again why you want to do this."

"Because I'm passionate about it. It's the first thing that's truly ever engaged me."

"I find that hard to believe, Laura. All those murals you painted over the years for people? All your volunteer work for hospice? You're making it sound like your life has been empty — and you've had a good life. I've made sure of that."

"It's been a lot of ... obligation."

"Great. Obligation ... So you're saying you've never been happy with me? With the kids?"

"No, that's not what I'm saying. I just need to try something new for awhile."

"I should have seen this coming ... your gypsy dad and all ... it's in the blood, I guess."

"Yes, Ty, if it makes you feel any better you can see this as my genetically pre-destined unraveling."

Laura got up from the chair and walked over to her husband on the couch. She sat beside him and took his hand in hers.

"It's my turn, Ty," she said. "The mom does eventually get a turn to do what she wants — and I'm the mom, and it's my turn. I'm damn serious about this."

At first, all Laura did in the shows was introduce the Comma Cowboy, but her role soon grew. She'd been teaching herself guitar — "The act needs music," she'd told him — and eventually she began joining him for songs that she'd written, pairing new lyrics with classic tunes like "Home on the Range."

Each had their favorite cause. For Richard, it was the semicolon. For Laura it was homonyms. Her song "Too, To, Two," set to the tune of Michael Jackson's "Say, Say, Say" had been trending on YouTube the past few weeks. Her youngest son, Thomas, stumbled upon it and texted her: UR famous mom!!!

You're, she corrected.

While in Denver they engaged a photographer and web designer to beef up and re-energize the website. They hired someone, a housewife in Sioux City, Iowa, to take over their scheduling and booking.

They talked little of anything other than their act and cause. In their travels, they absorbed the multiple inaccurate spellings and punctuation errors on signs, on menus, in conversations, and they would spend their evenings creating new skits, surrounded by the seven tired Chihuahuas, freed from their punctuation-mark costumes, lying about the bed like empty beer bottles.

While performing in suburban Chicago, a stringer with "People" magazine saw them and wrote a story. Then came a piece in "The Wall Street Journal" and an invite from Ellen DeGeneres. Laura told the producer, "I'm sorry but we don't have time to go to L.A.; we're immersed in a battle for the survival of the English language." So they agreed to be filmed at a local TV station and have





Ellen conduct a remote interview.

They soon found it difficult to go anywhere, unnoticed, even out of costume.

“Why are you so reluctant to have your picture taken with people?” Laura asked Richard one night. “There’s nothing wrong with a selfie.”

“We are contributing to the shallowness that we rage against,” he replied.

Laura loved the attention. Her friends in Rochester, who hadn’t known where she’d gone or what she was up to, suddenly were calling to catch up.

Laura also loved the pace — she found it addictive. Yet she wasn’t truly aware of how fast their rise to fame had been, or of the pace of their nomadic lives, until she got a call one Monday evening from Ty, a jarring yank, backward in time, to her previous spot in line.

A story about Laura and Richard had appeared that day in the Rochester newspaper, and the writer’s attraction for the cowboy was revealed in the details she provided: the cleft on his chin, the sandy-blond hair in a ’70s, parted style; his lean, tall torso; the deep, bass timbre of his voice.

“People are talking,” Ty said.

“They’re not either. I’ve talked with my friends. You’re paranoid,” Laura said. “Don’t you trust me?”

The following stretch of silence angered her. Watching one of the Chihuahuas lick at her ankle, she fell into a memory from long ago, after her miscarriage, when Ty thought his wife was losing her grip on the here and now — and he’d arranged for a stay at a place called Gladiola, a wooded respite spot for the country-club set to hide their husbands or wives or sons or daughters while they were immersed in psychiatric care. It was somewhere south of Philly when she realized they were not driving to the Cape, as he’d promised — and he was forced to divulge his plans.

“An intervention!?” Laura had yelled.

“To get some help,” Ty replied.

“Damn it, Ty! I have a right to be messed up, okay? I know I left the car running in the garage. I know I bit the exterminator’s head off. I know I’m drinking too much chardonnay. But give me a break, will you? I had someone die inside of me! It’s going to take some time to get over that!”

He’d lied so many times to her over the years: his affair, his demotion at work, the gender of his executive assistant ...

Did he lack integrity? Or did he think she was that dense?

He’d told her more than once that people lie to protect the people they love — but how messed up was that!

Now that he was retired, perhaps finished trying to prove himself, his testosterone levels starting to wane, could Ty stop lying? Didn’t men get better — nicer? — with age? Did they get more honest?

And, for the zillionth time in her 37 years with Ty, she wondered: Would they both feel differently if their marriage had been created purely out of love and not necessity? What if she hadn’t gotten pregnant with Spencer? Would there be more purity to the relationship? More openness? Less anger? Does anyone ever get over being forced into a role they truly don’t want?

She’d started seeing her marriage as an immense, unfinished oil painting, something you go back to again and again, tweaking and changing over time because you’re not quite satisfied, because you haven’t yet felt that barely discernable interior click that announces that the work is finally finished, that nothing else can be done to it. She knew of some artists who sat on an unfinished painting for decades. And then, one day, they walk by and see the one brush stroke that had eluded them for years ... and with a single dab they cap it off. The mystery is solved, the soul is at rest.

RICHARD HAD BEEN TELLING LAURA THAT THE PACE of their lives was wearing him down. He told her he wanted to talk about downsizing their ambitions, their schedule at the very least, and that they would do so after he got back from the gym.

Laura sat at the desk in the hotel room, writing down her talking points: They couldn’t slow down, they didn’t dare. They’d made such progress! They had more than 600 requests for appearances. Teachers everywhere were saying in interviews that the duo’s impact had slowed the erosion of language in their students’ writing and speaking. Kids were starting to mimic them in YouTube videos.

A deafening, shrill sound suddenly filled the room; it was the fire alarm on the wall. Laura got up and opened the door, joining others who’d done the same.

“False alarm probably,” said one man.

“I smell smoke,” said another.

They lingered, wondering what to do, until a portly ginger-haired young man, the night manager, appeared in the hallway, down by the elevator vestibule.

“Everyone out! Right now! Fire in the building.”

“Fire?”

“Fire!”

“For real?” she asked.

“Fire!” he yelled, louder this time.

Laura retreated into the room, grabbed her phone, laptop and purse and then joined the others across the street. They watched as firefighters broke down an entrance door on the second floor and disappeared inside, dragging their stiff, engorged hose behind them.

They’d been standing there 20 minutes, mesmerized by the action, when Laura felt a presence at her side.

“Where are the dogs?”

It was Richard.

“The dogs!”
 “You left the dogs?”
 “The dogs! ... Damn!”

Richard began sprinting toward the building, but just as he reached the door it burst open, and a firefighter appeared from the darkened interior. Small but loud barks could be heard from behind and then ... one by one the Chihuahuas appeared, first a period, then a comma, then a hyphen, as they scattered about the parking lot.

People stared as a small group of large, plush punctuation marks skittered up to Richard, jumping best as they could in their cumbersome costumes. Some people took out their cameras and started filming the scene.

“It’s the Comma Cowboy!” said one guest.

“I don’t see Teena yet,” Richard said, scanning the parking lot. And then, to Laura: “Why are they wearing their costumes?”

“They were cold,” she answered.

Over the next hour they ate hoagies that a sub shop had donated from next door. Finally, at 11:40 p.m. they were allowed to go in and collect their smoky, wet belongings.

Though their room had not burned it had gotten very hot, and they knew this because of what they discovered in the easy chair in the corner of the room:

Safety Man, or at least his rubber head and torso and arms, had melted into a gooey puddle atop his shirt and pants, his eyebrows looking like streaks of chocolate in an immense, melted ice cream dessert.

“Safety Man!”

Laura walked over and picked up his aviator sunglasses.

“He’s dead,” she said. “How could I forget him?”

“Or the dogs, for that matter,” Richard said.

He pursed his lips, his arms akimbo as he looked at the mess on the chair.

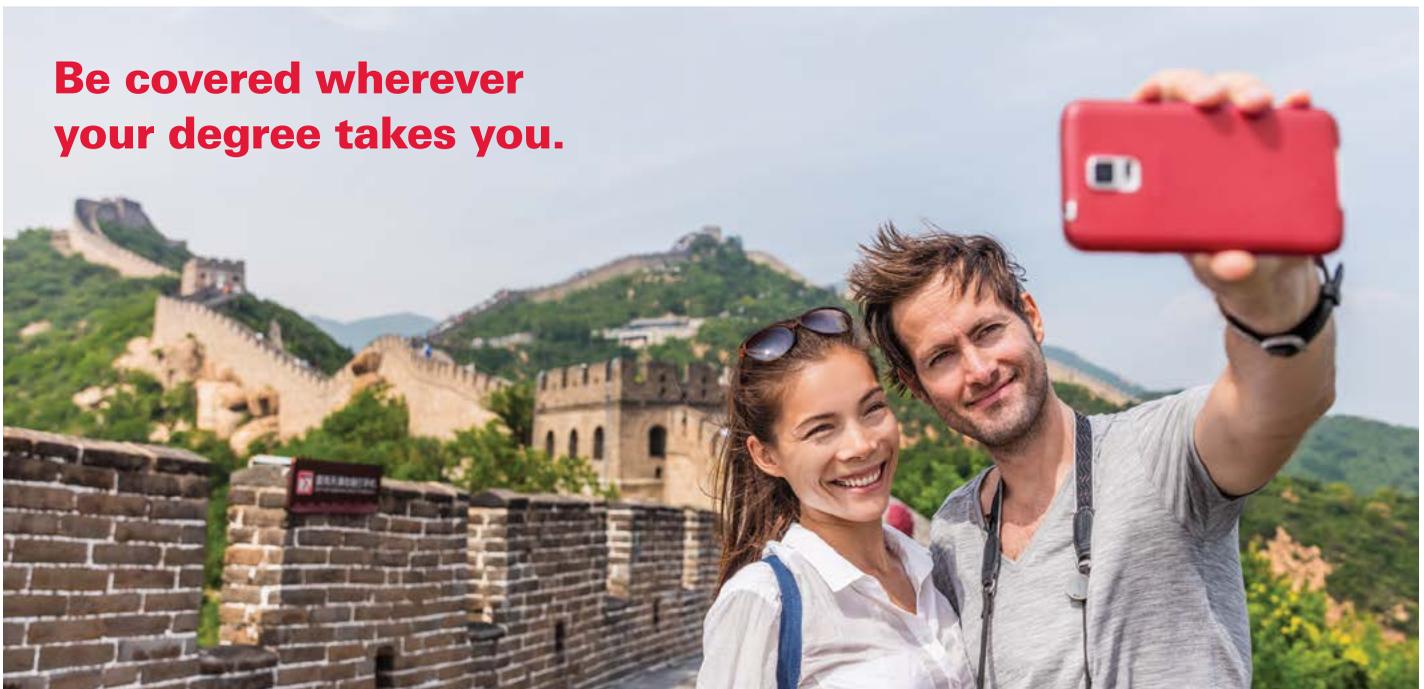
“Rubber melts at 350 degrees Fahrenheit,” he said. “It was very, very hot in here.”

MUCH LATER, THAT EVENING IN A SUBDIVISION ON the east side of Kearney, a woman, an insomniac with three children and a husband asleep in the quiet house behind her, was reading on a chaise lounge on her patio when she noticed a rustling in the lilac bushes. Some creature had been eating her plants at night, and she was ready for him this time, a spray bottle of ammonia-water in her lap.

Her finger on the pull, she was ready to let loose with a stream of the stinging potion when there appeared from the darkness a large, plush, blue question mark — Teena, she would later learn — who was quite hungry and in deep need of a nap. **N**

...to be concluded in the December issue of Nebraska Quarterly.

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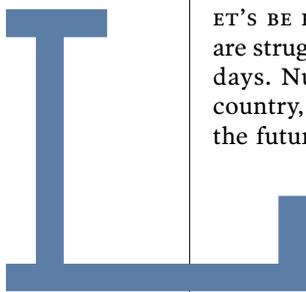


#Greek Vitality

Campus leadership prioritizes how to stop the bad behavior and turn Nebraska into a campus where Greek life can survive and thrive

BY DONDE PLOWMAN

Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer



LET'S BE HONEST — FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES are struggling on nearly every college campus these days. Numerous high-profile events around the country, involving bad behavior by a few, threaten the future of Greek life. Penn State President Eric Barron went so far as to issue an ultimatum to the Greek houses on his campus earlier this year after rules to rein in bad behavior failed to change the culture of their Greek life.

Nebraska is not immune to this. When I assumed the role of executive vice chancellor in January, two fraternities had just been suspended and a sorority was in trouble with its national organization for behaviors that fell outside the university's Student Code of Conduct. Part of what excited me about the new, expanded role was that student affairs reports to me as well as academic affairs. The opportunity to shape both of those important aspects of college life, and perhaps weave them together, is appealing.

In conversation with Chancellor Ronnie Green, we both decided that Nebraska should lead the way for Greek life, and become the model for the rest of the nation. Chancellor Green is quick to tell folks that he serves on the national board of his fraternity and that his four children were/are Greek here at Nebraska.

As a former dean, I would like to believe it was the exceptional lecture from a gifted professor, or a provocative classroom experience that comes to mind when alums think about their college experience. When I reflect upon my own time at college, I may have learned the most about life in all the things that happened outside of the classroom. I was not Greek at Southern Methodist, so it was the residence halls and student government where I was active. For my son, who also attended SMU, the Phi Delt house was where he found a sense of community and made lasting friendships. Being involved in student organizations while in college is good for students. In fact, research by Gallup indicates that involvement in extracurricular activities while in college is highly correlated with engagement at work once graduates enter the work force.

In the seven years I have been at Nebraska, previously as dean of the College of Business, I have met hundreds of alums who have stayed connected to the university primarily through their fraternity or sorority. Friendships built years ago remain strong and bind alums together and to the university for a lifetime. This is the best of what Greek life can be. There are great things happening in our Greek system. At this very moment, Greek houses at Nebraska are being renovated through gifts from alums. Chapter advisers are actively engaged in almost every chapter to mentor current members and help create a positive experience for today's students.

WHERE TO BEGIN?

Building on relationships I had with students, I put together a focus group to talk about some of the issues. I listened as they described their frustration with the bad behavior of a few casting a shadow on the entire Greek system. They described their desire for a better partnership with the administration, and their concern that the university had lost commitment to the value of Greek organizations. Within a few weeks we launched Greek Vitality and invited the presidents and alumni advisers for Panhellenic and the Interfraternity Council to the Executive Vice Chancellor's Summit on Greek Vitality. Over dinner and a two-hour conversation in April, 91 leaders and advisers of those organizations shared their concerns. Chancellor Green and I listened, asked questions, and voiced our commitment to partnering with them to push the re-start button on Greek life at Nebraska. The chancellor challenged them to take responsibility for their actions, to start policing themselves, and to work with us to move toward an exceptional future.

On that evening we began to rebuild trust and everyone in the room committed to working together to enact a brighter future. We assigned participants to one of 11 task forces to work over the



Junior Jennifer Mesmer, a member of Chi Omega sorority, helps with a landscaping project completed as a part of Big Sunday in April.

summer on recommendations for improvement.

In June we held the second Summit on Greek Vitality in which participants spent almost an entire day with Chancellor Green, Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Laurie Bellows, and me listening and commenting on each task force's report. At the end of each presentation we voted on which of the recommendations were most important for moving forward. For example, after discussing the recommendations from the task force on "relationships" the task force made several more recommendations. We all pulled out our phones and voted for our favorite one, which was overwhelmingly to increase transparency between Dean of Students Office, Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and the Greek community.

PROGRESS MADE

The path forward began to emerge. We generated specific recommendations including:

- **Develop a curriculum** for third- and fourth-year member programs to help students stay involved for four years;
- **Maintain and update** the university housing recognition agreement;
- **Develop incentives for** juniors and seniors to con-

tinue to live in their chapter houses;

- **Enhance academic** support programs;
- **Create an integrated experience** for all Nebraska students;
- **Create positive incentive** programs to recognize chapters;
- **Examine and educate** about the judicial process; and
- **Explore community service** requirement for chapters.

Participants left sharing a new commitment. Robert Lannin, an alumni adviser to Delta Upsilon fraternity told the *Lincoln Journal Star* "Here, we have an administration receptive to improving the livelihood of the Greek community, and I think that's despite us sometimes being our own worst enemy." Encouraging more dialogue among chapters and between chapters and administration, Berkley Fierro, president of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority, told the newspaper: "When you're working with all these different groups with different rules and regulations, if the communication isn't crystal clear, you're going to run into problems."

It has been a good start. I am confident that we have taken a quantum leap in becoming the place where Greek life is strong, vital, and moving the university forward. **N**

COURTESY RACHEL EATON





A DAY IN THE LIFE (AND DEATH) **OF WHITECLAY**

In a town of 12, isolated in the prairie of northwestern Nebraska, millions of cans of beer are sold a year to a heavily impoverished population just across the border. It's a relationship some say is poisoning an already decimated nation — and one that needs to change.

STORY BY CHRIS BOWLING

JAKE GRANDALL

A WOMAN LIES IN THE STREET,

sprawled on the pavement, face up in the midday summer sun.

Blue jeans around her ankles, underwear hugging her shins. The blistering July heat bakes her bare skin.

She doesn't move. No one does.

Marsha BonFleur slams the brakes on her truck. She steps out the door and runs across the street to her friend of 13 years.

"Melissa!"

She touches her face. Nothing. Then a groan. Then a movement. Melissa Shields, 42, is alive. But she needs help.

The Christian missionary who lives down the road hikes up her friend's pants while calling out to others on the street. But the dozens of people roaming aimlessly pay her no heed.

It's the life Shields and countless others have lived for decades in Whiteclay, Nebraska — a ramshackle collection of forgotten souls, abandoned buildings, urine-soaked sidewalks, squalid streets and four thriving beer stores.

In the last decade, those four stores in an unincorporated village of 12 residents have sold the equivalent of nearly 42 million 12-oz. cans of beer. Placed end to end, they would stretch from New York to Los Angeles.

Nearly all of those cans were consumed by residents of the nearby Pine Ridge Reservation — a hauntingly beautiful landscape of rolling prairie, rugged bluffs, badlands and canyons. But in that stunning vista also lie some terrible truths.

On this South Dakota reservation, where the sale and consumption of alcohol has been illegal since 1889 (aside from a few months in the 1970s), the Oglala Lakota live in the poorest of America's 3,144 counties, according to a 2014 U.S. Census Bureau report. In 2015, 55 percent of its roughly 30,000 residents were unemployed, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. A decade before, the Department of the Interior put the number at 89 percent.

Here, men die on average at age 47, according to Rainey Enjady, former interim CEO of the Pine Ridge Hospital. That's a shorter lifespan than any other country in the world, according to the World Health Organization. Its women fare better. On average, they live to 55 — on par with Angola, Nigeria and Somalia.

On this sprawling reservation dotted with doublewide trailers, the infant mortality rate was three times the national average in 2007, according to Re-Member — about the same as modern day Syria, Honduras or the Gaza Strip.

"We're like a Third World country within the

Sheridan County Sheriff Terry Robbins checks on a drunk man lying in front of an abandoned building in Whiteclay last October. Robbins only spends a couple hours in the town each week, but there's not a lot he can do to help the people on the street; homes on the reservation are often miles away and there's no detox nearby. He could take them to jail, but he doesn't want to burden the county taxpayers.



greatest country in the world," said Justin Eagle Hawk, a Pine Ridge resident.

On Pine Ridge, a reservation about the size of Delaware and Rhode Island combined, about 80 percent of crimes are alcohol-related, according to the former tribal police chief, and nearly every family is affected by it.

"A lot of (our) calls are a result of their spending down there in Whiteclay," said Mark Mesteth, former Oglala Sioux Tribe police chief.

Alcohol also fuels a suicide epidemic that baffles Charles Sitting Bull, Pine Ridge Hospital's director of behavioral health services. Since December 2014, 1,053 people on the reservation have planned, attempted or committed suicide. The rate for those who succeeded is about 4.6 times the national average.

For Sitting Bull, add it all up and the source of much of his people's death and desperation is clear: Whiteclay.

A native of Pine Ridge, he grew up around Lakota men and women passed out on the streets of Whiteclay. He saw firsthand the flow of booze and money along Nebraska 87 as it fades into South Dakota 407.

Many decades later, not much has changed on those streets. But it has for Sitting Bull: Instead of

JAKE GRANITZ



watching his family grab the bottle, he tries to help patients put it down.

But for many on Pine Ridge, the black cloud of a tiny Nebraska town hangs too heavily over their lives. So they come to Whiteclay to cope with violence, poverty and death, but also with what Sitting Bull calls “historical trauma” — an ineffable weight inherited from more than a century of the systematic destruction of Native life.

It’s transformed the culture of his great-great-grandfather, Chief Sitting Bull, into something the famed Lakota medicine man and spiritual leader would not recognize.

“We’re like a Whiteclay culture,” he said. “Even though we’re Lakota, we’ve adapted to Whiteclay.”

THE DESTRUCTION OF A CULTURE

Long before federal treaties dramatically reduced the Oglala Lakota ancestral homeland, the powerful warrior tribe roamed at will from the Rockies to the Missouri River, hunting buffalo, attacking enemy villages, gathering for the annual Sun Dance and seeking spiritual sustenance in their sacred Paha Sapa, the Black Hills.

That all changed in 1874, when Lt. Col. George Custer led an illegal expedition into the Black

Hills. The discovery of gold eventually triggered an epic confrontation between the forces of Manifest Destiny and the skilled Lakota warriors.

On June 25, 1876, several thousand warriors under the leadership of Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull wiped out Custer’s command to the last man along a little known river in southeast Montana. But, ironically, the Sioux victory at the Little Big Horn greatly accelerated the demise of the tribe and its way of life.

In short order, the military embarked on a massive onslaught against the victors, eventually starving them into submission. By 1879, the once robust, free-roaming people had been herded up and confined to the Pine Ridge Reservation, where the goal was resolute: break the Lakota spirit, crush their way of life, destroy their culture and take their hunting grounds.

“The white man made us many promises, more than I can remember,” the powerful Lakota Chief Red Cloud said years later. “But they never kept but one; they promised to take our land and they took it.”

Once the government had corralled the feared Lakota into small, at times inhospitable, tracts of land, it began indoctrinating them into a white way of life. To that end, the government quickly adopted strategies to achieve its goal. Among them:

In 1883 the government outlawed Lakota religion,

sentencing violators with up to 30 days in jail or 10 days without food.

The traditional medicine man also had no place in the government's vision: If caught practicing his rites, he could spend up to 10 days in the guardhouse.

In schools, children were forbidden from speaking Lakota. Those caught were put in a corner, not fed lunch and sometimes spanked.

It was hoped that such stringent measures would quickly convert the Lakota into peaceful, sedentary, Christian farmers.

In 1884, Pine Ridge Indian Agent Valentine McGillicuddy noted progress toward that goal in a report after the first summer without a Sun Dance.

"The abandonment of such a barbarous and demoralizing ceremony, antagonistic to civilization and progress, as it has been proved, is a bright and promising event in the tribe's struggle toward advancement of the white man's ways..."

But with many Lakota now starving, broken and increasingly hopeless, conditions on Pine Ridge soon were ripe for a movement that swept across Native communities in the late 1880s.

The Ghost Dance inspired a desperate passion among the people who practiced it, but provoked fear among white settlers and the U.S. government. When interventions with tribal police failed, the Seventh Cavalry was sent to suppress the Lakota — the same military unit the Sioux had decimated more than 14 years earlier at the Little Big Horn.

On Dec. 29, 1890, soldiers tried to disarm a band of Lakota, mostly women and children. A struggle over a rifle ensued. When it discharged, the firing on both sides began.

Native men were killed at close range before they fired a shot. The soldiers then turned their mounted Hotchkiss guns — 337-pound cannons capable of firing 50 shells a minute — on tipis full of women and children.

In less than an hour, an estimated 300 Lakota were slaughtered. After a three-day blizzard, a mass grave was dug on a hill overlooking Wounded Knee Creek and the frozen bodies thrown in.

Months later, the commanding officer's actions were found justified and 20 soldiers received Medals of Honor. By comparison, only three of the more than 68,000 South Dakotans who fought in World War II received the same honor.

"I did not know then how much was ended," the Lakota holy man Black Elk would later say.

'TAKE ME BACK TO WHITECLAY'

The Christian missionary struggles to get her friend off the street and into the backseat. Melissa Shields does not want to go.

"Just leave me here," she says. "I want to die."

Marsha BonFleur knows that's not an option for her friend, still in the throes of a hangover caused by swapping her usual beer for vodka shots. Her friend later told BonFleur that a beer store supplied the

THE INDUSTRY TAKES NOTICE

A dozen journalism undergraduates spent the 2016-17 school year shining a harsh light on one of Nebraska's darkest places: Whiteclay — a village of 12 which sold 3.5 million cans of beer last year, mostly to desperately poor residents of the nearby Pine Ridge Reservation. Students in the Depth Reporting Project spent hundreds of hours interviewing Whiteclay and Pine Ridge residents, combing through data bases, using drones and still photos to capture visuals and long-form journalism to tell compelling stories. The multimedia package was continually updated and displayed on a

student-produced website: woundsofwhiteclay.com

Ultimately, the students' collective efforts helped shut down the town's four beer stores and led to multiple national awards recognizing their journalistic excellence. The 11 students won an unprecedented 16 Hearst Awards, often considered the Pulitzer Prizes of college journalism. Hearst judges selected Lauren Brown-Hulme's "Shepherd of the Streets" as its national story of the year from more than 400 entries. Calla Kessler won the Hearst National Photography Championship and Chris Bowling's story — "A Day

in the Life (and Death) of Whiteclay — took first place in Enterprise Reporting. And on May 23, their Whiteclay entry won the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Grand Prize — beating out "The New Yorker," "National Geographic" and

HBO — becoming the first college entry to win the grand prize in the event's 49-year history.

Project supervisors were: Joe Starita, Rebekka Schlichting, Roger Holmes and Bill Frakes.



CALLA KESSLER

Abram Neumann (striped shirt at right) is the subject of Lauren Brown-Hulme's award-winning story which can be found at woundsofwhiteclay.com along with even more content from the impactful student project.



A beer truck worker carts one of many loads of beverages into Arrowhead Inn, an alcohol store in Whiteclay, in October. Almost four million cans of beer are sold each year in the town of 12 people.

vodka in exchange for trash bags filled with empty cans. Not an uncommon occurrence in Whiteclay.

It's why BonFleur needs to get her friend to the only safe place she can think of — her home in Rushville, Nebraska, 22 miles south on highway 87.

That night, the two sleep in the living room, Shields on the floor and BonFleur in a chair.

When Shields awakes the next morning, the two talk about what happened, how much Shields remembers and where they should go from here: A hospital? A treatment center? A different friend's home?

"No," Shields says. "Take me back to Whiteclay."

The battle between those who want to sell alcohol in Whiteclay and those who fight against it is as alive today as it was in the reservation's infancy.

In 1882, President Chester Arthur established a 50-square-mile "buffer zone" between the Pine Ridge Reservation and Nebraska. The purpose was simple: To keep alcohol away from the Oglala.

However, as more whites began settling the area, local officials pressured the U.S. Department of the Interior to discard what became known as the "Whiteclay Extension." Eventually their efforts prevailed. On Jan. 25, 1904, President Theodore Roosevelt, without consulting the tribe or the reservation's agent, signed away the buffer.

Within a year, "whiskey ranches" sprang up along the border and Whiteclay established a foothold it has never relinquished.

Throughout the 20th century, the relationship between the reservation and the skid row prairie village became intertwined. Bootleggers immediately began running booze from the back doors of

Whiteclay businesses up into Pine Ridge.

Because of its isolation, Whiteclay had little, if any, law enforcement presence. Few were seriously reprimanded for violating liquor laws. It's a problem that persists into the 21st century as three deputies and one sheriff now patrol all 2,470 square miles of rural Sheridan County.

On Oct. 11, Sheridan County Commissioner Jack Andersen told a panel of state legislators that's not enough. Asked whether the county had sufficient resources to confront Whiteclay's problems, he had a simple response: "We absolutely do not."

'LIQUID GENOCIDE'

Despite an historic inability to combat violence, alcoholism and the multitude of health problems pouring from Whiteclay, some continue to chip away at its effects.

Trash clean up, missionary work, meetings with Nebraska's governor, youth development programs, marches through the streets, protests of the businesses and, in some cases, riots are all etched into the fabric of that small stretch of Nebraska highway. Bill Clinton even came to Pine Ridge in 1999, acknowledging some U.S. citizens still lived in Third World conditions. Those efforts had nominal impact.

But now, something seems different to those who've watched the drama unfold over the decades.

Olowan Martinez, 40, grew up on the Pine Ridge Reservation and witnessed family members die of cirrhosis, drunk-driving accidents, suicides and murders. Throughout her life she's viewed



Moses Catches, right, from Rapid City digs his friend Joseph Star's grave on Oct. 17, 2016, at Pine Ridge Cemetery, just up the road from Whiteclay. Star was 25. According to Catches and Star's counselor Yvonne DeCory, the death was alcohol-related.

Nebraska as an indifferent bystander to the problems caused by Whiteclay.

To her, it mirrors a situation 250 miles northeast. There, she and other protesters are trying to stop the construction of an oil pipeline under the Missouri River that provides drinking water for the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota.

"It's liquid genocide, alcohol to oil," Martinez said. "That's exactly what it is."

That's why she was shocked to hear last September that a group of Nebraska state senators were coming to see the streets of Whiteclay, talk to the people and show they're not ignoring it any longer.

"It's a place of filth and degradation and it is in our backyard of Nebraska, and it shouldn't be there," said Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks, of Lincoln.

Pansing Brooks is leading a legislative charge to change Whiteclay in five key strategies: install wireless cell service, establish better law enforcement, remove abandoned buildings, create a drug and alcohol detox center and build a job training center. Last fall, Pansing Brooks and the group of senators also traveled to the reservation, meeting people on both sides and holding a summit at Pine Ridge Hospital.

Charles Sitting Bull attended that meeting with more than 20 people crowded into a small conference room. He called the dialogue "almost unprecedented."

In Whiteclay, part of Pansing Brooks' plan already has taken hold. Last September she helped unveil a finished cell tower outside Whiteclay, something she hopes will diminish the region's isolation.

"It provides access to Telehealth, to distance learning and to greater law enforcement and public safety," she said.

But while activists and Pine Ridge residents say Pansing Brooks' goals are laudable, they want to see more. They want the beer stores closed for good.

"There is lawlessness in Whiteclay that all of us can see," said longtime activist Frank LaMere. "Unsolved murders, human trafficking, domestic violence, child abuse, fetal alcohol syndrome, we all know and agree those issues exist. There's one clear way to alleviate the problem today, and that's to shut Whiteclay down tomorrow."

LaMere, who grew up in Sioux City but spent time on the nearby Winnebago Reservation in northeast Nebraska, began crusading against the town in 1998. That year, after attending a Wiping Away the Tears ceremony at Wounded Knee for Little John Means, a man found beaten to death and frozen on the streets of Whiteclay, it became clear to him that there was only one solution: close down the beer stores.

Anything less, he said, is a failure.

However, after 18 years of struggle, LaMere said passion for change has never been so widespread. For the first time, he's comfortable saying his goal is within reach.

"It is on the horizon," LaMere said. "Whiteclay will be shut down."

Martinez also is hopeful. But she knows history is a good teacher. She said if change finally washes over Whiteclay, but leaves behind the beer stores,

JAMES WOODBRIDGE



AFTERMATH

In large part due to the Wounds of Whiteclay student project, the beer stores in Whiteclay had their liquor licenses revoked as of May 1. But an appeal looms.

The Tap Has Run Dry

BY CHRIS BOWLING

On May 1, the four beer stores in the ramshackle village of seven people stopped selling liquor.

Decreed by a unanimous vote of the Nebraska State Liquor Control Commission in mid-April — a decision that triggered cheers and tears in a standing-room-only hearing room on the fifth floor of the Nebraska State Office Building. Citing lackluster law enforcement, a deplorable attention to public health and sexual abuse of young girls, the three commissioners voted not to renew the beer store licenses after their April 30 expiration date.

When the decision was announced, Frank LaMere, a Winnebago activist who has fought for 22 years to shut down the four beer stores, began to weep. “We acted on behalf of those who have no voice,” he said. “And for one day in the history of Nebraska, we gave voice for those who have none.”

The decision was a dream come true for Sen. Tom Brewer, the first Native state senator in Nebraska history whose district encompasses Whiteclay.

After the vote, the Oglala Lakota U.S. Army war veteran-turned-politician gave a jubilant fist pump and broke into a wide smile.

“To hear those words come out of their mouth, you just felt this relief,” he said. “It’s almost like you’ve been sick for a long time and now the fever’s broken and you can see some hope for the future.”

And it was a day Bryan Brewer, former president of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, thought would never happen. “We have to start the healing process,” Brewer said. “We don’t have the resources to help our people. Our children go to school every day. Many of them are abused mentally, physically, sexually abused. And they get to school and we have no resources to really help them.”

Meanwhile, Scottsbluff attorney Andrew Snyder, who represented the beer store owners, said he and his clients would appeal. “We believe the decision is wrong and contrary to law,” he said. As of press time, the next hearing before the Nebraska Supreme Court was set for Aug. 29.

Nebraska will have failed. The century-old story of neglect and suffering will haunt another generation.

‘IT WILL FLOW LIKE A RIVER’

Marsha BonFleur doesn’t want to take her friend back to Whiteclay, the town that left her passed out and half-naked on the street.

But what choice does she have?

It’s Melissa’s life.

Back in Whiteclay, Melissa resumed drinking. During the next two years, her skin began turning yellow and her eyes to orange. Doctors said she had cirrhosis, that she didn’t have long to live. But BonFleur didn’t give up. Finally, she convinced her friend to move into a reservation ranch home where a no alcohol-policy was strictly enforced.

Two months later, she’s sober, looking like her old self, spending time with her kids.

But early on the morning of Jan. 31, 2016, Melissa’s daughter arrived home to see an ambulance outside the front door. Paramedics were lifting her 11-year-old brother onto a gurney.

Steve had been doing meth and had a seizure. Three days later, doctors told the family he was in coma.

“Everybody got scared,” the daughter said. “My mom started drinking even worse.”

The doctors wanted Melissa to sign the papers to remove her son from life support. He’s brain-dead, they said.

BonFleur came to visit her friend and saw she was drinking heavier than ever, that she looked worse than ever.

“Let me take you to the emergency room,” her friend begged.

“No,” Melissa said. “I’m not going to get well this time.”

At 6 a.m. the next morning, BonFleur got a call: Melissa was in Pine Ridge Hospital’s emergency room, unconscious. Doctors wanted to take her off life support. Her daughter was scared to sign the papers. But BonFleur told her it’s the best thing to do — let her mother go peacefully.

Two days later, Marsha BonFleur’s phone rang again: Her friend was dead.

At the hospital, she tried to comfort the distraught daughter. The daughter told her she had gotten a call within a few hours of her mother’s death.

Her brother had come out of his coma. He was awake and conscious. Nine months later, he’s still alive. Back then, it was a hard truth for the daughter to make sense of.

But hard truth has been knocking at the door of the Pine Ridge Reservation for a long time, Charles Sitting Bull said. It’s been knocking for stolen lands, massacred people and a broken nation. And it’s knocking for someone to do something about Whiteclay.

Someday, he believes, that door will open.

“Justice will show up,” Sitting Bull said. “Truth will show up. And you can’t stop it. It will be like rain coming down, like the river flowing down the road. It will not be stopped.” **N**

LAST TRAIN TO PORTLAND

It was a fire in the barn on her fourth-generation family farm in Iowa that led alumna Beth Lueth to a long-forgotten suitcase. Inside was a century-old scrapbook her grandfather kept in college. Of note was his documentation of a 1916 train trip to Oregon with the football team — that he won by the luck of a draw.

EDITED BY KIRSTIN WILDER ('89)
INTERVIEW BY RANDY YORK ('75)

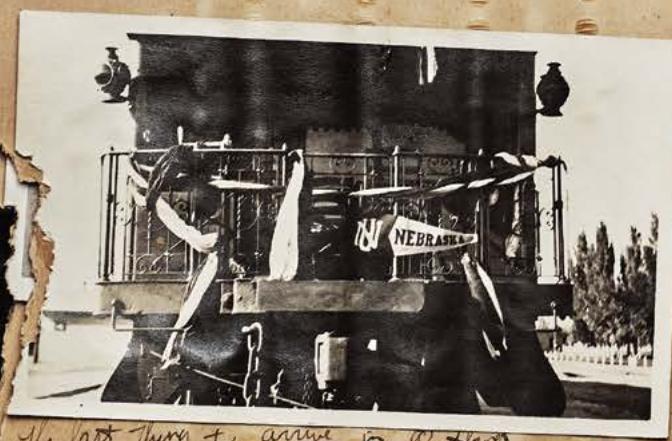
A century ago

Sam Kellogg's scrapbook is a treasure trove of memories from the football team's 1916 trip to Oregon. It was discovered by his granddaughter, Beth Lueth.



Pacific Ocean trip

THE NORTH BANK ROAD DINING CAR SERVICE		
TRAINING TABLE NEBRASKA UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM		
BREAKFAST Sliced Oranges or Baked Apple Small Steak or Crisp Bacon or Crisp Bacon and Eggs Escalloped Potatoes Milk Toast	LUNCHEON Toast Baked Potato Steak or Roast Beef Baked Apple or Stewed Prunes Milk or Tea	DINNER Soup—Vegetable or Cream of Tomato Baked Potatoes Steak, Stew or Roast Milk or Tea Baked Apple or Rice Pudding



The last thing to arrive in Portland

Sightseers

The football team made a side trip to Seaside, Ore., to see and play in the Pacific Ocean which was a first for many of the players.



Seaside Ore.



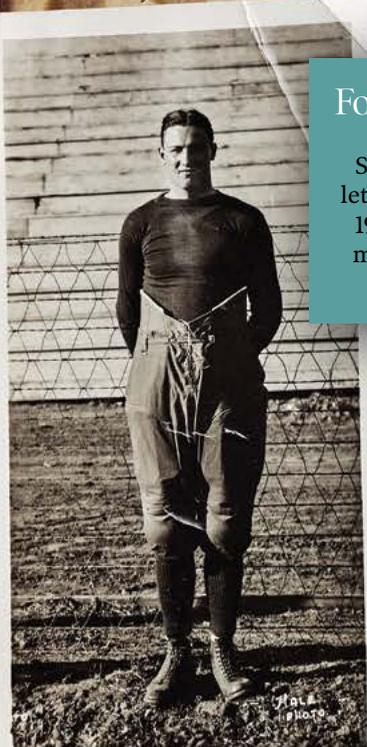
The football team



*Schubert
Capt.
Winners*



Coventry



Football and frats

Sam Kellogg not only lettered in football from 1917-19, but was also a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.



Early Spring



Mason

Sam Kellogg

"A squad of 22 men will be taken in addition to one freshman. The freshman who is to go is Sam Kellogg, the ex-Nebraska City star," according to the Oct. 17, 1916, Daily Nebraskan.

*Coming home from Oregon
on top of the mountain*

THE 1916 AND 2017 FOOTBALL teams are separated by 101 years. And while much about them is different, they both traveled to Oregon to play ball.

Sam Kellogg ('20) was a freshman on the 1916 Cornhusker football team and was not invited to make the train trip to Oregon. Luckily, one more seat became available the day before the train was to depart. Unable to decide which freshman to take, the team manager drew a name out of a hat. That's how Kellogg got his ticket to ride.

Luck again struck when Kellogg's granddaughter, Beth Lueth ('77), discovered his college scrapbook decades later while replacing shingles from a barn fire. Lueth, who lives on the same family farm as her grandfather, was ecstatic to uncover the time capsule.

"It must have been up there since the 1950s," Lueth says. She marvels about the emphasis placed on one Nebraska game. "It helps you appreciate all the advancements in travel, uniforms and stadiums," says the longtime, season-ticket holder.

Kellogg's notes and page-after-page of photos and memorabilia also depict how momentous the trip was for him and for the team. He documented the entire eight-day trip, from Lincoln to the West Coast and back home to Nebraska. "He took a lot of photos and saved them all," Lueth mused.

The Huskers (undefeated for the previous four seasons) traveled by Union Pacific train for a 17-7 win over Oregon Agricultural College (which would become Oregon State).

The 1917 *Cornhusker* yearbook mirrored Kellogg's emphasis of the historic cross-country journey.

"What made the football season of 1916 unique in Nebraska annals was the trip to Portland, Oregon, to meet the Oregon Agricultural College. This is the first, and from the light of later developments, probably the last, long trip to be made by a Nebraska football team. The two thousand miles were covered in a special train over the Union Pacific, carrying besides the team, the coaching staff, and the band, a special car of Nebraska business men and alumni. There were, too, tucked away in odd corners, several loyal students who were willing to risk the wrath of train officials and desert-town marshals for the ultimate pleasure of seeing Nebraska play in historic Multnomah field against a strong coast team."

The closing excerpt reads, "Nebraska was coming to the coast with a mighty reputation behind her, and outdoing herself to live up to that reputation, she sent joy to those alumni who had migrated to the coast and the students waiting back home by winning a brilliant victory from the Oregon Aggies."



PREVIOUS SPREAD: MATT WRIGHT/STEELE; THIS SPREAD: ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN LIBRARIES

Band aids team spirit

The University Cadet Band also traveled on the train to Oregon. The Innocents Society and the College Book Store helped raise \$1,500, enough to send 38 band members to the coast. The band performed at various stops along the way.

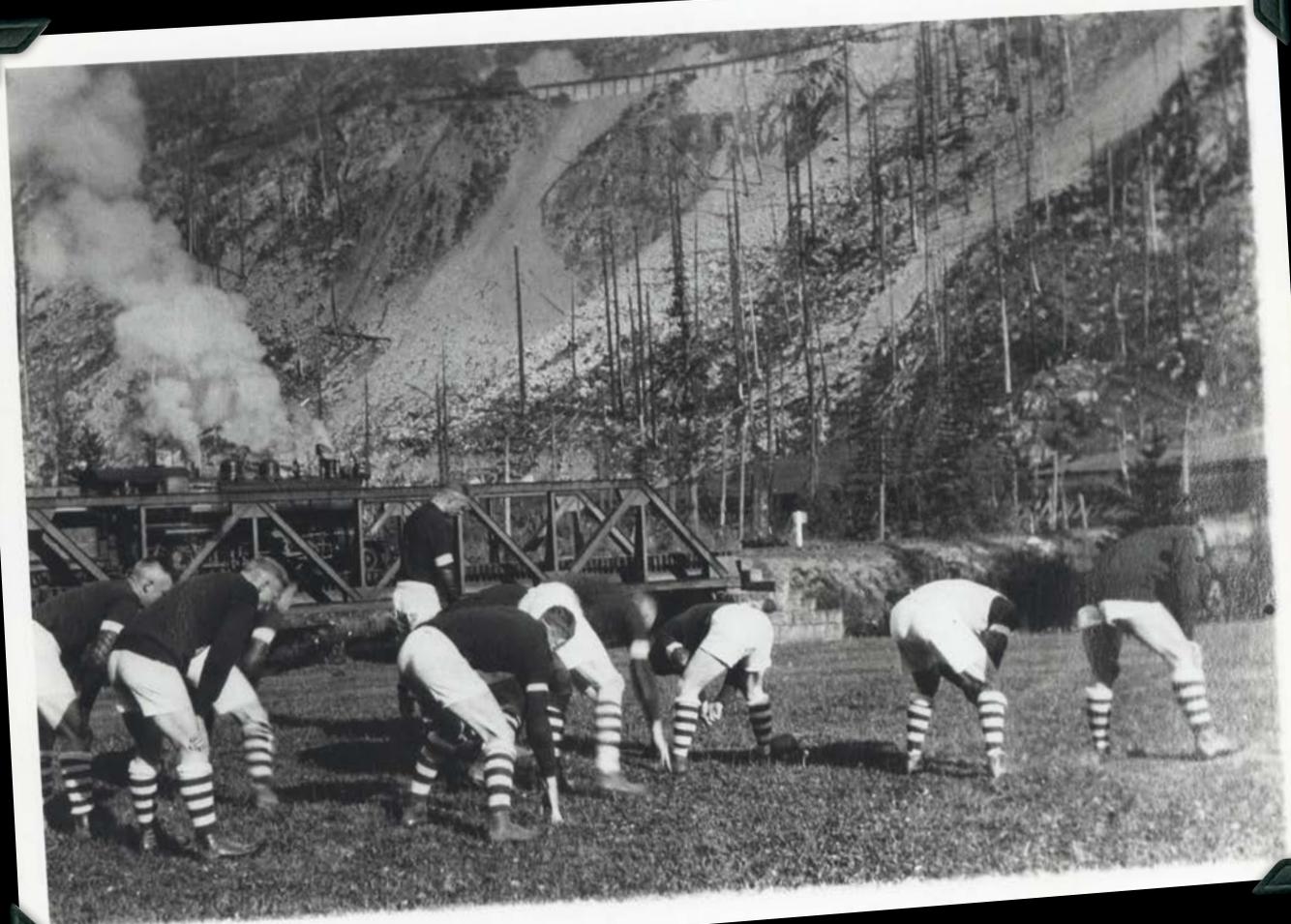


All aboard

Cadet band member, 1st Lt. Ralph Theisen, recalls in Gary R. Steffens' *Pride of the Cornhuskers*, "We had a seven-car train consisting of a baggage car, diner, a tourist Pullman (sleeping car), three regular Pullmans and a parlor car with a piano. The band, unfortunately got the poorest car, the tourist Pullman which had cane seats."

Practice fields

The journey took eight days roundtrip. The train stopped along the way for the team to practice in unusual settings, like main streets and national parks. The band even played for the locals who greeted the train at each station.



VOL. XVI. NO. 27. UNIVERSITY OF

CORNHUSKERS IN SNOW AS TRAIN CROSSES STATE LINE

ALUMNI GREET AS STOP

Practice Held at Laramie, Wyo.

TWO QUALIF FOR

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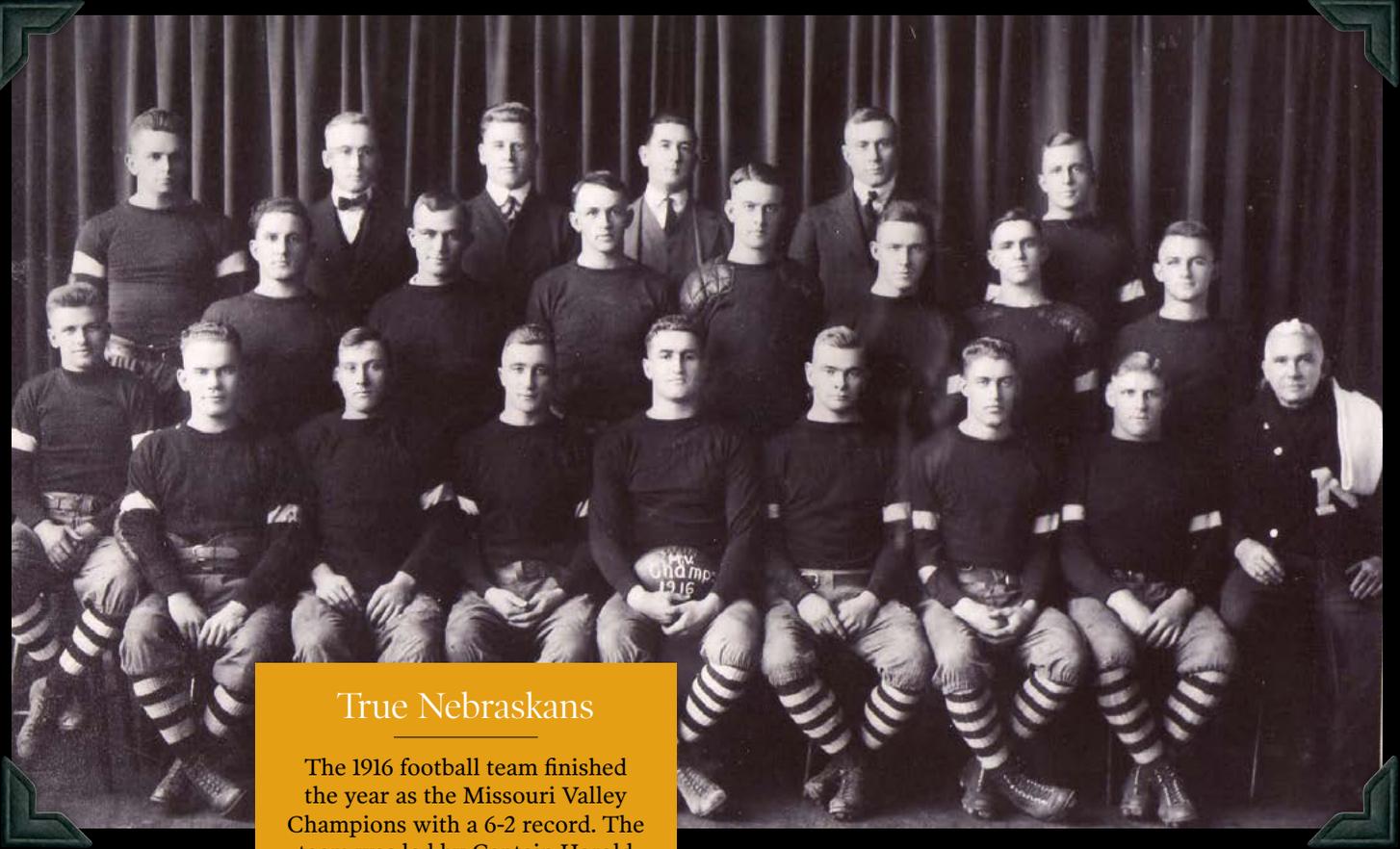
TAKE RAP ON V

D IN SIGHT ON CITY HALLS

Work Will be Del Husbandry Building

Cold snap

The team would hold light practices along the route to prepare for the game. They stopped in Julesburg, Colo., as well as Laramie, Wyo., (shown here) despite temps in the 30s and snow. The team had a new head coach brought in from Oregon, Dr. E.J. Stewart, who played the train's piano along the way.



True Nebraskans

The 1916 football team finished the year as the Missouri Valley Champions with a 6-2 record. The team was led by Captain Harold H. Corey (front row, center). Seventeen Nebraska natives were members of the team that year.

The trip was well documented in the *Daily Nebraskan* which sent reporter Dwight P. Thomas on the trip who filed dispatches via telegram from train depots. Nine days of front page coverage tell some of the tales.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 18

“As the band played, the thousands poured out of the Armory to get into the procession to the train. The torchlight parade which escorted the team, riding in state in a decorated carryall was, in the opinion of onlookers, the biggest thing that has ever been gotten together to give a Nebraska football team a rousing sendoff.”

THURSDAY, OCT. 19

“The westward progress of the special train has been in the nature of a triumphal march, crowds turning out at each town on the itinerary to greet the Cornhuskers and wish them luck. Alumni of the university, who have in a measure lost touch with their alma mater, have seized the opportunity to get again a taste of Nebraska University spirit, and to join again in the varsity yells and songs.”

MONDAY, OCT. 23

Strangers in a strange land, Nebraska University's football team this afternoon (Oct. 21) outplayed the eleven representing the Oregon Agricultural College, and won the greatest intersectional foot-

ball game of the year, 17 to 7, before a crowd of more than 6,000 people, including a few hundred alumni of Nebraska University and former citizens of the state by the Big Muddy.

THURSDAY, OCT. 26

After traveling 4,000 miles or more, the trip including a victory over the Oregon Agricultural College football team, a dip in the ocean and a glimpse of Glacier National Park, the Cornhuskers football team, band and rooters, will reach Lincoln this noon. The trip to the coast and back has taken just a day longer than was originally planned. The extra time was made necessary by the insistent demands of loyal Nebraska alumni, who would not accept a refusal of their invitations to stay awhile and exchange stories of the school.”

FRIDAY, OCT. 27

The football team, returning from their victorious journey to Portland, was greeted by one of the largest spontaneous demonstrations in Nebraska football history. Although there were no definitely-arranged plans for receiving the team, over 1,000 students gathered at the Burlington station to greet the train upon its arrival, to march behind the team and band down O Street, and to overflow the Armory in an impromptu rally which for enthusiasm rivaled the memorable occasion one week ago when the team was sent on its journey of conquest. **N**

HOW THE TEAM ROLLS TODAY

Cozad, Neb.-native, Jay Terry, has been an equipment manager at Nebraska since 1997 and has served as the Huskers' head equipment manager since 2002. In charge of Nebraska football's equipment needs, Terry coordinates the transportation of all Husker football and support equipment to road games.

“I'm guessing that 100 years ago, Nebraska didn't even have an equipment manager,” Terry said. “They didn't have all the options we have. A century ago, they didn't have the multiple uniforms we have for all kinds of weather.”

Nebraska's first-ever game on the West Coast in 1916 was against Oregon Agricultural College which would become Oregon State. That would be the same school that Nebraska Coach Mike Riley resuscitated from an annual loser to a program that beat the University of Southern California, the University of California Los Angeles and the rest of Pac Ten Conference members.

In those days, it was an eight-day trip from Lincoln to the West Coast and back. A century later, the Husker football team can fly from

Lincoln to Oregon in less than four hours.

“I could not have even imagined something like that,” Terry said. “I'm pretty sure what they would take with them would be pretty bare bones. In these modern times, there are so many different items that we provide. They would not have had video to watch, let alone at their fingertips on the plane. We have our own semi that takes everything,” Terry said, pointing out that Nebraska has more than just football equipment onboard. The Huskers also haul cheerleader flags, medical and radio equipment, headsets and even the mascot Lil' Red.

“Since we're in the middle of the country, it takes us just 24 hours and two drivers to get everything we need to our destination on the West Coast or the East Coast,” Terry said. “Everything is set up and ready to go before we even board the plane to get there. It's a seamless process when we play on the road.”

For Big Ten Conference games, Nebraska can only take 70 players on the road. For non-conference games, the Huskers can take

more, depending on various factors.

“I would bet it was the first time most kids even left the state,” Terry said.

“Football just gets bigger and bigger every year,” Terry said, “and that's why we're so much more efficient now than we have ever been. We have more people and more staff to optimize every road trip we take. We are close to having 60 staff members who help us outfit the team on all road games. That includes doctors, strength coaches, interns, graduate assistants, full-time coaches and everyone else who has a role to help.”

The continuous growth is dramatic. “When I started here in 2002, I packed for all 10 full-time coaches and that was it,” Terry said. “I was able to put all of their needs in one big trunk. Now, we pack six big trunks to take care of everyone. Our mission is to provide the best experience for all of our student-athletes. We optimize every part of the experience, and I can't imagine anybody in the country that travels better than we do.” —RANDY YORK



LESSONS

STUDENT-ATHLETES
TRAVEL TO NICARAGUA
TO OPEN THEIR MINDS,
CHANGE THEIR VIEW AND
LEAVE THEIR MARKS

BY MATTIE FOWLER ('15, '17)
Softball (Tucson, Ariz.)



LEARNED

“We all believe we observe reality, things as they are; yet the mind interprets what the eyes see and gives it meaning. It is only at this point, when meaning is assigned, that we can truly say we have seen something.”

Last December, I was captivated by this quote which was printed on the NoFilter program application. As I worked through my application essays, I wasn't sure what I was hoping to see or what secret meaning I wanted to discover, but I knew I had to be involved and leave my mark. NoFilter is a cultural journey, designed to open minds to new perspectives and make a difference beyond borders. This is the third year of the program, which was created by Nebraska Life Skills and is supported by the donors of the Student-Athlete Experience Fund.

Prior to the early-May trip, all 21 student-athletes were required to attend monthly meetings to learn about the Nicaraguan culture and the community where we would be spending our week abroad. During the first meeting, I looked around the room and could comfortably say I only knew two of my peers fairly well. The rest of the student-athletes were acquaintances or faces that I had simply passed in the halls.

Jordan Wilson and Stacey Burling, the directors of the program, explained our mission for the trip in that first meeting. We would team up with Seeds of Learning, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the educational opportunities in rural Latin America. Our project focus would be on the construction of a new school building in the community of Villa Japón. Jordan and Stacey had three simple expectations for us on the trip: open your mind, change your view and leave your mark.

Every student-athlete was excited and anxious to make a difference in the community, but we were not prepared for the impact the Nicaraguan people would have on our lives and fundamental well-being. I learned more in a week than I believed possible, from how to tie a mosquito net to how to mix cement without machinery. Here are four lessons I learned from the most selfless, loving people that will stay with me and my 21 new friends for the rest of our lives.

A LESSON ON GENEROSITY

Following a full day of work on Tuesday, we walked half a mile to the farm of a local man named Horacio. Julián Ramón Guevara, who is the regional director for Seeds of Learning in Managua, Nicaragua, drove ahead in the truck and stopped to let a group of young boys climb inside

the cage in the bed of his truck to ride along. This gave me an immediate sense of how much trust existed in this community.

Horacio happily welcomed us to his farm. Horacio operates the farm by himself and rents machinery when it is time to plow the fields. He took us on a tour of his orchard, where we saw bananas, plantains, papayas, cashew plants, oranges and a field ready to plant watermelons. Horacio's operation is small and resourceful. We noticed that he had dug his own irrigation trenches throughout the orchard and had wired his own electricity. Those of us familiar with the large-scale operations in Nebraska were inspired by his solo feat.

Horacio immediately noticed the group's interest in the fresh fruit and began picking small fruits from the trees for different people to sample. He then pulled out his machete and cut a large, fresh papaya into pieces for the entire group to try. Horacio could have easily sold the papaya, one of his most profitable fruits, but did not hesitate to share with a group of people he had never met. Horacio, a man who had so little, was willing to give so much. Horacio's actions forced some self-reflection on all of us as we realized we can all be a little more generous with our time and our resources.

Before we left, we asked if we could see the inside of Horacio's home, where he lives during the harvest and planting season. The porch consisted of tied branches to form two walls. There was one light bulb, a tub of water, one antler decoration on the wall, two chairs and a fresh pot of coffee in the corner, which Horacio immediately offered us. We entered the inside of his home through a curtain. There was one small room, which is shared by the entire family. We were surprised to learn privacy is non-existent. There was also a box TV in the corner, with a makeshift satellite and wires running up a wooden pole at the front of the house. The floor consisted of packed mud, which was smooth and hard.

The pride Horacio had in his home and his farm was extremely uplifting. When we returned to our retreat center, we discussed the difference between a house and a home. A passerby may not think much of Horacio's house, but upon meeting Horacio, one would immediately understand that he didn't need much to create an incredible home.



Master potter Pedro Guerrero creates his pieces with a manual wheel. He has perfected the high-relief technique and forms sea turtles into his artwork.

A LESSON ON PASSION

On Wednesday we traveled to the town of San Juan de Oriente to visit a market filled with local artisans. We sat down in Pedro Guerrero's pottery shop to learn about his craft. Pedro explained that he is a fourth generation potter. Pedro was accompanied by his teenage son, who is his apprentice. Pedro is well-recognized for his work. In early 2000, he was voted Master Potter of Nicaragua. Pedro has also traveled the globe to showcase his work and learn new techniques, including art shows in Italy, Taiwan, Colombia, Venezuela, and all of Central America. Pedro does not simply make pottery for a living. I could hear it in his voice that he lives for his craft and is passionate about developing his skillset, even after 30 years of working with the clay.

Pedro explained that he has three main lines of pottery: pre-colonial, creative and artistic. He took out a fresh piece of clay to demonstrate his technique. Pedro used a manual wheel, which he must constantly spin with his foot. We all watched in awe as he flawlessly transformed the pile of clay into a smooth vase. There was no way to describe his motions other than he was "one with the clay." He next demonstrated an original technique named "high relief." He gently worked the clay on the inside and outside of the vase to apply the precise



Horacio, a local farmer, cuts into a fresh papaya harvested from his land to share with the student-athletes.

amount of pressure to create a perfect sea turtle on both sides. He admitted that he punctured a number of projects while learning this unique craft over the course of a year. His commitment showed us that you must be willing to fail and dedicate thousands of hours to your craft in order to become a true master.

A LESSON ON SUSTAINABILITY

We spent Saturday in the mountainous region of Selva Negra. This community is home to one of the

COURTESY MATTIE FOWLER (2)



The student-athletes toured Selva Negra in Matagalpa, a coffee estate in the Highlands of Northern Nicaragua. Workers can sort up to 2,500 pounds of coffee beans in one day. They are not allowed to speak or wear perfume during this process to prevent damage to the beans. The harvest season lasts four months and employs hundreds of locals.

Mattie Fowler plays with one of the girls she met in Nicaragua.



most sustainable coffee farms in the world. Our tour guide, Manuel, took us through every step in the life of a coffee bean. Selva Negra grows Arabica coffee in six different varieties, which is mainly exported to Whole Foods. The plantation is certified by the

Whole Trade Organization, the Rainforest Alliance and the Specialty Coffee Association due to their abundance of fruit trees and sustainability practices.

Selva Negra employs hundreds of employees during the four-month harvest season. Pickers are paid \$1.40 per basket of beans. Most pickers pick 4-5 baskets a day, which is far better pay than in other rural parts of the country. The workers also receive benefits, including lodging, transportation, medical attention, food and a school for their children.

Manuel explained that the plantation was established in 1891, while coffee was introduced to the region in 1854. During harvest season, the process begins with the workers picking red beans off the plants. The beans are first run through a de-pulper machine,

In Nicaragua, young adults are likely to receive the same job with or without education, so many children are not motivated to go to school.

which removes the red skin and is collected and reused to feed more than 240 million earthworms on the grounds. The earthworm droppings are used to create fertilizer for the farm. Next, the beans are spun in a machine for quality control. The bad beans, which are hollow from beetles, float to the top. The good beans are soaked in water to remove the second skin. This skin is used to help make methane to power the machinery of Selva Negra. The beans are placed in a greenhouse to dry before they are placed in a different machine to shake off the third skin. The third skin is collected and used for fuel instead of firewood. The beans go through

COURTESY MATTIE FOWLER (C)

What I learned...

Nina Radulovic, a junior on the rifle team, is a psychology, political science and women's and gender studies major from Belgrade, Serbia. She was named a Big Ten distinguished scholar in June. "The beauty of the seven days spent in Nicaragua was that the people who we met affected our self-growth not the other way around," she said.

POWER OF A

SMILE For us, non-fluent Spanish speakers, a smile was the key into the lives of Nicaraguan people. Smiling at people was a sign we were genuine in our actions and that we saw positivity in diversity. Our first working day concluded with meeting the people who would benefit



from our work. And they are just like us — dream chasers with a desire for better education and a happier life.

PERSONAL

PRIVILEGE In the classroom we learn that inequality in the world comes from the system that favors one group more than the other, but only now I got to experience it first-hand. Perhaps the most important privilege I recognized on this trip is the fact that I don't have to start from scratch. I have a safe home, education,

health care and many other things I don't have to worry about because they have always been available to me.

I HAVE TOO MUCH

STUFF We visited a local farm and the moment we entered, I knew it was more than just a visit to a stranger's house, I was entering someone's home. The whole house was the size of my freshman-year dorm but it was enough. Consumerism has become a huge part of my life. If antlers and a mirror were all the room decor our host needed, next time I redecorate my apartment I will remember him.

LIVE IN THE

PRESENT I saw a big difference between the American culture and the Nicaraguan lifestyle. Every day I wake up in Lincoln I think of ways to do more in less time. Spending time with people, enjoying the conversations, and living in the moment is as valuable as getting the job done before it's due. Nicaraguans take it slower.

WE ARE ALL

POTTERS We visited a recently-active volcano and a pottery village. The volcano was breathtaking. We could see the lava, the smoke and how simple nature's creations

tell a story about us humans. While I was watching the potter mold his creations, I felt a connection with the mud from Villa Japón, the shovels and the wheelbarrows. He told us it took him years to perfect his craft. In a way, we were potters too — a small group that decided to come together and express dreams of a kinder world in a country that seeks to improve access, quality and value of education through manual work and community engagement. The potter's art are the bowls, ours are the classrooms we helped build so that hopefully one day every child that wishes to become a potter can do so.

POVERTY VS.

WEALTH They showed us that poverty is nothing to be ashamed of, nothing that makes people less humane. Instead, poverty is a situation they are in and against which they are using their smiles, hands and feet. In the

Serbian language, we have two words for wealth. The first one is "bogatsvo" which has the word "God" in it and represents the spiritual wealth of a person — the happiness from within. The other word is "imućstvo" which represents financial, or more specifically, property wealth. Calling people either rich or poor may sound unfair because wealth entails so much more than the newest iPhone. Wealth is about seeing beyond materialistic gains and recognizing necessity, understanding personal privileges and selflessly helping others overcome adversity. The wealth of the children of Villa Japón are their smiles which make them new friends, their hands which make Mother's Day cards, and their feet which take them to their new classrooms. My wealth is being a Husker and getting the opportunity to open my mind, change my view, and leave my mark in Nicaragua.



Nina Radulovic working in Nicaragua.

COURTESY NINA RADULOVIC (2)

This cycle sheds light on the reality that talent is universal, but opportunity is not.

one more round of quality control, where workers identify and remove the bad beans from a continuously moving conveyor belt. The workers are not allowed to speak or wear perfume during this process, to prevent any damage to the beans. A worker can sort up to 2,500 pounds of coffee beans a day.

The incredible sustainability of Selva Negra is truly representative of the resourceful lifestyle of Nicaraguans. The communities did not let anything go to waste. One of the school volunteers showed me how I should use the cement mix paper bag to clean off my shovels, rather than using a rag. I observed homes with roofs made of scrap metal from old road signs. We toured the construction site for a school which is being built from alternative resources and packed dirt, rather than cinder blocks. We all pledged to be more cognizant of our waste and resources when we return to the U.S.

A LESSON ON EDUCATION

Each day before we would leave for the school construction site, we were given a small lecture about education in Nicaragua. The Seeds of Learning director acknowledged that the organization could hire a team of subcontractors to work fulltime and finish the school construction in one month. However, their mission is not simply to build a school, but to enhance the entire system. By providing us the opportunity to volunteer, we will hopefully discover a passion for education advancement and continue our work long after this week in Villa Japón. The organization also hoped that we would inspire the local community members to work on the construction site by showing them how strong of an emphasis we place on education in the United States.

Nicaragua is rich in resources, but does not have the structure or the people to cultivate the resources. Similarly, the schools do not have quality teachers, curriculums or facilities to enhance local education. The three most prevalent problems with the current education system are access, quality and relevance.

The majority of us have been privileged with, not only the access to quality education in the U.S., but also the reassurance that we will be rewarded for advancing our education. In Nicaragua, young adults are likely to receive the same job with or without education, so many children are not motivated to go to school. For many families, a child at school also means less help on the farm or one less income to help support the family. All of these factors contrib-



ute to the self-reinforcing cycle, where access to education and innovation see limited advancement.

In regard to the problem of quality, we learned that more than 30 percent of teachers in Nicaragua have no formal training. The school lessons often consist of a teacher simply reading from a book while the students take notes and memorize the facts. Finally, the education that many students receive in Nicaragua is irrelevant for their future and doesn't reflect the skills or knowledge the students will need for future jobs in agriculture and architecture. Teachers do not address the challenges of Nicaragua's economy or how to better the crippling 50 percent unemployment rate. In addi-

COURTESY MATTIE POWLER

The children in Villa Japón showed up to school each day all smiles and eager to learn despite the challenges educators face in their country.



tion, many students do not have access to teachers who speak their native language. The main languages include Spanish, English and multiple indigenous languages. If a Miskito-speaking child comes to school and finds that all books are in Spanish and all teachers speak only Spanish, he or she may be permanently discouraged from attending. Due to the access, relevance and quality issues, over 500,000 students in Nicaragua do not attend school.

Despite these circumstances, the children we met in Villa Japón showed up to school each day in perfectly clean white blouses and navy pants, all smiles and eager to learn. The children are loving and content with their family and community, but are not

exposed to opportunities to pursue alternate paths after they complete their local education. This cycle sheds light on the reality that talent is universal, but opportunity is not.

The former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, said that education is a human right with immense power to transform. After working in Nicaragua for a week, I have a newfound appreciation for the power of education and how privileged I have been to receive six years of structured education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. I am forever grateful to have worked with Seeds of Learning and NoFilter, and to be a small part of Villa Japón's transformation. **N**

LET'S GO, HUSKERS... TO MINNESOTA.

Nov. 10-12

Join other Husker fans and the Nebraska Alumni Association in Minnesota for a football away-game experience.

Package includes:

- 2-night hotel accommodations
- VIP seating at Football Friday
- Saturday pre-game event
- Gameday transportation
- Game ticket in official Nebraska section

For details or to book a trip today,
visit huskeralum.org/athletic-travel.
or call: **888-353-1874**



This trip is land-only—no airfare or bus transportation from Lincoln/Omaha is provided. Trips are open to all alumni and fans.

N

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Cal Bentz coached swimming for 50 years.

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LOVE STORY

Student discovers her passion in Andersen Hall.

BULLETIN

Events

SEPT. 22-23

LINCOLN HOME-COMING

This is the fourth matchup between the Scarlet Knights of Rutgers and the Cornhuskers. Their first meeting was in 1920 when Nebraska beat Rutgers 28-0.

FRIDAY

LAWN DISPLAYS

Greek row along 16th Street and R Street

Greek houses team up to see who can best exemplify this year's theme which is "Celebrating 150 Years of Statehood." Viewing will be best at noon when judges are out perusing the creations.

PARADE

Best viewed from 16th and R streets in Holling Garden

Parade starts at 6 p.m., but arrive at the Wick Center at 5 p.m. for food, drink and to secure your spot.

PEP RALLY

Broyhill Fountain

At 7 p.m., students compete in the Jester Competition hosted by the Student Alumni Association.

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL GAME

Memorial Stadium

Kickoff is slated for 2:30 p.m. If you aren't in Lincoln, find a Husker watch site at huskeralum.org/watch-sites so you can cheer the home team on to victory.



Born for the Corn

Cavett Elementary fourth grader, Sophie Wilder, spends the day at Heritage School learning how children lived in 1892 Nebraska. The children picked dried corn off the cob and ground it into flour. Looking on is one-room schoolhouse teacher Mary Lou Henn ('88) who spends each day with a different fourth-grade class teaching penmanship, singing period songs and engaging students in a spelling bee.



DAVID WILDER JR./EE DEE IMAGING



Alumni Profiles

Little Schoolhouse on the Prairie

BY CHUCK GREEN ('93)

AS THE SUN INTERMITTENTLY PEEKS OUT FROM behind some clouds on the mid-May morning, the children begin arriving. Adorned in pioneer clothing and carrying metal lunch pails, they talk and laugh, expending some youthful energy before the school day begins.

A few hundred yards away, a pair of bison graze in the glistening, tall grass sprouting from the rolling hills. Geese at a nearby pond honk incessantly and a few western meadowlarks — Nebraska's state bird, as any of the arriving students will eagerly tell you — flit past from a nearby field.

Teacher Mary Lou Henn ('88) stands at the doorway of the one-room schoolhouse, welcoming the children to another school day in 1892 Nebraska.

As the children prepare to enter the classroom, they divide into single-file, boys' and girls' lines. The girls enter first, through the coat room, where they hang coats and store their lunches before tak-

ing their seats. The boys follow, and soon, each student has taken his or her seat — girls on one side of the classroom, boys on the other.

The students sit at their desks quietly, hands folded, obeying the maxim displayed on the wall at the front of the class: "Silence is Golden."

The only out-of-place oddity of this 19th century Great Plains setting is the big, yellow school bus driving away after delivering the children.

It's actually May 2017, and the fourth-graders are visiting from Lincoln's Roper Elementary. They have come to spend the day in the one-room Heritage School at Lincoln's Pioneers Park, culminating their social studies unit on Nebraska history.

As class begins, the bison continue to graze off in the distance, unconcerned with the date.

A PASSION FOR THE PAST

For as long as she can remember, Henn has loved

AT A GLANCE

**MARY LOU
HENN**

DEGREE
BACHELOR
OF SCIENCE
1988

"One of my favorite things is to see the light in their eyes. They're living something they don't otherwise get to experience."

The Heritage School building was originally located at State Fair Park in Lincoln in the 1970s, but was moved to Pioneers Park in 2010.



DAVID WILDER, JR./EE DEE IMAGING (3)

history — particularly Nebraska history. As a young girl, she enjoyed a steady diet of Laura Ingalls Wilder’s “Little House on the Prairie” novels, complemented by the popular namesake TV series which ran from 1974-83.

Growing up on her family’s farm near Brainard, Neb., with all the daily chores that came with it — yes, she rose before dawn to milk the cows — helped fuel Henn’s fascination with early prairie life.

“Even then, I knew I wanted to teach,” she said. “History and farm life were interests, and everything just flowed from there.”

After high school, Henn studied education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her teaching career, which began in 1988, eventually led her to Heritage School.

Built in the late 1800s, the schoolhouse stood for decades as the Cunningham School, seven miles north of Valparaiso, Neb., before a fire severely damaged it in the 1930s. It was rebuilt to its original specs and character, and has not changed much since.

The building was brought to Lincoln’s State Fair Park in the mid-1970s, when the first fourth-graders began visiting. In 2009, after the university acquired the land that would become Nebraska Innovation Campus, the schoolhouse was moved to its new location near the Pioneers Park Nature Center, where it was officially dedicated Oct. 5, 2010.

This fall, Henn begins her ninth year of temporarily transporting fourth-graders back to a different time. She conducts her classes in 1890s-era garb, donning a bonnet and a long pioneer skirt, explaining to her wide-eyed students what life was like on the Great Plains 125 years ago.

“I want students to value the past, and to realize that we couldn’t get to where we are today without that past,” she said. “I want them to know what people had to go through to get here. For the day they’re here, they get a small taste of what life was like for those pioneers.”

While each student’s personal experience at Heritage School is unique, Henn said, the lack of luxury seems to resonate the most.

“They realize that some of the things they take for granted in their modern lives — TV, their computers and phones, and other conveniences — weren’t around back then,” she said.

A TRIP TO ANOTHER TIME

Students begin the day by standing to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, which is written on the chalkboard at the front of the class. They then face the flag, which features 44 stars — the 37th of which is



Nebraska’s, which became a state March 1, 1867 — and sing “America” (“My Country ‘Tis of Thee”).

Henn addresses each student with a “miss” or “mister” before their name. As students raise their hands, they are told to stand to give their answers. Within two or three answers, reminders are no longer needed.

Later, students read aloud from their iconic McGuffey Readers. Each student takes a turn at hand-grinding corn and gets to write with an ink-dipped feather quill. Games, songs and outdoor recess after lunch provide fun distractions.

Occasionally, someone notices the wooden paddle leaning against the wall by the front door. In today’s class, it’s merely for looks, not punishment.

“Every student has different questions, is fascinated by different things and gets his or her own favorite thing out of it,” Henn said.

The students aren’t the only ones who enjoy the experience. Parents frequently tell Henn they wish modern classrooms were run more the same way — the courtesy, discipline, respect for elders and work ethic of the time definitely had its advantages.

The day’s lessons from Mary Lou Henn, above, include penmanship with quill and ink pots, as demonstrated by fourth-grader Coy Karsting.



Steve Strong ('92) started his Kansas City business in 2012.

That's the Spirit

Steve Strong continues building his distilling business from the underground up

BY CHUCK GREEN ('93)

AS FAR AS “MAN CAVES” GO, STEVE STRONG HAS some definite bragging rights. It is spacious, with 12-foot ceilings, and friends stop by all the time. And there is plenty of liquor.

However, it is an actual cave, and it houses the business he and his wife, Lisa, founded in 2012: S.D. Strong Distilling.

The distillery is housed in a commercial

cavern 65 feet below Parkville, Mo., an old river town on the northwest corner of Kansas City. As far as Strong knows, it is the world's only cave-based distillery.

“The only legal one, anyway,” he said.

The man-made cave was created by limestone mining in the 1970s. Hundreds of natural pillars, created when the surrounding limestone was dug out,

COURTESY S.D. STRONG DISTILLING ©

support the space. The pillars also serve as navigational tools, each numbered as a sort of underground address for the two-dozen businesses and entities using the space.

S.D. Strong Distilling can be found at Pillar 136.

It consists of three areas: a bar, a tasting room and the main distillery/barrel room. The business hosts private parties and concerts, particularly for emerging area artists, and there are even weekend tours available.

But the lifeblood flows from the production area. Although the distillery is relatively new, it already is carving out its place as crowd pleaser in the spirits and liquor industry.

After earning his bachelor of journalism in 1992, Strong moved to the Kansas City area. For the next 20 years, he sold high-end acoustic guitars and fed his longtime passion for playing live music.

But it was a bandmate's hobby that finally changed his life.

"He and his cousin were making moonshine in a garage," Strong said. "It wasn't bad, and I decided I wanted to try making it."

Strong promptly built a still and began tinkering with liquor recipes. Missouri's laws allowed him to make as much as 100 gallons for "personal consumption."

After some positive feedback from friends, he decided he wanted to take his hobby to the next level. But Strong quickly learned that starting a distillery is a risky endeavor, since the process requires actually building the operation before applying for production licenses.

"You have no idea whether you'll get the go-ahead," he said. "But once I got going, it became easier."

About nine months after the first bottle of the inaugural S.D. Strong Vodka was sold in 2013, Strong released Pillar 136 Gin. Named after the aforementioned supporting pillar, the spirit differs from common London-style dry gin with a more "citrus-forward style," he said, ensured through his hand-selection of lemons, limes, oranges and fresh ginger.

"I figured I'll drink it for a long time, so I had to like it," he said. "I just hoped everyone else would, too."

So far, so good.

In 2015, Pillar 136 was entered in the Washington

"(They) were making moonshine in a garage. It wasn't bad, and I decided I wanted to try making it."



S.D. Strong's spirits are sold at retailers, bars and restaurants in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Texas and, yes, even Nebraska. Plans are in the works to sell in Colorado this fall.

Cup Spirits Competition, an exclusive contest for American-made spirits and liqueurs. Judged by the country's top spirits professionals, the best in each class is determined, and six are picked overall as the competition's outstanding spirits.

Pillar 136 repeated its Washington Cup win in 2016, and earned a bronze medal at the San Francisco World Spirits competition.

Some of Strong's other creations have had similar success. His signature vodka has won silver medals at the past three Washington Cups.

His growing list of spirits are on sale at retailers, bars and restaurants throughout Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Texas. Colorado is on tap to be added this fall.

As Strong concentrates on perfecting his spirits, Lisa is the company's marketing director and brand manager. They employ about a dozen others, all striving to expand the distillery's reach into more states.

All from the underground up.



Diana Peña, bottom left, with her University Recruiting Team at the Twitter D.C. office last fall.

'You Belong Here'

Diana Peña adds a diverse voice to the Silicon Valley

BY MEKITA RIVAS ('12)

SOME PEOPLE KNOW THAT THEY WANT TO work in the tech industry. That wasn't the case for Diana Peña ('12). "Sometimes I think tech found me," Peña said. "I never imagined that I would get here."

Peña's resume features some of Silicon Valley's heaviest hitters, including Facebook and Twitter. She recently joined Andreessen Horowitz, one of the Valley's top venture capital firms, as a university recruiter.

But these accomplishments and milestones didn't happen overnight. "My first job out of college was as a pharmaceutical sales rep for Johnson & Johnson," Peña said. "I loved learning the science behind the product, interacting with doctors and growing the brand."

Something, however, was missing. Peña said she wanted to rekindle her love of working with students, which she first discovered at Nebraska. "I was a New Student Enrollment leader and a men-

tor in the Office of Academic Success & Intercultural Services," she said. "That's where my passion for helping students started."

The challenge for Peña was turning that passion into a career. "When I realized I wanted to work with students more closely, I started telling everyone I met," she said.

Being frank and open about her career objectives paid off when an acquaintance asked Peña if she had ever considered university recruiting. As it turned out, her company was hiring for those positions. "I was immediately interested," Peña said. "When I asked her which company, her answer was Facebook."

During Peña's time at the social media giant, she joined multiple employee resource groups and networking events. "By networking and building strong relationships, I became connected with the inner workings of some of the biggest companies and used that to my benefit," she said.

COURTESY DIANA PEÑA

What does Peña enjoy most about working in tech? “The innovation, fast pace, and being surrounded by such impressive people,” she said. “I constantly feel like the dumbest person in the room, but that motivates me to keep learning and thinking about problems outside the box.”

One of those problems is the oft-discussed lack of diversity in tech, and how that affects the development of products and ideas. “When diversity isn’t a key part of your company, your product or idea suffers because it isn’t inherently developed for every-

one, which leads to different — and often negative — experiences for the minority users,” Peña said. “I am excited to be a diversity advocate so I can bring about change.”

For recent graduates — especially women of color — who aspire to work in tech, Peña has words of wisdom to share. “You belong here and we need you,” she said. “You have just as much of a right to be here as anyone else. It doesn’t matter what anyone says and how hard it is to get here — because once you do, you can change the world.”

ALL IN

VIVA NEBRASKA!

DESPITE AN ADMITTEDLY LOW PROFILE IN 2016, THE Husker Elvises are “All Shook Up” about this football season with plans to appear at up to four games this year, including Wisconsin on Oct. 27 and the Penn State game in State College on Nov. 18. The Brew Brothers, born and raised in Alliance, Neb., include Steve, Ron, Gerry and Larry. They got their start in 1998 when Tom Osborne notched a win over the Tennessee Volunteers but had to share the national championship with Michigan. Steve died in 2007, but the three remaining brothers carry on the tradition.

HOW DID YOU GET STARTED?

GERRY: It was Tom Osborne’s finale in 1998, Ron and I attended the Orange Bowl. Growing up we were always big Elvis Presley fans and frequently sang Elvis songs and did impersonations. Upon arriving in Miami, we put on the Elvis glasses, went to the game and the fans just loved it. It was a joke that took on a life of its own. So, then we started singing after that. We added guitars and put the whole act together. Steve and Larry joined us a few years later.

HAS THERE BEEN A HIGHLIGHT?

LARRY: We stopped in at Larry the Cable Guy’s skybox during the Colorado game in 2006 and clowned around with him a little bit. That was fun.

WHEN DID YOUR FASCINATION WITH HUSKER FOOTBALL BEGIN?

LARRY: I have religiously been listening to the Huskers since fifth grade. It was Bob Devaney’s first year. I would turn on the radio every Saturday afternoon and listened to the games in our kitchen.



The four brothers from Alliance thank you very much for your continued devotion to them. From left: Larry, Ron, Gerry and Steve attend the 2005 Spring Game as their alter egos.

GERRY: Where we grew up, out west in Alliance, it was very remote and I remember listening to the Nebraska games on the radio up in our tree house from the time I was five years old. In the early Devaney era, there were only a few Husker games a year on TV in the regular season so it was a big deal for us when Nebraska would be on TV. As a kid, I recall just being glued to the TV at age 6, 7, 8, watching every play and it was so much fun.

WHERE CAN FANS FIND YOU?

LARRY: We get into town Friday afternoon and make the rounds of Embassy Suites and Single Barrel. On Saturday, our main tailgate hangout is a Husker bus southwest of the stadium. We probably take close to 500 photos with people on game day.

AT A GLANCE

ROCKIN' AND ROLLIN'

The Brew Brothers, all born in the 1950s, are four years apart in age. They have two older sisters, one who has been known to don the Elvis wig for photo ops.

QUESTION

What is your most vivid game day memory?

1955

"I could not afford to buy tickets for the football games, so I sold apples there. I became quite good at throwing apples and catching dimes!"

—ADELAIDE LAUX PARADISE, who turned 100 this year.

1965

"The game (Nebraska vs. Oklahoma) played the day after President John F. Kennedy was killed!"

—NANCY STERNER SCHAUMBURG

1967

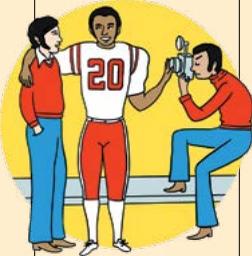
"It cost a nickel an hour to park on campus

during the 1960s Husker game day. Today, it costs me \$1.25/hour."

—LETA POWELL DRAKE, continues her TV career as host of "Live & Learn" on 5 City TV.

1974

"It was in Norman, Oklahoma, right after the 1971 Game of the Century. I walked into the Nebraska locker room after the game (I was Johnny's quarterback and best friend at Omaha Tech). I waved over to the Jet and he told all the reporters



around him to wait a minute so he could come and talk to me. That was a moment I will never forget."

—PAUL GRIEGO

1976

"Nebraska vs. Oklahoma, 1978: We stood the entire game during that cold November afternoon. It was Coach Osborne's first victory over Oklahoma. Sooner magic was not there

that game."

—JIM SCHIEFELBEIN, is part of the United Way of Lincoln and Lancaster County team, having been hired as resource development manager-business accounts.

1981

"Seeing Oklahoma running back Billy Sims fumble the ball on our 8-yard-line late in the fourth quarter and having Jim Pillen, my Sig Ep pledge dad, recover the ball."

—LEE CHAPIN, Nebraska Yell King, 1979-80, became a first-time grandpa when Rosalind Wood Chapin was born on Jan. 18. Rosie's parents are Bob, '06, and Lindsey Chapin, '05.

1983

"The 1978 NU-OU game where we beat them 17-14 and the goal posts came down! I

remember huge sections of them being carried through campus and guys with hacksaws cutting them into smaller pieces so people could have a memory."

—CINDY CLAASSEN

1990

"Cup wars during a game in 1986 or 1987 against Oklahoma. Things got a little intense and game cups began to fly on the entire student side."

—PAMELA VAN DEVENDER-MATTES

1993

"The Coke cup snake that ran the length of the student section, which was then most of the East side of the stadium."

—CARL KINKADE is a first responder for the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention



DARIE WAGNER (3)



and currently residing in Liberia, where he assists the Ministry of Health in building their laboratory, surveillance and response capacities.

1997
 “Going to college during three national championships and attending two bowl games. The absolute best time to be in school!”
 —JENNIFER SHERRILL FORSBERG

2001
 “The 1995 homecoming game

when we beat K-State with Tommie Frazier and Brook Berringer playing. That was my campus visit trip when I was in high school and I got to see my brother Paul J. Cain in the homecoming court. That trip made me want to be a Husker.”
 —CANDACE CAIN

2004
 “As a student sports

information director, watching the Mike Stuntz to Eric Crouch touchdown against Oklahoma in 2001 from the Press Box and trying not to cheer for the most exciting play any of us had seen in person!”
 —MOLLY MERRELL, Huntersville, N.C., is working as the travel coordinator for the film “X-Men: The New Mutants.” Production began this summer in Boston.

“Rice on Sept. 20,

2001. It was the first game after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Everyone was looking for a dose of normalcy in this new world we were living in and sports was just that. You could have filled Memorial Stadium two times over that day.”

—JEROD SANDS

2010
 “2009, our last home game against Oklahoma, the incredible energy in the stadium as our black shirts took the BOOM right out of Boomer Sooner.”

—TARAH NEU-JAHR BRYAN, and her husband, Damon, became first-time parents with the birth of their daughter, Ainsley Persephone, Dec. 30, 2016. The family lives in Salt Lake City.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO?

CARTOONIST DAVID LUEBKE

WITH FINELY RENDERED DETAILS, THE editorial cartoons drawn by David Luebke for the *Daily Nebraskan* coupled caricatures and acerbic wit to skewer university administrators, political leaders and others in the early 1980s. Many of his drawings poked at U.S. President Ronald Reagan or University President Ronald Roskens, although lesser luminaries like ASUN presidents or football coaches also found themselves on the paper’s editorial page.

Luebke, now professor of history at the University of Oregon, doesn’t recall how he landed at the *Daily Nebraskan* in the fall of 1979. He had been doing cartoons for his high school newspaper and had a good portfolio, he said. “I think I just walked in and got hired,” he said.

Randy Essex, who was DN editor in fall 1980,



David Luebke, circa 1981

remembers Luebke well. “I thought his drawing and grasp of both local and national issues put at least some of our cartoons on par with syndicated cartoons,” said Essex, now editor of the *Post Independent* in Glenwood Springs, Colo.”

Luebke graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in 1983, and then went to Yale where he earned master’s and doctoral degrees in history, focusing on early modern German history. During graduate school, he cartooned for the Yale student newspaper. Luebke consulted with, and later worked at, the United States Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C.

Luebke re-entered academe in 1993, as a member of the faculty at Bennington College in Vermont. He joined Oregon in 1997 and since 2015, has chaired its history department.

While Luebke’s father, Fred, was a history professor at Nebraska, David says he never felt pressured to enter the profession, but it has been a comfortable fit. Fred and Norma Luebke live near David and his family in Eugene, Ore., which includes his wife and an 11-year-old daughter.

—KIM HACHIYA



1943–2017

Mike Veak

MIKE VEAK, THE VOICE OF THE CORNHUSKER Marching Band for 30 years, died June 15 in Lincoln from cancer. He was 74. His last season as the voice of the “Pride of All Nebraska” was 2002. Veak was a double graduate earning a master’s degree in music education and a major in pipe organ. In college, he played baritone in the band and became a charter member of the Band Alumni Association. Mike taught instrumental music for 38 years in the Catholic schools and Lincoln Public Schools.

1938

Mary White Bird, Los Angeles, June 9; **Helen Hinkson Larson**, Grand Island, June 13.

1942

Hazel Zink Sprandel, St. Louis, June 6; **W. Maxine Wolf**, Lincoln, June 12.

1943

Lynn A. James, Grand Junction, Colo., May 5.

1944

Margaret Emery Buckley, Scottsbluff, April 29.

1945

Marion Kleinschmidt Lehigh, Lincoln, May 12.

1946

Solomon Schwartz, Omaha, May 2; **Harold E. Bernstein**, Omaha, May 12; **Donald K. Mundt**, Menomonee Falls, Wis., May 21.

1947

LaMoine Brownlee, Plattsmouth, May 4; **John F. Wells**, Lincoln, May 11; **Zelda M. Stevens**,

Beatrice, May 31; **Ernest E. McMillan**, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, June 14.

1948

Doris Cratsenberg Huffaker, Casper, Wyo., June 6; **Hans Rath**, Omaha, June 11.

1949

Evelyn H. Read, Cincinnati, April 20; **Jack W. Schultz**, Grand Island, April 23; **John J. Meehan**, Hot Springs Village, Ark., May 1.

1950

Robert B. Kudlacek,

Papillion, April 23; **Roberta Bauman Bates**, Davenport, Iowa, May 10; **James M. Tische**, Papillion, May 11; **Jerry F. Wellman**, Lovell, Wyo., May 12; **William W. Wickenkamp**, North Platte, May 18; **William R. Wild**, Minneapolis, May 31; **Arley Olson Konon**, East Windsor, N.J., July 1.

1951

Mary Lou S. Kostal, Bainbridge Island, Wash., April 18; **Mary Ryons Stewart**, Lexington, May 6; **Arthur W. Bauer**, Spokane, Wash., May 11; **Erving Jensen**, Lake Saint Louis, Mo., May 16.

1952

Dale W. Ebers, Lincoln, April 23; **Gilbert N. Glad**, Boone, Iowa, May 10; **William T. Griffin**, Omaha, June 4; **Catherine Coad Varicak**, North Platte, June 20.

1953

Donald E. Sjogren, Holdrege, April 20; **Philip M.**

Lewis, Lincoln, April 21; **Donald E. Christensen**, Green Bay, Wis., May 19.

1954

Jerry L. Yeager, Hastings, April 22; **Norman L. Anders**, Lincoln, June 20.

1955

Marlys Spencer Christensen, Valentine, May 26.

1956

Marion Hatzenbuehler Allen, Lincoln, April 27; **Robert L. Johnson**, Midland, Mich., May 17; **Marlan**

W. Downey, Dallas, May 24; **Robert E. Resz**, Lincoln, June 1; **Marlene Hutchinson Robinson**, Ames, Iowa, June 19.

1957

Paul D. Evenson, Brookings, S.D., June 12; **Ray A. Merrell**, St. Edward, June 26.

1958

Dwayne A. Burhans, Oakmont, Pa., May 1; **Thomas E. Wharton**, Omaha, May 8; **Arthur C. Zech**, Plattsburg, Mo., May 15; **Mary Deer**

Schoening, Glenwood, Iowa, May 21; **Dennis L. Sedlak**, Decatur, Ill., May 25; **Ann Jakeman Lallman**, Fremont, June 4; **Anne Brooks Reisher**, Lincoln, June 22.

1959

Dale E. Melvin, Bridgeport, May 22; **Ronald G. Joekel**, Omaha, May 30; **Gretchen Titman Hancock**, Lincoln, June 3; **Michael K. Curtis**, Urbandale, Iowa, June 4; **James D. Whitaker**,



1933–2017

Cal Bentz

CAL BENTZ, WHO LED NEBRASKA TO 26 SWIMMING and diving conference championships, died in Lincoln July 4. He was 84. Bentz coached swimming for more than 50 years, leaving his greatest impact in the 1980s and '90s. Bentz coached the Huskers from 1962-63 on an interim basis, before spending 15 seasons as a high school coach at Omaha Westside. He was head coach of the Huskers from 1978-2000. A 1955 graduate of UNL, Bentz was a four-year swimming letter winner.

North Platte,
June 7.

1960

Kenton R. Wrightsman, Omaha, May 11; **Sharon Smith Adkins**, Denver, May 23; **Robert F. Sullivan**, Omaha, June 10; **Enlowe A. Hevner**, Fremont, June 15.

1962

Ellen Weston Wilde, Olathe, Kan., June 13; **Mary V. Burns**, Friend, June 17.

1963

Janet Irwin Nydegger, Auburn, Wash., May 11; **Donald C. Bennett**, Petaluma, Calif., May 26; **Noble L. Swanson**, Roca, June 6.

1964

Sanford H. Nelson, Lincoln, April 17.

1965

Richard P. Kumpf, Auburn, May 22; **William A. Tuning**, Lincoln, June 17.

1966

Dale L. Seidler, Alliance, May 10; **Maxine Knight Sorensen**, Lincoln, May 17;

Carl R. Spencer, Phoenix, May 18; **William H. Biel**, Colby, Kan., May 20; **Steven D. Brumley**, Okmulgee, Okla., June 9.

1967

Allan D. Pestel, Plattsmouth, April 21; **Lajeane Larson Price**, Lincoln, April 21; **Sally L. Minich**, Hemingford, April 22; **Elaine Baumfalk Erdmann**, Sutherland, June 7; **Donald J. Bonne**, Lenexa, Kan., June 26.

1968

William E. Brock, Oak Forest, Ill., April 24; **Beauford E. Haizlip**, Council Bluffs, Iowa, May 5; **John A. Hill**, Lincoln, June 3; **Anne Gordon Chen**, Lincoln, June 4; **Brian L. Mariska**, Lincoln, June 15.

1969

Thomas E. Tipton, Lincoln, May 1; **John P. Kirby**, David City, May 30; **Marvin E. Mueller**, Lincoln, June 1.

1970

Treva Kirkpatrick Mercer, Alliance, April 19; **Clinton**

W. Thomas, Lincoln, May 27; **Richard E. Jasa**, Omaha, June 1; **William T. Anton**, North Las Vegas, June 15; **Charmian Newman Behrends**, Wymore, June 27.

1971

Patricia Linnenbrink Hart, Lincoln, April 21; **Melvin E. Fuller**, St. Paul, May 7; **Elaine McLaughlin**, Tecumseh, May 25.

1972

Norman K. Stork, Henderson, Nev., April 30.

1973

Leland A. Uher, Sterling, April 25; **Lisa Johnson Nicklas**, Hickman, June 1.

1974

Michael D. Mazuch, Pilger, April 21; **Robert L. Wedge**, Carey, Ohio, May 6; **Larry R. Sabata**, Topeka, Kan., May 13; **John J. Hodik**, San Diego, May 30.

1975

Jack E. Griffey, Omaha, May

11; **Jerry R. Hammerlun**, Georgetown, Texas, June 17; **Luetta Wilson Sandquist**, Lincoln, June 18.

1976

Dale R. Woolery, Omaha, June 23.

1977

Stephen P. Dierberger, Bee, April 19; **Gordon T. Stofer**, Grand Island, May 5; **Thomas J. Walsh**, Omaha, May 11; **Ivan D. Stones**, Kearney, May 14.

1978

David P. Salyards, Omaha, April 22; **Jane Oldfather Lewis**, Fairbury, April 24; **Sheryl Itzen Barker**, Fairbury, June 30.

1979

Allen D. Salzman, Golden, Colo., May 15; **Cathy Pullen Wittie**, Stephenville, Texas, May 17.

1980

Mary Greear Humphrey, Lincoln, May 17.

1981

Chris D. Siefkes, Lincoln, June 18; **Mark D.**



1927-2017

Dale Flowerday

ALBERT (DALE) FLOWERDAY, 89, LONGTIME AGRONOMY professor, died June 10 at the Tennessee State Veterans Home in Murfreesboro, Tenn. Flowerday worked at the university for 27 years, more than half with the Department of Agronomy. Flowerday was raised in Bee, Neb., and graduated from Seward High School in 1944. He earned three degrees from UNL in 1950, 1951 and 1958. Flowerday served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict before becoming an agronomist and first superintendent with the Northeast Experiment Station at Concord in 1956. He enjoyed teaching — sometimes leading Agronomy 101 classes three times a day in the 1970s.

Baxa, Belmont, N.C., June 18.

1982
Karen Palmer Davis, Wood River, April 16.

1983
Paul C. Utemark, Geneva, May 24.

1984
William J. Plummer, Lincoln, May 19; **Michael L. Sicner**, Henderson, Nev., June 26.

1986
Michael D.

Walters, Littleton, Colo., June 29.

1987
Richard Ayala, Plymouth, Ind., June 23.

1988
Gary T. Hall, Greeley, Colo., April 19.

1989
Marlyn E. Washburn, Omaha, May 26.

1990
Marian M. Langan, Lincoln, June 3; **Susan M. Heng**,

Nebraska City, June 19.

1993
Christopher A. Johnson, Hastings, May 10.

1997
John S. Clabaugh, Lincoln, June 9.

2003
Sabrina D. Jones, Bennington, May 30.

2006
Noah C. Beadell, '06, Tecumseh, May 26.



Andersen Hall Above All

Some come to college and find their soulmate,
but this Omaha native was drawn to one
building and a profession she still loves

BY BRITTANY JONES-COOPER ('08)

WHEN I LOOK BACK ON MY DAYS at Nebraska, there are a lot of things I don't remember. I have forgotten my freshmen dorm room number, I can barely recall any of my professors' names, and I don't know what street Amigos is on (although, I could certainly walk there from memory).

Honestly, I can't even remember the names of any buildings where I took classes. Expect one — Andersen Hall.

My memories of Andersen Hall are vivid and tinged with emotion. I chose to major in broadcasting because my curiosity about the world was end-

less. I spent countless hours at the J-school reading newspapers, editing projects and writing scripts. It's there that I learned how to gracefully set up a camera tripod, write an interesting headline, and conduct a news-worthy interview.

Butterflies filled my stomach every time I had to read my work in front of a class, and a bolt of energy coursed through my body when I uncovered a new story lead. Everything was new. Everything was exciting. I was drawn to the simplicity of reporting. The ability to tell stories succinctly, to conjure emotion with video, to inspire others with my words; looking back, it's clear that UNL is where I fell in love with journalism.

My classes were small, so I spent most of my time with the same group of students. We became friends, helped each other with projects and spent many late nights and weekends editing video. We worked together, grew together, and vented every time a computer froze — deleting hours of work. This camaraderie prepared me for the close-knit teams I would work with at places like CBS, The Daily Beast, ABC and Yahoo.

Andersen Hall will always have a special place in my heart, because it's also where my career started. The college would send a weekly email alerting students about available internships and job opportunities. During my junior year, that email announced that the CBS Evening News was looking for a student to intern for Katie Couric. I shot my video submission, edited it, and nervously submitted my application all from Andersen Hall. I got the internship, and spent a summer in New York City shadowing one of my idols. I returned to campus for my senior year, more inspired than ever.

It's rare for a person to discover their true passion in college. A lot of people I know are still searching for careers that truly speak to who they are. That's why I feel lucky to have discovered mine in a place where I could nurture it with a level of carefree ambition that is almost impossible to express in the real world.

I've been living in New York City for eight years, a world very different than Lincoln, Nebraska. Media has evolved faster than anyone could have ever expected, but I think the fundamentals are still the same. As journalists, we seek to find truth, educate and share different perspectives.

I too have changed, but like journalism, I think my core is the same.

I'm still that Nebraska girl who is endlessly curious about the world, gets excited over a potential story, and feels lucky for the chance to share my voice, even when the days are long and unforgiving.

When I look back on my days at UNL, there are a lot of things I don't remember, but I'll always remember my days at Andersen Hall. **N**

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