

Sports *continued from page 1*

Last year, NCTA guard Joel Stryker was named Division II First Team All-American.

Dean Sleight believes that, if dropped, the sports programs could eventually be reinstated if the funds emerged.

If students vote to end the sports programs, the college will institute a stronger intramurals program that includes new equipment. According to Student Senate President Erik Williams, football, dodge ball, basketball and at least a couple of other intramural activities will be expanded or added.

Students would have to participate in the intramurals program and help organize the leagues for the program to succeed. It is likely that some type of student intramurals committee would be formed. In addition, each team would be required to have at least one coach—either student or advisor—and volunteer as referees.

The Student Senate has put together a survey to determine student opinion. These surveys should be completed by Friday, Jan. 28. and will be distributed at various group and club meetings. Students can contact Williams at ewilliams1991@hotmail.com for a chance to participate.

Results will be compiled by Jan. 31.



December Aggie of the Month

By Eric Reed, Faculty Advisor

Katrina Rotness of Hay Springs is the NCTA Aggie of the Month for December 2010.

Katrina is studying agriculture production systems with an emphasis in equine industry. A second-year student, she is active as a resident assistant in the women's dormitory, a member of the horse show team and Safari Club, and a representative on the Student Senate.

This summer Katrina enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and will leave for basic training after graduation in May. She also took a mission trip to Meru, Kenya, where she and a group from Norfolk participated in a free health clinic that saw 758 people in one day, helped to build the foundation for an expanding church and visited several churches, orphanages, hospitals, and schools to make monetary and material donations.

Katrina is on the Dean's list, which requires a GPA higher than 3.5. Her long-term goal is to work for



Katrina Rotness Photo by Tiffany Taylor

the Bureau of Land Management's wild horse and burro program. "Katrina has a great attitude and a warm personality," said Assistant Professor Eric Reed. "She is a good student. I published two of her articles in Saddle Up Nebraska magazine, and one of those articles will be published in an international newsletter about Hungarian horses."

Kevin Martin, NCTA Assistant Coordinator of Student Services said, "She is always courteous and respectful of students and staff, and is more than willing to do her part to make campus a student's home away from home."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January, 2011

28-30 NCTA Equestrian Team Annual Winter Clinic in LTC @ 1pm (28); 8am (29-30)

February, 2011

4 STVMA Movie Night in Vet Tech Building @ 6:30pm

5 Open Roping in LTC @ 8am

9 Area Highschool FFA Contest @ 8am

11 Valentine's Day Dance in The Barn @ 9pm

23 Career Development Skill Contest #2

24 Escape Artist: Daniel Martin in The Barn @ 6pm

24 NCTA Bonfire behind Vet Tech Building @ 9pm

March, 2011

17 FFA Dance in The Barn @ 8pm



AGGIE UP!

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Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture

Students to Decide on Future of NCTA Sports Program

By Eric Reed, Faculty Advisor

The NCTA Student Senate is conducting a survey to determine whether students want to continue funding women's volleyball and men's and women's basketball, or if students want to drop the programs in favor of a stronger intramural program.

Dean Weldon Sleight addressed the Student Senate at its meeting Jan. 21 in Ag Hall. He explained that the volleyball and basketball programs are in the hole about \$25,000 over the course of four years.

The issue is what is going to fund athletics?

Currently, students pay an activity fee to fund athletics. They also pay a fee that goes toward the Student Union Resource Fund (SURF), which is used to help fund individual organizations, such as the rodeo, equestrian, and livestock judging teams and other clubs.

Many NCTA teams and clubs are compensated to pay for things like gasoline and transportation in school vans. The

basketball and volleyball teams are currently funded 100 percent from the activity fee to pay for things like lodging, equipment, referees, meals and uniforms.

If students vote to stop funding the athletic program (except for the same benefits academic clubs receive, such as for gas and transportation) and to use the money for other things (like intramurals), the athletic teams would be forced to fund themselves to exist, making it more difficult to



Mark McClung running with Abby Sybrant right on his tail. Photo by Tiffany Taylor

compete in the United States Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA). Without participation in an official organization such as the USCAA, players would no longer be eligible for national recognition in the league or be able to earn All-American or All Academic team honors.

In the time since Jeremy Sievers has led the teams there have been six All-Americans and two Honorable Mentions.

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- Aggie Up! Staff:
- Tiffany Taylor Co-Editor
 - Aaron Couch Co-Editor
 - Lauren Hospodka Staff
 - Eric Reed Faculty Advisor

Get Cheggin' and Make a Difference!

By Aaron Couch, Co-Editor

It's that time again! For most of you, classes have started already and that means more books. Joy. Somehow the bookstore can always justify raising the prices on books too. It seems like students are caught with a double-edged sword when it comes to textbooks. We need them for class. We need classes for school. We need school for a degree. And we need a degree to make money and have the job we desire, but we don't have money to buy the BOOKS!

Look no further than Chegg.

Chegg is a company that specializes in renting textbooks to students, saving them hundreds of dollars each semester. So how does it work? First, you must take the initiative to go to the website, www.chegg.com, and want to save money. It sounds silly, but this is the hardest part—creating new habits and fixing old ones. Next, you need to know what books you need. This is where your syllabus for each class comes in. Once you know the books you need, now you have to search for them.

There are a couple options of doing this. You can search the ISBN number of each book, but likely, you don't know this off the top of your head. Some instructors include this number next to the required books, which is nice. In the case that they didn't, you can go to the bookstore, find the book and jot down the ISBN or just snap a picture of it with your phone. The other way to search books is by the author or title of the book, on Chegg. This is less accurate, as there are many editions and unfortunately the edition isn't always on the syllabus. This is why I recommend getting the ISBN number from the instructor or bookstore because it ensures you get the right book and edition.

However, students with smartphones (iPhone, Android, Palm Pre, etc.) have a **huge** advantage! Chegg has an app that simply allows you to scan the barcode on the back of your books right in the store. No trips back to your dorm or computer lab,



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Chegg also will buy your books back from you when you don't need them anymore. Oh, and for every book you rent, sell or buy from them they will plant a tree! It's nice to see a company that's putting forth effort to rejuvenate our planet. There is also a unique code which saves you an additional 5% off your order: CC103432.

I hope these tips help you save money this semester and every going forth from here and maybe you can make a little money on some books you no longer need!

NCTA Students Escape Carbon Monoxide Scare

By: Eric Reed, Faculty Advisor

NCTA administrators, faculty and staff are advising students to have a working carbon monoxide detector in their home or apartment after several students became ill from carbon monoxide poisoning last week.

Hannah Birt, John Klooz and Erik Williams noticed something was wrong after Hannah, who had been going in and out of the house, got light-headed and observed John and Erik's strange behavior.

"John was loopy. I was out of my mind," said Erik.

The students contacted Casey Gathje who helped them contact a member of the Curtis volunteer fire department, Scott Rollenhagen. Rollenhagen inspected the students' apartment and detected a natural gas leak coming from the hot water heater. Carbon Monoxide is a bi-product of natural gas. The draft in the house's chim-



Carbon monoxide poisoning: a year-round danger. Image courtesy of <http://publicaffairs.uth.tmc.edu>

ney apparently had not been strong enough to pull the exhaust which contained the carbon monoxide out of the house.

Carbon monoxide poisoning was also blamed for poisoning 42 UNL Phi Kappa Psi fraternity students in the house they were renting in Lincoln less than two weeks ago. The fraternity members said they all woke up with a headache and feeling light-headed or smelling a strange odor.

Repairs were made and a carbon monoxide detector placed in the apartment of the NCTA students. However, the outcome could have been disastrous. According to the Journal of the American Medical Association, as many as 1,500 Americans die each year from carbon monoxide exposure, and ten thousand more are injured, which is why all students are being advised to purchase their own carbon monoxide detectors.

Pay For School Without Stretching Your Schedule

By Aaron Couch, Co-Editor

We've all been there; in fact, I'm there right now! In college, broke bank account, no job or a terrible paying one, and always having a hard time scheduling work, school and friends. It didn't used to be this way for me. I used to have quite a bit of money in savings and wasn't tight at all. I still budgeted my money, but it wasn't as hard to 'get by'. But now, after draining my checking and savings accounts to pay for school, doing two internships, which included working full-time with no pay, and not making as much money as I wanted to last summer, I'm down to nothing.

So what have I been doing to fix this problem? Well, like most, I have been trying to find work! I've been applying for jobs, handing out my resume and doing interviews, but nothing has panned out for me. I decided instead of waiting for employers to get back to me, I'd make my own work. So I began thinking of what I'm good at. I came up with three things I can do to help people and make money at the same time: pet sitting, miscellaneous work and labor, and computer help and education. I could help with pet sitting because of my background with animals, the skills I've learned as a veterinarian technician student and my life-long passion for all animals. I have developed many labor and work skills through the eleven years of working as a landscaper. I also have computer skills. I have taught myself these through practice, research and trial and error. Now that I have thought of some skills and attributes I can use to make money, how do I go about doing that? How do I let people know? I thought of an idea that I hadn't heard of anyone else doing, original, but that I thought would work.

Craigslist. I posted three separate ads on Craigslist. The first week I did this I generated \$400. It was a lot of hard work, but I never once paid for my lunch and only worked 5 days! That week all that money was made off one ad and two jobs. I charged \$10 an hour for work and labor. My clients got a great deal and I made money. I was able to pay off my internship too, which was nice. However, I ran into a small obstacle. I lost access to a vehicle, making it extremely hard to get around Omaha. I decided I wasn't going to let that stop me though. I "reposted" the ads for the specific location I was in and biked to the work sites.

I also made a brochure telling a bit about myself, my goals and of course the services I offer. I plan to continue these methods now that I am back in Curtis.

Another way to make extra cash, which I've had success with, is making a list of everything you don't need or want to sell. Craigslist and eBay can be excellent tools for this. You can pick up more jobs, but you likely already have a full schedule and not much time. Plus, it's tough to get a job as a college student, but I'll get to that in a second. If you're like me you don't have a whole lot of extra stuff to get rid of, or maybe you just don't want to part with them. To overcome this dilemma, I also talked to friends and family, who had more things to sell than I did, and sold things for them on Craigslist. Some of them were nice enough to let me have all the profits; others made an agreement that I get a certain amount or percentage of the sale. Another nice plus is Craigslist is completely free! So, not only is this a great way to make money, but there are very few, if any, expenses (depending on what you do). If you do decide to do any

About Me

My name is Aaron Couch. I am a college student at NCTA and grew up in Omaha, NE. I recently finished an internship, as a Veterinary Assistant at a pet emergency clinic in Anchorage, Alaska last summer. My plan is to finish my degree, become a Licensed Veterinary Technician and work with sea life — rescuing and rehabilitating them.

I'm looking for work to keep me debt free and pay for school.

My skills consists of providing care for animals, understanding and working on computers, and landscaping and other labor.

Please feel free to give me a call, I'd be glad to help you!

Thank you for your time...



and have a great day!
...Just like my dog, Max, here.

Helpful Services Available





Contact Aaron Couch

Services Offered:

- Miscellaneous Work & Labor
- Pet Sitting & Care
- Computer Help & Education

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Making brochures allows you to set your own payscale and work when you can.

business through Craigslist, be sure to do only cash and meet face to face. Because you don't know the clients well, this is the only safe way to be sure you are legitimately paid. Once there has been a foundation and some trust formed you can start branching off into other forms of payment such as checks.

So why is it hard to get a job as a student? Last fall I interviewed for a warehouse position at Cable Services Group in Omaha. I figured I'd dress on the safe side and wear a nice shirt and tie. My interviewer, on the other hand, wore a polo and shorts. Yeah... about that. So I was obviously over-dressed for the position and although I didn't even want the job, I still tried to impress and "get" the job just for kicks. But, they must have seen that resume was targeted towards veterinary clinics and how I dressed and figured I would have just been using them as a stepping stone to

I prefer being able to set my own schedule instead of my job setting it for me. I hate not being able to be with friends just because I have to work, which I'm sure you can relate to.

where I wanted to go—which they would have been because I was planning to leave in a few months for school here at NCTA. But that's not the point. I feel like college students are in a huge disadvantage when it comes to getting a job or even starting a career because the other thing companies are wanting is experience. Now how do we go about that when we're all pushed into college right out of high school and sitting through lectures all day? As students we're somewhat in a catch twenty-two.

Is this one reason why it's difficult for students to find work? Either we're not qualified enough for the real good jobs or we're **over** qualified for the 'other' jobs. Why can't there be some medium ground? The bottom line is that we can't conform to society's definition and think for ourselves for once and make our own way, our own success. College is a lot more fun when you have time and money, so get started and make your own way.