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UNL athletes DARE kids

'Role models' tell elementary students to stay away from drugs

By Adeana Leftin
Staff Reporter

UNL athletes are DAREing to be different.

More than 100 University of Nebraska-Lincoln athletes are volunteering their free time at the DARE booth at the Nebraska State Fair until it ends Sunday.

DARE, Drug Abuse Resistance Education, is beginning its second season in Nebraska after a successful year in Omaha schools, said Deputy Emanuel Bartek of the Lincoln sheriff's office. The anti-drug program focuses on fifth- and sixth-grade students in an attempt to reach students when they're young, he said.

The athletes spend two hours at the booth speaking with students and answering their questions with the help of police officers.

Law enforcement agents avoid using "scare tactics," Bartek said. Instead, DARE stresses the importance of high self-esteem in evading peer pressure. The program also teaches the consequences of drug use, he said.

Nancy Kindig, a graduate assistant who works with the UNL women's

athletic program, said the sheriff's office contacted the athletic department to form a formal relationship with the athletes to support the program.

"It's a way to give back to the community," Kindig said.

Kindig said she hopes the athletes working on the project also will speak in public schools.

Bartek said the sheriff's office wanted to use athletes to support DARE because they are role models for the children.

"I'm not credible," he said, "but they are . . . now. They perform a fantastic service."

Kelly Westenrieder and Susan Hedrick, both members of the UNL track team, spent some of their time at the booth answering questions about track and signing autographs.

The athletes hope to show students that participating in sports is a way to avoid turning to drugs to relieve boredom, Hedrick said.

Westenrieder said the athletes' goal is to answer students' questions about their sport and demonstrate the qualities of a drug-free athlete.

"You don't need drugs to be an athlete," Westenrieder said.

Hedrick said the athletes are having a positive effect.

"They (students) see someone older and in sports, not drugs," Hedrick said.

Unlike parents and police, athletes can identify with students and show them they can't succeed with drugs or steroids, only with education and hard work, Hedrick said.

Jeff Hooper, a track team member, said he participated because he felt it was his first opportunity to do something for kids.

"If what we're doing will keep one kid off drugs, it will suit its purpose," Hooper said.

Sara Offringa, a member of the UNL women's basketball team, said the success of the athletes centered on the fact that they're not authority figures -- they're not around every day telling the kids what to do. Instead of rebelling against the advice of an athlete, young people want to prove that they can do it, she said.

Bartek said that most students want to know when the DARE program would come to their school. They've already heard about it and now they want to participate, he said.



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Wick Great Hall to be dedicated

The Great Hall of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Wick Alumni Center will be renamed this weekend in the memory of a 1916 graduate who gave more than \$4.6 million to the university during the last 20 years of his life.

The dedication ceremony for the "Pascale Great Hall" will be at 8 p.m. today at the Wick Center.

The late Capt. Henry Pascale and his wife Frances of Rumson, N.J., gave more money in living gifts, all in the form of common stocks, to his alma mater than any alumnus.

Pascale died Feb. 1 at the age of 95.

Mayor: New Store Needed

From Staff Reports

Lincoln Mayor Bill Harris heralded the arrival of a new store in Lincoln as an accelerator to downtown revitalization.

The store's addition hopefully will reverse the trend of stores leaving downtown for the Gateway Shopping Center, 6100 O St., Harris said Thursday.

Morrow's Hallmark will open in Lincoln Square, 13th and O streets, in early October, Harris said.

Lincoln Square, formerly the Miller & Paine building, is being remodeled to accommodate several retail stores. The building was partially vacated by the closing of the downtown Dillard's

store.

Lynn and Steve Morrow will be opening the downtown Hallmark store in early October. The store will occupy about 4,000 square feet. They have another Hallmark store at Gateway.

Harris also announced that First Federal Lincoln's loan servicing facility will be occupying about 20,000 square feet on the third floor of the building in October.

Mike Jenkins, president of Miller & Paine, said more than 50 percent of the leasable space in the Lincoln Center has either been leased, is being held under option to lease or is occupied by Miller & Paine businesses or offices.

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police REPORT

Beginning midnight Wednesday, Sept. 5

2:44 a.m. -- Vehicle damaged, 14th and New Hampshire streets, S110.

8:28 a.m. -- Attempted burglary, Biochemistry Building, S40.

8:35 a.m. -- Burglary, Hamilton Hall, S25.

8:42 a.m. -- Follow up on Hamilton Hall burglary.


9:52 a.m. -- Follow up on party followed, Nebraska Hall.

11:34 a.m. -- Gate arm broken, Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, 33rd and Holdredge streets, S25.


12:43 p.m. -- Theft of hubcap from auto, 17th and Vine streets reserved lot, S30.

1:17 p.m. -- Follow up on vehicle vandalism, 14th and New Hampshire streets.

2:19 p.m. -- Theft of world atlas from Avery Hall, S1,050.



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September 14th	September 15th												
Handgame Culture Center 333 N. 14th (14th & R) 7:00 to 10:00 pm	Dancer Registration 10:00 am-1:00 pm Nebraska Union, 2nd Floor. Grand Entry 2:00 pm Grand Finale 10:00 pm												
September 16th	DANCER CATEGORIES												
Nebraska Union, 2nd Floor Grand Entry 2:00 pm Grand Finale 10:00 pm	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">16 yrs. & Up</th> <th style="width: 33%;">16 yrs. & Under</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Tradition Women</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Tradition Girls</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Fancy Women</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Fancy Girls</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Tradition Men</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Tradition Boys</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Fancy Men</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Fancy Boys</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Jingle Dancer</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Grass Dancers</td> </tr> </table>	16 yrs. & Up	16 yrs. & Under	Tradition Women	Tradition Girls	Fancy Women	Fancy Girls	Tradition Men	Tradition Boys	Fancy Men	Fancy Boys	Jingle Dancer	Grass Dancers
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Fancy Women	Fancy Girls												
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