

Education

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School, said computer, satellite and telecommunication technology allowed her students to communicate directly with their German peers.

Technology is crucial, Kuehl said, if students are to learn the language instead of simply learning about the language.

"It gets my students out of the classroom and into the world."

Pledges

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Tau Kappa Epsilon has reduced its pledge program to three weeks, and Alpha Gamma Rho abandoned its pledge program altogether last fall.

Dennis Bracht, president of Alpha Gamma Rho, said his chapter switched to having no pledge program this year. He said freshmen were activated into the fraternity after only a few days.

The decision to drop the pledge program was made by Alpha Gamma Rho's national office, Bracht said.

"We still make (pledges) learn the history of the house, give them tests over it and things like that," he said. "But they get voting rights and privileges sooner.

"There have been a few adjustment problems for the older members in the house, but everything has gone well otherwise."

Bills said members of Kappa Alpha Theta nationals and UNL's Panhellenic officials were working to accommodate the earlier initiation.

"I don't really know the arguments on either side," she said.

Anderson said she was unaware that UNL greek chapters had activated pledges before they had obtained a GPA — a violation of UNL's greek constitution.

Bracht, though, was unfeigned.

"Well, I don't know," he said, "but we do it anyway."

But that may change soon.

"Nothing can be done if they do," Anderson said. "But if they do, their national headquarters will hear from us, and I would guess they won't be doing it next year."



Michelle Paulman/DN

Change of Seasons

Tom Jensen and Steve Dyer (hidden) of Signs Incorporated replace The Haymarket snowflake banners with flowered ones at 9th and Q streets Wednesday. "You'd think this would be easier," Jensen said.

Fight

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event, Moeller said.

In addition to safety gear, registered referees will do their part to protect the boxers from serious harm.

Fight Night will take place Friday at 7 p.m. at the 4-H Hall at the State Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$4.

The events are sponsored by Sigma Chi, Pepsi, Gas-N-Shop and O'Douls.

New pinto bean variety to ease farmers' worries about disease

By Nicole Sheets
Staff Reporter

A new pinto bean variety being released by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln should ease headaches for disease-weary dry bean farmers throughout Nebraska.

This new variety, Chase, resists bean rust and common bacterial blight, diseases that have hurt pinto bean yields and seed quality in recent years, said Dermot Coyne, dry bean breeder for the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources and a horticulture teacher at UNL.

"This is the first pinto bean with resistance to so many different diseases," Coyne said.

Presently, pinto bean yields are being reduced by bean rust, a reddish fungus that appears on the surface of the seed, and other bacteria diseases.

Chase was named after the county in southwest Nebraska where farmers were suffering the most losses and where a large percentage of Nebraska's pinto bean supply was grown.

Coyne came to UNL in 1961 as a plant and bean programmer and vegetation breeder. He soon began working to improve a variety of bean types, including great northern and pinto beans, both found in Nebraska.

Since 1982, Coyne has been working to improve the pinto bean, which is used for refried beans as well as many other Mexican bean products. His goal was to develop pintos resistant to disease.

Yield and disease resistance aren't the only important traits of a first-class bean variety, Coyne said. Seed size, plant height and spread are all important factors in a good bean.

Chase's bean rust resistance came from a South American bean called Tacaragua, brought to Nebraska by a graduate student from Venezuela.

"It took years of breeding to incorporate the useful traits from Tacaragua and pinto bean qualities from other lines into the Chase variety," Coyne said.

"Chase's ancestry is an example of benefits from international cooperation."

Recent testing on the Chase bean has found it favorable for cooking with no real taste difference, as well as suitable for canning, he said. The bean also has a strong seed coat.

The Chase bean is being bred for parts of western Nebraska, northeast Colorado and eastern Wyoming. The bean will be available to certified growers this summer and will be sold for commercial production in the fall of 1994. The Nebraska Foundation Seed Division will build the seed supply as demand increases.

This is the first pinto bean with resistance to so many different diseases.

—Coyne
UNL dry bean breeder

"This bean is an example of what we call sustainable agriculture," Coyne said. "There are no chemical sprays used to control diseases, which makes it safer for the environment. The disease resistance is all in the genes."

Coyne said Chase's development was a combination of the hard work of a team including plant pathologists Jim Steadman and Anne Vidaver; Dale Lindgren, horticulturist at NU's West Central Research and Extension Center at North Platte; Dave Nuland, dry bean specialist, and Doris Boecking, plant breeding assistant at NU's Panhandle Research and Extension Center in Scottsbluff.

The Nebraska Dry Bean Commission and the U.S. Agency for International Development help fund the dry bean research conducted through IANR's Agricultural Research Division.

Coyne said he would continue with his bean developments and was working on an upright pinto, which is even more resistant to viruses.

Coyne said he planned to stay in Nebraska and continue teaching and researching.

"Nebraska is a good place to work and conduct research," Coyne said.

POLICE REPORT

Beginning midnight Monday

- 1:56 a.m. — Car found with doors open, parking lot at 17th and R streets.
- 8:12 a.m. — Cassettes stolen, Oldfather Hall, \$80.
- 9:58 a.m. — Accident, Dental College, \$600.
- 10:18 a.m. — Meter heads stolen, East Campus Arboretum, \$650.
- 11:33 a.m. — Accident, Law College, \$1,750.
- 1:04 p.m. — Plant stolen, Plant Science Hall, \$25.

Beginning midnight Tuesday

- 12:54 a.m. — Window broken, parking lot at 17th and Court streets, \$200.
- 12:15 p.m. — Tail light broken out of car, East Campus, \$100.
- 3:10 p.m. — Compact disc player/amplifier/speakers stolen/recovered, parking lot at 19th Street between R and U streets, \$170 damage, three persons arrested.
- 4:30 p.m. — Person with warrant for arrest for theft and failure to appear in court.
- 8:26 p.m. — Hit-and-run accident, parking lot at Harper-Schramm-Smith, \$500.

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