

Wildlife speakers, buffalo feed highlight club's conclave

"Let's show these people that Nebraska is more than just a big cornfield."

These are the sentiments of the UNL Wildlife Club about the upcoming North Central Student Wildlife Conclave.

UNL's Wildlife Club will host the conclave for 15 other colleges March 16-18.

The conclave will kickoff with a wildlife film presented by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission March 16 in the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education.

On March 17 more than 25 forestry, fisheries and wildlife speakers will present their views at various locations on East Campus.

The speakers include: UNL Life Science Professor Paul Johnson speaking on the breeding birds of Nebraska's Sandhills; Karl Menzel, big game specialist with the Wildlife Division of the Nebraska Game and

Parks Commission, will speak on white-tailed and mule deer relationships in Nebraska and photographer and writer Jon Farrar, of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, will discuss "The Sandhills-A Windborn Land".

Wildlife speakers

Larry Oborny with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Grand Island will discuss the Platte River; Betsy Hancock of the Wachiska Audubon Society will talk about raptor rehabilitation and photographer Louis Lovenberg will discuss wildlife photography.

In the afternoon quiz bowl competition will take place in the Nebraska Center. The main categories include wildlife and fisheries management, taxonomy and identification, general ecological principles, wildlife

history and police, and current events in natural resources.

In the evening a buffalo feed banquet will follow the quiz bowl. The buffalo meat was donated by the Nebraska Park and Games Commission.

Following the banquet a dance featuring the Sandy Creek Pickers will be sponsored by the Lzaak Walton League.

Field trip

On March 18 participants will choose from four field trips to observe Sandhill cranes, Fontanelle Forest, DeSota Bend Wildlife Refuge or Schramm Aquarium.

The conclave will also sponsor an art contest, according to Rocky Plettner, conclave chairman and Wildlife Club vice presi-

dent.

Categories include nature photography, painting, drawings, etchings and handcraft goods.

The winners will be on display in the Nebraska East Union Loft March 17, Plettner said.

"Nebraska is really a unique state with the Platte River, the Sandhills and the Sandhill cranes," Plettner said.

Many people don't realize what Nebraska has to offer, he said.

"The conclave is a good opportunity for people from other states to get an idea what Nebraska is like and for us to get an idea of what their state is like," Plettner said.

Potential piles of knowledge gleaned out of garbage cans

By Pam George

People throw out more beer cans after there has been a full moon, according to the director of "Le Projet Du Garbage."

William Rathje, associate professor of archaeology at the University of Arizona, said many interesting conclusions have been made about society based on studying garbage can contents.

Rathje, who presented a slide show and lecture Thursday as part of this year's Montgomery lecture series, said archaeologists have long known that studying garbage is the best way to learn about a community.

"When we study our garbage there is a whole new potential for learning about our own society," he said.

The study began in 1973 when students at the University of Arizona at Tucson were instructed to do a project showing the relationship between behavior and materials in our society, according to Rathje.

Project beginnings

In 1974, the project started when students received a two week training period, and then became garbage sorters and analyzers. They were tested halfway through the semester to be sure they were analyzing the garbage correctly, Rathje said.

The students are usually apprehensive about studying the garbage at first, he said, because they are concerned it will be smelly and buggy.

"We do find roaches," Rathje said, "and we warn the students not to eat, drink, or smoke anything they find in the garbage."

He explained the students' methods of collecting and analyzing. He said Tucson is divided into urban "tracks" that are split into seven groups to represent different economic levels. Garbage is randomly selected from these groups.

"Every year in Tucson we have 218,000 tons of raw data," Rathje said.

The students record what track the garbage came from, the date of collection, the number of items, brand names, cost of the product and weight of any food. Rathje said there are about 150 categories that the garbage is sorted into.

Better than interviews

"We see what people buy and what they throw away," Rathje said. "It is better than simply interviewing them about what they do."

All of the information has been stored on computer, according to Rathje. He added they have analyzed about 500,000 individual objects.

Rathje said he estimates \$11 billion to \$16 billion dollars of food are thrown out each year at the household level. There is a lot of waste when people try to change their behavior patterns, he added.

"During the beef shortage a few years back, we got three times more beef discarded," he said. "People try to dramatically change their behavior, like trying new cuts of meat, or storing more, and they end up throwing more away."

In all the studies, Rathje said there was only one can of food that was a case for botulism, although people throw away dented, damaged cans of edible food.

Rathje said the project has been an effort to study modern problems, and relate them to past civilizations.

"There is a correlation between materials and behavior in a society," he said. "Studying garbage is a dynamic part of our civilization."

A long-term study such as the one at the University of Arizona shows "active components of change in a society." For the students involved, Rathje said it has been a cultural experience.

No green means jazz blues

By Kevin Field

Jazz, an original American art form, is imbedded in today's young musicians and is a hot item according to Dennis Schneider, a trumpeter and professor at UNL's School of Music.

"Jazz is imbedded in today's colleges and schools and has a major influence on young musicians today. It has and always will be a part of America's culture," he said.

The jazz program at UNL consists of two jazz courses, one in history and one in improvisation; two lab bands, open by audition; and a number of small combo groups which emphasize preparing players as soloists.

Schneider began the program from scratch in 1967 with the formation of the lab bands. Today, however, the bands are without a full-time faculty instructor and the program is at a standstill.

Fund problem

The problem, according to Schneider, is the same as with many programs here at the university—lack of funds.

The lab bands are run by graduate assistant Tom Larson and John Kirsch, an undergraduate trumpet major.

Schneider gave up directing the bands in 1976 which his teaching load became too heavy. The bands were not part of his

teaching duties. They then were directed by Randell Snyder, a composition instructor, before being turned over to Larson.

The two bands are active in the Lincoln community and have performed at various locals and in area schools promoting the jazz concept. Lab Band Two can be heard March 23 in the Nebraska Student Union and hopes to perform there at least once a month according to Kirsch, the band's director.

The First Lab Band has gone to the Wichita Jazz Festival in past years, but will not make the trip this year because of lack of funds.

Recruit potential

Kirsch said he feels the jazz bands could be used more effectively than they are, possibly in recruiting top performers to the school.

He also said a more defined jazz program is needed to round out those students who want to become teachers. Currently, the students graduate, become teachers and are expected to run high school jazz bands.

Without jazz instruction the best they can do is fake it, unless they have worked in jazz on their own, he said.

Kirsch is pleased with his players' performance thus far and said, "They are out to tackle any difficult charts."

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