Summer 1990

The Sower, Summer 1990

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/sower
Part of the Agriculture Commons

http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/sower/14
From the Dean's Desk

Project scholar

The College of Agriculture will continue to expand the advancement of knowledge in multiple areas of education, work, and lifelong learning. Profound and complex changes occurring in agriculture, natural resources, the environment, the economy, society, and the geopolitical structures of the world require educational institutions to take an active, responsible role in shaping the future of this planet. The question is asked, "What does it mean to be a scholar today?" The answer is to reaffirm that students and teachers, researchers, and extension agents and specialists are all engaged in modes of scholarship. Therefore, the college will promote programs which bring students and teachers together in inquiry, discovery, learning application, and problem solving across the disciplines of the college and the university, and in agriculture, business, agencies, educational institutions, and communities of Nebraska.

--Mission Statement of the Action Plan

Project Scholar is the initiation of a College of Agriculture action plan for the 1990s. The Plan is ambitious and far-reaching. It is exciting and challenging. Most importantly, it is needed in providing educational opportunities for people for the 1990s and beyond. The Plan has been prepared with involvement of students, faculty, administrators, staff, alumni, and people from across the state.

Some of the Plan has already been implemented; however, it will be fully implemented in August 1990. While a major task of implementation will lie with the faculty, staff, and students, the alumni will be very important in the success of the proposed program. We need your support professionally, spiritually, and financially. A major task with which the alumni can assist is the encouragement and support of young people to enter the College of Agriculture.

Our undergraduate enrollments remain stable at about 1,100. Growth is anticipated beginning this fall. Graduated enrollments are about 375. Enrollment at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture at Curtis is about 100. We would like to see undergraduate enrollments at over 1,600 and NCTA at 3090 with an overall 20 percent increase in quality of students. Why these increases? The job market is excellent. We project that we could place two to five times more graduates this year if they were available.

New for next fall will be a complete remodeling of the Dean's office suite. Nothing remains the same. New decor, furniture, computer system, and programs will welcome students next fall. We invite each of you to visit. We are charged with changing the image of the college--including the physical facilities of the Dean's office area.

The several new academic programs for next fall are:
- Undergraduate Biochemistry major
- Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources with majors in Natural Resources--Fisheries and Wildlife, Natural Resources--Range Science, Natural Resources--Soil Science, Natural Resources--Water Science
- Completely new undergraduate Animal Science major
- Option in Agricultural Education for nonteaching majors
- Teacher certification for all students in all subject areas

Academic programs being developed are:
- Undergraduate Biological Systems Engineering major (name of the Department of Agricultural Engineering has been changed to Department of Biological Systems Engineering)
- Change Mechanized Agriculture to Agricultural Technology Management (new name is still tentative)
- Joint MS or PhD minor in Biometry
- Joint MS and PhD majors in Agricultural Climatology (new name is still tentative)
- Undergraduate major in Veterinary Science for UNL pre-veterinary students pursuing a DVM degree at Kansas State University

(Continued on page 2)

Agronomy newsletter off the press

Dr. Dave McGill ('41 MS, '49 PhD Iowa State) reports the long-awaited Agronomy Department newsletter has been mailed to agronomy alumni. If YOU are an agronomy major and did not receive the newsletter in April, write to the Agronomy Dept., UNL East Campus, Lincoln, NE 68583-0915 - attention Newsletter editor.

UPCOMING

June 22- - second annual Ag College Round-up Reception - 5:30-7:30 p.m. - Motel Nebraskan - North Platte, Nebraska.
- - cost $4.75/person. Reservations due in Ag College Alumni Office, 1520 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0216 by Wed. June 20.

October 20- - annual Ag/Home Ec Football Reunion - alumni awards and Big Red football - For Information call (402) 472-2841.

Prez Bud Garey presented the College of Agriculture Alumni Award to Laura Uhman, a senior from Clatonia, during the Gamma Sigma Delta annual meeting in March. Laura is a food science and technology major.

Campus notes

Bolen named NCES head

Leo Lucas, dean and director of the Nebraska Cooperative Extension Service, will retire June 30 after serving as director since 1975.

Ken Bolen, an Illinois native and PhD grad from the U. of Illinois, will succeed Lucas. Bolen served at IANR as assistant extension director from 1981 to 1986. Since then he has been extension director at Colorado State U.

Ag engineering now bio systems

The Department of Agricultural Engineering has been redesignated as the Department of Biological Systems Engineering.

Glenn Hoffman, department head, said the new name does not imply the abandonment of agriculture, but does reflect changes that have been obvious in the agriculture and food industries. Undergraduate courses will have an increased emphasis on biological sciences, while maintaining the ag engineering options of study.

The name change is more indicative of the current and future mission of the department.
FROM THE DEAN'S DESK
(Continued from page 1)

--Changes in major and options in Food Science & Technology
--Undergraduate minor and professional major in Landscape Architecture, jointly between horticulture and architecture
--Numerous other programs are also being considered and several courses and programs are being developed with other Nebraska postsecondary colleges and universities.

The year 1990-1991 will be a time for changes—significant changes. We need your continued support to guide us and to help us implement needed changes. We will continue to bring changes in the college to you.

Oh! Yes! The name of the College of Agriculture is proposed to be changed to the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

Donald Edwards
Dean

CAMPUS NOTES
(Continued from page 1)

Natural resources major official

A BS degree in natural resources is now available within the College. The newly designated degree, approved by the Regents in March, has four major options: fisheries and wildlife; range science; soil science; and water science. No additional faculty or course will be needed.

Vet Education Center official

(Adapted from a story written by Lori Hallowell)

Livestock producers will reap dividends from the new UNL/USDA at MARC's Clay Center facility. IANR, KSU, and USDA joined forces to construct the $7.5 million center and lab. The three entities will coordinate vet research and education programs.

A former president of the Nebraska Livestock Feeders Association, Donovan Yoachim of Belvidere, said the center will help avoid the possibility of a shortage of large animal veterinarians. "I don't think people realize that there could be a shortage of large animal vet practitioners very soon," he said. "Almost half of the students enrolled in vet schools will go into small animal medicine."

Education programs at the new center will focus on cattle, swine and sheep.

The Veterinary Educational Center is part of the NU-KSU cooperative agreement which allows Nebraska to enroll up to 30 veterinary medical students annually in KSU's vet science program.

The new center is directed by Dr. Gary Rupp (DVM '64, Colorado State). The new "NU Veterinary Education Center and the USDA Ag Research Animal Health Lab" was dedicated on April 28.

Group Program Award
to con till team

An extension team led by Elbert Dickey, ag engineer, received a Programming Award for an extension effort in conservation tillage carried out over the last five years.

Team members included Paul Jasa (BSAE '78, MSAE '81) and extension agents James Carson, Tencumseh; Andrew Christiansen and Ken Burgert ('70, MS '72), both of Aurora; Franklin Morse ('58), South Sioux City; James Peterson ('74, MS '76), Blair; Randy Prior ('80, MS '82), Wilber; Paul Hay (MS '75), and John Wilson ('75, MS '77), Tekamah.
Emeritus (agronomy) at the University of Agriculture Farm, department of State University of New York-College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Have loved every minute of it," he dairy department at U. of Maryland and years, the great majority of those years in Falls City, before retiring in 1966. Two daughters, one of whom died in infancy. He was selected as a Master Ag Relations Award from the Nebraska Council on Public Relations for Agriculture. Accomplishments, he is co-author of the First Century, contact the UNL Office of the Department of Botany and the Institute of Environmental Studies after 1989 in Peoria, Ill. He was Professor Emeritus of the NU College of Agriculture, Farm, department of State University of New York. During his career, he served in the dairy department at U. of Maryland and the National Farm School in Doylestown, Penn., before joining the State University of New York. Orris Hatch says he is still bowling at age 88. Hatch taught voc ag for over 42 years, the great majority of those years in Falls City, before retiring in 1966. Hatch and his first wife of 50 years had two daughters, one of whom died in infancy. He was selected as a Master Teacher in 1960. He lives in Omaha. E.F. Frolik (MS '32) received the Ag Relations Award from the Nebraska Council on Public Relations for Agriculture this spring. Frolik, dean emeritus of the NU College of Agriculture, joined the Nebraska Ag faculty in 1933 as an extension agent in Nemaha County. He held numerous agronomic and research positions before being named dean in 1960. He retired in 1973. Among other accomplishments, he is co-author of the recently released history of the College of Agriculture. (Ed. Note: if you haven't purchased your copy of College of Agriculture of the University of Nebraska- Lincoln/ the First Century, contact the UNL Department of Ag Communications.) Donald Kilmer retired in 1979 after 35 years of farming. "Now," he writes, "I collect and restore old single cylinder gas engines and spend some time attending classes at the Voc Tech School in North Platte. He lives near Brady. Robert White taught voc ag in Walthill before attending Colorado A&M (now Colorado State) to earn his DVM. He has practiced veterinary medicine in Lincoln since 1943. He and his wife, Louise, have four children. In addition to world travel, White breeds and races thoroughbred horses. He continues to live in Lincoln. William Hartnell, DVM, runs a veterinary clinic in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, where he has been since 1949. He and wife, Virginia, also operate a dairy. He lives in Mercedes, Texas. Steve Grosserode served in the Army in the Pacific until 1946, when he took a voc ed position at Wisner. He then spent 10 years as a sales rep for a fertilizer company and, in 1962, organized the Grosserode Cattle Co. near Milford--a sizable feeding operation along with a farm. He and his first wife, Marcella (who died in 1986) have four children. He remarried in 1988 and he and his wife, Patricia, now live in Lincoln. He writes, "Am enjoying this part of my life by taking the time to smell the roses." Claude R. Wright retired last December from the USDA/FmHA in Alliance, where he still lives. Clyde Maddocks taught in the Veterans on-the-farm Program for five years before joining Farmers National in Des Moines. He then moved to Fresno, Calif., where he managed a 25,000 acre ranch in the San Joaquin Valley, raising cotton, sugar beets, barley, alfalfa and seedless grapes. He returned to Farmers National in 1966 and stayed with them until retirement in 1987. He has since been active in the YMCA, enjoys swimming and golf. He writes, "I highly recommend retirement." He and wife, Alberta, have two children and three grandchildren. They live in Council Bluffs. Richard (Dick) Johnson is VP and director of sales for Cargill's seed divisions. Since joining Cargill since graduation he has worked in various divisions. He has three children, two grandchildren and lives in Edina, Minn. Edward H. Tyner, '30, died May 16, 1989 in Peoria, Ill. He was Professor Emeritus (agronomy) at the University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign. J. Clark Gollehon, '35, died January 13, 1990 in Lincoln.
Where credit is due... ...depends on you!

The Ag Alumni Association has instituted an annual awards program to recognize achievements by its members and those individuals contributing to Nebraska’s agriculture or the College of Agriculture. Awards will be presented at the Association’s Annual Reunion held in the fall of each year. Awards recipients must be present at the reunion to receive awards. Individuals unable to attend the reunions will be reevaluated in following years. The Association will select recipients of three awards:

Awards of Merit
Awards of Merit are presented in recognition of achievement in the field of agriculture, including production, agribusiness and education. Judges may select up to three winners each year. Recipients of the award must be alumni of the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture at some level (attended, BS, MS or PhD). The award of merit emphasizes solid citizenship and leadership in agriculture.

Ag Alumnus of the Year
This award is given to no more than two alumni each year in recognition of exemplary service to the Ag Alumni Association, College of Agriculture, or Nebraska agriculture in general. The recipients must be alumni of UNL’s College of Agriculture.

Honorary Life Membership
Honorary life membership is conferred upon one individual each year for outstanding service to the College of Agriculture or the Ag Alumni Association. This award is limited to individuals who are not alumni of the University.

Award Nomination Form

I would like to recommend ____________________________ as a nominee for:

1. Award of Merit
2. Ag Alumnus of the Year
3. Honorary Life Membership

Nominee’s full name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City/State/Zip ____________________________
Phone ( ) ____________________________
Nominee’s class year ____________________________

Please include the following information about the nominee:
A. Past and present work experiences
B. Professional activities; contributions to agriculture
C. Community or other service activities
D. Contributions to University, Ag College and Alumni Association
E. Further describe the nominee’s areas of achievement and why he/she should be recognized by the Ag Alumni Association.

Nominate ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City/State/Zip ____________________________
Phone ( ) ____________________________

Nominations are due by August 15, 1990. Mail the completed nomination to: Ag Alumni Association Awards Program, Wick Alumni Center, 1520 R Street, Lincoln, NE 68588-0216, (402)472-2841.

ALUM NOTES
(Continued from page 3)

1980

Kathy Jackson is teaching biology, advanced biology, earth science and Spanish at East Butler High School in Brainard. She lives in Lincoln.

Sally (Klein) Henderson lives with her husband, Doug, on the family ranch west of Alliance, where they raise registered and commercial Herefords. Sally also works full time at the Alliance FmHA, where she was recently appointed assistant district manager. She has one daughter.

1982

David Bracht has been elected president of the Nebraska 4-H Development Foundation. Bracht is an investment broker and lives in Elkhorn. He was in the Ag Honors program while at UNL.

Scott Glup (MS, ’87) works for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Devils Lake Wetland Management District in North Dakota where he is responsible for waterfowl management on 61,000 acres of wetland easement lands in three counties. “Additionally,” he writes, he “serves as a federal law enforcement officer primarily enforcing federal and state wildlife laws and wetland easement regulations.” Wife Kristi is a speech therapist. They live in Devils Lake.

Doug Glunz works for Quaker Oats as a resource supervisor at the company’s Gatorade plant in Orlando, Fla. He and wife, Dawnell, have one daughter.

1984

Mark Jagels is a farmer/rancher with 700 acres of irrigated corn, beans, hay and 100 cows. The ag economics major and his wife, Suzanne, have two sons. They farm near Davenport.

Joyce Beccard is a marketing specialist with Ciba-Geigy in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She attends Arabian horse shows, showing Quasar, her 8-year-old bay gelding.

1985

Dave Goeken is currently market support manager for Pfizer Animal Health Division in Sioux City, Iowa. He recently completed the MBA degree from U. of South Dakota. Earlier, he worked in sales for Land O’Lakes. He and wife, Linda, have one son.

Lee Hartmann writes he “found no ladder to climb” in his first job managing a hog confinement operation, but is now in training with the Pig Improvement Association in Franklin, Kentucky. He writes he hopes for a sales position in or around Nebraska. In his spare time he and his horse Chief attend Open Class Horse Shows.

1986

Craig and Tracy (Mohr) Behnk live in Omaha, where Craig is area sales manager for Vigornite Ag Products and Tracy is an extension assistant working with 4-H programs in Douglas County. In addition, they spend their extra time working on their farm outside of Omaha.

Let us know what you’ve been doing since you left the Ag College. Write to The Sower at address on page 2.

On the move?

Please print your new address below:

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City ____________________________
State/Province ____________________________
Zip code ____________________________

Return this form to: UNL Alumni Assn., Wick Alumni Center, 1520 R Street, Lincoln, NE 68588-0216.

The Sower
Chance hurls 1930 grad into rice breeding

By Pamela Ury Schmidt

A 1930 College of Agriculture graduate who expected to follow his western Nebraska wheat roots wound up instead in places he'd only dreamed of—working with rice.

Henry (Hank) Beachell, now 83, lived and worked for years in exotic countries (but still managed to follow the Huskers via Armed Forces short wave radio.) His research efforts have helped supply food to perhaps millions of people, and although now planted firmly back on American soil, he still has not officially retired.

After graduating, Beachell received his Master's degree in plant breeding from Kansas State University in Manhattan, then found himself in the midst of the depression with a choice of jobs. By chance, all were in rice with the United States Department of Agriculture. By accepting, his work eventually would lead to the Philippines and Indonesia and would be instrumental in bringing the "Green Revolution" to Asia, helping perhaps millions of people grow adequate food, not to mention international recognition for his work.

Beachell remained in his job at a Texas A & M substation in Beaumont, Texas, for 32 years. Better rice varieties were needed by farmers in the area and Beachell was in charge of those efforts.

"At one time from 60 to 75 percent of all southern rice acreage was planted in varieties we developed," he said. In 1982, he and his wife, who had developed symptoms of Alzheimer's Disease, returned to Texas and she died later that year. The couple had no children. Beachell later remarried. He and his wife now live in the Houston suburb of Pearland, Texas.

Yet, retirement was not in the cards. "I enjoy what I do," he recalls. "Their yields were low, there was a drastic shortage of rice, a large population. Within three years we had an appropriate variety developed and began the 'Green Revolution' in Asia. Yields doubled within 20 years." After nine years he retired from IRRI in the Philippines, but then proceeded to Indonesia under a contract with them.

Indonesia became virtually self-sufficient in rice, and many of the varieties developed while he was there are still grown today, he said. Despite greater self-sufficiency in rice, there are still problems with disease and insects. That is a major thrust today, to develop resistant varieties, "he said.

"It was unbelievably exciting what we were able to do," he recalls. "Their yields were low, there was a drastic shortage of rice, a large population. Within three years we had an appropriate variety developed and began the 'Green Revolution' in Asia. Yields doubled within 20 years." After nine years he retired from IRRI in the Philippines, but then proceeded to Indonesia under a contract with them.

Indonesia became virtually self-sufficient in rice, and many of the varieties developed while he was there are still grown today, he said. Despite greater self-sufficiency in rice, there are still problems with disease and insects. That is a major thrust today, to develop resistant varieties, "he said.

After graduating, Beachell received his Master's degree in plant breeding from Kansas State University in Manhattan, then found himself in the midst of the depression with a choice of jobs. By chance, all were in rice with the United States Department of Agriculture. By accepting, his work eventually would lead to the Philippines and Indonesia and would be instrumental in bringing the "Green Revolution" to Asia, helping perhaps millions of people grow adequate food, not to mention international recognition for his work.

Beachell remained in his job at a Texas A & M substation in Beaumont, Texas, for 32 years. Better rice varieties were needed by farmers in the area and Beachell was in charge of those efforts.

"At one time from 60 to 75 percent of all southern rice acreage was planted in varieties we developed," he said. In 1982, he and his wife, who had developed symptoms of Alzheimer's Disease, returned to Texas and she died later that year. The couple had no children. Beachell later remarried. He and his wife now live in the Houston suburb of Pearland, Texas.

Yet, retirement was not in the cards. "I enjoy what I do," he recalls. "Their yields were low, there was a drastic shortage of rice, a large population. Within three years we had an appropriate variety developed and began the 'Green Revolution' in Asia. Yields doubled within 20 years." After nine years he retired from IRRI in the Philippines, but then proceeded to Indonesia under a contract with them.

Indonesia became virtually self-sufficient in rice, and many of the varieties developed while he was there are still grown today, he said. Despite greater self-sufficiency in rice, there are still problems with disease and insects. That is a major thrust today, to develop resistant varieties, "he said.

"...83 year old grad not officially retired. I enjoy what I do." --Beachell

Beachell's work has been internationally acclaimed over the years. He received an honorary doctorate from UNL in 1970, and one from Seoul University in Korea. He seems particularly proud of receiving the Japan Prize in 1987. It is given by the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan, a semi-private organization. He was honored for his work in biological science advances, for the rice varieties so important to Asia from the 1960s to the 1980s. Beachell is the third of only a handful of recipients, one of whom was the discoverer of the ruby laser.

While he cites lack of funds as a plague of all research programs, Beachell saw a different challenge in his years overseas. "In Asia, you are there to help them help themselves. You can't do your own experiments. It can be very frustrating to deal with the nationalism, and to get them to work as a team, not for themselves; to realize that the glory must be shared by all."

Elvin F. Frolik, former dean of the college of agriculture and a classmate, has high praises for Beachell. "Hank is such a nice individual. He never lost his humility despite all the honors he's received. He's very much interested in people, and still has a warm heart for Nebraska." He was the second oldest of seven children, born in 1906 in Waverly in Sarpy County, Nebraska, and reared on the family farm near Grant in Perkins County. He determined at an early age to go to college, "not too common at that time," he admitted. But with help from professors, he succeeded in obtaining the part-time jobs which allowed him to continue.

Entering agriculture was a natural choice, given his farm background, and at that time, you had to be from a farm in order to attend the ag college, he said. He spent most of his time on what was then called Ag Campus, since

(Continued on page 6)
taking the street cars "took too much time, and I needed to be working."

Beachell looked back 60 years to life on ag campus: "The classes were small. Most were farm-oriented people. There was a lot of camaraderie. We had very good hands-on like today. We had very good programming. The participating universities are: U. of California-Davis; U. of Florida; Kansas State U.; U. of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign; Michigan State U.; and U. of Minnesota."

"The classes were small. Beachell attended a recent reunion of the 50 Year/Half Century Club in Lincoln at which the 1930 class was also honored.

Team Excellence Award to cattle program

The 1989 Excellence in Team Programming Award was presented for a five-year cattle reproduction program.

Team members were Gene Deutscher and Donald Hudson, West Central R&E Center, North Platte; Marshall Frasier ('83), James Gosey (Ph.D. '76) and Rick Rasby ('80), all of Lincoln; Terry Mader, Northeast R&E Center, Concord; and Ivan Rush, Panhandle R&E Center, Scottsbluff.

Vet Science in consortium

Nebraska's Department of Veterinary Science has joined with six other universities to provide opportunities for vet students to study cattle, sheep, swine and dairy animals.

Most vet students at the cooperating institutions now go into small animal practice. The participating universities are: U. of California-Davis; U. of Florida; Kansas State U.; U. of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign; Michigan State U.; and U. of Minnesota.

R.B. Warren toasted/roasted

(Adapted from a story by Dan Lutz).

On March 31, hundreds of former livestock judging team members and horse enthusiasts gathered on East Campus to pay tribute to a NU legend—R.B. Warren. Warren's 34-year career at NU was highlighted by former students from virtually all Nebraska judging team members, as well as former students from his earlier days as a judging coach at Michigan State.

R.B. is as well known for leading the establishment of the state 4-H horse program, initiating the district horse show concept, as well as the statewide 4-H Horse Exposition at Grand Island's Fonner Park.

During the day, a calf roping contest in the animal science arena was won by Monte Stauffer (75) of Gretna, followed by brother Gary Stauffer (73) of Page.

In a judging contest, the top 10 places went to: Gene Wehrbein (67), Louisville; Darrell Quaring ('67), Ravenna; Chris Baum ('86), Elgin; Steve Rezac ('71), Brainard; Doug Malone (79), Cortland; Kendal Schlake ('84), Fairbury; Dean Sander ('71), Creston; Mike Sindic ('84), Lincoln; Dan Magill ('84), Herman; and Galen Frenzen ('65), Fullerton.