

Honorary inducts mother, son together

BY JOSH KNAUB
Staff writer

When Paul Macklin signed his name in the Phi Beta Kappa registry and became a member of the nation's oldest honorary society Tuesday night, he had a very special person follow him down the aisle: his mother, Janet.

Both were initiated into the exclusive society for graduating students in the arts and sciences.

Being honored together is nothing new for the Macklin family.

The two, along with Paul Macklin's older sister Julie, were also chosen to be members of Golden Key the same year.

"It's kind of unique," Paul Macklin said.

Both said that academic excellence has not bred competition. Instead, the family celebrates each other's successes.

"I get inspired by my kids," Janet Macklin said.

Paul Macklin echoed his mother's sentiment.

"I want to try to do as well as my mom," he said. "She gives me something to look up to."

Although Paul and Janet Macklin have both excelled academically, they have done so in different fields.

Janet Macklin is graduating in theater. Paul double-majored in math and German.

Janet Macklin said her surprise at being chosen for Phi Beta Kappa was doubled when she found out her son was also chosen.

"It's twice an honor," she said. Paul Macklin said he admired his mother's resolve.

"Most people don't go back to college after they've been out a while," he said. "She showed real determination."

Both said they look forward to the next academic honor they will share: graduation.

"I've got a countdown going on my computer," Paul Macklin said.

Phi Beta Kappa initiates are elected by current members. Initiates are usually chosen from the top 10 percent of graduating seniors.

The honorary was founded in 1776 at William and Mary College in Virginia.

Sixty-five seniors were initiated into the Nebraska alpha chapter this year.



Teen caught after pursuit

After a short pursuit Monday morning, Lincoln police arrested a teen-ager who escaped from the Kearney Youth Detention Center Sunday.

Before he was caught, the 17-year-old slammed into another car head-on, but no serious injuries were reported, Lincoln Police Officer Katherine Finnell said.

The boy was reported driving recklessly in Mahoney State Park, I-80 exit 426, around 7:30 a.m. in the truck he had stolen in Kearney.

Police spotted the brown 1994 Chevrolet pickup westbound on Benton Street near 70th Street.

The officer followed the truck west for a few blocks before turning her lights on, but the boy only sped up.

A 50-year-old woman then backed her car out of the driveway at 6330 Benton St. directly in the truck's path.

The truck slammed head-on into the car, which was facing eastbound, and while the officer attended to the car's driver, the boy fled.

Around 9 a.m. a neighbor spotted the boy walking in the neighborhood. Police said his mother lived in the area, but the boy did not know the address.

Police arrested the boy for possession of a stolen vehicle, fleeing to avoid arrest and leaving the scene of an accident.

Originally the boy was held in Kearney for a probation violation and arson. He was being held in the Lincoln Attention Center for Youth Tuesday.

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Box of cards exploded

The Lincoln Fire Department exploded a suspicious black box containing a deck of magic cards after it was left on a convenience store counter.

The manager of the Gas N Shop, 2142 N. Cotner Blvd., called police after the box covered in stickers such as "contents under pressure" and "open at your own risk" was left on the counter.

Fire officials blew up the box as a precautionary measure, though after police reviewed the video tape, they said it may have been left inadvertently.

Broyhill Fountain soaped

Someone christened the new Broyhill Fountain with soap suds Sunday morning.

A University Police officer checking the Nebraska Union saw the fountain foaming and called maintenance, Sgt. Mylo Bushing said.

The soap was neutralized without damage to the plumbing.

Compiled by senior staff writer Josh Funk

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