



Northeast  
community college

**SPOTLIGHT**

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*SPOTLIGHT*, an electronic newsletter to the friends and patrons of Northeast Community College, is published nine times a year. Please forward it to your colleagues and neighbors. You are all partners in our efforts to provide quality, affordable, close-to-home educational opportunities to students and training for area businesses, industries, and organizations. Northeast Community College serves residents of 20 counties in northeast Nebraska.

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**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED FOR UNMC COLLEGE OF NURSING NORTHERN DIVISION**

In spite of blustery, snowy conditions, over 60 attended the official kick-off of the \$12.9 million capital campaign to build a facility to house a University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing Northern Division on the campus of Northeast Community College on February 5. The new facility will also house all Northeast nursing programs from basic nurse aide (commonly called certified nurse aide), licensed practical nursing and associate degree nursing and UNMC College of Nursing bachelor's-, master's- and doctorate-degree programming. Speakers at the kick-off included **Dr. Harold Maurer**, chancellor of UNMC, **Dr. Bill Path**, Northeast president, UNMC College of Nursing Dean **Virginia Tilden**, D.N.Sc., **Ron Stauffer**, general campaign chairperson, and **Paula Pflueger** and **Clark Froehlich**, central region co-chairpersons. **Mike Hammond** and **Lisa Walters** represented Faith Regional Health Services. Honorary co-chairs for the campaign are **George Dudley**, **Jerry** and **Karla Huse**, and **Richard** and **Betti Robinson**, all of Norfolk, **Herb** and **Kathy Albers**, Wisner, and **Duane** and **Phyllis Acklie**, Lincoln. Upon successful completion of the campaign, the facility is tentatively set to open in 2010.

**NORTHEAST HOSTS DISTRICT III, IV, V LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST AND AG ED CONTESTS**

Northeast Community College and its agriculture division recently welcomed students from 25 high schools in District III, IV and V to campus for the annual FFA Livestock Judging Contest. The event was postponed and re-scheduled twice because of inclement weather. In the Agriculture Education Contest later in the month, FFA students from across the state competed in Ag mechanics; Agri-science; Ag sales; Agronomic resources; Farm management; Floriculture; Nursery and landscape; Livestock management; Welding; Food science, and Meats. Close to 1,000 students competed in the Agriculture Education Contest.

**OBSERVATION OF MLK. JR. DAY-BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONCLUDES**

Students, faculty and staff were encouraged to attend several different activities to mark Northeast's observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Black History Month. **Tyrone D. (T.D.) Wrice**, director of the Multicultural Center at Wayne State College, presented at our observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. He spoke on "The Wisdom of Cultural Regionalism." Black History Month activities included the five-voice song and dance group, **The Chosen**, from an AIDS orphanage in Uganda. The 10-12 year-olds entertained over 130 in their program at the Cox Activities Center. A week later, **Dr. Spencer Davis** and **Vivian Davis** presented a program, "Understanding Emancipation." Dr. Davis portrayed Abraham Lincoln and Vivian Davis was Sojourner Truth in this presentation funded by the Nebraska Humanities Council. The final presentation of Black History Month featured **Dennis Vossberg**, Plainview. He spoke at the Multicultural Club's International Coffee about his book, *Hector's Bliss*. The book chronicles the activities of Black homesteaders, mostly ex-slaves, who settled in the Sandhills of southern Wheeler County in the 1880's. March is Women's History Month and a full array of activities is planned for that observance. Activities are planned by the Martin Luther King Jr. Day-Black History Month and Women's History Month Workgroups respectively.

### **NORTHEAST FARES WELL IN BELLWETHER COMPETITION**

Northeast Community College and its renewable fuels technology program was awarded one of 10 finalist Bellwether plaques recently at the 2008 Community College Futures Assembly in Orlando, Fla. Over 40 other community colleges from across the country competed against Northeast in the Workforce Development category. The assembly, competition and awards ceremony were sponsored by the University of Florida Institute of Higher Education. The Bellwether Award annually recognizes outstanding and innovative programs and practices that are successfully leading community colleges in to the future. Finalists were required to give a 60-minute presentation at the conference. Presenters from Northeast included: **Dr. Bill Path**, president; **Sarah J. Dempsey**, vice president of educational services; **Chuck Pohlman**, dean of agriculture, health, and science, and **Dr. Don Oelsligle, Tilden**, immediate past chairperson of the Northeast Board of Governors. **Seth Harder**, general manager of the Husker Ag LLC in Plainview and an NECC alumnus, joined the group in its presentation. Harder serves on the Statewide Ethanol Advisory Council.

### **FOUR NORTHEAST STUDENTS AWARDED NUCOR SCHOLARSHIPS**

**Kevin Ternus**, a member of the lead team at Nucor Detailing Center, was on campus recently to present four Northeast students with Nucor Scholarships. Drafting students **Susan Sorrick**, Stanton, and **Marlene Zurvoski**, Osmond, were awarded Nucor Drafting Scholarships. Sorrick is currently an intern at the detailing center. **Cullen Kohles**, Crofton, and **Andrew Stracke**, Verdigre, were awarded a Nucor Pre-Engineering Scholarship. Ternus is a 2002 graduate of Northeast's drafting program.

### **MR. NECC CROWNED IN SPOOF BEAUTY PAGEANT**

**Baron Titington** of Clarksville, Tenn., was crowned Mr. NECC in a Homecoming Week, spoof beauty pageant that featured only male contestants. Titington is a sophomore business-marketing option-major. First runner-up was **Michael Gubbels**, Hartington, a sophomore electromechanical technology major, and second runner-up was **Bryon Halsey**, a freshman academic transfer major from Neligh.

### **HOMECOMING QUEEN AND KING CROWNED**

In an activity-packed day that featured a Homecoming tailgate party for alumni hosted by the Northeast Alumni Association, a women's and men's basketball game, special entertainment at both games, and the coronation of Homecoming royalty, **Tara Kaczor** of Spencer and **Jordan Maly** of Columbus were crowned 2008 Homecoming Queen and King respectively. Kaczor is a freshman administrative assistant-general major while Maly is a freshman music business major. First runners-up were **Luisa Jaramillo**, a sophomore business administration major from Bogata, Columbia, and **DeAndre Jones**, East Chicago, Ind., a freshman early childhood education major. Over 100 students attended the dance that concluded the week-long Homecoming observance.

### **NORTHEAST BASKETBALL TEAMS COMPLETE SEASON; OFF TO REGIONALS**

The men's basketball team, under Head Coach **Dan Anderson**, and Assistant Coach **Trevor Burnette**, has completed its season with a record of 14-15 and will compete in the Region IX tournament this weekend at Torrington, Wyoming (Eastern Wyoming Community College). The women's team, under Head Coach **Matt Svehla** and Assistant Coach **Mike Cooper**, finished the season at 24-6 (with only one returning player) and will compete in the Region IX tournament this weekend at Miles City, Montana, (Miles City Community College). Go, Hawks!!

### **HAWKS BOOSTER CLUB HOSTS PARENTS' DAY; HONORS BOOSTERS AT BOOSTER BANQUET**

The Northeast Community College Hawks' Booster Club concluded its activities for the season by welcoming the parents of Northeast players to Parents' Day activities Saturday. Parents were introduced and presented with a rose and cookies between the men's and women's games Saturday against the North Dakota State College of Science. A Tex-Mex buffet followed the game and players, their parents, and Booster members were special guests. Boosters of the Year were introduced at the banquet. They included **Carol Keating**, Booster Board Member of the Year; **Oliver Bossom**, Booster of the Year, and **Rich and Lisa Riley** of **Culver's Frozen Custard & Butter-burgers** of Norfolk, Hawks' Business Booster of the Year. Athletic Director **Doug Brown** served as banquet Master of Ceremonies. Both head coaches spoke.