

New admissions director stresses academic rigor

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work with, including high schools and parents," she said.

Finnell brings a full resume to the job vacated by Peg Blake in 1998. In her job as associate director of the honors program at Texas A&M, Finnell worked to recruit honors students, minorities and students with special talents.

She started an office that advised students enrolled in pre-professional programs, including pre-medicine students. Five years after Finnell started the program, Texas A&M became the top school in Texas for medical school acceptance.

But one of the biggest assets Finnell said she could bring to the Office of Admissions is her academic background.

After teaching subjects such as foreign language, women's studies and literature, Finnell admits she has an affinity for the world of academia — a rare quality for a director of admissions.

But her rare perspective will help her understand the college from the inside out and convince prospective students of UNL's academic competitiveness.

"We need to change the way the university is perceived and make sure people understand that this is an academically rigorous institution," Finnell said. "My academic way of thinking may help that."

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, agreed that Finnell's academic background would be a benefit to the office.

"Dr. Finnell has an excellent academic background that helps her relate to

Press to move for admissions expansion

By Kimberly Sweet

Staff writer

Plans to enlarge the space of UNL's Office of Admissions are sending the University of Nebraska Press packing.

The two tenants that share the Alexander Building on 14th and Q streets will soon be reduced to one, as the University of Nebraska Press moves to a destination university officials hope to determine sometime within the next couple of days.

The decision came after it was deemed that the Office of Admissions needed more space to carry out its day-to-day functions, said Susanna Finnell, director of the Office of Admissions.

By alleviating the cramped conditions of the building, Office of Admissions workers will be able to work more smoothly and under less stressful conditions, Finnell said.

"The space thing is very difficult," Finnell said. "Working in a small

place, things tend to look messy."

The University of Nebraska Press is considering two locations for its future home, said Marsha Torr, vice chancellor for research. The press operates under the authority of the vice chancellor of research.

Torr said that one of the locations being considered would require extensive renovation, though the other wouldn't.

Once the decision is made, the press will begin packing up. Office personnel hope to be out by spring, said Deb Turner, assistant director and production manager for the press.

While members of the University of Nebraska Press aren't looking forward to the actual process of moving, they are looking forward to the bigger space they will be afforded with the move.

"None of us our thrilled about packing up our offices," Turner said. "But the move will be positive on the whole."

The Office of Admissions has

occupied the other half of the Alexander Building for the past three and a half years. Before that, the office was housed in the Canfield Administration Building, where the Student Affairs office sits currently sits.

The two sites being considered for the new location are off campus, Torr said.

Moving off campus would not affect the functions of the press, Torr said.

It is more important that the office is able to be close to its warehouses, one of which sits across Ninth Street in the Haymarket, Torr said.

Other requirements for the new building are that it contains a lot of space and good lighting under which artwork can be viewed and work can be done, Torr said.

Finnell said she is looking forward to the improvements that will be made in the office once it moves.

"The space will help a lot," Finnell said. "We're excited about it."

prospective students," he said.

Her skills recruiting students at Texas A&M will be seen in her new job, Griesen said.

"She brings a very deep understanding of the student-recruitment process," he said.

Finnell's background includes recruiting honors students, but she said it is important to make a strong effort to recruit all students who are qualified to attend UNL.

One of her goals is to continue to

increase freshman enrollment numbers, which are on the upswing after two years of decreased numbers.

Recruiting more efficiently earlier in students' high school careers is one of the keys to achieving this goal, Finnell said.

During her tenure as director, Finnell said she looked forward to improving on the things the office already does well.

Creative recruitment techniques and high-quality publications are two

of the positive points that the office already has going for it, she said.

And as the office begins to expand physically into the area currently occupied by the University of Nebraska Press, Finnell said the process would begin to run more smoothly.

When that improvement is made, Finnell said she would look for ways to improve the way UNL attracts students.

"It's difficult to figure out how to do things better, but not impossible," she said.

Law & Order

Man charged with stealing car

Police said a man may have tried to pull the wool over local church members' eyes.

Claude McCormick, 22, of North Myrtle Beach, S.C., approached members of the Eastridge Presbyterian Church, 1135 Eastridge Drive, complaining that he was down on his luck and didn't have anywhere to sleep, Lincoln Police Sgt. Todd Beam said.

The church members invited him to stay in the church but were suspicious of his story when they saw him at his 1999 blue Toyota Corolla.

A church member saw McCormick replace one of the license plates on the car with another one and called police.

The call came in at about 12:46 a.m. Saturday, and police determined that the car had been stolen in Charleston, S.C.

Police said McCormick told police he had been given permission from the owner of the vehicle, but the owner told police a different story.

Police arrested McCormick for possession of stolen property.

Computer stolen from school

Police got more than they bargained for while responding to a loud party call at 2:44 a.m. Sunday.

While investigating the party on Cottonwood Drive, a 17-year-old boy walked around the residence and said: "Shit, it's a cop," and set a computer he was carrying on the ground, Beam said.

When police inspected the computer that the boy was carrying, not only was it still warm, it had a Lincoln Public School sticker on it, Beam said.

Police investigated Pyrtle Elementary School, which is located within a block of the party, and found that someone had climbed into the building through a window on the east side of the building, and a computer was gone, Beam said.

The boy was arrested for burglary.

Burglaries lead to man's arrest

Two burglaries in the same area Monday pointed to two men as suspects who were in a vehicle nearby.

After officers investigated a 2:18 a.m. break-in at Jiffy Lube, 1520 Pioneers Blvd., in which burglars threw a rock through a glass window and took money from the cash register, officers noticed a vehicle with only one license plate on it, Beam said.

The officers checked the plate and discovered it was not valid and that one of the two occupants in the car had a warrant out for his arrest.

Derek Scott Breazeale, 21, 1534 E. St., was arrested for the warrant, but the other passenger was let go.

About the same time a call came in regarding an alarm at Rent-A-Van, 1530 Pioneers Blvd.

The Rent-A-Van was broken into through a window, and money was taken from the cash register.

Police suspected that the two burglaries were connected and that the men in the vehicle were responsible, Beam said.

Officers already had one man in custody for the warrant and knew the name of the other man, but he had not yet been found.

Compiled by staff writer Michelle Starr.

Globes see decline in viewership

NEW YORK (AP) — Faced with some stiff competition, the Golden Globe awards on NBC Sunday night saw a 9 percent drop in viewership from last year.

The awards ceremony was a triumph for HBO, which won eight of the 11 television trophies, with four of the awards going to "The Sopranos," honored as the best television drama.

As it turned out, "The Sopranos" may have been one of the reasons Golden Globe ratings sank.

The second episode of its second season aired Sunday night in direct competition with the Golden Globes.

More likely, the awards show suffered because of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire," ABC's continuing sensation. The game show drew 29 million viewers on Sunday night, according to Nielsen Media Research.

The three-hour Golden Globes telecast drew an average audience of 22.1 million viewers, down from 24.2 million in 1999, Nielsen said.

Viewing peaked during the tribute to Barbra Streisand after 10 p.m. EST (9 p.m. CDT), when there was less formidable competition. The highest ratings were in the entertainment capitals of New York and Los Angeles, where the Golden Globes had their best showing ever.

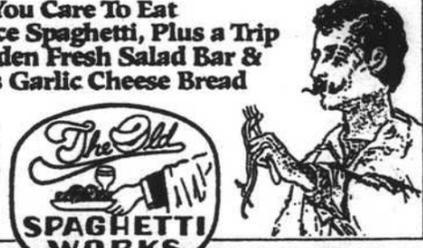
The suburban satire "American Beauty" won for best film drama, best director and best screenplay. DreamWorks SKG said on Monday that the movie will re-open on about 750 screens nationwide on Feb. 18.

Filmed profiles of boxer Rubin "Hurricane" Carter and the late comedian Andy Kaufman also won major awards.

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