



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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NORTHEAST IS SITE OF NEBRASKA BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR FOURTH GRADERS

Fourth graders from 17 area elementary schools were welcomed to our campus recently to celebrate Nebraska's 141st birthday on March 1st. Nebraska Secretary of State **John Gale** as Cactus Jack, **Chris Sayre** as Sodbuster Sam, and **David Seay** as Deadwood Dave, traveled to nine different Nebraska communities this year to mark the celebration with an entertaining, informative program. Several hundred fourth graders heard the Northeast Singers Express, under the direction of **Dr. Linda Boullion**, open the program.

FORMER NORFOLK MAYOR HONORED AS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

A former Norfolk mayor was honored as one of the Nebraska Community College Association's Distinguished Alumni at the organization's recent annual meeting in Lincoln. **James R. Miller**, a 1958 graduate of Norfolk Junior College, now Northeast Community College, was honored for outstanding career achievement. The award is given annually to one alumnus from each of the state's six community colleges. Miller earned an associate's degree in business administration from Norfolk Junior College and went on to spend his entire career in advertising and marketing. He retired as advertising and promotions director of Affiliated Foods Midwest in 2006. Long active in community service, he served as Norfolk mayor from 1972-1980.

PTK INDUCTS RECORD NUMBER IN SPECIAL CEREMONY

A record 82 students were inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, international honor society for the two-year college, in special ceremonies on campus recently. Since the installation of Northeast's Tau Chi chapter in 1996, some 1,442 Northeast students have been inducted into the honor society which recognizes academic excellence. The Northeast students who were recently inducted into PTK have earned at least 12 credit hours and achieved a minimum grade point average of 3.5 or above out of a 4.0 system. Phi Theta Kappa sponsors are math instructor **John Miller**, wellness/aerobics instructor **Amy Ries**, and English instructor **Julie Ptacek-Wilkey**.

NORTHEAST, UNIVERSITY, FRHS BOARDS APPROVE AGREEMENTS; CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

The Northeast Community College Board of Governors recently joined the Nebraska Board of Regents in unanimously approving the Joint Affiliation and Operating Agreement and the Academic Affiliation Agreement for the proposed University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing Northern Division on the Northeast campus in Norfolk. Those agreements among the Northeast Board, Nebraska Board of Regents, and Faith Regional Health Services outline conditions, commitment and expectations of each body in funding, academic affiliation, and operations. The Joint Affiliation and Operating Agreement defines funding responsibilities in northeast and north central Nebraska, including construction of a new facility on the campus of Northeast Community College. The facility would house Northeast's basic nurse aide (commonly called certified nurse aide), licensed practical nursing and associate degree nursing programs and UNMC's bachelor's, master's and PhD nursing programs. The Academic Affiliation Agreement outlines program curricula, enrollment, clinical arrangements, and other academic areas. A capital campaign is currently in progress to raise monies to construct and equip the state-of-the-art facility. Northeast President **Dr. Bill Path** recently told faculty and staff that over \$4 million of the \$12.9 million goal has been raised thus far in three counties of the 20-county service area.

NORTHEAST STUDENT PARTICIPATES IN BANDMASTERS INTERCOLLEGIATE BAND

A Northeast Community College automotive technology major recently participated in the Nebraska State Bandmasters Intercollegiate Band. **Sean Bauder**, Tyndall, S.D., was invited to join the band for one performance of several performed during the 47th Annual Nebraska State Bandmaster Convention. The band, under the direction of **Dr. Dennis Glocke** of Pennsylvania State University, included approximately 70 members from all Nebraska colleges and universities. Bauder is a member of the Northeast Community College Concert Band and the Northeast Jazz Machine directed by **Dr. Randall Neuharth**.

BUSINESS DIVISION HOSTS I-T NIGHT FOR ADULT LEARNERS

Administrators and faculty in the business, math and technology division reversed roles with prospective students in a special Information Technology (I-T) Night for Adult Learners in March. Guests become the instructors and told the faculty exactly what they needed to make attending Northeast classes easier and more convenient for their busy schedules. Northeast's computer programming, PC support and networking, the Cisco Networking Certification Academy, and transfer options to Wayne State College were reviewed. Those unable to attend in person were able to join the event live via video conferencing technology on the web.

NORTHEAST FINANCIAL AID DEPARTMENT OFFERS ASSISTANCE

College-bound students and their parents intimidated by the financial aid process recently received personalized assistance at a first-ever FAFSA Completion Day, sponsored by Northeast's Financial Aid Department. The department staff offered help in filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) on the web.

NORTHEAST STUDENTS MEET PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYERS AT SPRING JOB FAIR

Some 341 Northeast Community College students had the opportunity to visit with 65 employers recently during the annual Spring Job Fair sponsored by the Career Services Department. Recruiters from 16 different colleges also took part in the College Connection portion of the job fair. **Rose Ann Rogers**, director of Career Services, and her assistant, **Amy Koehler**, also host a Part-time Job Fair every August.

CAMPUS ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC FROM 26TH ANNUAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

Some 3,000 junior and senior high school musicians recently competed in the 26th Annual Jazz Festival sponsored by Northeast's music department, in association with the Northeast Area Jazz Ensemble. About 80 different groups from throughout the Midwest performed. Trophies were awarded to the top four jazz bands and swing/jazz choirs in each of the four levels of competition. Outstanding instrumental soloist and vocal soloist trophies were also presented in each division. Northeast's Jazz Festival is one of the few jazz festivals in the Midwest approved by the National Association of Secondary School Principals for high school and junior high school participation. Many Northeast Community College students assisted with the event.

NORTHEAST CONCLUDES OBSERVANCE OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Northeast's observance of Women's History Month concluded on Wednesday, March 26, with a special presentation for students, faculty and staff by Certified Nurse Midwife **Gail Consoli**. Other special events included Visiting Artist **Deborah Murphy** of Omaha presenting in **Michael Lynch's** art lab; Visiting Writer **Kelly Madigan Erlandson** read her works as part of Northeast's Visiting Writers Series on March 12th. On Wednesday, March 5, **Diane Bartels** presented "Sharpie-The Life Story of Evelyn Sharp, Nebraska," thanks to a grant from the Nebraska Humanities Council. Also on March 5, *Raining Jane*, an all-female, acoustic-rock band from Los Angeles, performed in concert on campus.

NORTHEAST BASKETBALL TEAMS WRAP UP 2007-2008 SEASON

The Northeast basketball teams have concluded their 2007-2008 campaigns. The men, under Head Coach **Dan Anderson** and Assistant **Trevor Burnette**, finished the season at 14-16. **Denyko Bowles**, **Robert Pogue** and **Jason Snow** were named to the All-Conference Team. The women's team, with Head Coach **Matt Svehla** and Assistant **Mike Cooper**, finished its season at 26-7. For the 13th time in 14 years, Matt was named Conference Coach of the Year. Northeast's **Jasmine Lovejoy** was the coaches' number one pick for All-Conference Team. **Elisha Foley** and **Deja Watson** were also named to the conference team. Lovejoy was also named to the All-Region IX team and the Region IX All-Tournament Team. **Mairead McNally** joined Lovejoy on the Region IX All-Tournament Team. The Northeast women's team made it to semi-final action in the Region IX tournament at Miles Community College in Miles City, Montana. Northeast Community College was presented the Sheila R. Worley Sportsmanship Award for its sportsmanship, positive attitude, and class act throughout the whole tournament.