Congratulations Seniors!

**Brett Young Brian Prauner** Scott Henderson Mark Mueller



And a special thanks to Dave Stanley - Grand Omicron

### Ag Men

Congratulations to our '94-'95 Seniors. Thank you for your commitment and pride to our house.

Randy Bathke Brian Classen **Brandon Hamer** Troy Hansen Mike Jacobsen Craig Long Grant Miller **Tom Stumbo** 



# Congratulations Seniors



Bill Lechtenberg Will Oltmans Daryl Bader Clayton Glause Clint Fuchs Tad Frahm Mike Schram Greg Hansen Mike McFarland Nick Wilhelm **Jeff Behuslasky** Scott Ford Jeff Halverson



The Brothers of Alpha Gamma Rho wish the best of luck to our departing seniors.

## Softballgames take on new family meaning

This column, originally published on April 18, placed first in the Daily Nebraksan Publications Board sports column category.

Bob Offenbacker spent last Friday night at home and appreciated life while his

daughter, Amy, was away playing softball. But this wasn't any normal Friday night for the Offenbackers. The date was April 14, and it marked the one-year anniversary of a day both he and Amy would rather

On April 14, 1994, 42-year-old Bob Offenbacker stood at the NU Softball Complex during a rain delay as Amy was playing for the Nebraska softball team.

Then Bob suffered a heart attack during that fourth-inning play stoppage against Missouri-Kansas City.

"I remember falling over," Bob said. Then I told Amy to keep playing ball before I went in the ambulance and not worry about me. The next thing I remember, I woke up the next morning after having six-vessel bypass surgery.

Before the heart attack, Bob was enjoying the thing he loved most in life, watching one of his daughters play

Amy went 3 for 6 with 2 RBIs in a doubleheader sweep, but that wasn't important that day.

Amy's focus turned to her father and whether he would recover. Bob's focus turned to Amy and when she would return to playing softball.

Amy missed four games, and she heard about it from her dad.

"I got after her about it," Bob said. "I wondered why she was not with the team, and I gave her the dickens in the hospital." Amy finished the season out, and that

seemed to help her dad until he suffered another heart attack May 26.

Then a new obstacle entered the lives of the Offenbackers.

On June 11, Bob got the news that he was going to undergo a heart transplant after he heard that a heart was available from someone in West Virginia.

This time both Bob and Amy agreed it was good for her to leave the softball diamond again.

She and her sister were playing softball in Kańsas City, Mo., and came home immediately to be with their dad as he prepared to undergo the transplant. Bob had one final thing to overcome. He



Trevor Parks

wanted to return to where he suffered his heart attack and put that first memory behind him.

"It was quite an experience to come back," Bob said. "It took two or three trips to go back to where it happened.

The first time back all sorts of stuff went through my mind, and then the memories of it hit me and it was a weird

That memory still lingers on for Amy, who goes by the NU Softball Complex

every day.

"There's not a day that goes by when I what happened to him don't think about what happened to him and where it happened," Amy said. "As many times as I'm out there, I don't think there's one time I don't walk over by that foul-line fence and think about it."

Now, according to Amy, a year later her dad is almost as healthy as she is.

And things couldn't be better. The Cornhuskers, 31-15, are having one of their best seasons in years, and that is the best medicine for Bob.

He is used to seeing Amy in Nebraska Class A State Championships, and now he is seeing her trying for a Big Eight Championship.

This weekend Bob will be there when Amy and Nebraska take on Iowa State

He has been a fixture at Amy's softball games for the last 10 years, but now his appearance is something special.

Every time Amy steps on the field, she knows she is not playing for herself.

"Each time I play, it feels like I'm playing for him."

Amy Offenbacker spent Friday playing softball at Northern Iowa, and Bob Offenbacker wondered how she was doing.

And Bob and Amy wouldn't want it any other way.

Parks is a junior news-editorial major and a Daily Nebraskan staff reporter and sports columnist.

#### Congratulations to our graduating seniors:



**Travis Broderson Dave Chase Greg Koch Craig Siders** 

Thank you for the memories, leadership, and dedicated service. We wish you well as you travel along life's pathways. Acac1a