

Weather:

Cloudy and breezy today. East winds 10-20 mph with a high of 30. Some decreasing cloudiness tonight with a low of 14. Tomorrow through Thanksgiving — chance of light snow and slightly cooler. Highs in the upper 20s.

'Cheesy' gifts bring benevolent feelings

Arts and Entertainment, page 5



OU freshman just might fill Tisdale's shoes

Sports, page 6

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One on one

Mentor project brings students, faculty together

By Todd von Kampen
Senior Reporter

Two UNL student leaders say they developed the skills they need for success through a University Counseling Center program matching students with faculty and staff members outside of the classroom.

Residence Hall Association President John Danforth and Mary Marcy, Mortar Board president, are among 45 students involved this semester in the Student Development Mentoring-Transcript Project. The program, now in its eighth year, is designed to overcome the barriers that are common at large universities between students and instructors project coordinator LuAnn Krager said.

"I think faculty miss student contact," said Krager, who was assistant dean of students before she resigned in August to finish her doctorate. "Faculty and staff are in the field because they believe in learning, in their subject area...But with large numbers of students and with classes that are large, you can't get to know what students are thinking or what their questions are."

Many students, especially those from smaller schools, find they miss the contact they had with high school teachers, Krager said. Although relationships with faculty members can develop over time, she said, underclassmen and students in UNL's larger colleges have a harder time making contacts.

Former Dean of Students David DeCoster and Robert Brown, UNL professor of educational psychology, designed the project to provide students with a permanent record of personal growth, Krager said.

During the student's years in college, she said, the mentor and student set personal, academic or professional goals and record how the student met those goals. The student then would have a "mentoring transcript" to show employers or graduate schools along with the academic record, she said.

In recent years, Krager said, the project has concentrated on the relationships between mentor and student rather than the written record.

Danforth said he gets more out of his mentoring relationship in an informal setting.

"What I look for with my mentor is

the chance to talk in a one-on-one relationship," he said. "It gives me confidence."

Danforth's mentor, senior engineering and computer science major from Bellevue, entered the program when he transferred to UNL as a sophomore. He said he was looking for a mentor who could give him advice on housing matters as well as talk with him about more serious subjects.

Danforth's mentor, Residence Hall Coordinator Pat Glasier, said she joined the mentoring program so she could work with students more than her job description allowed at the time. Her relationships with Danforth and other students in the program help her understand how Nebraskans think, she said.

"The university looks different to me than it does to John," Glasier said. "He's a 'reality check.'"

Marcy, a senior speech communications major from Hay Springs, was one of Krager's first students when Krager became a mentor. Marcy said Krager helped her over the "culture shock" of UNL and taught her that education

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Andrea Hoy/Daily Nebraskan

Glitter of the season

Atrium managing staff members hang aluminum snowflakes on a suspended frame in the lower level of the Atrium Monday.

Research, publishing helps ensure professors' success

By Janis Lovitt
and Jane Campbell
Staff Reporters

UNL professors are expected to do more than teach. Research and public service are equally important to a professor's success, said John Yost, associate to the chancellor and interim vice chancellor for research and dean of graduate studies.

Professors must do some sort of research to receive tenure, Yost said. He said this research could be published journals, articles, or some other form of creative work. Yost said arts professors can perform their research

by creating a piece of art or composing a song.

John Peters, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and professor of political science, said he thinks research is especially important when professors teach students in upper-level courses.

"When students have a question, they can go directly to the horse's mouth by asking their teacher," Peters said. "The student won't just be talking to someone else who read the textbook, they will be talking to an expert."

Yost said 73 percent of UNL faculty members have tenure. To receive tenure, they must be recommended by

a committee of peers who already hold tenure. Then they must be evaluated by professionals outside the university in the particular field of study. Yost said much of this evaluation is based on the accomplishments of that professor.

Because of tenure, many professors devote much time and effort to their research, Peters said.

Keith Mueller, associate professor of political science, took a leave of absence from teaching this semester to complete his research. Mueller said he will continue to advise students and serve on committees while working on his book.

Please see **PUBLISHING** on 3

Thanksgiving — A 'foreign' idea to non-American students

From Staff Reports

For United States citizens, thoughts of Thanksgiving dwell on traditions: lavish turkey dinners, football games and stories about the pilgrims and the Mayflower. But for international students, those traditions are foreign.

Basil Rashid, a graduate civil engineering student from Iraq, had never heard of the holiday before he was invited to have Thanksgiving dinner with a U.S. family.

"It's nice to get together and learn about American history," Rashid said. "Now I know how it started and why they call it Thanksgiving."

Iraq doesn't have any holidays that compare to Thanksgiving. But, Rashid said, the people celebrate many religious festivals.

Indonesia has no traditions that compare to Thanksgiving either. But that won't stop the Indonesian Student Association from getting together Thursday to celebrate the holiday, Ahmad Dimiyati said.

"It is a new thing to us," said Dimiyati, a graduate student in agronomy.

He said Indonesians have local celebrations after their harvests, but that usually happens at different times of the year.

In South Korea, Chinese Full Moon Day on Aug. 15 is similar to

Thanksgiving, said Young Kwon, a senior mechanical engineering major.

"People usually celebrate it like Thanksgiving," Kwon said. "People eat food just harvested."

South Korea is a very agricultural nation, he said, so the holiday is a "very good event."

Thailand has no celebration comparable to Thanksgiving, said Wiboon Lapjatupon, a graduate student in animal science.

Many Thais adopt some of the traditions from the Chinese companies, which celebrate their own form of Thanksgiving in Thailand. But no formal holiday is on the government calendar.

