January 2003

Animal Science Alumni Newsletter, Winter 2003
Tribute to R.B. “Dick” Warren, A Study in True Grit

The Department of Animal Science lost a true friend on October 12, 2003 when R. B. “Dick” Warren passed away in Guymon, OK on his way to Philmont, NM for a trail ride with his horse Spy. R. B. was a one-armed, tobacco-chewing, hard-as-nails horseman who influenced 4-H’ers and many agricultural students as a livestock judging coach.

R. B. was reared on a farm in the Flint Hills which bordered Kansas and Oklahoma, near Silverdale, KS. R. B. lost most of one arm at the age of two through a train accident. R. B. never let the loss of an arm interfere with what he loved to do and that was roping calves and wrestling steers — he did anything he wanted to do — without one forearm.

He got his first horse at the age of four and at an early age learned how to rodeo from his uncles. By the time he was in high school he started participating in rodeos. He started competing in rodeos in northern Oklahoma and southern Kansas.

In 1947 while attending Kansas State University in Manhattan, he organized, founded and served as the first president of the college’s rodeo club. After graduation in 1948 from Kansas State with his B.S. degree, R. B. attended Oklahoma A & M (now Oklahoma State) University and received his M.S. degree in 1950. In 1997, Kansas State University hosted its 50th annual rodeo and R. B. flew in to be a special guest of honor. He gave the fans of the Golden Anniversary Rodeo a thrill by roping a calf at the age of 72. Before coming to the University of Nebraska in 1956, R. B. spent six years at Michigan State University coaching livestock teams. At the University of Nebraska he coached the livestock judging team, taught animal science and managed the state 4-H horse shows.

His livestock teams were successful because of his wonderful scope of livestock knowledge, his ability to successfully convey knowledge to others, and his ability to inspire his students to great accomplishments. His teams won the American Royal three times and were Reserve National Champions four times.

After retiring from the University of Nebraska in 1990, he didn’t stop. He continued to work with horses by touring the nation on the National Senior Professional Rodeo Association circuit, roping in 20 rodeos during the 2002 season and 16 during the 2003 season. One of the things he enjoyed about the sport of rodeo was getting ready — the practice and planning. R. B. commented that both he and his horses didn’t plan to retire, that they would probably just go out together.

During his career he received much recognition which included the Award of Merit from the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute and the Nebraska Department of Agriculture; the AK-SAR-BEN Agricultural Achievement Award; and the University of Nebraska Livestock Service Award. He was also one of the Nebraska Block and Bridle club’s honorees.

One thing is certain; anybody who ever watched R. B. Warren in the rodeo arena was inspired, and will never forget this man whose middle name should have been “True Grit.”
On behalf of the faculty, staff and students in Animal Science, I wish you a most prosperous, gratifying, and peaceful new year.

Renewed enthusiasm, optimism, and commitment to vitality are the watchwords I use to guide my efforts as we start 2004. The Alumni Newsletter lead article on R.B. Warren reminds all that our future is not predictable from day to day, and the recent passing of Harold Stevens, Charlie Adams, Warren Sahs and others, punctuate that reality. Because Charlie Adams passed away so recently (December 20, 2003), a tribute to him will be included in our next newsletter. Life goes on, however, and we aspire to build upon the accomplishments and reputations of those who went before, to improve all that we do here in the Department of Animal Science.

Looking back, the events of 2003 include benchmarks in history, some of which brought unprecedented positive impact such as the highest cattle prices of our lifetimes. Others brought rapid negative impact, such as the continuation of drought conditions and the BSE dairy cow case in Washington State. Likewise, the Department experienced some exciting first-time positive events and recognitions of faculty and staff, and we also worked our way through challenges that tested our financial and human resources. Some of our faculty took on additional teaching assignments to maintain critical course offerings following retirements and other faculty position vacancies. This newsletter provides some highlights of those positive events and accomplishments. Please note that our Dairy Nutritionist faculty position was released for advertising and interview. Our undergraduate recruitment efforts appear to be stabilizing enrollment; although we need to do more! You will find descriptions of new youth development and education activities such as the Nebraska Youth Leadership Symposium, scheduled for next April 18 to 20. You will see a new milking parlor and ARDC Swine Unit replacement on the IANR capital improvement projects list.

As I attend extension symposia, programs and meetings, I am heartened to hear many positive comments from producers, allied industry personnel and other clientele about the value of these programs. Although our highest priority mission is student education and training, our commitment is to maintaining excellence and improving extension activities is a close second. We are planning new in-service programs and activities in support of our “focused” Extension Educators. Our Extension Specialists on campus and at our Research and Extension Centers create dynamic programs to involve them and better serve our clientele. Please let us know how you think we can do better in all aspects of programs and activities in Animal Science. You alumni can provide a valuable perspective that may be difficult for us to observe or discover. I also ask that you consider making a financial contribution to our UN Foundation accounts that support scholarships, student travel and participation in judging teams and program enhancement.

Lastly, I want to personally thank the dedicated people who prepare this newsletter. The Animal Science Alumni Newsletter Committee consists of Earl Ellington (Chair), Dennis Brink, Ted Doane, Jeff Keown, Duane Reese, Nancy Savery, and Minnie Stephens. They all contribute in their own way to enhance the newsletter and get it out in timely fashion. If you like what you see, thank them. If you have suggestions for improvement, please let me or any one of them know. Again, best wishes for an exciting and fruitful new year.
Department of Animal Science Loses a Good Friend

The neatly printed notes in his infamous little black book ended and a blank page remained. An empty feeling was shared border to border in Nebraska as agriculture leaders across the state mourned the loss of the ‘Dean of County Agents,’ Harold Stevens. Harold Stevens passed away on October 9, 2003. He was the Dawson County Extension Agent Emeritus and a 1943 graduate of the University of Nebraska. Harold majored in Vocational Education and Animal Science while attending the University of Nebraska. Harold served as a vocational agriculture instructor at Sargent, NE for two years. In 1945, he began his career as the County Agent for Dawson County and served as Chairman until his retirement in 1987.

Under his leadership the Dawson County 4-H program was a leader in livestock judging and exhibits in Nebraska for many years. During Harold’s tenure in Dawson County, many educational programs were developed which included: Advances in alfalfa production; development of water resources and policy; the windbreak “living snow fence” concept; and helping people to help themselves through 4-H and adult programs.

Harold had conducted 104 educational water tours and was still planning them for next year before his death. He was inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame; the Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement; the Block and Bridle Hall of Fame; received the U.S. Department of Agriculture Superior Service Award; and the Nebraskaland Foundation Pioneer Award in addition to over 50 other awards for his contributions to agriculture.

Harold was a great promoter and in 1955 he had a weekly radio program that aired on KRVN in Lexington, NE. He was an amazing ambassador for Nebraska. He started out in a makeshift studio in a big closet in his courthouse office.

It was said by Clayton Yeutter, former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and U.S. Trade Representative, that, “It’s the end of an era, a fabulous era. In my judgment, Harold was one of the most outstanding County Agents in the history of the U.S. He started basically from scratch in Dawson County and built a 4-H program that became the envy of the state and country.”

Faculty Retirement

Dr. Keith E. Gilster retired from the University of Nebraska August 31, 2003 after 31 years of loyal service to this institution. Keith came to the University in 1972 from the Iowa State University where he was serving as an Area Extension Livestock Specialist. Prior to this, Keith taught and did extension livestock work at New Mexico State University. He is a proud native of Pender, Nebraska and a 1961 graduate of Pender High School. He received his B.S. (1965) in Animal Science from the University of Nebraska, his M.S. (1967) in Animal Nutrition from the University of Nebraska and his Ph.D. (1972) in Animal Nutrition from South Dakota State University. His teaching emphasis has focused on introductory animal agriculture, live animal and carcass evaluation, livestock production techniques, livestock behavior, and student industry experience. In academic advising, his focus has been on quality education for each advisee, and to prepare all to become useful citizens and agricultural leaders. In extension, his efforts have focused on helping livestock producers, both youth and adults, and have included immeasurable meetings, clinics, workshops, contests, individual visitations and educational publications. He has received many honors and awards for his fine work and they are too numerous to list here. Perhaps his most notable monuments are his past students who speak so highly of their experience with him. Dr. Gilster and his charming wife, Erna, plan to remain in Lincoln. No doubt, Keith will have more time for his children, Kyle and Lara and for sure, his new pride and joy, grandson Curran. Keith, thank you for your many fine contributions to the department, University and state.

Klopfenstein Fund to Benefit Animal Science Students

A permanent endowment has been established at the University of Nebraska Foundation to honor Terry Klopfenstein, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln animal scientist who has spent nearly 40 years teaching and leading research.

A lead gift from Cattlemen’s Consulting of Lincoln initiated the Terry Klopfenstein Student Excellence Fund. Other companies and individuals have contributed, and the endowment is nearing its $100,000 goal.

When the endowment is fully funded it will provide undergraduate scholarships for students in the feedlot management program and graduate stipends to those studying ruminant nutrition.

Terry Klopfenstein has made significant contributions to the beef cattle industry through his research. He is a nationally known expert in livestock nutrition. His research and teaching continue to make beef production sustainable and efficient for cattle producers in Nebraska and elsewhere.
Awards

Past Block and Bridle honorees received awards — Sallie Atkins received the Public Service to Agriculture Award from the Nebraska Agribusiness Club. Merlyn Carlson received the Distinguished Service Award from the US Meat Export Federation.

Block and Bridle Convention

The 84th Annual Block and Bridle Convention will be held February 19-22, 2004 in San Antonio, Texas. Twenty-three students from UNL’s Block and Bridle chapter will be attending. The students will participate in tours while in Texas such as King Ranch, Snaffle Bit Ranch, Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park, Kerr Wildlife Management Area and Selah Bamberger Ranch Preserve. Students will have the opportunity to meet with various Block and Bridle chapter representatives from across the nation. The convention will provide students with the opportunity to strengthen their skills in leadership, networking with current industry leaders and great educators, as well as provide exposure to different facets of the animal science industry.

Block and Bridle Steak Fry

The UNL Block and Bridle Club held their fifth annual Steak Fry on September 5, 2003 and reports that it was successful. The purpose of the Steak Fry is to welcome all the new and returning students to campus. An excellent steak sandwich meal was served. The Block and Bridle Club extends a thank you to the supporters of the steak fry: Excel Corporation, Nebraska Beef Council, Cattleman’s Consulting, Nebraska Cattlemen, and Nebraska Corn-Fed Beef. A special thanks to the animal science faculty members who helped serve the meal.

Block and Bridle Kids Day

This year Kids Day was held on November 21, 2003 with approximately 255 youngsters coming to visit. This annual event is held in the Animal Science Arena and gives Lincoln area kids an opportunity to learn about the animals that they otherwise do not get a chance to see and pet. The youngsters come from daycares, preschools and grade schools in the Lincoln area. The animals that they get to see are cows, sheep, mice, chickens, pigs, a plastic horse and other animals which they can learn about.

Spring 2004 Block & Bridle Calendar

February 19-21, 2004 — National Block & Bridle Convention
Location: San Antonio, TX

March 20, 2004 — Big Red Beef Show, Columbus, NE
Judge: Josh Stroh
Contact: Nick Weinrich (402) 640-2100

March 30, 2004 — Meat Animal Evaluation Contest

April 23, 2004 — UNL Block & Bridle Annual Banquet
Location: UNL East Campus Union
Ambassador Activities

A recruitment dinner and program for Panhandle high school students was held on October 20, 2003 at the Gering Civic Center in Gering, NE. The event was titled, “Going the Distance” and was designed to promote the Animal Science Department to Panhandle area high school students and encourage them to attend the University of Nebraska, despite the extra traveling distance across the state. This project was Lindsay Kampbell’s primary idea, because she did not see very many students from the Panhandle area attending the University.

Lindsay is from the Scottsbluff area and felt this project was important and worthwhile. Lindsay felt that if one or two students could be recruited from this area, in the long run, it could have a tremendous impact.

The dinner was attended by the following faculty Rosie Nold, Dennis Brink, Ivan Rush, and Don Huls, Extension Educator. Two ambassadors that attended were Lindsay Kampbell, Scottsbluff, NE and Renee Minarv, McCook, NE along with Jenilee Nodlinski, a current student, Hemingford, NE. At the dinner several Animal Science Alumni attended. Those alum that were in attendance are: Butch Schuler, Bayard, NE, manager of Schuler Red Angus; Bryan Henderson, Alliance, NE, who ranches part-time and sells pharmaceuticals for Nelson Laboratories; Justin Welsch, Scottsbluff, NE, a veterinarian at Pioneer Animal Clinic; Darcy Schlothauer, Gering, NE, a veterinarian at Pioneer Animal Clinic; Brad Van Pelt, Mitchell, NE, owner of Van Pelt Fencing, and Mary Crawford, Alliance, NE, Senator Chuck Hagel’s Agricultural Director.

The evening began with introductions and a dinner followed with a short program by Dr. Rosie Nold about the Animal Science Department, classes and activities, and curriculum in Animal Science. Dr. Ivan Rush spoke further to encourage students to attend the University of Nebraska.

(Contributed by Lindsay Kampbell, Ambassador)

Animal Science Overnight Recruits New Students

With the rising cost of tuition, recruiting promising students, especially those who come from farm or ranch backgrounds where a poor economic state has taken its toll, has become more challenging in recent years. Because of this, I had to get creative to find a solution to attract students to campus. My solution is called the Animal Science Overnight, and it’s now in its second year. The event is designed to bring high school seniors, who have an interest in Animal Science and are from the state of Nebraska, to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to spend one night and the following day with a current Animal Science major.

The prospective students get a look at the social aspects of college on the first night they are here, and they get to see what it’s like to live in a dorm or Greek house, even down to eating in the residence halls. They also are exposed to classes at the University, as they attend classes with their hosts the following morning. This year, the prospective students attended the Animal Science 100 lab, so they had a chance to view a hands-on class in the department.

Parents are invited to attend the opening presentation and tour of facilities on the evening the students arrive in Lincoln. They may also come to a closing session with the students, where we discuss the many positive points of Animal Science, and the students give feedback on how the Overnight can be improved in the future.

Last year 18 students attended the Overnight, which was held on November 14 and 15, a Thursday and Friday. This year, the Overnight was moved to November 11 and 12, a Tuesday and Wednesday, to accommodate the Animal Science 100 lab. Unfortunately, this made a scheduling conflict for several students which reduced participation to six students. Of those who attended last year’s program, 11, or over 60%, are now enrolled in CASNR.

The Animal Science Overnight is still a young program and will undergo changes in the future. It has been a successful recruiting tool for the Animal Science Department and will continue to be in the future.

I think this program is a good way for the Animal Science Department to recruit students from farm and ranch backgrounds like mine. I am a current junior Animal Science major with a Pre-veterinary medicine option, and I’m from Pierce, Nebraska, where my parents have an Angus cow-calf operation, finish the calves themselves, and raise corn, soybeans, and alfalfa.

(Contributed by Rachel Spatz, Ambassador)
**Judging Team Activities**

**2003 Livestock Judging Team**

The Livestock Judging Team members are Ben Andrews, North Bend; Kristina Holt, Thedford; Aaron Naber, Roca; Tyrell Rousey, North Platte; and Joe Wendell, Smithfield. The team is coached by Jeremy Martin who is also working toward his Master’s degree.

The University of Nebraska Livestock Judging Team competed at the American Royal in Kansas City, MO with a total of 23 teams from across the country and 115 individuals. The team placed 5th in swine, 11th in sheep, 13th in beef cattle, 13th in oral reasons and 11th overall. Aaron Naber placed 15th in swine and 16th in sheep.

The team competed in the 98th National Collegiate Livestock Judging Contest which is held in conjunction with the North American International Livestock Exposition at Louisville, KY. Joe Wendell and Ben Andrews placed 7th and 8th, the team placed 7th in the Suffolk division (market lambs), 4th in performance, and 5th overall in sheep judging. Kristina Holt placed 14th, the team placed 18th overall, 5th in the Yorkshire division and 11th in performance swine judging. The team placed 7th in the Shorthorn division, 17th in performance and 13th overall in cattle judging. The team placed 14th in oral reasons. Aaron Naber and Joe Wendell were among the top third of all contestants and the team placed 12th. Aaron Naber was recognized as a member of the All-American Livestock Judging Team. This is the second consecutive year that the University of Nebraska placed a team member on the All-American Livestock Judging Team.

**Senior Meats Team**

The Senior Meats Team consists of Ashley Batie, Kearney; Garett Hoffman, Kearney; Jim Latoski, Wray, CO; and Vicki Wray, Scotia. The team competed in the Iowa State Intercollegiate Meats Judging Contest and finished 8th overall with a 4th place in Lamb. Vicki Wray placed 1st in the total placings.

The Senior Meats Team competed in the International Intercollegiate Meats Judging Contest in Dakota City, NE. The contest was held at the Tyson/IBP beef plant. Jim Latoski tied for 6th in Beef Grading, and placed 12th in Total Beef, 16th in Total Placings. Ashley Batie placed 15th in Beef Grading, 17th in Lamb Judging, and 18th in Total Beef and Total Placings. The team placed 5th in Beef Grading. The team worked hard during the practice trip before the contest, just as they did every practice throughout the fall.
The UNL Equestrian Team hosted an Intercollegiate Horse Show Association show in the Animal Science Building Arena on November 1. The team made a successful showing competing against teams from the University of Minnesota-Crookston, University of Wisconsin-River Falls, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Ellsworth Community College, Southeast Community College, and Gustavus Adolphus College.

The UNL Equestrian team finished as the Reserve High Point Team in the first show and was 3rd in the second show. First place finishes were won by Jessica Koelsch, Lincoln; Lindsey Salestrom, Tekamah; Allision Stephens, Lincoln; Danielle Smith, Omaha; Ashley Larson, Grand Forks, ND; and Mollie Grim, Bonesteel, SD. Brian Beaudette, Wausa; Lindsey Salestrom, Tekamah; Abbie Grossnicklaus, Shelby; Abby VanHoef, McMinnville, OR; and Meghan Piepho, South Sioux City earned 2nd place finishes.

The show featured a Costume Class between shows. The team is looking forward to their next show in River Falls, Wisconsin. The UNL Equestrian Team will host another show in the spring on February 21. Come support the Husker Equestrians!

(Contributed by Libby Lugar)

The Department held its Academic Quadrathlon on November 21-22 with 10 teams (4 students per team) participating. The winning team was composed of Cheryl Halstead, Kimball; Jessica McCall, North Platte; Kristina Holt, Thedford; and Kerry Burns, Ceresco. This same team was first in the Oral Exam. The second placed team was composed of Tyrell Rousey, North Platte; Mikaleh Shultz, Fairbury; Sarah Vanness, Wausa; and Jeff Fairmon, Blue Hill, which placed first in the Lab Practicum, Written Exam and the Quiz Bowl. There were approximately 50 Animal Science faculty, staff and graduate and undergraduate students who assisted in helping put the quadrathlon together. The coordinator for the quadrathlon was Jess Miner, and Session Chairs were Keith Gilster (Lab Practicum), Dennis Burson (Written Exam), Libby Lugar (Quiz Bowl), and Bryan Reiling (Oral Presentation).

Deaths

Agnes Arthaud passed away on October 25, 2003. Agnes was a home economist, who had a number of ties to the Department. Her two brothers, Vincent and Ray, were animal scientists and one of her nephews, Dan Colling, is a graduate of our department. Agnes served as Assistant Dean of the Nebraska Extension Service.

Gladys Tolman, widow of Walter, who retired many years ago from his position as beef extension specialist at the Northeast Station, Concord, died in Plattsmouth on August 3, 2003.

Beulah Waldo, wife of Willard, passed away on October 13, 2003. Willard is a swine breeder and former State Senator. He is a 1934 graduate of the University of Nebraska. Willard and his son, Max, are former Block and Bridle Honorees.

E. Coli Research

In 1997 two Nebraska companies failed financially because of recalls of hamburger positive for E. coli 0157:H7. While this pathogen causes some illness, it has caused 61 deaths per year — primarily very young children and the elderly. However, even one death is too many and the financial losses sustained by the cattle production and slaughter industries have been substantial.

Several cattle feeders worked with Senator Roger Wehrbein and others to obtain funding for preharvest E. coli research. This appropriation covered five years and “jump started” the preharvest E. coli research at Nebraska. The IANR administration formed a team of 8 to 10 scientists to conduct this research. Out of this, a team from Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences and
Animal Science evolved. The core of the team has been David Smith and Rod Moxley from Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences and Terry Klopfenstein from Animal Science. Some others have participated on the team and have subsequently left UNL. Galen Erickson, Animal Science, joined the team in 2000. This has been an excellent team effort. Smith is a good epidemiologist, Moxley is a good pathologist and microbiologist and Erickson and Klopfenstein have experience in feedlot management and working relationships with commercial feedlots.

Our commercial slaughter plants have done an excellent job of reducing pathogens on beef carcasses. However, if too many E. coli positive cattle enter the packing plants, then the intervention strategies in the plants are overwhelmed. Our goal is to reduce the number of E. coli positive cattle entering slaughter plants by 50% or more.

We have conducted research at the UNL Feedlot near Mead for the past five summers (E. coli prevalence is high in the summer). In addition, five commercial feedlots have collaborated with us. We have analyzed nearly 20,000 fecal samples for E. coli over the past five years. So what have we learned/accomplished?

We found that all feedlots and all pens of cattle have E. coli 0157:H7. We also developed a “pen test.” The pen test is a rope hung on the fence. Sounds too simple — not very scientific. Cattlemen know that feedlot cattle chew on just about anything. Because the cattle have E. coli in their mouths, they get it on the rope when they chew on it. The rope is cultured for E. coli and we can determine if the prevalence is high or low without putting the cattle through a handling facility.

We believe two intervention strategies will work. The first is a direct fed microbial product (a good bug) that reduces E. coli shedding by about 35%. The second strategy is vaccination which reduces prevalence by about 60%. The two are additive so we feel we have accomplished our goal. The direct fed microbial product is on the market and the vaccine should be available commercially in late 2004 or in 2005.

The cattle industry has been very supportive of this research. The Nebraska Beef Council has supported us very well financially and the collaborating feedlots have been great to work with. We have obtained two USDA grants for this research. The second grant will allow us to conduct intervention research in the commercial lots over the next two summers.

(Contributed by Terry Klopfenstein)

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**Nebraska Beef Youth Leadership Symposium Planned**

The first ever Youth Leadership Symposium for students with career interests focused on the beef industry is scheduled for April 18 to 20, 2004, here in Lincoln. The symposium, to be held in the Animal Science building, is designed to enhance awareness of career opportunities in the beef industry in Nebraska through interaction with former and current Animal Science Leadership students. The symposium also provides an opportunity to get familiar with campus, especially East Campus, and to learn about the value of pursuing a degree in Animal Science or another agriculture-based major. Another important goal of the symposium is to help students build strong communication, decision-making and other leadership skills, to better prepare them for the future. Faculty in the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication will lead this effort. The symposium is targeted toward Junior and Senior high school students and those in two-year programs. Invitations will be distributed soon after the first of the year, but if you know of students who you think should attend please let us know and we will make sure they receive the information.

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**Woman Combines Ag Passion and Writing**

(This article was in the August 10, 2003 issue of the Lincoln Journal Star — Mary Bargman-Crawford, B.S., 1980)

Agriculture is her passion, and Mary Bargman-Crawford does all she can to express her feelings to anyone who will listen.

Her love of the outdoors, and the pleasures that go with it, have led her from the Bargman family farm at Beatrice, to the western area office of U.S. Senator Chuck Hagel, where she serves as his state agriculture director. “Agriculture is my passion,” Crawford said. “I love it. It’s what I know, yet you learn something every day.” She credits her parents with instilling a strong sense of responsibility in her and her siblings. “A strong work ethic and responsible management make a pretty strong combination, and that is what agriculture is all about,” she said.

Crawford’s upbringing helped guide her to a degree in animal science-communications at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and she did her postgraduate studies at UNL in journalism.

This was in preparation for spreading the word about the importance of agriculture to as much of the world as she could reach.
After graduation, Crawford spent more than three years as a 4-H assistant at Thedford before moving into the newspaper world, where she worked in Cozad and North Platte. Her next stop was at the Nebraska Farmer magazine, where she invested four years before signing on as farm editor at the Scottsbluff Star-Herald. In 1997, she transferred her advocacy for agriculture into some of her duties for Senator Hagel.

While working at the Nebraska Farmer, she married Wayne Crawford, a rancher in the Alliance area. The couple shares the operation’s responsibilities with his brother and his parents. “My goal in life is to run the ranch with Wayne and take care of the resources God gave us,” Crawford said.

Gazing out of her office window, Crawford admits that she doesn’t get to spend as much time at home as she would like, but she manages to take time off to help with calving. Driving between the ranch and Scottsbluff every day cuts into her free time, but Crawford said she does get to do outdoor work, such as pampering seedling trees, doing some lawn care and monitoring their cows. Between the ranch, family and her work, Crawford said she is never bored.

Teamwork is required to each segment of her life, and that means the various groups have a lot of fun together. “I’m busy, but I don’t do it all alone,” she said. “Everyone pitches in to help.” Crawford said she enjoys her work with Hagel, but she considers it a temporary diversion from being a full-time rancher. “There are parallels between agriculture and my work,” Crawford said. “In farming, we plant seeds and chase weeds. In my job, we work on legislation and do constituent service or problem solving.”

**International Activities**

**Study Tour to Denmark**

In June, 14 students from UNL, Iowa State University and University of California-Davis left for Denmark on a three week study tour led by Duane Reese. The tour was designed to provide students skills and experiences valuable for a successful career in a global, consumer-driven food industry. Each student stayed with a Danish farm family for 7 days. Enterprises on those farms included dairy, pork, small grain, vegetable and sugar beet production. Students were able to obtain direct experience with Danish farm production practices and family life. Students milked cows, cared for pigs, ate open-faced sandwiches and discussed world affairs with foreigners for, in many cases, the first time in their life. Then they toured around Denmark as a group visiting farms and agribusinesses that were involved in conventional and organic food production, export and direct consumer marketing. They also visited one of Denmark’s 500 islands where the inhabitants obtained all their power from wind, straw and solar. Tourist stops included Tivoli in Copenhagen and the Midsummer Eve Bonfire in Odense. The greatest benefits of the tour according to the students, were a better understanding of Danish food management and production practices, culture and traditions. One student wrote “it was the best experience of my life.”

(Contributed by Duane Reese)

Husker Hire Link

**Husker Hire Link** is the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Career Services’ on line resource connecting employers with UNL students and alumni. When you subscribe to Husker Hire Link you can 1) apply for positions listed with UNL Career Services, 2) access positions listed with UNL and other colleges, 3) submit your resume for on-campus interviews, 4) make your resume available to employers on-line, and 5) utilize vault on-line career library.

To subscribe, visit 230 Nebraska Union, 301 East Union, or 114 Othmer Hall or e-mail lschreiner1@unl.edu. There is a $20 fee for alumni. Your subscriptions are good for one calendar year.

To get started on the Husker Hire Link you must 1) login at www.unl.edu/careers/hhl, 2) look for the Jobseeker column, 3) enter your **USERNAME** (your Social Security Number), and 4) **PASSWORD** (the last 4 numbers of your social security number). It is important that you complete “My Profile”, and “My Resume” before you view job listings or participate in campus interviews.

Other services available at UNL Career Services are Career Counseling, Career Assessments, Job Search Preparation, Career Resource Center, and Career Events and Programs.
New Study Abroad Program

Jeff Keown is the lead professor in another FIPSE (Fund for Improvement of Post-Secondary Education) study abroad program that provides scholarships for semester study, short-term summer study and internships in Mexico and Canada. Partners for this program include the Universidad Autonoma de Chihuahua, Universidad Autonoma de Chapingo, University of Manitoba, University of Laval, Iowa State and Oklahoma State. This program will also encourage Mexican and Canadian students to study agriculture and natural resources in Lincoln.

The European FIPSE program, which was successfully initiated last academic year with UNL study groups to Ireland and Denmark, as well as French students hosted by UNL, will add a new wrinkle. This summer’s UNL group to France will also include visits to Belgium and Netherlands. This FIPSE sponsored program focuses on the food and society nexus in Europe.

Animal Science Faculty Internationally Active

Chris Calkins presented lectures on Beef Quality and Beef Classification in Villahermosa Tabasco, Mexico. He conducted research on Korean reaction to U.S. beef products in Seoul, South Korea.

Dennis Burson and Ryan Baumert (HACCP Specialist) conducted two “Implementing Your Company’s HACCP Plan Workshops” for students and meat processors in Quito and Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Earl Ellington recently participated as a founder in a tenth anniversary celebration of EARTH (Escuela De Agricultura De La Region Tropical Humeda), a regional College of Agriculture in Costa Rica. He also continues to be active in Phi Beta Delta, an honorary organization for international scholars and one for which he earlier served as international president.

Galen Erickson hosted Italian agriculturalists who were corn seed sales people and researchers with Golden Harvest from the US and Italy. They toured the Animal Science research area. Most of the group were large farmers or distributors of Golden Harvest seeds in Italy.

Roger Mandigo presented poultry meat seminars for the USA Poultry and Egg Export Council in Mexico City, Monterrey, and Guadalajara, Mexico.

Meryln Nielsen served on a doctoral dissertation examining committee and discussed future research plans with the Universidad Politecnica de Valencia, Valencia, Spain.

Daniel Pomp participated in the Scientific Advisory Board meeting for the Australian Dairy CRC. He presented an invited seminar at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, and attended the World Congress of Genetics in Melbourne, Australia. He also was an invited participant in Genome Canada’s Bovine Genomics Workshop in Montreal, Canada.

Duane Reese hosted two senior agricultural students from Dalum Agricultural College in Denmark for four weeks in July. He arranged for the students to meet with NU faculty and students, and to stay on farms. While the students were in Nebraska they gathered resources and experience necessary to complete their international project, a requirement for all Dalum College students.

Emeriti News

Earl Ellington, who retired September 30, 2002, enjoys continuing a tie with the department by doing volunteer work such as working with this newsletter. He and his wife, Norma, recently celebrated their 50th anniversary by spending a month touring in Africa. Earl’s earlier work involved two assignments in Africa and this visit allowed not only a “homecoming activity” but an opportunity to see some new country. Most of the time was spent in Namibia with travel in Zambia, Botswana and South Africa. Highlights of the trip were Victoria Falls, Etosha National Park, Cape Town and Namibia livestock and game farming.

Austin Lewis is in Washington, DC while his wife, Nancy, spends a year-long faculty development leave at CSREES, USDA. Austin is working part time for the National Academy of Sciences. He is assisting with the revisions of two publications in the Nutrient Requirements of Domestic Animals series (Nutrient Requirements of Horses and Nutrient Requirements of Small Ruminants). Austin is finding that riding the Metro into work is a lot different from driving up 33rd Street in Lincoln. Having to wear a photo ID that he uses unlocks the door to enter the building took some getting used to. In addition to his work at NAS, he continues his editorial consulting work with the International Life Sciences Institute which is also based in Washington, DC.

Foster Owen is enjoying activities around Auburn University, Alabama, especially the football games when they win. He recently received his 55 year pen as a Golden Eagle, having graduated from Auburn 55 years ago with his B.S. His church recently visited former President Jimmy Carter’s Sunday School class in Plains, Georgia. Foster and Bobbye Jean have three of their offspring still living in Lincoln. They are proud to be called “GREAT” grandparents because their grandson, Ben Bossard, is the parent of two grandsons.

Tom Sullivan enjoys a busy, fun-filled life with his wife, Maggie in Russellville, Arkansas. He is occupied with gardening, his tree farm (Loblolly pines) and Kiwanis. Tom prefers tree farming over beef cattle or poultry production. His loblolly pines only require insect surveillance and prayers for rain. Recently Tom was named Governor-elect of the Missouri-Arkansas District of Kiwanis in 215 local clubs in 23 Divines. He will begin his District Governor position in October 2004.

Doyle Wolverton was commissioned a Kentucky Colonel at the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest Awards Breakfast on November 19, 2003 in Louisville, KY.

John Ward and his wife Bonnie are taking their family of 13 on a Christmas cruise leaving from Galveston to celebrate their 50th (last May 31). They are most fortunate to be able to enjoy these activities. John and his two brothers have all now celebrated their 50th. Their
older son Marty was inducted into the Bethel College Athletic Hall of Fame in October (because of his success there as a tennis coach) and also honored by McPherson College with the young Alumnus award.

**ASGSA Endowment Fund**

In addition to traditional fundraising events, the Thanksgiving Turkey sale and the sale of hats, shirts and coffee mugs, the Animal Science Graduate Student Association (ASGSA) has established an Endowment Fund to support an outstanding graduate student scholarship. Created through the NU Foundation, this fund has been supported by ongoing fundraising efforts and donations. Funds were raised this past year through a successful departmental luncheon and the 1st Annual ASGSA Golf Classic. Similar activities are planned for this year including the 2nd Annual ASGSA Golf Classic so please look for details regarding these events.

Please consider a tax-deductible donation to ASGSA. Donations can be sent to our treasurer, Justin Holl, A218C Animal Science, P.O. Box 830908, Lincoln, NE 68583-0908, or directly to the NU Foundation, 1111 Lincoln Mall, Suite 200, Lincoln, NE 68508, Attn: Animal Science Graduate Student Association Fund.

**Animal Science Graduate Student Association Activities**

The Animal Science Graduate Student Association (ASGSA) has completed another successful year. The organization has the primary goal of providing a forum for graduate students to interact across disciplines. This has been reinforced this year with the addition of several new members from each of the areas within animal science (breeding & genetics, meats, non-ruminant nutrition, physiology, and ruminant nutrition). The association has several annual events including a golf tournament, Thanksgiving turkey sale, department luncheons, and an invited speaker. We have also undertaken the goal of using the current Alumni Account to establish an Endowment Fund that would earn interest that could then be used to support a scholarship for an outstanding animal science graduate student.

We held our first golf tournament this fall at HiMark Golf Course in Lincoln. Five teams of four participated and enjoyed a post-golfing meal with graduate students. Everyone enjoyed themselves and the beautiful weather. The winning team was Dennis Conley, Richard Hoover, James Walter, and Pam Edwards. Awards were also given for the longest putt made from on the green, the closest to the pin in 1 stroke, and the longest drive in the fairway. We are excited about the potential for this event to grow and become a major contributor to our endowment fund. Plans for next year’s tournament are underway so look for details soon!

Our annual Thanksgiving Turkey Sale is our largest fundraiser of the year, providing funds for our members to travel to various professional meetings. This year was another success as we sold 268 turkeys! Thank you to all who purchased a turkey and to Sandra Senneke for chairing this large event.

The first departmental luncheon was held in May. We served over 90 people and earned more than $400! Plans are underway for more such events.

Each spring ASGSA invites a speaker, chosen by the association, to come to Lincoln and share their experiences with the graduate students, faculty, and staff. The invited speaker for 2003 was Dr. Ronnie Green. Dr. Green gave an excellent seminar and was available to meet with several groups from within and outside the animal science department. This is an excellent opportunity for graduate students to interact with a leader in the profession.

ASGSA 2003-04 officers include President: Kim Hargrave (Nutrition); Vice President: Jamee Amundson (Ruminant Nutrition); Secretary: Beth Mink (Meats); Treasurer: Justin Holl (Breeding and Genetics); and Sergeant at Arms: Erin Fendrick (Ruminant Nutrition). Advisors are Brett White (Physiology) and Galen Erickson (Ruminant Nutrition).

**Your Newsletter**

Earl Ellington (Chair), Dennis Brink, Ted Doane, Jeff Keown, Duane Reese, Nancy Savery, and Minnie Stephens serve as the current departmental newsletter committee. The Animal Science Department has a long history of providing newsletters to its alumni and friends. Each year we hear words of satisfaction from several of you. We certainly want not only news items and articles from you but also any comments on how we might improve the newsletter.

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**Call for Information for the 2004 Summer Issue of the Animal Science Alumni Newsletter**

All of us enjoy learning about classmates and other alumni from the Animal Science Department. We ask that you send information about yourself for the next issue of our alumni newsletter. You might include memorable events from your college days, such as classes, club activities, employment, teachers, friends and other items of interest. You might also include what you have been doing since leaving campus, such as employment (when and where), participation in community activities, hobbies and other personal details that may be of interest. Please see back page for more information and how you may obtain additional departmental information and activity notices via e-mail.
A number of our alumni participated in the 50th Anniversary of the University of Nebraska Gamma Chapter of Alpha Gamma Sigma: Cap Dierks (54) 1st Chapter President, Eli Thomssen (59) Former Chapter President, Dale Van Vleck (54) 1st Chapter Treasurer & House Manager, Byron Kort (59), Larry Lutz (59), C. Keith Smith (60), Roy Volzke (57). Charlie Adams was a special guest because he taught so many of the members and was an important influence.

Jan Woita owns Woita Appraisal Service in Atkinson, NE and can be contacted at Woita@elkhorn.net.

1930’s

Richard E. Spangler B.S., 38 — Richard is retired and celebrated his 90th birthday this year. He spent his life farming in Plattsmouth, NE until he retired in California in 1980. He has many fond memories of his classmates at the University of Nebraska including Thane Davis and Rod Rothwell. Had great professors such as Gramlich, Loeffel, Derrick, Alexander and Thalman. He is looking forward to Big Red getting to the top of the heap again.

1950’s

Cal Kuska, B.S., 54 — Cal got interested in composting when he served with Dale Van Vleck at Ft. Detrick with the Biological Warfare and he has continued to work with composting ever since. When Cal attended the Innocents Reunion at UNL, he visited Dale Van Vleck and many old friends. Most of his friends were excited by their successes with large animal morality composting. The method has excited foreigners, renderers, packing houses, organic farmers and livestock producers. These operations are located at Ft. Morgan.

1960’s

Michael Lund, B.S., 68 — Michael is the Senior Vice President COO for the new branch of the Platte Valley National Bank in Bridgeport, NE. Michael has been in banking for 18 years.

1970’s

Debra Wurtele Kuhn, B.S., 75 — Debra is the Corporate Director of Human Resources of the Ambassador Health System located in Nebraska City, NE.

1980’s

Abdul Salam Babji, B.S., 73, M.S. 75, Ph.D. 81 — Abdul is a Professor of Food Science at the University of Kebangsaan in Malaysia. His interests in research deal with animal fats analogues in processed meats using palm fats which are high in vitamins A and E. His wife works with the English Language Center which has a home base in New Jersey.

Jihad Douglas, Ph.D., 89 — Jihad has been working for Hybrid Turkeys in Kitchner, Ontario, Canada for the last ten years. In April of 2003 he became their General Manager and enjoys every minute of it and is excited about the future.

Salvador Fernandez-Rivera, Ph.D., 87 — Salvador is the project leader in the Livestock Feeds and Nutrition area of the International Livestock Research Institute located in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He said it was a good feeling to be reading in Africa what was happening in the Department.

Joy Kovar, B.S. 85, M.S. 92 — Joy was named low net winner, first-flight winner and club champion of the 2003 Lincoln Women’s Municipal Golf Association’s Club Championship Tournament.

Todd Whitney, B.S., 85 — Todd worked as a feed sales representative for Peet’s Feed & Nutrition, taught Agriculture at Red Cloud, NE and Wheatland, NE. In 1990 he was asked to become the Agriculture Extension Agent for Logan County at Oakley, KS and in 1996 Todd accepted an Extension position in Rice County at Lyons, KS. Currently Todd is the Cloud County Agriculture Extension Agent at Concordia, KS. Todd helps maintain the family farm which 2½ hours from their home. Todd and his wife, Dora have two children ages 9 and 14 who are very active in 4-H and sports.

1990’s

Shyla Jagannatha, M.S., 93, Ph.D. 96 — Shyla is working as a Biostatistician in the Clinical Services Program of SAIC-Frederick, Inc. in Georgia. She enjoyed the Summer newsletter and found it well done, and even heard from a couple of her old friends from the University of Nebraska.

Joel Jezbera, B.S., 99 — Joel is working as a Brand Inspector for the Nebraska Brand Committee in Lexington, NE. Joel lives at Johnson Lake, NE.

Vicente E. Vega Murillo, Ph.D. 99 — Vicente is living in Mexico City where his new position is located. He is the Director of Research in Animal Production with INIFAP. His family is still living in Puebla, Mexico and he says his daughters are growing up too fast!

Justin Stockall, B.S., 98 — Justin is the new Executive Director of the South Dakota Cattlemen’s Association. He also works in partnership with his parents in a custom-feeding cow/calf operation and worked for Pfizer until he took the South Dakota position.

Jeff Underwood, B.S., 93 — Jeff is the co-owner and manager of Orbuck & Underwood feed yard at McCool Junction, NE. He is owner of Underwood Cattle Co., Inc. His responsibilities are buying feeder cattle and he owns and manages a fall calving cow herd with his father. His wife, Amie, and he have two boys AJ and Ty. He misses school a lot. Jeff can be contacted through e-mail at juranch@yahoo.com

2000’s

Holly Mason, B.S. 01 — Holly works for the Eastwood Bank in Kasson, Minnesota as a mortgage banker and is an independent horse nutrition consultant for southeastern Minnesota. Holly grew up in Plainview, Nebraska. Holly is a member of the Chatfield Saddle Club and enjoys farming, trail riding, and breaking and training horses. Holly and Josh Eisenman will wed in May, 2004.
Calendar of Events

BEEF

- 11th Annual Bull Sale, April 17, 2004, Animal Science Arena hosted by Beef Cattle Merchandising Class
- Nebraska Beef Youth Leadership Symposium, April 18 - 20, 2004, Animal Science Building

SWINE

- NPPA Annual Convention, February 4-5, 2004, New World Inn, Columbus
- Nebraska Pork Expo and Feeder Pig Show, February 4-5, 2004, Platte County Ag Park, Columbus
- Managing Your Unseen Employee: The Ventilation System
  - February 18, 2004 — Lind-Gubbels Construction, Osmond, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
  - February 19, 2004 — Ag Park, Columbus, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
  - February 20, 2004 — Nemaha County Community Center, Seneca, KS, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Swine Livestock Revenue Insurance Program
  - February 17, 2004 — Courthouse, West Point, 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
- Improving Your Ability to Compete Seminar Series:
  - Seminar 5 — Pulling It All Together — Effect of Management Issues on Ability to Compete
    - January 27, 2004 — Northeast Community College Lifelong Learning Center, Norfolk, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Swine Health and Management Clinics
  - Caretaker Health Skills Clinic
    - January 13, 2004 — Gage County Extension Office, Beatrice — 1:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
    - January 14, 2004 — Northeast Community College Lifelong Learning Center, Norfolk — 1:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
  - Decision Maker Clinic
    - January 15, 2004 — Northeast Community College Lifelong Learning Center, Norfolk — 1:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Farrowing Management
- Employee Management Workshop
  - February 9, 2004 — Panhandle Research and Extension Center, Scottsbluff, 10:00 a.m - 7:30 p.m.
  - February 10, 2004 — Panhandle Research and Extension Center, Scottsbluff, 8:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
  - February 11, 2004 — Holiday Inn, Kearney, 10:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
  - February 12, 2004 — Holiday Inn, Kearney, 8:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

HORSE

- Horsin’ Around — February 7 and 8, 2004
- Equestrian Academy — A joint effort with Purina held on Tuesday evenings in the Animal Science Arena February 3 - March 16, 2004
- Equestrian Team Show — February 21, 2004, Animal Science Building Arena
- 4-H Horse Stampede — March 13, 2004, Lancaster Event Center
- State Horse Show — July 12-15, 2004
- 2004 District Shows —
  - June 14 — Fairbury
  - June 15 — Elkhorn
  - June 16 — Oakland
  - June 17 — Albion
  - June 21 — O’Neill
  - June 22 — Hemingford
  - June 23 — Grant
  - June 24 — Broken Bow

POULTRY

- Nebraska Poultry Industries Convention — March 10 - 11, 2004, New World Inn and Conference Center, Columbus
- Midwest Poultry Federation Trade Show and Education Workshops — March 16 - 18, 2004, St. Paul, MN

OTHER

- Block and Bridle National Convention — February 19 - 22, 2004, San Antonio, TX
- Block and Bridle Honors Banquet — April 23, 2004, UNL East Campus Union
Animal Science Trivia

The answers to the Trivia pictures are located within this Newsletter.
The ANIMAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT is dedicated to providing quality educational opportunities and leadership to students and clientele with diversity in training and experience. Please help us in continuing to provide these opportunities by contributing to one of these funds.

Animal Science Discretionary Fund #2047
This fund was developed to provide a flexible source of funding to enrich and enhance our Animal Science programs. These enhancements help to ensure that our teaching, research, and extension programs remain at the cutting edge of science and are responsive to the needs of our students and stakeholders.

Animal Science Scholarship Fund #8110
The Animal Science Department has been fortunate to have a number of named funds contributed by alumni and friends that benefit our undergraduate and graduate students. These funds have been very instrumental in enabling our students to complete their education. As part of the Department’s recruitment efforts, the Department’s scholarship program has been expanded to include Freshman Scholarships. This fund was established to assist in funding the Freshman Scholarships.

Animal Science Judging Team Fund #2194
The Animal Science Department is proud of the accomplishments and tradition our judging teams have established. Judging teams are an essential component of our undergraduate teaching program. Judging teaches many critical career skills beyond the techniques of animal or product evaluation. Judging team participation allows students to meet the leaders in our industry, visit outstanding livestock and horse operations and packing plants, and obtain excellent knowledge of U.S. animal agriculture. Professor R.B. Warren established this fund approximately 25 years ago, and it has been an invaluable source of financial support for the program. All funds contributed directly benefit the students who are members of our teams through reimbursement of a part of their direct travel costs, meals, and lodging for workouts and contests.

University of Nebraska Contribution Card

Please direct my gift to: ANISCIWN03
$__________ Animal Science Discretionary Fund #2047
$__________ Animal Science Scholarships Fund #8110
$__________ Livestock & Judging Team Travel & Scholarship Fund #2194

Please mail your gift to: University of Nebraska Foundation
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City ____________________________________________________________ State_____ Zip_____________________

My matching gift form is enclosed. If you or your spouse are employed for a company with a matching gift program, your gift could be increased! Contact your personnel office for more information.
Alumni Information

PLEASE NOTE: In an attempt to improve our contact with alumni, the Department of Animal Science is in the process of developing an alumni e-mail listserve. If you would like to receive more frequent updates and news about the Department including upcoming events, please send us your e-mail address. To keep us informed of your location, professional involvement and items of interest, please complete the following information sheet and return it to Vicky Kobes, University of Nebraska, C203 Animal Sciences, P.O. Box 830908, Lincoln, NE 68583-0908; e-mail: vkobes1@unl.edu. Should you know of Animal Science Alumni who are not receiving this newsletter, please let us know how we may contact them.

Name ____________________________________________ Date of Graduation____________________
Address_________________________________________________ City_______________________________
State ___________________________________________________ Zip Code__________________________
E-mail___________________________________________________

Position, Company, Address:

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News Items, Comments, etc.

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