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Speaking out



Jeff Haller/DN

Rick Alloway, a UNL broadcasting instructor, is the voice behind the university's new telephone enrollment system, NRoll. Although Alloway spent hours working for NRoll, he doesn't really talk on five phones at once.

Professor is voice behind NRoll system

By Sean McCarthy
Staff Reporter

Rick Alloway has talked to almost every UNL student at one time or another.

"Welcome to the University of Nebraska NRoll system," he has told them in a deep, baritone voice.

Broadcasting from the shadow of Memorial Stadium, Alloway, general manager of KRNU and a University of Nebraska-Lincoln broadcasting instructor, is the voice behind NRoll.

Alloway's voice mail recording helped him get chosen for the job, he said.

"Somebody asked me at one

point if I was interested, and I said 'Sure.'" Alloway said. "To my knowledge, I might have been the only person to apply for the job."

He said NRoll wasn't his first phone project. Alloway gave information on various farm animal disorders for one phone project.

"I had to read off information on disorders like hog cholera and cow scabies and read it like I was familiar with it," he said.

Alloway said it took nearly three hours to place every department name, building location, time, call number and other course elements into the NRoll system.

The most difficult part of Alloway's job was correctly pro-

nouncing the names of all buildings on both campuses, he said.

To achieve the right voice for NRoll, Alloway said he studied the UNL phone system and directory assistance. Because NRoll relies on pasting fragments of his voice together, Alloway said he used a flat, deep voice for the job.

"I'm not too crazy about the way I sound on the system," Alloway said.

Alloway said he tried to make his voice as warm and pleasant as he could but recognized the limitations he faced.

"You can't do much when you don't know what elements fit with

each other," Alloway said.

Producing NRoll involved more than reading material, Alloway said. Hours of setup were necessary for only a couple of seconds of voice material, he said.

Alloway said he still worked regularly for the NRoll system. He said he occasionally came into the recording studio to update the system.

Student reaction to his stint with NRoll has been mostly humorous, Alloway said.

"I've gotten used to people complaining that I did not give them the classes that they wanted," Alloway said.

Lottery's rush seldom brings in the bucks

By Brian Sharp
Senior Reporter

Brian Guenther went into the Q4Quick this week and bought a Touchdown lottery ticket.

He lost.

In its first year, more than 60 million Nebraska Lottery tickets have been sold. Of that, \$27.7 million in prizes have been awarded, said Brian Rockey, of the Nebraska Lottery public information office.

Guenther, a graduate student in electrical engineering, said the most he had won was \$10.

"(I play) whenever I have an extra buck," he said, "which isn't too often."

Brian Swerczek doesn't play very often either. But last November, the senior agronomy major went into the Hy-Vee store at 48th and Leighton streets and bought a \$10,000 lottery

"It's increased as it's gone on. The students want the lottery. They want the instant cash, and they don't want to wait."

TERESA KRAFKA

Q4Quick clerk

ticket.

He won.

"At first, I couldn't believe it," he said. "Now, I kind of forget about it until somebody says something."

Swerczek said the \$6,500 that he took home after taxes hadn't changed his life. It hasn't even made him excited to play again, he said.

It took him two months to buy another ticket, he said. And he only

plays once in awhile. Swerczek said he figured he'd never get that lucky again. The most he's ever won since then is \$5.

"The big effect was back in my hometown," Swerczek, who is from Cedar Rapids said. "They about bought the town out of tickets after they found out I won."

For all the great lottery stories of success and riches, there are just as

many stories of despair.

A Gambling Anonymous official said the group had received a significant increase in calls to their hotline since the lottery began.

"As you legalize more gambling, you're going to have more problems," said Deb Hammond, a member of a state committee that distributes lottery revenue. "(The lottery) is a little bit more glorified. Everywhere you go, they're pushing you to buy a lottery ticket."

With a new game coming out every three or four weeks, that push gets even stronger, Hammond said.

"People think 'A buck? What's a buck?'" she said. "But if they start adding up all those bucks, they see the problem."

Hammond said the lottery, with its availability and instant cash, pre-

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Spanier suspends suspect

By Matthew Waite
Senior Reporter

A student charged in the shooting of a UNL police officer has been suspended from school temporarily, a university spokeswoman said Wednesday.

Phyllis Larsen said Chancellor Graham Spanier decided to suspend Gerald Schlondorf pending a judicial board hearing.

Schlondorf, a senior criminal justice major, was arrested Monday in the shooting of UNL Police officer Robert Soflin, who was in good condition Wednesday night at Lincoln General Hospital. Schlondorf faces two counts of attempted second-degree murder.

Larsen said a provision in the university bylaw allowed Spanier to suspend the student. Spanier was unavailable for comment.

The student code of conduct states the chancellor may temporarily suspend a student if he believes the "presence of the student on the university campus would seriously disrupt the university or constitute a danger to

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Student numbers decline

By Josh Wimmer
Staff Reporter

Enrollment numbers at both UNL and the University of Nebraska at Omaha have declined from last semester, said administrators at both institutions.

But at least at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, those numbers should be back up again next year.

The number of full-time students at UNL has dropped about 2.5 percent since last spring semester, said Earl Hawkey, director of registration and records at UNL. That equals about 600 students.

At UNO, Chancellor Del Weber estimated the enrollment decline was about 5.5 percent, or more than 900 students. This drop was the the greatest in UNO's enrollment for many years.

The numbers released this week were estimates. Exact figures should be available during the first week of October after being reviewed by the NU Board of Regents.

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, said the drop at UNL could be attributed to several causes. The main reason is a decrease in the number of seniors graduating from Nebraska high schools last year, he said.

Hawkey agreed. "It wasn't unexpected because of the decline of the number of high school seniors in the state," he said.

Griesen said the number of high school graduates would grow in Nebraska in coming years. He said UNL had expected the drop in class size this year.

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