RUSH celebrates five years in a record sellout

BY SARA JANZEN
STAFF WRITER

This Friday and Saturday, RUSH will commemorate its five-year anniversary. The first RUSH ran 20 minutes with fifteen dancers performing six dances to a packed house. From this small beginning, RUSH has grown to approximately 140 dancers performing in 13 dances to anticipated packed houses this year.

Even through all this growth, RUSH has stayed true to its roots. RUSH was founded in 2003 by Rebecca (Fanning) Donahue and Corrine (Mings) Christian. The two, along with others, saw numerous outlets around campus for the student body’s creativity; they saw art shows and theatre productions and choir concerts, but they didn’t see much dancing.

“RUSH as an entity believes that anyone who wants to dance can,” said RUSH producer Vaughn Donahue, “as long as they’re dedicated and willing to learn.” Experience takes the backseat. “We have people with 15 years of experience, [and some], it’s their first time,” said Donahue.

RUSH is open to anyone who wants to participate. Senior Kiera Fredericksen, who has participated in multiple RUSH performances, originally didn’t try out until she was recruited to fill an empty spot in a dance. “I thought you had to be a dancer,” said Fredericksen. Her experience showed that all one really needed to be was dedicated.

Commitment is one thing that is required to participate in RUSH. Choreographers began coming up with ideas for this RUSH in the spring and choreographed their dances before classes began in the fall. Dancers auditioned in the first week of classes and began practicing soon afterwards. “It’s a huge time commitment for the dancers, even the choreographers,” said junior Amanda Maloney, artistic director and choreographer. “If you love to dance, it’s a wonderful time commitment.”

Sophomore Michelle Cundy, who will be performing in her first RUSH, echoes Maloney. “Even though it’s so much work, it’s fun. It doesn’t feel like work.”

Many of the dancers and choreographers are drawn to RUSH because of their passion for dance and the chance to bring that passion to the student body. “I love dancing,” said fourth-year dancer and choreographer Jenni Sybesma. “I love sharing that with other people.”

This year’s RUSH will feature 13 dances that cover a broad range, from hip-hop, jazz and salsa to modern, lyrical and Chinese traditional. The show will begin with a multimedia presentation commemorating RUSH’s five-year anniversary and end with a special dance featuring founders Rebecca Donahue and Corrine Christian and past RUSH leader Heather Sidery. There will be two shows on Friday at 7:30 and 10 p.m. and four shows on Saturday at 2, 4, 7:30, and 10 pm. The 4 p.m. show on Saturday was added after the original five shows sold out in roughly two hours, breaking last year’s record setting two and a half days.

Those wishing to attend RUSH but without tickets should arrive an hour early and put their name on a waiting list for seats that go unclaimed.

Bringing International Day of Peace to the local level

BY CHANTELLE STEGGERDA
STAFF WRITER

This Friday, Sept. 21, starting at 11 p.m., a concert will be held at The Hub commemorating International Day of Peace. The Hub concert will feature The 4, 7:30, and 10 p.m. and four shows on Saturday at 2, 4, 7:30, and 10 pm. The 4 p.m. show on Saturday was added after the original five shows sold out in roughly two hours, breaking last year’s record setting two and a half days.

Although international peace is a goal, James noted that students do not always have the opportunity to go abroad to promote peace.

“We need to rethink this ideal of what being a peacemaker is and how it’s connected to our everyday lives,” said James.

Part of the proceeds from coffee sold at The Hub during the concert will go to The Bridge, Orange City’s new transitional shelter for women and children.

“Living out this idea of peace is going to be in our lifestyles, in our characters,” said James. “It’s living out peace in small ways, bringing it to local organizations that need help.”
Imagine if Christians put faith into action

BY BELINDA FARBER

Lately I have contemplated the grand possibilities and incredible impact Christians could have on their world—if only they put their faith into action. But that is really all it has been...contemplation. If we look around at the blessings we have, can we see how much we are wasting them? We seldom realize the true depths of our resources. How often are we convicted of the way we spend our money, our time, and use the talents God has given us? We live in a place where people squander their resources. We do not manage time well, and even though we are college students, still learning how to adjust to our changing schedules, I cannot help but be saddened by the frequency of our carelessness. Can we hear the voices of others, pleading with us to use our gifts for God's glory? I understand that we all need to do a little something for ourselves from time to time, but it happens much too often. Do we ever ask the question, in our world full of suffering, hurt, and need, why were we granted so much?

I have also been thinking about the past lately, and I wonder. If I had lived during the time of William Wilberforce, would I have supported his efforts in fighting against the British slave trade? I wonder if I would have helped Harriet Tubman free slaves on the Underground Railroad, or if I would have been one of those people that sat back and watched. I wonder how history is in the making now. Sitting on my nursing home bed, what will I say when someone asks, “Where were you when women and young girls were being sex-trafficked, when there was genocide in Darfur, and when children were being abducted from their homes and trained to be child soldiers?”

The greatest mistakes and regrets in our history were the truths that were never told, the actions never taken, and the prayers kept inside. I pray that this will not be the same for our future. As Gary Haugen, President of the International Justice Mission, once said, “The greatest enemy in our struggle to stop oppression and injustice is silence.” Imagine if Christians put their faith into action. I urge you to find the truth that our society tries to hide and do something about it. Share it with others or write to your elected officials. Just do something! And start forming your answer now. Because someday, someone will ask:

A perspective on American freedom

BY JOHN NOVY

Let me ask you, what kind of car do you drive? Do you drive it wherever you’d like to go? When you get in your car, do you check for bombs, planted grenades, or any other type of explosives? You probably don’t, because you don’t need to. We don’t need to worry about every day a bombo-trapped bicycle, one of which killed five in Iraq this past week (MSNBC reports), or leave our house without knowing if we’ll ever return. Soldiers in Iraq are doing something good—they’re fighting for freedom. But we are so selfish to think that the war in the Middle East has to do with our freedom.

I believe our freedom isn’t near the point of being threatened so much that we will lose it. There are few things that we as citizens of the United States do out of necessity. Many of us, who grew up in the United States, cannot relate to the lack of freedom that much of the world lives in. I don’t wish to belittle the events of September 11th, but let me put things in perspective: only 2 and 1/2 buildings were hit that day. Yet how many buildings have we destroyed in Iraq? We seem to justify this with the thought that, “Hey, it’s war.” We may, subconsciously, find ourselves believing that a building in Iraq holds a much lesser value than a building here. I find it difficult to believe that our freedom is being threatened. The war isn’t over here.

We’re not fighting entire countries like we did in World War II. An organized army did not attack us; a few radicals did. I’m not against the war, but I am against many views of this war that think of it as beneficial to us. So often we’re concerned about our own problems that we fail to see the struggles others face. I’m pretty sure a lot of us would agree that the United States is very powerful. With this power, we should see it as our responsibility to help others, not ourselves.

Moreover, I find it conceivable to say that we’re fighting for our values of American freedom and democracy. Congress seems to think that since it works well for us, our way of freedom just has to work for them, too. I felt embarrassed reading last week’s article on the American troops. Fighting for American freedom? What about Iraqi freedom? Not once did the article mention freedom for the Iraqi people themselves. Seems a bit selfish, doesn’t it?

We are blessed. We don’t live in fear in the United States as so many in Iraq do. We don’t have to worry about dying for what we believe in this country. Last week, Shiite Muslims’ homes were torched, killing 15 Shiite residents, by fighters from the Sunni-dominated al-Qaeda. So, whose freedom is really threatened? American vanity is not in need of being fought for.
Top 10 apartments and plexes

BY AMANDA WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

At the beginning of the semester we move into empty rooms with plain white walls. Perhaps we hang posters, put up a few pictures of friends and family and try to add our own personal touch to our living space. For some, a few pictures are just fine, but some of us go above and beyond a few personal touches. This year, a few living in the apartments and plexes have completely outdone themselves in their efforts to make their space their own. These privileged few have made this year's coveted top 10 apartments and plexes list.

Movie posters are a popular way to jazz up an empty room but the girls in CVY East #18 must really love them. Sarah Dee Hollibaugh, Tracey Pronk and Jen Shafer decked out their walls in colorful posters including, “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory,” “Million Dollar Baby,” “Chicago” and many more. Numerous shelves of DVDs confirm their love for movies. Congratulations on being the “Most Movie Savvy” plex!

This year's number one “Rock and Roll” room again goes to girls in CVY East #18. Rebecca Callies, Lynna Iverson and Amanda Wright rocked out their walls with old album covers, vinyl records, an acoustic and an electric guitar. After posters of album covers were plastered over two walls they decided to go even further with real albums, records, guitar, a tambourine and even a disco ball. Rock on, girls!

Martha Stewart’s style is very crafty, creative and unique and so is the style of the girls in Apt. 333. Ellie Pielhl, Kari Squires, Jenna Boot, Jenna Boote, Rachel Pothuma and Amanda Maloney have decorated their room with cute fun accents that would make Martha proud. Decorative lamps, colorful wall hangings, a fall friendly centerpiece and much, much more give these girls the “Most Like Martha” award. Congratulations, just remember to stay away from that insider trading.

Ever miss the comfort of your own home with all the special touches that only Mom can create? Well apparently so do Jessica Jenkins, Holli Wubben, Heather Ness, Sarah Ageton, Laura Rosink and Lisa Walters in Apt. 231. Their cozy apartment is both environmentally friendly (complete with a recycle bin) and sure to remind you of home: comfortable, yet functional and full of handcrafted treasures. If you ask, they might even whip up some fresh-baked cookies with milk. They’re sure to never get homesick living in their apartment that is “Just Like Home.”

Thinking about going to the Holland Plaza Theater? Forget about it, just make a trip over to Apt. 201 and visit Tim Ulibarri, Curt Van Wyk, Adonis Meran and Will Moul. The “Most Technology Savvy” room goes to a bunch of boys who got tired of watching TV on a mere 48 inches. These guys went all out with a projector and screen spanning from wall to wall. The picture is complete with sofas arranged like a theater and a lighted canopy over top. Next time you want to watch a movie on the big screen or a football game in style, stop by, they’ve got plenty of room!

Around campus there are many sports fans, but Luke Perry, Curt Schilling, Brian Springer, Kale Wiertzema, Ben Brown and Chad Schuiteman show their true colors all over their Apt. 332. The Iowa State Cyclones and Carolina Tar Heels are represented with flags on the wall as well as a few of their other favorite teams. They make great decorations as they are watching the game from their big screen TV. Baseball caps line the top of the bedroom to finish off the look. Way to go, for the “Most Dedicated Sports Fan!”

Most of us are concerned with making all our stuff actually fit in our apartments and don’t worry about creating a perfectly balanced space, but I found an exception: Apt. 221. Liz Colbert, Jenni Sybesma, Chelsea Goulet, Melissa Hisel, Angela Jiskoot and Kristin Spidahl have a lovely apartment uniquely arranged and decorated to perfection. They win the award for the “Best Feng Shui!” because their apartment is serene and beautiful with a comfortable feel.

Feeling groovy? No? Well, I know of one plex that is. Kiera Fredericsson, Amanda Bracklein and Nicole Pullaro of CVY East #13 have a space that is hip and fun to look around in. Posters, CDs, lamps, curtains and other unique decorations make their plex totally far out and earn it the “Grooviest Room” title.

The “Most Artistic” room is Apt. 102, belonging to Kelsey Carroll, Renae Katsma, Amy Larson and Deb Remmerde. With artwork, mirrors and cute trinkets these girls have created a colorful fun place to hang out, do homework or watch “The Office.” Creative wall displays and carefully arranged shelves and furniture make their artistic pad one of this year’s top 10 apartments. Last but not least is the “Most Original” apartment, Apt. 202. Brittia Kaltenbach, Beth Popkes, Sylvia Moore, Lindsey De Kruijf and Alyssa Breukven combined many different styles to create their room’s original look. The overhead curtain that divides the living room and the kitchen is an interesting part of their room as well as a lighted curtain above the window. Lava lamps and photos combined with posters make this a fun room to be in and a very original place to call home.

Congratulations to the top 10 winners for taking an empty space and creating a place unique to you and your personal interests.
International Justice Mission: 
Seeking justice for a hurting world

BY KILEY SELIGMAN
STAFF WRITER

The International Justice Mission (IJM) seeks to "spread awareness of world injustice and to pray for the victims of injustice that IJM works with around the world." IJM is an international organization that has been active for ten years, with campus chapters all across the country. This is the Northwestern chapter’s four-year, and they are ready for another year of events and fundraisers.

NW’s IJM group began this year having fun and raising funds by selling food at NW’s Baseball Classic. The funds from this event went to help support the main IJM organization in their international outreach for justice in Guatemala. In this country, IJM casework deals largely with victims of sexual assault and rape. All funds will be used to extend training for nurses and doctors in Guatemala with hopes that it will better equip them to serve sexual assault victims.

As of now, IJM has a campus-wide justice conference scheduled for early November, with a speaker coming from the main IJM organization. Later this semester, they will also sponsor events to recognize World AIDS Day. During the spring semester they will be holding the Season of Justice and Justice Jam, a music venue to raise awareness of world injustice and to bring in funds to support IJM’s mission.

During the year they will have many other demonstrations, movie showings and campaigns to promote awareness of world injustice. IJM needs students who are passionate about world justice to participate in demonstrations, organize events, facilitate movie showings and to create new ways to get out the biblically-based fact that God cares about injustice.

Called2Go help the needy

BY KILEY SELIGMAN
STAFF WRITER

Previously called Hunger/ Homeless, Called2Go has changed their name and their focus. Their mission statement centers around Deuteronomy 16:10, “Then celebrate the Feast of Weeks to the Lord your God by giving a freewill offering in proportion to the blessings the Lord your God has given you” (NIV). Called2Go strives to be an action-based, hands-on outreach. “We are community-based, trying to serve with our hands in tangible ways,” says Jenna Boote, a student leader of Called2Go.

Over the year, Called2Go will organize events on campus, help with needs around Orange City and take trips to help the needy in surrounding communities.

On campus their most well-known activity is Night in a Box, where students can spend a night in a cardboard box to experience how the less fortunate live. In Orange City they will help at organizations such as The Bridge, a new women and children’s shelter. The group will also travel to Sioux Falls to help at St. Francis House, a women’s homeless shelter, and The Banquet, a Christian soup kitchen.

New this year, Called2Go plans on participating in the Kids Against Hunger campaign. The organization will come to campus, and students can help in tangible ways by packaging full nutritional meals to send to other countries.
Want to take a break from class for a year and serve? Then Mission Year might be for you.

Heemstra resident Mike Noble participated in Mission Year during the 06-07 school year. He spent his year in Philadelphia, Penn. doing neighborhood outreach and personal discipleship with others in the program. Their lives were centered around the statement, “Love God, love people, nothing else matters.”
Vermeer, Pannkuk lead golfers to top finishes

BY BETHANY KROEZE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwestern golf team traveled to Sioux City this week, playing at Briar Cliff Monday and at Morningside Tuesday.

Shooting a season-best team score of 311, the men took sixth place at the Briar Cliff Open.

Sophomore Luke Vermeer earned runner-up medalist honors, placing second with a score of 72. Junior Justin Pannkuk recorded his best score of the season, tying for fourth place with a 73.

Shooting an 81, junior Jamie Jeltema also carded his season best. Wrapping it up for the Raiders were freshman Josh Locker with an 85 and sophomore Hans Vander Plaats with an 86.

Morningside took first place honors with a team score of 299. They also had the first place medalist, Andrew Martin, who shot a 70.

At the Morningside Open on Tuesday, the Raiders tied for fourth place with Doane College. With a team score of 326, the Raiders were bested by Morningside, taking first with a 303, Wayne State (307) and Sioux Falls (312).

Morningside’s Brandon Morehead took first place honors with a 71. Runner-up honors went to Adam Fields from Wayne State, with a 72.

NW’s Vermeer shot a two-over 73 to take third place for his fourth straight top-three finish.

Shooting his season best, senior Nate Summers carded an 80 on the day to tie for 14th place. Vander Plaats shot an 85 while Locker and junior Matt Boer each carded an 89.

“We have a number of guys competing for the three varsity spots behind Justin and Luke,” said Head Coach Mark Bloemendaal.

“We are looking for a couple of players to step up and claim those positions and to give support to Luke and Justin.”

“Many of the players are playing varsity for the first time,” Bloemendaal continued.

“They have not seen the courses we have played but are working hard to improve.”

Next Friday, Sept. 28, NW will host the Red Raider Invite at Landsmere Golf Club.

“We are looking forward to our home meet next week,” said Bloemendaal. “The goal will be to shoot our low team score for the fall.”
Top-ranked USF Cougars defeat Red Raiders

BY BETHANY KROEZE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Red Raider football team suffered their first loss last weekend, falling 44-20 to the defending GPAC champion University of Sioux Falls Cougars.

The Cougars struck early and often in the first half, using the wind to their advantage during the first quarter. Less than five minutes into the game, USF capped off a 30-yard drive with an eight-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Chad Cavender.

About three minutes later, the Cougars nailed a 42-yard field goal, adding three points for a 10-point lead. Another touchdown run with 4:37 remaining in the first put the Cougars up 17-0.

The second quarter was scoreless until the Cougars completed a 75-yard, 4:54 drive with a two-yard touchdown pass with 0.11 remaining in the half.

After shutting out NW 24-0 in the first half, the Cougars met some Raider opposition in the third quarter.

The Raiders made their first strike about four minutes into the second half. After forcing USF to punt, NW took over, running six plays for 69 yards in 2:10. Senior quarterback Craig Hector ran one yard into the end zone for the Cougars' first touchdown.

The Raiders answered with junior receiver Seth Moen grabbing a 15-yard touchdown pass from Hector. Failing the two-point attempt, the Raiders still trailed 20-2 after the second.

USF dominated the remaining time, draining the clock with two scoring drives. The first, an 11 play, 60-yard drive, completed with a one-yard touchdown run with 6:08 remaining. The final strike came with 1:38 to go, a seven-yard strike after the Cougars drained 3:02 off the clock.

Responding to the third quarter shutdown, the Cougars charged 10 seconds into the fourth, scoring on a 64-yard touchdown pass. The Raiders answered with junior receiver Seth Moen grabbing a 15-yard touchdown pass from Hector. Failing the two-point attempt, the Raiders still trailed 20-2 after the second.

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The Raiders struggled against the top-ranked team, losing the rushing battle 197 yards to 11. Freshman running back Taylor Malm led the rushing effort, rushing 16 yards on seven carries. Other rushing attempts resulted in negative yardage, leaving the Raiders with only 11 yards total rushing on 31 carries.

The passing battle was more even, with USF coming out slightly ahead, 268-246. Hector completed 16 of 33 passing attempts for 244 yards and two touchdown passes. Hector rushed for the Raiders' third touchdown.

Leading Hector's receiving corps, Moen had four grabs for 89 yards and one touchdown. Van Halzen had three catches for 67 yards and a touchdown. Senior receiver Tyler Riechle had four receptions for 31 yards while junior receiver DJ Hansen caught two passes for 37 yards.

Defensively, sophomore Grant Heggstad and senior Scott Stahl each had one sack on the Cougars' quarterback.

Tomorrow, the Raiders will host Concordia. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. on Korver Field.

Cross country teams finish near middle at SDSU

BY LAURA JACOBSON
EDITOR

The Red Raider cross country teams competed in the South Dakota State Classic in Brookings, S.D., last Saturday, with both the men's and the women's teams finishing in the middle of team standings.

The men's team finished seventh with 199 points and was the highest-placing GPAC team, just edging out the University of Sioux Falls, who scored 205. Minnesota State University, Mankato won the men's race with 24 points.

Facing the Raider men was senior captain Jon Woehl, who finished 32nd in the 102-runner field with his time of 27:10. Following Woehl was the freshman pair of Tyler Peekeschneider and Danny Owens, who placed 44th and 46th, respectively. Peekenschneider finished the course in 27:38 and Owens in 27:40.

Junior Jack Peterson was the Raiders' next runner, taking 51st with a time of 27:59. Sophomore Kyle Gerhard rounded out the Raiders' top five. Gerhard was 53rd with his time of 28:07.

The Raider women's team finished sixth overall, well ahead of the nearest GPAC competitor, USF, who scored 253 points for ninth place. The University of Minnesota was the women's team champion, scoring a perfect 15 points. There were 119 women competing in the 5000-meter race. Freshmen Olivia Johnson and Charity Miles again led the women's team, placing 17th and 19th, respectively. Johnson's time was 18:50 and Miles finished in 18:53.

Freshman Stephanie Powell followed at 19th place, with her time of 19:54. Fellow freshman Sara Hess was next for the Raiders, running the course in 20:09 for 48th place.

Senior Lori Wolf finished out the Raiders' top five, placing 54th with her time of 20:23.

Head Coach Dale Thompson was pleased with the teams' efforts in their first full-distance meet. “The team has been working hard for the past few weeks,” he said, “and it was fun to see that effort rewarded with a good race.” Thompson also commented on NW's scoring strategy. “The women worked together well on the course, and we need to keep tightening our scoring pack to place better in a meet,” he said. “It will take a tight scoring pack for the men to place well at the meets.”

The Raiders will next compete on Oct. 6 at the Briar Cliff Invitational at McCook Lake, S.D.
Have you brought “meat” to your college years?

BY RENEE NYHOF
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

During Volunteer Awareness Week, possibly the biggest question to ask is, why should I volunteer? “Volunteering should be a part of who we are as Christians and giving ourselves in service,” said Marlon Haverdink, Director of Service Learning. “Also, through this service, people grow, learn and strengthen their Christian faith.”

Another aspect of volunteering Haverdink mentioned is that it gives students the opportunity to get to know people in the community.

“Not only do people of the community love to know that students are getting involved, employers also love to see volunteering on resumes,” said Bill Minnick, Director of Career Development. “Volunteering is a lot of what employers look for because it shows leadership and people skills. It also shows that you’re willing to make a commitment to the community.”

Minnick also adds that volunteering is a great experience-booster. Even if the skills learned while volunteering are not in the same field as your major, Minnick says those skills still add to the whole academic experience.

“Volunteering gives students the meat to take to an interview,” said Minnick. “The students will have something to talk about. They can tell how they dealt with challenges, and it shows that the student can overcome struggles.”

These may be practical reasons for volunteering. However, finding a place to volunteer may be a tricky task, but not anymore.

For more information, contact the organizations listed below or the new Service Learning Center in Suite 206 in the Center for Spiritual Formation and Vocation. There, waiting to assist you is Rebecca James with a complete list of the places that need volunteers and what specific needs those places have.

Want to volunteer?
Here are some places in Orange City to consider!

news
AROUND THE WORLD
COMPILED BY JANICE SWIER

A powerful bomb killed seven people including Christian politician Antoine Ghanem last Wednesday in Beirut, Lebanon. Ghanem, who was a pro-government Parliament member and belonged to the right-wing Christian Phalange Party, is suspected to have been the target of the attack. The attack happened six days before the decisive election of a new president by Parliament. Ghanem marks the eighth prominent anti-Syrian leader who has been assassinated since 2005.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad’s request to lay a wreath at the base of the World Trade Centers during his visit to the U.S. next week has been denied. Reasoning for the decision is due to on-going construction at Ground Zero as well as NYPD security measures which would oppose the Iranian president from visiting the immediate area.

U.S. security firm Blackwater is under scrutiny after it opened fire in a busy Baghdad square Monday, killing 11 Iraqi civilians. While Blackwater, a private security company, first reported that they were violently attacked and the shooting was a response, Iraqi witnesses claim that Blackwater’s personnel were never shot at. There is currently a joint Iraqi/U.S. committee reviewing the wider issues raised by this incident—such as the status of security companies in Iraq. Due to a regulation known as Article 17 (2003) which gave immunity to security companies, it is not yet known whether the Blackwater guards will be tried.

The Federal Reserve cut its benchmark rate from 5.25 percent to 4.75 percent Tuesday in hopes that it would help to ease the housing market and credit crunch and could prevent a recession. The cut has caused not just U.S. markets to rise, but Asian and European markets to rise as well. The remaining concern, however, is that the Federal Reserve cut it by too much and could initiate inflation.

President candidate visits campus

BY BETHANY KROEZE
SPORTS EDITOR

On Friday, Sept. 14, 2007, congressman and Republican presidential candidate Tom Tancredo visited with several students in the South Vermeer Dining Room. For about an hour, Tancredo spoke to students about his platform on immigration and why he would make a good president. He fielded questions from students concerning immigration as well as gay marriage.

Tancredo has served in the United States Congress for almost a decade. Prior to that, he served five years in the Colorado legislature and over 10 years as a regional representative for the Department of Education, a position he was nominated for by President Ronald Reagan.

Congressman Tancredo’s strongest stand is against illegal immigration. On his website, he says, “Illegal aliens threaten our economy and undermine our culture. While our brave soldiers risk their lives to protect us overseas, our political elites lack the courage to defend us at home. I am 100 percent opposed to amnesty. As president, I will secure our borders so illegal aliens do not come, and I will eliminate benefits and job prospects so they do not stay.”