

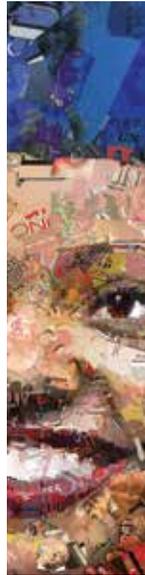
Baxter
60 YEARS

We believe great beginnings begin at UNO.

Our founder was a Maverick. In every sense of the word. So whether you're just getting started with your career journey or you've hit your stride, we're here to help.

Find your new ride at baxterauto.com.





IN EVERY ISSUE

- 4** From the Chancellor
- 5** Show the O Spotlight
- 6** From the Editor
- 7** Alumni Association
- 10** Philanthropy Matters
- 12** The Colleges
- 16** Athletics
- 50** Class Notes
- 58** For Fun

FEATURES

18

YEARS
110
 FACTS &
 FIGURES

49

SPRING
2018

VOL. 9, NO. 1

unodalumni.org/unomag

UNO MAGAZINE is published three times a year by the University of Nebraska at Omaha, the UNO Alumni Association and the University of Nebraska Foundation.

A lot can happen in 110 years!

This certainly is the case for UNO, an institution I have had the privilege of leading since May 2017 and, in doing so, learned so much about its 11-decade history as Omaha's university.

Since its founding in 1908, UNO has grown exponentially — from an inaugural class of fewer than 30 students using a repurposed home in northeast Omaha to a current student body of more than 15,000 spread across three campuses in the center of a thriving metropolitan city.

During these decades of impressive growth, UNO has continued to remain true to the mission detailed in the University of Omaha's original articles of incorporation as an institution for the "promotion of sound learning and education" that "will lead to the highest type of ... character and citizenship."

As a member of UNO's alumni network, you have been integral to UNO's progress, and you will continue to be vital to UNO's future success. That is what it means to be a Maverick — to never stop pushing forward.

It has been a great joy for me to see that even as UNO has changed and grown, the campus has remained a strong, tightly knit Maverick family that supports and encourages each and every family member to achieve their goals. Or, as I like to say, to "turn your dreams into realities."

I hope you take the time to truly engage with this issue of UNO Magazine. Not only does it serve to welcome our new and longstanding alumni network into a new year and all of the opportunities ahead, but it also provides a time to reflect on where UNO has been and what it has accomplished over the past century-plus.

I hope that the information provided in these pages reminds you of your time here on campus and, as we approach our 110th birthday on Oct. 8, 2018, I hope you will consider yourselves not just UNO alumni, but critically important ambassadors and keepers of the Maverick story.

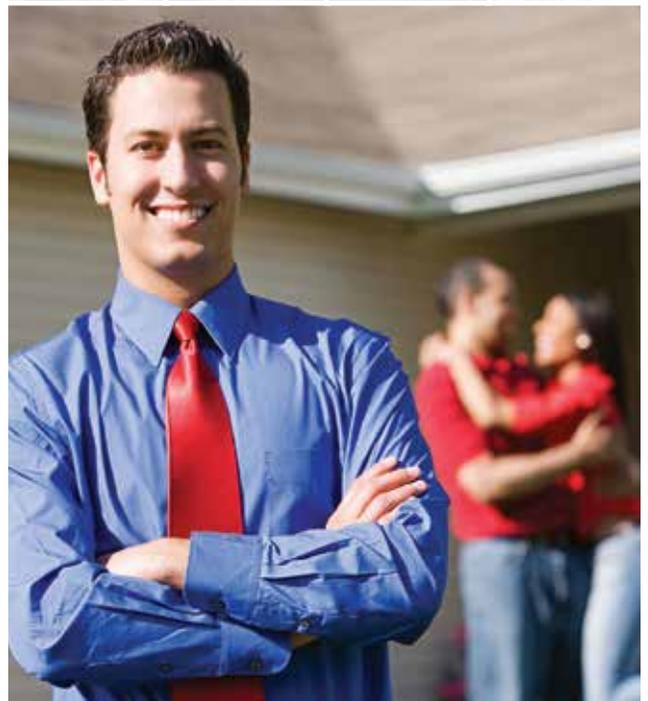


Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.
UNO Chancellor



We love being local.

For over 160 years, NP Dodge has always believed that hard work, service and integrity are the essential materials in building lasting relationships. **That's why, we are committed to making your home buying and selling experience the best that it can be.**



npdodge.com

ENTER BUSINESS BUREAU
INTEGRITY
AWARD 2016 WINNER

THE **POWER** TO **PERFORM.**

We are a proud supporter of the University of Nebraska Omaha.



UNO STUDENTS, FACULTY AND ALUMNI CONTINUE TO SHOW THEIR PRIDE BY SHOWING THE O, TAKING PICTURES WITH O FLAGS WHEREVER THEY LIVE OR TRAVEL. BELOW ARE A FEW OF OUR FAVORITES. SEE MORE – AND REQUEST YOUR OWN FREE O FLAG – AT SHOWTHEO.COM

MANAGING EDITOR

Anthony Flott

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Jennifer Arnold
Charley Reed

ART DIRECTION/DESIGN

Heidi Mihelich
cre8ivenergy

COVER ILLUSTRATION

Charis Tsevis
Cyprus

Direct advertising or editorial inquiries to
Managing Editor
UNO Magazine
2285 So. 67th St., Suite 200
Omaha, NE 68106
Toll-free: 800-432-3216
Email: unoalumni@unoalumni.org

Send all changes of address to attention of Records
or visit unoalumni.org/records

Views expressed within this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, the UNO Alumni Association or the University of Nebraska Foundation.



Advertise your business to 50,000 UNO graduates! To learn more, contact Gary Domet at 402-995-1918 or gmd6@cox.net.

The University of Nebraska at Omaha shall not discriminate based upon age, race, ethnicity, color, national origin, gender-identity, sex, pregnancy, disability, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran's status, marital status, religion, or political affiliation.



BADLANDS, NEBRASKA

UNO students taking part in the Outdoor Venture Center Leadership Training program took time to Show the O during a Fall Break trip to Badlands National Park in South Dakota.



OMAHA BEACH, FRANCE

BEKA (BS '03) and **ROB (BSBA '06) WIEBUSCH** along with Erin Shirmang-Ward Show the O at Omaha Beach in France.



SPAIN

CINTHIA SÁNCHEZ OROZCO (BA '15) is living and working in Vigo, Spain, as an English Language and Culture Assistant with the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture, and Sports at a local high school. She Showed the O on Galiñeiro Mountain in Gondomar, Galicia, Spain.



JAMAICA

UNO grads **VIV (BS '83; MS '86)** and **JOHN (BGS '85; MS '87) EWING** Showed the O in Negril, Jamaica, while celebrating their 33rd wedding anniversary. They reported that when they pulled the O flag out to take pictures, several people stopped them to say they were UNO graduates, too.



PORTUGAL

SUSAN CLARK (BS '86; MS '94) traveled to Lisbon, Portugal, and Showed the O at the highest point in the city – Miradouro da Senhora do Monte (Viewpoint of Our Lady of the Hill).

CIENTO DIEZ

Even at 110 years old, the University of Nebraska at Omaha has never looked better.

And its future has never been brighter.

On Oct. 8 this year, UNO will celebrate its 1908 founding. It's undergone quite the transformation since then. It was founded as the University of Omaha as a religious, non-sectarian institution located at 24th and Pratt Streets. Three of its first four presidents were Presbyterian ministers. In 1931 it became a municipal university owned by the City of Omaha. In 1968 it joined the University of Nebraska system, launching a period of tremendous growth that continues today.

Through all those changes — and many struggles — UNO continued to serve Omaha, Nebraska and the world beyond, and to produce graduates of the most outstanding caliber.

I'm familiar with many of these stories, having edited the university's alumni publication for 25 years. Too often, though, I assume everyone knows these stories. They don't.

And so this issue we present 110 fascinating facts and figures that tell part of the UNO story. Many of these have been told before in past alumni publications. If you look closely at this issue's cover art, you'll see the covers of many of those past publications represented in the collage produced by artist Charis Tsevis. All that history combines to form an image copying a photograph taken of 2015 UNO graduate Alexandria Johnson (daughter of 1996 UNO graduate Vivian Young).

Inside, the stories tell of achievements under the seas, on land, in the skies and among the stars. I started to list a few of my favorites to recommend, but the list grew too long for this space.

I hope you keep this issue around for a while and read each one, taking joy in the achievements of UNO and these mighty Mavericks.

Enjoy the read,

Anthony Flott

Anthony Flott
Managing Editor





YOUNG ALUMNI ACADEMY TO HOLD CAPSTONE MEETING APRIL 12

The seventh class of the UNO Young Alumni Academy holds its final meeting April 12, culminating its eight sessions focused on leadership development, networking and professional growth for alumni 35 and younger.

The 2017-18 class has 33 members, and nearly 300 have completed the program since the academy was founded in 2010.

Members attend sessions at unique locations on and off campus, this year including a behind-the-scenes tour of Baxter Arena. UNO leaders also address members on topics such as athletics management, student focus and community service.

ANNUAL BOARD MEETING SET FOR MAY 22

The UNO Alumni Association Board of Directors will hold its annual meeting Tuesday, May 22, at 4:30 p.m. in the Thompson Alumni Center.

For more information contact Meri Kennedy at (402) 504-3342 or mkenedy@unoalumni.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 24 GLOBAL DAY OF SERVICE

A rewarding day working alongside students and fellow alumni at service projects around Omaha

SATURDAY, APRIL 7 UNO DANCE MARATHON

Student-run event raising money and awareness for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11 MARION MARSH BROWN WRITERS LECTURE SERIES

Featuring best-selling author Lee Child of the Jack Reacher franchise

SATURDAY, MAY 19 ALUMNI CAMPUS TOUR DAY

Visit brand-new Maverick Landing followed by a bus tour of campus and a social gathering in Aksarben Village.

EVERYONE KNOWS WHEN THAT THE WHISTLE BLOWS
WILL SHOUT, WE WILL CHEER, WE WILL SCREAM - GO MAVS
WE WILL FIGHT FOR OUR MAVERICKS
CHEER SO ALL FANS WILL KNOW
BE IT WIN OR LOSE OR DRAW
EVERYONE FOR OMAHA
WE WILL FIGHT FOR UNO

 **UNO FUND**
EVERYONE FOR OMAHA

MAKE EDUCATION POSSIBLE FOR STUDENTS LIKE KASSANDRA.
SEE HER STORY AND MORE AT UNOFUNDATION.ORG/UNOFUND

UNO ALUMNI NIGHT OF HONOR



The UNO Alumni Association on Oct. 19 hosted what has become one of the annual highlights of UNO Homecoming week – the fourth Alumni Night of Honor at the Thompson Alumni Center.

Sponsored by First Data Resources, Alumni Night of Honor celebrated achievements by members of the worldwide UNO alumni network, now numbering 109,000 living graduates. Among those honored:

- YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: **MATTHEW J. LEE**
TARA STINGLEY
- UNO ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES: **CODY GARCIA**
ANJA PUC
TANIS J. HASTMANN WALCH
- OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD: **EMERITUS CHANCELLOR JOHN**
AND JAN CHRISTENSEN
SARAH WALDMAN

The night also included a 20th anniversary salute to the 1997-98 UNO hockey team, the first at UNO, and the unveiling of a portraiture of the Christensens by UNO alumnus Stephen Roberts.

For details on all award recipients, see unoalumni.org/nightofhonor

SAVE THE DATE

FIRST GLOBAL DAY OF SERVICE SET FOR MARCH 24



The UNO Alumni Association has partnered with UNO's Office of Civic & Social Responsibility to offer alumni the opportunity to join the first-ever Global Day of Service set for Saturday, March 24!

Alumni are invited to work alongside students and fellow alumni on service projects around Omaha focusing on economic sufficiency.

Alumni are encouraged to bring their families and to invite other alumni. Free breakfast and lunch are available to all volunteers.

For more information and to register, visit unoalumni.org/servicedays

COMMENCING SMILES



More than 700 students were honored during UNO's December commencement at Baxter Arena – and it seemed the alumni association welcomed nearly every one of them at its photo both preceding the ceremony.

Seniors and others had their photos taken with UNO's mascot, with each other and with props as they waited for commencement to begin. Photos were posted on the association's social media pages and emailed to graduates.

Each graduate also received a parting gift as they exited the stage after receiving their diploma – a UNO Alumni pin. Graduates of the association's Young Alumni Academy distributed the pins.

With the addition of this graduating class there now are 109,000 living UNO alumni worldwide.



ALEXIS T. SIMPSON, BELLEVUE WEST HIGH SCHOOL, BELLEVUE, NEBRASKA; COLTEN ADAMS, CREIGHTON COMMUNITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, ORCHARD, NEBRASKA; AND SAMANTHA LIERZ, SKUTT HIGH SCHOOL, OMAHA

10th Class of UNO Alumni Scholars Begin Maverick Careers

The UNO Alumni Association welcomed its 10th class of UNO Alumni Scholars at the start of the fall semester. Three students received UNO Alumni Association Scholarships, awarded to graduating high school seniors who have demonstrated leadership and involvement during high school.

Recipients also must have a minimum ACT composite score of 24 and either rank in the top 25 percent of their class or have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale. The \$2,500 annual scholarships are renewable for up to four years.

The association now is supporting 12 UNO students with UNO Alumni Association Scholarships.

Bios of the three recipients and other UNO Alumni Scholars are available at unoalumni.org/alumnischolars



CAREY HAMILTON, CENTER, WITH LEE DENKER AND NOW-EMERITUS CHANCELLOR GOLD

HAMILTON HONORED WITH ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The UNO Alumni Association bestowed its Citation for Alumni Achievement award upon UNO graduate Carey Hamilton during the university's commencement ceremony Dec. 15 at Baxter Arena.

Inaugurated in 1949, the citation is the association's highest and oldest honor. It encompasses career achievement, community service, involvement in business and professional associations, and fidelity to UNO. Hamilton is the 175th graduate to receive the award.

President of Beardmore Chevrolet (Bellevue, Nebraska), which she owns with her husband, Brian, Hamilton earned a BS in business from UNO in 1978. She also graduated from the Executive Management Program of Harvard Business School in 1998.

She has worked in the automobile dealers industry since 1982, when she and her husband opened a dealership in Grand Island. The couple are longtime supporters of the University of Nebraska system, including UNO and UNO Athletics. They provided the lead gift for what became the Hamilton Academic Excellence Room in Sapp Fieldhouse.

Hamilton serves several community organizations and has earned numerous honors in her career.

For more information about Hamilton and other Citation recipients, visit unoalumni.org/citation-award



Your organization on track

FROM ANALYSIS ... TO IMPLEMENTATION ... TO MEASUREMENT ...
YOU SET THE OUTCOMES AND WE LEAD THE PROCESS. NBDC PROVIDES
THE EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE, TOOLS, RESOURCES, AND
GUIDANCE TO HELP YOUR ORGANIZATION REACH ITS GOALS.

START TODAY BY CONTACTING

nbdc.unomaha.edu/OD
402.554.4088 | hsargus@unomaha.edu

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Omaha



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

The University of Nebraska does not discriminate based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and/or political affiliation in its programs, activities, or employment.

PARTNERSHIPS

INSURANCE

Are you in need of home, life, auto, health or life insurance? The UNO Alumni Association offers graduates insurance for these and other needs at discounted rates available thanks to the purchasing power of nearly 110,000 graduates.

See all the coverage available at unoalumni.org/insurance.

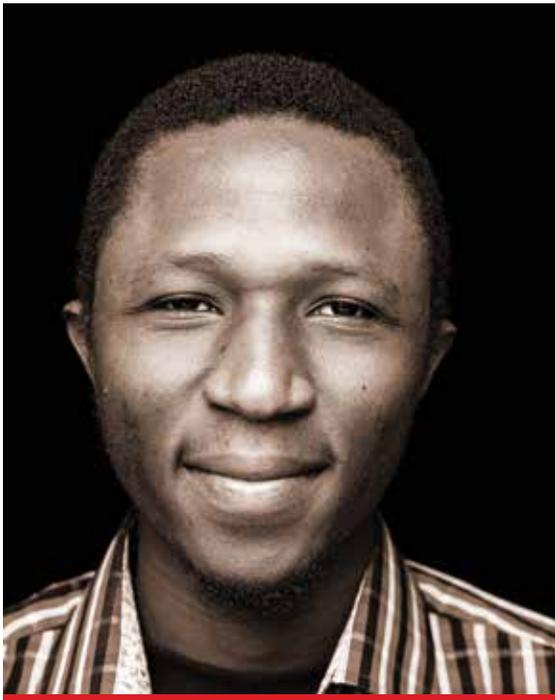
TRAVEL

The UNO Alumni Association is pleased to offer discounted travel opportunities through a partnership with travel provider Go Next!

Upcoming trips include **Breathtaking Bordeaux, July 16-24** and the **Essence of Europe Sept. 23 - Oct. 4**. Both feature extra savings if booked by mid-March. See details on these trips and other cruises at unoalumni.org/travel.

To receive a brochure for any of our trips by mail, call the association toll-free at **800-432-3216**.





GEOFFROY NAPON

A COAT OF DREAMS

A UNO-UNMC PROGRAM IS MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE — AND BRINGING MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS TO AREAS OF NEED IN URBAN NEBRASKA

Looking back now, he says, it probably was too serious of a talk to have with such a little boy.

He was just 5 at the time. His dad was still alive.

He was visiting his dad's room in a bare-bones public hospital near their home in Burkina Faso, a third-world country in West Africa. The family couldn't afford a private hospital, so they'd had to wait weeks for doctors and a bed.

His dad, weak and thin, looked over at him.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

"I told him I wanted to take care of people like him," Geoffroy Napon recalls. "I told him, 'I want to be like those people in white coats.'"

His dad, who had some unknown disease, died not long after that talk. He didn't get to see Geoffroy reach for his dream by studying hard and becoming a star in math and science and earning a scholarship to a private Christian high school. He didn't get to see Geoffroy complete a year of medical school in Burkina Faso before winning a nationwide lottery for a green card to come to the United States to study.

And he didn't get to see Geoffroy arrive wide-eyed in Omaha two years ago — the day after his 20th birthday — then earn a spot in a University of Nebraska program for aspiring doctors called the Urban Health Opportunities Program.

A program that could make his little-boy wish come true.

PROGRAM SPECIFICS

UHOP, as it's called, is a collaboration between UNO and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The program pays his undergraduate tuition, offers mentors for him and other promising students through UNO and, if they keep their grades up, guarantees them admission into medical school at UNMC.

If you could talk with a UHOP donor, what would you say?

"The first thing that comes to mind is a word of thanks," Geoffroy says. "And then, I would just want to assure them that their money is making a really big difference in many people's lives."

UHOP's goal is to bring diversity to Nebraska's urban medical workforce by finding young people like Geoffroy who want to take care of people in the medically underserved neighborhoods of Omaha, especially in the northeast and southeast parts of the city.

Geoffroy was in the first group of 13 students selected for the program, which began last year. He and the other UHOP students meet each month at UNO's Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center. They must volunteer in the community. They must maintain an A-level average in their science classes.

They have mentors, and they will become mentors themselves one day once they're in med school.

Geoffroy likes to talk with the program's director, Paul Davis, Ph.D., a biology professor at UNO.

Geoffroy likes how Davis pushes him.

Davis likes how Geoffroy pushes himself.

"Perhaps Geoffroy's greatest asset as a future physician is that he's unflappable in the face of adversity," Davis says. "He's gregarious and compassionate. He truly cares for those around him. I believe these two characteristics will make him a wonderful physician.

"Not to mention, he's brilliant."

The UHOP program is important to essentially all residents of Omaha in various ways, Davis says.

For those people living in medically underserved areas, it will create a pipeline of caring doctors who want to practice in those areas and address critical community needs. In these underserved areas, he says, people sometimes don't seek out preventive medical care because there aren't enough doctors available to them or because they feel a lack of connection to their provider. Such patients might delay seeking treatment, and when a problem becomes medically urgent, studies show that these late treatments often cost many times more than proper preventive or earlier care.

"Not only is the recovery longer and more difficult, impacting their ability to work or care for others," Davis says, "but insurance companies or federal support networks are financially impacted. Thus, it's far better for all community members when the needs of underserved areas are met by physicians who understand their patients' backgrounds and are truly interested in caring for this same population."

While some students in UHOP, like Geoffroy, do come from other countries, the program has many local students who live in these underserved areas. Others simply have a heart for working with low-income people.

A LIFE OF STRUGGLES

Geoffroy knows what it's like to live that way.

In Burkino Faso, he says, "life isn't easy."

His home had no electricity. His family struggled. His dad, who'd worked in construction, had lost his job even before Geoffroy was born.

After his dad died, his mom did what she could to help her five kids thrive.

"My mom — imagine a young lady, a widow, having five kids," Geoffroy says. "She raised five kids and was able to support me until I came here. She did small jobs — housework, cleaning. Every single thing she could do, she did."

He says she cries sometimes — only because she's happy — now when they talk.

"It was rough in the beginning when I first moved here. But she told me, 'Never give up.' My mom was pushing me, and my family was pushing me. So now I tell people when they want to give up — I tell them, 'Never give up.'"

When he first came to Omaha, Geoffroy trained as a nursing assistant at Metropolitan Community College while he worked to improve his English. He then took a job at UNMC as a patient-care tech. He now works as an anesthesia technician while carrying a big load of classes at UNO.

He laughs.

"I have to be a hard worker," he says. "I have no choice. When you come from a foreign country, you have to be a good worker."

Looking back now, he says, he can't believe his luck.

"When I first came here, it was tough. I was afraid of the student loans at the undergraduate level. So I don't have to worry about that now. I can just focus on schooling and becoming a doctor."

He wishes he could talk again with his dad.

If he could, he says, he'd tell him about all the amazing things that have happened. He knows his dad would be proud, he says, to see he's going to wear a white coat.

To see him taking care of people.

What would your dad say if he could talk to the people who support UHOP in any way?

"I expect he would be really, really grateful for their support," Geoffroy says. "In Africa, when somebody gives you something, you say, 'My prayer is that good blesses you.' That is our tradition. I grew up with that in my mind, too, and my praise is that good would bless them, too, and give them more than they've given us."

**OUR
STUDENTS
OUR
FUTURE**

Creating a smart, educated workforce for tomorrow was the focus of a successful \$200 million fundraising initiative that ended Dec. 31, 2017. Through the generosity of donors, more NU students, like Geoffroy, have affordable access to an excellent university education. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our students and the future of our state and world.

CAMPUS CONTINUES TO GROW, CHANGE

The last half of 2017 was a time of significant change and Maverick momentum when it came to the look of campus.

Summer began with a major change on the Dodge Campus: the removal of the radio broadcast tower that had been located south of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service building since 1972.

The following month, work began on a new addition to the Strauss Performing Arts Center, which also marked its 45th birthday in 2017. The project is four decades in the making as the original plans for Strauss had to be altered due to complications with construction. The addition is scheduled to be complete in September 2018.

In August, the new Pacific Street Garage featuring more than 1,200 stalls opened for use. Along with the new garage, Parking Services rolled out a significant change to its permit system. All parking permits became digital and new options became available for daily and hourly parking via online purchase and the Park Omaha app.

Just south of the new garage, UNO's opened its newest housing unit in September, Scott Crossing. That brings the total number of beds on campus to more than 2,000.

Attached to Scott Crossing is Maverick Landing, a one-stop-shop for the needs of prospective students and their families, as

well as a study space for current students and faculty. Maverick Landing officially opened in October as part of UNO's homecoming festivities.

More changes lie ahead for the UNO campus with the announcement of a new addition to the Biomechanics Research Building, which opened in 2013. The privately funded, \$11.6 million project will more than double the building's size and connect all three levels, providing new laboratories, instructional space, offices and collaborative space.



RECORD ENROLLMENT/RETENTION



DURANGO AND MEMBERS OF THE MAVERICK MANIACS HELP WELCOME UNO'S RECORD-BREAKING INCOMING FRESHMAN CLASS TO NEW STUDENT CONVOCATION AT BAXTER ARENA.

UNO continued its "Maverick Momentum" into the 2017-2018 academic year, achieving a record-breaking incoming freshman class for the third-straight year and enrolling the second largest graduate class in the university's history.

The 15,731 students enrolled at UNO for the new academic year includes 12,624 undergraduates, 2,105 of whom are incoming first-year students, and a graduate class of 3,107, including 723 new students.

The addition of nearly 3,000 new students, undergraduate and graduate, for 2017-2018 comes on the heels of a new alumni cohort of 3,123 recent graduates, maintaining the success of the 2015-2016 graduating class, which was the largest in UNO's nearly 110-year history.



UNO ASSISTANT PROFESSOR JORGE ZUNIGA WORKS WITH A PAIR OF BOY SCOUTS TO HELP CONSTRUCT A 3D-PRINTED PROSTHETIC HAND, WHICH WILL BE DONATED TO A CHILD IN NEED.

UNO PROFESSOR SPEARHEADS LOW-COST PROSTHETICS PROJECT

In July, a team of University of Nebraska researchers led by UNO Professor Jorge Zuniga began a two-year project funded by the Nebraska Research Initiative to provide low-cost prosthetics for children whose families cannot afford them.

With the help of 3D printing technology, six professors from UNO, UNMC, UNL and UNK hope to dramatically increase access for children in need.

The clinical research effort is the first of its kind attempted in the United States.

"This is a true Nebraska collaboration that will impact the lives of hundreds here in the state and thousands across the world," Zuniga says.

UNO Assistant Professor Mukul Mukherjee is the second UNO faculty member on the project.

SATURDAY
MARCH

24

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE UNO GLOBAL DAY OF SERVICE

UNO's Office of Civic & Social Responsibility is pleased to offer alumni the opportunity to join the UNO community for the UNO Global Day of Service. Mark your calendars for this rewarding experience and get the chance to work alongside students, faculty, staff, and fellow alumni! More details to come.



To learn more about this and other Signature Service Days at UNO, visit unoalumni.org/servicedays or call **402.504.3343**.

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Omaha



COSMIC CELEBRATION DURING DURANGO DAYS

Mother Nature provided a once-in-a-lifetime show on Aug. 21, UNO's first day of classes for the 2017-2018 academic year — the first total eclipse of the sun visible across North America in more than 60 years.

Omaha had nearly 100-percent totality of eclipse, necessitating UNO solar glasses for thousands of students, faculty and staff who experienced the eclipse together during Durango Days in the Pep Bowl.

The department of Physics, College of Education and Criss Library also provided a variety of viewing opportunities and educational displays as part of the eclipse.

Campus organizers later collected leftover glasses for Astronomers Without Borders. The group will distribute the glasses in South America and Asia prior to the next solar eclipse in 2019.



NEW CHAIR

PROPOSED CENTER HONORS GOLDSTEIN FAMILY

On Oct. 20, representatives from UNO joined members of the Omaha community to celebrate two additions to the campus in honor of Leonard and Shirley Goldstein.

In July, the University of Nebraska Foundation announced the creation of the Goldstein Family Community Chair in Human Rights, made possible by support from Leonard and Shirley's children: Donald Goldstein, Kathy Helm and Gail Raznick. The post has been filled by Assistant Professor of Religious Studies Laura Alexander.

This is the first community chair for UNO in a humanities-related field.

Earlier in October, the NU Board of Regents approved the creation of the Leonard and Shirley Goldstein Center for Human Rights at UNO. The center will be a

nonpartisan, nonsectarian organization that promotes the understanding of human rights issues through teaching, research, creative activity and community engagement.

The center will be made possible and supported annually through a permanent \$2 million endowment at the University of Nebraska Foundation by the late Shirley Goldstein, who died last year. Her husband Leonard died in 2012.

The additions are the latest in a decades-long relationship between the Goldsteins and UNO, beginning with the Shirley and Leonard Goldstein Lecture on Human Rights, which was founded in 1997 to focus attention on the plight of people from around the world who suffer from abuse.



CHANCELLOR TRAVELS TO NORTHEAST NEBRASKA

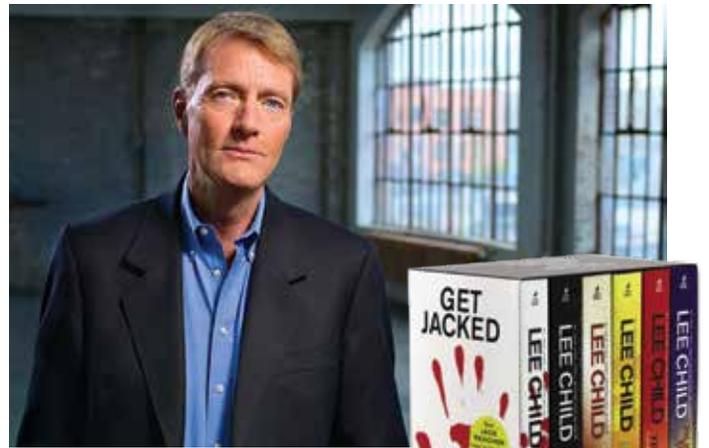


FROM LEFT: UNO CHANCELLOR JEFFREY P. GOLD, M.D., UNO ALUM AND NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE (NCC) EMPLOYEE KATIE BERGER, NCC PRESIDENT MICHAEL CHIPPS.

Representatives from UNO, led by Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D., visited Columbus, Norfolk and West Point during two days last fall as part of a community conversation tour.

Daniel Shipp, vice chancellor for Student Success, and Omar Correa, associate vice chancellor for enrollment management, joined Chancellor Gold on the trip.

At each stop, the group held public forums that focused on program updates at UNO and UNMC, as well as future collaboration opportunities among the campuses and state.



MARION MARSH BROWN LECTURE WELCOMES LEE CHILD

In April, Lee Child, best-selling author of the “Jack Reacher” series, will speak at Baxter Arena as part of the Marion Marsh Brown Writers Lecture Series.

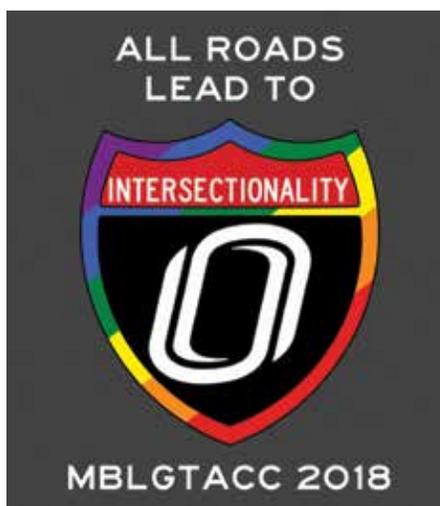
In addition to being a household name, Child is one of Omaha’s most popular authors as measured by Omaha Public Library circulation.

The free event is in its third year. Tickets can be picked up at the Baxter Arena box office or online at events.unomaha.edu/leechild.

The Marion Marsh Brown Writers Lecture Series is presented by Marion’s son Paul Brown, his wife Djel Ann, and their children, Randy, Scott and Marietta Luellen.

Marion served as a professor of English at UNO (then Omaha University) from 1954 through 1968. She wrote more than 15 books and is best known for her young adult literature. The series celebrates her life and work by bringing a well-known author to UNO each year. Previous speakers included best-selling authors John Grisham and Cheryl Strayed.

SAVE THE DATE



In February, the UNO campus will be the site of the Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, Ally College Conference – also known as MBLGTACC.

The student-organized event is the largest LGBTQIA+ college conference in the nation. UNO students earned the right to host following a proposal at last year’s conference in Chicago.

This year’s theme, “All Roads Lead to Intersectionality,” focuses on empowering queer and trans Midwest college students to celebrate their identities.

The conference will include speakers, workshops, entertainment and more.

GAME CHANGERS

By Chelsea Bailey, director of marketing, College of Business Administration

At first glance, Mike Gabinet and Evan Porter have little in common except their job title: coach.

One is Canadian, the other, a corn-fed Nebraskan. One made his mark with a hockey puck, the other a baseball.

But there are similarities — and no shortage of accolades — between the two.

Both hold business degrees from UNO. Both are storied student-athletes who went on to play professionally. And both now are in their first years leading NCAA Division I programs with the opportunity to write the next chapter at their alma mater.

As new head coaches, these two Mavericks are laser-focused on creating their team cultures, hoping to develop not just talented athletes but also players who will reach their full potential long after they hang up their cleats ... or skates.

Both coaches sat down to talk with the UNO College of Business Administration about their days as students, careers post-college and plans for their Omaha teams.

MIKE GABINET (BSBA 2004)

During his five-year tenure coaching college hockey, Mike Gabinet has already tasted the fruits of success that stem from hard work ... and a little luck. In his first stab as a head coach, his team finished 36-0.

That earned Gabinet a Coach of the Year award and a spot in the Canadian college hockey history books as the first rookie head coach to lead a team to an undefeated season.

The 35-year-old native of Edmonton, Alberta, is no stranger to setbacks, though. Gabinet played professionally for eight years in the American Hockey League, ECHL and across Europe, but he battled injuries.

"So I got to watch a lot of hockey," he says. "I always enjoyed dissecting the game."

Coaching felt like a natural next step. When his professional career ended, he volunteered his time and got his foot in the door. He served as an associate coach then head coach at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, which he led to that undefeated season.

Soon after, UNO came knocking, offering him a post as associate head coach in 2016.

"It's a big decision when you have a family," says Gabinet. It meant moving his wife, Antara, and young son Noah across the continent. "It was a big decision but an easy decision because it's Omaha. I have really fond memories of going to school here and being a student-athlete here."

A 2001 Los Angeles Kings draft pick, Gabinet played defense for the Mavericks from 2000–2004 and graduated with a business finance degree. He still ranks 10th all-time in points by a UNO defenseman.

"I owe a lot to what I have in my life today because of my time here at the school, getting my education and setting up my hockey career."



EVAN PORTER AND MIKE GABINET

In April 2017, Gabinet was named the third head coach in UNO hockey history, replacing Dean Blais. A few days before the announcement, Antara gave birth to daughter Jordyn in Omaha.

Amid recruiting, hiring new staff and planning the season, Gabinet is deliberate about establishing a culture that endures. A prolific reader and podcast consumer, he also prioritizes his own professional development. Every Monday night he makes time for a call with his mentor. Periodically, he interviews business executives and NHL coaches, seeking advice on managing time, teams and adversity.

Such commitment to personal and professional growth underlines how he runs his program, from the team's core values to a quote posted in their locker room: Champions take personal responsibility to get better every day.

"I think we have one of the best spots in the country to go to school and play hockey," Gabinet says. "So the culture is really, really important to me. I think it's my job to protect that culture and create an environment for people to get better."

EVAN PORTER (BSBA 2009, MBA 2016)

Starting tee-ball at 4 years old, Evan Porter dreamed of going pro one day. "Like all little leaguers," he says, "I wanted to play in the big leagues."

He nearly got there. In 2009, Porter was drafted by the Phillies, taking him to teams in Pennsylvania and then Florida, where he was

eventually released. In 2010 he signed with the Solingen Alligators in Germany.

"I played well enough to be able to bounce around Europe the next few years," he says.

From Sweden to Australia to Holland and back to Sweden.

"It's pretty cool the number of people I've met in other countries," he says, "Different cultures, different experiences and different styles of baseball."

One of the most decorated players in UNO history, Porter had a winning style during his days at UNO. He was a four-year starter at shortstop (2005–2009) and two-time All-American. He also was part of teams that earned a berth to the 2007 NCAA Division II College World Series, set a school record with 45 wins (2006 and 2008) and won the 2008 NCC championship.

In the classroom, Porter majored in marketing and enjoyed his business classes — except statistics. He's indebted to Professor Janet Pol, who worked in the stats lab, helping him and other players on the team.

"She was probably one of the more impactful professors in my undergrad experience," he says. "I never even had a class with her."

Something else that made an impact: CBA Dean Louis Pol and Janet showing up at his games, one as far away as Florida.

"It meant a lot," Porter says.

Porter returned home in 2012, joining UNO baseball as an assistant coach while continuing to play overseas. He also pursued his MBA, graduating in 2016.

That same year, UNO Athletic Director Trev Alberts offered him the top job.

It's been a whirlwind ever since.

"To take over a program is a unique experience," says Porter, 30.

"I have learned a lot and look forward to learning more as the years go on."

A lot of what he learned about leadership and organizational culture as an MBA student is resonating now, he says. As for the future, Porter is focused on finding the right players to fit the culture he's building.

"I get really excited when we bring a recruit in who's interested in business," he says. "It's easy to talk about how great all the professors were for me and how much I've taken away from my business college experience here. It has a special place in my heart."

Long term, Porter's goal is to build a successful program, one that's embedded in the community and in which players can take pride.

"This is a dream job that I'm in right now, being the head coach of the program I care about so deeply and played for," he says. "I've got my undergraduate and graduate degrees here. I love this school. I love Omaha. I love the community. I want this program to be as successful as possible."

HALL OF FAME



Three former Maverick student-athletes were inducted into the UNO Athletics Hall of Fame during the fourth Alumni Night of Honor at the Thompson Alumni Center Oct. 19. Inductees included Cody Garcia (wrestling), Anja Puc (track) and Tanis J. Hastmann Walch (golf). With their induction the Hall of Fame grows to 117 members.

CODY GARCIA WRESTLING

A four-time All-American and twice a national champion, Cody Garcia wrestled for the Mavericks from 2005-10. He won the national championship at 125 pounds in 2006 and, following a redshirt year, won another championship at 125 in 2008. Moving up to 133 pounds in 2009, he finished third nationally and was the runner-up at that weight as a senior in 2010. A member of three national championship teams, Garcia finished his career fourth in school history with 147 career wins. His 48 wins earned during his senior season rank second all time at UNO for a single season. He earned a degree in secondary education in 2012.

TANIS HASTMANN WALCH GOLF

UNO's only All-American in women's golf, Tanis Hastmann is one of the all-time scoring leaders with a career average of 80.07 during her career from 2001-2005. She was the individual medalist each year at the North Central Conference Championship, leading the Mavericks to two titles and a runner-up finish. She also was a four-time member of the All-NCC team and a member of the Academic All-NCC team in 2003. A native of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Hastmann owns the school record for best 72-hole score at 314, a mark shot during the 2005 NCAA Division II National Championship when she finished 17th overall. It was one of two career NCAA championship appearances she made. Walch earned a bachelor's degree in exercise science in 2006.

ANJA PUC TRACK

Anja Puc ran for the Omaha track & field team from 2007-2011, during which time she was a three-time national champion and eight-time All-American. She won the 800 meters indoors and outdoors in 2010 and was part of UNO's national championship 1,600-meter relay team in 2009. A native of Medvode, Slovenia, Puc also was the MIAA 800-meter champion indoors in 2010 and 2011 and a member of the MIAA champion 1,600-meter relay teams in 2009 and 2010. Outdoors, Puc was MIAA champion in the 800 meters in 2009 and 2010, the 1,500-meter champion in 2010, and a member of the champion 400-meter relay in 2009 and 1,600-meter relay in 2010. She was an All-MIAA performer 11 times, holds four school records and is part of two others. She earned UNO's Connie Claussen Senior Career Achievement Award in 2012. Puc earned a degree in international studies in 2012.

110 YEARS, FACTS & FIGURES

Right from its start, UNO began producing outstanding graduates. The university's first graduating class, the class of 1913, included Stanton Salisbury, later a rear admiral who oversaw all U.S. Navy chaplains during World War II. It also included Helen Hansen, who became one of the nation's foremost nursing experts. Year after year, Maverick alumni continued to make their mark on the world. They've served our country with valor, taught our children, entertained us on stage and screen, safeguarded our beautiful planet and its creatures, dazzled us with their athletic prowess, fed the hungry, gave water to the thirsty and healed the sick. Mavericks and the university they call home are amazing. In honor of UNO's 110th anniversary later this year, UNO magazine presents 110 amazing facts and figures about the university and Maverick graduates.



1 DOROTHY NOVOTNY

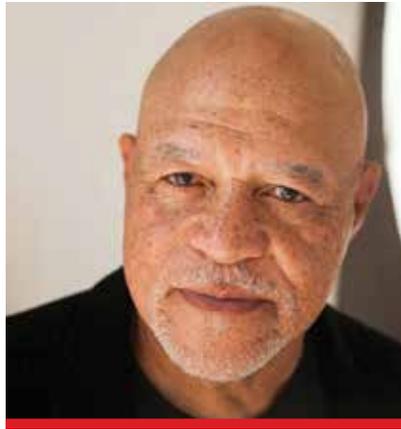
Not long after graduating from UNO in 1962, Dorothy Novotny began preparing herself for life "in the final frontier" — space. Her efforts were chronicled in a 1967 article she wrote for the American Journal of Nursing: "Suited for Space Life." In it, she recounted her experiences as one of the first two women to graduate from the U.S. Air Force's Aerospace Nursing Program. Training included jumps from a helicopter into the ocean, experiencing weightlessness in a C-130, time on a centrifuge and rides in simulated flights in the Gemini spacecraft. She never made it to space, but five years after her article Novotny was part of the NASA team that performed autopsies on the three astronauts who died in the Apollo 1 crash. She retired as a Lt. Col. in 1979.

2 HERB SKLENAR

If you're wondering why a landlocked Nebraska native would get a ship named in his honor, just take a look at the career of 1952 UNO graduate Herb Sklenar. In 2007, Vulcan Materials Company christened a cargo vessel the H.A. Sklenar in honor of the company's former chairman and CEO. Vulcan is the nation's largest producer of construction aggregate, asphalt, ready mix concrete, railroad ballast, and agricultural limestone. Its enormous ships transport the materials coast to coast — and the H.A. Sklenar became the largest in the fleet, capable of carrying 68,000 tons per load in its 2.6 million cubic feet of cargo space. Vulcan recruited Sklenar as vice president of finance in 1972. He rose steadily through the company ranks, becoming president in 1983, CEO in 1986, chairman in 1992 and chairman emeritus upon retirement in 1997.

3 ALFONSO LENHARDT

He may not have always been in uniform, but Alfonso Lenhardt has always served his country. A 1972 UNO graduate, Lenhardt began his distinguished career with the U.S. Army, in which he served 31 years before retiring as a major general. In 2001 Lenhardt was appointed the 36th Sergeant at Arms of the U.S. Senate, becoming the first African-American to hold that post, which is responsible for security to protect the Senate and more. Then President Obama came calling, nominating Lenhardt as U.S. Ambassador to Tanzania. Lenhardt served as ambassador from 2009 to 2013. In 2014 Lenhardt took another career turn, becoming deputy administrator then acting administrator of the Agency for International Development, which he served until retiring in 2015.



4 JOHN BEASLEY

While Marlin Briscoe made a name for himself playing on the gridiron's biggest stage as pro football's first black starting quarterback, buddy John Beasley made a name for himself ... on the stage itself. Both played for Omaha University under Coach Al Caniglia more than 50 years ago. Briscoe's story is well documented. Beasley's OU roots aren't so well known, though. He attended

OU from 1964 to 1968, during which time he was a member of the OU Reader's Theater. In 1967 he and the group staged "In White America," a play recounting the history of blacks in America from the time of slave ships to the civil rights struggle of the 1960s. Later he would play falsely accused Tom Robinson in an Omaha Community Playhouse production of "To Kill a Mockingbird." There also was a turn as a black boxer in a Center Stage production of "Great White Hope" based on the life of Jack Johnson. Beasley worked while acting, but eventually it became his full-time career. He went from stage to screen, starring in numerous TV shows ("CSI," "Everwood") and movies ("The Sum of All Fears," "The Mighty Ducks" and "Rudy"). In 2000 he founded the John Beasley Theater promoting works written by or featuring black playwrights and actors. Five years later UNO presented him with an honorary doctorate of humane letters. He currently stars as Mr. Dabney in the Fox series "Shots Fired."



5 ANDREW HOLYCROSS

No one can ever say Andrew Holycross takes the easy way out. Holycross in November 2013 became the third person ever to hike the length of the Grand Canyon on both sides of the Colorado River. Friends joined him in stretches during the entire 500-plus-mile hike of the north side, which he completed in a single trip, making him the ninth person to complete a through-hike there. The 1989 (BS) and 1993 (MA) UNO graduate had previously hiked sections of the south side. A biology professor at Mesa Community College in Phoenix, Holycross used the hikes to acquire firsthand knowledge of the geology and biology of the Grand Canyon. He has authored numerous scientific articles on amphibians and reptiles and is a co-author of "A Guide to Amphibians and Reptiles in Arizona." He currently is studying the threatened New Mexico Ridge-nosed Rattlesnake in Arizona's Peloncillo Mountains.



Photo: Joe Mixan

6 MAGDALENA GARCIA

Magdalena García is living proof that volunteering can change not just the lives of others, but that of the volunteer. García began her studies at UNO as a business major, taking classes part time while working full time for Northern Gas in a human resources post. After volunteering to help at Omaha's Joslyn Museum, though, she developed a passion for museums. She changed her major to fine arts, eventually earning a degree in that field in 1988. She later enrolled in Syracuse University's museum studies program, earning a master's degree with an emphasis in museum management in 1992. One year later she founded El Museo Latino, one of just 17 Latino museums in the country and the only one between Chicago and Denver. Occupying the former Polish Home cultural center in South Omaha, it has hosted several exhibits of national stature and is extensively involved in the community. An experienced dancer/choreographer in the tradition of Mexican folklórico dances, García also is founder and artistic director of the CHOMARI Ballet Folklórico Mexicano, a teen/young adult dance company performing since 1993.

7

FIVE PRIORITIES

UNO has five academic priority areas:

- STEM
- Early Childhood Education
- Sustainability
- Global Engagement
- Doctoral/Graduate Research

8

WILLIAM SHEARER

Plastic surgery might have a reputation for focus on self, but 1921 graduate William Shearer got into the business because of a focus on others. Shearer already was working as a dentist when he began taking classes at then-Omaha University. After earning his degree he became known throughout the world for the development of special procedures in the treatment of teeth and mouth disorders and for his cleft palate and cleft lip operations. He treated hundreds of children for cleft palates at the Immanuel Deaconess Institute hospital in Omaha and elsewhere. Shearer also conceived the idea of the Omaha Free Dental Dispensary for Children and was the prime force behind its establishment. He also wrote a semi-autobiographical book on the topic. Later, Shearer became a founder then a president of the American Association of Plastic Surgeons, the oldest plastic surgery organization in the world.



9 KRIS PARONTO

If you saw “13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi,” you saw 1999 UNO graduate Kris Paronto. Sort of. The 2016 movie by Director Michael Bay brought to life the real-life story of the Sept. 11, 2012, attack on a U.S. compound in Libya that resulted in the death of U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other Americans. Among the heroic security team members who fought their way out of Libya that day was Paronto. “Tanto” in the movie, he is portrayed by Pablo Schreiber. The movie is based on a book Paronto co-authored with his fellow security contractors in Benghazi: “13 Hours: The Inside Account of What Really Happened in Benghazi.” A U.S. Army Ranger before becoming a security contractor, Paronto more recently has authored “The Ranger Way: Living the Code On and Off the Battlefield.”



10 MARGUERITTE HARMON BRO

If nothing else, Margueritte Harmon Bro proved she had staying power. One of the first students to attend Omaha University in the 1910s, Bro became a pioneering and prolific female journalist in the first half of the 20th century and one of that era’s better known authors. Her wide-ranging output included articles for national magazines, plays, biographies and novels. Some of it touched on religion, like books “Every Day a Prayer” and “Why Church.” She also wrote about Asia. Bro spent some of her childhood in China as the daughter of a missionary (she spoke fluent Chinese) and in Jakarta, where her husband was cultural attaché to the U.S. Embassy. Those experiences prompted her 1954 book, “Indonesia: Land of Challenge.” Her biography subjects included Myrtle Walgreen, wife of the Walgreen’s founder. Bro was perhaps best known, however, as one of the country’s foremost young adult authors, most notably for “Sarah,” a coming of age story set around World War I. Originally published in 1949, it was republished in 2001, its impact still felt more than a half century after it was penned. Wrote one reviewer: “If you think there has been a dumbing down in contemporary young adult literature, the reissue of the 1949 American classic ‘Sarah’ by Margueritte Harmon Bro will confirm your convictions.”

11 THEY ARE THE FUTURE

The UNO Alumni Association through its Future Alum program has recognized more than 2,000 children born to alumni since the program’s start in 1991. Nearly three dozen of them have gone on to earn UNO degrees.



12 MARK STEELE

When you show off your work to former presidents, you’ve done good. And 1990 UNO graduate Mark Steele continues to do good every day. Steele was doing plenty good for himself after graduating, building an impressive career establishing Asia-Pacific operations for ITT, a leader in water and wastewater products and services. He eventually was named president of ITT China before becoming chief operating officer at Tele Atlas Asia-Pacific, a digital mapping subsidiary of TomTom. The experience that had the biggest impact on him, though, was leading ITT’s emergency response effort in Sri Lanka following the devastating 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, bringing water purification systems to the affected areas. During the response, he showed the company’s work to former Presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton. “I saw how important simple necessities, such as water, are to people,” Steele says. “For me, that was a life-changing moment. I wanted to go back and do more of that.” He did that, and then some. Over the next few years, Steele would develop his Aqua Tower — which can produce about 264 gallons of clean water per hour, enough to support the daily drinking habits of about 1,000 people. It can be installed in one day, is eco-friendly, and the simple-to-maintain filters can last from five to seven years. He also founded the nonprofit Planet Water Foundation, which today supports clean water for nearly 1 million people in disadvantaged communities in 12 countries.

13

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

More than 2,000 students live on campus across six unique housing complexes on UNO's Dodge and Scott campuses.

14

TERRY FORSBERG

If his voice sounds familiar, there's good reason — 1962 UNO graduate Terry Forsberg spent a half-century as a public address announcer for UNO Athletics, stepping to the mic for more than 1,000 games beginning with his first call his freshman year at Omaha University. That mostly meant football and men's basketball games, but also wrestling, baseball and a handful of women's basketball games. And never for a dime of pay. Forsberg's run began with the final football game of 1958, a 41-0 loss to Northern Illinois that capped a winless season. Forsberg then called basketball games that winter and was behind the mic for 50 years afterward. This while building an impressive career with stints as a news anchor at KMTV, as manager of the Civic Auditorium and as director of business affairs for Sound Trak, negotiating contracts, tours and dates for Mannheim Steamroller. But it was his time behind UNO's PA mic for which he was most known — and heard.

15

PINAR SAKA

Pinar Saka was accustomed to a big stage. A two-time national champion sprinter for the UNO track and field team, Saka was an eight-time All-American for the Mavericks, helping them to conference championships and top-five finishes in NCAA Championships. She also ran in European Championships and World Championships. But she performed on the biggest athletics stage of all in 2012 when she competed for her native Turkey at the Olympic Summer Games in London. And she made history doing so. Saka, a native of Istanbul, became the first woman from Turkey to compete in the 400 meters in the Olympics. She ran a time of 52.38, finishing 25th overall in a field where the top 24 advanced. Saka, who set the UNO indoor and outdoor 400 meters record in 2009 when she was named the nation's track athlete of the year, also ran the lead leg of Turkey's 4x400 meter relay, posting the fastest split among her teammates. Turkey finished last among the 16 teams in the preliminaries, but Saka's Olympics experience was good as gold. "The people's cheers, especially in the first 100 meters, made me feel like these people came there only for me," she said. She had the stage to herself.



16

BILLY MCGUIGAN

Audiences just love it when Billy McGuigan isn't feeling himself — and that's a good thing. A 1999 UNO graduate, McGuigan has made a career on stage playing others. That began in 2002 when McGuigan, a professional musician, used his guitar to channel the spirit and sound of the legendary Buddy Holly at the Omaha Community Playhouse. He's done so more than 2,000 times since in his own stage show, "Rave On! The Buddy Holly Experience," and more than 450 times in "The Buddy Holly Story." Next came the live-request hit "Yesterday and Today," which includes brothers Matthew and Ryan. The group plays Beatles songs at an audience member's request, meaning McGuigan and the band must know all 200-plus songs in the group's anthology. More recent is "Rock Twist," which features McGuigan as Frank Sinatra, Harry Connick Jr., Paul McCartney and others. The shows travel nationally, making McGuigan something of a household name in Omaha, as noted by the record-breaking crowd of 11,000 that came to see him during a 2016 "Jazz on the Green" performance.



17 ANDY DEHART

Photo: Aqua Cat Cruises, 2008

Going for a swim in the Bahamas? Fun. Swimming there with sharks? Not so much. Unless you're Andy Dehart, that is. A 2000 UNO graduate, Dehart boasts 20-plus years in animal husbandry at several major public aquariums throughout North America. He was part of the opening team as an aquarist at the Kingdom of the Seas Aquarium at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo, worked for the National Aquarium in both Baltimore and Washington, D.C., and helped build and open Toronto's Ripley's Aquarium of Canada. Today he's vice president of animal husbandry at the Patricia and Phillip Frost Museum of Science in Miami, Florida. But it's his time with sharks that often piques interest. Dehart's knowledge of sharks has led him to serve as Shark Advisor for the Discovery Channel, for which he's been featured in seven Shark Week productions. He's also appeared on the "Today Show," "NBC Nightly News," "Larry King Live," "The O'Reilly Factor" and other shows. Sometimes, his knowledge comes firsthand. Like it did in 2007 when Dehart dipped into the Bahamanian waters to test a theory that sharks there were attacking boogie and surfboarders while mistaking them for prey. The sharks swam past him. And Dehart keeps making waves.

18 MIKE HOMAN

Mike Homan is no dummy, and he's helped numerous others become the same about the Bible — and beer. A 1993 UNO graduate, Homan is a professor of theology focusing on the Hebrew Bible at Xavier University of Louisiana. Thus the 2002 book he co-wrote with Jeffrey Geoghegan, "The Bible for Dummies." With Geoghegan and Robert Mullins Homan he also wrote "Over, Under, and Through the Bible: An Archaeological, Historical, and Satellite Atlas," and "To Your Tents, O Israel!: The Terminology, Function, Form, and Symbolism of Tents in the Hebrew Bible and the Ancient Near East." But thanks to his studies at UNO, Homan also is known for connecting the bible and ... beer. Interest in that began when he worked at the Bethsaida Excavations Project while a student. "Most of the artifacts, such as ceramics, stone vessels and animal bones were all connected to food production and consumption," he said in a UNO Magazine article. "Excavating these people's houses made me curious about their daily lives. While working on my doctorate on the history of ancient Israel it was clear that wine and beer played major roles in all ancient Near Eastern civilizations." And so he's also published several articles about beer and its influence on the Bible and ancient Israel. Now he's expanding his research and working on a book about the role of alcohol in the Abrahamic Faiths — Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

19

MAVS MARRIED TO MAVS

There are 9,118 living UNO alumni married to fellow UNO alumni, making for 4,559 couples.



20

GETTING THEIR START AS MAVERICKS

UNO has enrolled more first-year students and graduated record numbers of students in each of the last three years.



21

MIKE MORAN

In stadiums around the world, from Sarajevo to Seoul, Mike Moran was witness to some of the most iconic moments of nearly a dozen Olympic Games — from the highs to the lows. There was the “Miracle on Ice” when the U.S. hockey team upset the Soviets in Lake Placid, perhaps the pinnacle of American Olympic achievement. Then there was the Tonya Harding-Nancy Kerrigan Affair, “One of the lowest Olympic experiences I’ve ever had,” Moran once said. The 1966 UNO graduate watched it all — and sometimes managed it — as chief spokesman for the United States Olympic Committee from 1978-2003. His Olympic posts came after time as sports information director at UNO, then the University of Colorado. He’s still active in the field, today as senior media consultant for the Colorado Springs Sports Corporation.

22 ALFRED EGGERS

One of UNO's brightest graduates ever, Alfred Eggers made his mark in the space above the skies. It turns out his legacy might include the skies, too. A 1944 University of Omaha graduate, Eggers was part of the early NASA brain trust that turned space travel from science fiction into reality. The Omaha native pioneered research on atmospheric re-entry, making possible the return of astronauts in spacecraft from Mercury capsules to space shuttles. His contributions came as chief of the Supersonic Wind Tunnel Branch of the Ames Aeronautical Laboratory. He conceived of and constructed a simulator that accurately replicated the motions and aerodynamic heating of missiles subjected to speeds of 13,000 mph. That helped Eggers and the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA – NASA's precursor) to the crucial discovery that spacecraft could avoid burning up during re-entry by sporting rounded noses. (The front of space shuttles look the way they do thanks in large part to Eggers). Eggers in 1964 was named NASA's deputy associate administrator for advanced research and technology. In 1968 he became the space agency's assistant administrator for policy. He left NASA in 1971 to become assistant director for research applications at the National Science Foundation, a post he held until 1977. He also held a professorship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1977 Eggers was presented the President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service, the federal government's highest honor for civilian employees. After leaving the NSF, Eggers devoted himself to developing alternative sources of energy, especially wind power, with his own company, Research Applied to National Needs. He worked with RANN from 1977 until shortly before his death in 2006 in Atherton, California. "My dad was an exceptional figure," says son Phil Eggers. "The NASA stuff gets all the press, but I believe his work in alternative energy is more prescient." That view was echoed in an email from Dr. Glenn E. Bugos of the NASA Ames History Office in Moffett Field, California. "While I don't think his legacy in hypersonic entry vehicles will be surpassed," Bugos wrote, "his son is right in that his work on very large wind turbines in the 1970s gets more and more appreciation as wind energy grows in importance."

23 JIM SHAW

It should come as no surprise that 1979 UNO graduate Jim Shaw has emerged as one of Nebraska's most notable vintners. He's been at the game for some time – even when he shouldn't have been. When he was just 13, Shaw whipped up a batch of apple wine, buying five one-gallon jugs of apple cider and letting it ferment in his bedroom. "My mom found it in the closet and she busted me," he recalls with a laugh. Another time, Shaw found mulberries in nearby woods mashed them and let them ferment in a Coke bottle with a balloon on top. Not vintage, perhaps, but wine nonetheless. These days, Shaw produces award-winning wines – and now brews – as owner of Soaring Wings Vineyard & Brewing. The venture follows Shaw's seven years as a pilot with the U.S. Air Force and 17 with Delta Airlines. He began Soaring Wings in Springfield, Nebraska, with his wife, Sharon, in 2001. The winery produced 11 medals the first year its wines were uncorked. In 2011 Shaw began brewing beer. Today Soaring Wings Vineyard & Brewing offers 22 wines and nine brews.

24

SPACE FOR STRAUSS

The Strauss Performing Arts Center currently is undergoing a significant renovation and addition of 25,000 square feet of space.



JENA JANOVY

25 26

JENA JANOVY AND ELIZABETH MERRILL

UNO has had plenty of its former students make news in the sporting world, but it's hard to find any who do a better job reporting it than Jena Janovy and Elizabeth Merrill. And both do so for sports giant ESPN. Janovy, a 1988 grad, works at the network's home office in Bristol, Conn. Merrill, who worked on the Gateway in the early 1990s, now lives in Omaha, but travels extensively for the network. Both received a wealth of reporting experience at the Omaha World-Herald before moving on to other news outlets and eventually to ESPN. Janovy joined ESPN in 2006 and now is senior deputy editor for enterprise and digital innovation for digital and print media. She plans, assigns, edits and produces online stories and long-form, cross-platform features (3,000- to 10,000 words) in collaboration with network brands "Outside the Lines," "E:60" and ESPN The Magazine. She's won two Sports Emmys and been nominated for four additional Sports Emmys for her work as a coordinating producer. Janovy helped bring Merrill to ESPN in 2007. The two had worked together at the World-Herald in the 1990s. Merrill had been working at the Kansas City Star covering the Chiefs when the ESPN offer came. A Star editor advised her that working for a website sounded risky. She's glad she didn't take the warning. "There are a few places left that are committed to find the best stories," she says.



27 FROSTY WESTERING

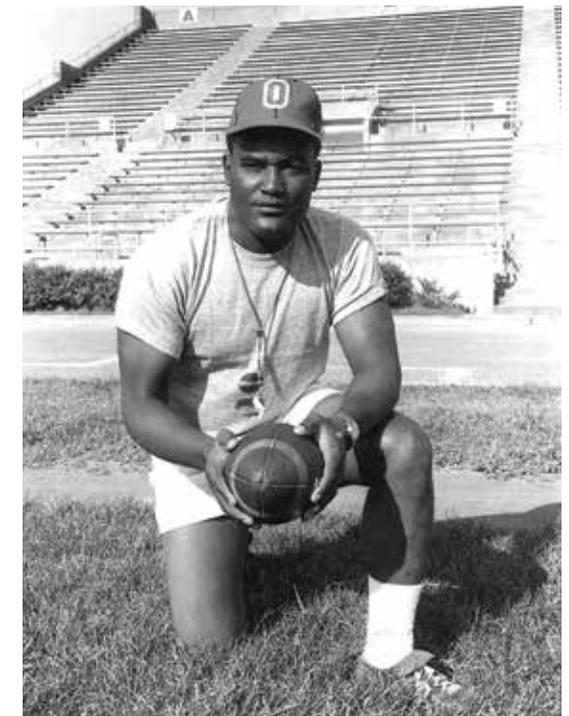
Frosty Westering got one more win even after retiring. A 1952 graduate who played football for then-Omaha University, Westering in 2005 was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame. That came less than two years after he retired as head football coach at Pacific Lutheran University — with 305 wins, ninth most then among coaches at all levels. It included an NAIA-record 256 wins. All those were tallied during a 40-year career, 32 at PLU. He also won four national titles with the university.

FIRST IN LINE

Nearly half of all students at UNO are among the first in their families to go to college.

29 DON BENNING

For someone who sometimes had to be last in line, Don Benning built a heck of a career being first. In 1963 Benning was hired as Omaha University's wrestling coach, becoming what is believed to be the first black coach at a predominantly white university. He was OU's first black full-time faculty member. And he was the first coach — black or white — to win a national championship at UNO. It wasn't always that way. Benning was a three-sport star at Omaha North High School but because he was black, didn't have the opportunities he should have. He played for OU, but not without concern by some that if the team were bowl-eligible it wouldn't get selected because Benning was on the roster. That's no exaggeration; when playing New Mexico State in El Paso, Benning and two black teammates had to stay in segregated lodging away from the team. Benning persevered. He became one of the school's greatest athletes, then one of its greatest coaches, leading UNO to the 1970 NAIA wrestling national championship. Later, he would have a long career with Omaha Public Schools, including time as an administrator. He passed away in 2017.



30

MANY MAVS

As of January 2018, UNO has nearly 110,000 living alumni.

31 BRIAN HAALAND

Hockey to auto racing isn't exactly the typical transition made by most NASCAR employees. But former Maverick hockey player Brian Haaland made the switch look easy. Turns out the 2003 UNO graduate's four years in the net served him well in the pits. Haaland broke into auto racing soon after graduating thanks to a connection through Dr. Jack Stark, an Omaha psychologist who then worked with the UNO hockey team — and Hendrick Motorsports. Haaland got a job in the pit crews, eventually serving Kyle Busch. He also became a strength coach for Hendrick pit crews and drivers. Today he's a head coach for Penske Racing's NASCAR Nationwide Series pit crews. He still has his hands in hockey, too, as owner of Old School Goal School, a training center for goaltenders.



32

GERALD E. MCILMOYLE

Photo: Matt Houston

It's often said that civilization as we know it almost came to an end on Oct. 27, 1962. After almost two weeks of confrontation between the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union, the world seemed to be on the brink of a nuclear war. The impasse would come to be known as the Cuban missile crisis — and UNO graduate Gerald E. McIlmoyle was in the thick of it. McIlmoyle, who would earn a BGS in military science from UNO, was one of only a few U-2 spy plane pilots flying over Cuba during a 13-day period in October 1962. Their mission: to provide photographic confirmation that the Soviets were installing nuclear missiles on the island. Eventually, negotiations led to a peaceful outcome. One month after the crisis, McIlmoyle, a distinguished fighter pilot during the Korean War, found himself giving President John F. Kennedy a private tour of a U-2 at Homestead Air Force Base in Florida. JFK told him the photos were crucial to the peaceful outcome.



33

ANNUNCIATA GARROTTO

Some knew her only as Cio-Cio San, but 1928 Omaha University graduate Annunciata Garrotto made a real name for herself throughout the 1930s, '40s and '50s as an international opera sensation. A Melbourne, Australia, reviewer called her, "a great favorite ... singing all luscious and ringing, flexible and excellently phrased." A Caracas, Venezuela, performance of "La Boheme" earned this recounting, "... her hearers will never forget her grand voice and exceptional art." In New York City, her turn in "Madame Butterfly" was described as "... an admixture of youthful timidity and coyness superimposed upon subtle tragedy, delightfully sung and dramatically convincing ... a gifted artist." Often eliciting such acclamation was Garrotto's portrayal of "Madame Butterfly's" tragic Cio-Cio San, which she performed more than 500 times during a quarter-century career. She also appeared more than 300 times in "La Traviata," one of 31 operas in her repertoire. The only child of Sicilian immigrants, "Nunce" Garrotto was born into a

home resounding with arias. Her parents were typical of the early 1900 Italians, Garrotto said in a 1990 UNO Alum magazine article. "They all loved opera." Her father, Alfio Garrotto, turned a downtown Omaha fruit stand into a grocery store on north 16th street. And he had big plans for his only child. "I knew from the day I was born that I would go to college. She enrolled at Omaha University in the mid-1920s, a time when trolleys took students to the original campus at 24th and Pratt streets. She studied languages and music. Fellow students often were treated to Garrotto's impromptu performances. "I would sing at lunch hour ... all the popular songs," Garrotto says, "I was a showoff." She graduated at 20 years old with a fine arts degree. After graduation she traveled to Italy with her mother, Concetta, to study singing. Within a year she was debuting in "La Boheme" outside Milan, Italy, launching a career that took her around the world.



Photo: CrossFit, Inc. All rights reserved.

34 KYLE KASPERBAUER

Talk about putting your degree to good use. Twelve years after earning a BS in exercise physiology from UNO in exercise physiology, Kyle Kasperbauer earned a CrossFit Games championship in 2017, winning the first-ever Masters Series for men ages 35-39. The championship continued Kasperbauer's impressive career at the CrossFit games, high-profile competition for a popular fitness method — moving large loads, long distances, quickly. The former All-American running back for the Mavericks has been a mainstay at the CrossFit Games since 2009, most notably earning the title 3rd Fittest Man on Earth in 2012. He is currently one of just four male athletes to have been to the Games six consecutive years. He also has the distinction of being the only CrossFit Games athlete to have stood on the podium as an individual, team and Masters competitor. Kasperbauer, who also earned an MA in sports medicine athletic training from UNO, is helping others do the same as a coach at CrossFit Kinesis in Gretna, Nebraska.

35 THAT'S HALF A BILLION

More than \$500 million has been invested in UNO facilities projects over the last decade.

36 SAYING I DO

More than 1,400 couples have been married or celebrated their wedding at the Thompson Alumni Center since it opened in 1980



37 JOHNNIE WILSON

It's a long way from buck private to four-star general. Even longer when you're black. But 1973 UNO graduate Johnnie Wilson made it every step of the way. Wilson in 1996 became just the third black four-star general in the U.S. Army's 223-year history, becoming so by nomination of President Bill Clinton. With his fourth star he took command of Army Materiel Command, responsible for providing supplies and equipment to troops around the world. Wilson began his career in 1961 as a 17-year-old enlisted soldier. Earning his degree at UNO, where he was a member of the student council and president of the Pen and Sword Society, enabled him to become an officer. The highly decorated Vietnam veteran held three company commands during his Army career, including time at the Pentagon and with the 21st Theater Army Area in Europe. He retired from the Army in 1999.

38 JASON GRAY

If someone is getting blown up, stabbed, shot or falling from a building, there's a chance you're getting a look at the work of 1995 UNO graduate Jason Gray. A longtime Hollywood stuntman, Gray has a long chain of movie and TV credits to his name. Ironically, his studies at UNO had prepared him for a life behind the camera. Gray attended UNO after four years in the Air Force, which left him at Offutt Air Force Base at the time of his discharge. He studied broadcast journalism. "I wanted to be a cameraman or an assistant director," he said in a UNO Alum magazine article. He also worked for KYNE-TV. Coworkers, though, were leaving for Florida and jobs with Universal Studios, which had just opened in Orlando. Gray followed suit and got a job ... in merchandising. He eventually would audition for the Indiana Jones Epic Stunt Spectacular and win the lead. Then came time learning the craft with Stunt Dynamics, a move to California, and gigs on TV and in movies. In 2011 he was among a group of stuntmen that won a Screen Actors Guild award for Outstanding Performance by a Stunt Ensemble in a Television Series (for "True Blood"). Gray's work continues at age 54 as a performer, rigger and coordinator and with credits in recent efforts including "Westworld," "Fear the Walking Dead," "Captain America: The Winter Soldier" and more.



39

TEACHING THE TEACHERS

Two out of three teachers in the Omaha metro area have a degree from UNO.



DICK HOLLAND

Photo: Eric Francis Photography

40 41 JOHN AND DICK HOLLAND

This much is clear: Hollands make headlines. A longtime Omaha family, the Hollands have deep ties to UNO. Father Lewis Holland in 1924 was an assembly speaker at the university and four of his children would earn UNO degrees: William (1938), John (1942), Jean (1946) and Dick (1948). John and Dick, though, would springboard those degrees to greatness. John Holland, a leading career development researcher and professor at Johns Hopkins University, was one of the earliest and major theorists in the area of career development. His Self-Directed Search, an interest inventory designed to help people make career

and education choices, has been used by more than 22 million people and translated into 25 languages. He was awarded the prestigious American Psychological Association award for Distinguished Contributions to Knowledge and the American Psychological Association's Lifetime Award. Dick, meanwhile, established a long and distinguished career as an Omaha advertising agency executive. He and his wife, Mary, established the Holland Foundation and were generous supporters of UNO and elsewhere, including the Holland Performing Arts Center.



42 KARRIN ALLYSON

Yes, Karrin Allyson was a Tomboy. A member of the early 1980s Omaha rock band, that is. Back in the day, all-girl Tomboy with lead-singer Allyson made quite a name for itself on the local music scene. “We were even voted the most popular band in Omaha at one time and shot a video,” Allyson once recalled. That was while she was still taking classes at UNO. She also formed a jazz ensemble during those days and performed at local pubs including the Howard Street Tavern. Then came a weekend gig at M’s Pub — just her and a piano. Granted, that made for some rough mornings. “I’d be playing in clubs and bars at night and have to make it to Music Theory class at eight in the morning.” It was while performing at M’s, however, that Allyson decided music would be her future. “I realized that I could make a living doing something that was so thrilling and gratifying to me.” She’s still at it — and perhaps better than ever. Today Allyson is an international jazz star with more than a dozen albums to her name and five Grammy nominations, most recently in 2016 for jazz vocal album of the year. The 1987 UNO graduate lives in New York City but performs throughout the U.S., Europe, Canada, Australia, Brazil, Japan and beyond.

43

UNO’S FIRST HOME

UNO’s first campus was located at 24th and Pratt, which today is across the street from Omaha Public Schools’ King Science Center.

44

HOWARD HAWKS

It’s probably an understatement to say that Howard Hawks has put his UNO master of business administration degree to good use. A 1971 UNO graduate, Hawks in 1987 co-founded Tenaska, today one of the largest private, independent energy companies in the United States. Hawks is chairman and CEO, continuing a career that began in the energy field with InterNorth (later Enron) in 1966. Over the years he was president of three Enron subsidiary groups, Northern Plains Natural Gas Co., Northern Liquid Fuels Group and Northern Natural Resources and Enron Development. The company started small but is anything but now. It is headquartered in Omaha and includes seven regional office. Forbes Magazine ranks it as among the top 50 privately held companies in the United States. Hawks has been a generous supporter of the University of Nebraska system in time, talent and treasure. That includes a current 16-year run as a University of Nebraska Board of Regent with two terms as chairman.



45 MARLIN BRISCOE

It only took Marlin Briscoe five months after graduating from the University of Omaha to make his mark on the world — the professional football world, that is. On Oct. 6, 1968, Briscoe started at quarterback for the Denver Broncos in a game against Cincinnati, becoming the first black starting quarterback in professional football. And Briscoe showed that not only could a black quarterback play, he could excel. In an outstanding rookie season he set numerous Broncos records, several of which still stand (better, even, than Hall of Famer John Elway's marks). That would be Briscoe's only season in Denver, though. He played receiver in Buffalo from 1969 to 1971, leading the AFC in receptions in 1970 and earning All-Pro status. He then put in three years with Miami, winning two Super Bowl rings and playing on the 1972 Dolphin squad that went 17-0, the only NFL team ever to go undefeated. Briscoe finished his pro career at New England and left the NFL after playing nine years. He later fell on hard times but put his life in order and now is celebrated frequently for his historic feat (even appearing in a Nike commercial). A movie on his life is in development.



46 GARY JOHNSON

Gary Johnson headed to California intent on writing the Great American Novel. Instead, he built an award-winning career writing the Great American Game Show. A 1967 UNO graduate, Johnson won nine Emmy awards during his career writing and producing an assortment of television game shows, including a 14-year run with "Jeopardy!" His extensive association with network game shows began in 1970 shortly after he and his wife, fellow UNO graduate Michele Vaughn (1968) moved to Venice, California. That same year he began writing for "Hollywood Squares," for which he won a 1974 Emmy for "Best Writing for a Game Show." Johnson later wrote for and/or produced other game shows, including NBC's "Scrabble," PBS' "Think Twice" and the Family Channel's "Jumble," "Boggle" and "Shuffle." He also was head writer and producer and appeared on-air for Dick Clark's syndicated game show "The Challengers." Johnson's longest tenure, though, was with "Jeopardy!," where he began in 1997. Michele was one of the show's original writers when it debuted in 1984 and wrote for "Jeopardy!" at various times over seven years (she received an Emmy for "Outstanding Achievement in Writing — Special Class" for the show's 1990-91 season). Gary Johnson eventually became head writer and supervising producer for "Jeopardy!" He was nominated for 20 Emmy awards with the show and won eight before retiring in 2011. He finally got around to that novel, too, publishing "Zipper" in 2014 and "Head Trauma," a collection of poems and sonnets.



Photo: Bryce Bridges, 2008

47 MITCH CARL

There's not an ocean in sight from his Omaha home and workplace, but that hasn't stopped 1996 UNO graduate Mitch Carl from becoming an international expert in saving coral reefs. Carl's regular gig is as curator of aquatics at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium, where he's worked since 1997. He's also on the aquarium advisory board and carries out research for SCORE (SExual CORal REproduction), an organization dedicated to saving coral around the world. That's taken Carl to places throughout the Caribbean like the small island of Eluethra working to reverse the decline of Bahamian coral reefs. He's also in demand to present at workshops and to teach others the secrets of his success reintroducing coral. His work is critical as disease and pollution accompanied by Caribbean hurricanes have put many coral on the endangered species list. They're worth saving, Carl says, because coral reefs provide a barrier to the sea's buffeting waves and offer a protective environment for many marine species.



48 PAUL CRITCHLOW

Lots of UNO students take on internships. Graduates? Not so much. But who's ever heard of a 70 year-old graduate intern? Well, there's Paul Critchlow. A 1971 UNO graduate, Critchlow in 2016 made news as a summer intern at the Manhattan headquarters of one of the world's largest pharmaceutical companies, Pfizer. "It was like being the new kid at school," Critchlow says. "I was worried. It was a whole new experience." Just another one, that is, in a long and impressive career. Critchlow had retired prior to his Pfizer stint

following a long career at Merrill Lynch, where he had risen to senior vice president of communications. He was the voice of Merrill Lynch as that firm vacated its New York City offices following the 9/11 attacks. Critchlow's résumé also includes a stint as press secretary for Pennsylvania Governor Dick Thornburgh during the nation's worst nuclear accident, Three Mile Island. That he became an expert in crisis communications shouldn't come as a surprise given how he entered the field. A Vietnam War veteran, Critchlow was wounded

on Aug. 19, 1969, the same day Boston Globe photographer Oliver Noonan was killed while covering the war. "It intrigued me that a civilian would risk his life for his job," Critchlow says. "I came back to UNO and switched from English to journalism." He's still at it today having begun a strategic consulting company following his Pfizer internship. "The whole thing re-invigorated me. It gave me a sense that I could still be relevant."



49 RUDY HALUZA

If those who saw Rudy Haluza on campus in the 1960s thought he always was in a hurry to get somewhere, he was — to the Olympics. A 1966 OU grad, Haluza was one of the nation's top race walkers ever. In 1964 he broke a 45-year-old national record when he covered seven miles and 1,614 yards in one hour, topping the 1918 record of seven miles, 1,450 yds. He previously had competed in the 1960 Rome Olympics but became ill and finished just 24th. He fared much better in the 1968 Mexico City Olympics, placing fourth, still the highest Olympic finish ever by an American race walker.

50

GETTING AN EARLY START

UNO is home to the University of Nebraska's Buffett Early Childhood Institute, which brings together experts to improve early childhood education and development.

51

MIKE HILL

If you've ever watched a Ron Howard film, you're most likely watching the work of 1972 UNO grad Mike Hill. A film editor, Hill worked almost exclusively with Howard during a long Hollywood career, from their first film together, "Night Shift" in 1982, until their final collaboration, "In the Heart of the Sea" in 2015. In 1996 Hill received an Academy Award for editing on Howard's blockbuster "Apollo 13." It was a somewhat unexpected career for Hill, who while at UNO had a part-time job splicing TV commercials onto reels at WOWT. But his degree was in criminal justice, and his first job was as a guard at Chino State Prison in California. But Hill left that position and one year later took an entry level job with the film editors guild, his break into the motion picture industry. He worked on a number of different television programs and a few films before starting his association with Howard. The duo would work on 21 films together before Hill's recent retirement.

52

STANDING TALL

At 168 feet, UNO's iconic Henningson Memorial Campanile is not just the tallest structure on campus but one of the tallest university clock towers in the world.



53

LISA RENSTROM

Lisa Renstrom might not have literally walked in the footsteps of legendary conservationist John Muir, but she certainly followed his path. A 1982 UNO graduate, Renstrom in 2005 was elected the 51st president of the Sierra Club, founded in by Muir in 1892 and now the nation's largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization. Among her initiatives during her term was spearheading the Sierra Summit, then the largest gathering of Sierra members in the club's 114-year history. Today she is chair of the board of Confluence Philanthropy, which advances mission-aligned investing.

54

ROYCE BROWN

He doesn't have the name recognition of Marlin "The Magician" Briscoe, Joe "Lupe" Arenas or Greg "The Leg" Zuerlein, but before any of those UNO graduates made their living playing football there was Royce "Jug" Brown, the university's first professional athlete. Brown played four years at Omaha University, calling signals as a fullback, making a third of the tackles on defense and punting. After graduating in 1938 he joined the Cincinnati Bengals, an independent team with no connection to the current NFL Bengals. With Brown, Cincinnati played three NFL squads that year and beat them all, including George Halas' Chicago Bears, while finishing 7-2-1. Bob Nead, assistant Bengals manager, wrote the World-Herald with high praise of Brown. "Royce won his position against tremendous odds, as three highly-touted backs were trying for his position. Brown's attitude is very fine, he is well liked by teammates and is regarded as an Adonis by our feminine fans." It would be Brown's only year in pro football, though. He returned home and went to work for Swift & Co. "It's a great life, but there's no future in professional football," Brown said. "I think I'll string along with the meat packing business."

Miss Galloway is Graduating Class at Omaha University

Next in importance to the founding of the University of Omaha will be the first graduating exercises which will be held Tuesday evening.

On this occasion, Miss Galloway will receive her bachelor of arts. Although she will form the nucleus of the future alumni, she will not be the only one to receive her degree. In both of these classes, the future alumni will be the first to receive their degrees.

In both of these classes, the future alumni will be the first to receive their degrees. In both of these classes, the future alumni will be the first to receive their degrees.

Last year this was the biggest event of the school year and attracted attention throughout the city, because of the exceptionally good work of all the contestants. This year there will be five from each class and, because of this, much interest is being taken. The participants will be: Freshmen, Katherine Cline, Mary Alice Howell, Mabel Hamilton, Anne Roberts and Robert Strohmer. Sophomores, Marguerite Walker, Gladys Solomon, Marie Erwin, Rhea Lamoreaux and Harry Jerome.

Both the graduating exercises and the oratorical contest will be held in the gymnasium.



MISS CLAUDIA GALLOWAY.



55

56

CLAUDIA GALLOWAY AND HARRY JEROME

Omaha University didn't have its first graduating class until 1913, but by then already had two graduates. How so? Claudia Galloway became the university's first graduate in June 1911 — as a class of one. Harry Jerome followed suit as a class of one in 1912. They are the university's first female and male graduates. Galloway was a transfer student to OU, earning a BA. She went on to teach Latin at Omaha High (now Central High School). Jerome later earned a doctorate from the University of Wisconsin, worked for the National Bureau of Economic Research, then joined the Wisconsin faculty as an economics professor. His textbook "Statistical Method" was widely used in teaching elementary statistics.

57

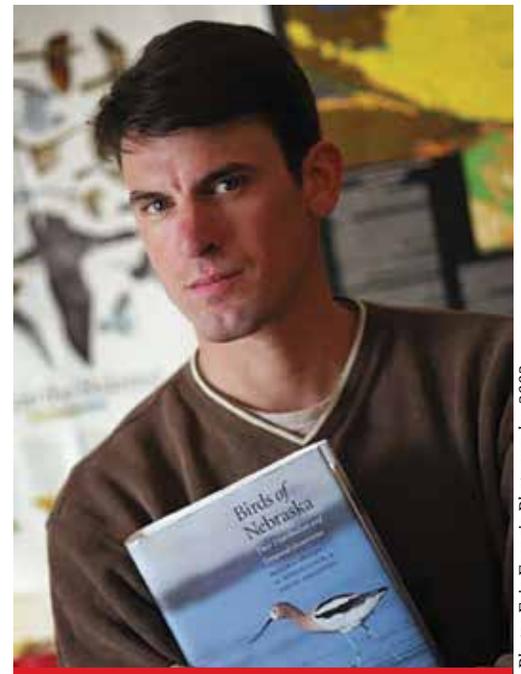
DOMINICK POLIFRONE

By many accounts, Richard Kuklinski was a loving husband and doting father. Elsewhere he was known as "The Iceman," a contract killer who chopped his victims into pieces and stuffed them into ice boxes. He was brought to justice in 1986 in a federal sting operation, thanks in large measure to the brave undercover efforts of 1970 UNO graduate Dominick Polifrone, a special agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. By then, Polifrone already was a standout with the agency. He was its first field agent to win the Treasury Department's Gold Medallion, presented for undercover work that led to 45 arrests from five organized crime families. He nailed many a wise guy, including John Gotti's kid brother, Vinny. The former standout football player at UNO even went undercover on a Sinatra movie location to bust a drug dealer working on the crew. His best work, though, might have come bringing the Iceman to justice. Polifrone spent 18 months posing as a "bad guy" while secretly recording Kuklinski at various times. It was enough to send Kuklinski to jail, where Kuklinski died in 2006. The story is documented by Anthony Bruno in the chilling book, "The Iceman," is the subject of an HBO documentary, and in 2012 was presented as a movie, "The Iceman," featuring Ray Liotta, Michael Shannon, Winona Ryder and Jay Giannone as Polifrone.

58

STERLING SERVICE

UNO students, faculty, and staff engage in more than a dozen days of service each year, contributing thousands of hours of labor to nonprofits and community organizations in the Omaha Metro area.



59

JOEL JORGENSEN

His career is for the birds — and few are better at it than Joel Jorgensen. A 1997 (BS) and 2007 (MS) UNO biology graduate, Jorgensen is the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission's program manager of nongame birds, the 400 or so species that are not hunted, including the Whooping Crane, Bald Eagle and Peregrine Falcon. Jorgensen has been in the post for eight years, working on an array of monitoring, research, regulatory and conservation issues. But he's been birding since he was a child, continuing that passion at UNO and turning a hobby into a career. In 2001 Jorgensen with former UNO biology professor Roger Sharpe and W. Ross Silcock co-wrote "Birds of Nebraska: Their Distribution and Temporal Occurrence." The 520-page tome is a birder's "All You Ever Really Wanted to Know" anthology, chronicling the 450 species of birds known to have made an appearance in the state.



Photo: Joe Mixan, 2004

60

COMMUNITY SPACE

The Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center, a first-of-its-kind community resource space, has contributed the equivalent of more than \$7.2 million in meeting space, office space and IT services for the more than 750 community groups and organizations who have used the building since it opened in 2014

61 STEVE NOVOTNY

Amid the scandal of prisoner abuse in Abu Ghraib during Operation Iraqi Freedom, 1986 UNO graduate Steve Novotny shined as an example of the right way to do things. Under Saddam Hussein, Abu Ghraib was a house of horrors where criminals and opponents were executed and tortured. The U.S. Army's 372nd Military Police Company took command of the prison after Operation Iraqi Freedom forces drove off Hussein's army. Sadly, abuse in the prison continued — by U.S. forces. Criminal charges were filed against seven soldiers who abused prisoners there between October and December of 2003. All seven were reservists in the 372nd, one of eight battalions within the 800th Military Police Brigade that operated 12 U.S. prisons and detention camps across Iraq. The brigade included the Omaha-based 530th MP Battalion commanded by Novotny, a lieutenant colonel with the U.S. Army Reserve. But when Congressional investigations into Abu Ghraib commenced in the spring of 2004, not only did none of the blame fall on Novotny's shoulders, but the Nebraska native was praised for his command at one of the detention facilities, Camp Ashraf. Virginia Congressman Ed Schrock singled the Nebraskan out as "One battalion commander who did his job very well in the detention business, better than anyone else. I think we ought to thank him for that." Military officers, lawmakers and aides broke into applause. That didn't mean Novotny's command was easy. Camp Ashraf, about 45 miles northeast of Baghdad, was filled not with Iraqis, but Iranians. Specifically, the People's Mujahedin Of Iran (PMOI), a militant, Marxist-Islamist organization founded in the 1960s and listed by the U.S. State Department as a terrorist group. Expelled from Iran, PMOI found sanctuary in Iraq with Hussein providing financing and weapons as the PMOI fought against fellow countrymen during the Iraq-Iran war. Novotny, who also served six months during Desert Storm as a captain with the 403rd military police company, a unit he had joined following a 12-year active duty career, assumed command of Camp Ashraf in June 2003. He oversaw up to 800 reserve, active duty and national guard troops who processed PMOI members into a terrorist database via fingerprinting, palm printing, DNA collection and retinal scans. His command ended in February 2004. A few months later, he was testifying about abuses committed by fellow servicemen. He abhors the abuses and how it tainted the "thousands who worked there honorably." Novotny not least among them.



62 LAURIE FULTON

You know you're a big deal when the Queen wants to see you. Such was the case for 1971 UNO graduate Laurie Fulton when she was sworn in as U.S. Ambassador to Denmark in July 2009 — followed one month later by presentation of her credentials to Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II. Other dignitaries would follow. Months later Fulton welcomed a U.S. delegation that included first lady Michelle Obama and Oprah. Then came visits by President Barack Obama when Denmark hosted the United Nations Climate Change Conference. Fulton came to the ambassadorship after a distinguished career with high-powered Washington law firm Williams & Connolly, where she specialized in antitrust, mass tort, white-collar criminal

defense and product liability litigation. In 2004 she was named one of "Washington's Top Lawyers" by Washingtonian magazine. President Obama's nomination of her to the Denmark ambassadorship continued Fulton's long-standing ties to Denmark. Her maternal grandfather immigrated to the United States from Denmark in 1910 and her great-grandfather served in the Danish parliament from 1918 until 1940. Fulton relinquished her term as ambassador in February 2013 and retired from Williams & Connolly in 2014. Today she serves organizations including Meridian Board of Trustees and the National Democratic Institute.



63 DAVE DITTMER

Dave Dittmer's first ride as a nuclear submarine commander had a familiar name to it — the USS Nebraska. Dittmer was given the command in 1999, just three years after he had earned his master's degree at UNO. One of the largest nuclear submarines in the U.S. Navy, it's as long as Woodmen of the World building is tall, weighs 18,000 tons and houses a 160-person crew, including 15 officers. Dittmer oversaw them all until his command ended in 2002. "The best possibility when you enter the Naval Academy is to be in command at sea," he said. Dittmer later served as a NATO deputy commander leading submarine planning and operations in the Eastern Atlantic and Northern European regions. He also coordinated NATO submarine rescue efforts. Today he is a subdivision manager with Bechtel Marine Propulsion Corporation.

64

CYBERSECURITY

UNO's cybersecurity program is one of fewer than a dozen in the country to have National Security Agency designation as a Center of Academic Excellence in cybersecurity operations and cybersecurity defense.

65 GUNTER KAHN

Thanks to a happy accident discovered in part by 1954 UNO graduate Gunter Kahn, the follicly challenged have something to smile about. In 1971, Kahn, then a doctor and faculty member at the medical school of the University of Colorado in Denver, discovered with fellow researcher Dr. Paul Grant that patients receiving the drug minoxidil orally to treat hypertension were growing hair — and lots of it. The two developed a topical solution, earning a patent for it in 1974. That didn't sit well with pharmaceutical giant Upjohn, which had patented minoxidil three years earlier as a hypertension treatment. In 1988, Upjohn began the manufacture and sale of the product, today known as Rogaine. The company also settled with Kahn and Grant for more than \$26 million in royalties. Kahn, who died in 2014, spent much of the rest of his life using the money to do good. He was a major benefactor to numerous institutions, including UNMC and UNO, where a library addition bears his name. A German-born Jew who immigrated to the U.S. with his family as a child, he also supported the Anti-Defamation League, funding a program that sent college students to Poland and Israel to better understand the Holocaust.

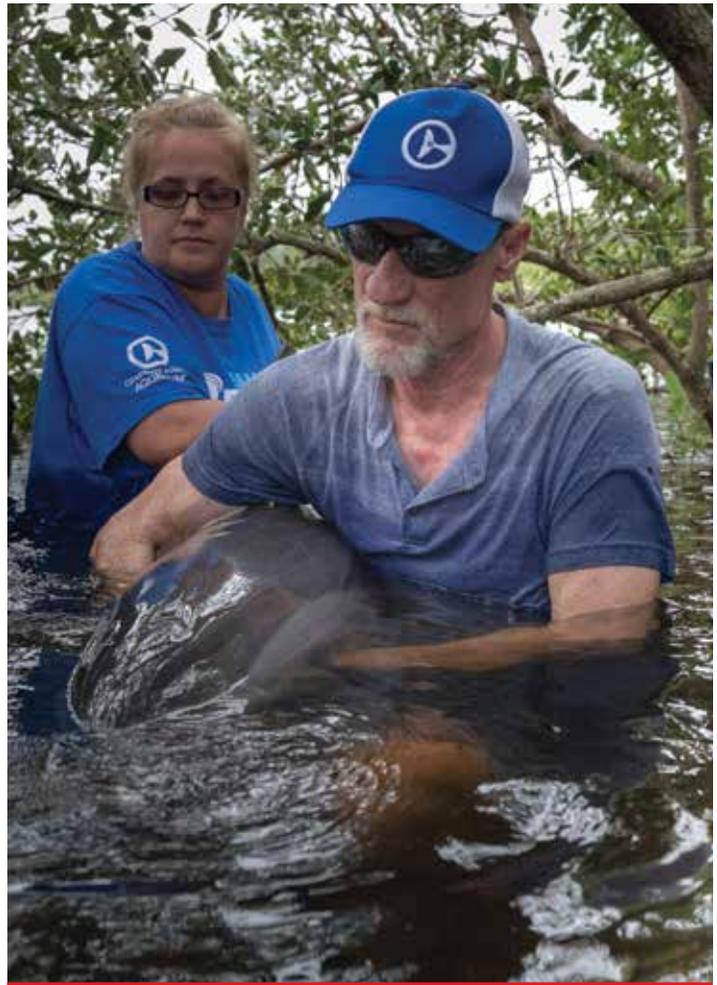
66

PANTRY WITH A PURPOSE

In 2013, UNO launched the Maverick Food Pantry, a donation-based resource that allows members of the UNO community access to food and personal hygiene products at no cost. To date, they have contributed more than 10,000 pounds of food to people in need.

67 TERRY DONAHUE

Terry Donahue's back was killing him. He was losing his hair. His job was killing him. "My back was so tight; my muscles were so stressed. I'd go for treatment and they'd say, 'My God. What do you do for a living?' I'd say, 'Well, I draw.'" Not the kind of drawing he wanted to do, though. The 1983 UNO graduate was a commercial artist. "I'd work day and night on a piece to illustrate something, then have someone sit there, someone with no artistic ability whatsoever, and have them rip apart everything I had done. I hated the work." In the mid-1990s Donahue made a change, devoting himself to his first love, fine art, with impressionistic compositions of wildlife. Only he did so using chalk pastels, a medium few other wildlife artists have attempted. And where others have tried but failed, Donahue has emerged as an internationally acclaimed and award-winning master. His work is on display in numerous galleries and has been featured in *Wildlife Art Magazine*, the *Pastel Journal*, *Bugle* and *The Artist's* magazine. His paintings have been showcased in many prestigious wildlife exhibits in North America and Europe.



68 DAVID YATES

Who would play you in a movie? When Hollywood made a film about the work of David Yates, Harry Connick Jr. was the choice to portray the 1984 UNO graduate. Not too shabby, eh? Neither is the career of Yates, who was CEO of the Clearwater Marine Aquarium in 2005 when it took in a badly injured bottlenose dolphin, Winter, rescued off the Florida coast. There she was fitted with a prosthetic tail after losing hers while becoming tangled in a crab trap. The rescue was made into a book, then into the 2011 movie "Dolphin Tale" featuring Connick. A second movie, "Dolphin Tale 2," was released in 2014 and features the rescue of another dolphin, Hope. The branding/marketing push is thanks in large measure to Yates, who is credited with co-producing the movie. That's no surprise. Yates had taken the reins of the aquarium after a successful run as president and CEO of Ironman Properties, helping the triathlon brand expand its global footprint. He's doing something similar at Clearwater, which currently is working on a \$66 million expansion.

69 JOE ARENAS

Joe Arenas didn't just break records. He broke color barriers, too. A 1951 UNO graduate, Arenas was one of the first 20 Hispanics to play in the National Football League, doing so for seven years with the San Francisco 49ers. It was a career for which he can thank one-time Omaha University athletic director Virgil Yelkin. Arenas had taken a circuitous route to OU after serving two tours with the Marines – including action on Iwo Jima. Post-Marines he attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he made the basketball team as a freshman. But a back injury he suffered on Iwo Jima and low grades sidelined him. He transferred to Omaha University, where he wanted to play basketball, but Yelkin steered him toward football. Arenas became a tailback in Coach Lloyd Cardwell's single-wing offense and blossomed. In 1949 he tallied 1,612 total yards in just eight games and became the university's second All-American, then its first player ever drafted by the NFL. His best season with the 49ers came in 1953 when he led the league in kickoff returns, averaging 34.4 yards per attempt. He followed his pro playing career with 33 years as a college and high school coach.



70 LARRY BOERSMA

Even those who went to school with Larry Boersma might not be aware of his award-winning career. No wonder, either, since he goes by Larry Allan professionally. Actually, he's built quite the résumé with both names. After earning a BA (1953) and MA (1955) from UNO, he made it big in the magazine business — as Boersma. He moved to New York City and progressed from advertising sales to marketing director to vice president and associate publisher for such magazines as *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Ladies Home Journal*, *Saturday Evening Post* and *Photo World*. In 1977 he switched gears, moving to California to take up pet photography and eventually becoming an expert in photographing the wild animals of North America. He's 40 years into that trade — under the pen name Larry Allan. He has written a book on photography, *"Creative Canine Photography,"* and has authored and/or illustrated 15 other books about the wildlife of North America. His work also has appeared in magazines and movies and on TV. In 2005, the Sierra Club awarded him its Ansel Adams award "for superlative use of still photography to further a conservation cause." He's still at it, too, recently publishing *"Florida Animals for Everyday Naturalists,"* and a DVD, *"Little Lost Mountain Lion."*



71 PATRICIA MATSON

Whether the product is a politician, a television network or a box of cereal, successful PR often comes down to the ability to predict the answer to one simple question: "How will this play with the public?" Textbooks call it strategic planning. Your grandmother might call it common sense. Whatever you call it, Patricia Matson has it in spades. After graduating from UNO in 1966, Matson enjoyed a career at the highest echelon of public relations. That began in Washington, D.C., where Matson was press secretary and administrative aide to U.S. Representative John McCollister; press assistant and speech writer at the Nixon and Ford White House (1973–1977); and press secretary to the Republican Senatorial Committee. Then came 20-plus years in New York with ABC, where Matson rose to become senior vice president of communications and was the company's chief spokesperson. She keeps her hand in the business today, serving as a consultant for the Walt Disney Company and serving on the board of amFAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research.

72

IN THE TOP 20

UNO's fully online Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies Degree is one of the top 20 online degrees according to U.S. News & World Report.



73

THE ONE AND ONLY

UNO is home to the nation's only certificate program for tribal emergency management, which can be completed entirely online.

74 JANE TOOLEY

Jane Tooley never was one to take the road less traveled. Fitting, perhaps, given her history with the Nebraska State Patrol. A 1969 UNO graduate, Tooley in 1977 became the first woman admitted to the Nebraska State Patrol recruit camp, competing with 30 men. She graduated to become the organization's first female trooper. Tooley became a criminal investigator in 1981 then worked undercover as a drug investigator. She served six years providing executive protection for Governors Kay Orr and Ben Nelson. She made history again in 1984 as the first woman promoted to sergeant and in 1994 when she became its first female lieutenant. She retired in 2001.



75 REE SCHONLAU KANEKO

The joke is old but still a good one: What do you call a struggling artist? Baroque. The struggle was real, though, for Ree (Schonlau) Kaneko after graduating from UNO in 1968 with a fine arts degree. A native Omahan, she had spent three years trying to make it as an artist on the East and West Coasts. Studio space, however, came at East and West Coast prices, so Kaneko returned home and continued to create art in her own gallery. Her legacy, though, might be helping to create artists. Kaneko in 1981 joined her husband, internationally renowned artist Jun Kaneko, Tony Hepburn and Lorne Falk in establishing an artist-in-industry program called Alternative Worksite. Eventually, that became Omaha's Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts. Located in Omaha's Old Market, it offers a competitive residency program through which artists can hone their skills and talents and show their work in Bemis galleries – without having to worry about paying the rent. It frequently is cited as one of the world's top residency programs, also offering artists private live/work studios, financial support and technical/administrative assistance. To date, nearly 900 artists have participated in the residency program. Kaneko hasn't stopped there, either. In 1998 she and Jun formed KANEKO, a nonprofit cultural organization in the Old Market that serves the community as an open space for creativity.

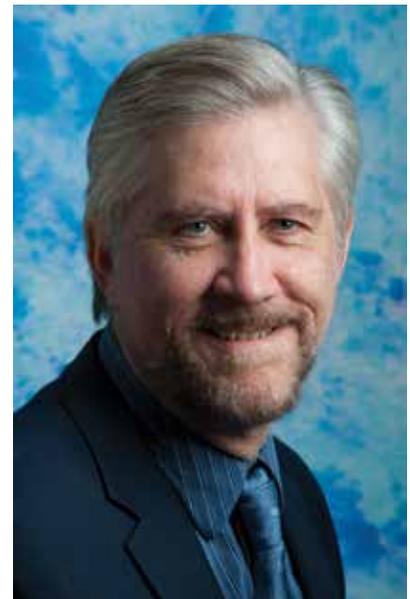
76

TICKET TO RIDE

In 2016-2017, nearly 120,000 free rides on Omaha Metro buses were given to UNO community members through the MavRIDE program.

77 JAMES ZADINA

The work of 1973 UNO graduate James Zadina just might be the answer to the nation's opioid crisis. A professor of medicine, neuroscience and pharmacology at Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans, Zadina in 1997 was part of a research team that discovered endomorphin messengers that act like a "magic bullet" to unlock a natural, morphine-like, painkilling effect in the brain and spinal cord. He and his team have spent the 21 years since then trying to develop a painkiller that can rival the power of morphine without the often disastrous side effects. They think they're close. Findings published in the journal *Neuropharmacology* reveal a compound that Zadina's team developed is a safer, superior alternative to morphine when tested in rats. "We have shown that it produces pain relief of equal or greater duration relative to morphine, but with substantially reduced side effects," Zadina said in a 2017 article published on drugrehab.org. Zadina, also director of the Neuroscience Laboratory at the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System, knows success can't come soon enough. On average, more than 115 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It is estimated that opioid misuse costs \$78.5 billion annually.





78 CHUCK HAGEL

Chuck Hagel has had plenty of titles preceding his name: Army sergeant; CEO; U.S. senator; secretary of defense. And, as many of his fellow Mavericks proudly point out, UNO graduate. A 1971 UNO graduate, Hagel came to UNO after serving in Vietnam, where he received two Purple Hearts, among other honors. He started classes in 1969 and graduated two years later with a BGS as a history major. "I'm very fond of that institution for obvious reasons," Hagel once told the Omaha World-Herald. Soon thereafter he began his political career on Nebraska Congressman John McCollister's staff. He later started Vanguard Cellular, a mobile

phone service carrier, but later got back into politics. Nebraskans in 1996 voted him to the U.S. Senate. He was re-elected in 2002, retiring in 2008. Some expected him to run for the presidency in 2008, but he never entered the race (he announced such on UNO's campus at the Thompson Alumni Center). Hagel's post-senate affairs included time as a UNO distinguished professor. In 2013 he was sworn in as the country's 24th secretary of defense, holding that office until 2015. He delivered his first public speech as U.S. Secretary of Defense on the UNO campus.

79 SAM LEFTWICH

Most folks might not have heard of the S.S. Kresge Company, one of the 20th century's largest discount retail organizations. Certainly, though, most are familiar with what S.S. Kresge became — Kmart. And during what perhaps was Kmart's peak, UNO graduate Sam Leftwich ran the company as president. Leftwich began his run with the company during his senior year at then-Omaha University, working as a part-time stocker for S.S. Kresge. He climbed the company ladder until he was transferred to Kmart's executive office in Troy, Michigan, in 1974 as director of food operation. In 1981 he was promoted to president. During his career Kmart grew into the nation's second largest mass-merchandise with 2,374 stores and 325,000 employees. He retired in 1987 as president and COO and vice chairman of the board.



80 TOPS FOR THE MILITARY

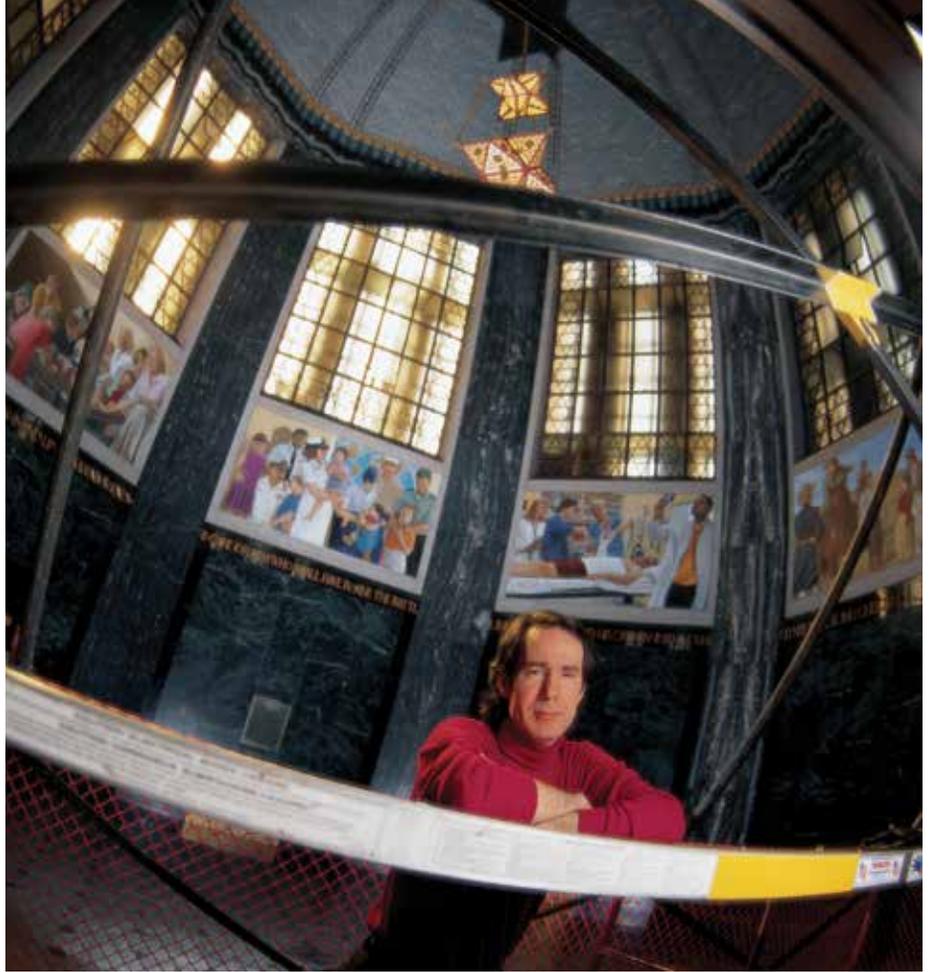
UNO has twice been recognized as being the nation's top university and having the nation's top business school for military-affiliated students.

81 HELEN HANSEN

It didn't take long for UNO's first class of graduates to begin making their mark on the world. The 1913 roster of 11 graduates included Helen Hansen, who after earning her BA went on to earn her nursing degree from Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York. That began a long, outstanding career that saw Hansen become not just a practitioner, but a leader in the field. She eventually became chief, bureau of registration and inspector, for Schools of Nursing for California. She also wrote many books on nursing used in schools throughout the country during the first half of the 1900s.

82 STEPHEN ROBERTS

If you find yourself on the 14th floor of the Nebraska State Capitol's Memorial Chamber, look up. There you'll see the stunning work of 1976 UNO graduate Stephen Roberts in eight murals serving as a memorial to those in military and civilian service. And they were only 64 years overdue. The building was to include 20 murals when it opened in 1932, but a cash-strapped legislature cut that work from the budget as the Depression raged. Work on 12 murals began in 1954 and was completed by 1967. In the late 1980s the legislature authorized funding to complete the series. Roberts received the commission in 1991 and spent 11,000 hours over five years on the murals, each measuring 7 feet by 12 feet. They were dedicated in November 1996.



83 SUE BRENNAN

After turning out a new Leaf at Nissan, 1991 UNO graduate Susan Brennan turned over a new leaf in her career. But still with the aim of being leaf-friendly. At Nissan, Brennan was vice president of manufacturing overseeing the company's massive plant in Smyrna, Tennessee. There she directed work that led to the production rollout of the electric-powered Leaf, 2011 European Car of the Year with features including zero tailpipe emissions. In 2005, Automotive News named Brennan one of its Top 100 Leading Women in the North American Auto Industry. After five years with Nissan Brennan joined Bloom Energy as its executive vice president and chief operating officer. The 17-year-old Sunnyvale, California, fuel cell company produces on-site power generation systems that utilize an innovative fuel cell energy technology with roots in NASA's Mars program. Brennan is tasked with reducing costs and scaling manufacturing to meet growing market demand. Again, she's making an impression. In 2016, Silicon Valley Business Journal presented her a "Women of Influence Award."



84 MARTAY JENKINS

How fast was one-time UNO football player MarTay Jenkins? Fast enough to establish two NFL records with the Arizona Cardinals, after his Hall of Fame Maverick career. He played 40 games with the Cardinals, starting six times at wide receiver and finishing with 70 receptions for 987 yards. But he made his most notable mark as one of the league's best kick returners. In 2000 he became the NFL's first 2,000-yard kick returner, his 82 run backs and 2,186 return yards setting NFL single-season records that have yet to be surpassed. Jenkins later played in the Arena Football and Canadian Football Leagues.

85

BIOMECHANICS BRAVO

UNO is home to the Biomechanics Research Building, the only standalone building entirely dedicated to biomechanics research, and the national Center for Research in Human Movement Variability.



LELAND HOLLAND



PAUL NEEDHAM

86
87

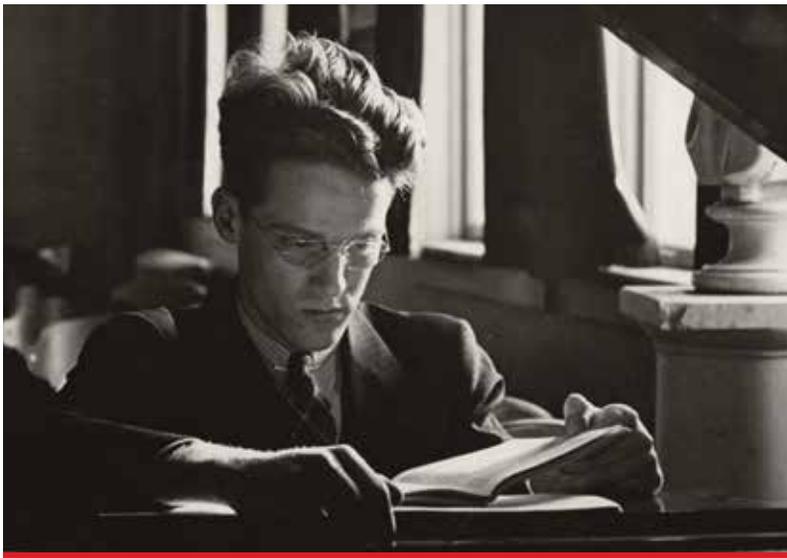
LELAND HOLLAND AND PAUL NEEDHAM

Incredibly, not just one, but two UNO graduates were among the 52 Americans held hostage in Iran for 444 days from Nov. 4, 1979, to Jan. 20, 1981. Even more incredible — a third UNO graduate was part of a daring but failed rescue attempt of the hostages. Among the 52 Americans were 1962 UNO graduate Leland Holland, at the time a colonel with the U.S. Army serving as a senior military member at the U.S. Embassy in Teheran; and 1972 UNO graduate Paul Needham, a U.S. Air Force captain who was in Iran to aid in the delivery of military equipment to that country. Holland, a bootstrapper at UNO, actually had been taken hostage twice, first in a Valentine's Day attack that lasted only four hours. There was a chance their ordeal would come to an end in April 1980 when President Jimmy Carter ordered a rescue attempt. But that ploy failed with a helicopter crash in the desert that killed eight servicemen. The rescue party included 1974 UNO graduate Charles Williamson, a special forces pilot — and a childhood friend of Needham. The pair grew up less than two blocks from each other and were classmates at Bellevue Mission Junior High School, Bellevue High School and UNO. Williamson was not harmed during the rescue attempt, surviving to meet with his childhood friend during Needham's first day home in Bellevue following his release. Leland, a highly decorated officer who served two tours of duty in Vietnam, died in 1990 at his home in Warrenton, Virginia. Needham retired from the Air Force as a lieutenant colonel. He earned a doctorate from the University of Maryland and joined the faculty of Independent College of the Armed Forces at National Defense University in Washington, D.C., where he taught logistics until retiring from that post.

88

SPACE... THE FINAL FRONTIER AT UNO

UNO is home to the NASA Nebraska Space Grant Consortium, which promotes aerospace research, education, and outreach at 11 higher education institutions across Nebraska.



89 JOHN HEFTI

It might not be as toe-tappy or hum-happy as his brother's "Batman" and "Odd Couple" scores, but 80 years ago John Hefti's "Mystic Pool" was similarly something of a national sensation. In November 1937, internationally famous conductor Leopold Stokowski led the Philadelphia Orchestra, considered among the finest symphonies in the world, in performing "Mystic Pool," a composition written by John Hefti, then a sophomore at Omaha University. It made headlines everywhere, the Associated Press, Time, Newsweek, Life, the New York Times and others writing about the famous conductor lifting a student out of obscurity. Hefti had crossed paths with Stokowski — sort of — in 1936 when the Philadelphia Orchestra stopped in Omaha during an 11,000-mile transcontinental tour. Hefti, failing to meet Stokowski prior to the concert, left piano arrangements for his "Mystic Pool" with the clerk at the Fontenelle Hotel, where the orchestra was staying, and asked they be delivered to the great maestro. Nearly a year later, in spring 1937, Hefti received surprise correspondence from back east — a request from Stokowski's secretary for "Mystic Pool's" score and parts. The sophomore had not prepared orchestration, but he immediately wrote one and sent it to Philadelphia. In October, word again came from Philadelphia — Stokowski would play Hefti. Stokowski first led the Philadelphia Orchestra in "Mystic Pool" in a Nov. 11 concert that drew favorable comments from Philadelphia critics. Hefti was not present, though, unable to afford fare to Philadelphia. In stepped Omaha University faculty and students, who established the Hefti Fund to pay for the sophomore's trip east. He arrived by train in time for the orchestra's final performance of "Mystic Pool" Nov. 16. After the concert, Hefti was ushered backstage to finally meet Stokowski. Despite such an auspicious start, "Mystic Pool" would remain Hefti's career crescendo. He graduated from Omaha University with a BA in music in 1940 then earned a master's degree from Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. He worked mostly for the government for the rest of his career: with the U.S. Army as a band director during World War II; for Voice of America as director of its music department; and for the U.S. Information Agency working on educational and cultural productions about the U.S. for broadcast in foreign countries. And though he would craft musical scores for motion pictures and television productions, nothing matched the fame of "Mystic Pool" before he retired in the early 1970s. Kid brother Neal Hefti, it turned out, would be the one to make a name for himself as one of the mid-20th century's great pop music composers, arrangers and conductors. Neal worked with Basie, Sinatra and others and wrote the themes behind "The Odd Couple" and the Grammy-winning "Batman." For a few whirlwind weeks in 1937, however, it was John who had the country's ear.

92

ALL THINGS AFGHANISTAN

UNO is home to the Center for Afghanistan Studies, the world's only permanent research center devoted entirely to the study of Afghanistan's geography, culture, and people.

90

CURLING UP

Baxter Arena hosted the 2018 Winter Olympic trials for USA Curling.



91 SISTER MARY CARITAS

Those 14 languages Sister Mary Caritas learned sure came in handy. A 1941 UNO graduate, Caritas spent all of her adult life serving others through her work with the Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary. That included time as a teacher in Yugoslavia, the Fiji Islands, Samoa, Jamaica and elsewhere. She also worked in nursing taking care of leprosy patients, served on parole boards and counseled prisoners. Her language abilities should come as no surprise given how she began her studies at then-Omaha University. Caritas started classes in 1939 as Dragica Zaplotnik after coming to the United States from Belgrade, Yugoslavia. She had only six weeks of English lessons before coming to campus, putting herself through school working at a meat packing plant. Caritas took her religious name upon becoming a nun in 1944 despite the objection of her father, who had joined Yugoslavia's communist government. He legally disowned his daughter when she joined the Society of Mary. The UNO Alumni Association recognized her dedication by issuing a Citation for Alumni Achievement award to her in 1982. She remains the only religious to have earned the award.



JACK TREADWEL



ROGER DONLON



MERLYN DETHLEFSEN



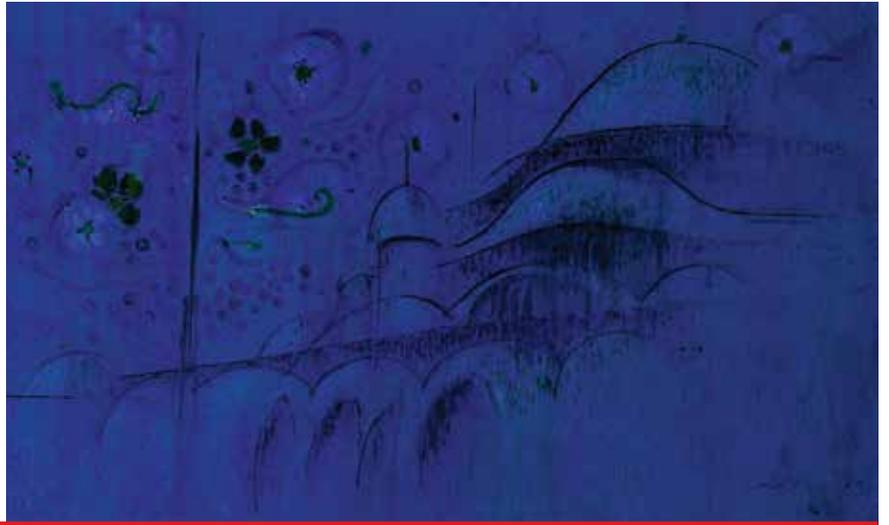
LEO THORSNESS

93
94
95
96

JACK TREADWELL, ROGER DONLON, MERLYN DETHLEFSEN AND LEO THORSNESS

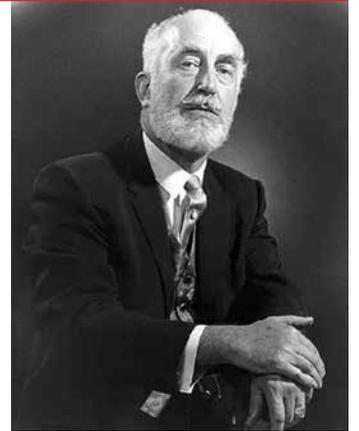
Thanks to UNO being one of the country's first universities to institute the Bootstrapper program following World War II, UNO counts more than 15,000 military among its graduate ranks. That includes four who earned the country's highest military decoration, the Congressional Medal of Honor: Jack Treadwell (1963 graduate), Roger Donlon (1967), Merlyn Dethlefsen (1965; MA, 1972) and Leo Thorsness (1964). Treadwell, at the time of his retirement believed to be the most decorated man in the Armed Forces, received his Medal of Honor for action during World War II when during a battle in Germany in March 1945 he single-handedly captured six German bunkers. President Truman presented him his Medal of Honor in August that year. Donlon was Vietnam's First Medal of Honor recipient, recognizing his heroic actions during the Battle of Camp Nam Dong in the mountains of Vietnam near Laos. Donlon was shot in the stomach but stuffed a

handkerchief into his wound and kept fighting. He was wounded three more times but didn't stop fighting until the battle was over and more than 200 men lay dead — though just two Americans. President Lyndon Johnson presented Donlon Vietnam's first Medal of Honor on Dec. 5, 1964. Dethlefsen, a pilot, received his Medal of Honor in recognition of his role fending off MiG attacks and destroying two surface-to-air missile complexes despite flying a battle-damaged aircraft. Thorsness, one of the most highly decorated American airmen of the Vietnam War, received his Medal of Honor for heroism displayed on a mission that took place 11 days before he was shot down and taken prisoner. He had passed up a chance for aerial refueling, instead directing a tanker plane to replenish another fighter whose pilot had become lost in the skies amid the chaos of a fight. He was a POW and cellmate of John McCain in the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" until his release in 1973.



97 MILTON WOLSKY

Former UNO student Milton Wolsky served during World War II not with a gun, but with paper and paint. An artist, Wolsky during the war was a technician fourth grade with the Eighth Army Engineers drawing maps and creating book illustrations. When the war ended and the United States began rebuilding Japan, Wolsky was there to document the work in sketches. Some of his drawings were published in the book, "Engineers of the Eighth U.S. Army in Action: A Portfolio of Sketches." His watercolor from that time, "Yokohama Shrine," won the coveted Frederick Whitaker award from the New York City chapter of the American Artists Professionals in 1946. "Sultan Ahmet" (The Blue Mosque) was displayed in the U.S. Embassy in Turkey and traveled the circuit of embassies in the Mid East before returning to Wolsky in 1977. Several of his pieces from this period are in the United States Air Force Society's National Museum. After World War II, Wolsky moved to New York City and became one of the nation's top magazine illustrators, regularly appearing in Time, Collier's, Esquire, LIFE, the Saturday Evening Post and others. He returned to Omaha and continued his work until he died in 1981. The bulk of his work now is owned by ARTicles Gallery in Omaha.



98 ROGER SAYERS

Given our space-crazed nation's obsession with rockets in the 1960s, Roger Sayers picked a great time to make a name for himself. Sayers — nicknamed the "Rocket" — while at then-Omaha University was among the United States' premier speedsters. In 1962, Sayers defeated eventual world-record holder Bob Hayes of Florida A&M in the 100-yard dash, winning the NAIA championship in 9.5 seconds. Sayers won the 100-yard title again in 1963 while adding the 200-yard title. The Rocket, brother of NFL Hall of Famer Gale Sayers, later would compete for the U.S. National track team in duals against Poland and the Soviet Union. He was headed for a rematch with Hayes in the 1964 U.S. Olympic Trials but was sidelined by injury. Hayes went on to capture the Olympic gold medal.

99

PIPELINE FOR LAWYERS, DOCTORS

UNO is home to two programs, the Urban Health Opportunities Program (UHOP) and Urban Law Opportunities Program (ULOP), that provide medical and legal scholarship pipelines to the University of Nebraska Medical Center and University of Nebraska-Lincoln with the goal of educating more doctors and lawyers who represent the communities they serve.



100 BUEY TUT

Buey Ray Tut almost gave up on his dream to bring clean, accessible water to South Sudan villages when his nonprofit organization, Aqua-Africa, was attempting to drill its first well in 2011. To be sure, rain, bureaucratic red tape and a broken hydraulic pump on the drill didn't help. But being thrown in jail was nearly the last straw. Tut and his drill operator were traveling to fix the broken pump when their truck was stopped by armed officers. "They say we hit a cow along the road, and the farmer wanted to be reimbursed," Tut recalled. He felt they were being extorted for money, but they didn't dare resist arrest. "When someone has a gun, you do what they say." They were taken to jail and held for two days before villagers posted bail. Tut wondered if it was worth continuing. His answer came when the well was finished and fresh water flowed for the village of 830 people. "It was an awe-inspiring experience to see their joy and the smiles on their faces," he recalled. Tut knows their plight personally. Born and raised in South Sudan in a small village called Maiwut, he remembers walking miles to fetch fresh water for his family from a river. Tut immigrated to the U.S. with his family when he was 11. He graduated from UNO in 2008 with a degree in economics and political science and two years later with childhood friend Jacob Khol formed Aqua-Africa (aqua-africa.net). So far, the organization has drilled 30 wells in seven villages — providing clean, accessible water to some 15,000 people. "We want to see these villages become thriving towns," Tut says.

102

GOING BIG AT BAXTER

Baxter Arena has held more than 200 events and welcomed more than 750,000 people through its doors since it opened in October 2015.

101 VICKI BEYER

With stops in Afghanistan, Australia, Japan, Italy and more than 40 other countries, it's hard to imagine Vicki Beyer getting any more mileage out of the international studies degree she earned from UNO in 1980. But her career — rather, her careers — have gone even further. Beyer has simultaneously built two outstanding careers 6,000 miles from home in Japan. One career is in law, which has included stints on the faculty of various Japanese universities and a 14-year run with Morgan Stanley as executive director of its legal and compliance division. Today she is a professor of law at Tokyo's Hitotsubashi University, one of Japan's oldest and most prestigious universities. But Beyer also has parlayed her nearly three decades in Japan into a high-profile freelance writing career, penning numerous travel articles, reviews, a book and now a blog (jigsaw-japan.com) on her adoptive homeland. Her book, "10 Temples on 2 Wheels, a guidebook of day tours of Kamakura, Japan," is based on bicycle tours she had developed. Even on a bicycle, Beyer goes far.



103 PENNY SACKETT

Penny Sackett made a name for herself not just on three continents, but in the cosmos, too. A planet — OGLE-2005-BLG-390Lb — was discovered in 2005 by a global network of 73 astronomers from 12 countries that Sackett began assembling in the 1990s. At the time the 1978 UNO graduate was in the Netherlands as a faculty member at the Kapteyn Astronomical Institute at the University of Groningen. It was the smallest planet detected outside our own solar system. Sackett in 2002 moved to Australia to become director of the Australian National University (ANU) School of Astronomy and Astrophysics and of the Mount Stromlo and Siding Spring Observatories. Six years later she became something of a star herself, being appointed chief scientist for Australia in 2008. Sackett provided independent advice to Australia Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and other government ministers on matters relating to science, technology and innovation until stepping down from the post in 2011. She maintains an adjunct professorship at ANU and is a member of its Climate Change Institute.



104 JAMES WARREN

James Warren's bravest moment might not have come during a battle with the enemy, but during a battle with the brass. And that's saying a lot. The former ace pilot's military career spanned three wars, 173 combat missions and 12,000 flight hours. He received numerous decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Force Commendation Medal. The 1962 UNO graduate also was navigator of "Homecoming One" (the "Hanoi Taxi"), the C-141 that in 1973 flew into North Vietnam and left with the first group of American POWs. He also was part of the Apollo 14 recovery team, flying its crew home from splashdown in American Samoa. His finest moment, though, may have come April 5, 1945, when Warren and dozens of other black officers stationed at Freeman Field in Seymour, Indiana, were arrested for entering the whites-only officers club. The officers came close to standing for court martials but instead had administrative reprimands placed in their official military record. It was the only stain in Warren's file — and it stayed there until 1995 when President Clinton had it removed. Warren, who retired from the Air Force as a lieutenant colonel, wrote a book about his experiences, "The Tuskegee Airmen: Mutiny at Freeman Field" and spoke often about them in speeches across the country.

106 STANTON SALISBURY

Time after time, Stanton Salisbury had a front row seat to history — in war and peace. A Decatur, Neb., native, Salisbury was part of the UNO's first graduating class, in 1913. He was ordained a Presbyterian minister then served as an Army chaplain in World War I. He was decorated multiple times and was at the Battle of the Argonne Forest, the final and largest Allied offensive. Later, he joined the U.S. Navy as a chaplain and for two years served on the USS Omaha, then the fastest cruiser in the world. Salisbury developed the first revolving altar used in a Navy Chapel, speeding the transition from a Protestant to a Catholic service. On, Dec. 7, 1941, Salisbury was on his way to a flower shop in Honolulu, Hawaii, to purchase altar flowers for a Bible class he led aboard the USS Pennsylvania in Pearl Harbor. Just then, the Japanese attacked. Salisbury picked up gunnery and supply officers and sped to the Pennsylvania. Japanese torpedo planes strafed his car, one bullet 18 inches from him. He arrived at the ship without injury, ministering to the wounded and helping move the dead ashore. Salisbury served throughout World War II. In 1949 he was made a rear admiral and became the Navy's eighth chief of chaplains. He retired in 1953.

105

UNO TOPS IN BIG O

There are more than 57,000 UNO alumni who live in metro Omaha — more grads than from any other university.



107 ADOLPH SCHNEIDER

Adolph Schneider had a front-row seat to history — thanks to a cushy chair with NBC. Schneider, who attended Omaha University from 1930 to 1935, at one point was director of NBC-TV News and Special Events. As such, he led coverage of the 1948 Dewey-Truman presidential election, the A-Bomb tests, political party conventions and more. He also developed familiar TV shows, including still-running "Meet the Press" and even an early 1950s Rose Bowl game. Known as "Dolph" in the newsroom, Schneider was a reporter for the Omaha World-Herald while taking classes. He later delivered news for radio station WHO in Des Moines before landing with NBC's news department, eventually directing staff in production of stories during the war. In the late 1940s, he taught extension courses at Columbia University. He resigned from NBC in 1953 and eventually became a motion picture production manager for Magna Films, which produced, among other things, films for the PSSC physics courses that were developed to improve science teaching in response to Sputnik.



108

LORI NOVICKI HOGAN

When Lori Novicki Hogan graduated from UNO in 1984, she never realized what an impact a 90-year-old woman would have on her life. The needs of her husband's aging grandmother, however, proved to be the impetus for the founding of a multimillion-dollar international company, Home Instead Senior Care. Today, the company founded in 1994 by Hogan and her husband, Paul, has grown to more than 1,000 franchises in 12 global markets. It all began, however, as a small family affair in 1985 when Paul and his large family began to provide in-home

care for his 90-year-old grandmother. She would live 11 more years, cared for in her own home. "During that time, we realized how many resources are needed for this type of care, which made us wonder how smaller families, who do not have access to this type of support, coped," Lori said in a UNO Alum magazine article. And so was born Home Instead. The company provides non-medical home care services for seniors, including companionship, meal preparation, medication reminders, light housekeeping and escort for errands and shopping.



109

PAT HALLORAN

If life is but a stage, Pat Halloran has had one heck of a life. Much of it, though, has been while working behind the curtains. Halloran's best work came during a 35-year career as president and CEO of the historic Orpheum Theatre in Memphis, Tennessee. During his run the theater booked more than 2,500 performances of 300-plus Broadway productions, attracting 5 million visitors. He also directed two major renovations totaling \$20 million. And did we mention the 1965 UNO graduate's Tony awards — all three of them? He won his first Tony in 2003 as producer of "Thoroughly Modern Millie," another in 2005 for "Spamalot" then a third in 2010 for "Memphis" as best musical. Today Halloran is a major gifts officer with the Church Health Center in Memphis.

110

KNOW THE O



The UNO "O" is designed with a black band in the shape of a "U" for "University" interlocked with a red band in the shape of an "N" for "Nebraska" to form an interconnected "O" to represent how interconnected UNO is with Omaha and the state of Nebraska. The two bands also form horns to signify the university's mascot, the Maverick, and the "O" is leaning forward, representing UNO's progressive force and Maverick momentum.

CLASS NOTES

Send your class notes to unoalumni.org/classnotes.
Or, post your note on the UNO Alumni Association Facebook page: facebook.com/UNOAlumni

49 MARIE SHAFER (BS) bowls twice a week and recently had a 229 series and a 234 game.

53 LARRY ALLEN BOERSMA (BA) hosted an event in December displaying more than 50 of his fine art wildlife photographs and personalized copies of his latest book, "Florida Animals for Everyday." He lives in Sarasota, Florida.

55 ODEAN CHASTAIN (BA) has been living in Costa Rica for 20 years and writes: "Living in paradise...how sweet it is!" torocostarica@yahoo.com



56 ROBERT GERDEMAN (BS) retired after teaching P.E. for 27 years. Gerdeman stays in shape hiking one of the most demanding trails in the world, the Manitou Incline, which is one mile up Pikes Peak with a 2,000-foot elevation gain.

GLORIA STORCH (BS; '90, MS) and her husband, Ladd, have six children and 12 grandchildren. Storch attended Charles University in Prague for seven summers to bring back her Czech heritage language. She teaches it part time at Metropolitan Community College.

59 DON HAVLU (BS) served with the U.S. Army Reserves in Korea, Vietnam and at posts abroad and in the United States. After leaving the military he worked for the Department of Defense for 33 years until retiring in 1994 while working in the Pentagon. At 60 he retired as a Lt. Colonel. He is married for 54 years to fellow UNO graduate Beverly Havlu. They have three children and 10 grandchildren. He and his wife live in Oro Valley, a suburb of Tucson, Arizona.

61 BEN WALTON (BGS) released "My Writings: Personal Essays Authored by Ben L. Walton, Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret.);" in October 2017. His writing contains 57 commentaries from hundreds of articles published in periodicals during 30 years. It can be purchased on amazon.com, barnesnobles.com and local bookstores. bwalt27789@peoplepc.com

BEVERLY HAVLU (BS) worked for Northern Natural Gas for two years after graduating from UNO. She married fellow UNO graduate Don Havlu in 1963 when he returned after serving 13 months in Korea. As an Army family, they lived at various posts abroad and in the U.S. They have twin daughters, a son and 10 grandchildren. Beverly worked as a freelance quilt designer and had several patterns published in National Quilting Magazines. She and Don live in Oro Valley, a suburb of Tucson, Arizona. havlud@att.net

MICHAEL ANANIA (BA) published a book of poetry, "Continuous Showings," in 2017. It follows the 2016 issue of "Valley Voices," devoted to critical assessments of his work as a poet and fiction writer. anania@uic.edu

ROBERT SCHNECK (BGS) is 95 years old and still flying radio-controlled airplanes after a 20-year Air Force career as a bomber pilot. Schneck also is involved with Rotary in service projects and is an American Red Cross retiree. majschnack@aol.com

64 MARILOU THIBAUT (BS) tried retirement but after two months was "climbing walls and haunting her refrigerator." She returned to part-time work as a receptionist and after six years that became a full-time post. This follows a career that included 15 years with AT&T and 24 years owning her own business, UNPARALLELED Communications. She's also survived four bouts of cancer, recovering from the most recent one in 2010. methibault@aol.com



RICHARD ROBINSON (BGS) is now fully retired after 30 years in the military and 35 years in private industry. Robinson says he still remembers UNO "with much fondness."

65 ROBERT REESS (BGS) is thankful to have completed his BGS at UNO. It was a significant factor in helping Reess complete his successful military career. Eventually, Reess earned his MBA and an MSSM. He now owns Jupiter Coastal Realty. "If you are in Florida, please email me and let me show you around this area, which is abundant with water, parks, nature and cultural amenities." Bob@JuCoRealty.com



66 CARLEN FORINASH (BGS) since graduating from UNO he earned his master's degree from the University of Colorado in 1968, retired from the USAF in 1979 with more than 25 years of service, and obtained professional certification as a Certified Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) and a Certified Compensation Professional (CCP). Forinash worked as a human resource consultant before retiring in 2002. He and his wife Joanne are active in the American Volkssport Association, have completed 10k walks in every state capitol, and have visited more than 50 foreign countries. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last November. cwforinash@aol.com



KATHLEEN MCGUIRE (BS) is a counselor at Santa Barbara City College. She also sings in three choirs. McGuire writes: "California is wonderful as it provides so many opportunities, but my years at Omaha University hold many very happy memories for me."

LARRY JUUL (BA) moved to Fredericksburg, Virginia, last summer and writes: "A lot of work but a lovely area."

JOEL SNELL (BA; '70, MA) has a new professional webpage, joelsnell.com. On his socialvibes.net blog Snell has 15,500 essays and averages 1.3 million visits a year. He is on the editorial board of Education and Psychology. His latest article is on colorism/neo-colorism. joelsnell@hotmail.com

67 MIKE TROUP (BS) retired from the DFS Retail Group. Troup splits his time between the Northern Mariana Islands and Southwest Florida. troupmike@yahoo.com

68 JANET STAIGER (BA) is the William P. Hobby Centennial

Professor Emeritus in Communication and Women's and Gender Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. She writes: "Enjoying retirement. I am still doing some research and publishing in the areas of film and television."



69 JAMES BARD JR. (BGS) writes: "I may be miles away on the East Coast, but my 1-year-old great grandson, Greyson McKeown, lives in Omaha." jimbardjr@comcast.net

DOREEN MORITZ (BS) retired with Omaha Public Schools after 32 years in 2001. She then moved to Lincoln, where she was hired as the first assistant director for Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Ally Programs and Services at UNL. Moritz also drove a student bus on the UNL campus. In 2012, she fulfilled a bucket list item by moving to Colorado and is now enjoying retirement.

70 GEORGE SCHROEDER (BS) reports he is happy in retirement. george.cindy.no1@gmail.com

RUDOLPH BAKER (BGS) writes from Clayton, North Carolina: "I completed my BGS at UNO in Jan 1970. At the time I was a young major in the Army. This start allowed me to retire from the Army as a Colonel after 33 years of active service. Graduated from Army Command and General Staff College, Army War College and received an MBA from Syracuse University as I progressed through the Army. Following Army retirement, I served as the city executive for First Citizens Bank on Fort Bragg and Pope AFB for another 18 years. I would recommend that all check out a book titled "The Boys of Benning". My OCS classmates and I authored the book. Five of the co-authors graduated from UNO through the Army "Bootstrap" program. This program provided us with the background to move thru life with significant success. At the age of 81 and retired, I still have fond memories of UNO."

UNOBOOKSTORE.COM



20% off

USE ONLINE CODE
UNOALUMNI20

20% off one item. Expires 4.1.18. Valid online only and cannot be combined with any other discount. Excludes computer hardware and books. Limit one coupon per transaction, per person.

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Omaha



71 PATRICK CLARK (BGS) retired from the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston after 27 years as a teacher and principal. This follows a 28-year career in the Army, from which he retired as a Lt. Colonel. pclark6654@comcast.net

JAMES RESSEGIEU (BGS; '78, MA) retired from ministry in September 2017. Ressegieu worked much of his professional life as director of training for a multi-state natural gas utility. In his late 50s, he felt called to ministry and graduated from North Park seminary in 2005. He served at a small church in southwest Iowa for 13 years until his retirement. Ressegieu and his wife, Karen, who just retired from UNO after 53 years, live in LaVista, Nebraska.

72 NELLA TAYLOR (BS) lives in Gainesville, Florida, and has been retired from teaching since 2004. She takes language and ILR classes from Santa Fe College. Taylor writes: "I'm also kept quite busy with my work for the care and rights of animals!" Ntuna2@yahoo.com

73 LAURA BORGMEYER (BFA) pursued further education and a career in psychiatric and community nursing a few years after graduating from UNO. Later, Borgmeyer and her husband started their own business based on his career and she became the financial officer and more for their small business. Borgmeyer writes: "Sometimes you start down one path and it leads to places you just never imagined!"

JO PAGE (BA) writes: "Semi-retired, living in northern Arizona, doing animal rescue work and enjoying life." yellerepony@msn.com

77 JOHN MCNAMARA (BS) published his novel, "Summers on the Nebraska Shore," available on amazon.com.

RICHARD MARSH (BGS) recently authored a children's book, "ABCs of the Air Force" (available on the MASCOT Books website. A former bootstrapper, Marsh retired from the USAF in 2004. He later worked as a contractor for six years,

79 DENNIS HOTH (BS) married another UNO graduate and had three children. He worked in commercial real estate in Omaha until moving to Scottsdale, Arizona five years ago. He continues to work in commercial development and brokerage in the Southwest and in Nebraska. hoth@cox.net

JO ANN GRACE (BS) is retired after 30 years teaching. She travels with her husband, volunteers at her parish, and spends time with her family and grandson. michelney@aol.com

MARK WILGER (BS) teaches vocal and general music at Suitland Elementary School in Suitland, Maryland. markedwardindc@yahoo.com

80 SCOTT ROBINSON (MS) met his wife, Patricia (Heavican),

on the UNO campus, introduced to her in 78 by the late Professor Charles Gildersleeve. They have two sons who are UNO graduates and another son coming to UNO to study criminal justice. Robinson recently became a grandfather with the birth of baby Mason Scott Robinson, born in February 2017. Robison retired after 38 years as a professional cartographer but continues to teach as an adjunct for UNO, as he has since 1990.



THOMAS BARR (BS) concluded a three-year assignment in Calgary, Alberta, and relocated to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to work at Wesco Distribution headquarters. Barr writes: "Living downtown and loving it! Any Mavericks in the Pittsburgh area?"
tbarr7057@yahoo.com

VICKI BEYER (BA) by chance met UNO student Jordan Grant-Leanna while visiting Federal Credit Union in Omaha. Beyer, who lives in Japan, was there in part to exchange a yen note. That prompted special interest from Grant-Leanna, who was leaving a week later to study for a year at Meiji University in Japan. The two exchanged email addresses and later met in Tokyo. Beyer even hosted him for a few days at her home.

81 LINDA JEAN BORS (MBA) retired as an air force civilian at U.S. Strategic Command after more than 30 years as an operations research analyst.

82 PAUL BRYANT (BGS; '84, MS) recently became director of external affairs at H.J. Russell. He previously founded the Atlanta-based Leadership Institute for Urban Education, where he trained more than 250 leaders in Fortune 500 companies. In 2009, he published "The Purpose-Living Leader," which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. He also has served as an adjunct professor at UNO.

ROBERT MATHIASSEN (MA) recently was recognized for his 35 years of service to the University of Nebraska system, the last 30 at the UNL campus. Mathiasen has held positions in student affairs, program administration and recruitment. He is currently the distance education program specialist with the UNL Office of Graduate Studies.



STEVEN ELLINGTON (BS) is enjoying life and ministry in South Georgia.

85 CLIF BANNER (MPA) is a lead systems engineer working at science & technology innovation programs for U.S. Air Force Material Command at Hanscom AFB, Massachusetts. His wife, Linda, is a quiltmaker, teacher, and bead artist. Banner has two sons.
clif.banner@myfairpoint.net

JOSEPH MANCUSO (BSBA) and his wife, Lynne, recently welcomed their fourth grandchild, Roselyn Marie Mancuso. His son Jacob also recently married while his son-in-law Tommy Heinemann played for the NASL championship soccer team the San Francisco Deltas.
jmancuso05@yahoo.com

SALLY J. WALKER (BFA) has retired as adjunct professor of screenwriting at Metropolitan Community College.
sallyjwalker@cox.net

86 TIMOTHY HANSON (BS) is working as an investigator for the Gage County Sheriff's Office in Beatrice, Nebraska. Hanson was selected as the team leader for a human trafficking project that covers 16 counties in southeast Nebraska. This past summer, Hanson and his wife, Shelly, a registered nurse, bought a house outside Beatrice.
PaladinSam26@yahoo.com



STEVE DYGERT (BM; '87, MM) since August 2017 has been pastor at Our Savior Lutheran Church in the El Jobean area of southern Port Charlotte on the Gulf of Mexico Coast. Dygert graduated from Concordia Theological Seminary in 2012 after 30-plus years as a college band director and administrator. Dygert writes: "I recently enjoyed watching UNO vs TCU basketball on Fox Sports. Go Mavs!"
music_150@hotmail.com

89 MICHAEL O'MALLEY (BSBA) recently was promoted to senior director of school/college and graduate school development at Creighton University.

SUSAN CLARK (BS; '94, MS) was awarded the 2017 Nebraska Mother of the Year Award by Governor Pete Ricketts through the American Mothers organization, begun by Eleanor Roosevelt in 1931 to help dependent mothers and needy children. The National Convention was held in April at the Willard Hotel in Washington, D.C. Clark met with Nebraska Senators Ben Sasse and Deb Fischer on Capitol Hill to discuss human trafficking, an AMI focus.

90 DAVID H. CRAFT (BSBA; '92, MBA) was elected treasurer on the CFA Society of Nebraska's board for 2017-18. Craft is a former chairman of the UNO Alumni Association board of directors.
david.h.craft@wellsfargo.com



92 REXFORD BARKER (MM) is in his second year as director of performing arts at Midland University in Fremont, Nebraska.
r.mbarker@cox.net

93 JAMES THIBODEAU (BS) is associate vice president for compliance and general counsel at Metropolitan Community College in Omaha.

JOEL WILSON (MBA) has been working at the Cabela call center in Lincoln since 2008. Cabela's credit card division recently merged into Capital One, so he is now employed by Capital One, but in the same capacity. A major portion of Wilson's 401k's and IRA will be left for an MBA scholarship fund through the Burnett Society. Wilson attends UNO basketball and hockey games regularly.

MARY ANN BORGESON (BGS) is a Douglas County Commissioner who recently became the first Nebraska woman elected to the Nebraska Association of County Officers (NACO) executive board. Borgeson was sworn in as second vice president at the NACO Annual Conference in Franklin County, Ohio. Her election positions her to become NACO president in July 2019. Borgeson writes: "I am excited to be a part of the national conversations and bring back home solutions that are best for our taxpayers."



UNO CHILD CARE CENTER
is proud to announce
27 YEARS OF ACCREDITATION
from the National Association for the Education of Young Children



UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Omaha



RONALD ERICKSON (BGS) has an undivided interest in his family farm. He reports he is "happier than ever." k0ic@arrl.net

SUSAN NIGRO (BS) lives in the Washington, D.C., metro area, teaching advanced placement language and composition for the Loudoun County School District.

94 BRENDA BUDZINSKI (BS) is a controller for Preferred Popcorn in Chapman, Nebraska. More than half its sales are international. There is a location in Mexico and another recently opened in China.

JEFF ROBY (BS) lives in Omaha and recently learned that will be a grandparent for the first time. Roby and his son frequently attend UNO hockey games: He writes: "Proud of how my alma mater has grown. I drive around campus with great pride. Go Mavs!"

95 JAMES BEGLEY (BS; '97, MPA) was chairman of the MUD Board of Directors in 2017. He is seeking re-election in 2018 for a second term on the board.

96 APRIL DAVIS-CAMPBELL (MPA) recently became head of staff at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Woodbury, Minnesota. april68502@yahoo.com



CHRIS FOIX (BS) after graduating from UNO earned his DDS degree from Creighton Dental School. He is in his 17th year of private dental practice, now at Shadow Lake Dental in Papillion, Nebraska. He also is president of the Omaha District Dental Society and a delegate to the Nebraska Dental Society.

TOM BUKACEK (BS) opened his own digital marketing agency in August 2016 and lives in Phoenix, Arizona. tom@sinovasolutions.com

RODNEY MULLEN JR. (BA; '98, BS) was named Omaha Central High School Teacher of the Year in 2017.

97 JOE PETERS (BSGS) is the new owner of BoomerangIt.com, the leading Lost and Found service in the world. jpeters47@yahoo.com



99 PATRICIA ANDERSEN HENSLE (BGS) says French class with Professor Proulx opened a door to her new home-away-from-home in Quebec City. Hensler has explored Quebec City with five of her nine grandchildren, her two daughters, husband and sister. She has written stories for two different magazines, volunteered at a wildlife refuge, raced a Hobie Cat and traveled frequently to Costa Rica, all of Europe and Mexico. pattihensler@gmail.com

IN MEMORIAM

1942	Robert W. Turner Dorothy E. Lund		Pamela P. Vaughn Robert D. Wenger
1943	Marjorie E. Magner	1969	Thomas H. Rezac
1944	Nancy Schwieder		Jean Devoy
1947	Arleen M. Michael		Sol W. Kutler
1948	Nancy L. Craren Genevieve S. Cummings	1970	Barbara L. Ross Charles E. Weeks Dolores A. Gruber Joseph V. Sinnett Yvonne N. Stock Donald F. Wermers Claude L. Westerfield Paul A. Cole
1949	Virginia M. Jensen		George W. Knight
1950	William G. Arnold	1971	Jeanne M. Krelle Winifred B. Kula James L. Hardy Lyle R. McFarland James L. Winningham
1951	John W. Lacy George J. Bighia Eunice Denenberg		Larry E. Nedrow Donald H. Lamphere
1952	Baylamae G. Tatelman		Douglas L. Hansen
1953	Anne B. Gee	1972	John F. Bogue James D. Dinin Timothy P. Bruner Thomas D. Coffey Michael G. Munday Gene Sebastian Joseph X. Gauthier Timothy L. Nelson Charlotte I. Gittler Todd A. Morrison Terry K. Gutierrez Natalie A. McNeil Vince A. Dunbar Mary K. Kimmons Doris E. Samuelson Nanette M. Osborne Maureen K. Eischeid Kenneth Cratty Maureen Prusha Larry D. Sanders Timothy B. Mortenson Joann M. Stephens Rose A. Sadlemeyer Patricia A. Westergard Annie C. Loring Phyllis E. Zimmermann Suzanne Wieler Cynthia J. Irby Teresa A. Donoho Patricia A. Justice Brett M. Rhodes
1954	Jane E. Olafson Duane W. Post	1973	
1955	Beverly M. Petersen	1974	
1956	Jerry J. Korisko		
1958	Ronald E. Meyer Donald R. Benning Roger D. Haney	1975	
1959	Glenn C. Criss	1977	
1960	David J. Carlsen Darrel M. Dankert John McKulsky Dorothy E. Todd	1978	
1961	Gilbert B. Kelly Larry X. Keele Donald C. Watchorn Robert L. Leonard Roger W. Dilley	1979	
1962	Harry W. Brooks James J. Baber	1981	
1963	Earl L. Redding Robert E. Ridder	1982	
1964	Mary K. Wise Theodore W. Quandt Mary V. Thompson		
1965	Thomas A. Mote Richard W. Spurgeon William L. West Harold E. Marks Thomas W. Sawyer	1983	
1966	Barbara T. Carriere Albert F. Disante Daniel N. Quinn Phyllis A. Roffman Ray A. Young	1984	
1967	Eugene C. Grabow	1985	
1968	Cheryl A. Ryan Samuel L. Dorfman Thomas F. Buras Janice E. Greenberg	1986	



FUTURE ALUMS

Since 1991, the UNO Alumni Association has given more than 2,000 free shirts and bibs to the children and grandchildren of UNO graduates.

Get YOUR child a new **O Baby!** shirt today – submit a birth announcement within one year of birth. Complete the form at unoalumni.org/futurealums.

Lauren Ann Batt, daughter of Jim Batt and **CAITLIN CURRAN ('07)** of Norfolk, Nebraska

Lauren Elise Stuart, granddaughter of Donna and **BARRY ('78, '87) STUART** of LaVista, Nebraska

Luna Rain Elliott, daughter of Daniel and **PATRICIA ('09) ELLIOTT** of Omaha.

Leona Rose Waszgis, daughter of **SARAH (PREISTER, '04)** and **ANDREW ('03) WASZGIS** of Omaha

Chaim Raphael Hayward, son of Ross and **RHONDA (LUSTIG, '02) HAYWARD** of Omaha.

Viola Rose Olson, daughter of Courtland and **ANDREA (BARSTOW, '06) OLSON** of Elkhorn, Nebraska

Morgan Grace Ruopp, daughter of Brandon and **JEANA (GOSWICK, '09) RUOPP** of Marshalltown, Iowa, and granddaughter of **JANET GOSWICK ('06)** of Bellevue, Nebraska

Ava Lima Stover, daughter of Shane and **LINA (TRASLAVIÑA, '07) STOVER** of Omaha

Cooper Michael Moore, son of **JACKIE (PIRTLE, '10)** and **BRIAN ('12) MOORE** of Omaha and grandson of **SARA PIRTLE ('89; '95)** of Omaha.

Alexander Levi Shinn, son of Emily and **LEVI ('16) SHINN** of Elkhorn, Nebraska

Edison Montgomery Hess, son of **NEIDY ('16)** and **ZACHARY ('16) HESS** of Council Bluffs, Iowa

Emily Marie Peterson, daughter of Dan and **JENNIFER (MCLAUGHLIN, '09) PETERSON** of Bennington, Nebraska, and granddaughter of **CHARLES ('75, '80)** and **KATHLEEN ('75; '79; '01) PETERSON** of Omaha.

Tyler George Byrne, son of **SARAH (BECK, '13)** and **THOMAS ('09) BYRNE** of Avoca, Iowa, and grandson of **DAVID ('75) BYRNE** of Omaha and **KAREN RODRIGUEZ ('00)** of Avoca.

Collin Daniel Mueller, son of Ross and **KARA ('13) MUELLER** of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Jack Marcus Beller, son of Becky Johnson Robinson and **BEN ('14) BELLER** of Columbus, Nebraska.

Mason Scott Robinson, son of Meaghan Scheffler and **ERIC SCOTT ('18) ROBINSON** of Omaha and grandson of Patty and **SCOTT ('80) ROBINSON** of Omaha.

Jordyn Mary Gabinet, daughter of Antara and **MICHAEL ('04) GABINET** of Omaha.

Vera Glenn Hineline, daughter of **ASHLEY (KING, '06, '10)** and **RONNIE ('07) HINELINE II** of Omaha.

Maxwell Stanley Wilkins, son of **KELLI (GUTZMANN, '11)** and **SAMUEL ('12) WILKINS** of Bennington, Nebraska

Julie Louise Stodola, daughter of **KELLY (DEMORAES, '15)** and **JACOB ('08) STODOLA** of Omaha, Nebraska.

Daphne Annabelle Roth, daughter of **JESSICA (DAVIS, '10)** and **BRYAN ('15) ROTH** of Papillion, Nebraska

Gracelyn R. Iehl, daughter of David and **MELISSA (CHOHON, '09) IEHL** of Lakeside, Iowa

Kyli Kurane, daughter of Natsumi and **TASUKU ('14) KURANE** of Portage, Michigan

Roberto Carlos Figueroa, son of Roberto Figueroa and **VIVIAN ('15) GARCIA** of LaVista, Nebraska.

Camryn Janda, daughter of **EMILY (KIRKLAND, '11)** and **KYLE ('12; '63) JANDA** of Omaha.

Gavin McDaniel, son of Shelbi and **TREVOR ('12) MCDANIEL** of Bellevue, Nebraska

Vincent Leonard Pasquale, grandson of **RITA BERTHELSEN ('73)** of Omaha.

Benson Charles Martinez, son of **JENNIFER (ELSASSER, '07)** and **QUENO ('09) MARTINEZ** of Omaha.

Gertrude Lorraine Sisco, daughter of Timothy and **Emily ('14) Sisco** of Firth, Nebraska, and granddaughter of **DOUGLAS COOK ('90)** of Bellevue, Nebraska

Layne Riley Jordan Harwick, son of Joshua and **JESSICA ('10) MCKILLIP** of Kearney, Nebraska

SEND US A CLASS NOTE

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING SINCE GRADUATING?

Write us at
UNO Magazine
Class Notes
6705 Dodge St.,
Omaha, NE 68182-0010

Update online at
unoalumni.org/unoclassnote
OR
Fax to 402-554-3787

INCLUDE:
NAME
CLASS YEAR & DEGREE
PHONE
ADDRESS AND EMAIL

00 EMERSON MUNGIN JR. (BGS) is a USAF veteran and has lived in southeast Georgia since 2012. Mungin has been sharing the stories of African-Americans in the military by speaking in schools and churches from Georgia to Florida. Mungin writes: "Proud to be a UNO graduate."

VICKI ROGERS (BS) worked in the aviation industry for most of her post-college life, including 12 years as an airport planner in Kansas City. Rodgers recently embarked on a new career as studio manager for STIR, an independent representative for contract office furniture and textile manufacturers located in downtown Denver, Colorado. missvicki2333@gmail.com

02 RICK PENNINGTON (BS) after 29 years in the manufacturing industry as a production operator, manufacturing engineer and quality assurance manager has become an assistant professor in the College of Business at Bellevue University. He will become program director for the university's supply chain undergraduate program. He also is working toward his doctorate of business administration degree. Pennington writes: "It's exciting to take the knowledge gained from the industry and my UNO education and apply it in a learning environment to be utilized globally." ripennington@bellevue.edu

ROBIN KRATINA (BS; '07, MS), lives in Omaha and has had 21 years with the Sarpy County Sheriff's Department. Kratina teaches social studies at Bellevue West High School and is an adjunct/dual enrollment instructor for UNO and Metro Community College teaching AP psychology, U.S. government and justice and law. rkratina@unomaha.edu

04 MARY ANDERSON (BS) has been director of development and administrative services for Holy Name Housing Corporation for nearly five years. Holy Name is a nonprofit community housing development corporation that provides affordable housing primarily to people in North Omaha.

05 BRETT DAVIS (BA) made a career change from construction lending to mortgage lending with Core Bank. Davis writes: "I love helping people achieve the American dream of homeownership and saving them money, and this career change has allowed me to work with a larger



percentage of the population. I love working with an Omaha community bank and still having the ability to do mortgage lending in all 50 states." bdavis@corebank.com

ELLIOT SMITH (MSW) writes: "My experience at UNO was a blessing. It prepared me for a surprising career change. I am now a hospital chaplain. The skills I learned expecting to be a therapist are now applied to staff and patients at a hospital."



JOHN SWOBODA (MA) has taught at Millard North High School for 24 years. He has served as the head softball coach since 2000, winning nearly 350 games with 12 state tournament trips. He also coached various levels of baseball from 1979 to 2013. jswoboda@mpsomaha.org

06 KELLY BARTH (BM) and wife, **CARLY BARTH** (2005, BSBA), started a publishing company, Simply Liturgical Music. SLM offers psalms, Mass settings and other hymns in a downloadable format for an annual membership fee. Its mission is to provide Catholic parishes and schools, big or small, affordable access to music that supplements resources they already use. The music, written by a growing network of composers in a variety of styles, is geared toward the celebration of special feast days, psalms for every occasion and more.



MARSHALL CRAWFORD JR. (MPA) was hired as president and CEO of the Housing Fund, a private nonprofit in Nashville, Tennessee, in June 2017. The organization provides resources and creative leadership to individuals and communities to create and maintain affordable and healthy places for low and moderate-income people to live. mcrawfordjr@yahoo.com



SHILO JORGENSEN (BS) is the supervisor at Ford Motor Credit and is an experienced networking professional.



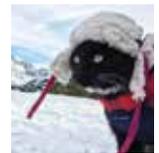
07 RENAE BUNDE (BA) was property manager of Foxboro Apartments after graduating from UNO but in 2012 changed careers and became a legal assistant at the Law Offices of James A. Adams. The firm focuses on family law and Bunde finds that her degree has provided her additional insight into her clients. She also has two dogs, Lucy and Oliver and enjoys cooking/baking, traveling when possible and reading. samharpo1@aol.com



RYAN YOUTZ (BGS) travelled to Miami in November 2017 to watch the UNO men's soccer team compete in its first ever NCAA Tournament. Youtz writes: "What an unbelievable moment in university history! They were the first non-hockey team sport since UNO went D1 to compete in a NCAA tournament and they represented our university well. They dominated the game in everything but the score, but sometimes that's how sports go. To every UNO soccer player on the roster, thank you so much. You made me a proud Omahan, a proud UNO alum, and a proud Maverick." ryanyoutz@ryanyoutz.com



11 LISA GROBECK (BS) writes: "The Meowtains are purring and I must go, meow." Zucchini, her Colorado adventure cat, approves.



RYAN WATSON (BS) went to law school after graduating from UNO and now runs a private law practice. He has been academically published and has taken a handful of cases to the Nebraska Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. Watson writes "The faculty in the political science and philosophy departments provided a great foundation to take each consecutive step, and I never felt ill-equipped or unprepared to handle the challenge. My wife, Elizabeth, and I have two toddler boys, Nate and Finn, who keep us under control. We plan on attending some hockey games this year and look forward to the next soccer season. Go Mavs!" ryan.watson@thewatsonlawgroup.com



12 JARED RUTLEDGE (BS) says 2017 has been a year of momentous change for him. In April he married fellow UNO graduate Lauren at the Thompson Alumni Center. They honeymooned in Maui. A month later they broke news that they were expecting their first child in February 2018. Rutledge also accepted a position at Fresenius Kabi as a field service engineer and has been traveling often. Rutledge says he is surprised by how he has handled this large amount of change and the stress that comes with it. He writes: "I give tremendous credit and thanks the University of Nebraska system and all of the good people that make it work. I couldn't have asked for anything greater."



ANDREW JEZEWSKI (BS) lives in St. Louis, Missouri, and is a Ph.D. candidate in molecular microbiology at Washington University in St. Louis studying metabolic regulation to identify new drug targets for the treatment of malaria. His training at UNO's CBA has benefited him while communicating his science to the growing biotech industry in St. Louis. ajezewski@wustl.edu



KYLE CLARY (MPA) works as an emergency management specialist for the Charleston County Emergency Management Department. Carly helped prepare for, respond to and recover from several disasters and incidents, including Hurricane Matthew and Tropical Storms Hermine and Irma. He serves part time as a major in the South Carolina Army National Guard in the Field Artillery branch. Clary and wife, Virginia, a critical care nurse, have a daughter Carly and a son on the way. brockclary@hotmail.com

13 BALKISSA OUSMANE (MBA) earned a master's in education from Endicott College after learning about Montessori learning methods. Ousmane then founded La Grande Académie, a nonprofit private school in her home country, Niger. The school focuses on providing low-income to middle class children with an innovative approach to education that focuses on developing leadership skills while leveraging athletics, technology and community involvement activities. Ousmane writes: "I also live my passion for giving back to the less privileged through Agaji Assistance, a nonprofit organization incorporated in the U.S. addressing health, education, environment and microeconomy concerns in Africa. Meanwhile, while in the U.S. I am working at Kiewit Corporation, a very interesting spot that allows me to work every part of the organization and make the business processes more effective and more efficient."



COLIN SORENSEN (BS) with his family established a scholarship fund for his late grandmother, Carolyn J. Anderson. She was a kindergarten teacher in South Sioux City, Nebraska, for 22 years. The family kindly requests donations be made to the Carolyn J. Anderson Memorial Scholarship Fund through the Cardinal Education Foundation for South Sioux City Public Schools. plvcolin@gmail.com

UNISHA KHAREL (BGS) is currently working as a project manager at a leading insurance company in California. Kharel writes: "Thank you, UNO, and the faculty members for all the support and encouragement to pursue my goals."



WENDY KAISER (MPA) joined the UNO Service Learning Academy in June 2017 as the program assessment and evaluation associate. Kaiser writes: "I feel so lucky to be back on campus!"

14 ANDREW PETERS JR. (MA) is director of scientific affairs for ProSupps in Dallas, Texas. abpetersjr@gmail.com

BENJAMIN SPADT (BS) is a financial analyst with BCC Advisers and has earned his CPA license.

CHARLES HOWELL (MS) joined academia after 25 plus years in the private sector with some inspiration from his professors at UNO. In 2016 Howell and his wife sold almost all their belongings and moved to Barcelona, Spain, where Howell is pursuing a Ph.D. in economics and is a researcher at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. charles.howell@uab.cat

EMILY SISCO (BGS) graduated from University of Nebraska College of Law in May 2017 and passed the bar exam last summer. She now is a partner at Donahue & Faesser in Pawnee City, Nebraska. Sisco handles everything from taxes and estate planning to family and criminal law matters. She and her husband welcomed their second child, Gertrude Lorraine Sisco, in February 2017.

15 DOLORES SCHUMACHER (MBA) writes: "I completed the traditional MBA program where UNO provided the academic program and I provided the work. The partnership has been amazing, and I'm exploring entrepreneurial adventures. My sincerest thanks!" dgschumacher@unomaha.edu

SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
UNO THEATRE

THE
Revolutionists

Feb 21-24, 28 & Mar 1-3

MARAT/SADE

Apr 11-14 & 18-21

TICKETS: **UNOTHEATRE.COM**
402-554-7529

JIM DOLINSKI (MS) writes: "The City of Omaha is not only a great city to live in but a cool place to work." Dolinski is leading a team that is passionate about the cloud and strategically migrating local government applications to more cost-effective and sustainable infrastructure. Douglas County and the City of Omaha are Amazon City on a Cloud Finalists and #5 on GovTech's Digital Cities. The city has partnered with UNO's MS MIS capstone program and runs four applications built by students.
jimdolinski@gmail.com

JUSTIN ARNOLD (MS) was hired as a communications specialist by 38 North, a project of the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. He works with media outlets and promotes 38 North's North Korean analysis.
justin.o.arnold@gmail.com

AMY JOSEPHINE WEAVER (BGS) has an appointment to the Nebraska Office of Consumer Affairs People's Council as a transition age youth/young adult seat. She writes: This is a committee that is part of the Nebraska Division of Behavioral Health within the Department of Health and Human Services. I was appointed in May 2016. Also, I have an appointment to the Nebraska System of Care for a Youth Advocate seat. I was appointed in January 2017."

NOELLE BLOOD (MA) recently became the assistant director of marketing communications for Washburn University School of Law in Topeka, Kansas. In this role she will develop print communications, social media, feature stories and news releases to support the school's mission of contributing to the development of the law and a more just society.

16 ANTHONY HUGHES (BA) in August moved to the Netherlands and began studying in the master's program of International Relations and Global Order at Leiden University. He writes: "I intend to graduate in summer 2018 and pursue some form of work in Europe. If you told me a year ago that I would be furthering my education on the other side of the world, I'd say you were talking to the wrong guy. However, when you're a Maverick, you're able to undertake whatever challenges and opportunities present themselves, and eventually fashion a good life from your endeavors."

DUSTIN RIEF (MPA) accepted a new position as city administrator of Orono, Minnesota.

ERIN ARELLANO (MA) is retired after 26 years in the managed care/health care

industry. She currently works as a part-time adjunct instructor teaching the essentials of scholarly writing at Clarkson College and provides writing consultation at the Metropolitan Community College Writing Center.

JEROD EVANICH (EMBA) prior to graduating created a new service line for A Place at Home and launched NorEast Franchise Group. It was one of the top 20 finalists for the NextGen in Franchising Global competition. Evanich writes: "One of the best investments you can make is in education. The University of Nebraska at Omaha, its top-notch professors, and programs and curriculum have allowed me to take my personal development to the next level. Thank you."
jerod.evanich@aplaceathome.com



JOHN J. BERGE (BGS) recently graduated from the seventh class of the Nebraska Water Leaders Academy, a one-year program that provides leadership training and educates participants about the vital role rivers, streams and aquifers play in the economic sustainability of the state. Berge is general manager of the North Platte Natural Resources District.

MARK KAZOR (MA) writes: "I'm so grateful to have found a job where I can apply my talents and passion in promoting our various degree programs in the department of gerontology and helping students find their paths in learning about the aging process."
mkazor@unomaha.edu

SEKAYI SIMMONS (BS) is an intern for a senior district judge with the U.S. District Court of Nebraska. He is applying to law schools with the hope of attending next spring or fall semester.
sekayisimmons@unomaha.edu

17 ALVIN LUGOD (BS) is working on his master's degree.

ANGELA DAIGLE (ED. D) since November 2016 has been head of the library services department for Millard Public Schools.

HAYLEY HRABIK (BA) is working at Children's Hospital and Medical Center in the laboratory.

Hrabik was recently accepted into UNMC's Medical Laboratory Science program and hopes to become a medical technologist.

HUNTER FANGMEYER (BSBA) co-founded Bric with Grant Stanley (BA '08) and Josh Haas. Bric's software provides analytics to help teams maximize their time. Built in Omaha, Bric is being used in 71 different countries.

RILEY WILSON (BGS) started his time at UNO while on active duty in the Air Force while stationed at Offutt Air Force Base. Shortly after graduating, Wilson finished his enlistment in the military and he now is a veteran workforce coordinator with the Nebraska Department of Labor helping veterans who have significant barriers to employment, such as previous incarceration, homelessness, poverty and disability. Wilson writes that the work that he does every day is rewarding and he is thankful for the educators and support from staff at UNO. Wilson writes: "I am also very interested in pursuing a Master's of Public Administration at UNO soon. As both a veteran and native Nebraskan, I can't express enough how great UNO has been to me. Go Mavs!"
riley_wilson07@hotmail.com



FERIAL PEARSON (ED.D) graduated with her doctoral degree in educational leadership in December.

YANJUN FAN (BSBA) is pursuing an MBA at UNL. Fan writes: Everything I learned from UNO gave me so many benefits for my career. The knowledge and experience I gained from UNO let me adapt into MBA program and workplace easily and naturally. I hope I could get involved into UNO again in the future. Go Mavericks!!!"

your stories are
Nebraska Stories

**DISCOVER
STORIES
YOU'LL
LOVE**

met
Nebraska's PBS & NPR Stations
netNebraska.org/NebraskaStories

Test your brainpower with these puzzles created by UNO graduate Terry Stickels ('76). An author, speaker and puzzle maker, Stickels' **FRAME GAMES** is published by **USA Weekend** magazine and in 600 newspapers. He has two new efforts coming out for 2017 — A "Frame Games" and "Word Search" calendar.

For more information on Stickels, or to order any of his books, visit www.terrystickels.com

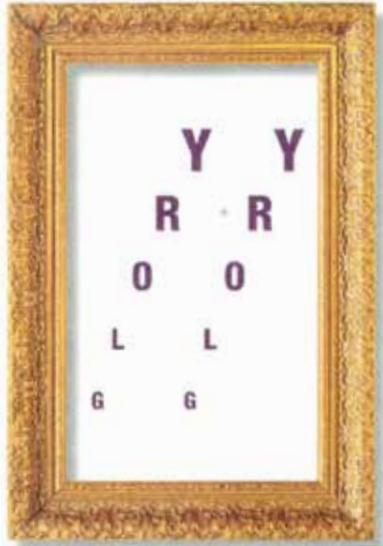
LOGIC

What number comes first in the sequence below?

? 1 8 6 13 11 18 16 23 21 28

CREATIVE THINKING

Find the hidden word or phrase:



WORD PLAY

One of the words below does not belong with the others based on a simple, straightforward characteristic in the construction of the words. Which one is the odd one out?

ACUPUNCTURE	PUSHOVER
CORPUSCLE	JUNIPER
REPULSION	PURPOSE

MATHEMATICS

My present age is 6 times what it will be 6 years from now minus 6 times what it was 6 years ago. How old am I?

Hint: This is easier than it sounds. Set up a legend of what you know and what equals what.

ANSWERS

WORD PLAY
Juniper. It's the only word that does not contain the letters "P" together

MATHEMATICS

72 years old

CREATIVE THINKING

Rise to Glory

LOGIC
The first number is 3. This is two sequences in one. Start with the third number in the sequence, which is 8 and look at every other number. The difference between every other number is 5.



Research. Driven.

With patience, discipline and 30+ years of experience, we are prepared to help you achieve your financial goals. See what research-driven investing can do for you.

TODAY IS THE DAY I GIVE MYSELF THE ADVANTAGE.

Angela Collins

Critical and Creative Thinking, MA
University of Nebraska at Omaha

“My today started when I found a master’s program I was actually excited about. For me, that was the Master of Arts in Critical and Creative Thinking at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. I’m amazed how applicable my courses have been. My area of concentration allowed me room to tailor electives to my own needs and goals – in life and in my career. I’ve learned that both leadership and management are needed, and that it’s important to find a balance between those two. Now, with my degree, I’ll have an edge over other applicants. I can apply and take jobs that require a master’s degree, and be able to address issues and tasks more strategically and effectively.”

▼▼▼
100+ online programs.
online.nebraska.edu



