

continued from page 1  
they know you understand.

Another technique is exploration. Exploration is when you ask logical questions about what the other person is feeling. Encourage them to tell you everything that is on his or her mind.

A few other techniques are using "I" statements and finding positive things to say to the other person. Using "I" statements force you to take responsibility for your own thoughts. Doing this will decrease the chance of the other person becoming defensive toward you. You must also tell the other person positive things about themselves and show a respectful attitude even if they are angry.

Everyone will have to deal with conflict in his or her life. Knowing how to use communication is key. These techniques will help you be successful in this process.

*Do you have something to say about this topic or any other topic? Send a "letter to the editor" to Aggie Up! at [ereed2@unl.edu](mailto:ereed2@unl.edu)*



## New Faculty at NCTA: Jake Woehl

By Tiffany Taylor, Editor

Jake Woehl is another new faculty member to join NCTA. Jake has joined the APS faculty as an Assistant Professor in APS and the Livestock Judging Coach. He is teaching classes in Animal Management, Livestock and Carcass Evaluation, Introduction to Animal Sales, Meat Science and a capstone course. He is also a Teaching Assistant for the Reproduction class.

Jake is an animal science major. He grew up in Douglas, Wyoming, and actually went to college here at NCTA. He graduated from NCTA in 2007 with an Associate of Science degree in Agriculture Production Systems. He went on to earn a B.S. in Animal Science at Oklahoma State



Jake Woehl works with students in the LTC Arena.

University in 2009, and a Master of Science degree with an emphasis in Large Animal Reproduction Physiology in 2010 at Oklahoma State International Ag.

Jake was a Livestock Judge for NCTA under Dr. Cranwell and Seth Hasenauer at all major shows. He worked on a sheep and cattle operation in Wyoming growing up, and worked at Oklahoma BEEF Inc., the second largest bull test station in the United States.

Jake chose not to be photographed for this story because he says the students already know what he looks like.

We are excited to have him at NCTA.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

### September 2010

- 16 Ice Cream Sundae Social in the Barn @ 6:00 pm
- 17 Last day to DROP a full semester or first 8-week course and receive a 25% refund
- 18 NCTA Equestrian Team Shiny Show
- 18 Husker football in the barn
- 18 Fall Festival
- 18 Class of 1950 Reunion at 10:00 am
- 20 Picnic on Ag Hall lawn @ 11:30 am
- 21 Student Senate meeting @ 12:15 pm
- 21 Free Student Bowling Night in North Platte @ 6:00 pm
- 22 Nebraska Leadership Conference in Lincoln
- 23 100 Beef Cow Ownership Advantage Program Kickoff Meeting
- 23 Dance in the Barn
- 25 Husker football in the Barn, free pizza
- 28 Billiards Tournament in Aggie West @ 4:00 pm



# AGGIE UP!

Volume 3, Issue 4

September 16, 2010

Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture

By Tiffany Taylor, Editor

## Conflict Resolution

- Inside this Issue:
- Conflict Resolution
  - Things I think
  - Sweet Success
  - High school vs College
  - Gym Floor
  - New Faculty

- Aggie Up! Staff:
- Tiffany Taylor Editor
  - Lauren Hospodka Staff Photographer
  - Eric Reed Faculty Advisor

Now that you are in college you don't have your parents around to help you with things. You're now in charge of your own life and must handle situations yourself. Conflict can show up anywhere and you need to know how to deal with it. In order to handle conflict you must figure out how it works. When dealing with conflict, people use a few different styles.

The first style is avoiding or denying conflict exists. A person that does this usually shies away from the conflict like it's not there. When this happens, the conflict lingers in the background and just creates further tension between the participants and causes even more conflict.

The second style is getting mad and blaming the other person. This is probably the most common response. When this happens the person mistakenly equates conflict with anger. Getting angry does nothing to resolve the conflict, it only makes it worse. Yelling and blaming the other person for what's happening will only cause the other person to get angry as well. This response only amplifies defensiveness between participants.

The third response style is using

power and influence to make the other person feel inferior. This response allows a person's competitive impulses to emerge but does nothing to resolve the conflict. It only causes the other person to feel resentment and will cause further conflict later on.

Conflict can threaten the existence of a relationship, so it's important to handle it the right way. Both parties must solve the conflict mutually and have a feeling of winning or find a solution that is acceptable to both. In order to accomplish this, one must use a few conflict-solving techniques.

The defusing technique is when you agree with what the other person is saying. A person may come in with a number of arguments and blame you for all their unhappiness. When they do this, just agree with them and it will be harder for the other person to remain angry. The accusation might be completely unreasonable but there is almost always some truth in what the other person says.

Using empathy is another technique. Put yourself in the shoes of the other person. This technique lets the other person know that he or she is being heard. It's important to feel what the other person is feeling so

continued on page 4



## High school vs College

College is not high school. You are making a mistake if you think college is just high school, part II.

High school teachers tend to treat students like children and young adults. If you're sick, a high school teacher might track down your friends and give them your homework for the day. They might give you a break when you fail to complete your assignments.

However, college professors expect students to enter the classroom as adults - mature, responsible, and competent adults.

A comparison of high school versus college teachers:

### High school Teachers...

Check your homework.

Remind you of incomplete work.

Approach you if they believe you need assistance.

Present material to help you understand the text book.

Impart knowledge and facts, sometimes leading you through the thinking process.

Often remind you of due dates and assignments.



### College Professors...

May or may not check your homework.

Probably won't remind you of incomplete work.

Are open and helpful, but you must initiate the contact.

May not follow the text at all. Lectures, illustrations, and outside reading may be the norm.

Expect you to think about and synthesize seemingly unrelated topics.

Expect you to go by the course syllabus and to understand requirements and timelines.

## Students Place Gym Floor in Community Center

By Tiffany Taylor, Editor

NCTA is getting ready for the sports season once again by placing the gym floor in the Curtis Community Center. The NCTA gym floor was purchased two years ago by the college to use for sporting events.

The floor is placed down only during the sports season to keep it from being damaged and to help it last longer. Willing students and faculty help place the floor every year.

Students in Learning Communities also help lay the floor. Learning Communities is a class all freshman must take in order to graduate. In this class a student must earn ten hours of community service. Placing the floor counts towards the hours required.

The floor is now down and ready to go for the sports seasons to come. It will also be used for intramural sports.

Good luck to the athletes!



## Sweet Success

By Eric Reed, Assistant Professor, Aggie Up! Faculty Advisor

NCTA enlists entrepreneurship to give students the skills they need to be innovators and leaders, not just employees, in their chosen field.

It turns out the faculty also practice what they preach.

In addition to teaching, NCTA instructors Dr. Ricky Sue Barnes Wach and her husband Gary Wach are also the entrepreneur-owners and operators of Three Brothers Vineyard and Winery in Farnam, Nebraska. In July, the Wach's received one gold and one bronze medal for their Frontenac wines in the Fourth Annual Mid-American Wine Competition at Ankeny, IA.

The Wach's began their operation eight years ago when Gary started looking for ways to use a pasture adjacent to the Wachs' home. At first the Wachs intended to start an orchard, but when they heard that grapes provided a faster crop, they decided to start a vineyard instead.

They decided to name their vineyard after Gary's German ancestors who migrated to Nebraska from Russia in the late-nineteenth century.

The Wachs planted three hundred plants the first year, and already the business is taking off. The vineyard is home to ten varieties of red and white wines.

"It's hard to believe the tasting room has been open for just over one year. In that time we have seen visitors from all over the United States as well as many international visitors," said Ricky. "When they visit us they often enjoy our local café, buy gas and visit other small businesses in town. Many have commented about our beautiful scenery and how different the area is from I-80. We have enjoyed promoting our small town."

Many skills taught in the classroom prove handy in the Wach's vineyard. Ricky uses her veterinary surgery skills in grafting when the couple wants to cut off unwanted plants and replace them with new varieties of grapes using the same roots. Gary, who teaches the college's mechanics classes, invented his own tractor net roller and also modified a sprayer to fit rows of grapes.

"Gary and Ricky's business experience allows them to bring real-life experience to our courses and help our students become partner-employees," said NCTA Dean Dr.

Weldon Sleight. "NCTA is dedicated to helping our students develop the technical and business skills necessary to own an agriculture or business enterprise and become community leaders."



Gary and Ricky Sue Barnes Wach.

## Things I Think....

By Kevin Martin

1. If your horse takes a dump anywhere on campus other than the arena, you should have the common courtesy to do something about it.
2. If you have 30 minutes to spend on Facebook three or four times a day, you shouldn't be flunking anything.
3. If you drink enough to end up in a strangers house, but think it is yours, (it happened) you need to look in the mirror. That's a good way to get shot.
4. Ok, your pickup is cool. Just drive it the speed limit once in a while.
5. Curtis is, well.....
6. If you want to be the funny guy in class, look around and make sure you are not the only one who thinks so.
7. Music is good. Any way, shape, or form.
8. I'm really glad I didn't have a cell phone growing up. I wish we didn't have them now.
9. The slushee machine in the deli is awesome.
10. I'm ready to see my breath and wear a sweatshirt.