

UNO Philosophy and Religion Departmental Dispatch

Vol. 2 No. 2

May 2003

Mike Gillespie and Ron Burke Scholarships are awarded; Religion Alumni Recognized

This spring Nikki Strayer and Sarah Wachholtz were named as the first Ron Burke and Mike Gillespie Scholars. Also recognized during an April event were Religion Alumni Dr. Nicolae Roddy and Carolyn Nussrallah. Dr. John Turner, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Professor of Classics and Cotner Professor of Religious Studies, presented the evening's lecture, speaking on "Reflections on My Work in Gnosticism."

Strayer is a religion major and has completed her junior year. She is working towards a BA in religion,

a BS in education and a minor in Anthropology.



Strayer

Asked why she is a religion major, Strayer said, "I want to make a positive difference in the world. People fear what they do not understand and so, as it is my belief that the most direct way one can have a

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Chair's Report

The best piece of news this semester is that we have hired Cody Gilmore to a tenure-track position in philosophy starting in August of this year. Cody is ABD from Princeton University. He is a specialist in metaphysics and ethics and already has a number of publications. He was the first candidate that we brought in and we were all delighted with him. Just as well, as the Vice Chancellor was breathing down our necks anxious to save money on empty lines. Given the pressure of budget cuts, we were very fortunate to be able to make a tenure-track hire this year. This brings us to a total of seven assistant professors for next academic year. Two new tenure-track assistant professors of Religion, Michele Desmarais and Paul Williams were appointed last semester and will start with Cody in August. Although nothing can insulate us from the threat of budget cuts, we are now in a very strong position and we have every reason to be optimistic about the future of the department.

Despite the fact that there have been no dramatic budget cuts this semester, the cuts have not gone away and will not go away for a while. During this academic year we have lost one professor due to retirement (Round 1 of the cuts, Fall 2002). We have also lost one full-time, temporary faculty position in philosophy (Round 2, January 2003). This position was added a few years ago "for extra enrollment." We were not put down to lose anything else in Round 3, March 2003, but our part-time courses have been reduced. Generally speaking, there has not been much money for anything, nothing for travel for example, and Dean Shelton Hendricks instructed the chairs not to hand out paper to students unless absolutely necessary — something we are already doing. Apparently, the Chancellor's administrative cuts have had the effect of helping the College of Arts and Sciences with its budget problems. Both Dean Hendricks and Chancellor

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Alumni Notes

Tom Roberts (class of 79) is presently the Director of Engineering and Systems Support for a large financial services company in San Francisco, California.

After graduation, Tom sought out training in computer science (for which his logic course was good preparation) and began a career of managing people and computer systems for various companies.

Tom said he believes his liberal arts education allowed him to come to know himself and his world better and that education gave him empathy, insight and people skills that have been very useful in his career. These are skills that mere job training does not develop.

He thinks that employers today are looking for individuals with people skills, in addition to some type of technical knowledge.

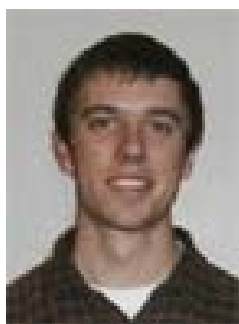
He also believes that students in philosophy and religion should get a minor or second major in a field that provides specific technical skills. Philosophy and religion students should seek out several different internships in the business world or in their areas of interest that could lead to good contacts and experience for future employment, he suggested. Internships also provide a valuable opportunity to experience different job environments and help students determine just what kind of work they will want to actively pursue after graduation.

Tom's wife, June, is a University of Nebraska Medical Center graduate. They have two sons, Daniel (age 14) and Troy (age 11) and have lived in California for nearly 20 years.

His brother, Steve, is the Omaha artist who completed the Lincoln capitol building oil painting mural project in the 1990s and is also a UNO graduate.

Seven philosophy and two religion majors are Spring Graduates

Seven Philosophy majors and two religion majors were among the graduates at the University of Nebraska at Omaha on 9 May.



Atkinson



Becker



Ellison



Kaplan

Luke Atkinson, Aaron Steven Becker, Bryan

Lee Crowdy, Carrie Anne Kaplan, Jennifer Danielle Kearney, Jesse R.L. Smith, Jr., Matthew Weinman, and Steve Green graduated with philosophy majors. Religion majors who graduated were Michelle Ellison and Tad Stuelpnagel.

Atkinson will attend Creighton Law School in the fall.

Becker will attend Law School at either Washington University or University of Minnesota.

Ellison plans to attend Bellevue University in the Fall to pursue a Master of Health and Human Services Degree. This degree will prepare her for the

Licensed Mental Health Practitioner test (LMHP) and she will also be a Certified Alcohol and Drug counselor (CDAC). Both licensures will be provisional initially, until she puts in the required field hours. She plans to do the accelerated format, so she will be employed in the field within 1 1/2 years. Her goal is to be in private practice within 2-3 years after getting her MSHS.

Kaplan will travel in Europe this summer, then work in a law firm to see if she enjoys working in law. She plans to take the LSAT and GRE this fall and then either look at law schools with good environmental law programs or philosophy graduate programs.

SCHOLARSHIPS (From Page 1)

significant impact on the work is through education, it is my goal to teach understanding and diversity in an attempt to spread acceptance.

“After graduating from UNO, I hope to study interpretations of the Hebrew Bible, focusing on how individual interpretations of text and doctrine affect individual realities. I hope to teach at the high school and university level and one day become involved in religious conflict resolution.”

Wachholtz said recently, “I am a philosophy major because I enjoy it! I kind of stumbled upon it, at one point hating it, in fact I avoided it. I wanted to go to school at San Francisco State, but I was missing a critical reasoning requirement, so I enrolled at UNO.



Wachholtz “I was lucky enough to have Halla Kim as my first philosophy professor - lucky because I understood everything the way he explained it. I enjoyed his class so much I took Introduction to Philosophy with him. Again, I loved it!!

“At this point I had changed my mind about going to S.F. and decided to continue and finish my education at UNO, but still undecided about a major. However, since I was understanding philosophy, with the help of Halla’s great teaching style, I was leaning toward studying it. To make sure, I took another class with Halla, an upper level one, just to confirm that I was grasping the concept. If I did poorly in the upper level class then I knew it was just a coincidence that

Alumni Notes



Buchan

Andrew Scott Buchan, who received his undergraduate degree in philosophy from UNO in 2000 and a master of arts in mathematics 6 May 2003, will study logic, language and computation at the University of Amsterdam.

I understood philosophy, or at least just understood Halla. However, I got an A in the class and from that point on I’ve taken as much philosophy as my schedule and mind would allow. So this is how I got into philosophy and how it eventually ended up as my major.

“The key is to get someone who teaches in a way that your mind will get it. For some it just isn’t there, the mind can’t follow the steps. But if one is an analytic or logical thinker, if that’s the way your brain works, then philosophy is definitely the way to go. Nothing has ever stimulated my thinking more than philosophy! I can’t get enough sometimes.”

What does she intend to do with it? Possibly law school. Or, she may go back to managing businesses, which she was doing before she returned to school.



Roddy

He had taught at UNO following his undergraduate studies. He graduated from UNO in 1979.

In addition to the two scholarship presentations, Dr. Nicolae Roddy and Carolyn Nussrallah were recognized as Distinguished Religion Alumni.

Roddy is an assistant professor of religion at Creighton University.

Nussrallah is an administrator in the University of Nebraska Medical Center’s Internal Medicine Pulmonary unit. She received her BA from UNO in 1984 and her MS from UNO in 1990.



Nussrallah

Department of Philosophy and Religion Departmental Dispatch

Editor and Publications Manager: Kathryn Cox Schwartz

Professors active at conferences and as media experts

AAR/SBL Conference -

Five professors from the UNO Department of Philosophy and Religion were active participants in the April 3-5 annual regional meeting of the Rocky Mountains/Great Plains Region of the American Academy of Religion (AAR), the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) and American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) in Boulder, Colo.

Dr. Rami Arav was a member of the 2002-2003

CHAIR (From Page 1)

Nancy Belck appear optimistic about the future and are still concerned about future cuts.

While we have overspent on our departmental budget again, living beyond our means as usual, we are doing much better than last year. In fact, I would like to thank all departmental members for making such a good effort in limiting the amount of photocopying and printing that they do and I have asked them to continue the good work. They are using Blackboard as much as possible which means they are not handing out paper to students unless necessary. The problems we have been having with our operating budget are not our fault, merely the result of not being given enough money for the size of department we have become.

Curiously, our summer budget is bigger than ever this year. This is due to a new way of calculating our allocation. In previous years, the amount allocated to a department for its summer budget was based on the previous year's summer enrolment. Now it is based on the department's enrollment for the whole year. However, for the Fall of this year total student enrollment is down after increasing steadily for a few years. One of the most noticeable effects of the budget cuts has been to reduce the number of lower division courses offered. I may be wrong, but it seems unlikely that the number of lower division courses that the college offers will go back to normal after the cuts are over. There was an article in a recent issue of *The Chronicle of Higher Education* that claimed that all colleges and universities will

AAR program committee. At the meeting, he presented the paper "Be Holy for I am Holy – The Extended Holiness Theory of Dietary Laws."

Dr Paul Williams presented Dr. Arav's paper, "The Archaeological Evidence" during the ASOR/SBL session titled "The Ancient Near East: Textual and Archaeological Studies" and was convener for a session on Hebrew words and texts.

(See EXPERTS page 5)

experience a permanent change in their level of funding and that there will not be the usual recovery after the current budget problems have come to an end.

There has been no explicit policy change to the effect that we should focus more on our upper division courses and on our majors, but the logic of our position should be fairly clear. There is not a lot we can do at the moment to increase the number of lower division courses that we teach, though we could increase the number of students in each section. We can, however, continue to recruit more majors. The Dean continues to be anxious that we should do this and the level of support that the department receives may depend on it. The Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Post-Secondary Education requires that Philosophy should graduate seven (7) majors a year and Religion should graduate seven (7) majors a year. They are not combined as we used to think. They pass us because we more than meet their requirements for lower division student credit hours and they regard us as essential to the university.

The number of majors that the department graduates each year varies considerably, but I think that I can say that the general trend is upwards. In the academic year 2002-2003, we expect to graduate nine (9) Philosophy majors and four (4) Religion majors. Currently, there are 37 majors registered in Philosophy and 30 majors in Religion. There are 13 minors in each Philosophy and Religion.

EXPERTS (From Page 4)

Dr. William Blizek presented the paper “The Face of God in Film” during a session on religion and film.

Dr. Tom Martin presented the paper “Ecological Semeiotics of Destruction and Restoration: Reading the Apocalypse of St. John for Environmental Ethics” during a session on religion and the environment.

Dr. Dale Stover served as convener for a session on Native-American religions.

Dr. Paul Williams served as convener for a session on Islam.

Dr. Pamela Jean Owens gave the keynote address at a Holy Week Lunch on 17 April.

In print

Guy Matalon was featured in the 8 Nov. edition of *The Jewish Press* newspaper. The article highlighted Matalon’s role as co-chair of Super Sunday 2003, the annual fund-raising campaign for the Jewish Federation of Omaha.

Matalon and Moshe Gershovich, history; were featured in the 10 January edition of *The Jewish Press*. The article highlighted Super Sunday 2003, a fundraiser for the local Jewish community and Jewish causes worldwide.

Dr. Rami Arav was featured in October editions of the *The Jewish Press*, the *Omaha Star* and the *Daily Nonpareil* (Council Bluffs, IA). The articles discussed the Bethsaida artifacts exhibit and Biblical Archaeology Conference at UNO.

Dr. Rami Arav, director of excavations and research for the Bethsaida Excavations Project, was featured in the 21 March edition of *The Jewish Press*. The article previewed the Lunch and Learn series in which he was interviewed by WOWT (Ch. 6) for a segment on the Bethsaida exhibit. The exhibit is on display through 21 Nov. in Arts and Sciences Hall. For more information, contact Steve Reynolds at 402-554-3108 or streynolds@unomaha.edu.

Dr. Rami Arav published an article titled “Bethsaida, History and Material Culture of a City in the Kingdom of Geshur” in *Leben am See Gennesaret. Kulturgeschichtliche Entdeckungen in einer biblischen Region* (Life in the Sea of Galilee). It was published in German by Philip von Zabern, Mainz and Rhein, 2003 and has not been translated into English.

In addition to Arav’s article, there are photographs of artifacts uncovered at Bethsaida and other information on the Bethsaida area.

Dale Stover, philosophy and religion, was quoted in the 22 March edition of the *Omaha World-Herald*. The article detailed the Islamic, Judaic and Christian religions.

2002-2003 Lectures

Patrick Monaghan, a philosophy major, gave a Philosophy Colloquium entitled “Are Some Things More Real Than Others?” on 4 December.

Dr. William O’Brien, College of Saint Mary, gave the 11 September Philosophy Colloquium, “Subjective Moral Realism.”

Dr. Jerry Cederlom gave the 2 October Philosophy Colloquium, On Changing Beliefs.”

Dr. Evan Fales, University of Iowa, presented the 7 March Philosophy Colloquium, “Nothing But the Best: Being the God of Grace and Playing God.” Fales is an assistant professor at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.

Cody Gilmore, a candidate for a tenure track position in philosophy presented a lecture 11 March. His presentation was entitled “Coinciding Objects and Persistence.”

Shin Kim gave the 13 November Philosophy Colloquium, Moral Realism and the Explanatory Requirement.

Dr. Shery Prior, College of Saint Mary, gave the 16 April Philosophy Colloquium, “Skepticism: Just Good Common Sense.”

Michele Desmarais calls teaching a way of honoring and remembering mentors

Dr. Michele Desmarais (her name is pronounced Meechelle Deymaray) is a tall, slender woman whose aura is one of peace and tranquility. Little rattles her as she goes about her goal of igniting the candle of learning in her students.



Desmarais

Here for less than a year, Desmarais is one of three new tenure-track professors (Paul Williams and Cody Gilmore fill the other two slots) for the Department of

Philosophy and Religion. She taught four sections of Introduction to World Religions her first semester here and three such sections and a class on Buddhist Tradition this spring. This fall she will teach two Intro classes and a class on Women Mystics.

She has already immersed herself in the extra curricular activities of the university. She has a group of mature/non-traditional women who are meeting once a month, in the early evening, to share refreshments, laughter and discussion. The other group is a meditation group which is not affiliated with any specific religious tradition, meet once a week in the Fall term.

“The meditation is of a silent, non-guided form. We normally sit for a fifteen or twenty minute period, walk or stretch briefly, and then sit for a second period,” she said. Anyone interested in more information on either group may email her at mdesmarais@mail.unomaha.edu.

Desmarais’ journey to the University of Nebraska at Omaha has taken her down some interesting paths. She said recently, “From the time I was in my mid-twenties, my poetry was being published in Canadian literary journals. I knew that no-one makes a living as a poet though and I was also interested in religious studies.

“A professor advised me to think about going to graduate school at the University of British Columbia. I was living in Edmonton at the time, but I visited U.B.C. during a holiday in Vancouver First, I checked with the creative writing department there about doing an M.F.A. in writing. The staff advised me to submit a portfolio, and, if I was accepted, told me that I could start the program the next year. I went downstairs to the Religious Studies department. I met with the chair who at my transcripts and told me they would give me a scholarship if I wanted to start the next week.”

She began teaching courses in Religious Studies six weeks after she started graduate school. While taking four graduate classes that year, she was a tutorial assistant, leading seminars and marking papers, in an introduction to world religions class. Her supervisor at the time, Dr. Iida, became ill and she took over teaching his second year class on “Introduction to Eastern Religions.” Dr. Iida would send her notes such as “lecture on Samkhya next Tuesday.”

“Not having much of a background in religious studies, I would run to an encyclopedia to find out whether that was Hinduism, Buddhism, or some other religion! It was a fantastic way to learn and Dr. Iida kept me as an assistant instructor through that first year at graduate school,” Desmarais said. After that she started teaching World Religions and other courses and taught right through graduate school.

Desmarais said originally she had meant to study Japanese Buddhism, which is still a great love of hers. However, she also fell in love with Sanskrit and got side-tracked. She finished her M.A. in Religious Studies at U.B.C., but switched into Asian Studies for her doctorate so she could work closely with Dr. Ashok Aklujkar, a famous Sanskrit scholar there. Her specialty now is Sanskrit and Indian philosophy.

(See **DESMARAI**s on page 7)

DESMARAIS (From page6)

In her research she tries to integrate classic Sanskrit philosophy of mind with current neuroscience.

Desmarais said she has had some wonderful teachers who have changed her life. “Teaching is my chance to give something back and to honor and remember them,” she said.

Incidentally, she didn’t abandon writing. She said whenever she thought about dropping out of graduate school to write, or thought about abandoning poetry and playwriting for academia alone, “Dr. Peter Loeffler, a professor in the theatre department, used to say very firmly to me “Do both.” Peter was certainly one of the people who changed my life.”

Desmarais was born in North Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. (If you look at a map of Canada, Vancouver is in the bottom left hand corner. Some people call it the left coast, Desmarais said.) “I grew up in a house that my parents built. Our back gate opened up onto bush, so there were lots of animals around, even bears and the occasional cougar. My parents still live in the same house, but now the suburbs have grown around them,” Desmarais said. Today, she delights in the birds that nest outside her apartment (though she has some doubts occasionally about their bird nest making skills) and often can be seen protecting them from predator birds.

She comes from a law enforcement family. Her father was a sergeant in the major crimes division of the Vancouver City Police department and primarily investigated homicides. Her brother also joined the Vancouver Police department, although now he is seconded to the federal police force. Her mother worked in the Vancouver City Police canteen for a little while. And Desmarais worked in case reports division at the police station during her last year or so of her bachelor’s degree, juggling night work with classes.

Her father’s side of the family is Métis. In the 18th and 19th centuries in Canada the Métis arose from the mixing of French and Scottish fur traders with Cree, Ojibwa, Saulteaux, and Assiniboine women. The Métis then developed as a people, with a history and culture distinct from either the Europeans or the First Nations/Native Americans. While working in the fur trade, it was common for Métis people to speak five or six languages as they were often the links between fur traders and tribes.

“Even though my languages now are primarily South Asian or European, I like to think that my ability to work in multiple languages is a natural part of being Métis,” she said. “When I was in elementary school, we learned about the voyageurs, the Métis who worked in the fur trade, paddled canoes, and carried heavy loads over long distances. Caring for trap lines was an important part of life throughout the winter. These voyageurs helped open Canada’s western provinces. The voyageur life-style took on a glamorous note in my mind. I even crocheted and sewed a harness for my pet dog so that we could haul things around by sled in the winter. The rare times that we got snow (it hardly ever snows in Vancouver), I would hook my dog up in his harness. As my dog was a miniature poodle, this wasn’t really a satisfying experience for either me or the dog.”

Desmarais met her husband, Bill, through a good friend who was dating a singer in a band in which Bill played and she would go with her to gigs. Desmarais said, “One night my friend phoned and read me a beautiful short story. “Guess who wrote that?” she asked. “Who?” “Bill.” “Bill the bass player?” I said in amazement.” At the next gig, Desmarais sat down and chatted with Bill-the-bass-player about writing. They have been together ever since. Bill is still a writer and musician, although he usually makes a living working with computers. However, that is put on hold because of his visa status here in the U.S.

Service to University

Dr. Pamela Owens has been elected by the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences to serve a three-year Faculty Senate term, May, 2003 - May, 2006.

Cody Gilmore says curiosity, logical thinking important traits to develop through philosophy

Cody Gilmore will be one of three new tenure track assistant professors in the Department of Philosophy and Religion at UNO this fall. He is the only philosophy professor of the three.

Gilmore grew up on a farm outside of Grand Rapids, Michigan. He spent his summers there baling hay, chopping weeds, and moving piles of rocks from one place to another.

Those tasks gave him plenty of time for philosophical reflection, and in his later years of high school, Gilmore said, he started wondering, in a hazy and unsystematic way, how there could be consciousness or objective moral facts in a thoroughly physical world – a world whose fundamental constituents are brute, insentient particles and fields.



Gilmore

“I started college with the intention of studying the matter-consciousness relationship from the perspective of neuroscience,” he said, “but while taking a course in the philosophy of mind during my freshman year, I realized that it was only philosophy that directly addressed “the hard problem of consciousness,” as it is now called. At that point I decided to pursue philosophy as a career, if possible. Since that time my interests in the subject have gradually expanded, so that now I am working on very general issues in ontology that have no special connection to the philosophy of mind (although I continue to work in that area as well).”

As a teacher of philosophy, he said he tries to instill in students the right combination of attitudes toward the subject – intense interest and curiosity; a sense that it’s possible to make progress on at least some philosophical questions; and, most importantly, a respect for the high standards of clarity, precision, and argumentative rigor that characterize good philosophy. Any student in a philosophy course should expect to come away with an improved ability to

think clearly and logically, to draw relevant distinctions, to separate valid arguments from invalid ones, and to express him or herself precisely. It’s always rewarding to be involved in this process as a teacher.

Gilmore graduated from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor with an A.B. in Philosophy, with Highest Distinction. He is currently A.B.D. in philosophy at Princeton University and expects to have completed all the requirements for his Ph.D. before he arrives in Omaha from Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he has lived for the past two years.

During his first semester here he will teach two sections of Contemporary Moral Problems and Contemporary Ethical Philosophy.

Gilmore’s wife, Kristina Perea, is an art museum curator. She plans to join him in Omaha in January, 2004, once she has fulfilled her responsibilities as curator for an exhibition that opens in September. Other members of his immediate family include his mother, father, four older siblings and maternal grandparents. He enjoys hiking, camping, and canoeing, especially in Canada and the more remote parts of the western U.S. He also likes to play basketball, travel, and spend time with friends and family.

Elected fellow

Dr. Pamela Jean Owens has been elected as a Fellow in the University of Nebraska’s Center for Great Plains Studies. She served as UNO’s representative to the planning committee for the center’s 2003 seminar, “Religion on the Great Plains,” where she chaired several sessions.

Clubs and Contact Persons

Pre-Law Society: Dr. Laura Grams
Platonic Society: Halla Kim

December Graduates

Philosophy: Jacob Ryan Neely
Religion: Jeffrey Alan Leach

Paul Williams brings world perspective to religion program at Omaha's UNO

Dr. Paul Williams brings a background filled with diversity to the University of Nebraska religion program.

Williams joined the Department of Philosophy and Religion two years ago, filling a one year visiting assistant professor position each of those years. This past semester he was named to a tenure-track assistant professor position with the department.

At UNO, he teaches Introduction to World Religions, Introduction to Christian Ethics. His other classes



Williams

include African Religions, Religion in American, Islam and New Testament. Outside the classroom, his door is always open to students who often drop by for a challenging discussion about topics presented in class or just about religious understanding as it relates to the world today.

He was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo where his parents were missionaries. In part because of that, his interested in not only Christianity, but also African Traditional Religion and Islam. After their return from Congo, he was raised in Texas where he earned a BA from the University of Texas at Austin and an MAR from the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest. His Ph.D. is from the University of Chicago where he studied the History of Religions, especially African Religions, Buddhism and the History of Christianity. He returned to Congo to conduct some research on his dissertation topic, which was "The Disciples of Christ Congo Mission (DCCM), 1897-1932: A Missionary Community in Colonial Central Africa."

He is actively continuing his research on that dissertation topic and has located diaries kept by early missionaries to the Congo which are proving to provide interesting insights into the life of missionaries in that area. His research interests also include the history of religion in North America and Central Africa (African Traditional Religion, Christianity, and Islam).

Active in the community in Omaha as well, he is serving as chair of the Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks Lecture for 2003. This is his second year on the committee.

He has been published in *Annales Aequatoria*, *International Third World Studies Journal and Review* and *Interpreting Disciples* and made presentations at the Religion on the Great Plains Symposium in 2003 and the American Academy of Religion gathering in 2002.

Williams was an adjunct professor of Religious Studies at St. Xavier University in Chicago in 2000-2001 and was a pastor in Illinois for several years before joining the UNO faculty.

He, his wife, Carol and daughter, Abby, maintain a residence just outside of Chicago. He and his daughter will move here full-time before the start of this school year. His wife will join them in another year after fulfilling obligations in her present position.

The Champ!

Shin Kim has been named the Intramural Tennis Champion. Kim was matched with other tennis players from UNO in the Intramural Tennis Competition. He won four matches, had one bye and won two by default during the competition.

Alumni Notes

Michael Cummins (1985) is a Chicago, IL, Police Detective. Cummins, a religion major, was accepted for graduate school at Notre Dame and at St. Louis University, where he pursued his graduate studies. He taught high school religion for six years before becoming a police detective.

He cites "The Time Falling Bodies Take to Light" as his favorite book. He was married in early 2002.

Dates to Put on the Calendar

- 25 Aug.:** Fall Semester Begins
04 Oct.: Homecoming – UNO/Department Open House-9:00 – noon/game time
07 Oct.: Goldstein Lecture on Human Rights -7 p.m. (<http://www.unomaha.edu/~wwwphrel/goldstein.home.htm>)
09-11 Oct.: Third World Studies Conference (<http://www.unomaha.edu/~twsc/>)
29 Oct. – 1 Nov.: Bethsaida Conference (http://www.unomaha.edu/~betsaida/conference_2003.htm)

Watch our Web Site, <http://www.unomaha.edu/~wwwphrel>, for calendar changes and additions

Give us your input

Have something you would like the department to consider - a class, presentation? Send us your ideas!

We'd like to help you share with other alumni and friends of the Philosophy and Religion Department. Include your name, address, phone number, year you graduated, major/minor and a little bit about what you are doing now. With your permission, we will include some of that information in our next newsletter. Email us at phil-rel@unomaha.edu if you prefer. Just mark your email as Phil-Rel Idea or Phil-Rel Newsnotes so it gets routed in the correct direction. Our postal address is: Department of Philosophy and Religion, ASH 205 University of Nebraska at Omaha, 6001 Dodge St., Omaha, NE 68182-0265.

Also, let us know if you prefer not to receive our mailings and let us know why. We'll be sorry but will remove you from the list.

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Chair article in print

Andrew Newman, chair of the UNO Department of Philosophy and Religion, has had his article, "Converse Relations, Vectors, and Three Theses from Armstrong," published in *Metaphysica*: 3 (2002), No. 2, pp. 65-84.

Think of us

Tax deductible donations may be given to The Anderberg Fund, The Sidney H. Brooks Lecture Fund, The Shirley and Leonard Goldstein Lecture Fund, The Ron Burke Scholarship Fund, The Mike Gillespie Scholarship Fund and the Department of Philosophy and Religion Fund for Excellence. Simply make your donation out to the University of Nebraska Foundation and note which fund you wish to support. Then send the check to the University of Nebraska Foundation, 6712 W. Dodge Rd, Suite 100, Omaha NE 68114.