

SUMMER 2017

UNO MAGAZINE



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SUMMER

2017

VOL. 8, NO. 2

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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.

When I came to Omaha three-and-a-half years ago to serve as chancellor at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, many of my friends and colleagues asked me, "Why Nebraska?"

I made it clear to them that I saw unique opportunities here, in this city and state, to help change countless lives for the better.

Today, I write to you as chancellor of the University of Nebraska at Omaha to say that I see those same opportunities here at UNO.

I am truly humbled and excited by my opportunity to lead this great university.

As you will read throughout this issue, there is something truly special about this campus and the benefits it can create for the citizens of this city, state, and, yes, even the world.

The theme for this issue of UNO Magazine relates to weather and climate, and I believe that without the right cultural climate we can never achieve our true potential.

My good friend, Chancellor Emeritus John Christensen, has fostered an incredible climate of passion for success at UNO. You can feel it in the air when you walk on campus and talk with students, faculty and staff; they are proud to be Mavericks, and so am I.

UNO's student-focused, metropolitan university mission will remain the bedrock of everything we will build together. We will continue UNO's rich history of prioritizing not just excellence in our academic programs, but also access and opportunity.

There is no question that there will be challenges. But together we'll work hard to turn each challenge into an opportunity.

And turn each opportunity into reality.

To achieve this, we need your support. We need your help. More than ever, we need YOUR continued engagement with the Maverick family.

We need you to engage with our students and campus. We need your advocacy in helping people know the O. To know the great depth and breadth of our impact across the many communities we serve.

As members of this great university, you know better than anyone what it means to be a Maverick, and I hope you agree with me that it takes true Maverick spirit to take that first step forward – and the ones that will follow.

That said, I'll end this welcome the same way I did at the Med Center three years ago: I really look forward to our journey together.

Thank you.



Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.
UNO Chancellor



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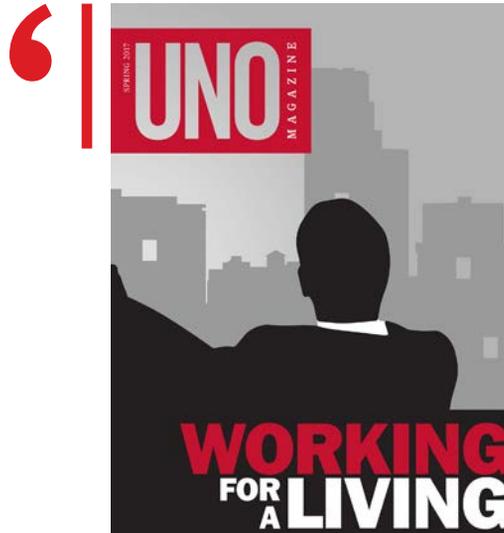
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reading the current issue. Write us about the magazine or university.
Letters must include writer's first and last names, address and phone
number. Letters may be edited for taste, accuracy, clarity and length.
Submit a letter online at www.unoalumni.org/unomag-led or write to
the address on page 3.

ON SPRING 2017: WORKING FOR A LIVING

**OVERCOOKED? NOPE, JUST WELL DONE**Well done! I loved the issue and am really impressed with
what you and your team does with the magazine.Jim Sutfin, 1993; 2002
Superintendent, Millard Public Schools**BREAK ROOM BREAK-IN**I saw the cover and snatched it off the break room table to
read, because of that cover.John Gawley
Omaha, Nebraska**FRONT TO BACK, THEN SHARE**Just want to tell you that I love this month's issue of the
magazine! I seriously read it every month cover to cover,
but this month's was just awesome. I'm sharing some
articles with my co-workers. Tell your team good work.Emily Sulzle, 2014
Lincoln, NebraskaThe 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.

WEATHERING CHANGE

It's not that I'm against or don't like change.

Rather, I just want things to stay exactly the way they are forever and ever and ever.

But the winds of change have been blowing steadily at UNO of late, especially in 2017.

Foremost among those changes is the arrival of a new chancellor, Dr. Jeffrey Gold. Since he took the reins from now-Emeritus Chancellor John Christensen in May, Chancellor Gold has impressed numerous folks on campus with his openness, energy, candor and desire to take UNO to new heights. That includes a meet and greet with alumni and others at the Thompson Alumni Center Aug. 4. For more on Chancellor Gold, see a profile of him starting on page 14.

You'll notice that Chancellor Gold also is chancellor of the University of Nebraska Medical Center, something that has prompted some to speculate that a merger between UNO and UNMC is in the works. Chancellor Gold has been adamant in stressing that the two universities have distinct identities that should be maintained.

Chancellor Gold sometimes tells the story of how he connected the lapel pins of UNO and UNMC with a metal fastener and glue (his first degree was in engineering, after all). It symbolizes, he says, the brand identities of each institution while stressing that they are stronger together.

That's critical given other changes that are or soon will be taking place on campus due to State of Nebraska budget constraints. The Unicameral has cut the university's appropriations as a whole, necessitating change on all four of its campuses.

Ahead of those changes, Chancellor Gold has asked faculty and staff on both campuses to find efficiencies in back-office areas and collaborations between both campuses. It won't just be savings that are found, either; opportunities to strengthen UNO and UNMC also will appear.

This is not the first leadership change at UNO. And it's not the first time it's faced budget constraints.

The university has weathered change before, always emerging stronger.

It will do so again.

Anthony Flott

Anthony Flott
Managing Editor



ALL ALONG THE CLOCK TOWER



FROM LEFT: YANIRA GARCIA, INES VODONOU AND BRIANA SMITH



CALEB BEASLEY, A 2007 AND 2011 UNO GRADUATE EMPLOYED AT E & A CONSULTING GROUP, TOOK A TURN AS A CARILLONNEUR, PLAYING THE "THE NATIONAL ANTHEM" FOR THE GROUP — AND THE CAMPUS FAR BELOW.

For a group of graduates who clearly are going places, perhaps it was fitting that they were taken to a place few had ever been.

Members of the UNO Young Alumni Academy Class of 2017 ended their eight-month leadership development program in April by visiting the top of Henningson Memorial Campanile. The award-winning academy facilitates leadership development, peer networking and professional growth for alumni 35 and younger. The group's capstone session included a tour of UNO's 168-foot-tall campanile followed by "commencement" at the Thompson Center.

The campanile tour was one of eight sessions held at unique locations on and off campus. That included a behind-the-scenes tour of Baxter Arena. UNO leaders spoke with members on topics such as athletics management, student focus and community engagement. Members also completed a service project..

More than 250 young alumni have taken part in the program, which begins its eighth year in September.

Direct questions to Elizabeth Kraemer at ekraemer@unoalumni.org or 402-504-3343.

YOUNG ALUMNI ACADEMY CLASS OF 2017

GOKHAN ARIK, Client Resources; **MACKENZIE BALD**, CHI Health; **PAUL BANNINGA**, Cox Communications; **CALEB BEASLEY**, E & A Consulting Group; **KILEY BIERMAN**, QLI; **ADAM DENNEY**, Felsburg Holt & Ullevig; **ASHIA DUNN**, Methodist Women's Hospital; **KRYSTAL FESSLER**, Northern Natural Gas; **RAE'VAN GAMBLE**, Douglas County Youth Center; **YANIRA GARCIA**, UNO; **SPENCER GASKELL**, Miller Electric; **ASHLEY HALL**, Renaissance Financial; **CHRIS HANNA**, UNO; **JOSH HICK**, Union Pacific; **MICHAEL HOWICK**, David Wood Floors; **NEIL HUMPHREY**, Sojern; **MARTIN JENSEN, JR.**, NEI Global Relocation; **BETH KUCIREK**, Lozier Corporation; **MICHAEL MASON**, Hancock & Dana PC; **MICHELLE MEISINGER**, The Durham Museum; **JACKLYN MILLER**, Kugler Vision; **CHRISTOPHER MUNRO**, Curzon Promotional Graphics; **KRISTIN NEEMANN**, Creighton University; **KATIE PAST**, State of Nebraska – DHHS; **CHRISTINA PEATROWSKY**, Nebraska Furniture Mart; **KAYLEIGH QUINTERO**, Berkshire Hathaway Homestate Companies; **RAKSHIT REKHI**, Gallup; **MARK RODGERS**, Core Bank; **ANDREW RYBA**, DMSI; **JESSICA SCHEUERMAN**, Animorum LLC; Partners for Livable Communities; **JEFF SKALBERG**, United Way of the Midlands; **BRIANA SMITH**, Big Brothers Big Sisters; **SARA SOMMERER**, First National Bank of Omaha; **KEELAN STEWART**, Boys Town; **JOSHUA VERSAW**, ACI Worldwide; **INES VODONOU**, Heritage Pointe Community; **JESSICA WARREN-TEAMER**, Mutual of Omaha; **D'MARIO WILLIAMS**, USAF; **SUZANNE WITHEM**, UNO.

HELP UNO'S COLORS FLY IN EVERY NEBRASKA COUNTY

Show the O has been to every continent and every state — now comes a push to get O flags to fly in every Nebraska county.

UNO graduates anywhere can show off their Maverick pride by requesting a FREE O flag from the UNO Alumni Association. Participants take photos with the flag wherever they live or travel then upload them to Showtheo.com, which features an interactive world map displaying all the places the "O" has flown.

UNO grads throughout Nebraska now are being asked to represent the state's 93 counties — from Adams to York — showing the spread of Maverick Nation throughout Nebraska.

REQUEST YOUR FLAG TODAY AT
WWW.SHOWTHEO.COM

SHOW THE O

- PORT ROBINSON**: Located near Grand Island, boasts more than 22,000 acres of Pine Ridge scenery.
- SMITH FALLS**: Connected to the historic river, has the distinction as the highest waterfall in Nebraska.
- ROLLING SANDHILLS**: The vast rolling sandhills make up the largest wetland ecosystem in the United States.
- ASHFALL FOSSIL BEDS**: Hundreds of skeletons dating back 50 million years were discovered beneath the fossil beds in the rolling farmland of northeastern Nebraska.
- SOLAR ECLIPSE**: One of the many towns in the path of totality, Colfax, the wide southern skies make Nebraska the perfect location to view the eclipse.
- OMAHA'S HENRY DOORLY ZOO AND AQUARIUM**: As the state's attraction, includes exhibits highlighting animals from across the world.
- ARBOR DAY**: On April 22, 1872, Nebraska City hosted the first Arbor Day with an estimated one million trees planted.
- SCOTT'S BLUFF NATIONAL MONUMENT**: A landmark along the Oregon Trail, features breathtaking views.
- LAKE MCCONAUGHY**: Located near Ogallala, is Nebraska's largest lake with over 300 miles of shoreline.
- NEBRASKALAND DAYS**: Held annually since 1950, will feature a parade celebrating Nebraska's 150th anniversary.
- THE STATE CAPITOL BUILDING**: Built in 1932, is an architectural must see as the state celebrates its 150th anniversary.
- HOMESTEAD NATIONAL MONUMENT**: Located in Beatrice, stands in one of the state's most prominent National Parks.

SMILING AT SEND-OFF



More than 1,600 students were honored during UNO's two commencement ceremonies May 5 at Baxter Arena — and it seemed all of them wanted pictures with Durango during the UNO Alumni Association's 2017 Senior Send-Off celebrations preceding the exercises.

Seniors 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 each graduate.

Every 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 at both ceremonies.

With the addition of this graduating class there now are nearly 110,000 living UNO alumni worldwide.

ELECTED, CONFIRMED

The 105th annual meeting of the UNO Alumni Association Board of Directors was held May 23 at the Thompson Center. A new executive committee was confirmed and members voted to second three-year terms.

Al Hansen, a 1984 UNO alum, will serve as the 94th graduate to chair the board. Hansen is a senior vice president at First National Bank of Omaha.

Also at the meeting, a Director Appreciation Award was issued to outgoing member Shonna Dorsey and Tina Scott Mordhorst. Sarah Waldman, 2015-16 board chairman, was presented a miniature Maverick Monument in appreciation of her service.

It was the first meeting attended by UNO Chancellor Jeffrey Gold, an ex-officio member of the board.

A complete board roster is provided at www.unoalumni.org/board

2017-18 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: **AL HANSEN**, First National Bank

1ST VICE CHAIRMAN: **LAURIE RUGE**, ACI
Worldwide

2ND VICE CHAIRMAN: **CHRIS DENNEY**,
Nebraska Orthopedic
Hospital



AL HANSEN

TREASURER: **SHARI MUNRO**, Frankel Zacharia

LEGAL ADVISOR: **RANDY STEVENSON**, Baird Holm

SECRETARY: **BRIAN ALLISON**, Children's Hospital & Medical
Center

PAST CHAIRMAN: **SCOTT DURBIN**, Harry A. Koch

PRESIDENT & CEO: **LEE DENKER**, UNO Alumni Association

SECOND TERMS, 2017-20

MONIQUE FARMER, Omaha Public Schools

TAMI WILLIAMS, UNO



SAVE THE DATE

4TH ALUMNI NIGHT OF HONOR SET FOR OCT. 19

The UNO Alumni Association will host the fourth Alumni Night of Honor Thursday, Oct. 19, at the Thompson Alumni Center.

The event highlights achievements by members of the worldwide UNO alumni network. It will celebrate 2017 UNO Athletics Hall of Fame inductees, Young Alumni Achievement Award recipients, Alumni Achievement Award winners, and other distinguished graduates who have earned special recognition for service or professional accomplishments.

Details will be available in the coming weeks at www.unoalumni.org/nightofhonor. Direct questions to Elizabeth Kraemer at ekraemer@unoalumni.org or 402-504-3343.

ALUMNI, DONORS MAKE UNO FUND A SUCCESS

When the UNO Fund launched in July 2016, all alumni and friends of UNO were asked to chip in to collectively grow programs and build a better university.

The response was tremendous. More than 2,300 donors generously provided more than \$270,000 in support of UNO student scholarships, faculty development, academic programs, travel stipends, alumni programming, this magazine and more. The average annual gift was \$113.

"We're blown away by the response," says Mike Bird, vice president of development for UNO at the University of Nebraska Foundation. "It shows that UNO alumni understand the value of investing in students and UNO, a university on the rise. I hope all of our grads can help us continue this momentum into year two."

The UNO Fund impacts students at all levels across the university. Stories of students supported by these gifts can be viewed at nufoundation.org/UNO students.

"A lot of people think they need to make a major gift to make a difference, but our alumni have proven that's not true," says Joel Gehringer, director of the UNO Fund. "Look at what we've accomplished in just one year. It's about being a part of something. When thousands of our grads give — even \$10 or \$25 — it sends a big message to our students: We're here and we support you."

The UNO Fund puts the power into your hands. You make the choice how your donations are best spent at UNO, directly supporting whatever you think is most important, including:

- Student scholarships that ease the cost of education for deserving UNO students.
- Faculty recruitment and retention to recruit the state's best educators and produce the most cutting-edge research

- Your college's academic priorities, whether it be new courses, student support programs, special guest lectures, or more.
- The most pressing needs of the university, immediately benefitting student goals and dreams.
- The UNO Alumni Association, which continues to produce award-winning alumni programming and communications for the benefit of UNO's students.

In appreciation, each donor of \$25 or more to any area of the UNO Fund also receives a UNO Alumni card. The alumni card entitles carriers to exclusive perks on and around campus, including access to Criss Library, HPER membership access, local discounts, ticket discounts to athletics and performances, and more.

The UNO Century Club also recognizes all donors to the UNO Fund who give \$250 or more each year in UNO Magazine. See the 2016 listing on pages 48-49 for more details.

Giving has never been easier and includes a monthly giving option. By making a small, automatic \$5 or \$10 gift each month, you would make a big, year-long difference to a student in need.

With the power of the UNO Alumni network, the UNO Fund hopes to inspire "everyone for Omaha" and transform the campus and the lives of thousands of aspiring future Maverick alumni.

Please consider making your 2017 gift today to the UNO Fund. For questions about the UNO Fund, contact Joel Gehringer at (402) 502-4924 or joel.gehringer@nufoundation.org.

For more information, or to make your gift, visit nufoundation.org/UNOFund.



STEVE SELINE, CENTER, WITH LEE DENKER AND NOW-EMERITUS CHANCELLOR CHRISTENSEN



TODD SCHMADERER, CENTER, WITH LEE DENKER AND NOW-EMERITUS CHANCELLOR CHRISTENSEN

STEVE SELINE, TODD SCHMADERER RECEIVE HIGHEST ALUMNI HONOR

The UNO Alumni Association bestowed its Citation for Alumni Achievement award upon UNO graduates Steve Seline and Todd Schmaderer during the university's spring commencement ceremonies May 5 at Baxter Arena.

Seline earned a BS in economics from UNO in 1975. He has been president of Walnut Private Equity Partners. Its affiliates include Walnut Radio, which Seline founded and oversees as president and CEO.

Schmaderer earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from UNO in 1994. An Omaha native and lifelong resident, he was appointed Omaha's 32nd chief of police in August 2012.

See full biographies of both recipients at www.unoalumni.org/citationsp17

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 www.unoalumni.org/insurance.

TRAVEL

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

A May 2018 luxury cruise to Italy, Greece, and elsewhere is being offered to alumni and friends from UNO and UNL, UNK and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. For more information, including detailed brochures for trips, visit www.unoalumni.org/travel or call the association toll-free at UNO-MAV-ALUM (800-432-3216).





INSTALLATION INCLUDED

THE UNO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S LONG-STANDING SUPPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP CONTINUED IN APRIL DURING INSTALLATION OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT/REGENT AND VICE PRESIDENT.

Association President & CEO Lee Denker presented certificates to Carlo Eby, president/regent, and Hameidah Alsafwani, vice president, recognizing scholarship support the association will provide to each.

Eby and Alsafwani were elected in UNO's March student government election. Both serve one-year terms. The student president serves as an ex-officio member of the UNO Alumni Association Board of Directors and

reports on student affairs at its quarterly meetings.

Since 1983, in celebration of the university's 75th anniversary, the association has provided a Student Regent Leadership Award scholarship (now \$2,400) to the president. In 1997 the association began issuing a scholarship (\$1,200) to the student vice president. Combined, these scholarships have totaled more than \$70,000.

PHOTO: HAMEIDAH ALSAFWANI, VICE PRESIDENT AND CARLO EBY, PRESIDENT OF UNO STUDENT GOVERNMENT.



NINE FACULTY HONORED DURING 21ST ALUMNI TEACHING AWARDS

The UNO Alumni Association celebrated the 21st year of its Alumni Outstanding Teaching Awards program when it presented the honor to nine faculty members during the UNO Faculty Honors Convocation in April.

The UNO Alumni Association established the awards in 1997 to honor distinguished teaching in the classroom. Peer committees in UNO colleges chose recipients, each of whom received a \$1,000 award and a commemorative. With the 2017 awards the association has issued \$185,000 through the program. Brief bios of recipients, listed below, are available at www.unoalumni.org/2017aota

JESSICA HAGAMAN Special Ed. & Communication Disorders, Education

CHRISTOPHER KELLY Gerontology, Public Affairs & Community Service

TAMMIE KENNEDY English, Arts & Sciences

ABHISHEK PARAKH Interdisciplinary Informatics, Information Science & Technology

MARTINA SALTAMACCHIA History, Arts & Sciences

ROOPA VENKATESH Accounting, Business Administration

MILES WAGGENER Writer's Workshop, Communication, Fine Arts and Media

JAMES WILSON Biology, Arts & Sciences

DAVID YUILL Architectural Engineering, UNL Engineering



ANOTHER AWARD FOR THOMPSON CENTER

The Omaha's Choice Awards honored the Thompson Center for a second straight year. The Omaha World-Herald, which sponsors the awards, announced winners in June.

The Thompson center was honored in the Best Wedding Reception Venue category.

Earlier in 2017 the center for a third consecutive year was voted Best Banquet Facility in B2B magazine's Best of B2B contest. It also was voted B2B's Best Conference Facility for the first time.

Voting for the 2017 Omaha Magazine Best of contest has begun and continues to Aug. 20. To vote for the Thompson Center, enter Quick Vote Code 77606.

The Thompson Center is Omaha's premiere location for outdoor weddings and indoor receptions, offering a great midtown location, delicious fare by Catering Creations, extensive amenities, ample & free parking and all-inclusive pricing. Numerous Omaha companies and organizations also have used it to host meetings, seminars, conferences, dinners and other events. The versatile facility offers numerous room options, A/V capabilities, and free Wi-Fi.

See more about the facility at www.unoalumni.org/tc, or set up a tour by calling 402-554-2444.



ALAN KOLOK ADDRESSES CITIZEN SCIENTISTS BEFORE TESTING IN PAPILION CREEK.

NESTING WITH CITIZEN SCIENTISTS

**UNO PROFESSOR ALAN KOLOK
LAUNCHES A CITIZEN-SCIENTIST
TASKFORCE TO STUDY NEBRASKA
WATER QUALITY**

By Robyn Murray

When I met Charlotte Reilly at UNO, she had just finished an hour-long commute from her newest internship in Onawa, Iowa. A double major in environmental science and journalism, Reilly, who will be a junior in the fall, is interning for the U.S. Department of Agriculture this summer.

It's the latest in a schedule packed full of classes, internships and activities. A writer for UNO's student newspaper, the Gateway, and a member of UNO's chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), Reilly is also considering writing stories for Habitat for Humanity of Omaha. If she can find the time.

This spring, Reilly spent her after-class hours helping investigate water quality in Nebraska. She interned for the Nebraska Environmental Stewardship Taskforce (NEST), a project of the Nebraska Watershed Network — a UNO-based organization focused on preserving the city's freshwater resources. The goal of NEST is to raise awareness about the amount of chemicals making their way into our water supply and the difficulties of removing them once they're in. NEST engages communities in scientific research and aims to build trust in a field where it has eroded significantly. Just the kind of issue Reilly hopes to tackle as an environmental reporter.

The focus of NEST is agricultural run-off: pesticides, herbicides and other chemicals

that may be tainting the water supply. The goal is to gather data and create a sizeable database that will be managed at UNO and serve as a resource in determining the impact of agricultural chemicals on the environment and aquatic life.

But the problem was the chemicals weren't always there. The success of a field test depended on when the farmers may have sprayed and what the weather had been like. Had there been enough rain to wash them into the river?



“PEOPLE DON'T THINK ABOUT WATER QUALITY. THEY JUST ASSUME THAT THEY'RE ALWAYS GOING TO HAVE CLEAN WATER. BUT WHEN WE'RE POURING TONS OF CHEMICALS INTO OUR WATER, IT GETS HARDER AND HARDER TO TAKE THEM OUT.”

MAKING A LARGER NEST

NEST is the brainchild of Alan Kolok, Ph.D., a professor of biology at UNO and the director of the Nebraska Watershed Network. For several years, he and his small team tested for chemicals in the Elkhorn River. He often found elevated levels of potentially dangerous chemicals, such as atrazine, a commonly used herbicide that has been shown to disrupt the endocrine system.

So Kolok found a kind of litmus test: a “dipstick” testing strip that could quickly test the water for chemicals without a large field operation. Once he found that, he considered the possibilities: “I started thinking ... we could deploy citizens to collect data over a large geography using these strips really effectively.”

Deploying so-called “citizen scientists” meant the Nebraska Watershed Network could expand its scope tremendously.



“Technically, there’s only three of us,” says Krystal Hermann, director of NEST, referring to herself, Kolok and Reilly. “But this year, we had 300 citizen scientists around the U.S.” That’s for all of the Nebraska Watershed Network’s projects, which extend around the Midwest. For NEST, which launched in the spring and is specific to Nebraska, about 75 people from local high schools, colleges and businesses participated, Hermann says.

Citizen science also puts data in people’s hands, Kolok says, at a time when they don’t know who to trust.

“We’re in a period of having so much information and so much disinformation,” he says. “The general public to a large degree doesn’t really know what to believe.”

For example, Kolok says, there’s as much data out there about why bacon is bad for your health as there is about its benefits (think Atkins) or how climate change is most definitely real — and most certainly a hoax.

Citizen science builds trust, Kolok says, because people are able to see the data for themselves. For this project, they’re able to upload it a website and compare it in real time with data from other citizen scientists.

“We’re no longer at a point in history where we can say, ‘We’re scientists . . . let us do our thing and then we’ll tell you what to do from there.’ Our society has gotten too savvy for that,” Kolok says. “So we need to engage with the community and let the community know we’re not trying to tell you what’s good or bad, but we certainly will get you involved in the process and let you decide for yourself.”

LIFE LESSONS

NEST is supported by funding from Wells Fargo, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Robert B. Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute and the National Science Foundation.

Cristina Castro-Matukewicz, Wells Fargo’s vice president of community affairs, says the company supports “projects like NEST because they engage communities, scientists and the private sector in finding solutions to environmental issues.”

Kolok says NEST has also provided good lessons for the students and interns who participated, particularly how quickly trust can be lost with one “boneheaded” move. Students realize “this is affecting real people that live in my community, that live in my state, and it makes a difference to them,” he says. “It matters. That’s a life lesson.”

Students, he adds, get to “pull back the curtain” and realize the complexity of scientific field projects and research.

NEST is still in the data analysis stage. The team is hoping to publish the results and get the information into the hands of the public later in the year.

Reilly will be back to help in the fall. That will be before she heads to the Peace Corps (her after-graduation plans) where she hopes to work in conservation somewhere in Africa, and before she heads to graduate school, and before — fingers crossed — she lands at a prestigious scientific journal or nature magazine like National Geographic.

In the meantime, Reilly hopes to squeeze in a quick vacation to Minnesota in the summer and looks forward to scouring the NEST data when she returns.

“I just love understanding how things work,” she says, “diving in and dissecting everything around you and figuring out what makes it tick.” She is especially excited to spread the NEST campaign farther across the state, she added in an email. “Then, we can truly get a state-wide picture of how fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides affect our water supply.”

OUR STUDENTS OUR FUTURE

Nebraska’s future begins now — with every current and future student on a University of Nebraska campus. *Our Students, Our Future* — an initiative to raise \$200 million **by the end of this year** — aims to positively impact those students and our state’s future by providing scholarships and supporting programs that greatly benefit student learning. Your generous gifts today will touch the lives of students now and long into the future. Please help us transform young lives and invest in our state’s future today.

Visit nufoundation.org/ourstudentsourfuture to learn more.



UNO'S NEW CHANCELLOR



UNO's newest chancellor, Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D., has gone by many titles: a doctor, an administrator, an educator, a leader, a dream maker and, now, he's a Maverick.

On April 27, Gold, who also is chancellor of the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC), was named by University of Nebraska President Hank Bounds, Ph.D., to serve as chancellor of UNO.

Gold takes over for Chancellor Emeritus John Christensen, Ph.D., who retired after leading UNO for more than decade. And though he now oversees two premier Omaha institutions — one medical and one metropolitan — it appears this is something Gold has been preparing for his entire life.

WORKING-CLASS ROOTS

Growing up in New York City, Gold's formative years were much like that of many UNO students. He and his brother were born to working-class parents and were two of the first in their family to go to college.

Even before graduating from high school, Gold was set on pursuing higher education by any means possible. He did so by enrolling at Cornell University on an engineering college scholarship.

"I grew up in a very humble setting in the inner city of New York," the chancellor says. "My ticket to get out of the inner city was to get a scholarship to go to college, and at that time engineering scholarships were much more plentiful than non-engineering scholarships."

Despite being drawn to medicine from a young age, he knew that getting that first foot in the door would be all it took to prove himself and begin to accomplish his goals.

"I studied what was called, in those days, Applied Theoretical Mechanics, all the while earning the pre-medical requirements, never giving up my dream to go to medical school," he says.

Throughout his educational career, which included graduating top of his class in Cornell's Weill College of Medicine, Gold took every opportunity he could to engage in research and teaching — even as an undergraduate and graduate student.

A TRUE MAVERICK

Charley Reed, Associate Editor

“It gave me a lot of respect for the value of higher education and my first really good look at the inner-workings of a large undergraduate experience,” Gold says. “It gave me a lot of respect for how hard the faculty work and how much goes into planning a curriculum, delivering curriculum and running through the annual academic cycle.”

RENEWED PERSPECTIVE

Flash forward nearly 40 years and it's easy to see that Gold has applied that same tenacity and drive throughout his career.

Beginning with his residency at New York Presbyterian's Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and through his role as chancellor and executive vice president of Biosciences and Health Affairs at the University of Toledo (prior to coming to Omaha), Gold has accumulated an impressive legacy as a surgeon, community leader and educator.

And yet, he is most proud of most recently earning the title “grandpa” following the

“His investment in UNO started well before his role as chancellor,” says Paul Davis, associate professor of biology. “His visionary support of various UNO-UNMC pipelines, including those designed to diversify the Omaha healthcare community, has been a blessing to students and community partners.”

Davis has worked closely with the College of Medicine at UNMC to create the Urban Health Opportunities Program (UHOP), which launched in August 2016 and provides a direct pipeline to medical school at UNMC for students who want to provide health care to underrepresented communities.

“Chancellor Gold has demonstrated time and again the need for programs and offerings to be student-centered and community-lifting,” Davis says. “This is a leadership focus that is highly valued at UNO, and every expectation is that he will carry these values over as the new chancellor.”

Additionally, a number of faculty at UNO have joint appointments at UNMC, including Nick Stergiou, director of UNO's Biomechanics



success,” he says. “He demands excellence from himself, and in turn, others around him seem to elevate their game to match his level of professionalism. He makes those around him want to be the best they can be, and that's a great attitude and energy to have on campus.”

Chancellor Gold says that, as leader of both UNO and UNMC, he foresees countless other opportunities — including everything from the hard sciences to athletic training to rural community engagement

“ YOU SURROUND YOURSELF WITH THE VERY BEST PEOPLE, MAKE SURE THEY HAVE THE RESOURCES THEY NEED, STAY OUT OF THEIR WAY AND THEN BASK IN THEIR REFLECTED GLORY.”

birth of twins — a boy and a girl — from his son and daughter-in-law late last year.

“They have really changed our lives in many different ways,” he says. “I never thought much about what it would mean to be called grandpa — but it turns out I really like it and it's given me a renewed perspective on why it is that I do what I do, what are the contributions that we are going to make as a great university, in education, in healthcare, in community outreach, in research and science, to make their world a better world.”

MAKING AN IMPRESSION

It is that same selflessness and commitment to improving the lives of future generations that has so impressed UNO faculty and students.

Research Building. It is because of those close partnerships that UNO has been able to secure millions in research grants from federal entities like the National Institutes of Health.

“I don't believe we have any grant or a project in biomechanics where we don't work with UNMC,” Stergiou says. “Chancellor Gold is an amazing leader and visionary. During his time here, the ties between the UNO Biomechanics and UNMC have been further strengthened.”

UNO Student Body President Carlo Eby has already had several meetings with Gold and knows that he is committed to a strong student experience.

“Chancellor Gold is not afraid to ask tough questions, but it's all with the intention to set this university on the path of continued

— that will help students achieve their dreams and improve the lives of citizens in Nebraska and around the world.

To achieve these goals, Chancellor Gold says he will continue to rely on the most important piece of advice he's ever received, when he was first named dean at the College of Medicine at the Medical University of Ohio more than a decade ago:

“You surround yourself with the very best people, make sure they have the resources they need, stay out of their way and then bask in their reflected glory. Whether it's our students, our patients, our faculty, our staff — anything I can do to make their dreams come true is to the betterment of our community. And, of course, to the betterment of their life.”



STUDYING FORCES OF NATURE

Since 1998, the Aim For The Stars summer camp has been teaching grade schoolers the basics on a variety of subjects, including meteorology.

The “Weather: A Force of Nature” camp turns fourth- and fifth-graders into mini-meteorologists as they explore hurricanes, tornadoes, hail, lightning and more.

“That’s their favorite part,” says Matthew Morse, a teacher in the program. “They are really drawn to severe weather and its destructive nature.”

Connie O’Brien, program coordinator, says the goal of the camp isn’t to give them lifelong knowledge about weather.

Rather, says O’Brien: “Our goal is to generate interest and light a spark.”

Students from across the Midwest come to UNO every summer to fill the roster of the camp. They come to the classroom to talk about things they noticed in the previous days’ weather.

Most years, local meteorologist Ryan McPike talks to the students. There’s also a field trip to the weather service station in Valley, Nebraska.

By the end of the week, students are able to measure temperature and humidity, know the symbols on a weather map and can start making their own weather predictions based on systems approaching from the West Coast.

— Nolan Searl
University Communications

TAKING LEARNING TO NEW HEIGHTS

Students from area K-12 schools in April joined students from UNO and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Nebraska) to launch a high-altitude weather balloon on UNO’s Scott Campus.

The event was part of a collaboration known as Project HALON (High Altitude Learning Over Nebraska) through which students help design, build and fly a science experiment that is lifted into the stratosphere via the balloon. The experiments ascended to between 90,000 to 100,000 feet before descending to Earth by parachute after the balloon burst.

The location of the experiments was tracked through launch and recovery using radio and satellite communications. “Mission Control Omaha” was located inside PKI and provided real-time monitoring and social media updates while a “chase team” traveled to the experiment’s landing location.

Now in its third year, Project HALON is co-facilitated by James Taylor, PKI research coordinator, and Derrick Nero, UNO K-12 engineering education instructor.



HOW TO ANSWER WHEN NATURAL DISASTER CALLS

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN A NATURAL DISASTER STRIKES? HOW DO YOU PREPARE?

JUST ASK THE FACULTY AND STAFF IN UNO'S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.

"Emergency management, by definition, is supposed to address all hazards in the environment," says Patrick O'Neil, an associate professor who helped found the program.

The emergency management program just completed its fifth year in UNO's College of Public Administration and Community Service. Originally, there was a two-year associate degree in fire protective technology, but there was demand to offer a four-year degree in the field.

"We're really starting to make inroads," O'Neil says.

Graduates of the program have gone on to work at the county, state and federal levels of government.

The program addresses numerous disaster events, including a focus on emergency planning for Nebraska's greatest threat: the weather.

"We do focus on natural hazards, such as tornados, straight-line winds, flash floods and so on," says Tyler Davis, an assistant professor in the program.

Davis and O'Neil teach students to be prepared for anything. In the National Incident Management System course, for example, students use sophisticated disaster simulation software to replicate all kinds of natural hazards.

"What we're trying to do is simulate incident command decision making," said Davis. "We're doing it the right way. The technology and software is state-of-the-art, so you're really getting a cutting-edge education."

Ultimately, an emergency management professional has one primary objective: Prioritize and assemble the material, remove all bias then make the pitch to the decision makers.

It's never an easy thing to do.

"There's lots of challenges in doing this, because resources are finite," O'Neil says. "Sometimes the probability (of certain events) is so low; we would like to address them, but can't. And that's just the real world."

The program follows industry standards that can be applied to locations around the world. Geography and location are critical when determining the probability of certain disasters. So while tornadoes and blizzards are what Nebraskans can expect to experience, students still study earthquakes, hurricanes and even volcanic activity.

"You start identifying these potential hazards to your successful outcome, and then you attach risk to that, and the level of probability," O'Neil says. "Then you sit down and think, 'How much of this can be prevented or mitigated in advance?'"

It all goes back to the central hazard identification and risk management model, which can be applied to any city or organization. The students leave well-rounded, ready to apply the program's principles to any event anywhere in the world.

O'Neil believes that to be one of the program's greatest assets.

On top of 60 hours of general education courses, students take 30 hours of emergency management courses and choose two areas of concentration. They offer 14 different areas of concentration, such as non-profit management or criminal justice.

"You can actually target, in a way, the industry that you want to work in and really tailor your education towards



that," O'Neil says. "So when they leave, they aren't just leaving with a degree in emergency management, they also have two specializations."

Davis has even greater praise for the program.

"If you want to be the absolute best in emergency management, become a Maverick," he says.

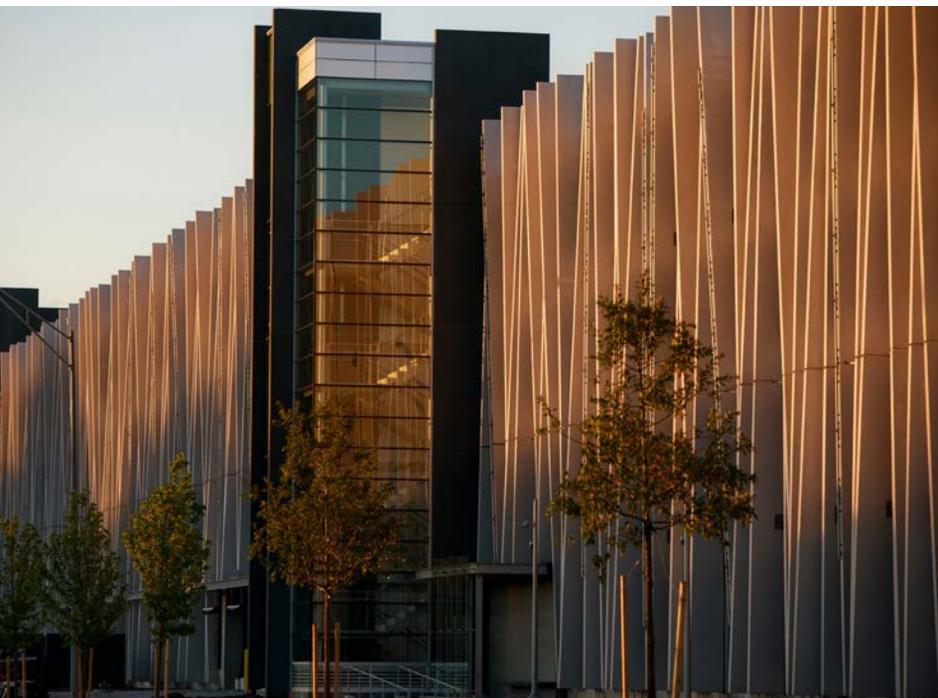
— Nolan Searl
University Communications

PREPARING FOR A DISASTER

"The No. 1 thing is to have situational awareness," Davis says. "Each disaster will have different action items."

Following are steps he suggests.

- 1. Have a plan:** Keep a suitcase packed with essentials ready to go in case you have to leave immediately. Make sure you have cash and government IDs.
- 2. Think about sentimental items:** What sentimental items cannot be replaced? Take some time to make copies of old photos that could easily be destroyed.
- 3. Document damage:** This often is the most forgotten step. Take detailed notes that include pictures and video in case there is a need for insurance claims.



PARKING SERVICES ROLLING OUT VIRTUAL PERMITS

Gone are the days of rolling down a window on a frigid winter morning to scan your MavCARD before entering a campus parking garage.

UNO Parking Services' new virtual permit system, which relies on license plate recognition software, will allow drivers to stay toasty in their cars for an extra minute or two.

Consider it an unplanned perk of the new technology, which offers greater flexibility to students, staff, faculty and visitors looking to park on campus.

By relying solely on license plates, Parking Services will be able to offer instant online access to daily, hourly, semester and annual permits. Drivers can also use the Park Omaha app or new garage kiosks to park by the hour.

Plus, with no more hang tags, permit buyers don't have to wait for their permit to arrive in the mail or make a special trip to the Parking Services office.

The increased convenience is a key reason why more universities are adopting similar systems.

UNO Parking and Transit Manager Vanessa Rath says schools such as Colorado State University, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and University of British Columbia have had great success with virtual permits.

Virtual permits aren't the only change to impact parking at UNO. UNO recently opened a new garage on Scott Campus, near 67th and Pacific Streets.

— Sam Petto



IN VANE

It was a dark and stormy night ...

No, for real.

Dark clouds massed over the new Omaha University campus. Violent winds bent young trees and drove cold sheets of rain. Then, streaking across the sky, a bolt of lightning struck the weather vane atop the Arts & Sciences cupola.

A shower of sparks burst over the campus and pieces of the metal vane flew more than 100 yards away, landing on the lawn near Dodge Street. What remained of the vane was partially melted.

So went an early spring storm over UNO in March 1940.

The vane was less than 3 years old, installed 80-feet high atop the ASH cupola, the "nose" of the building that at one point provided fresh air to the building through its louvers. The vane, installed in 1937 by Omaha architect Frank Latenser, is an exact replica of the one that tops Independence Hall in Philadelphia.

From the start, students were fascinated with the cupola and its vane, requesting that a door be installed to it. Latenser denied the request. There would be "no way of conquering its summit," reported the Gateway student newspaper.

It was in the news again following the 1940 lightning strike. University regents debated the need to add a lightning rod atop the building, some speculating whether lightning rods might attract more lightning bolts. Eventually, a lightning rod was installed and the weather vane repaired.

The next significant work to the cupola and weather vane didn't come until the next century when a crew in 2013 repaired and repainted both.

There it remains, a testament to the staying power of all Mavericks who stand strong no matter how the storms rage.

— Bryonna Johnson, UNO Alumni Association communications intern



SIGHTSEERS PASS THE GERMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH (28TH/PARKER STS.) WHICH WAS THE SITE OF A WEDDING ON THAT EASTER SUNDAY. AFTER HASTY VOWS, THE NEWLYWEDS FLED IN AN AUTOMOBILE WHILE GUESTS SOUGHT SHELTER IN THE BASEMENT. THE STRUCTURE COLLAPSED, BUT ALL WERE LATER FREED BY RESCUERS — IN OMAHA, NEBRASKA.



OMAHA AND COUNCIL BLUFFS STREET RAILWAY CAR #862 HALTED ON THE TRACKS AT 24TH/GRANT STREETS. (NOTE THE OTHER STREETCAR IN BACKGROUND.) EVERY WINDOW OF THE CAR WAS BROKEN, AND WHILE ALL ABOARD SUSTAINED INJURIES, NO RIDERS PERISHED DUE TO QUICK THINKING BY THE CONDUCTOR.



THE HOUSE AT 3402 LINCOLN BLVD., BUILT FOR OMAHA RESTAURATEUR CHRISTOFF "TOLF" HANSON IN 1904, WAS ONE OF THE SHOWPLACES OF BEMIS PARK. IN 1913 IT WAS THE HS CLARK, JR. HOME, AND MRS. CLARK FOUND HERSELF MISTAKENLY PLACED ON THE LIST OF THE TORNADO'S FATALITIES. THE BUILDING WAS REPAIRED AND STILL STANDS IN BEMIS PARK

A CAMPUS RESPONDS TO THE EASTER SUNDAY TORNADO OF 1913

For many Omahans, the tornado of 1975 remains the most significant weather event of their lives.

In the life of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, though, the Easter Sunday Tornado of 1913 tops the list.

Hitting March 23 that year, the tornado ripped through Omaha, killing nearly 100 people, destroying more than 2,000 houses, and devastating the city with millions of dollars of damage. The tornado passed just five blocks from Omaha University — then located at 24th and Pratt Streets — but left it untouched.

Later that night, a cold front brought rain and snow, further adding to the misery.

Omaha University founder Daniel Jenkins ignored the damage the tornado did to his own home, rushing to "Check on my baby on 24th Street." It was unharmed, and Jenkins took that to be a God-given sign he should continue leading the university, founded just five years previous.

Omaha University freshman Samuel Slotky, meanwhile, earned praise for his actions after the tornado, running miles to notify soldiers at Fort Omaha of the devastation in the city and asking for their help.

The devastation was estimated at a minimum of \$5 million — \$123 million today. Few people carried tornado insurance at that time; however, within two weeks of the storm, 12,000 Omahans had signed up for an amount totaling \$10 million in coverage.

UNO graduate Travis Sing (1998), who provided the accompanying photos, might be the foremost expert on the devastating twister. In 2003 Sing wrote "Omaha's Easter Tornado of 1913," featuring nearly 200 photographs documenting the path of destruction, as well as stories of survival, compassion and reconstruction. Find it at www.arcadiapublishing.com.

SNOW JOB



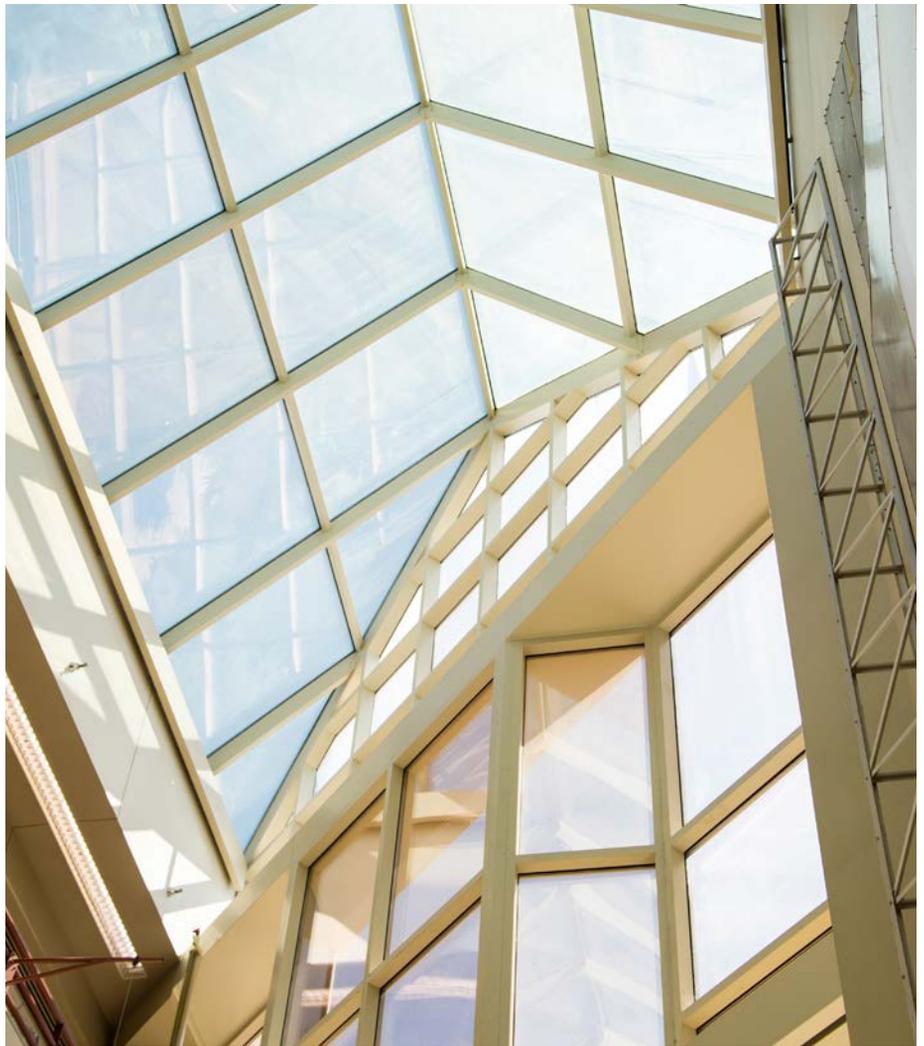
UNO for the most part has avoided substantial damage during the city's historically severe weather events, including the tornados of 1913 and 1975 and the blizzard of 1975.

Such was not the case with the unexpected snowstorm of Oct. 25-26, 1997. That storm dropped 9.2 inches of wet, dense snow on the city, crushing the Omaha's previous October record of 4.6 inches of snow in 1898.

Five people died because of the storm. And trees — many of which still had the majority of their leaves — went down all across Omaha. It would cost \$50 million to clean up.

UNO students were part of that, members of the Student Democrats and those from fraternities and sororities pitching in to clean at sites around the city.

At UNO, 83 trees were destroyed. The cost to replace them, \$141,950, was covered by insurance.



UP ON THE ROOFTOP

Did you know there's a weather station on top of the Durham Science Building?

That's right. For 24 hours a day, data gets sent to a group of monitors inside the building on the second floor.

"The intention was that we would have students go up to the station as part of their lab work," says Jeff Peake, a former UNO professor of climatology.

Meteorology, urban environment and many other classes use the data for their coursework. Students have been doing so since the station was created in 1999.

The station is one of many located across Omaha. It's part of a network called "weather underground," which is owned by the Weather Channel.

It's received some updates over the years. It's completely autonomous now,

whereas previously someone had to go onto the roof to get the readings.

Monitors in the building display the current temperature; the cloud base; daily precipitation; wind direction and speed; air pressure; solar radiation and more.

"People in the building stop by to get their weather news," Peak says. "It's just a great way to get your weather news in much greater detail than what you would see on TV."

"Students will walk by with their coffee and take a few minutes to watch the screens and get the daily forecast."

The data can be accessed anywhere online at maps.unomaha.edu. No need for an app, either — the Durham Weather Station gives you all the information you need (and more).

"I don't even watch the weather news anymore," Peake says.

— Nolan Searl
University Communications

MOVIE METEOROLOGY

TWISTER

How can you not be in awe of storms that throw combines past your moving vehicle, along with cows that are still mooing and big SUVs being sucked up into the clouds?! I knew how they did effects like these, but I was still on the edge of my seat.

THE PERFECT STORM

If George Clooney or Mark Walberg ever ask if you want to go deep sea fishing – RUN as fast as you can. Anyone who doesn't appreciate what the Coast Guard does should watch this film, based on true events.

THE POSEIDON ADVENTURE

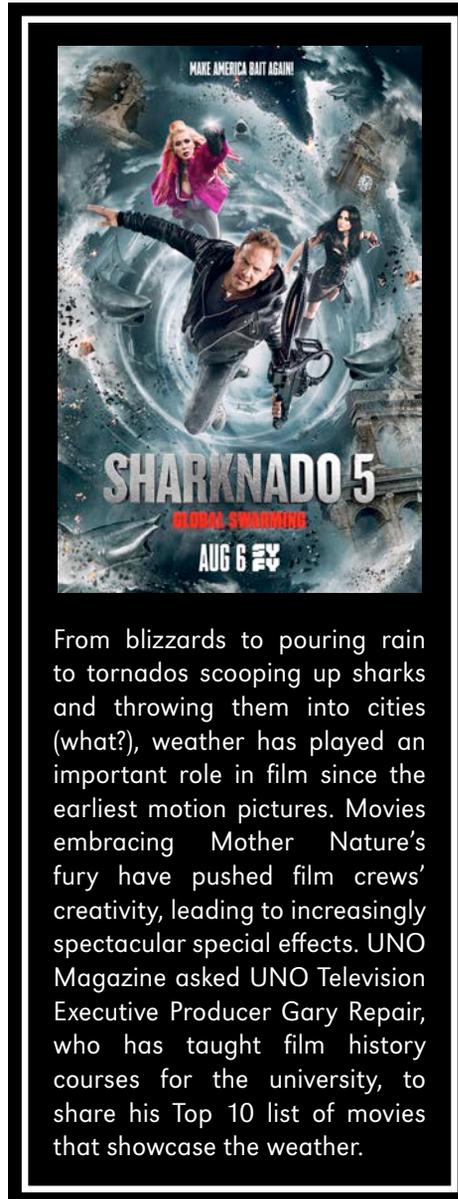
Probably why subconsciously I've never wanted to take a cruise. One of Irwin Allen's catastrophe films, along with "Earthquake" and "The Towering Inferno." "Poseidon" had a great cast – Leslie Neilson as the ship's captain before the "Naked Gun" series came along, Gene Hackman, Red Buttons, Ernest Borgnine and many other stars of the day.

LAWRENCE OF ARABIA

Saw this classic at the Cooper 70 in downtown Omaha. The desert crossing scene was incredible. Just when you think the characters aren't going to make it over the next dune, the super structure of a ship going by tells you they made it to the Suez Canal.

THE BIBLE IN THE BEGINNING

I saw it on the big screen at Indian Hills when I was 11 or 12 and always remember Noah and the flood sequence. Very riveting.



From blizzards to pouring rain to tornados scooping up sharks and throwing them into cities (what?), weather has played an important role in film since the earliest motion pictures. Movies embracing Mother Nature's fury have pushed film crews' creativity, leading to increasingly spectacular special effects. UNO Magazine asked UNO Television Executive Producer Gary Repair, who has taught film history courses for the university, to share his Top 10 list of movies that showcase the weather.

SHARKNADO

So utterly and completely ridiculous it's entertaining. All the cast should have been nominated for Academy Awards for keeping straight faces while filming. The fact that multiple sequels have been produced indicates that filmmakers discovered what their audience really likes – and I'm guessing it's not historical documentaries.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND

The roiling cloud effect when the alien space crafts are approaching was spellbinding at the time. This remains one of my favorite films. The visuals, the pacing, the cuts from shot to shot and the John Williams score combine for very powerful movie making by Steven Spielberg.

THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW

What happens when New York City gets flash-frozen like freeze-dried coffee crystals? It ain't good. Good film to watch if you're snuggled up with someone, under a blanket, near a fire and having a hot beverage. Ear muffs optional.

STAR TREK IV: THE VOYAGE HOME

The huge storm caused by an alien space craft looking for whales on Earth was interesting. The final scenes where the heroes crash in the water and release a whale, which in turn saves the Earth, was filmed in a man-made pool in the film studio parking lot, but still very well done.

THE GUNS OF NAVARONE

A 1960s WWII film about British commandoes on a mission to destroy huge German guns on the occupied Greek Island of Navarone. It featured several great actors of the day, including Gregory Peck, David Niven, Anthony Quinn, James Darren and Richard Harris. An early scene of the commandos having their small fishing boat destroyed in a bad storm and their subsequent struggle to get ashore left an impression I can still recall today.

– Gary Repair



FALLING for the Mavericks

2017 UNO ATHLETICS FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

As students return to class in August, UNO Athletics kicks off its third full year of Division I competition. UNO men's and women's soccer teams get the ball rolling in mid-August, followed closely by the cross country, golf and volleyball teams.

The Mavericks look to build on their achievements from last season and strive for Summit League championships as well as NCAA Tournament berths.

Following is a sport-by-sport preview of the teams that will take to the court, course, links and pitch this fall.

Names in bold represent athletes shown in photos.

BITS OF THE BULL

MEN'S SOCCER

UNO looks to get back into title contention after a 2016 season that saw the Mavericks tie a program-best 10 wins, secure the top seed heading into postseason play, and finish runner-up in the Summit League Championship.

Head Coach Jason Mims is in his seventh year at the helm of a program that returns 17 letterwinners, including seven starters. Mims also brought in a talented group of nine new players who bolster the roster.

"We return a lot of guys, and some that have played significant minutes and roles for us," Mims says. "It's always tough to replace graduating seniors, because of leadership and experience. However, we feel that we have a lot of good pieces."

The Mavericks will have to replace the program's all-time leader in points and assists, Mark Moulton, and last year's leading scorer, Fazlo Alihodzic. UNO also lost four-year starters Lalo Gamboa and Jake McCain.

UNO does, however, return key starters from a year ago. **Joseph Ghitis**, **Emmanuel Hamzat**, **Elvir Ibisevic**, **Joel Kazhila**, **Cole Nelson**, Seth Rinderknecht and **Jacob Weiler** all started 11 of the team's 19 games. Ghitis, Hamzat and Rinderknecht earned First-Team All-Summit League honors with Hamzat also taking Newcomer of the Year accolades. Weiler garnered Second-Team All-Summit honors.

Besides the always-challenging Summit League schedule, the Mavericks will have contests against several quality non-conference opponents. The 2017 season gets going Aug. 13 with an exhibition against national tournament qualifier Notre Dame.

Opening weekend fixtures include Grand Canyon (Aug. 25) and national tournament quarterfinalist Virginia Tech (Aug. 27). Crosstown rival Creighton visits Caniglia Field for the first time on Sept. 26. UNO's home

Summit League schedule this season includes Fort Wayne (Sept. 30), Western Illinois (Oct. 21) and Oral Roberts (Nov. 4). UNO will also host the Summit League Men's Soccer Championship Nov. 9-11.

"This schedule was built for the student-athletes and fans," Mims says. "We wanted to reward them with a great home schedule, and we believe we have delivered in a big way. We have perennial powers coming to play at Caniglia Field. "This year's schedule is the best home schedule we have put together in the short history of UNO soccer."

WOMEN'S SOCCER

The UNO women's soccer team enters the 2017 season with a new head coach at the helm, Tim Walters having stepped into that role in the spring.

For Walters' first season, the Mavericks return 13 letterwinners, including six starters. Senior midfielder **Carlie Cook** highlights UNO's returnees having led the Mavericks in scoring with 15 points on six goals and three assists.

Joining Cook are senior midfielder Lydia Holtmann (four goals, two assists, 10 points), junior midfielder **Emily Romero** (one goal, five assists, seven points), senior midfielders **Jessica Bollinger** and Erin Dimon and sophomore midfielder **Sophia Roux**.

Sophomore goalkeeper Erin Bunker appeared in four games with a .773 save percentage and 1.39 goals-against average. Also back for the Mavericks are senior Natalie Johnson (one goal, one assist), juniors Marin Dregelid, Cydney Skinner and Kelsey Stithem, and sophomores Mallory Edward and Taylor Gelling. Walters added an 11-player recruiting class to bolster the roster.

"There are several key players returning this fall," Walters says. "But we are excited about our new players, as well. It is going to be fun watching this team develop throughout the season."

The 2017 season gets going Aug. 10 with an exhibition match at national tournament qualifier Arkansas. UNO opens the regular season by visiting Eastern Washington (Aug. 18) and



Gonzaga (Aug. 20) before hosting Northern Iowa (Aug. 25). The Mavericks also visit Kansas State (Aug. 30), North Dakota (Sept. 1), UMKC (Sept. 10), Creighton (Sept. 16) and Drake (Sept. 28) before starting Summit League play.

This season UNO hosts conference foes IUPUI (Oct. 1), Denver (Oct. 15), Western Illinois (Oct. 26) and South Dakota (Oct. 29) at Caniglia Field.

“We look forward to seeing how much we can improve throughout the season,” Walters says. “Our goal is to be playing our best soccer by the time the Summit League Championships are played in November.”

VOLLEYBALL

A great challenge awaits the UNO volleyball team this fall, as the Mavericks face their toughest schedule in program history. It starts with three-straight weekends on the road at the Iowa State Challenge, Iowa’s Hawkeye Classic and the Drake Tournament.

The steepest test comes the following weekend, however, as UNO makes its home debut with the Omaha Challenge at Baxter Arena. The three-day, six-match home tournament brings in perennial power Nebraska and NCAA Tournament qualifiers Kansas State and Northern Iowa, the highest RPI programs UNO has ever faced.

“The UNO Challenge will bring high-level volleyball to the UNO campus,” Head Coach Rose Shires says. “It will be a big weekend to propel our program forward, and we’re excited to welcome volleyball fans across the state to our home court for a tournament of this caliber.

“Being able to compete in tournaments with such close proximity to UNO allows us to play opponents from the Big 12, Big Ten and Missouri Valley, all within four hours of our city. We look forward to our three road tournaments and to open our home schedule with such an incredible field for our own tournament, all of which will prepare us for Summit League play beginning in September.”

Shires, the winningest coach in program history with a career record of 483-365, enters her 28th year at the helm.

Despite losing six letterwinners, UNO has multiple players with starting experience in its 2017 lineup.



Senior setter **Sydney O’Shaughnessy**, an All-Summit honoree in 2015 and a three-year starter, headlines the group after averaging 9.22 assists per set last season. The Omaha native (Marian High School) reached two major milestones on the same night late in her junior campaign, surpassing 3,000 career assists and 1,000 career digs.

Junior outside hitter Mackenzie Horkey, sidelined due to an injury sustained early in 2016, returns after averaging 3.35 kills per set in the six matches she played. In addition, a pair of Summit League All-Freshman honorees in sophomore outside hitters Chloe Dousette (3.00 k/s in 2016) and Gessica Gdowski (1.65 k/s, 2.13 d/g in 2015) also return. Senior middle blocker Amanda Conlin (1.44 k/s, 0.78 b/s), sophomore middle blocker Ellie Brown (1.49 k/s, 0.64 b/s), sophomore right side hitter Meagen Roth (1.01 k/s, 1.16 d/s) and sophomore middle hitter Daria Taylor (0.59 b/s) round out the Mavericks’ returning corps.

Shires also added six newcomers to the roster with five true freshmen and a transfer: middle blocker Bella Sade, middle hitters Anna Blaschko and Abigail Meyer, setter Kelli Nee and outside hitters Abby Bergsten and Claire Mountjoy. Bergsten began her collegiate career at Iowa Western, where she was a two-time ICCAC All-Region pick and helped the Reivers to a national runner-up finish last season.

UNO opens the 2017 slate Aug. 25-26, tangling with New Mexico, Iowa State and Kent State in Ames, Iowa.

CROSS COUNTRY

Freshmen Willa Koenig and **Renata Valquier-Chavez** led the way for the UNO cross country team last fall and now as sophomores, both will be looked upon to take the next step in their promising careers.

“We return six of the seven who ran at the regional championships last year, where we placed our highest since becoming a championship-eligible D1 program,” says Cliff Cisar, assistant coach who oversees all UNO distance runners. “With the return of Karo Garcia from her military service and a key freshman/transfer class, our depth has never been greater.



“We look to showcase a combination of leadership and experience from our upperclassmen with a mix of talent and competitive fire from our underclassmen.”

Koenig and Valquier-Chavez took turns leading the Mavericks in six meets last season. Koenig ran first for UNO in three meets and was second in the other three. Valquier-Chavez also led the Mavericks in three meets, finished second twice and third once. Both ran their best 6K times of the season at the NCAA Regionals in Iowa City in November.

Garcia served with the U.S. Army, missing both the 2016 track season and the cross country campaign last fall. In 2015, she led the Mavericks in all six meets in which she ran, including finishing 27th overall at the Summit League Championship. She’ll give the Mavericks an infusion of experience in her senior year.

Two seniors will give the Mavericks added experience and depth this fall. **Kayla Sabotin** and Alyssa

Averhoff were regular scorers for the Mavericks, Sabotin doing so in all six meets and Averhoff doing so in five. Sophomore Anita Jenkins was another consistent scorer for the Mavericks and had her best finish for the team at the Summit League Championship when she was third on the team.

Two newcomers will join UNO’s nine returning runners — Alyx Flippin, a transfer from Central Missouri, and true freshman Emily Johnson from Elkhorn South.

The Mavericks’ 2017 schedule had not been finalized as of press time.

MEN’S GOLF

The fall marks the first half of the season for both the men’s and women’s golf teams, which will not compete for the Summit League Championship until the spring. Still, the fall has its highlights for the Mavericks, including the UNO Invitational for both the men and the women at ArborLinks in Nebraska City Sept. 1-2.

The men’s roster will have two important vacancies to fill with the graduation of fifth-year senior Mitch Ryan and junior college transfer Ben Maskus. Maskus led the Mavericks in scoring with a school-record stroke average of 75 last season. He was UNO’s top finisher in the Summit Championship, placing eighth. Ryan finished



third for the Mavericks despite battling injuries throughout his senior season.

"It's tough losing two players who played injured last spring and gave us everything they had," says head coach Seth Porter. "They both did great things for our program during their time here, and we're going to miss their leadership."



The Mavericks return junior **Kevin Gordon**, who was second on the team at the Summit Championship last season after finishing as the overall winner and the championship MVP as a freshman.

"Kevin will be a huge part of our success in the upcoming year," Porter says. "He knows he can be a top player in the Summit League, but he's got to put in the work to do that, and I know he will."

The Mavericks will have three incoming players in 2017-18. Both Cole Christain and Bank Thirawat will be juniors after two years at Dodge City Community College. Thirawat was the No. 2 player for Dodge City last year, and both players are expected to bring experience and leadership to the roster. Patrick Ravn will be a true freshman out of South St. Paul, Minn., and could immediately compete for playing time.

The Mavericks also add redshirt freshman Jonah Wright of Scottsbluff to their lineup. He sat out last season due to a lingering injury from his high school career. Wright was all-state for the Bearcats, helping them to two state Class B titles.

The other new face on the course for the Mavericks this season will be alum Taylor Sidzyk, who was hired as the assistant coach of both the men's and women's teams. An Omaha native, Sidzyk was a part of UNO's first Division I men's team, playing for the Mavericks from 2011-15.

In addition to the UNO Invitational, the Mavericks will play in tournaments at SIUE, Drake, UMKC and Old Dominion during the fall.

WOMEN'S GOLF

The UNO women's golf team returns its top six scorers from last season, including standout senior **Megan Vetrovsky**, who led the team



FORMER MAVERICKS GUENTZEL, ARCHIBALD WIN STANLEY CUP

Former UNO hockey forwards Jake Guentzel and Josh Archibald made history in June, the duo helping the Pittsburgh Penguins to the 2017 Stanley Cup championship. They are the first Mavericks to have their names on the Stanley Cup.

Guentzel, a native of Woodbury, Minnesota, lettered at UNO from 2013-16. He played in all 25 Stanley Cup playoff games and finished his run with 13 goals and eight assists for 21 points, which tied the NHL rookie playoff record.

Archibald, from Brainerd, Minnesota, lettered at UNO from 2011-14. He appeared in four playoff games for the Penguins.

"This is a really exciting time for our program and a special moment for Maverick fans with two alumni winning the Stanley Cup," UNO Head Coach Mike Gabinet says. "It is an accomplishment few hockey players ever experience in their careers, and we're proud of the championship run Jake and Josh have had with the Penguins this year."

Pittsburgh defeated the Nashville Predators 2-0 in game six and took the series, 4-2. The Penguins are the first team to repeat as Stanley Cup Champions since the Detroit Red Wings in 1997 and 1998.

in scoring in all 10 tournaments in which she took part.

Vetrovsky led the team in scoring in 2016-17 with a stroke average of 76.7 and was UNO's top finisher in the Summit League Championship, tying for 16th.

"Megan continues to get better, and she knows she has more work to do to keep improving," Porter says. "Because of her class schedule, she often can't practice with the rest of the team, but she always puts in the work on her own and we've seen the results so far."

Porter is upbeat about his other returning players, including sophomore **Samantha Chong** and juniors Jordan York and **Mandy Boyle**.



"Samantha has all the tools," Porter says. "As she starts her sophomore year, she'll need to work on her consistency and building her confidence."

"Both Jordan and Mandy have really improved in the last year-and-a-half, and they also need to work on being more consistent and learning how to work their way around the course."



The Mavericks have just one incoming player in true freshman Hannah Hunke of Snyder, Nebraska. A multi-sport athlete in high school, she finished 13th in the state Class D boys' tournament and also won a Class D1 basketball championship with Guardian Angels Central Catholic of West Point.

— Dave Ahlers, Bonnie Ryan and Shad Beam

GABINET NAMED UNO HOCKEY HEAD COACH

FELLOW ALUM NOEL-BERNIER JOINS STAFF AS ASSISTANT



MIKE GABINET NAMED THIRD HEAD HOCKEY COACH IN UNO HISTORY.

UNO Vice Chancellor of Athletics Trev Alberts announced April 5 that Mike Gabinet was named the third head hockey coach in UNO history, replacing Dean Blais, who stepped down after eight seasons behind the Maverick bench.

“We undertook an extensive search, and Mike rose to the top of our candidate pool because of his detailed, comprehensive approach to creating a sustainable culture of excellence,” Alberts said. “It also was very important to us to get the feedback from the players, and to a man they all endorsed Mike as the kind of coach who is a great teacher and someone who could help our program take the next step.”

Gabinet came to UNO as its associate head coach in April 2016. He coached UNO’s power play unit, which ranked as the best in the NCHC after ranking seventh of eight teams in 2015-16. It was UNO’s best power play unit since leading the nation in that statistic in 2007-08.

“I’m grateful for this opportunity to be the head coach of my alma mater and excited to build on what’s been established here by Mike Kemp and Dean Blais,” Gabinet said. “The Omaha community has been a great supporter of our program, and I’m looking forward to building that bond with our fans and my fellow alumni. I’m amazed by how far UNO has come since my playing days, and I’m excited about where we’re going.”

A native of Edmonton, Alberta, Gabinet played defense for the Mavericks from 2000-04 and was an alternate captain as a senior. In 130 career games, he scored six goals and 41 assists. His 47 points rank 10th all-time among UNO defenseman. He graduated in 2004 with a business degree in finance.

Gabinet was a draft pick of the Los Angeles Kings in 2001 and played professionally in the American Hockey League, the ECHL and Europe before turning to coaching in 2012.

He was head coach of the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) in 2015-16 after serving as an assistant there for three seasons. He led the Oaks to the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference Championship with a 36-0 record, only the second time in 51 years a team finished undefeated in the conference. He was named ACAC Coach of the Year and became the first rookie head coach to guide his team to an undefeated season in Canadian college hockey history.

Two weeks after taking the UNO helm, Gabinet hired another former Maverick to his staff as an assistant, Dave Noel-Bernier.

Noel-Bernier played in the first four years of the UNO program. The native of Montmagny, Quebec appeared in 138 games, scoring 24 goals and 26 assists. He was a two-time CCHA Scholar Athlete, graduating from UNO with a degree in exercise science in 2001. He previously was a member of the UNO coaching staff as director of hockey operations and assistant strength coach for three seasons beginning in 2007.

Most recently, Noel-Bernier was an assistant coach for the Detroit Red Wings, working with players on-ice and in video sessions. Prior to that he was hockey director of the Grand Rapids (Michigan) Blades Association and had coaching experience with the Grand Rapids Griffins of the AHL and Muskegon Lumberjacks of the USHL, where he also was assistant general manager.

His coaching career followed six seasons as a professional player in North America and Germany.

After an exhibition, UNO begins its season Oct. 13 with two games at UMass Lowell. The schedule features seven opponents who made the NCAA tournament last year, including defending national champion Denver and runner-up Minnesota Duluth, both fellow NCHC members.



North Bend, NE Shelf Cloud by Eric Anderson



ERIC ANDERSON



EVAN LUDES



CHRIS MACHIAN



CHASE

By Susan Houston Klaus

PROFESSIONAL STORM CHASERS AND THOSE CHARGED WITH DOCUMENTING SEVERE STORMS KNOW THE PURSUIT CAN BE A THRILLING YET BITTERSWEET ADVENTURE.

FOR THREE UNO ALUMNI, ONE THING IS SURE: IN THE TURBULENT WEATHER OF SPRING AND EARLY SUMMER, THEY NEVER KNOW FOR CERTAIN WHAT THE DAY WILL HOLD. THEY'VE LEARNED TO WATCH THE FORECAST VIGILANTLY, BE FLEXIBLE, AND WHEN A STORM DOES FLARE, STAY OUT OF ITS WAY.

FROM BEAUTIFUL TO DESTRUCTIVE

Growing up on a farm in the northeast Nebraska town of Lyons, 2015 alum Eric Anderson was always interested in severe weather.

"I'd always get in trouble from my mom because I'd go outside during storms

and there'd be lightning," he says. "She'd get nervous and want me to come in, and I'd just go out farther."

Early on, he combined his curiosity with his camera skills, shooting photos that illustrated the havoc such weather can wreak. About six years ago, he started chasing storms.

"You can go through a chase day and you can see the best part of nature, the most beautiful storms and calm, and then you get up close to it and you realize it's unleashing complete destruction."

As part of the group Tornado Raiders, he estimates he's racked up close to 200,000 miles chasing storms from Canada to Texas, Colorado to Indiana.

FOR ART'S SAKE

Evan Ludes, also a 2015 grad, got the storm-shooting bug while he was still in high school. His first chase was May 2010 — he remembers getting permission from his parents to go with a friend to photograph storms in Oklahoma.

"I know there are lots of people who do it for the adrenaline rush and the storm junkie,

but I'm definitely the type who goes out for the photos and the art," Ludes says.

In the past seven years, he's chased throughout the Midwest. Recently, he moved to Rapid City, South Dakota, where the Black Hills are their own storm-producing environment.

"They're just out the back door here. Maybe 10 or 15 miles and I can be under a storm most days during the summer. It's always sort of a tough call to make because you never know if the storm will still be there."

Big outbreaks, however, give photographers a head start on planning the potential for the best shots.

"You can see them on the long-range models anywhere from one to two weeks out. Then sometimes as you're two or three days out, you get higher and higher confidence that we are going to have some supercell thunderstorms or tornadoes in the area," Ludes says.

THE IMPACT ON PEOPLE

Documenting both the lead-up and the aftermath to severe storms is part of Chris Machian's job as a photojournalist



Nebraska Mammatus by Evan Ludes

6 | WHEN I SEE A GREEN SKY, I GET

UNO Lightning by Evan Ludes





Nehawka by Chris Machian



Pilger Twins by Eric Anderson

A LITTLE NERVOUS.



at the Omaha World-Herald.

While he photographs storms, he doesn't consider himself a chaser but someone who's focused on showing how severe weather affects people.

He's documented some of the worst tornadoes in the past several years. His work has been recognized with a Great Plains Journalism Award; he's also a winner in the Associated Press Great Plains News and Photo Contest.

The 2004 UNO grad started covering storms for the Gateway while he was a student.

"I'll be honest, I didn't know what I was doing. It wasn't until later that I found that the weather service offers severe weather spotter training."

That kind of education, along with understanding how to use weather models, helps these photographers predict where to get the best shots — and helps them stay safe during a storm.

In 10 years at the World-Herald, Machian has covered many storms, but one that stays with him isn't a tornado. It's the 2013 storm that caused damaging hail in Blair and significant flooding in Omaha.

"I was with another World-Herald photographer that day. The cloud was amazing, just this huge thing coming at us. It was beautiful and we knew it was going to be bad."

CAPTURING A MOMENT IN TIME

For these photographers, there are names that form a kind of storm shorthand. El Reno, Oklahoma. Pilger,

Nebraska. Mapleton, Iowa. Each town suffered devastation from tornadoes.

The pictures from the storms garnered front-page coverage from newspapers around the world. Their video footage got top priority on TV and online.

Still, what sticks with them likely isn't clicking the shutter to capture a dramatic picture, Ludes says. Sometimes, it's remembering the conditions that came together to produce a once-in-a-lifetime moment — like when he shot a storm that produced bowling-ball size hail in Vivian, South Dakota, in 2010.

"You never really know you're documenting a historically significant storm until the day is done. I found myself poring over old photos checking the time stamps and thinking, at that time, the updraft had to be exploding upward at approximately 180mph in order to support those world-record hailstones. I still think of that storm every time I drive past Vivian on Interstate 90."

ENERGY IN THE AIR

As seasoned as these photographers are, there are conditions that give them pause when they're headed to a storm location. A rain-wrapped storm — which can hide a tornado — and lightning top the list, but there are others.

"When I see a green sky, I get a little nervous," Machian says.

"There are times when you kind of feel the atmospheric energy in the air. It's windy, it's humid, there are just certain things where you say, 'Oh it's going to be bad.'"



Ansley Nebraska Supercell by Evan Ludes



Nature by Chris Machian

Anderson captured the “twin tornadoes” photo in Pilger in 2014. Interestingly, he says, it was the only day his team had picked a target city to wait for a storm “and absolutely nailed the forecast.”

By the time his team had reached the town, they were some of the first responders there.

“One of the guys we were stationed with that day was a medic so he had all the necessary equipment.” Like any disaster they would encounter, Anderson says, “we rolled up on the scene and were providing aid any way we could without getting in the way of the professional first responders.

“That day was surreal. It was a really exciting day to begin with and it ended on a pretty sobering note.”

Balancing the art form with the reality that storms come and go helps put the job in perspective, Ludes says.

“Most of my chases could be categorized as events that while certainly memorable and incredible to me, will not likely go down in the history books as anything significant.

“Countless storms have roamed the plains before our time, and they’ll continue to, regardless of who’s around to see or document them. That’s perhaps the most humbling thing to think about.”

CHASE RESPONSIBLY



Downtown Omaha Lightning by Eric Anderson

Storm photographers Eric Anderson, Evan Ludes and Chris Machian offer this advice to those eager to follow a storm:

- **Get educated.** Take a National Weather Service SkyWarn storm spotter training class. Offered locally, these sessions are free and will give you a basic understanding of thunderstorm structure, spotting techniques, reporting criteria and procedures.
- **Safety always comes first.** Don’t clog the roads. Stopping and getting out of your car not only can put your life in jeopardy but other people’s, too. And it can prevent first responders from reaching those who are injured.
- **Closer isn’t always better.** Don’t always be set on getting a photo of a tornado — there are plenty of other opportunities for good pictures. Drive back a mile from the storm, if you can, and you’ll see the full structure of the storm.

SEE MORE STORM PHOTOS BY ERIC ANDERSON, EVAN LUDES AND CHRIS MACHIAN AT WWW.UNOALUMNI.ORG/STORMCHASERS



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: BRUCE TELFEYAN, TED LEWINSTON, MSGT. JAMES SLISIK AND ZACK WARMAN

MISSION CRITICAL

UNO GRADUATES AND FORMER FACULTY ARE KEY MEMBERS OF THE U.S. AIR FORCE'S 557TH WEATHER WING

By Greg Kozol

Chances are, your favorite television weather forecaster will rarely utter the word “haboob.”

In case you’re wondering, a haboob is a high-intensity sandstorm that strikes desert areas in the Middle East. It might not turn up on the evening news, but the haboob is something that Ted Lewiston and others in the 557th Weather Wing are known to ponder.

If you’re flying a U.S. Army helicopter, you want to know if one of these storms is coming your way.

“One of our teams developed haboob forecasting,” says Lewiston, a UNO graduate and IT specialist in the Wing’s 16th Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base. “So if we have military forces in the area, they could take defensive action. There aren’t too many data centers in the world that do the kind of work that we do.”



SERVING OPERATIONS AROUND THE GLOBE

The 557th Weather Wing serves as the premier weather forecasting and support center for U.S. Air Force and Army operations across the globe. Need to know if wind shears will limit a drone's effectiveness or if snow will make a mountain pass treacherous? The 557th will have your answer.

Far from the front lines, the Weather Wing provides a sense of mission and a daunting technical challenge for Lewiston and other UNO graduates, students and instructors. They are among 1,450 active duty, reserve and civilian employees with the Weather Wing.

These aren't peppy television meteorologists telling you if a weekend picnic will get washed out. Those who work at the Weather Wing — both at Offutt and at military installations around the world — process data from across the globe. For military personnel, the stakes couldn't be higher.

"Really, a lot of what we're doing is helping commanders make risk assessments," says Chief Master Sgt. James Slisik, who is enrolled in the Executive MBA program at UNO. "There is no National Weather Service in Afghanistan. That is our role."

Weather played a key role in military battles throughout history, including the D-Day landings during World War II. But weather and environmental conditions factor into less well-known military operations every day. The need to accurately forecast weather grows more important as technology pushes the limits of aircraft and advanced weapons.

"It's no secret, we're flying a lot of drones," says Bruce Telfeyan, a senior meteorologist with the Weather Wing who previously served as an Air Force ROTC instructor at UNO. "It's a whole new world, what type of turbulence those air frames can handle. If we're supporting spy aircraft flying at higher than 50,000 feet, they want to know what the winds and temperature are going to be up there."

Sometimes, a commander needs to know if soldiers will encounter muddy conditions. An accurate forecast will determine if an Air



Photo courtesy 557th Wing

Photo courtesy 557th Wing

Force bomber will fly into a thunderstorm at a specific location, putting the crew at risk. Dust storms reduce a pilot's visibility and some equipment won't function properly if temperatures drop too low.

Telfeyan, who joined the Air Force in 1972, said an accurate forecast can protect soldiers. In Iraq and Afghanistan, U.S. troops faced deadly threats from improvised explosive devices when transporting materials in convoys. It made sense to use air drops instead, but that only works with a precise understanding of wind conditions at high altitudes.

"If you drop, say, four pallets filled with food, water and munitions, if you don't know what the wind speed and conditions are, it's not likely your parachute is going to come down in the right place," Telfeyan says.

Slisik, superintendent of the 2nd Weather Group, puts it in starker terms. "To have accurate information is life or death," he says.

as a civilian in a Weather Wing squadron. "UNO has one of the best information technology schools out there. I jumped on it."

High-powered computing takes weather data collected from satellites and weather stations around the world. Some of the information is picked up from sensors placed in remote areas that lack advanced infrastructure. The data is put into forecasting models, analyzed and then sent back out so that commanders can make decisions in the field.

"Computing power enables us to solve more complex problems," Slisik says. "Speed is important but it's not everything."

Just like a forecast on TV, accuracy starts to break down after about 48 hours. Telfeyan believes that will change as computing power advances.

"Every 10 years, we get one more day of accuracy," he says. "The future is looking like it's going to be one of more accurate forecasts."

It's a lot more worthwhile. It gives me a reason to go to work every day."

Telfeyan says their work also benefits humanitarian missions when the Department of Defense is involved. He recalls providing weather information for the rescue of a doctor facing a health crisis in Antarctica.

"There was six months of darkness and we had to make sure the temperature didn't fall below a certain threshold where the jet fuel froze," he says. "Then the plane crashes."

LOVING WEATHER

At least some in the 557th have learned to love the weather as much as Telfeyan, who found his vocation at the age of 12 when Hurricane Donna struck the East Coast. "Since then, I've been hooked," he says.

In Nebraska, the Weather Wing has a building with a balcony. It's a place where those described as 'weather geeks' will gather to 'ohh' and 'ahh' when ominous clouds roll

6 | THE FUTURE IS LOOKING LIKE IT'S GOING TO BE ONE OF MORE ACCURATE FORECASTS.

THE UNO ADVANTAGE

It's no accident that some UNO graduates bring computer expertise to the Weather Wing. The 2nd Weather Group operates a \$303 million high-performance computing complex. A powerful supercomputer crunches a dizzying array of variables to predict weather.

Lewiston, who spent 20 years in active duty, has a computer science degree and works in a civilian capacity with weather models that focus on precipitation rates, long-range forecasts and other specialized applications.

Zach Warman received a bachelor's degree in management information systems at UNO. He works as an IT specialist on a models team.

"I kind of fell into it," says Warman, who served in the Army Reserves and now works

Number-crunching and computer algorithms aren't always the stuff of war movies. But those in the Weather Wing know that they make a difference every day. The motto of the Weather Wing is "choose the weather for battle." It's something Slisik and others take seriously.

"The challenge our folks work every day, there's no script for that," Slisik says. "These aren't easy problems. The fact that I'm part of a team that helps solve them is very rewarding."

Warman feels he's become part of something important. "When I was going to UNO, I interned at a corporate IT place," he says. "You respond to a customer and say, 'whatever.'"

"Coming to the 557th, even as a civilian, it does bring a sense of pride.

across the sky. Warman, who was once an architecture major, has joined that club.

"We saw a tornado on the deck," he says. "I was surprised how excited I got. My job has done this to me."

Lewiston, on the other hand, tends to stay inside when a storm is about to hit. He's more concerned about conditions affecting military personnel in some far-flung corner of the world.

"All the weather geeks go out on the balcony," he says. "The rest of us are inside saying, 'I'm glad I'm here.'"

IT DEPENDS ON THE WEATHER

UNO alumni across the country work with — and against — the weather

By Lori Rice

Within hours of the storm that ripped through the Omaha area this past June, Rich Boone's phones started ringing. The calls came pouring in as thousands of area residents were affected by the storm, many with structural and roofing damage.

That was the case for Platteview Senior High School in Sarpy County, where winds tore off 75 percent of the roof, allowing water to rush into the building, heavily damaging the school's gym floor.

Boone's company, Boone Brothers Roofing, was called in to start repairs. With the start of the new school year looming ahead, Boone called in extra workers to speed up the process.

"Not only do we feel fortunate enough to get some work, we feel obligated to help

the school get back on track," says Boone, who graduated in 1996 from UNO.

Back in 2003, the tables were turned when similarly wicked winds had a different outcome for Boone's company, which had just nearly completed roof construction for Papillion-La Vista South High School. "We had completed everything except a little bit of work, just minor stuff, and a tornado hit and blew off the roof and everything went with it," Boone says.

It left his company responsible for the damage since the job had yet to be turned over to the new owners. "So, that was a sad day," Boone says.

"In every way, weather is what we are all about," Boone says. It is a sentiment felt by numerous other worker populations impacted by climate variations.

NUMEROUS OTHER UNO ALUMNI SPEND THEIR LIVELIHOODS DEPENDENT — TO ONE DEGREE OR ANOTHER — ON THE WEATHER. FOLLOWING IS A LOOK AT SOME OF THOSE ALUMNI FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

Shane Goetsch always thought it would be exciting to fly planes in Alaska, so after graduating from UNO in 1996 with a bachelor's degree in business management and a minor in aviation management, Goetsch decided to try a year in Alaska flying planes.

Twenty years later and Goetsch is still living in Alaska, having had a career both as a pilot and now managing his own landscape company, SMG Landscapes. In each instance, weather has played a key role.

"In Alaska, everything that's in your house, I mean everything, has to be flown in," Goetsch says. "We're talking soda pop, diapers, 2-by-4s, the wire, siding, everything you might need down to the kitchen sink has to be flown in or barged in to these little villages."

Weather delays by just a day or two can result in the interruption

of delivering goods to customers and make the difference between having fresh or rotten food.

On the landscaping side, the almost guaranteed 70-plus inches of snow each winter helps maintain a steady source of income for the company's snow removal services. And the long summer daylight hours help with lawn and landscape maintenance.

"When we first started up, it wouldn't be uncommon to be mowing a commercial property at 11:00 at night to keep things going," Goetsch says.

The comfortable temperatures also make for good working conditions. "In the summertime, if it's 70 degrees out we're thinking it's a really nice day. If it hits 75 degrees, everyone's complaining that it's too hot!"

SHANE GOETSCH GROUND MAINTENANCE AND LANDSCAPE SMG LANDSCAPES ANCHORAGE, ALASKA



JERRY CORNETT FARMER/RESTAURANT BUSINESS LAKEHOUSE FARM WAVERLY, NEBRASKA



For Jerry Cornett, weather has been a big part of his career since graduating from UNO with a bachelor's degree in 1990 in political science.

After graduating, he joined the Navy and spent 21 years traveling the globe, with 15 of those years spent as a helicopter pilot while also teaching classes on weather for instrument flying.

"As a helicopter pilot, you don't have the option of flying over the weather, so thunderstorms, squall lines, fog can all spell big trouble for a helicopter. So from day one, you are focused on the weather," Cornett says.

Having been inspired by eating at countryside, farm-to-table restaurants in northern Italy while in the Navy, Cornett decided to try to recreate the same atmosphere in Nebraska. After retiring in 2011, he started a certified organic diversified produce farm in Waverly, Nebraska, and opened Prairie Plate Restaurant in 2014 with his wife Renee, who holds a culinary degree from Metropolitan Community College. The

menu, which changes on a weekly basis, is inspired by the 45-50 varieties of fruits and vegetables they grow year-round on the farm.

Monitoring the weather has become the norm for Cornett, who checks the weather two to three times daily. A good rain, Cornett says, can be vital to a newly planted crop, or it can cause ripe berries to rot or melons to explode. Even with the best planning, sometimes the weather is unpredictable. "One year the peas were looking great and it was May 1 and it was a blizzard and there were ice pellets blowing sideways, which promptly killed the peas," Cornett says. "The greater fluctuations we have in climate, the greater the risk of doing this kind of stuff."

Even the seasonal operation of their restaurant (they are open April-December) is influenced by weather conditions.

"It's not so much because we don't have more produce to offer," Cornett says "but due to the three-mile gravel road leading up to the restaurant that can be hazardous travel during snowstorms."

If Simone Rock had a crystal ball, her job might be a lot easier. Specializing in water resource engineering, Rock studies ground water, surface water, and snowpacks relative to historical records to try and predict water availability in the state of Nebraska. Her work helps minimize the effects of various extreme weather events, such as the ongoing difficulties from the drought of 2012.

"The drought of 2012 continues to be the most extreme drought we've had," Rock says. Rock, who earned her bachelor's degree in civil engineering in 2008 from UNL while attending classes on the UNO campus, works with farmers to look at both long- and short-term forecasts to determine if they will accept a certain amount of money to not pump water each year to help minimize the effects of the drought. Those

decisions can't wait until spring, Rock says, since farmers are buying seed in the fall, so she uses past data to help predict the upcoming year.

"Climate change is also a topic that is continually being brought up more and more by our clients," Rock says. "So we look at historical records ... our analysis is only as good as the data we have. Are we going to have more severe droughts? Are we going to have more severe flooding? We are getting those questions asked by our clients."

In 2011, Rock helped assess the damage brought on by the Missouri River flood, examining signs of failure in the levees. Rock also uses past storm data to determine probable maximum storms to help determine dam and levee heights. The challenges remain in finding good data sources.

"We are kind of restricted to looking backward to predict future events."

SIMONE ROCK
WATER RESOURCE ENGINEER
HDR, INC.
OMAHA, NEBRASKA



CHUCK MONICO
LANDSCAPE DESIGN
CM'S CUSTOM LAWN
AND LANDSCAPE
OMAHA, NEBRASKA



What Chuck Monico started as a side job mowing lawns to earn some extra cash while in high school has flourished into a multifaceted lawn and landscape company that has expanded to around 50 employees and offers services in commercial and residential lawn services, irrigation, hardscape, as well as snow removal.

After graduating in 1993 with a bachelor's degree in accounting and working for a few years in public accounting, Monico turned back to his business full time in 1996. "It's always very rewarding to be able to give our clients something they are going to enjoy," Monico says. For a company whose focus is on outdoor living, the weather plays a key factor in the daily operation of not only their projects, but budgeting and time management.

"It's constantly having to juggle with Mother Nature," Monico says. "Sometimes she's just not working with you. It happens frequently and you can only do so

much planning." Monico points to the prediction of an ice storm this past spring that shut the city down but never materialized.

"The amount of preparation and the days and money that go into preparing for a storm like that, and then it doesn't happen ..."

The winter months can also be challenging. With seemingly less and less snow every year, Monico says, it's hard to budget for revenue during the winter months. And while he will use any downtime to focus on extra training for employees and equipment maintenance, they are all happy to see the sun come out after a long winter.

"When winter goes away and there's the first hint of 50- or 60- degree days, it will cause the phone to ring. Everyone is ready to go."



BOB HOHMAN
OYSTER HARVESTING
ALL AMERICAN OYSTER CO.
FARNHAM, VIRGINIA

Bob Hohman remembers the first time he ever tried an oyster in the heart of New Orleans as a college student back during his days at what was then the University of Omaha.

He didn't realize then the significant role oysters would play later in his life.

After graduating from the university in 1962 with a bachelor's degree in economics, Hohman was commissioned in the United States Air Force, where he spent 24 years, principally as a bomber pilot and rising to the rank of colonel. After retiring from the Air Force, Hohman became a contractor in acquisition logistics in Washington, D.C., for 23 years.

To keep busy after retiring from that, Hohman started an oyster business at his second home in the historic Baylor oyster grounds area of the lower Rappahannock



JASON ANDERSEN
 CONSERVATION/LAND USE
FARM BILL WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST
 AUDUBON, IOWA

Jason Andersen has always had a passion for land conservation and wildlife preservation. After earning his undergraduate degree in environmental studies at UNO, he graduated in the spring of 2015 with his master's in biology. For the

past two years he has worked as a Farm Bill Biologist with Pheasants Forever, a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of pheasants, quail and other wildlife through habitat improvements.

"To me it's about land stewardship and doing the right thing," Andersen says. "Often we have this idea that we are here to use the earth as a resource, but I feel like we need to conserve and be stewards of the land and take care of things. And that not only includes water quality and soil, but also the animals that share it with us."

Andersen's efforts include working with farmers to try and convert as much land as possible into habitats for wildlife.

"We are losing species at a higher rate now than we ever have historically, most likely due to climate change," Andersen says. "We're in one of the largest extinction periods in the history of the planet. And it's probably due to climate change because the species can't evolve quickly enough to keep up with the climate."

Andersen has seen first-hand the devastation that weather can bring while doing research at the DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge during the flood of 2011.

"It is kind of unheard of, historically," Andersen says. "Normally floods come up and then they go down so the water is only there for a very short amount of time. This was there for three months and it just had a terribly destructive impact on all the grasslands that were up there."

The area was converted to cottonwood woodlands in a short period of time and the grassland birds abandoned the area.

"There is only so much land. So we need grasslands, we need crops," Andersen says. The question, he says, is "how do you get those to work together under a system that is already under a lot of strain for climate and demand?"



RICH BOONE
 ROOFING
BOONE BROTHERS
 ROOFING
 OMAHA, NEBRASKA

While other kids hung out at the pool, Rich Boone spent his childhood summers tooling around his dad's warehouse, learning the roofing trade that started back with his grandfather.

Boone, who graduated in 1996 from UNO with a bachelor's degree in journalism, never really questioned what he would do with his life.

"My grandfather was a roofer, my dad was a roofer, my uncles and cousins were roofers, my brothers, and hence, me," Boone says.

Boone's father, Lloyd, started the roofing company in 1958 with just a couple employees, quickly growing to a full-blown commercial roofing and sheet metal company with locations in Omaha, Kansas City, Leavenworth and Sioux City.

Over the years, Rich Boone has had a hand in every aspect of the company, from being a laborer, floorman, running the sheet metal department to now overseeing the company with his brother, Ron. "There's basically two kinds of work," Boone says. "New construction and existing buildings." The weather challenges are much bigger, Boone says, while re-roofing an existing building as the building is open to the elements. It is a bigger undertaking to ensure the building will stay dry in the event of future weather events while they complete the project.

The weather also plays a part in the safety of his employees when dealing with temperature extremes. Boone Brothers employs a full-time safety director to monitor conditions such as extreme heat in the summer for his workers.

"We work year-round, but there are certain times of the year we can't work, mainly rain and snow. Weather is always a factor," Boone says.

River. Hohman currently sells around 6,000 oysters a week to wholesalers who distribute them across the country to the white table cloth crowd.

Weather plays a key role in Hohman's success, who would like to sell upwards of 20,000 oysters per week.

"Oysters stop growing when the water gets down below 50 degrees, so there is a three- to four-month dormant period and eight- to nine-month growing season," Hohman says. "But you have to have oysters in a phase where you can continually provide a 3-inch product."

Hohman buys seed in quantities of millions, depending largely on the weather to receive a high return on the amount of seed he buys. The seeds, which start as a fraction of the size of a grain of rice, are cultivated through buckets of water and eventually put into mesh cages in the water surrounding the dock on his property. Too much rain on an oyster farm can reduce the salinity and slow the growth period and warmer water temperatures make it difficult for the oyster to breathe, Hohman says. Cold weather and ice prove particularly challenging as

harvesters have to wrestle the cages through ice. Tidal flow changes in the Chesapeake Bay have been known to cost oyster farmers the loss of their entire product because the oysters were exposed to the cold temperatures for too long.

"It's quite a change and it has become a full-time job for me to raise oysters. But, my family is happy because it keeps me occupied and probably out of their hair."



WEATHER AND WAR

Chief Photographer's Mate (CPHoM) Robert F. Sargent

CLOUDS DARKEN THE SKY AS MEN FROM COMPANY E 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION WADE ASHORE OMAHA BEACH ON D-DAY, ATTACKING THE FOX GREEN SECTION COMMANDED BY THE GERMAN 352ND DIVISION. TWO-THIRDS OF COMPANY E BECAME CASUALTIES IN THE INITIAL LANDING.

THE FIRST RULE ON THE FIRST PAGE OF THE RULES OF WAR, IT HAS BEEN SAID, IS “DON’T MARCH ON MOSCOW.”

THE GENIUS THAT WAS NAPOLEON, THEN, MADE PERHAPS THE BIGGEST BONEHEADED MOVE OF HIS LIFE WHEN HE TOOK HIS ARMY TO THAT VENERABLE RUSSIAN CITY IN 1812.

FIRST, NAPOLEON’S MEN WERE BESET BY EXTREME HEAT. THEN WINTER SET IN – ONE OF THE COLDEST ON RECORD. EVEN MUSCOVITES HAD TO BUNDLE UP. THE WINTER TURNED COLD, WARM, THEN UNBELIEVABLY COLD. THOUSANDS IN NAPOLEON’S ARMY DIED IN THEIR SLEEP, FROZEN TO DEATH.

WEATHER TURNED THE TIDE OF THE WAR, TURNED NAPOLEON BACK TO PARIS, AND MARKED THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF THE “LITTLE CORPORAL’S” REIGN IN FRANCE.

IT WASN’T THE FIRST TIME – NOR WILL IT BE THE LAST – THAT WEATHER DETERMINED THE OUTCOME OF A WAR OR BATTLE.

UNO MAGAZINE TURNED TO FOUR PROFESSORS IN THE UNO HISTORY DEPARTMENT, ASKING THEM TO CITE THE WARS OR BATTLES THEY FIND MOST MEMORABLE FOR HOW THEY WERE IMPACTED BY WEATHER.

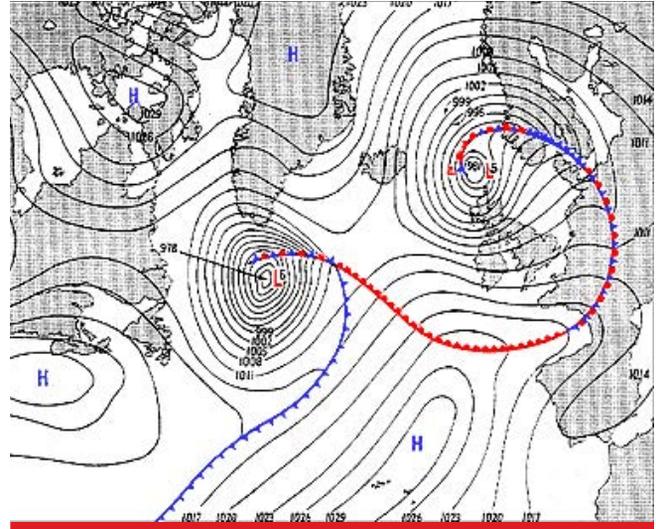
JUNE 6, 1944

D-DAY

BY **LESLIE COFFMAN**

SPECIALIZATION: **U.S. HISTORY, ETHNIC AND RACIAL HISTORY IN THE UNITED STATES**

As the Allied amphibious assault against multi-layered German defenses drew closer, Allied planners grew more and more nervous. Dwight D. Eisenhower's own chief of staff predicted only a 50-50 chance of success. In the United States, word that the long-anticipated invasion had begun captured the attention of the nation. Despite all the intense planning, the D-Day invasion almost failed, partially due to thick clouds (along with German anti-aircraft fire) that caused many of the paratroopers to miss their landing zones. Low clouds also resulted in the Allied planes dropping their bombs too far inland, and the naval bombardment was equally ineffective. The Allies prevailed, but only at great cost — more than 209,000 casualties, including the deaths of 37,000 ground troops and 16,714 air force personnel.



A SURFACE WEATHER ANALYSIS MAP ON JUNE 5 SHOWING WEATHER FRONTS ACROSS THE NORMANDY LANDING.

JULY 1917

BATTLE OF YPRES



BY **CHARLES KLINETOBE**

SPECIALIZATION: **U.S. HISTORY, SPORTS HISTORY, RACIAL HISTORY**

In July 1917, the British began an effort to push the Germans from a ridge at Passchendaele, Belgium. Passchendaele would open a path to the submarine base in Bruges. Years of fighting on the Ypres Salient reduced the area to a moonscape. Heavy rains in August turned the bare field to deep mud that made movement impossible. The rain combined with residue from chlorine gas attacks to create pools of hydrochloric acid in shell craters and trenches — all of it flowing downhill toward the British. Passchendaele was captured in November, but the push to Bruges had to be abandoned due to heavy casualties. Historians estimate that 35 men fell for every square meter at Passchendaele. From July to November there were an estimated 400,000 to 800,000 casualties.

PHOTO: SOLDIERS OF AN AUSTRALIAN 4 DIVISION FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE PASS THROUGH CHATEAU WOOD. CREDIT AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL. FRANK HURLEY PHOTOGRAPHER.

JULY 4, 1187

BATTLE OF HATTIN



BY **MARTINA SALTAMACCHIA**

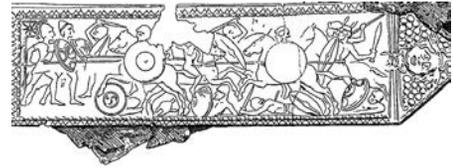
SPECIALIZATION: **MEDIEVAL HISTORY, CATHEDRALS, CRUSADES AND TRADE**

On July 4, 1187, at the Horns of Hattin, west of the Sea of Galilee, the army of the Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem met the troops of the Muslim sultan Saladin. It was an excruciatingly hot summer. The Muslims, using weather to their advantage, blocked the Crusaders' access to cisterns, emptied water pots in front of them, and lit smoky fires with dry grass and stubble. The Crusaders, weakened by the heat and anguished by thirst, soon were surrounded by the Muslims. After destroying the Crusader army, Saladin went on to conquer a defenseless Jerusalem.

PHOTO: MODERN INTERPRETATION OF SALADIN ACCEPTING THE SURRENDER OF GUY OF LUSIGNAN. CREDIT SAID TAHSINE (1904-1985 SYRIA).

190 BCE

BATTLE OF MAGNESIA



BY **JEANNE REAMES**

SPECIALIZATION: **GREEK AND ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN HISTORY, ALEXANDER THE GREAT**

The battle that handed Rome control of Asia involved Roman legions vs. Seleucid pike phalanges, heavy cavalry, light troops and even two different types of elephants. It also involved rain. The Seleucids had longer spears, bigger elephants and a larger army overall and should have defeated the Romans. But they didn't. One reason was the superior training by Roman NCOs, who rallied their troops under attack. The unpredictability of elephants also hampered the Seleucids. But an overlooked reason involved a light rain/mist. Key to Asian armies were archers, but rain loosened the Asian bows, preventing them from providing adequate missile cover. Had the bows functioned, the Roman legions may have had a harder time regrouping — and the Seleucids might have prevailed.

PHOTO: BRONZE FROM PERGAMON, LIKELY DEPICTING THE BATTLE OF MAGNESIA WITH ROMAN INFANTRY, SELEUCID PHALANGITES AND ATTALID CAVALRYMEN. CREDIT BERLIN STATE MUSEUMS.

A RIVER RUNS

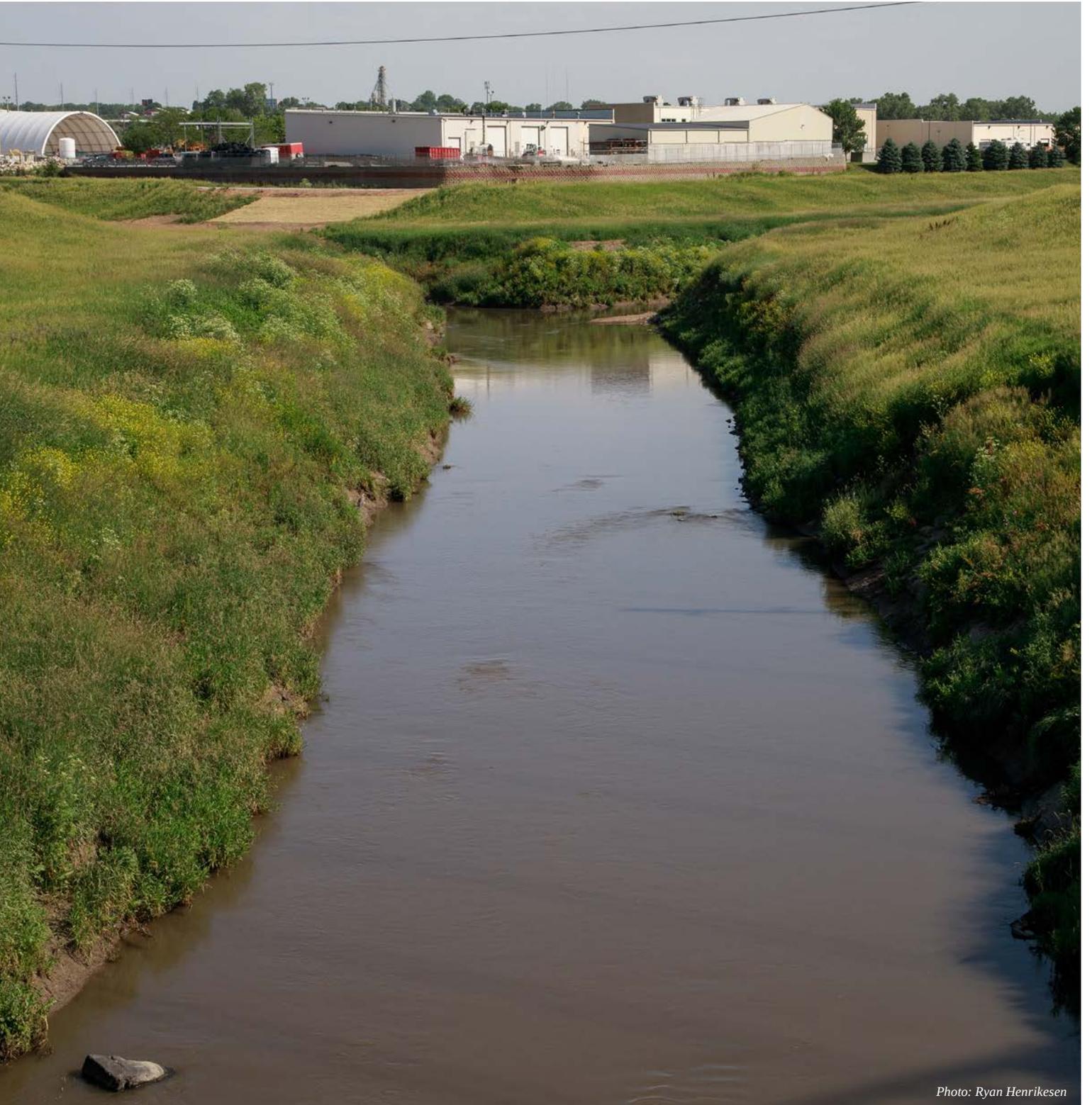


Photo: Ryan Henriksen

S AROUND IT

PAPILLION CREEK SURROUNDS OMAHA, MAKING IT THE STATE'S MOST FLOOD-PRONE REGION

By Kent Walton

DRIVE ANY DIRECTION IN THE OMAHA METROPOLITAN AREA AND—SOONER OR LATER— YOU'LL CROSS A BRANCH OF THE PAPILLION CREEK WATERSHED. MOST COMMUTERS AND RESIDENTS PAY LITTLE ATTENTION TO THESE PEACEFULLY FLOWING RIBBONS OF MUD-STAINED WATER — AS LONG AS THEY STAY BETWEEN THEIR BANKS.

What those who live and work in the metro area may not realize, however, is that those snaking branches form the most flood-prone region in the state — a massive triangle surrounding 402 square miles of Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties.

That's home to one-third of Nebraska's population. And should the clouds drop enough rain, flooding creek waters could cause an economic calamity on par with any disaster the state has ever suffered.

It's happened before.

TAMING THE PAPIO

The Papillion Creek watershed is made up of three primary creeks — Little Papillion Creek, Big Papillion Creek and West Branch Papillion Creek. Once joined, they form the Papillion Creek that empties into the Missouri River near Bellevue. Fed by rain and runoff, the water that flows under numerous bridges and past thousands of homes and businesses each day originates north of Omaha on a ridgeline near Bennington.

Today, the branches of Papillion Creek flow much the same way they have for eons. However, many man-made changes have tamed the waterways and reduced the threat they pose to Omaha.

"The waterways have been changed, there's been straightening of the channels for agriculture and flood control," says Amanda Grint, a water resources engineer with the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District. "In the '20s through the '40s

there was a lot of work done to channelize, straighten and build dams and levees."

Nebraska's 24 Natural Resources Districts were created to manage flood control, soil erosion, irrigation run-off and groundwater quantity and quality issues. They are charged under state law with 12 areas of responsibility, including flood control, soil erosion and groundwater management.

The Papio-Missouri River NRD currently owns and operates more than 90 miles of levees and channel improvements in the Papillion Creek watershed. Recent flood control measures include the addition of reservoirs, including Dam site 15A, located at 168th and Fort streets. The NRD broke ground on this project, its largest to date, in October 2015. Prairie Queen Reservoir at 132nd Street and U.S. Highway 370 in Papillion was the last reservoir completed. It opened in 2015 and today is a popular destination for anglers, bicyclists, walkers and joggers.

While reservoirs and an extensive trail system that follows the creeks are popular destinations for outdoor recreation, canoeing, kayaking, swimming and wading in the branches of Papillion Creek is discouraged due to fast-flowing currents, contaminated water (see sidebar) and dangerous conditions.

In 2004, former UNO student and wrestler Jesse Greise tragically drowned while kayaking in the creek near Papillion. His kayak capsized after going over a 5-foot drop-off near the Washington Street bridge.

While the addition of reservoirs and trails have provided numerous safe recreational opportunities and eased the threat of flooding, the potential for catastrophic floods like those that hit the Omaha metro area in 1959, 1964 and 1965 remains.

The 1964 flood remains one of the most costly natural disasters to strike the Omaha area. According to reports from the Omaha World-Herald, that "100-year storm" produced eight inches of rain on June 16 and 17 of that year. A massive wall of water formed on Hell Creek near Boys Town and flowed into the West Branch of Papillion Creek. The powerful swell stretched 50 feet across and produced waves 5-foot high that pushed homes off their foundations and leveled garages.

North of Dodge Street, more than 4,500 acres of farmland near the Big Papillion Creek was flooded. South of Dodge, the Big Papillion flooded 108 homes and 34 businesses. Ninety-five trailer homes in Millard were swept more than a half-mile downstream and seven people died.

The disaster compelled the Army Corps of Engineers to draft a comprehensive flood control plan that was completed in 1967. The plan proposed building 21 dams and reservoirs. In the 50 years since, however, only nine have been built.



JOHN WINKLER



AMANDA GRINT

FIGHTING FLOODING ... AND DEVELOPMENT

Originally, Omaha's flood control plan was the responsibility of the federal government. It was turned over to the Natural Resources District upon that organization's creation in the mid-1970s. The NRD's efforts have included the construction of dams such as those at Wehrspan, Zorinsky, Walnut Creek and Prairie Queen reservoirs.

While those provide some protection against flooding, the threat of increased runoff grows each time more concrete is poured or a new home is built.

"With development, there is more pavement, mass grading and rooftops," Grint says. "This creates more mass runoff."

In addition to creating more runoff, new housing developments, shopping malls and office buildings are springing up in places once slated for flood control reservoirs, according to Papio Creek-Missouri River NRD General Manager John Winkler.

"Once we lose a site to development, we can't just move it downstream," says

Winkler, who graduated from UNO in 1991 and has been with the NRD since 2006.

"We rely on cities to keep those areas clear. We used to go to land owners and go through the negotiation process to purchase the land. But those land owners have developers knocking on their doors. We just don't have the resources to buy 100 acres on six different locations. We tell the land owner that we can't pay them until 2040 and their jaw hits the floor. They're saying to us that's their retirement."

Winkler cited a housing development near 180th and Harrison as a recent example of urban sprawl covering up an area once considered for a flood control reservoir.

In the areas controlled by the NRD, the organization employs hundreds of gauges in the creeks that transmit real-time data to the Natural Resources District, U.S. Geological Service and National Weather Service, the agency charged with issuing flood warnings. The current rate of flow, measured in cubic feet per second (cfs), and the flood stage, measured in feet of elevation, in the Papillion Creek watershed can be viewed at water.weather.gov/ahps/

Depending on the terrain, flows on the branches of the Papillion Creek can vary from about 150 cfs to 180 cfs under ordinary conditions. But that can change rapidly after a large storm or in periods of heavy runoff. When a storm dumped 2 inches of rain across the metro area June 16 this year, a gauge located near downtown Papillion recorded a spike in the flow from 172.3 cfs to 2,425.4 cfs and a rise in flood stage from just over 1 foot to 14.92 feet.

"It's a 'flashy' system," Grint says. "The creeks can come up fast. It's not uncommon to see increases of 10 to 15 feet after a big storm."

THE AMES, IOWA, FLOOD: WHAT IF IT HAPPENED HERE?

Still, Omaha's safe from any more Papio floods, right?

Perhaps not, if you consider what happened over three days in 2010 when Ames, Iowa, was inundated with more than 9 inches of rain. The resultant floods caused one death, left the community of 56,000 without drinking water for days, and caused more than \$40 million in damages to the Iowa State University campus alone.

“ THE CREEKS CAN COME UP FAST. IT'S NOT UNCOMMON TO SEE INCREASES OF 10 TO 15 FEET AFTER A BIG STORM.



Photo courtesy NRD

1965 BIG PAPIO FLOOD LOOKING EAST ALONG Q STREET



Photo courtesy NRD

1999 BIG PAPIO FLOOD LOOKING BEHIND ONE PACIFIC PLACE

Because it's likely a weather event of that magnitude could hit the Omaha metropolitan area, meteorologists used rain gauge and radar data from the National Weather Service to reconstruct the Ames storm over the Papillion Creek Watershed.

The study estimated a total of 13,240 acres of land would be inundated with water — commercial and industrial tracts, residences, farms, civic spaces, roads, railways and more. Additional estimates calculated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in conjunction with 2010 census data estimated damage totaling \$2.1 billion with more than 13,000 displaced people. The expenses included \$1.5 billion in building losses and \$601 million dollars in lost infrastructure.

It's a hypothetical, of course.

But it's something Grint, Winkler and others must consider seriously.

"Flooding is the biggest risk to the Papillion Creek Watershed," Grint says. "Water quantity and quality are our two highest priorities with the Omaha metro so populated, it's a concern for us."

UNO STUDENTS PLAYING ROLE IN CLEAN-UP EFFORT

In 2012, the Nebraska Watershed Network was formed at UNO to help monitor and ease the threat to people and wildlife caused by unclean water. Its mission is to involve students, citizen scientists and local stakeholders in projects that focus on the environmental stewardship of freshwater resources (see more on Page 11). Depending on funding levels, the number of UNO students participating has ranged from one to 11 during the six years the network has been operational.

As part of its many research efforts, the network's researchers test water quality in the Papillion Creek watershed each spring. Depending on the weather, those tests reveal varying levels of coliform bacteria, as well as herbicides such as atrazine and other agriculture chemicals including nitrates and phosphates. Their findings reveal levels that exceed standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

No matter what the cause, there's agreement that the water in Papillion Creek is dangerously dirty.

According to information posted on OmahaCSO.com, the home page for Clean Solutions for Omaha, the city is

one of 772 communities nationwide that the federal government has ordered to reduce combined sewer system overflows to improve water quality in receiving streams.

Under this federal mandate, Omaha must reduce its annual number of overflows to the Missouri River and Papillion Creek from about 52 per year to less than eight per year. The mandate is not federally funded, so local users of the system will be required to pay for the improvements. According to a 2011 Omaha World-Herald article, it could cost up to \$3 billion to modernize the city's sewer system. Improvements began that year and are expected to take 18 years to complete.

While Papillion Creek is not a source for drinking water for the metro area, the danger to public health posed by the contaminated water has a much larger reach, Kolok says.

"Papillion Creek drains into the Missouri River. Do we really want to advocate dumping sewage in the river when other municipalities downstream are using it for their drinking water? Is that the appropriate thing to do?" he says.

A FLOOD OF ... BACTERIA

Papillion Creek doesn't need a heavy rain to threaten Omaha residents. In fact, with as little as a tenth of an inch of rain, the water flowing past thousands of area homes and businesses can hide an invisible danger.

Water quality analysis of the creek shows it routinely contains abnormally high levels of coliform bacteria — more commonly known as E. coli. The source of the harmful bacteria has long been debated. Some researchers believe it is introduced to the water by livestock and wildlife. Others believe it is a by-product of an antiquated sewer system, known as a Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO), that runs beneath the bustling streets of the city's oldest neighborhood between the Missouri River and 72nd Street.

Commonly used in cities along the East Coast and throughout the Midwest in the 1800s and 1900s, CSO systems have a significant flaw. With as little as a tenth-inch of rain, the troughs overflow and their contents intermingle, creating a putrid cocktail teeming with nastiness. The disease-carrying mix eventually dumps from 29 outflows into surface waterways — including the branches of the Papillion Creek.

John Winkler, general manager of the Papio Creek-Missouri River Natural Resources District says the sewers are only partially to blame.

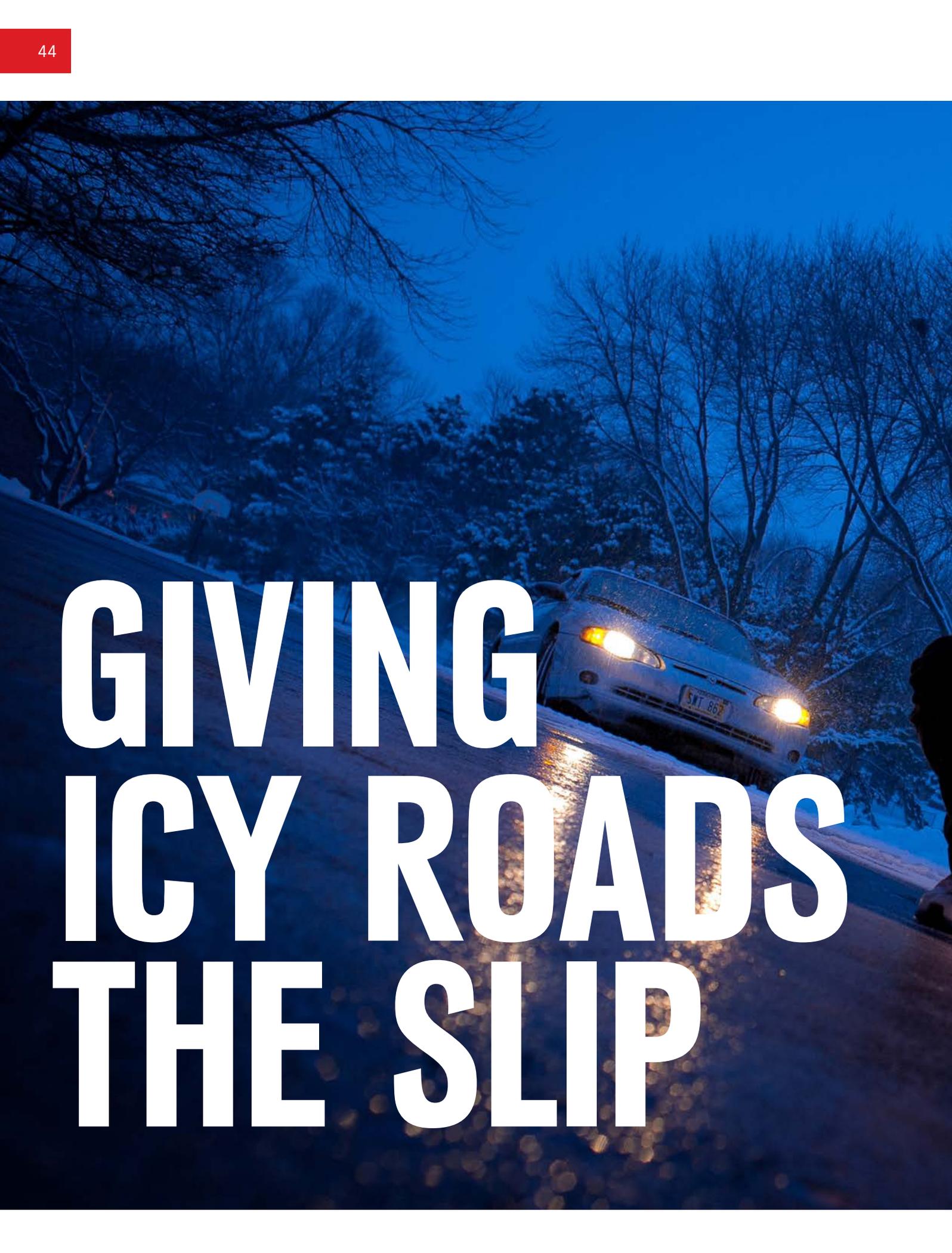
"Most of the water-quality issues are caused by wildlife," Winkler says. "The CSO has an impact, but most is generated by wildlife."

UNO professor Alan Kolok, who serves as director of the Nebraska Watershed

Network, disagrees. His research shows the sewer system used by hundreds of thousands of Omaha residents is polluting the water with the harmful bacteria.

"It is very clear that raw sewage is entering Papillion Creek," Kolok wrote in a response for this article. "If the population is 446,000, and if only 10 percent are serviced CSO sewage, that means the sewage from 44,000 people periodically enters the local rivers when it rains. Given that each person weighs 100 pounds, on average that means the waste from 4.4 million pounds of human biomass is periodically entering the creek.

"What wild animal population in urban Omaha comes anywhere remotely close to that biomass? Geese? Dogs? Coliform in Papillion Creek originates from humans."

A photograph of a white car driving on a snowy road at night. The car's headlights are on, illuminating the snow. The background shows snow-covered trees and a dark blue sky. The text "GIVING ICY ROADS THE SLIP" is overlaid in large white letters.

GIVING ICY ROADS THE SLIP

NU PROFESSOR, TEACHING ON UNO CAMPUS, INVENTS CONCRETE MIXTURE THAT MELTS ICE AND SNOW

By Rick Davis

Picture this: You're at work, and a nasty winter storm is brewing. You nervously watch the weather report while eyeing the ominous, darkening skies outside. First, a pelting freezing rain hits, then a full-out snowstorm. You're worried about the drive home and the dicey — perhaps even dangerous — road conditions that await.

If NU Professor Chris Tuan's research takes hold, your fears could be greatly allayed. And your ride home could be smooth and stress-free.

Tuan, a professor of civil engineering, has invented a special concrete blend that, when connected to a power source, can de-ice itself and melt away ice and snow.

He's already road-tested his patented approach and proved it works.

In 1999, the Nebraska Department of Roads tested the concrete on a small stretch along Interstate 480 between Nebraska and Iowa. No power was used; the study was simply to test the concrete's durability and performance — how it would stand up to the pounding of daily traffic.

"We passed with flying colors," Tuan says.

That led to a second, landmark study funded by the Department of Roads. Tuan's concrete was used for a heated bridge deck in the renovation of the Roca Spur Bridge on U.S. Highway 77 just south of Lincoln, Nebraska, this time with a power source. Construction of the 150-foot stretch of highway was completed in 2002, and the power control room was installed the following year.



Photo: Eric Francis

"This was the first demo project in the world using conductive concrete," Tuan says.

The Department of Roads monitored the performance of the concrete — including its de-icing powers — from the winter of 2003-2004 to the winter of 2007-2008.

"It was fantastic," Tuan says. "Five years, and there were no issues. It worked like a champ."

The study was decommissioned in 2009, and the power source is no longer used, but Tuan says that as recently as last year the concrete was still in good condition. He says the strength of his conductive concrete is about one-and-a-half times that of traditional concrete. How long would it last before needing replacement? "I would say a minimum of 25 to 35 years," he says.

A CONCRETE IDEA

In 1993, Tuan began working as a consulting engineer for the U.S. Air Force, tasked with developing a way to de-ice its runways without the use of corrosive, damaging topical materials and chemicals.

Budget constraints curtailed the project. But Tuan picked the idea up again when he joined UNL's College of Civil Engineering in 1996 as an assistant professor.

"I started from scratch," Tuan says. He tinkered with materials that were commercially available, eventually settling on a mixture that featured steel fibers and carbon particles.

"There were hundreds and hundreds of different trials, with different proportions," Tuan says with a laugh.

Working side-by-side with his students in the lab, it took Tuan about two years to find the right balance. In addition to finding the right materials, there was the issue of figuring out the best way to mix it.

"There is a certain sequence you need to follow" in the mixing, Tuan explains. "My students and I spent one summer, in the hot sun, at a concrete plant. We were mixing and sampling the concrete ... to make sure the steel-fiber distribution was uniform.

"It took a while and a lot of effort."

two-feet thick, for example, the conductive concrete only needs to be the top four to six inches. It can be connected to both 110- and 208-volt power outlets (traditional household outlets are 110 volts).

Comparisons to traditional concrete should also factor in maintenance, he says. Traditional concrete requires snowplows and topical mixtures to clear roads of snow and ice. Conductive concrete, on the other hand, requires no cleanup crews and starts doing its job as the snow or ice hits the road.

In terms of heated pavements, there are other avenues engineers are exploring. One involves

THIS WAS THE FIRST DEMO PROJECT IN THE WORLD USING CONDUCTIVE CONCRETE.

EXPENSE VS. PERFORMANCE

Tuan admits that his conductive, de-icing concrete is a bit pricey — \$300 per cubic yard as opposed to \$120 per cubic yard for traditional concrete — which has most likely limited its widespread use.

But he says it shouldn't be viewed the same as traditional concrete. "A lot of people think it's a form of concrete, but it's not," Tuan says. "Think of it as a heating element."

His conductive concrete can be installed, like a blanket, over traditional concrete — both for new projects and for existing road surfaces. While a concrete bridge deck might be

encasing liquid-filled pipes within concrete that then can be heated. But Tuan says his system is more energy-efficient. He explains that hydronic systems are less than 70 percent energy efficient, while his system is 90 to 95 percent energy efficient.

In addition, he says, sensors can be installed in the roads and along the roadsides to monitor road and weather conditions and turn on the heating element only when necessary.

CONCRETE & NATIONAL SECURITY

In addition to his work on concrete that de-ices itself, professor Chris Tuan, in collaboration with Lim Nguyen, a professor of electrical and computer engineering at UNL, has created a separate concrete mixture that has shown to be effective in deflecting electromagnetic pulses (EMP), which has implications for national security.

While the threat of this type of attack being carried out against the United States is debated, a congressional commission has warned that a weapon creating a massive burst of energy, such as a high-altitude

nuclear explosion, could unleash EMP that could critically damage electrical systems and devices, including power grids.

THIS IS A GAME-CHANGER.

Using his concrete, Tuan has constructed a shelter on the Peter Kiewit Institute campus that meets U.S. military standards as a protective barrier against EMP.

Current technology uses copper-wire screening (also known as the Faraday cage)

and metal panels to deflect EMP.

"You can't build a building with metal panels; it's too expensive," Tuan says. "But

you can build a huge building with concrete and still have the same effect.

"This conductive concrete technology is very promising. It has a lot of potential applications."



THE ROAD AHEAD

So, when can homeowners living in snowy climates ditch their snow blowers and shovels, and install conductive concrete driveways and sidewalks?

“This is not a DIY project like Quikrete,” Tuan says. “It requires some engineering. It requires an electrician, and it requires construction drawings and permits. It’s not like you can run down to Lowe’s or Home Depot and get a sack of it.”

That said, Tuan says he worked with a homeowner in Omaha’s Regency area to install a conductive concrete driveway, and Tuan, himself, has a conductive concrete patio in his backyard.

He’s also working with the Federal Aviation Administration on possibly using his conductive concrete around airline terminals — clearing walkways and other areas for passengers and airport personnel such as baggage handlers.

Tuan says government officials from numerous snowy cities and states also have inquired about his concrete, although he adds that the university, as the patent holder, handles all requests to use his mixture.

One of the benefits of his concrete, he says, is that concrete companies can easily use his mixture without any additional training or skills. That means it could be mass-produced for road projects, but don’t expect that to happen by the next snowfall.

“We’re probably about 10 to 15 years away from it being more widespread,” he says.



KNOW THE SNOW

What happens when it snows at UNO?

Students might like when it snows — if it comes with a day off — but there’s no down time for the UNO landscape crew when the white stuff starts to pile up.

In the winter, the crew is responsible for keeping approximately 25 miles of sidewalks on campus free from snow and ice. Nearly two dozen strong, they use machines to clean walkways while also applying salt or chemicals to walks, steps, entrances, lots and streets.

It doesn’t matter when it snows, either — the crew could be pushing away snow at night, on weekends or holidays.

They do get some help. The university contracts with several different companies for snow removal on its various campuses.

In 2016-17, the bill for those services came to a relatively tame \$90,000. That was thanks to a snowfall total about half the seasonal average. The previous winter’s tab was more typical with nearly \$210,000 spent on snow removal.

A few other snow facts from Lowell Neuhaus, landscape manager at UNO.

- About 1 inch of snow equals \$10,000 to \$15,000 in extra costs related to its removal.
- A 3-inch snowfall costs about the same to remove as a 1-inch snowfall.
- Snow removal costs increase once snow tops the 5- or 6-inch mark.
- A snowfall’s moisture content dictates how to move snow and how difficult it will be to do so.
- Outside temperature determines what deicing chemicals are used. Liquid deicers can be used before it snows if it does not start as rain first and stays above 15 degrees.

“Preparation is key,” Neuhaus says. “Having equipment and people in place. Pre-treatment if possible helps a lot. Once it starts to snow the plan goes into place. Then we can start managing the snowfall rates, wind and temperature.”



In 1973, the UNO Alumni Association created its premier giving society – the UNO Century Club. The first 44 members contributed \$5,250. Today, the Century Club includes more than 250 members who this year combine to give more than \$170,000 to UNO.

The UNO Century Club is vital to UNO's continued growth as one of the nation's top metropolitan universities. In this issue, the Century Club recognizes all donors of \$250 or more to any designation under the UNO Fund – scholarships, your college, faculty development, alumni programs, or the greatest needs of the university.

On behalf of the university, its students, faculty and alumni, the UNO Alumni Association and the University of Nebraska Foundation recognize the generosity of UNO Century Club members who believe strongly in the mission of the university and support its ongoing success.

Help UNO transform the lives of its students by making your 2016 Century Club donation today through the UNO Fund!



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ALUM TAKES MAVERICK PRIDE TO NEW LEVEL



Tyler Lee this summer completed two journeys. One is the kind you can plan for. The other is the kind you can't.

Lee, a 2013 UNO graduate (BS in education, emphasis exercise science), chronicled an 80-day trip across Europe on Instagram, simultaneously taking the UNO Alumni Association's Show the O campaign to a new level.

The campaign provides alumni with UNO flags they can use in photographs while traveling. Most people submit just a photo or two. Lee took dozens — in front of the Leaning Tower of Pisa, Stonehenge and numerous other tourist hotspots.

More remarkable, though, is the path Lee took to become a Maverick.

Writing from a Rome hostel in May, Lee explained that his relationship with UNO started at an early age. He fondly remembers attending basketball camps on campus while growing up. When he was fighting a brain tumor in eighth grade, UNO student-athletes came to visit him.



By the time Lee's journey was done, he'd been to 12 countries.

Two friends he's traveling with helped him come up with the idea of taking flag photos throughout the trip. His best advice for others planning to "Show the O": keep your flag accessible. That's a lesson he learned on his first night in Glasgow, Scotland.

"I was on top of this hill in a crazy graveyard called Necropolis that overlooked a gothic-style church. I scrambled through my daybag looking for the flag. It was freezing."

Talking with his friends, he realized he needed to keep the flag handy for other scenic locations. And just like that, the idea came together.

Lee says the flag elicited various reactions.

"Most people just look perplexed. Others have commented how cool of an idea it was and a few of the street performers who wanted to pose for a photo with me and the flag have said things like 'I better not be advertising anything bad,'" Lee said.

“ UNO IS MORE THAN JUST A SCHOOL TO ME. IT'S THE PLACE THAT GAVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHAPE MY FUTURE.



When Tyler and his family lost his older brother Trever, they started the Trever Lee Memorial Scholarship for College of Business Administration students interested in studying Investment Science.

Lee chose UNO to pursue a degree, too. But after graduating, the job search proved difficult. Lee had the credentials to reach his dream of becoming a personal trainer, but he believed something else was holding him back: his brain tumor had left him with left facial paralysis. He decided to go through facial reconstruction surgery.

"It involved taking a piece of my own thigh muscle, implanting the muscle into my cheek and reconnecting nerves and blood vessels," Lee said.

This would let him smile.

As he recovered from two separate procedures, Lee talked with a world-traveling friend about going on an adventure of his own.

"Never did I actually expect to go on a big trip, but here I am."

The mission ran into a bump in Paris when security guards at the Eiffel Tower had Lee empty his pockets and took the flag.

"They were looking at it weird and talking in French. I couldn't explain what it was since we spoke different languages."

Fortunately, they returned the flag.

Lee breathed a sigh of relief — he had lots more pictures to take.

"I want to show my school pride everywhere I go."

— Sam Petto - University Communications



CLASS NOTES

Send your class notes to

www.unoalumni.org/classnotes.

Or, post your note on the UNO

Alumni Association Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/UNOAlumni

50 DON GIBSON (BFA) is a professional cartoonist. He draws monthly cartoons for the Windsor Gardens Life newspaper in Denver, Colorado, where he was recently featured for drawing his 100th cartoon for the paper. Gibson has had cartoons in several publications, including the Denver Post and several trade magazines. Gibson previously had his cartoons published in several Army newspapers, nationally and internationally, when he was drafted in the Korean war. He also has monthly cartoons on the UNO Alumni Association's Facebook and Twitter pages.



58 S. JEANNE GILES (BS) retired for a second time in January. She also sold her townhome and now lives in an independent living center in Lincoln, Nebraska. s.jeanne.giles@gmail.com

61 GEORGE PARKERSON (BA) has been treasurer of a nonprofit organization at UNO for more than seven years. This organization has raised more than \$100,000 in scholarships for students.

MICHAEL ANANIA (BA) published a book of poetry, "Continuous Showings," in March. The book includes four poems about his family in Omaha.

62 FRED HENNINGER (BA) does some substitute teaching and works with University of Nebraska Medical Center students. Henninger is in the process of retiring from a sales career and business ownership. lfrankfred3@aol.com



65 BILL WAKEFIELD (BA; MS-1968) was awarded the Founders Award at the Annual UNO School of Criminology and Criminal Justice Awards



and Recognition Luncheon. Wakefield was recognized for his 32 years of service as the director of the yearly UNO London study abroad class completed by more than 2,500 students. The class is one of the longest study abroad programs at UNO. [wwakefie@unomaha.edu](mailto:wakefie@unomaha.edu)

66 CLAUDE PROCTOR (BGS) was inducted into the Defense Language Institute Hall of Fame at the Presidio of Monterey, California. Proctor was recognized as a Russian linguist who made enduring and significant contributions to the Department of Defense foreign language training and operations.

PATRICIA MATSON (BS) was inducted into the Omaha Press Club Hall of Fame to honor outstanding journalism. Matson is a consultant to the Walt Disney Company after spending almost 25 years at ABC television. Prior to her career at ABC she was a speechwriter and press aide in the Ford and Nixon White Houses and for Omaha Congressman John Y. McCollister.

69 LESTER JOHN WARD (BGS) retired after 25 years in the U.S. Army and again after 20 years with the Federal Civil Service. Ward currently is serving his last term as mayor of Brownsville, Pennsylvania, and

is president of his local rotary chapter. He serves on several executive boards and enjoys giving back to the community. Ward writes: "Thanks UNO, Bootstrap and the Pen & Sword Society."

JAMES F. BARD JR. (BGS) lives in Maryland and writes: "Just returned from my reunion of the 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Wing Association. At 80, it is great being able to get together and reminisce with old comrades in arms. This was my 17th straight reunion. I've been the association's Secretary since 2002." jimbardjr@comcast.net

72 ALBERT HODAPP (MA) retired from teaching psychology classes at Buena Vista University after 20 years. Hodapp also published two articles in Reading Improvement: "Turn off the television and read" and "Reading makes youngsters smarter about sustainability."

RALPH JONES (BGS) spent a year at UNO while on the U.S. Air Force Bootstrap program for degree completion. He earned two master's degrees and a Ph.D. after leaving UNO. He continued his Air Force career and retired in 1979 after 22 years of service. After retiring, Jones worked in mental health services in Texas. He retired in 1993. rjonesr29@att.net

76 REBECCA FAHLANDER (MA) published the article "Why raising the age for Social Security is a bad idea" in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel in May. The article argues that a rise in life expectancy is not necessarily an argument for raising the Social Security benefit eligibility age. Baby boomers in the millennium face the reality that working until 70 may not be as good as it sounded 30 to 40 years ago.



MICHAEL SCHNEIDER (BS) has written two books, now available in paperback: "Rebecca and the Renegade" and "Swift, Silent and Deadly: Recon Marines in Vietnam." mjschneider63@tx.rr.com

77 CHARLES E. SCHMIDT (BGS) in

2016 was elected national commander of the 2.2 million-member American Legion during the 98th national convention of America's largest veterans organization.

**78 RUSSELL WETHERINGTON**

(BGS) served 21 years in the Air Force and now is an author and motivational speaker covering topics on attitude and leadership. His book, "Who Are You?" is available at Amazon.com russref@cfl.rr.com

**80 ED JONES** (BGS) last year traveled to Cincinnati, Ohio, for the National American Legion Convention for 2016.

While there, Charles E. Schmidt was sworn in as commander of more than 2 million veterans. Schmidt is a 1977 UNO graduate.

VICKI BEYER (BA) has become a Professor Law at the Hitotsubashi University Graduate School of International Corporate Strategy in Tokyo, Japan. She will be teaching international and comparative business law-related courses to Masters degree students. She also plans to do research on international trends in employment law. Hitotsubashi University is one of Japan's oldest and most prestigious universities and is particularly well known for economics and commerce (including business law). A long-time Tokyo resident, she also has written numerous travel articles for many years. She recently started a blog focusing on Japanese destinations and cultural experiences with historical context. The blog also includes posts about her earlier travels and Japanese book reviews. Visit the blog at: jigsaw-japan.com

81 MARK MILONE (BS)

has been practicing law in Nebraska for more than 32 years. He practiced in the law firm of Govier & Milone for more than 20 years and has recently joined Koukol & Johnson.

**83 MICHAEL CAMPBELL** (BA) has

been a published writer for 40 years. His previous book, "Are You Going To Eat That?" was released in 2009, and his most recent book "Of Mice and Me" was released this May.

**84 JOHN BRAL** (BS) after graduating with a degree in criminal justice Bral worked at the Nebraska State Patrol.

After 26 years with the patrol, Bral retired in 2006 and currently works in corporate security at ConAgra Brands.

85 HENRY CORDES

(BA) is a reporter for the Omaha World-Herald, and has received the Sorensen Award, an award given annually by UNL to honor the state's most distinguished journalism, for the fifth time. The award recognized an investigative series exposing excessive executive pay at Goodwill Omaha, stories that led to resignation of the charity's top leaders and other changes. Cordes also is being inducted Central High School's Hall of Fame this fall. henrycordes@msn.com

**87 MAURICE R. JOHNSON** (BA) has

joined the Goosmann Law Firm at its Sioux City, Iowa, office. Johnson focuses his practice on helping business executives navigate complex transactions. During the past 22 years he has advised Tribal governments and their businesses, negotiated numerous legal agreements on their behalf, and helped them establish corporations and LLCs.

**89 DAVID JACK CAMPBELL** (BGS)

was inducted into the Benson High School Hall of Fame in April. Campbell served in the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard and currently has 49 years of police, security and military experience.

**90 JERRY DEAN CORNETT** (BS) joined the Navy after graduating from UNO

and was a helicopter pilot onboard aircraft carriers for 12 years. Cornett traveled extensively including tours in Japan, Italy and Albania. In 2011, Cornett retired with a rank of commander and returned to Nebraska. Cornett and his wife now operate an organic produce farm and an on-the-farm restaurant called Prairie Plate located 10 miles Northeast of Lincoln. jerry@lakehousefarm.com

92 ANTHONY FRANZE (BS) released his latest thriller novel "The Outsider" in

March. New York Times bestselling author book James Patterson called the book "as authentic and suspenseful as any John Grisham novel."

Anthony@anthonyfranzebooks.com

JEAN BUSBOOM (MS) has worked at Unicar USA since 2002 and held various lab and quality positions. Busboom has recently been promoted at Univar to the National Operations Chemist in Omaha.

**94 KEVIN WARNEKE** (MA) was promoted to

vice president at the Steier Group. He will now be vice president in addition to his role as the director of professional development. In Warneke's six years at the Steier Group he has raised more than \$87 million.

**96 CHAD P. RICHTER** (BSBA) was named

Office Managing Principal at Jackson Lewis Law Firm's Omaha office. He focuses his practice on preventive counseling and training, traditional labor law and workplace litigation.



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00 DEREK ODEN (MA) is an associate professor of history at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas, and is a published author. Oden recently conducted a study called “Harvest of Hazards: Family Farming, Accidents, and Expertise in the Corn Belt, 1940–1975” that examines why agriculture was so dangerous in the middle of the 20th Century why improvements were so difficult to achieve.

03 DONELLA LIDDELL (BS) received her bachelor’s degree in speech communication at UNO and a master’s degree in human services from Capella University. Liddell has been an adjunct diversity instructor at Nebraska Wesleyan University since 2009. Liddell, has a passion for promoting inclusivity from the vantage point of varied perspectives. Liddell is also an active member of the Omaha Chapter of the Links, Inc.



10 KIMBERLY TALAMANTES (BS) has been an English teacher and cheerleading coach at Omaha South High Magnet school for the past five years. Talamantes was recently named one of the 2017 Alice Buffett Outstanding Teachers in Omaha Public Schools.

14 STEVEN BERMAN (BGS) is currently working on his Master of Science degree in criminology at Regis University in Denver, Colorado.
scberman@centurylink.net

KIZZETTA HOLMES (BGS) writes: “UNO is amazing institution. I am so happy to be back in the social gerontology graduate studies program.”
Kjholmes@unomaha.edu

16 SHAFIQ SYED (MS) is grateful for his experience at UNO receiving his master’s degree. Syed writes: “I will always be in debt to the experiences, lessons, knowledge, fun and confidence that UNO gave me. We march on!”
shafiq.syed29@gmail.com

17 HUNTER FANGMEYER (BS) after graduating, co-founded Bric., a software that provides analytics to help teams maximize their time. He did so with help from fellow UNO graduates Grant Stanley and Josh Haas Bric. Bric is built in Omaha and is being used in 71 different countries.
hunter@getbric.com



IN MEMORIAM

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| 1946 | Spiro Moustakes | 1972 | Antone R. Churchill |
| 1949 | Justin L. Manvitz | | Howard Cohen |
| | Chester M. Stefanski | | Francis J. Kudlacz |
| 1950 | Robert G. Young | | Wayne Schoening |
| | Martin D. Haykin | 1973 | Lowell E. Sellmeyer |
| | Russell G. Jones | | Barbara A. Uehling |
| 1952 | Shirley J. Zurek | | William H. Bennett |
| 1953 | Tomas Lara | | Charles E. Gregg |
| 1954 | William D. Smith | | Thomas M. McKean |
| 1955 | Ila M. Chatfield | | Dorothy H. Peters |
| | Jean Dubois | | Dennis L. Pinkston |
| 1956 | Marlyne B. Hoffmann | | Richard A. Curtis |
| 1958 | Carol A. Meyer | | Richard E. Hancock |
| | Ralph A. Osborn | 1974 | Richard M. Aube |
| | Thomas E. Wharton | | Stanley O. Ivy |
| 1959 | Harlen L. McCauslin | 1975 | Larry L. DeRoIn |
| 1960 | Earl V. Kueny | 1976 | Carol A. Bicak |
| | Dolly L. Seifert | 1977 | Sheryl L. Heidenreich |
| 1961 | John B. Lepinski | | Cathleen Vanhauer |
| | Thomas D. Kaestner | 1979 | Thomas F. Sterba |
| 1962 | Joyce A. Eikenbary | | William F. Sucha |
| | Merlin L. Lawrence | | James P. Beam |
| | Chester J. Baumer | 1980 | Mary L. Hyslop |
| | Carl R. Ostrom | | Edward R. Krause |
| | Jon W. Nelson | | Gary Simmons |
| 1963 | Ronald E. Johnson | | Marilyn A. Vandergriff |
| | Helen H. Kensinger | | Lloyd A. Todd |
| | Shirley A. McKim | 1981 | Joyce E. Pedersen-Ruegge |
| 1964 | Herbert E. Zirschky | | Shirley A. McVicker |
| | Leo K. Thorsness | 1983 | Brett A. Clark |
| 1965 | Donald H. Hutchinson | 1984 | Richard M. Franks |
| | Richmond N. Long | 1985 | Brenda J. Evans |
| | Kathleen McFarlin | 1986 | Deborah J. Cady |
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| | Robert S. Keith | 1987 | Mary E. Campbell |
| | James Reim | 1990 | John Mastrianni |
| | William W. Reynolds | | Wayne Wilcox |
| | Ila G. Brown | 1991 | Mildred E. Louviere |
| 1967 | Donald W. Kuss | | Rita M. Cain |
| 1968 | Florine R. Hill | 1992 | Diana R. Rickard |
| | Joel Stephenson | | Terry L. Chadek |
| 1969 | Joseph J. Beninato | | Kelly L. Deloske |
| | James H. Hughes | 1993 | Steven S. Nichols |
| | Carol J. McNulty | | Amy J. Cromer |
| | Craig T. Reisser | 1994 | Kevin P. Rush |
| | James L. Wheatley | | Timothy Booton |
| | Marion Wood | | Judy Rudloff |
| 1970 | Ralph J. Holterman | | Richard K. Willson |
| | Sandra R. Johnson | 1995 | Wendy A. Koontz |
| | Robert L. Petersen | | William Shearer |
| | Maurice J. Stander | 1998 | Stacy L. Hayworth-Groff |
| 1971 | Russell C. Browne | 2000 | Paul R. Thompson |
| | Marcella A. Sears | 2008 | Matthew J. Ryder |
| | | 2013 | Carl Jennings |



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ADDRESS AND EMAIL

Olivia Lynn Hochstein, granddaughter of **JENNIFER SCHRODT ('08)** of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Emma Diane Kalkwarf, granddaughter of Kevin and **DIANE (STEBBINS/SEMPEK '87) WETUSKI** of LaVista, Nebraska.

Finnegan Rounsborg, son of Benjamin and **FELICIA ('10) ROUNSBORG** of Colorado Springs and grandson of **JOHN SYNOWICKI ('60)** of Omaha.

Charlotte Sue Dunn and Emily Christine Dunn, twin daughters of Josh and **JESSICA (OVERKAMP, '12) DUNN** of Bellevue, Nebraska.

Ellyn Marie Mathiasen, daughter of **DANA (HAYES, '09)** and **NIELS ('12, '15) MATHIASEN** of Omaha.

Celeste Josephine Wismont, daughter of Benjamin and **JENNIFER (GRAHAM, '01) WISMONT** of Omaha.

Grayson William Correa, son of Heather and **OSCAR ('16) CORREA** of Omaha.

William Thomas Wellwood, son of Caitlin and **MATT ('11) WELLWOOD** of Omaha.

Dace Jeffrey Dmoski, son of **SHANNON (MEYER, '05; '06; '07)** and **MICHAEL ('09) DMSOSKI** of Las Vegas.

Maxwell William Wulf, son of Mark and **KATRINA (CLEMENS, '04) WULF** of Omaha and grandson of **REBECCA (JANAK, '73) WULF** of Omaha.

Luke Michael Benson, son of **JENNIFER (PATTEN, '04; '13)** and **TIM ('08) BENSON** of LaVista, Nebraska.

Kaya Lee Lovercheck, daughter of **NOSIMILO DUBE ('02)** and **ROBBE LOVERCHECK ('03)** of Omaha.

Kiara A. Jenkins, granddaughter of **CYNTHIA JENKINS ('78, '98)** of Omaha.

Leonidas Augustus Clark, son of Kirsten and **JACOB (STUDENT) CLARK** of Omaha and grandson of **SUSAN KIELTY-CLARK ('86, '94)** of Omaha.

June Margaret Paesl, daughter of Jeff and **SARA ('10) PAESL** of Omaha.

Arezu Erin Rinaker, granddaughter of **ERIN ('81)** and **DUDLEY ('78) RINAKER** of Fremont, Nebraska.

Litza Josephine Daugherty, daughter of Bret and **LIANNE (LAU'08) DAUGHERTY** of Broomfield, Colorado, and granddaughter of **BEVERLY (JANZEN, '85; '09)** and **MAX ('86) LAU** of Blair, Nebraska.

Nora Rose Ruhe, daughter of Phil and **LAUREN (DRAGER, '10) RUHE** of Omaha.

India Elise Garrett, granddaughter of **WARREN GREEN ('72)** and **CAROLYN BARR-MCDOUGLE ('70)** of Omaha.

Nolan Tadeo Ruby, son of Elizabeth and **CLARK ('09) RUBY** of Omaha.

Harper Helgenberger, daughter of Brett and **SHEENA (KENNEDY, '08) HELGENBERGER** of Omaha.

Chelsea Marie Rowe, granddaughter of Rene and **KIMBERLY ('10) TALAMANTES** of Omaha.

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A LOOK AT HAPPENINGS ON AND OFF CAMPUS

DESTRESS FEST, YOGA STYLE

Among the events UNO hosted during finals week's "De-Stress Fest" was SUP Yoga — Yoga on a Stand Up Paddleboard.



SEVEN UP

UNO's Office of Civic & Social Responsibility hosted the 15th annual Seven Days Of Service in March, bringing together UNO students, K-12 students and members of the Omaha community to work on projects throughout the city.



TOWER REMOVAL

After nearly four decades on the UNO campus, the NET broadcast tower came down in May. It took workers less than a week to do so.



HIS FINAL DIPLOMA

UNO welcomed more than 12,000 guests to two commencement ceremonies May 5, celebrating the achievements of more than 1,600 students who earned degrees. Outgoing Chancellor John Christensen's final diploma presented went to Sue Yi, an IT Innovation major in the College of Information Science & Technology.



TRES CHANCELLORS

Three UNO Chancellors were together for the first time June 2 during the UNO Alumni Association's Golden Circle Lunch Bunch — Chancellor Emeriti Del Weber (far left) and John Christensen (center) plus new Chancellor Jeffrey Gold. Combined, the trio has led UNO for nearly 30 years — and Chancellor Gold is just getting started!





FALLEN. NOT FORGOTTEN.

UNO students honored the nearly 7,000 service men and women who have lost their lives during military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq with a special "Tribute to the Fallen" event. Beginning April 17, military-affiliated students placed nearly 7,000 miniature American flags in UNO's Pep Bowl to represent each life lost since 2001. Throughout the week, volunteers also read the names of each fallen service member from the Milo Bail Student Center plaza. The UNO Student Veteran Organization coordinated the event.

NU FOUNDATION DAY OF SERVICE

The University of Nebraska Foundation held its second annual Day of Service June 9 in honor of its 81st anniversary. More than 110 foundation staff completed projects on the four campuses it serves — UNO, UNL, UNK and UNMC. At UNO, foundation employees cleaned and waxed Maverick Monument and completed several landscaping tasks.

SKATING THE STATE

After 11 days and nearly 300 miles, two UNO students arrived on campus riding longboards they had used to travel the state of Nebraska — all to raise awareness for the more than 20,000 homeless individuals living in the state. Friends, family and UNO staff greeted seniors Dylan Burton and Brendon Keller on June 6, congratulating them on a feat only three others have done. The pair raised \$1,300 toward their goal of building a resource center to provide food, water, clothing and mentorship to the homeless. Their effort was through Skate for Change, an international nonprofit launched in 2012 in Lincoln, Nebraska. The two Mavericks began their journey May 27 in North Platte and spent five to eight hours on the road each day before finding a place to camp.

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

Archie's wife's niece's cousin's mom's husband could be:

- Archie's cousin
- Archie's nephew
- The brother of the niece
- Archie
- Archie's mom

KNOWLEDGE

Only two states in the United States can make the claim that they have eight bordering states. One of those states is Missouri. What is the other state?

MATHEMATICS

Can you find a number that, when divided by 2, has a remainder of 1; when divided by 3, has a remainder of 2; when divided by 4 has a remainder of 3; when divided by 5, has a remainder 4; and when divided by 6, has a remainder of 5? Find the lowest number.

CRITICAL THINKING

Find the hidden word or phrase:



ANSWERS

MATHEMATICS
59. You are looking for the lowest number that is evenly divisible by 2 x 3 x 4 x 5 x 6 (which is 720) and that number is 60.

LOGIC
Archie

CREATIVE THINKING
Diamond in the Rough

reminders to fall in sequential order. That number is 59.



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Gwen Voelpel
Public Administration, MPA
University of Nebraska at Omaha

“My today started when I decided I wanted to make an even bigger impact. I had been working in local government for almost 20 years, so I wasn’t a newbie. I needed a degree with credibility and a curriculum that would challenge me. That’s why I chose the University of Nebraska at Omaha. And once I started I found that the professors, the coursework and my fellow students all exceeded my already high expectations. My degree inspired me to move from communications to city management and to reach for even higher positions.”

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