



Al Schaben/Daily Nebraskan

Jenny Kros and Michael Van Buskirk have gone from running lawn-care services to running the Entrepreneur Development Corporation.

Sales total \$26,000

## NU students run corporation

By Sara Bauder Schott  
Senior Reporter  
and Michelle Dyer  
Staff Reporter

Moving up in the business world, two University of Nebraska-Lincoln students have gone from owning lawn-care services to running a corporation.

Mike Van Buskirk, a sophomore business administration major at UNL, said the Entrepreneur Development Corporation has given him a new perspective on the business world. Van Buskirk is president of the corporation.

The corporation assesses banks and small companies to determine where their strengths and weaknesses lie, Van Buskirk said.

The firm also has been sponsoring seminars in the Lincoln Public Schools. The seminars are designed to help raise students' interest in entrepreneurship, Van Buskirk said. The firm hires people to give the seminars because the students do not have time to give them, he said.

The corporation was incorporated Aug. 31, 1990, and sales so far have totaled about \$26,000, Van Buskirk said.

Successful entrepreneurship is not new to Van Buskirk.

He had owned his lawn-care service in Sidney since he was 8 1/2 years

old. He had four people working for him when he sold his business in 1989 after deciding to go to college.

The lawn-care service had grown as much as it could, Van Buskirk said. The corporation has more potential for growth, he said.

The corporation is run by students. Van Buskirk and Jenny Kros, a sophomore accounting major at UNL and executive treasurer of the firm, are partners in the corporation. They are on the executive board of the corporation and run it.

Brent Sites, a freshman business major, is an associate at the firm and is involved in day-to-day operations but has no voting power, Van Buskirk said.

"The success or failure of the corporation is completely dependent upon the entrepreneurs who are running it," said Robin Anderson, director of the Nebraska Center for Entrepreneurship at UNL. Anderson advises the students who are running the fledgling corporation.

Kros owned a lawn-care service in Blair. She said she got involved with the corporation by participating in the Young Entrepreneur Scholarship Program.

"My business before was extremely small," Kros said. "This gave me an opportunity to deal more with communication and working with people." Not only does the firm provide

students a chance to learn how to run a business, it offers help to small and medium-sized businesses, Kros said.

"All of our products are entrepreneurial inclined. We set it up so we can help people develop entrepreneurial skills," Kros said.

Van Buskirk said he works about 40 hours a week at the firm. Kros said learning to budget her time has been one of the most valuable things she has learned by being part of the corporation.

The success of the corporation is determined by the positive sign on the balance sheet. The investors in the corporation expect some return on their investment.

"Entrepreneurship is the growth of a company, not the starting of one, so making money is still the primary goal of the company," Anderson said.

Partners in the corporation get paid wages similar to those paid for an internship and also receive "phantom stock" in the corporation, Anderson said.

"Phantom stock is not actually stock. It is a form of profit-sharing that the students accumulate while running the corporation. They receive the money upon graduating from a four-year college program," Anderson said.

"We want to make sure that students want to graduate, that this is just good experience for them, not their career," he said.

## Professor seeks help for MAMA

By Shelley Biggs  
Staff Reporter

Funding is the key to further expansion of a newsletter from UNL to troops in the Persian Gulf, a professor said.

David Hibler, assistant professor of English and founder of the Middle American Manuscript Association, said that the newsletter started with a circulation of 144 copies a week with the first issue, but with the fifth issue 1,500 copies are in circulation.

But expansion of MAMA may be inhibited by lack of funds to keep the newsletter in weekly operation, Hibler said.

He said he has kept the newsletter alive through gifts of a large quantity

of paper and printing from an anonymous donor.

The newsletter's success is unknown, Hibler said, because the first issues have not yet had time to reach the Persian Gulf and return to Nebraska.

"It takes anywhere from two to three weeks to get to the Persian Gulf, and 11 days to be returned," he said.

"Hopefully, I can find a way in the future to cover printing costs," Hibler said. Hibler said he hopes to find a local sponsor for the newsletter.

To get a sponsor, he said, he has to show a need for larger circulation to troops in the Persian Gulf. Hibler said he hopes to eventually publish 144,000 copies per issue.

Hibler is working to build a circu-

lation base. He is working with the Operation Desert Shield Support Group in Lincoln and the mayor's office to compile the names of local people stationed in the Persian Gulf.

Jim Otto, coordinator of economic development in the mayor's office, said the project was started to help people get in touch with servicemen and women in the Persian Gulf.

"The names are compiled on a volunteer basis," Otto said.

Those names are unavailable to the public due to the Federal Protection Privacy Act, he said.

Otto said people are receiving news of the project by way of radio. The mayor's office already has received close to 20 names and is expecting more as word gets out, he said.

## UNL police suspect group theft at parking lot

From Staff Reports

Four to five thieves possibly were involved in stealing items from six cars in the Harper Residence Hall parking lot Monday morning, University of Nebraska-Lincoln police

said. "It's got to be more than just one person," said Sgt. Mylo Bushing.

The thieves probably cooperated to watch for vehicles and pedestrians, he said.

The thefts probably occurred be-

tween 5:30 a.m. and 7:12 a.m., between the times when police patrolled the lot, Bushing said.

Losses totaled more than \$490.

A seventh theft from the Harper lot was reported late and did not occur at that time.

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Pick up an application and sign up for an interview in Room 34, Nebraska Union between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. today through Nov. 5. Interviews times will be posted.

Applicants must be UNL students during the spring semester.

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