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Profound Losses for UNI Family

by Tom Schellhardt

Tragedy has struck our UNI family twice on recent Sundays, causing us to pause and reflect about the deep losses.

First, the tornado that struck with such swiftness and force in our area on May 25 touched directly the lives of many of our UNI family and friends. It destroyed their homes and businesses and scattered their belongings. Our thoughts, prayers and support continue to go out to them, and we will continue to assist them in every way possible as they start rebuilding their lives.



Most recently, we lost a true friend and colleague when Eunice Dell died unexpectedly on June 1. Eunice had served in key UNI positions for 31 years and was an invaluable resource on budget, policy, personnel and organization matters. She was a dear and respected business associate and kind friend to so many of us. Known for her infectious smile and uncanny ability to say just the right thing at the right time, Eunice personified service, support and integrity. She lent an ear and a voice in providing guidance, encouragement and support to so many of us and countless others.

In the relatively short time that I worked with Eunice, I can't remember an instance when she didn't see the "silver lining" in any situation or task. When asked two years ago to consider becoming the faculty and staff disabilities coordinator, she saw it as an opportunity and immersed herself in her new assignment. Her assistance to an employee with special needs exemplified her gift for helping the UNI community.

When UNI implemented the MEMFIS system, Eunice embraced the functional and technical changes that accompanied the new online financial system. She loved attending the MEMFIS User Group meetings because she knew that her business associates and she were providing useful information for her UNI family. And she enjoyed attending the new faculty and staff orientations where she shared her UNI knowledge and insights that often went beyond simple answers related to disabilities or systems.

Eunice loved UNI. She served in several important roles during her tenure – as Assistant Vice President/Budget Director for several years, as interim Vice President for Administration and Finance for almost two years and, most recently, as Assistant Vice President/Faculty and Staff Disabilities Coordinator and MEMFIS Project Manager.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Eunice's family.

When I ponder these personal tragedies within our UNI family, I think of a saying by Henry Ward Beecher. The noted 19th century clergyman and orator said, "What the heart has once owned and had, it shall never lose." We know that those burdened by the tornado will never forget their wonderful memories before it struck. And, of course, we'll never lose our special memories of Eunice.

New to the Neighborhood!

Athletics

Tara Koleski, Soccer

Tara joins the Panthers as an assistant soccer coach after coaching two seasons as the head coach at UMBC. Koleski was also an assistant one year and the head coach two years at West Chester University. After earning All-America honors at the University of Portland, she played two seasons professionally in Germany, followed by a three-year stint in the Women's United Soccer Association, playing for San Diego, Philadelphia and New York. Tara is a native of Phoenix, Arizona.

Facilities Services

Michael Shelton, Utilities & Power Plant

Ten years ago Michael moved from Cedar Falls and recently moved his family back to the area for his job at UNI. He is a Maintenance Mechanic for the Power Plant and is enjoying his job and co workers. Michael was a welder and pipefitter in the Iowa City and Cedar Rapids area for 8 years prior to coming to UNI. He has a wife, Emily, and an 18 month old son Hunter. Michael says he "looks forward to many years of working on campus".

Human Resource Services

Beth Kuehl, Human Resource Services

Beth began her position in February as HRMS Administrator in Human Resources. She was previously employed for 11 years as an Educational Technology Specialist/Development and Design Supervisor at Area Education Agency 267 in Cedar Falls. Beth brings to UNI her skills in database design, data security, data warehousing, web site development/design, project management, instructional design, and technical training. Beth resides in Hudson with her husband and young son.

Public Safety

Bret Eick, Public Safety

Bret began working in March as a Public Safety Police Officer on third shift. He graduated from UNI in 1994 with a BA in Social Work and Behavioral Science with a certificate in Social Work. Prior to working at UNI, Bret worked at Quakerdale, Pathways Behavioral Services and Bremwood Lutheran Services working with troubled youth, after school programs, adoption processes and counseling chemically dependent adults. In 2000, Bret graduated from the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy and worked as a Cedar Falls Police officer. He is trained as a Field Training Officer, Hostage Negotiator and Precision Driving Instructor. Bret was born and raised in Cedar Falls. He and his wife, Ronda, have three children; nine year old Alexis, six year old Myles, and three year old Alaina. Bret enjoys playing various sports and bicycling and he coaches soccer.

Goodbye to....

Richard Glas, Men's Basketball

Katherina Kakoyianni Bering, Soccer

Thomas Leonard, Public Safety

Thomas Richtsmeier, Utilities & Power Plant

Retirements....

Steven Collins, Building Services



Congratulations!

Panther First Awards

February 2008 – April 2008 Recipients

Dan Buseman	Cheryl Moses
Michelle Byers	Wendel Reece
Andrea Carlock	Kathy Siems
Judy Dieken	Craig Skilling
Lori Hoffmann	Glenn Swanson
Adam Kracke	Joe Tyler
Beth Kuehl	Gregg Vanderholt
Sandy Law	



McLeod Center Computer Lab

By Jennifer Sell

Many spaces in the McLeod Center were designed with multiple uses in mind. One of those spaces was the Media Room located on the lower level. Collaboration between VPAF Technology Systems & Services, Athletics, and the UNI Events Complex brought the new student-athlete computer lab to fruition. The computers for the lab were obtained through the ITS used Dell Desktop program and were installed in January 2008.

With a majority of student-athletes using the adjacent buildings for either practice or class, the space was perfect to maximize their ability to work on class assignments or to respond to emails in between activities. Student-athletes from all sports have utilized the space and have been really excited about the lab. Several teams have also used the lab to hold evening study table so their athletes can have access to the computers for course work. Lab hours are Monday-Friday 9 a.m. – 10 p.m. The lab is closed for media purposes whenever events are taking place in McLeod or the Dome.

A big thanks to the following people who have been instrumental in this project: Marty Mark, Cheryl Moses, Heather Costello, Erin Strellner, Jennifer Sell, Steve Schofield, Trent Ames, Dave Kohrs, Marv Morris, Jon Wolter, Joleen Griffin, Nate Klostermann, John Mirchich and Meta Allen.

UNI Welcomes New AD

Troy Dannen has been named director of athletics at the University of Northern Iowa. He is currently executive director of the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union. He will assume his new duties at UNI in July. Dannen signed a four-year contract.

"Troy brings a valuable and unique perspective to this position. He also brings a level of energy, enthusiasm, and passion for Panther athletics second to none," said UNI President Ben Allen. "I look forward to working with Troy and to welcoming the Dannen family back to the UNI community."



"Troy is a dynamic leader who will provide vision and direction. He has proven he can get things done," said Tom Schellhardt, UNI vice president for administration and finance. "He has a solid understanding and appreciation for student athletes, coaches and administrative staff. He will be a strong collaborator between the Athletic Department and the rest of the university and will be actively engaged in the university community and the community at large."

The Biggest Losers are WINNERS!

Business Operations Supports Department Contest

By Penny Becker



**Winners of the Biggest Losers Contest
Kathy Schwanz, Tori Stafford, Tresa Habinck**

Between January 7 and May 7, 2008 conversations in the Office of Business Operations (OBO) strayed from talk about purchase orders, student accounts, payroll, and the weather to important things, like, "How many points is that sandwich?", "You go to what exercise class?", "What is a Clementine?", and other similar topics. Can you guess how these topics are linked? If your answer is they are linked to creating a healthier life style and weight loss, you are correct!

Business Operations held their own Biggest Loser contest. About half of the department employees put up a whopping \$40 per person to support each other in gaining a healthier life style. The goal wasn't necessarily to lose the most weight, but for everyone to learn to make better choices that could be continued long past the end of the contest in May 2008. Of course, the only thing that could be measured

was weight loss, so the employee who lost the biggest percentage of their original weight would be the winner and take home the money!

As a group of 11, we lost a total of 93.6 pounds - 5% of our total weight. Now, that may not sound like much, but everyone gained so much more during the process. Several participants found exercise classes that they love! Recipes were traded. Healthier snacks were brought on treat days. We even replaced a regular potluck with an all salad potluck. Kathy Green, Director, University Health Services, agreed to be keeper of the weight loss spreadsheet and came over every Monday morning at 8:30 for weigh-ins. Other employees from the Wellness Center met with us at lunch to talk about weekend eating and triggers to our eating. Wellness on Wheels answered questions and gave us suggestions. And, of course, we supported each other through the tough weeks and celebrated the weekly winners with a traveling trophy which the winner displayed on their desk.

Even though not everyone could win the big prize, we all spent our \$40 willingly and felt like we won something during this battle. If you talk to the participants, they will tell you about the support they had, the camaraderie they felt, the common goals we shared. There was always someone to compare notes with, to ask for suggestions, to motivate, or to get you excited about the process again. Not all people had weight loss as their goal. Two participants quit smoking. Some of the losers took their motivation home with them and got their family involved. Another thought that the group helped her keep her food choices "legal." Others added exercise to their lives for the first time in a long time, and we all just plain felt better about ourselves. Everyone walked away with something from the challenge to make their life better both at work and at home.

When it came down to the final weigh-in, our Biggest Loser was actually a tie. Through good food choices and lots of exercise, Kathy Schwanz and Tresa Habinck lost an amazing 19% of their body weight!! They both look fabulous and feel amazing! Tori Stafford came in third losing all of her after-baby weight and then some. We are all so proud of these three, and all the other participants, for putting their money where their mouth is and doing something positive for themselves!

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Departments

Administration
& Finance

Athletics

Business
Operations

Event Center
Management

Facilities
Services

Financial
Accounting
and Reporting
Services

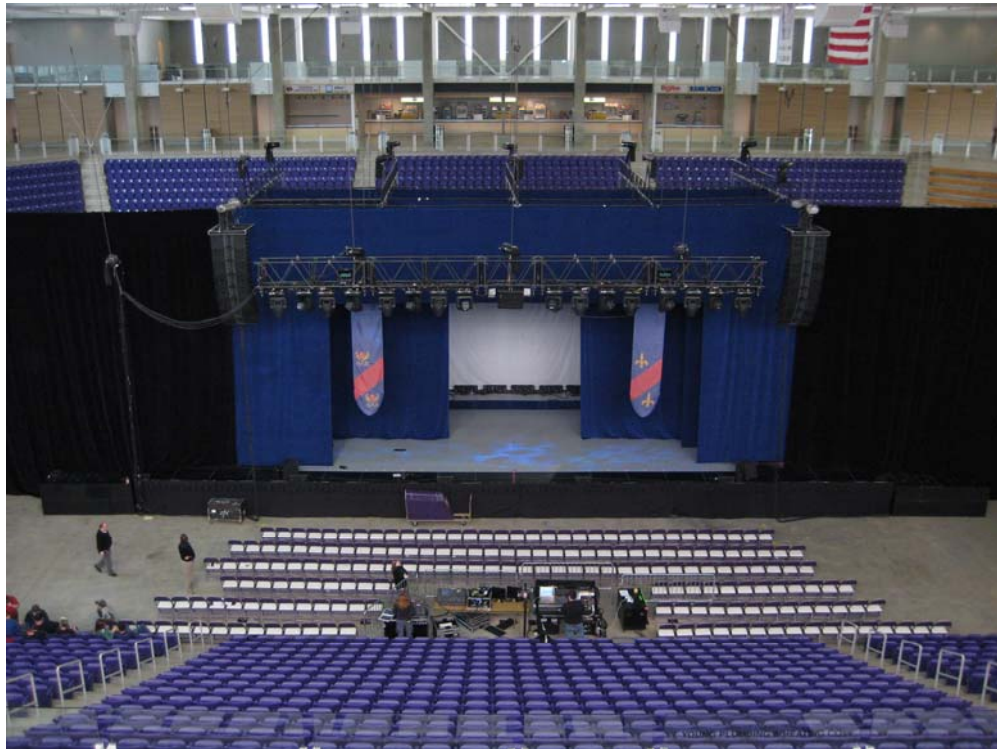
Human
Resource
Services

Public Safety

Technology
Systems and
Services

University
Events
Coordination

McLeod Becomes a Theater When Backyardigans Visit



The picture above demonstrates how McLeod Center can be transformed from a basketball, volleyball, or wrestling arena to host the “arts”. This stage recently was used for a show called the Backyardigans.

Register Your Bicycle

By Carol Johnson



With gas prices continuing to rise, more people may be seriously contemplating riding a bicycle to work. Public Safety provides a service so that members of the campus community can register their bicycles. The make, model, serial number, color etc. to identify your bicycle will be recorded. In the event your bicycle is stolen, this information will aide in the recovery. Faculty, staff and students can register their bicycle online line at www.vpaf.uni.edu/pubsaf/services/bicyclereg/bike_reg.asp.

MEMFIS Update - New WebADI Templates

New Template Must Be Used after May 31, 2008

By Eunice Dell

WHAT are the new Excel spreadsheets used for?

- MEMFIS Cash Receipts for Deposit
- MEMFIS Journal Entries
- MEMFIS Procurement Card Charges
- Maucker Union chargebacks
- Residence System chargebacks
- Telephone charges
- Print services

WHERE do I find the templates/spreadsheets?

- Retrieve them from UNI's Forms Repository
- Old templates saved on your desktop cannot be modified and submitted after May 31, 2008

WHICH Web browser should I use?

- If you use Firefox, the templates open in Microsoft Excel and account codes can be validated.
- If you use Internet Explorer, **save as** using your own filename. Then use Excel to open the file and account codes can be validated.

WHAT if I am a MAC user?

- The new templates work with Office 2008, but account codes cannot be validated

WHAT other tips will assist me?

- Select your Employee Self-Service responsibility
- Macros must be enabled
- When checking account code combinations, click Cancel to move to another account combination and avoid being logged out

WHY were templates changed?

- Enable online validation of account code combinations
- Enhance security for back office processing
- Move UNI closer to single sign-on for applications
- To be compatible with future Oracle upgrades

WHERE can I get help?

- Quick Reference Guides are available at the MEMFIS web site for each WebADI template <http://www.vpaf.uni.edu/memfis/qrg.shtml>
- You can contact MEMFIS help at 273-5555 or memfis-help@uni.edu.

Support for Tornado Victims

Resources for UNI victims and volunteers in the wake of the area tornadoes are available online at <http://www.uni.edu/infosys/tornado/>.

Life Outside of Work

MOTORCYCLING – FINDING FUN and FEELINGS OF FREEDOM

By Judy Dieken



passed our test, got our license, and it has been a blast ever since! With so many hobbies to pick from, our families and friends would question our sanity to choose what many deem as dangerous. Our response is “don’t knock what you haven’t personally tried.”

Jim’s first bike was an Indian Spirit and as our interest grew, he also bought a BMW Touring Bike, which is definitely more comfortable for me. I purchased a purple (UNI color) Buell Blast, which I named Buella B. That first summer was challenging but fun. The second summer I didn’t ride her (yup, she was a gender bike) as much because I preferred to ride as a passenger and eventually sold her to a young lady who had just received her license and was overjoyed to have her own bike. Through all of this, I experienced a sense of pride to learn to ride, to pass the test, and to obtain a motorcycle license. I am keeping my license current because you never know what lies ahead down the road.

On Labor Day, 2004, Jim and I embarked on a three-week trip to the West Coast, touching twelve states and riding over 9,000 miles. For two people who had only been riding a couple of years, upon returning home safely we felt extreme pride for this accomplishment. We encountered strong winds, rain, snow, and even rode through a sand storm in the Death Valley, where we came face to face with a lone wolf. Crazy, maybe so, but fun, you bet!

In summer, 2006, we rode to the East Coast. The wild beauty of Niagara Falls, the serene beauty of Bar Harbor, Maine, and yes, even the torrential rain storms when we had to pull over and wait it out because we couldn’t see in front of us, was exhilarating. Our next trip is a double honeymoon with our friends to Jackson Hole, Wyoming and Yellowstone National Park for two weeks beginning June 22, 2008. Our riding friends, Ron and Jeannie, are being married on the same day as Jim and I, and together we are looking forward to being on the road again. Whether you are the driver or the rider, being out in the open stirs up one’s senses of seeing, smelling, hearing, and feeling the sun and wind. The thing to always remember though, when riding a motorcycle, is to have proper gear, wear a helmet, and always be aware of your surroundings while enjoying the freedom of riding down the open road.

Losing a spouse is something that only happens to other people, or so I thought; but my husband was called home in December, 2000. God opened up a somewhat new direction for my life to take, and so it was in October, 2002, when I met a widower, Jim Erickson, and through a shared feeling of what we had both experienced, a new friendship developed, and from that friendship, a new hobby surfaced for us ... riding motorcycles. Who would have ever thought it ... certainly not me! We took the “Rider’s Edge” course,



UNI Receives Safety Award

The University of Northern Iowa was awarded a safety award from the Iowa-Illinois Safety Council during their 55th Professional Development Conference and Expo held in Dubuque, Iowa, April 16-18, 2008. The award was presented for outstanding achievement in accident prevention during the 2007 calendar year.

Charles E. Adkins, Regional Administrator, Region 7, Department of Labor- OSHA and Paulette Moulos, Executive Vice President and COO, National Safety Council were on hand to present the award to Wendell Reece, University Safety Manager.

The University of Northern Iowa was one of 165 businesses, industries and government agencies in Iowa and Illinois to receive an award for promoting active safety programs and reducing OSHA recordable injuries among their employees.

Iowa-Illinois Safety Council is a Chapter of the National Safety Council and is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to protecting life and promoting health. The mission of the Council is to educate society to adopt safety, health and environmental practices and to provide high quality, value added training and services.



Paulette Moulos, Wendell Reece, Charles Adkins

UNI Spring Break Camp Entertains Youth

By: Kelly Keegan, Gallagher-Bluedorn Marketing Intern

Over 60 area grade school students in grades 1-6 participated March 17- 20 in the first UNI Spring Break camp, making it a roaring success. Kids experienced walking through a tropical rain forest, saw species from the depths of the ocean, climbed a challenging rock wall and danced to the sounds of a bagpipe - all without leaving the University of Northern Iowa's campus.

"It was a great way to reach out to the children in the community to UNI," according to Whitney Sebert, Student Camp Coordinator. The students experienced first-hand how diverse UNI's campus truly is. The week began with a trip to the UNI Museum where students learned about St. Patrick's Day. Diane Schupbach, Museum Education Coordinator said "We gave a more formal PowerPoint presentation about Ireland with some great pictures, then set up centers focused on St. Patrick's Day. The students did things like potato prints, Celtic knots, word finds, and danced to bagpipe music."

Other campus tours included the President's office, the Innovative Teaching & Technology Center, the UNI-Dome, McLeod Center and the Botanical Center. Students were intrigued by the interactive tours of the Botanical Center's tropical, cacti, orchid, and aquatic houses. Botanical Center's Horticulturist, Stephanie Witte, thought the biggest hit of the tour was the ponderosa lemon tree. "It grows abnormally large lemons and if you crush the leaves they give off a strong scent that kids always agree smells like Fruit Loops."

Another popular stop was the slimy, hands-on tour of McCollum Science Hall's Biology Research lab. Students explored Professor Jim Tamplin's research lab, fed earthworms to the turtles and minnows to the horn frog, held a snake, and saw an ancient lungfish. "We have an alligator who is only a year old and about 10 inches long. He's pretty friendly so I let the students touch him. I was surprised, only a couple chose not to...they were fascinated by it," Tamplin said.

Youthful energy was expended at the Wellness and Recreation Center in the rec center's pool by some, while others geared up and climbed the towering rock wall.



Never before has UNI's bakery been so full of children. Campers spent time in the bakery either baking or decorating cookies. While many students have baked and decorated cookies before, not many have had to wear hairnets. "My daughter was so excited to wear a hairnet. She came home and told me all about it!" one parent of a participant said.

Students got to sit back, relax, and watch movies on the big screen in the GBPAC's Great Hall. While they were there, they were also given a lighting and special effects demonstration by the GBPAC's

technical staff. "Students oh-ed and ah-ed when they were showed how to create a fire and city scene effects," Sebert said.

Between the tours the UNI education majors set aside designated lesson times. The older students did crime detection labs while the younger students did more literacy based lessons like reading the *Hungry, Hungry Caterpillar* to tie together the biology and greenhouse tours.

A collaborative effort across campus along with the support of the student education majors willing to spend their break to be camp counselors made the week possible. "It was a great opportunity for students, some who have never been to campus before, to experience the variety of activities UNI has to offer. Students got to meet new friends, learn, and have fun in a safe and educational environment," GBPAC Director of Education and Spring Break Director Amy Hunzelman said.

Giving up their spring break, the UNI camp counselors found it to be a great experience as well. "I think it was a GREAT opportunity as future teachers because it gave us the opportunity to use our management and teaching skills!" Sara Frantum, elementary education major said.

Parents are already asking when they can register their children for next year and are requesting similar camps for winter and summer breaks. "My son talked about everything that went on...he enjoyed this program so much, he was upset it did not last longer. I can't wait for him to do it again!"

Another parent commented, "You made our spring break fun and exciting. All of the student teachers were so loving. Everyone was so nice I wish school and playtime at home could be as involved. My kids came home so happy each day- that's AWESOME!"

Coordinators look ahead to the future with hopes to expand the program for next year.



TechTalk

News you can use from A&F
Technology Systems and Services

By Pat Whitt

Microsoft Office 2007

Office 2007 is the next generation of software that will be installed for PC users on campus. It contains a number of new features, the most notable of which is the new graphical user interface called the Fluent User Interface (initially referred to as the Ribbon UI). This feature replaces menus and toolbars with a tabbed toolbar known as the Ribbon.

The changes to the User System Interface may be challenging. A&F Technology Systems and Services is recommending that staff either attend training offered by UNI's ITS-Educational Technology or view free online training available from Microsoft. Both resources should help increase user knowledge when switching to this new software. A schedule of ITS classes is found at <http://www.uni.edu/its/et/tnt/c.shtml>.

For those wanting to learn on their own, instructions, demonstrations and even practice sessions are available from Microsoft that will show how to do create documents using the Office programs. Additional resources for help can be found at: <http://www.uni.edu/its/et/tnt/resources.shtml#office07>. To use the practice sessions available, you must have Office 2007 installed on your computer.

If you would like Office 2007 installed on your computer, contact A&F Technology Systems and Services at 273-2461 or email vpaf-tss@uni.edu. At some point in FY09, everyone will be converted to Office 2007, so don't delay your decision to begin familiarizing yourself with this new software.

DID YOU KNOW...

- MEMFIS User's Group meetings will be suspended for the summer and resume again in September
- If you fell from the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center grid, it would take 1.97 seconds to hit the floor? Your velocity at impact would be 62.66 feet per second which equals 91.9 miles per hour.
- GBPAC has enough power on- stage to run 2 full city blocks.
- The average home audio system is 200 watts; the GBPAC sound system is 50,000 watts.
- In addition to the State Auditors visiting the campus, we also have Carney Alexander Marold & Co. auditors that prepare the bond fund financial statements and Corwin Reichter & Co. auditors who prepare the KUNI financial statements.
- The McCoy basketball court in the McLeod Center is the same court that was used in the Dome.
- The McCoy basketball court is made up of 256 pieces that are each 4x8 feet. Each piece weighs 75 pounds.
- The College Hill Arts Festival is July 18-19
- UNI will host Star Spangled Sky - July 4
- Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center has approximately 12 1/2 tons of steel weights on stage?
- GBPAC can take a bare stage to a full Broadway stage back to a bare stage in less than 20 hours?

Crème Performance was Magnificent

by George F. Day



For the eighth time, the annual fundraiser of the Friends of the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center took place in the center's Great Hall.

Although the audience seemed a bit smaller than usual, it was just as enthusiastic as ever. And it should have been, for the evening (appropriately titled "Crème de la Crème") was one of outstanding music and literature by superb Cedar Valley performers. The selections were rich and abundant, as were the tasty cream puffs freely given out at intermission.

The program was brilliant: just the right length and variety. The evening moved swiftly from the opening jazz music to the concluding classical chamber work.

First came a real treat: a remarkably fine group of jazz singers and players from Washington High School in Cedar Rapids. Their group, A Slice of Jazz, consisted of 11 very engaging and energetic singers. They sang four numbers in wonderfully smooth, precise, close harmony. For many of us the nostalgic highlight came when they delivered a wonderfully cool version of that old favorite, "Take the A Train." (Surely I was not the only one in the hall to have danced to Duke playing that one, almost his signature piece).

Slice was backed up by the Revolutionists, a splendidly hip band of jazz musicians. Directors of these groups were Matthew and Shelly Armstrong, and Steve Shanley.



Next we heard a piece written by Mark Twain and read by Marshall Nielsen. Nielsen, whose acting on local stages is widely admired, did a fine job of bringing out all the wit and wisdom of Twain. His solemn delivery was right on the mark. (Sorry, I couldn't resist).

The remaining four performances were in the classical mode. Jinnie Park's breathtaking rendition of a demanding piano sonata by Prokofiev, Chris Buckholz's expert playing of two trombone solos. One of these, "Fantastic Polka" was by that old master of band brass band music, Arthur Pryor. Buckholz's virtuosic skill led him easily through the happy score with its bel canto-like ornamentation.

An especially stunning performance was that of six works sung by bass John Hines. Even within this set there was great variety: two romantic numbers by Tchaikovsky, the humorous "Song of the Flea" by Mussorgsky, operatic arias by Mozart and Wagner, and the popular "Some Enchanted Evening." To the audience's delight, Hines showed he can act, as well as sing. Accompanists for Buckholz and Hines were Sean Botkin, Genadi Zagor, and Korey Barrett – superb keyboard work by each of them.



Concluding the program was a movement from the marvelously melodic "Piano Trio No. 1" by Arensky. The players – Frederick Halgedahl, Jonathan Chenoweth and Sean Botkin – gave it a reading that was crystal clear, with times of golden warmth.

The Friends presented the Howard V. Jones Award for Philanthropic Giving to the Arts to Charles and Marleta Matheson. It's a well-deserved honor for a couple who have given generously in many ways to the community's cultural life.