

**CHADRON STATE**

Spring 2017

# *Magazine*



# Letter from the *President*



Dr. Randy Rhine  
President of Chadron State College

As part of Chadron State College's reaffirmation through the Higher Learning Commission, a team of peer reviewers were on campus in late April. They met with various individuals and committees while on campus, and the team hosted open forum discussions and drop-in sessions.

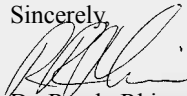
The college, as articulated by the Nebraska State Legislature, defines CSC as a regional institution that provides educational programs and public services to meet the needs of our service area. The Legislature and the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education also define Chadron State's three priorities: first, focus on undergraduate studies dealing with academic, occupational and education degree programs; second, provide master's programs in education and other authorized programs; and third, applied research, public service activities and continuing education activities must serve our service area.

As you know, CSC supports those edicts through our mission. We work to enrich the quality of life in the region by providing educational opportunities, research, service and programs that contribute to vitality and diversity of the region. I am proud of the work we all do and feel confident the peer review team's examination of our efforts will be positive.

Following the on-site visit, the peer review team prepares and submits the final report to HLC. Chadron State College may review the initial report for accuracy and provide a response to the final report. Then the Institutional Actions Council reviews the documents, either agrees, alters, or disagrees with the Peer Review Team's evaluation recommendation.

While the visit on campus was short, the process for reaffirmation has not enjoyed the same amount of brevity. The campus began preparations for reaffirmation four years ago and it was clear from the start that CSC was committed to the process. Continuous improvement is weaved throughout the narrative of five documents critical to the reaffirmation process and all five of these documents – the Assumed Practices, the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement, the Quality Initiative, the Federal Compliance Review, and the Assurance Argument – were created through countless hours, with numerous committees and several individuals providing input.

The HLC process has been a large undertaking, requiring many peoples' time. I'm thankful for their dedication and effort. This is one of the things that makes CSC so unique: We all work together to get the job done. We believe in our mission, support students, and truly make our community, region, and world a better place.

Sincerely,  
  
Dr. Randy Rhine  
President

## The Alumni Magazine is published twice per year by the Chadron State College Alumni Office.

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**Past issues of the Alumni Magazine can be found at [www.csc.edu/alumni](http://www.csc.edu/alumni)**

### On the Cover:

Henry Freed, Larry Tangeman, Edwin Nelson and Jim Hanson move books to the King Library in the early 1970s.

# Sports Complex construction begins later this fall

As part of the first phase of the Chadron State College Sports Complex, administrators, coaches and the Chadron State Foundation announced \$8.6 million in funding of the \$11.1 million needed has been secured to renovate Don Beebe Stadium, Con Marshall Press Box and Elliott Field during a press conference in March.

In addition to unveiling conceptual drawings, CSC officials continued to voice their support for the Sports Complex's second phase – construction of a competition space for the college's track and field team. The entire project is estimated to cost \$11.1 million.

"We have alumni and friends, campaign leadership members, senior staff and many others who are working diligently to make this project a reality," said CSC President Randy Rhine. "We are also grateful to the State of Nebraska for providing a revenue bond channel to secure partial funding for this project and to the private donors who are helping to push us toward our goal."

In addition to Rhine, Athletic Director Joel Smith, head football coach Jay Long, and head track and field coach Brad Gamble spoke at the press conference.

In 2014, engineers alerted CSC officials that the structural integrity of the central stands were failing. In addition to safety issues, other challenges for the stadium include poor drainage, deteriorating field conditions and inadequate amenities for spectators and game personnel.

According to Smith, the project calls for the demolition of the existing south side stadium which will be replaced by a concourse and two-story pavilion that will house game officials, coaches, media and fans, a central



grandstand, and a new field turf surface.

"This is the first comprehensive renovation of the stadium since it was built in 1929," Smith said.

Smith said the improvements increase accessibility to the stadium and expand seating for spectators. Additionally, the concourse level underneath the two-story pavilion will have modern concessions, bathrooms and ticket areas.

The Con Marshall Press Box will be updated to accommodate media, game officials and coaching staffs. A hospitality center will also be built to provide a gathering space for boosters, alumni and supporters of CSC.

Finally, the natural grass of Elliott Field will be replaced by a modern, synthetic field turf.

"As a former player and current coach, I can't tell you how proud I am of Chadron State and its alumni and supporters," Long said.

In preparation of the 2018 season, fundraising and construction timelines will be tight.

The stadium's demolition will begin the Monday following the Eagles' final home game in mid-November.

While the press conference focused on the football stadium's construction and renovation, CSC is still focused on constructing an outdoor track.

"Chadron State is the only RMAC school without a track and that's a pretty big hurdle to get over," Gamble said.

Chadron State Foundation CEO Connie Rasmussen commented after the press conference that the Foundation is thankful to those who have already contributed to the Sports Complex.

"Seventy-eight percent of the funding required has been secured and we'll be relying on former Eagles and supporters to push us to the finish line," she said.

To contribute to the Sports Complex, visit <http://chadroneagles.com/sportscomplex> or call the Foundation at 308-432-6366.



## Football Players. Cheerleaders. Band Members. Track and Field Athletes.

All who competed or performed in the current facility. Join us!

The ceremonial groundbreaking for the Chadron State Sports Complex will take place at CSC's Homecoming Game, scheduled for September 23, 2017. Witness the history of Chadron State in the making as your alma mater honors a valuable legacy while progressing into the future.



# Faculty and Staff Recognition Luncheon

Five retirees were among the employees recognized at the annual employee recognition luncheon. They are Philip Cary, associate professor of mathematical sciences, Connie Frandson, office assistant II, Craig LaFontsee, maintenance repair worker II, Sandy Schaefer, professor of music, and Elaine Wood, custodian.



Philip Cary

Looking back on a 42-year career guiding students in the basics and finer points of mathematics, mathematical sciences faculty member Cary finds satisfaction in his decision to become a teacher. As a student at the University of Kansas in the 1970s, Cary said he contemplated pursuing an engineering degree but thought teaching math would be more meaningful.

A lifetime of experience instructing math students at levels from junior high to college graduate has validated that insight.

“There is no way that I could have known how very meaningful teaching would be,” he said.

A native of Hot Springs, South Dakota, Cary joined the CSC faculty in 2001.

Cary said the enjoyment he has found in teaching has come from taking a difficult mathematical concept, finding a way to express it in simple terms and seeing people understand it.

“I learn so much by teaching,” Cary said. “Every day I teach, I learn more about math, more about people and more about the meaning in life.”



Connie Frandson

Frandson was a steady presence in the Conferencing Office at Chadron State College for 15 years until she retired June 30, 2016.

Her supervisor, Shellie Johns, said Frandson was dedicated to her work and was always willing to go the extra mile to make everyone feel welcome in the Student Center.

While recalling the high points of her tenure, Frandson mentioned a pleasant encounter with Anna Maria Mendieta, principal harpist with the Sacramento Philharmonic, who performed in 2013 as part of the Galaxy Series.

“It had always been on my bucket list to play a harp and she let me run my fingers over the strings. I’ll always remember her,” Frandson said.

Johns said Frandson smiled for weeks afterward.

Frandson lives in Grand Island with her husband, Arnie, where they spend time with family and friends. She hopes to spend more time with family members in Nebraska, Colorado, Iowa and Texas, garden and eventually learn how to weave with a loom she bought years ago.



Craig LaFontsee

LaFontsee started with the Chadron State College custodial department in March 1990 and will retire in July. About 18 months following his employment, he accepted a position with the grounds department and stayed ever since.

He said being employed at a college was a positive experience for him.

“Working around young people, keeps you young,” LaFontsee said.

His responsibilities in the grounds department include fertilizing lawns, mowing, pruning trees, spraying weeds, removing snow and ice, moving furniture, repairing storm damage and patching streets.

LaFontsee said he is appreciative of the col-

lege and the support he’s received over the years.

“Some of the fondest memories and moments of my life have been on this campus.”

In his retirement, LaFontsee plans to visit his family in California more often and spend time fishing, hunting, camping, hiking and bowling.



Sandy Schaefer

After a career that has taken him from Colorado to California, Wisconsin, Arizona and Nebraska, Schaefer is retiring this year and heading west.

And, though Schaefer and his wife, Susi, may see more rain than sunshine in the home they have purchased just 300 yards from

the beach in Lincoln City, Oregon, he’s looking forward to the feeling of living by the ocean.

Schaefer, a percussionist and marimba player who grew up in the Chicago area, said he started playing percussion instruments because

of his aunt, who was a professional marimbist, music teacher and band leader.

In addition to teaching, Schaefer has performed with several groups and musicians, and recorded for Summit Records and Canyon Records. He has also published a drum

set method book, produced instructional videos in basic percussion and taught private drum lessons.

At CSC, Schaefer taught classes in percussion, jazz and African-American popular music, helped develop the college’s music business degree, directed the music business program, served as Faculty Senate President and was the recipient of the Nebraska State College System Teaching Excellence Award in 2013.

Schaefer also directed the CSC Birds, a jazz and pop ensemble, and developed connections for the college to take students to the National Association of Music Manufacturer’s show in California each year.

Schaefer said working at Chadron State has been rewarding because of the emphasis that is placed on the quality of teaching.

“They really care about teaching and serving their population,” he said.

Dedication, pride and excellence. That’s how Maintenance Supervisor Todd Baumann describes Wood, who worked as a custodian for 25 years at Chadron State College before retiring in January 2017.

“She was absolutely dedicated to her job,” Baumann said. “She took great pride in her work and was an excellent team leader. She was always pleasant to be around and you could trust her to get the job done. If I could figure out a way to clone Elaine, I would do that. She truly was one of the best.”

Wood, a Chadron native, started her employment at the college in September 1991.

She moved around from building to building, including time at the media center in the Old Library, but primarily based her operations at Edna Work Hall.

Working in a residence hall suited her just fine.

“I liked the pace of working at CSC. I worked in a few office situations and I enjoyed working at the college. The people were really great and I had a really nice building. After the renovation, it was such a nice building to work in. It was like my second home,” she said.

“They really care about teaching and serving their population.”

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“Working around young people, keeps you young.”

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## Gallegos receives

# Teaching Excellence Award

By Tena L. Cook

Dr. Nathaniel Gallegos, assistant professor and chair of the Business department, was presented the Chadron State College Teaching Excellence Award at the annual CSC Faculty and Staff Recognition Luncheon in April.

He brings a wealth of experience to CSC including work in government law offices in California and Ohio, work with private businesses, university research in New Mexico, and two years as an active reservist with the U.S. Navy.

Gallegos, who began teaching at CSC in 2013, said he was humbled by the award.

"It's my honor to be embraced as an educator by my students. Education has been the biggest challenge of my life," he said.

Authenticity, student engagement and fostering student inquiry are hallmarks of his teaching philosophy, Gallegos said.

"Technique is never a substitute for truth and passion," he said, commenting on text from Parker Palmer's "The Courage to Teach."

Being a first generation college student, a Mexican-American, a veteran, and a student who completed remedial courses in community college, Gallegos feels he possesses a profound common path with many CSC students.

Gallegos acknowledged his colleagues and mentors with contributing to his success at CSC.

"I owe all my gratitude to Dr. Mary Jo Carnot for all she invested in helping me develop my pedagogy and method. My extended gratitude to Dr. Timothy Anderson for modeling professionalism, to Dr. August Bruehlman for introducing me to continued strategic thought, Dr. Richard Koza for his mentorship and being my trusted friend right from the start and to Dr. Hyer for all his patience, guidance and support. God blesses me with work and I'm so blessed to have found Chadron State," Gallegos said.

When he joined the Business Academy faculty he was new to course design and pedagogical style. He credits the Quality Matters (QM) program with helping him successfully make the leap from his career as an attorney to the classroom.

He fully embraced the QM program, becoming a QM master peer reviewer and adopting QM principles with the certification of his MBA law course. He also published an article on ADA course compliance and presented it at the 2015 National QM Conference.

In 2014, he asked to teach Agricultural Policy (ECON 432) for the chance to develop smart consumers in a course related so closely to his graduate work and research in agricultural economics. Gallegos said he includes TED Talks, NPR podcasts and PBS documentaries in the course, in addition to other assignments such as



Dr. Nathaniel Gallegos poses with a plaque honoring him as the Chadron State College Teaching Excellence Award recipient at the annual Chadron State College Faculty and Staff Recognition Luncheon April 13 in the Student Center Ballroom. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)

detective work to analyze food labels.

In addition to receiving a \$1,000 award from the Chadron State Foundation and plaque, Gallegos now becomes a finalist for the Nebraska State College System Teaching Excellence Award to be announced later this year. It is presented annually to one full-time faculty member who demonstrates excellence in teaching, service and leadership across the system, including Chadron, Peru and Wayne State Colleges.

The NSCS Board has awarded the NSCS Teaching Excellence Award since 1984.

## Post Playhouse to celebrate 50th anniversary July 21-22

By Tena L. Cook

The Post Playhouse at Fort Robinson is observing its 50th season this summer. Chadron State College, the theatre department and many alumni and former faculty are tied to the origins of the small, summer theatre in northwest Nebraska.

The public is invited to a 50th celebration July 21-22 at Fort Robinson. For more information, contact Wally Seiler, Post Playhouse board president, at [wseiler@charter.net](mailto:wseiler@charter.net) or call 308-760-4693.

Many CSC graduates who went on to become speech and theatre teachers began their careers at the Post Playhouse, in addition to others who went on to become professional actors.

Retired teacher and CSC alumna Jane Rice of Chadron recalls fond memories at the Post Playhouse in the summer of 1982.

"I had one of the best times in my life participating in the 16th season at the Post Playhouse," Rice said. "Fred Wheeler and John Lurvey were both like family. My two crazy, talented uncles with big booming voices."

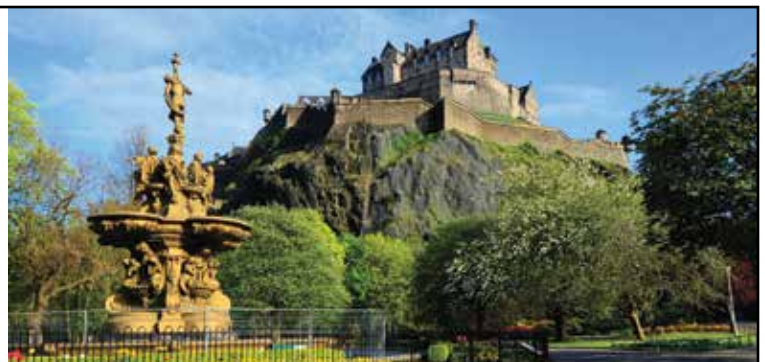
She served as ticket office/business manager, sang and danced in performances, appeared in the melodrama, "He Done Her Wrong," and acted in the touring children's theatre adaptation of "I Didn't Know That," a humorous show about numerous world's records and unusual happenings.

Rice said her courses in art and theatre prepared her well for responsibilities at the Post Playhouse. In turn, the experiences at the Post Playhouse prepared her to later direct community plays and high school plays.

Kim Huckfeldt, a veteran of the Post Playhouse in the 1970s, recalled the remuneration for Chadron State College actors in her era: college credit, a noon meal at the Corner Café in Crawford and a world of experience.

"We built the sets, ran the lights, made the costumes, acted, the whole works," she said. "It was very tiring, but I'd go back and do it again in a minute if I had a chance."

**2018 CSC Alumni Travel Program**  
Come enrich your understanding of those who share your world on our GoNext cruise, Isle of Enchantment (England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland), June 7-18, 2018. Contact the alumni office for information. Email [alumni@csc.edu](mailto:alumni@csc.edu) or call 308-432-6366.



# Virginia youth excels in spite of obstacles

By Tena L. Cook

When December 2016 graduate Mario Brown drove to Chadron State College from Williamsburg, Virginia, he said he knew good things were in store. They were, but obstacles including his mother's death, difficulty in English classes and the death of his grandmother stood between him and his bachelor's degree.

He persevered, however, and used his CSC network to his advantage in route to his degree.

As part of that network, CSC employees provided Brown with support.

Brown has praise for Dr. Dave Nesheim, who taught a history class in Brown's freshman year.

"You don't have to be the smartest and you don't have to understand everything. If he sees something good in you and you're dedicated, willing to work, he will do anything to support you, just like any other professor at CSC," Brown said.

Brown also credits other faculty and tutors with assisting him with English classes, but he is quick to add staff in financial aid and housing were also helpful.

"Without Student Services I don't know if I would

**"Without Student Services I don't know if I would have lasted."**

— Mario Brown

have lasted," Brown said. "My success is about everybody else around me. They surround me with positive energy, tell me, 'you can do this,' and pick me up when I'm down," Brown said.

Brown is currently pursuing a master's de-



Chadron State College graduate Mario Brown speaks to the graduating class at Pine Ridge Job Corps Feb. 24, 2017. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)

gree in sports management, and is a coaching assistant for the men's basketball team.

He would like to pursue a career speaking to and motivating young people who need guidance.

The first step in his professional journey began in February when he

was offered the opportunity to speak at the Pine Ridge Job Corps graduation ceremony. He provided medallions on ribbons for the 15 graduates and asked a friend to present the medals to each of the graduates.

In his remarks, he shared a message about the possibility of change, citing his own experiences.

"You can change what people think of when they hear your family name," Brown told the graduates. "If it used to mean fights, drugs and bad things, you can turn that around with what you accomplish. You can change the meaning of your name."

Brown apparently impressed the Job Corps administration with his presentation, resulting in a request for him to apply for an open position. He was hired in April and is excited about the chance to reach and help young people with a background similar to his own.

# Three students accepted to veterinary schools

By Tena L. Cook

Three Chadron State College students were accepted to veterinary schools. They are Megan McLean of Brewster, Nebraska, Shelby Nagle of Circle, Montana, and Wayne Robison of Chadron, Nebraska.

McLean, an Army ROTC cadet, received one of five national active duty education delay scholarships. McLean has been accepted to Colorado State University.

She said she enjoyed learning about topics such as microbiology, parasitology, and immunology and has recently considered pursuing research of pathogens that can be passed between humans.

Nagle was accepted to Washington State University, though her first year will be completed at Montana State University Bozeman. Upon completion of her graduate degree, she



Shelby Nagle and Wayne Robison



Megan McLean

would like to work in a mixed animal practice, with a focus on beef cattle reproduction.

In 2013, she became a certified artificial insemination technician and has travelled with her brother, an independent contractor, to synchronize and breed cattle since.

Her interest in cattle reproduction led her to an internship in Australia that included Beef Week, a large stock show comparable to events in Denver or San Antonio, Nagle said.

Robison was accepted to Lincoln Memorial University in Tennessee and chose to attend the UNL-Iowa State University (ISU) Professional Program in Veterinary Medicine.

Robison recalled his visit to campus for the Scholastic Contest during high school in 1999 and decided to pursue his pre-professional education at CSC in 2014 following an 18-year career as a jockey and horse trainer which took him across the U.S. and to Australia.

# CSC graduates' bequest to broaden collection of noted artist's work

By George Ledbetter

A bequest by Chadron State College graduates Eric and Beth Johnson, of Atlantic, Iowa, will further enhance and diversify the college's significant collection of works by noted African-American sculptor and ceramicist William Artis, who taught at CSC from 1954 to 1965.

The bequest includes a large vase signed by Artis, who seldom put his name on his ceramic works, and a silver pendant that he may have made while taking a class in jewelry design.

Chadron State already has what is thought to be one of the largest and most diverse collection of Artis' work in the country, with some 25 pieces including busts, pots, mosaics, drawings and paintings. Many of the pieces were left behind when Artis left the college; other pieces have been donated by former students and friends of Artis.

Artis, born in North Carolina in 1914, is considered a pioneering figure in African-American fine arts and is best known for his stoneware, clay and terra cotta sculptures. Artis came to the High Plains region in the early 1950s because of an interest in Sioux Indian culture and taught on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota for two years before joining the faculty at CSC.

Eric Johnson, whose father was a professor of geography and weather at

CSC, first knew Artis as a family friend. Artis lived in an apartment on Main Street several blocks from the college, but needed to be close by when pieces of pottery or sculpture were being fired overnight in the kiln at Memorial Hall, Johnson said.

"He would stay at our house and get up in the night to check (on the kiln)," Johnson said.

By 1969, when Johnson finished his bachelor's degree in music education at CSC and was looking into graduate school, Artis had left Chadron and was teaching ceramics at

Mankato (Minnesota) State University. Artis suggested Johnson continue his education at Mankato and offered a room in his apartment to his young friend.

"That's how I ended up in Minnesota," said Johnson, who completed his performance degree at Mankato State.

The silver piece that is part of the Johnsons' bequest was one of three pieces of jewelry found at the family house in Chadron, in a tool box that had Bill Artis' name on it and also contained unworked silver rods and a man's ring that appears to be unfinished, Beth Johnson said.

"My impression is it (the medalion) is from a class he took, not one he taught," she said.

The bequest also includes two pieces of Artis' pottery, a tan and brown pot he gave to Eric's mother and a blue and gray signed piece, Beth Johnson said.

The tall, blue and gray pot that bears Artis' signature was part of an identical pair created at Mankato State, Johnson said.

"He was going to put them in a show. We sent them off," he said. "When I got ready to leave Mankato, Bill came out with a blanket wrapped around something and said, 'Take this with you.' When I got back to Nebraska, it was one of the two pots. I don't know what happened to the other one."

The gift was consistent with Artis' generous personality, said Johnson, who also remembers his friend's fondness for spicy foods, his habit of dressing in a formal white shirt and tie, and his fondness for a glass of Cutty Sark whiskey before bedtime.

**"Rather than have them end up getting broken or sold, we figured if they went back to CSC, that's where they should be."**

— Eric Johnson



Silver Pendant by William Artis (Photo by George Ledbetter)

The decision to donate the works by Artis to Chadron State was motivated by a desire to see them in a collection where they could be appreciated by the public, Johnson said.

"Rather than have them end up getting broken or sold, we figured if they went back to CSC, that's where they should be," he said.

Specific plans have not yet been made for the pieces in the Johnsons' bequest. Many of the other works in CSC's Artis collection are on display at Memorial Hall and in other locations on campus. The Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center has a research archive that includes some of Artis' personal letters, as well as published material about him and his place in the history of African-American art.

He encouraged others who have objects worthy of preservation and display to consider donations.

"If you want it someplace where it won't sit in a cupboard, you might donate it to an institution that's going to use it," he said.

## 'The Eagle' captures seventh-straight student newspaper title

By The Eagle Staff

The student staff of "The Eagle" captured its seventh straight "Best in Overall Excellence" title in the Nebraska Collegiate Media Association's annual Golden Leaf Awards presented April 8, 2017, at Concordia University Nebraska in Seward.

"The Eagle's" website, csceagle.com, kept in stride with the newspaper and captured its third straight "Excellence in Digital Medium" award, the NCMA's highest honor in its Digital Medium Division, the fourth time in six years.

"We were pleasantly surprised to win this division again this year," said Managing Editor Jordyn Hulinsky, of St. Paul, Nebraska. "There is still so much more we can do with our website."

The Eagle faculty adviser Michael D. Kennedy also commended the student staff for their quality of work and dedication.

"Winning two of NCMA's four division titles three years in a row, confirms for everyone on campus and in the larger Chadron community, what I already know about these young

people – they are dedicated, hard-working, young students who possess a strong commitment to providing the best news product they can for their readers," he said.

The staff captured 11 first-place awards worth 55 points; seven second places worth 21 points and seven third places worth seven points. "The Eagle" finished 50 points ahead of "The Wayne Stater" from Wayne State College, which took second in the overall with 33 points. "The Collegian" of Hastings College finished third with 30 points.

# Spring on campus 2017

## “Construct the Record” attempt at world’s longest taco line



CSC Dining Services employees celebrate as they complete filling and folding 2,017 tacos in an attempt to set the world’s record April 21 in the Chicoine Center. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)

## Appeals Court



The Nebraska Court of Appeals, comprised of a three-member panel, hears cases in the Chadron State College Student Center Ballroom April 11. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)



Students accepted into the new Rural Legal Opportunities Program pose following the Nebraska Court of Appeals hearings April 11 in the Chadron State College Student Center Ballroom. From left, Kevin Zhang, Gunnar Buchhammer, Tindra Norris, Celeste Cardona and Alexandria Nobiling. Not pictured, Elizabeth Adam and Carter Thiele. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)

## The Big Event 2017



CSC Art Guild members Matthew Ellis, left, and Tristan Stephenson of Alliance, Nebraska, right, pick up trash next to Highway 20 east of Chadron for The Big Event April 22. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)



Dr. Una Taylor leads student volunteers and Prairie Pines residents in dances from around the world during The Big Event April 22. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)



by Con Marshall

Dan Contonis says he has vivid memories of his first day on the campus of Chadron State College in the fall of 1959.

"I was never so scared in all my life," he said. "While my parents, neither of whom had much education but valued it greatly, wanted me to go to college, I wasn't so sure it was the right thing for me.

"I was sitting on the west steps of Brooks Hall after my parents had helped me move into Room 305 and then headed back home," Contonis remembers. "I didn't know what to do. Before long, Don Parsons, an upperclassman and a star football player, came along and asked me what I was doing. I told him I didn't have a clue how to be a college student or make friends.

"His advice was for me to go to my room and leave the door open. I did that and during the next hour or so something like 15 guys stuck their heads in the room, said 'Hi' and visited for a few minutes. I found out most of them were in the same frame of mind. From that moment forward, Chadron State College became my comfort zone."

Now, 58 years later, Contonis recalls he received another shock a few days later when he was elected the president of the freshman class.

"I had never even been the member of anything except Boy Scouts, let alone being the president of something," he noted.

But things have worked out well for Dan Contonis, a native of Alliance, Nebraska, and he's grateful for the help he received at Chadron State. He made many lifelong friends, was elected the first president of Phi Sigma Epsilon Social Fraternity, appeared in some theatre productions and graduated in four years with majors in business and economics.

Besides that, it's where he met his wife, the former Donna Berlie of Chadron. The couple was married on June 21, 1964, about

six weeks after she graduated with majors in home economics and elementary education. They moved to his hometown, he went to work at a bank and she began teaching. Three years later, both changed jobs. He was recruited by an insurance agency and she became a stay at home mom, raising three children, including Deena (Kennell), now director of internships and career services at Chadron State.

The couple's other children are Christopher, who lives in Omaha, Nebraska, and Nikki, who lives in Lincoln, Nebraska. All three are married and Dan and Donna have eight grandchildren.

In the years that followed, Dan became a co-owner of the insurance firm and Donna returned to teaching elementary school after she'd operated a pre-school in their home for 13 years.

Now retired and living in Spearfish, South Dakota, Dan and Donna say life has gone well for them.

"Chadron State had a lot to do with the good life we've enjoyed," Dan said. "The faculty were always helpful. They wanted the best for the students and pointed us in the right direction. I had a lot of fun and also learned a lot about life besides what I was taught in the classes."

Dan relates that when the CSC Class of 1963 had its 50-year reunion in 2013 he learned that numerous classmates felt the same way about their alma mater when they shared how their lives had unfolded.

"None of us was born with a silver spoon in our mouths," he noted. "We had to make our own way, and everyone who spoke that night had impressive stories. Nearly all of them gave credit to various professors and classes they'd taken at Chadron State that made a big difference in their lives. It was a memorable experience. The college had grown tremendously and made lots of physical improvements since we'd been students and that also made us proud."



Dan and Donna Contonis

Dan got a really close up look at the college when he served on the board of directors of the Chadron State Foundation from 2004 through 2012 and learned how valuable contributions to the college are.

"Without the generous support alumni and friends of the college have given, Chadron State couldn't operate as it does today," he observed. "Facilities like the new Rangeland Complex and the Chicoine Center would not have been possible. The gifts also help provide scholarships that attract students."

With that experience, Dan and Donna joined the Living Legacy Society, a branch of the Foundation through which members arrange for a portion of their estate to be set aside to benefit the college when they pass.

"Chadron State is a gem," Dan added. "There's no place better for a young person seeking a good education in a comfortable and beautiful environment. Donna and I feel the good life we've enjoyed is a direct result of the foundation we received at Chadron State College."

**Quiet hours have been extended in the residence halls! Edna Work Hall is our next featured building.**

Please share your memories of Edna Work Hall with the Alumni Office. It will be the magazine's featured building in the winter edition. Send your memories, stories or photos about Edna Work Hall: email [alumni@csc.edu](mailto:alumni@csc.edu) or mail to Alumni Office, 1000 Main St., Chadron, NE 69337.



# now center for regional studies



**A** glance at the design of the Chadron State College building that now houses the Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center reveals to the discerning eye its construction as a classically styled library, the traditional place for students to read and study.

Now, nearly 90 years after it was constructed, the venerable building, complemented by a spacious southern addition, has become a center for studies of the history, culture and people of the high plains region, a space for exhibits of photography, art and history, and a venue that hosts group meetings, civic events, wedding receptions, concerts and dances.

A stand-alone college library wasn't in the plans when the Training School building, now known as Hildreth Hall, was constructed to provide teaching classrooms for the many prospective educators enrolled at what was then known as the Chadron Normal School. A western addition to Hildreth was planned when the building was finished in 1926 but within a year, then-college president Robert Elliott had changed course and convinced the governing

board of the state's three normal schools to put a \$35,000 appropriation towards a library instead.

The structure Elliott planned will be one of the finest libraries in the west when completed, the "Chadron Journal" reported in October of 1927.

By June 1928, a design for the library, with space for 42,750 volumes and 200 seats, had been accepted, a story in "The Eagle" said.

Both the number of books and the number of seats were apparently an issue in the first college library, located in a room on the third floor of Old Admin. A story in "The Eagle" tells of an unnamed education student rushing to the library for reference material, only to find all the needed volumes gone and then being unable to find a seat when a book finally became available.

In his design for the new structure, architect J.C. Stitt of Norfolk took cues from the libraries that industrialist Andrew Carnegie funded throughout the country. The one-story-with-raised basement form was recommended for its economy of construction and the floor plan featuring a projecting center vestibule, large reading room, and librarian's room at the rear is typical of Carnegie libraries, according to the building's 1983 National Register of Historic Places listing. The Neoclassical style, with hipped roof, symmetrical facade, and Doric columns also followed Carnegie design standards.

A Norfolk firm won the construction contract for the building early in 1929. By the time construction started later that year, the cost had jumped to \$45,000 and the size of the book collection to 65,000 volumes, the "Chadron Journal" reported. Increasing seating to 200 from the 70 available in the existing library would greatly relieve congestion in the library, the paper said.

The front page of "The Eagle" from the start of the 1929 fall term was dominated by news about construction of a stadium on the football field, but also reported the new library would be ready in about three weeks. The reading room was outfitted with tables and chairs finished in golden oak and fixtures being the best that could be bought, the paper reported.

It wasn't until December that a dedication ceremony for the building took place, complete with a talk about the history of the college library by librarian Mrs. Anna B. Bright and music by a college trio.

The library filled its role as a traditional academic hub quite nicely for the next three decades.

"It was a quiet place, where no sound above an occasional soft whisper was heard or allowed," said Frances Hess Richards, an assistant librarian at CSC from 1948 to 1955.

Richards also recalled use of the dumbwaiter to bring books from stacks in the basement to the main floor checkout desk, but stories persist of students trying to ride in the tiny compartment and getting stuck.

By 1959, when long time college information director Con Marshall enrolled at CSC, the system was no longer in use, but the library was still a busy place.

"It was the only place you could get any information for research papers," Marshall said.

Stanley Swanson and Reta King were co-directors of the library until Swanson left in 1962 and King, an old-school type, was left solely in charge, according to Marshall.

"She was pretty hard-nosed," he said. "She was the 'king' of the library."

However, by the 1960s, the library's size had become an issue, so in 1962 President Clark Elkins had the periodicals collection moved to a space in Memorial Hall that had previously housed the student cafeteria.

"They were short of space. It was crowded," said Marshall, adding that the local paper joked about the collection being put in cold storage in the former cafeteria's walk-in freezers.

In 1963 the state college board approved plans for a new \$630,000 library with 28,000 square feet and room for 200,000 volumes. Construction was delayed in anticipation of additional federal funds for the project, and the new library, named in 1980 for Reta King, was finally completed in 1967 at a cost of about \$1 million.

The library found its new purpose as the college media center, an all purpose title that encompassed a print shop and photo darkroom in the basement and an educational TV studio on



The television studio on the main floor at the College Media Center from February 1978. (File photo)

the main floor. It was also the place for faculty members to check out projectors, tapes, films, records and other audio-visual materials for classroom use. For a time it also housed the Panhandle Educational Resources Center, which distributed instructional resources and materials to K-12 schools in the region, Marshall said.

The media center was directed by Jerry Ingram from 1980 to 1996, according to Dewayne Gimeson, who supervised the print shop in the basement and developed the college's first desktop publishing capabilities. The main floor space, hung with large curtains to improve acoustic quality, was used for producing audio and video recordings of lectures and classes that could be played over the closed

circuit TV network, as well as promotional videos for the college, Gimeson said.

With the renovation of Miller Hall as a telecommunication and computer hub and the move of instructional resources to the Kline Center in the late 1990s, attention turned to the long-dormant idea of using the old library as a museum space. With support from former CSC President Tom Krepel, the library building was secured as a location for the Mari Sandoz Society's extensive collection of artifacts and records related to the acclaimed northwestern Nebraska native author and Jeanne Bishop was hired to raise funds for renovations.

Significant contributions from the Chadron State Foundation and from Chadron

businessman Vernon Chicoine and his wife, Madge, helped kick off the fundraising campaign, which eventually raised more than \$2 million for renovations, a new atrium on the south side of the building, an arboretum, a campus trail network, equipment, displays and other purposes. Through support from First National Bank of Chadron and descendants of pioneer rancher Charles Coffee, the center's focus broadened to include the C.F. Coffee Gallery, with exhibits and materials covering the history of cattle ranching on the high plains.

The renovated and expanded building was dedicated as the Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center in September 2002.

## Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center has multiple uses



By George Ledbetter

The Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center that occupies the former Chadron State College library building provides a variety of services for CSC students, faculty, visitors, and the local community.

In keeping with its mission of interpreting the life and history of Mari Sandoz, who grew up in nearby Sheridan County, a permanent display about the noted author and historian now occupies half of the former reading room on the main floor of the renovated building. The exhibit examines the topics Sandoz wrote about – landscape, advocacy for Native Americans, writing style and dedicated research – using photos and objects from the center's collection. Other artifacts and papers related to Sandoz are stored in the basement archive and made available to scholars for research work.

The building is also used to fulfill the Center's mission of interpreting the history and ecology of the surrounding region and its peo-

ple, and supporting the academic and cultural needs of CSC, said Sarah Polak, director of the Sandoz Center since 2004.

The north half of the main floor is used for rotating exhibits, two per semester during the academic year, with an emphasis on topics related to college course work.

"We work with faculty to supplement what they are teaching in the classroom," Polak said.

From June to September, the center will feature large color portraits by Ben Marra of Native American powwow dancers, accompanied by personal narratives written by the subjects and explaining the significance of their regalia and dance. Subsequent exhibits will include miniature paintings and the history of World War I.

The Center's learning environment continues in the Coffee Gallery, located in the lower level of the building. Displays cover topics such as the history of ranching in the northern plains, homesteading, the development of

railroads and banking, and the role of pioneer women and the life of the cowboy.

The Chicoine Atrium that was added to the old building in 2002 has created space for many other campus and community activities. Available for rent from the CSC Conferencing Office, the atrium has been used for musical performances, business meetings, official hearings, wedding receptions and dances, among other things.

The Center is using the former library building in ways that are appropriate with its heritage, Polak said.

"It started as a library and we have an archival research library. It was a media production studio and we have concerts in the atrium that are filmed and can be broadcast all over," she said. "I think in some ways we keep the spirit of the building but updated for modern use with a contemporary exhibit program that provides educational resources for our college."



1959 yearbook: The modern library makes many materials available for studies. It is now possible to obtain a minor in library science, another educational service to Nebraska from Nebraska State College.



1956 yearbook: The library is a place for reference work or leisure reading. Miss Buck explains the functions of the library to a group of students.

*(Alumni submitted memories of the Old Library for the magazine, including these excerpts. The entire submission is available on the alumni website: [www.csc.edu/alumni/connected/newsletter.csc](http://www.csc.edu/alumni/connected/newsletter.csc))*

As a child, the Old Library Building stood like a beautiful, sacred hall of learning to be revered like the Holy of Holies in the old Jewish Temple. I attended Chadron prep as a kindergarten...one day we walked out the north front door of the school building (now Hildreth Hall) and down the steps and sidewalk in two supposedly orderly lines to visit the college library. There was repeated cautioning as to how we must be extremely quiet saying not a word while in the building! The elderly librarian (Mrs. King?) with heavy red lipstick and bobbed, dyed hair carefully explained to us how the books were arranged in various groupings and how each one had its own number. As we filed out, my young mind had made it a true religious experience. Back in the classroom raucous questions were answered before we each unrolled our little carpets and laid on the floor for our daily naps.

I'm delighted the building is now honoring Mari Sandoz. She is a fierce communicator of the tenacity and ingenuities of the builders of Nebraska and the American west. This building to me is a high point to my trek on the CSC campus.

**G. Kenneth Marshall,**  
Class of 1967  
Longview, Texas

The library was a critical part of campus life. I was a part-time student worker at the library between 1960 and 1962. Student employees were paid 70 cents per hour. The campus dress code applied to the library and the college cafeteria. Blue jeans were not acceptable for men or women, and women were required to wear skirts/dresses.

The library had two floors. The first floor was one large room with the reading area to the left and book stacks to the right. The checkout desk was at the center rear of the first floor along with the librarians' office. In the reading room on the first floor, a set of shelves held the latest periodicals and daily newspapers.

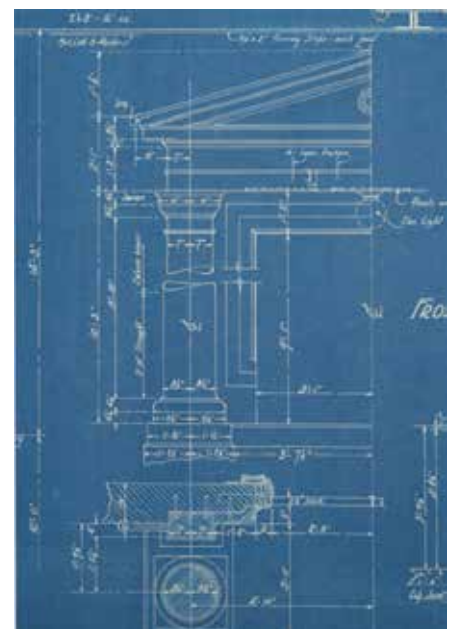
The stacks with past issues of periodicals were closed and labeled no entry except by library personnel. This did not stop some faculty members and others from roaming these stacks. Of course, this put the student employee on the spot. One faculty member, in particular, frequented the closed stacks. He and the head librarian often had words over his offense. This faculty member began every semester's class with a wise crack about the librarian or library rules.

There was no library security system...Some books, such as "Lady Chatterley's Lover" and "Tropic of Cancer," disappeared so frequently that the librarian resorted to keeping them on a shelf under the checkout desk.

**Claire (Twink) Coffee Brown,**  
Class of 1962  
Tucson, Arizona

## Facts and Figures of the Old Library

- 65,000** the number of books in the Old Library
- \$45,000** cost of constructing the Old Library
- 2002** the year the Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center is dedicated. More than \$2 million in funds was raised for the project.
- 1929** the year the Old Library opened
- 1967** the year the new King Library opened
- 200** available seats in the Old Library
- 4** pastels showing "The Accompanist" by Chadron artist Kit Watson
- 2** statues. One is of Mari Sandoz outside the building and the other features Thomas Jefferson sitting on a bench in the Chicoine Atrium.
- 1 stop** The Mari Sandoz Heritage Center is a part of the 2017 Nebraska Passport program.





A section of the library reading room. (Reproduction photo by Daniel Binkard/Chadron State College)



The architect for the Old Library took cues from the libraries Andrew Carnegie funded throughout the country. The building was completed in 1929.

## Two alumni present at professional counseling conference

By Tena L. Cook

Two Chadron State College alumni, Dr. Grant Sasse and Jen Taylor, presented at the Western Association of Counselor Education and Supervision (WACES) in Vancouver, Canada, in November 2016.

Sasse, an assistant professor at the University of Alaska, Anchorage, presented doctoral research he conducted while earning his Counselor Education and Supervision degree at the University of Wyoming. The title of his presentation was “Investigating the Effects of Dogmatism on Openness and Empathy in Counselors-in-Training.”

Taylor, a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor and Provisional Licensed Mental Health Practitioner at Northeast Panhandle Substance Abuse Center in Gordon, Nebraska, co-presented with Dr. Laura Gaudet, chair of the CSC Counseling, Psychological Sciences and Social Work department.

Dr. Susan Schaeffer, also a CSC faculty member, attended as well.

Both Sasse and Taylor are graduates of the Clinical Mental Health Counseling graduate program and also earned undergraduate degrees at CSC.

In the presentation, “The Use of Screencast Videos as an Effective Educational Tool in Graduate Online Counseling Courses in the United States,” Gaudet and Taylor explained how a small video embedded into online assignments, helps graduate counseling students gain a better understanding of the assignments.

Sasse said he’s looking forward to using the new technique in the online classes he teaches.

“I learned many new techniques to deliver the course subject matter to my students. The techniques they presented provided me another means to connect with my students through an online portal,” Sasse said.

Taylor said the conference enriched her professional life because it allowed her to learn from others in her field. She also heard about different perspectives to similar issues she encounters with her job.

“I love meeting new people and learning about their views and how they differ from my own. I find that by keeping an open mind,



Chadron State College faculty and alumni pose at the Western Association of Counselor Education and Supervision in Vancouver, Canada, in November 2016. From left, faculty member Dr. Susan Schaeffer, alumni Dr. Grant Sasse and Jen Taylor, and Counseling, Psychological Sciences and Social Work department chair Dr. Laura Gaudet. (Courtesy photo)

I can grow professionally and this conference allowed me to do that,” Taylor said.

Sasse said the conference was an ideal combination of advancing his career while connecting with his CSC roots.

“I was able to share my research and also learn new best practices in the Counselor Education field to help me become a better faculty member,” Sasse said. “As soon as I discovered that my past mentors and friends were also attending, I knew I would be able to advance my career as a faculty member, while also reconnecting with some very valuable people in my life.”

## Nelson active in American Bar Association student division

By Tena L. Cook

Chadron State College graduate Morgan Nelson is distinguishing herself as a second year law student at University of South Dakota (USD) School of Law in Vermillion, South Dakota. She will begin her third and final year of law school in August as the newly elected USD Law School Student Bar Association president.

The foundation for her recent achievements was built at CSC where she served as Student Senate president from 2011-12 and the CSC Student Trustee on the Nebraska State College System board from 2012-13.

“As president of the CSC Student Senate, I knew I was interested in government and governance. Then as the CSC Student Trustee, I gained a lot of insight as to how policy works in a non-partisan setting. That’s where I learned there might be something there for me. I just had a knack for understanding policy,” she said.

In 2012, she completed an undergraduate internship with Nebraska’s Third Congressional District Representative Adrian Smith. She said the month-long experience in Washington, D.C., giving Capitol tours provided her initial exposure to national government. Two years later, Nelson spent the summer as a graduate intern with the National Corn Growers Associ-

ation, learning more about agricultural policy and lobbying.

She graduated from Texas A&M’s Bush School of Government and Public Policy with her master’s degree in Public Service and Administration in 2015.

After enrolling at USD, she became active in the American Bar Association’s (ABA) Law Student Division serving as Governor of the 8th circuit from February 2016 to February 2017.

She drafted policy resulting in the formation of the Infrastructure Committee and, later, the Caucus Governance Committee that offers small schools across the country the chance to join together and form sizable voting blocks so their concerns can be heard, Nelson said.

In February 2017, Chair of the ABA Student Division, Kareem Aref, appointed Nelson chairwoman of Caucus Governance Committee during the ABA mid-year business meeting in Miami.

Also at the meeting, Nelson also received the Silver Key Award in recognition of her extensive committee work and leadership.



Chadron State College alumna Morgan Nelson, front row, center, was elected the 2017-18 president of the University of South Dakota School of Law Student Bar Association on April 5. Executive Board members, back row, from left, Hawar Sabir, Luca Renzi and Tyler Larsen. Front row, from left, Lynae Tucker, Nelson and Sara Little. (Courtesy photo)

“Among the 23 members of the ABA Law Student board for 2016-2017, one member truly stood out through her dedicated service, thoughtful engagement, and talented analysis. When it came to establishing the new governance restructuring, through the confusion Morgan served as a guiding light for many as she focused conversations and procedures onto tangible outcome and efficient efforts,” Aref said.

Her future plans include a summer 2017 internship with the Governor of South Dakota Dennis Daugaard. She is considering many possible career paths. Nelson said the ideal position must have a purpose she understands and agrees with.

# Commencement speakers share advice with spring graduates

By Tena L. Cook

Chadron State College commencement speakers Dr. Yvonne Moody and Dr. Megan Schuckman shared their love of Chadron State College and lessons learned on and off the CSC campus May 6. Moody, a professor of Applied Sciences, spoke to master's graduates in Memorial Hall while Schuckman, a family physician in Chadron, spoke at the undergraduate commencement in the Chicoine Center. A total of 362 graduates received their degrees at the two ceremonies.

Moody focused her comments on what she called the new three "Rs" of education: Relationships, Resources and Responsibilities, that form the core of Family and Consumer Sciences.

She said relationships are important and recalled learning from students of different grade levels in a one-room country school. A teacher in Moody's country school, Miss Hannafeldt, made Moody and her classmates feel special, Moody said.

She added messages shared by past Teaching Excellence Award winners Bruce Hoem and Dr. Jim O'Rourke as further examples for the graduates to follow.

"Make every opportunity you have to network and build on the relationships you have learned here and carry them forward as leaders," she said. "Look to those who've been here before."

She encouraged the graduates to carefully consider how they plan to use their resources to create a high-quality life.

"Think about the people who are homeless and what we can do about that rather than thinking, 'Can I have a second or third home somewhere else,'" Moody said.

In her conclusion, Moody asked the graduates to treat others with respect.

"That is the greatest way we can advance our civilization," she said.

At the undergraduate ceremony, Schuckman, advised graduates to take time when making important choices and to seek advice from those in their inner circles.

"Take a deep breath and steady yourself. Big decisions should not be made lightly or in haste," she said. "Find those who know you best and who allow you and encourage you to chase your dreams and do challenging things."

She also advised the graduates to make excellence a habit.

"You must be dedicated to the mundane details of what you do every day. You must be great at the building blocks that make up the foundation of what you do," she said.

As she reflected on her own undergraduate career at CSC, she said she would tell herself to enjoy the daily journey.

"Yes, have goals, have dreams, but don't spend your life putting your nose to the grindstone with blinders on," Schuckman said. "Don't put off your life just because of your dreams."

In closing, she acknowledged her mother was right when she told her to seek out good friends in high school and reiterated that advice to the graduates.

"Surround yourself with people who encourage you, people who inspire you. Also, people who are going to redirect you



Dr. Megan Schuckman, Chadron State College alumna and family physician, delivers the undergraduate commencement speech May 6 in the Chicoine Center. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)



Dr. Yvonne Moody, professor of Applied Sciences, speaks during Chadron State College's graduate commencement May 6 in Memorial Hall. (Photo by Dewayne Gimeson)

and call you out when you need to be called out," Schuckman said.

## Ivy Day royalty, Platinum Eagle recipients named

By CSC College Relations

Chadron State College recognized seniors at the institution's traditional Ivy Day ceremony Friday in Memorial Hall. The annual event, which has occurred at CSC every year since 1919, is sponsored by the Blue Key and Cardinal Key honor societies.

Ivy Day royalty elected by the student body were queen Sara Marlatt of Gordon, Nebraska, and king Garret Dockweiler of Oconto, Nebraska.

The queen's attendants were Larissa Hastings, Leyna Brummels, Teryn Blessin and Mariah Conyers.

The king's attendants were Coy Clark, Colton Wright, Justin German and Regg Strotheide.

The Platinum Eagle awards were presented to Frantzee LaCrete of Lewellen, Nebraska, and Teryn Blessin of Greenwood, Nebraska. The award, considered the highest honor a CSC student can receive, is presented annually to one male and one female for distinguished leadership and service.



Chadron State College Ivy Day royalty May 5 in Memorial Hall. From left, queen's attendants Mariah Conyers of Chadron, Leyna Brummels of Ewing, Nebraska, Teryn Blessin of Greenwood, Nebraska, Larissa Hastings of Chadron, queen Sara Marlatt of Gordon, Nebraska, king Garret Dockweiler of Oconto, Nebraska, king's attendants Regg Strotheide of Rushville, Nebraska, Colton Wright of Albin, Wyoming, Coy Clark of Benkelman, Nebraska, and Justin German of Imperial, Nebraska. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)

The winners of the royalty competition and Platinum Eagle were just some of the outstanding winter 2016 and spring 2017 graduates who received accolades during Ivy Day. Many students were also recognized for their outstanding accomplish-

ments in their primary fields of study or other honors.

In addition, special recognition was given to students who graduated with one of three honor designations: summa cum laude, magna cum laude and cum laude.

## Eleven Phi Beta Lambda members qualify for nationals

By Kelsey R. Brummels

Chadron State College's Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) club made its presence known at the 2017 Nebraska Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership Conference in Kearney March 31-April 1.

CSC students took top five finishes in 34 events, including 11 first, six second and six third place finishes. A strong balance of new and veteran members contributed to the hardware. Rookie members contributed to 16 of the top five finishes.

Twelve club members attended the conference. They are Stephanie Alfred of Mitchell, Neb., Kelsey Brummels and Leyna Brummels of Ewing, Neb., Dawson Brunswick of McCook, Neb., Austin Casper of Albion, Neb., Cody Cooper of Gothenburg, Neb., Troy Fields of Halsey, Neb., Drew Kasch of Highlands Ranch, Colo., Lukas Klueber of Rapid City, S.D., Marleigha McDonald of Gillette, Wyo., Molly O'Connell of Saint Onge, S.D., and Tierra Snyder of Beatrice, Neb.

Brandi Baker of Neligh, Neb., Teryn Blessin of Waverly, Neb., and Miles McDole of Red Cloud, Neb., competed in objective tests prior to the conference.



The Chadron State College Phi Beta Lambda chapter earned top five honors in 34 events during the Nebraska Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership Conference in Kearney, March 31-April 1, 2017. Eleven members will attend the National PBL Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California in June. Front row, from left, Lukas Klueber, Molly O'Connell and Gary Dusek. Middle row, from left, Dawson Brunswick, Stephanie Alfred, Drew Kasch, Kelsey Brummels, Marleigha McDonald and Leyna Brummels. Back row, from left, Tierra Snyder, Cody Cooper, Austin Casper and Troy Fields. (Courtesy photo)

Top three finishers in objective tests and top two finishers in all other events qualify to compete at the National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California, June 24-27. PBL is planning several fundraisers to contribute to the cost of the trip.

Eleven CSC students qualified for the national conference. They are Alfred, Blessin, Brunswick, Kelsey and Leyna Brummels, Casper, Cooper, Kasch, McDonald, O'Connell and Snyder. Fields and Klueber qualified as alternates.

## Grads heading to law schools

By Tena L. Cook

Four Chadron State College students have earned acceptance into law schools. They are Teryn Blessin of Greenwood, Nebraska, Coy Clark of Benkelman, Nebraska, Stachia Reuwsaat of Black Hawk, South Dakota, and BriAnn Straub of Scottsbluff, Nebraska. Each student received multiple offers of admission.

Blessin has chosen to attend Creighton where a Government Organization And Leadership (GOAL) program is offered. Through it, Blessin could complete an internship in Washington, D.C., and earn a master's in government, as well as her law degree.

Clark, who has known since high school mock trial competitions that he wanted to pursue a career in law, has been accepted to Baylor University, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Stetson University. He has not decided which school he will attend.

He served two years as the Chief Justice of the Student Senate's Constitutional Court and one year as the Student Trustee representing CSC on the Nebraska State College System's Board of Trustees. He said both positions provided valuable experience.

Reuwsaat has been accepted to Saint Mary's



Chadron State College students accepted to law schools, from left, Stachia Reuwsaat of Black Hawk, S.D., Coy Clark of Benkelman, Neb., Teryn Blessin of Greenwood, Neb., and BriAnn Straub of Scottsbluff, Neb. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)

University, Widener University, Quinnipiac University and Stetson University. She has not yet made her final selection.

Owner of two national long jump championships, multiple Academic All American honors and many other regional track awards, Reuwsaat said she feels her athletic pursuits have

equipped her with time management skills that will transfer well to law school.

Straub has chosen to attend University of Nebraska-Lincoln. A double major in psychology and legal studies, she was also a Resident Adviser, involved in Residence Life Association and Constitutional Court.

# Save the Date

## 2nd Annual 'When Eagles Dare' Scholarship Banquet

### September 9, 2017





## 'Bama was a sweet home for indoor track and field student-athletes

By Kaleb Center

The three Chadron State College student-athletes who traveled to Huntsville, Alabama, for the 2017 NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships brought back far more than great experiences and memories.

It only took a trio of individuals to put Chadron State track and field on the national map, and capture the school's first-ever NCAA team trophy in any sport, as Tessa Gorsuch, Mel Herl, and Stachia Reuwsaat combined for two individual NCAA titles and five All-America performances at the three-day meet.

"It was weird to take fewer people from the team this year, but it was awesome to see Dr. [Randy] Rhine, and my mom, and everyone who came. I could hear them when I went to jump and it was really cool that we're in Alabama and we had a support group up in the crowd. I didn't know Dr. Rhine was coming, so that was an awesome surprise," Reuwsaat said.

Reuwsaat was placed in the second of two flights, meaning she had to wait nearly 45 minutes after the event's 2 p.m. start to begin her six jumps. Meanwhile, she was pressed up against a 3:45 p.m. start time in her other declared event, the 60 meter dash.

The NCAA track and field rules require a student-athlete who is declared in an event to compete, or else face disqualification in all events.

After taking a lead in the third round of attempts at 6.16 meters (20' 2.5") and advancing to the three-round final, Reuwsaat was forced to pass on her sixth and final attempt while others continued to try to overtake her.

"I was really stressed," Reuwsaat said. "I thought I was going to miss the 60. I wasn't even in my shoes. Then I could hear the jumper behind me had jumped, and the crowd got really excited and I didn't know what she had jumped."

It worked out big time. The chorus of cheers behind Reuwsaat was for the final contender in the rotation, and it was well-deserved, however it vaulted Rellie Kaputin of West Texas A&M, Reuwsaat's nearest competitor all season, into the runner-up slot rather than atop the standings.

What followed was chaos in Reuwsaat's mind, but on the track it was business as usual. She blazed her way to the front of her 60 meter heat, finishing behind the leader by thousandths of a second, and qualified for the finals with a run of 7.44 seconds. Her fastest time ever recorded is 7.43, which she ran two weeks prior at the RMAC championships.

The day after Reuwsaat won the long jump and guaranteed herself a top-eight 60-meter finish, Herl took bronze medal honors and Chadron State's third All-American tag of the meet in the women's weight throw.



Tessa Gorsuch, Mel Herl and Stachia Reuwsaat. (Photo by Daniel Binkard/Chadron State College)

Herl entered the event as one of the favorites, and was disappointed to finish third on Friday after failing to hit 70 feet.

She had thrown her personal best of 21.89 meters (71' 10") in early December and saw that mark hold as the best in Division II for most of the season. Herl was also arguably the most consistent among the top throwers in the land; she went past 70 feet with her marks in seven of nine meets during the season.

In contrast, Herl's shot put, while also a strength, had not been as dominant.

She had regularly thrown at a provisional qualifying level above 44 feet, however not until she landed a 50-foot throw at her last qualifying meet, the RMAC championships, was she absolutely certain she would even be among the shot put contestants at nationals.

Even after qualifying for NAAs, she stood without an auto mark, looking up at four others in the championship field who had landed one.

"I saw my opportunity to go out and get points for my team," said Herl, "so I just went out with reckless abandon and got those points to make up for some of the points I lost in the weight throw."

Herl's first attempt in the shot put final was much like those from earlier in the season – nationally competitive, but not nationally dominant. She sat seventh after one round of tosses.

With her second, however, she made herself known, jumping to second in the competition with a new personal record of 15.36 (50' 4.75"). The new leader, Jasmine Smith of Pittsburg State, landed 15.54 meters on her second throw.

What followed was remarkable. Herl's third attempt sailed more than a foot farther than her

second, giving her the lead at 15.63 meters head-into the three-round finals.

The remaining tosses fell short of Herl's. As an encore, with the national title already locked down, her final throw of the meet increased her lead by nearly six inches to finish with a winning mark of 15.77 (51' 9"), which was the third-best mark in Division II all season.

"Training had been going so well," added Herl, "and I had potential to PR today. I knew I had to just turn it on once I got into finals. I wanted 16 [meters] today and I knew I was capable of that. It was a good tone-setter, heading into outdoors."

Herl becomes the first CSC thrower to capture a national crown.

Just as Herl was bearing down on her title in the shot put, on the final day of the meet, the 60-meter track was the setting for more personal triumphs by sprinters Gorsuch and Reuwsaat. Each runner took third place in their events. For Gorsuch, it was the 60 meter hurdles, where she entered with the fifth-best time in the finals and beat her PR from prior to the meet by running 8.49 seconds. Reuwsaat lived up to expectations clocking 7.47 seconds in the 60-meter dash and also took bronze.

Despite entering only three individuals into the NCAA championships, the Chadron State women claimed the school's first NCAA hardware with 38 team points. The two first-place finishes were worth 10 points, and the three third-place showings garnered six points apiece.

The women of RMAC rival Adams State University earned their program's third NCAA DII indoor championship with 47 points, while Grand Valley State University edged CSC out for runner-up status by a single point after taking second in the final event contested, the 4x400 meter relay.

"I could hear them when I went to jump and it was really cool that we're in Alabama and we had a support group up in the crowd."

— Stachia Reuwsaat

## Eagles struggled, but brighter days appear on horizon

By Con Marshall

Things didn't go as well as was hoped for the Chadron State College men's basketball team this past season, but there are already signs on the horizon that brighter days are ahead. Eagles' coach Houston Reed believes the foundation has been established for the winning program he is dedicated to building.

The number of returning players was limited and not many of their profiles were brimming with success when Reed was hired a year ago. Before the summer was over, he had added about a half dozen players to the mix. Not all the members of either group panned out and the Eagles wound up with a 3-23 record.

The team was more competitive than the record indicates. Two of the losses were in overtime, two more were by a single point, two others were by five and one was by six.

For the season, the Eagles averaged 66.1 points and gave up 79.7, making their minus 13.6-point scoring margin the largest in the RMAC. Their 38.6 field goal percentage, 30.8 figure from 3-point range and minus 6.9 rebounding margin also were last in the conference for the season.

"No doubt about it, we need to upgrade in every area," Reed said. "We need more depth, more size and we need to shoot better. Believe me, we're working at it. I'll guarantee you, no (coaching) staff in the conference has been traveling more miles to watch games and visit



Darius Polley, junior guard from Amarillo, Texas, was the Eagles' leading scorer, showing great athleticism and a nose for the basket. (Photo by Tara Medigovich)

players or spending more time on the phone making contacts."

Reed, who was a highly successful coach at Otero Junior College before coming to CSC, already has four players stashed away for next year's roster. Two of them redshirted this season. They are transfer Jaisean Jackson, a guard who averaged 10.8 points while starting for South Dakota Mines in 2015-16, and Luke Fick, a 6-3 freshman guard and a two-time all-state choice at Resurrection Christian High in Loveland, Colorado.

There are a pair of outstanding prospects who signed with the Eagles last November and wrapped up their high school careers by

playing in state tournaments in March. One is Dru Kuxhausen, the Scottsbluff, Nebraska, sharpshooter who averaged 30 points while becoming the first male in Panhandle history to score 2,000 points during his career. The other is Kayden Sund, a 6-5 small forward who averaged 14.3 points and 5.1 rebounds at Colorado's Golden High this season.

Seven others signed letters of intent following the start of spring signing, in April.

Reed said he also is counting on increased productivity from the other players who will be entering at least their third season with the Eagles.

## Ex-Chadron State football star voted into RMAC Hall of Fame

By Con Marshall

Former Chadron State College football great Marvin Jackson of Cheyenne, Wyoming, will be inducted into the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference's Hall of Fame in July.

A cornerback and kickoff return standout, Jackson was the first Chadron State athlete to earn first-team RMAC all-conference honors four consecutive years, received all-West Region honors three times and was a consensus All-American as a junior and senior in 2002 and '03.

He also was placed on the Nebraska NCAA Division II all-star team four times by the Omaha World-Herald and was selected that team's defensive captain twice. He also was voted the RMAC's Defensive Player of the Year in 2002.

Jackson, a Cheyenne native, holds the Eagles' record for most career pass interceptions with 22, four of which he returned for touchdowns. He also broke up 45 more passes and participated in 207 tackles, 170 of them unas-

sisted, forced nine fumbles and recovered four.

In addition, Jackson averaged 29 yards on 35 kickoff returns and carried two of them 93 and 83 yards for touchdowns. He also averaged 11.4 yards on 25 punt returns.

During his career, the Eagles were 34-8 overall and 28-4 in the RMAC and won or shared two conference championships.

After concluding his eligibility, Jackson played in both the Blue-Gray Classic on Christmas Day and the first Las Vegas All-Star Bowl in January 2004.

Jackson will be the fourth football player to enter the RMAC Hall of Fame. The others are Joe Planansky, a tight end from Hemingford, Nebraska, who was inducted in 2005; Kevin Homer, a linebacker from Casper, Wyoming, inducted in 2006; and Casey Beran, a defensive end from Sargent, Nebraska, inducted in 2013. In addition, Brad Smith, who was the head coach when all four of them played for the Eagles, was inducted in 2011.

The Hall of Fame banquet will be at the



Chadron State's Marvin Jackson defends a pass in this file photo. Jackson was recently elected to the RMAC Hall of Fame. (Photo by Con Marshall)

Marriott Hotel in Colorado Springs on Friday, July 14. Tickets became available beginning May 22.

## Eagles have both promise, areas they must improve

By Con Marshall

Expectations were unclear for the Chadron State College women's basketball team when the 2016-17 season opened. First-year head coach Janet Raymer brought back only one returning starter and three alternates from the previous year's 8-18 team.

Raymer was tabbed the Eagles' head coach on July 10 and she was glad she'd been recruiting during the spring and summer, but the Eagles were still shorthanded. It helped that through a contact she received from CSC's new men's hoops coach Houston Reed, Raymer added two more names to the roster in late July, just a few weeks before classes were to begin. That gave her about a dozen players.

Barring a couple injuries, Raymer's first squad played with hustle and grit and they went 7-18 for the season.

Raymer says she is disappointed her team didn't win more games and points out there are several areas where the Eagles must improve. But she believes the outlook for next season is bright, particularly if she can land a player or two to provide immediate help on the inside.

While coaching this year's team she's also been busy recruiting. Three high school seniors signed with the Eagles last fall and she's received four verbal commitments since then.

"We need a couple 'biggs' and more depth everywhere. We're recruiting quite a few other players, both seniors and transfers. I want to have from 18 to 20 players on the team next year, including a few freshmen we can redshirt."



Redshirt freshman Kylah Collins, of Chicago, is a talented newcomer who showed promise for the Eagles in 2016-17, averaging double-figure scoring despite playing less than 20 minutes per game. (Photo by Tara Medigovich)

Three of the top four scorers from the past season will be returning, led by Kalli Feddersen, the team's leader in nearly every statistical category as well as effort and energy.

Feddersen averaged 14.5 points and 7.0 rebounds and was the Eagles' leader in assists with 84 and steals with 42. She ranked among the top 10 in the RMAC in each of these areas, had more assists than turnovers as the Eagles' point guard and was placed on the second-team all-conference team.

Among Feddersen's major assets is the ability and tenacity to draw lots of fouls and sink a high percentage of the free throws she is awarded. This season she connected on 134 of 167 charity shots for 80.2 percent. Both of the free throw numbers ranked second in the

RMAC and are fifth on the Eagles' all-time single-season list.

Another of the Eagles' leaders in 2016-17 was their only returning starter, senior Erin Graham, who averaged 11.6 points.

The team's other seniors were guard Hannah Newens and center Maddie Metzger. Both spent their entire careers at CSC and this was their most productive season.

The Eagles got a nice boost from Kylah Collins, who averaged 10.7 points and 5.6 rebounds, and Letty Rodriguez, who averaged 8.3 points and 4.2 rebounds.

Other returnees will include center Kendra Baucom, a Colorado Springs native and transfer from McCook Community College, and sophomore Keeley Pearce of Australia.

## Class Notes

### 50's

**Gerald Miller '54** and wife Helen Topeka, Kansas, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary this summer.

### 60's

**Mary Peyton '64** Gothenburg, celebrated her 90th birthday at Stone Hearth Estates Assisted Living. When asked what she wanted for her birthday she replied, "Hot dogs and champagne!" So, on her birthday in December, Stone Hearth threw a winter picnic with hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, coleslaw, beans, carrot cake and mimosas.

**Gary Hilyard '65** and wife Linda Kearney, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Feb. 4, 2017.

**Stephen Kronberg '65** and wife Karen Lake Forest Park, Washington, celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary Dec. 26, 2017.

**Ronald Tibbitts '66** Cheyenne, Wyoming, won best of show at the 8th Annual National Arts Program Exhibit with his painting, "Apparition of Elephant with Seahorses."

**Dr. Martin "Marty" Ramirez '67** Lincoln, was appointed as a member of the Statewide Minority Health Council by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for a three year term.

**Gene LeMaitre '68** Casper, Wyoming, retired in 2012 after 43 years of teaching science. He and wife Barbara are enjoying retirement, their six kids, 11 grandkids and five great grandkids, traveling and checking off their bucket lists.

**Chauncey "Jerry" Linn '68** Thedford, reported that his wife **Janet (Lowry) '00** is in a rest home in Mullen suffering from a serious form of dementia.

**Maurine Badgett '69** Sheridan, Wyoming, is working at The Old General Store Antiques in Sheridan, which is owned by her 14-year-old cousin.

**Jack Needham '69** Arthur, flew to Austin, Texas, last May to receive a national award for online and dual credit learning from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD).

### 70's

**Robert "Bob" Neesen '70** Lincoln, was inducted into the Nebraska Baseball Hall of Fame. He played 14 years in the Dodge County league and made the all-star team 11 times. He still holds the career and season strikeout records at Chadron State College.

**Leniegh (Miller) Schrinar '70** Riverton, Wyoming, recently co-authored "The Vore Buffalo Jump Coloring Book Adventure" with the Vore Buffalo Jump

Foundation board and artist Deborah Walter.

**David '71** and **Karen (Green) Zeilinger '86** Kansas City, Missouri, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary Feb. 18, 2017.

**Cindy (Sandman) West '72** Lincoln, is working as a consultant for the Department of Education providing teacher training, and teaching education classes at Nebraska Wesleyan University.

**Bonnie (Berry) '72** and **Martin Williams '73** Alma, Kansas, are both enjoying retirement after 35 years of teaching.

**Robert "Bob" Pile '73** Gering, is retiring this summer as president and CEO of the Panhandle Coop Association where he has worked for 41 years.

**Mark Peyton '74** Gothenburg, retired from his job as the Senior District Biologist at the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District. He continues to do private consulting, writes and publishes essays on natural history, has a booklet entitled, "The Favorite Bar...a personal narrative," which is ready for publication, and is the chairman of the local advisory committee for the YMCA. His wife **Cindy (Baalhorn) Peyton '74** retired from 37 years as a special educa-

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## Class Notes

Continued from page 17

tion teacher. She keeps busy working part-time at the hospital wellness center, public library and as the local coordinator for the American Red Cross blood drive.

**Henry Woehl '75** Douglas, Wyoming, has been named the national chairman for the Skills USA welding fabrication contest. The contest will be held in June in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Cindy Zurn '75** Alliance, has been judging 4-H events for 41 years and recently organized a quilt challenge for the NE150.

**Ronald Haden '77** Aurora, was named Central Nebraska Track & Field Coach of the Year and Cross Country Coach of the Year. His girls' cross country team won the Class B state meet. He will retire at the end of the year.

**Debra (Hauge) Tschosik '77** Bismark, North Dakota, recently retired from teaching elementary school.

**Theresa Bermingham '79** Big Piney, Wyoming, is retiring after 38 years as a media specialist with the Sublette County School District.

**Robert "Bob" Sermak BS '79, MA '88** Strongsville, Ohio, retired from the position of director of research with the American Train Dispatcher's Association on June 1, 2016, concluding a 37+ year railroad career that began with the Burlington Northern Railroad in Alliance in 1979. His wife **Angela (Haney) '80** is in her 20th year teaching 5th grade in the Strongsville public school system. They have two grown children, Shelby and Jake, and one grandson, Joey.

### 80's

**Retta (Cerny) Kayton '81** Gordon, recently retired from 35 years as a medical technologist at the USPHS Indian Health Service Hospital.

**Douglas "Doug" Messersmith '81** Palm Springs, California, is finishing his 28th year at Sunny Sands Elementary School in Cathedral City, California, where he has taught 2nd - 4th grades.

**Karen Schledewitz BS '82, MA '91** Gering, recently received the annual University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing Staff Spirit Award. This award is given to one staff member each year from all five USMC College of Nursing campuses. She has worked as the student services coordinator at the Scottsbluff campus since 2007.

**Lorri Dunsmore '84** Kirkland, Washington, received the American Bar Association 2017 National Public Service Award for her work assisting nonprofit organizations with their legal challenges.

**Teresa "Terri" (Perkins) Haynes MA '85** Chadron, received two awards recently. In January she was named a co-citizen of the year by The Chadron Record for her 20 years of service on the Chadron School Board. In March she was one of three Chadron residents to receive the Chadron Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Silver Star Award.

**Kay (Bruce) Kruger '85** Gordon, teaches FCS and Health at Gordon/Rushville High School.

**Glen Campbell '88** Hendersonville, Tennessee, was head coach of the east team at the All American football game in Dallas, Texas.

**Edward Heinert '88** Sparks, Nevada, recently retired from teaching 25 years in the Valentine Community Schools.

**John Blaylock '89** Norfolk, was promoted to executive vice president at Northeast Community College. He has been at Northeast since 1994 and has served as tech prep coordinator, faculty member, dean and academic vice president.

**Delbert "Del" Dack '89** Paxton, was presented the Rural Community Schools Association Superintendent of the Year Award at their spring conference in Kearney. He has served as superintendent of schools

at Paxton for the past 13 years.

**Joy (Barth) '89** and **Douglas Houser '90** celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Feb. 14, 2017.

### 90's

**Diana (Lapp) Bauerkemper '90**, and husband David, Chadron, received the Chadron Chamber of Commerce 2016 Magic Key Award for their business' efforts with the fire department, golf course board, Chamber Ag Committee, Dawes County Fair, Circle of Life and Cookout for a Cause.

**Laura Snow '90** Fort Pierre, South Dakota, and **James "Pat" Snow '90** Pierre, South Dakota, are proud grandparents of grandson Seamus, age 5, and granddaughter River, age 3.

**Carl Sundstrom '90** Newcastle, Wyoming, recently retired from his job as an electrician.

**Linda (Harris) Smith '91**, and husband Joel, McCook, will be sending their youngest child and only son to Chadron State College in the fall. Their oldest daughter married Oct. 1, 2016, and their middle daughter will marry in July.

**John Freudenberg '92** Lincoln, was appointed as a county court judge in the 3rd Judicial District in April.

**Michael Halley '92** Scottsbluff, was named principal of the year from Region V of the Nebraska State Association of Secondary Schools. He is in his sixth year as principal at Scottsbluff High School.

**David Mead '92** Sidney, was honored for outstanding student participation at the Chadron State College High Plains Band and Choir Festival in February.

**Carolyn (Flowers) Escamilla '93** Scottsbluff, recently retired from teaching middle school.

**Dana (Weiss) Nachtigall '93** Hot Springs, South Dakota, coached the Hot Springs Bison gymnastics team to a 5th place finish at the State Class "A" Tournament in Aberdeen, South Dakota. They finished ahead of all other Region 2A teams.

**Deborah (Ratney) Robart '94** Glendive, Montana, opened her own business in January, Hope Counseling and Consulting LLC.

**Tom Serres '94** Chadron, administrator of Parkview Lodge in Rushville, received the Excellence in Care/Service Award at the Leading Age Spring Conference for his dedication in turning Parkview Lodge into a successful facility.

**Denee' (Smith) Elfeldt '95** Sutherland, graduated with her Master of Education degree from Chadron State College in May 2016.

**Maria (Cisneros) Leduc '95** Custer, South Dakota, retired from 20+ years in social work. She and her husband are planning to live in a camper and travel.

**Dr. Lisa Scheppers '95** Scottsbluff, was named Chief Medical Officer at Regional West Health Services in Scottsbluff.

**Dana (Coates) Gale '97** Wheatland, Wyoming, was awarded the 2016 Platte County District Teacher of the Year.

**Kyle (Compton) Hopkins '99** Gering, recently graduated in the sixth class of the Nebraska Water Leaders Academy. She is a data management coordinator with the North Platte Natural Resources District.

**Casey Sherlock '99** Alda, began a one-year term as secretary-treasurer of the Nebraska Association of County Officials in January. Over the next four years, he will serve in the posts of second vice president, vice president, president and past president. He has been the Hall County Public Works Director for 11 years.

### 00's

**Jess Clarke '00** Alliance, joined the accounting firm of Johnson & Associates LLC, as an owner in 2017.

**Mark Kamerzell '00** Lincoln, recently joined Principal Financial Group's Great Plains Business Center as a financial representative.

**Wrayanne (Junge) Pankratz '00** Marion, South Dakota, was named South Dakota Association for

Career & Technical Education Teacher of the Year for 2015.

**Ryan Reisdorff '00** Sidney, recently graduated in the sixth class of the Nebraska Water Leaders Academy. He is a water resources specialist for the South Platte Natural Resources District.

**Christina (Adam) Beatty '02** Sioux City, Iowa, is the Early Childhood Assistant Director for the Head Start program. She has worked in this program since she graduated first as a teacher, then as an education manager and now as the assistant director.

**Jason Carnahan '02** Chadron, received the Chadron Chamber of Commerce Volunteer Award for his efforts in making Chamber events a success.

**Dr. Tim Kamerzell '02** Overland Park, Kansas, is a physician scientist at the University of Kansas Health System in Kansas City, Kansas.

**Jennifer Paris '02** Santa Clarita, California, is a full-time faculty member in the Early Childhood Education Department at the College of the Canyons.

**Raime Misko '03** Lexington, recently joined the staff of Lexington Regional Health Center as a nurse practitioner.

**Senna (Johnson) Reeves '03** and husband Matt, Chadron, received the Small Business of the Year Award for their business, Outlaw Printers, from the Chadron Chamber of Commerce.

**Jennifer (Koza) Dorwart BA '04, MBA '07, BS '11** Sidney, completed her Doctor of Business Administration-Finance from Walden University in October.

**Erika Pritchard '04** Kearney, regional editor for the Kearney Hub, won honorable mention in the Nebraska Press Women Communications Contest sweepstakes. In addition, her work was showcased in a photo exhibit at the Fred Simon Gallery in Omaha titled, "Grace," based on her grandmother.

**Lyndsey Rice '04** Omaha, was named University of Nebraska-Omaha Academic Advisor of the Year 2017.

**Cody att '05** and **Chrystal (Wild) Brooks att '05** Chadron, were recently honored in Washington, D.C., during National Small Business Week. They, along with their business, White River Feed, were named Nebraska Small Business Person of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration. The business was also selected as the Chadron Chamber of Commerce Large Business of the Year.

**Eric Lubbers '05** Denver, was recognized by Editor & Publisher as one of E&P's 25 Under 35 young newspaper professionals making a difference in the industry. As director of innovation at The Denver Post, he has been involved in many strategic initiatives, including a revamping of a daily newsletter. He introduced the "Mile High Roundup" that has become a key element of the paper's advertising effort since its implementation.

**Whitney (Garrelts) Tewahade '05** Chadron, received the New Chamber Member of the Year award from the Chadron Chamber of Commerce for her business, TaDa! Art Studio, which offers quilting notions, art and sewing classes and Sip and Paint workshops.

**Janae (Crary) Poage '06** Lance Creek, Wyoming, teaches FCS courses for Wyoming Virtual Academy and is an adjunct concurrent enrollment instructor for Eastern Wyoming College.

**Ben Martin MS '08** Grand Junction, Colorado, was named American Football Coaches Association's Division II Assistant Coach of the Year 2015. He is the special teams coach and linebacker coach for Colorado Mesa University.

**Rachel Shepherd '08** and **Rachel Walton '08** Rapid City, South Dakota, both received the Western South Dakota Child Protection Council Award for "Strengthening Children and Families." Shepherd is the clinical supervisor at Lutheran Social Services in Rapid City and Walton is the assistant team coordinator at Black Hills Children's Home.

**Ryan Weiss '08** Omaha, was named University of Nebraska-Omaha's Employee of the Month for June 2016. He is the director of operations at Baxter Arena. **Stephen Spiels '09** Grand Island, works as a counselor in the Grand Island school system.

## 10's

**Miles Bannan '10** Chadron, received the Career Life Producer Life Foundations Award from New York Life Insurance Company. The award recognizes agents who write over 100 life insurance policies and achieve case rate and commissions milestones in their first six months of employment.

**Kent Russell '10** Unalaska, Alaska, coaches the best Class 2A prep boys basketball team in the state. The team and its unique situation were profiled in a Newsweek article titled, "Far Out! Unalaska High School Basketball Reigns in 'The Last Frontier,'" in February 2017.

**Jonathan Olson MS '11** Papillion, finished his doctorate in education at North Central University Minneapolis, Minnesota.

**Adam Neumann '13** Fort Calhoun, spent last summer researching glaciers in Wyoming's Wind River Range as an indicator of climate change as part of his master's degree in science education.

**Ashley Daniels '14** Albuquerque, New Mexico, is the director of marketing and a resident company member for Duke City Repertory Theatre. She is a member of the IATE Local 480 and has worked on several movies and television shows across New Mexico.

**Adolfo "Danny" Reynaga '14** Lincoln, was recently appointed to serve on the Latino American Commission by Governor Pete Ricketts. He will graduate this month with a law degree from the University of Nebraska.

**Amanda Bannan '15** Chadron, was elected to the Chadron School Board. Her term started in January 2017.

**Karen Dhanie '15** Kissimmee, Florida, recently joined American Seating Transportation Group as national sales director for the southern and eastern United States.

**Timothy Kaldahl '15** Omaha, teaches at Westside High School. He splits his time between teaching sophomore literature and sponsoring the yearbook.

**Barrett Browne '16** Chadron, is serving as a graduate assistant for the Chadron State College track and field team while pursuing his master's degree.

**Nathan Southard '16** Gering, is a sales agronomist for the Panhandle Coop where he scouts customers' fields in order to make recommendations to producers addressing their chemical, herbicide, pesticide, fertilizer and seed needs.

## MARRIAGES

**Paul McDaniel '98** Denver, married Maggie Chen July 31, 2016.

**Patrick Blythe '02** Apopka, Florida, married Jean Fairchild Dec. 31, 2016.

**Nicole (Roberts) Otsby '06** Spearfish, South Dakota, married Erik Otsby Sept. 3, 2016.

**Julie (Burenheide) Schiltmeyer '06** Elgin, married Gary Schiltmeyer Dec. 31, 2016.

**Alexandra (Keeley) Sanders '10** Lander, Wyoming, married Mark Sanders July 9, 2016.

**Kegan '14 and Kelsey (Willnerd) Carwin '15** Iliiff, Colorado, married June 13, 2016.

**Dain '15 and Samantha (Eickleberry) Dastrup '15** Tucson, Arizona, married July 9, 2016.

**Lindsey (Comings) Johanson '15** Lexington, married Clark Johanson April 8, 2017.

**Jessamyn (Kostman) Johnson '15** Ogallala, married Colby Johnson April 28, 2017.

**Jeffrey Cover '16** Ashby, married Carolyn Hageman Oct. 1, 2016.

## FUTURE EAGLES

### 00's

Jonny Kamryn to **Steve '00** and **Joni (Huckfeldt) Behrends '00** Chadron, Dec. 20, 2016. He joins siblings Kyler, Jacksyn and Bo.

Barrett Nicholas to **Ryan Tanner '00** and wife Abbie Golden, Colorado, Aug. 1, 2016.

Jensen Robert to **Patrick Friesen '02** and wife Diana, Omaha. He joins siblings Nora, Hudson and Leo.

Liliana Pearl to **James '03** and wife **Tina Cope '02** Fremont, Oct. 14, 2016.

**Donald '03** and **Kristi (Satterthwaite) Kleinsasser '04** Elba, adopted their four-year-old son from Bulgaria in October.

Landry to **Caitlin (Urdahl) Pollmann '04** and husband Stephen Wauneta, Oct. 2016.

Twin boys Connor and Cole to **Garrett Wild att '04** and wife Carrie Chadron, November 2016.

Myla Mae to **Zane Limbach '05** and wife Denee Crawford, Sept. 13, 2016. She joins siblings Brysen and Bristol.

Jaxon Oliver to **Dr. Loren Sites '05** and wife Elisha Pueblo, Colorado, Feb. 5, 2017. He joins sister Aliana.

### 10's

Zella Jean to **Bryan '13** and wife **Brooke (Housh) Schoening '13** Sidney, Aug. 12, 2016.

Lee to **Kelly Troester '13** and wife Lacy Chadron, Sept. 20, 2016.

## OBITUARIES

### FRIEND

**Carmen Cook** Crawford, died Dec. 24, 2016.

**Joan Heiting** Hay Springs, died March 7, 2017.

**Ed Hollstein** Hay Springs, died Dec. 31, 2016. He received an honorary doctorate from Chadron State College in 1995.

**Joe Hampton** Lincoln, died Jan. 30, 2017.

**Jerry Johnson** Chadron, died Aug. 29, 2016.

### FORMER FACULTY

**Carl Horst** Butte, died Jan. 30, 2017.

**John Lurvey** Chadron, died May 12, 2017.

### 30's

**Marcella (Harr) Warren '39** Grapevine, Texas, died July 12, 2016.

### 40's

**June (Studeman) Steinmark '46** Shark River Hills, New Jersey, died Feb. 27, 2017.

**John Fowler '47** South Lyon, Michigan, died Jan. 12, 2016.

**Marian (Schomp) Alcorn-Claussen '48** Hay Springs, died Jan. 7, 2017.

### 50's



**Verne Lewellen '50** Scottsbluff, died April 21, 2017. Verne was among the founders and was the primary organizer of Purple Passion, Chadron State's most active alumni group for years. It was begun in the late 1940s and met annually 45 times through 2015. He served on the Chadron State Foundation Board of Directors from 1995-2002.

Glen Cavaness, husband of **Maxine (Stumph) Cavaness '54** Chadron, died Jan. 14, 2017, six weeks after his wife of 61 years.

### 60's

Virgil Irelan, husband of **Delores Irelan '60** Sterling, Colorado, died May 5, 2017.

**William Lee Glover '60** Aurora, Colorado, died May 15, 2016.

Ronald Baker, husband of **Janet (Goodrich) Baker '61** Oak Ridge, Tennessee, died June 20, 2016.

**Ransom "Ran" Varney '61** Greeley, Colorado, died Jan. 8, 2017.

**William Lee Rasmussen '62** Kingsport, Tennessee, died May 29, 2016.

Shirley Briggs, wife of **Donald Briggs '63** Curtis, died Dec. 15, 2016.

**Dr. William "Bill" Scott '63** Derby, Kansas, died May 16, 2016.

**Annita Shaw '63** Silverdale, Washington, died Jan. 4, 2017.

Jo Ann Tate, wife of **Charles Tate '63** Rock Springs, Wyoming, died Jan. 17, 2016.

**Garry Riggs '64** St. Edward, died Aug. 19, 2016.

**Jolene Harwick '64** Greeley, Colorado, died Nov. 13, 2016.

**Eugene Merwin '65** Kennewick, Washington, died June 17, 2016.

**Grace (DeHaven) Dierksen '66** Chadron, died March 7, 2017.

**Elmer Edward Holzberger BS '66, MS '68** Gordon, died Dec. 13, 2015.

**Gilbert "Gil" Nitsch '66** Chadron, died May 6, 2017.

**Daryl Dedic '67** Longmont, Colorado, died Jan. 1, 2017.

**Ruth (Menke) Schaefer '67** Valentine, died Oct. 26, 2016.

**Wallace Allison '68** Stapleton, died June 28, 2016.

**James "Jim" McGooden '68** Ruskin, Florida, died Dec. 17, 2016.

**Mary Virginia (Widtfeldt) Kane '69** Atwood, died Jan. 10, 2017.

### 70's

**Terry Burks '70** Chadron, died Jan. 27, 2017.

**Josephine Louise (Gallaway) Kennedy '70** Morehead City, North Carolina, died Aug. 10, 2015.

**Susan Sharp '70** Augusta, Kansas, died Feb. 3, 2017.

**Robert Kampbell att. '70** Basin, Wyoming, died Dec. 5, 2015.

**Steven Einsel '70** Wichita, Kansas, died June 14, 2016.

**Nancy (Brady) Nelson '71** Chadron, died Jan. 9, 2017.

**Aldene (Dorshorst) Summers '71** Syracuse, died Feb. 22, 2017.

**Robert "Bob" Allen '73** North Platte, died Nov. 18, 2016.

**Shirley (Hawkins) Crow '73** Crook, Colorado, died Oct. 18, 2017.

**Mary Ellis-Holter att.** Black Hawk, South Dakota, died Jan. 7, 2017.

**Daniel Kelly '73** Alliance, died April 21, 2017.

**Ida Mae (Isaac) Leeling '74** Chadron, died Jan. 21, 2017.

### 80's

**Donna (Moeller) Ray '80** Omaha, died Dec. 6, 2015.

**Ival "Babe" (Cork) Jones '82** Rushville, died Feb. 12, 2017.

**Joshua Lear '84** Omaha, died March 13, 2017.

**Jeanette Audry Hoffmann '88** Nenzel, died Feb. 24, 2017.

**Marjorie "Mardi" (Byrne) Larson '88** Gering, died Nov. 25, 2016.

### 90's

**Todd Steven Hallsted '94** Casper, Wyoming, died Aug. 13, 2016.

**Marilyn (Douglass) Holmes '94** Minatare, died Oct. 21, 2015.

# Alumni Events



Tucson, Arizona, 2017 gathering: Karen Pope, Jerry Howell, Patricia Howell, Judy Wickham, Bill Wickham, Ben Watson, Brad Smith, Gerald Drieling.



Dallas, Texas, 2017 gathering: Ben Watson, Bobbi Welsh, Amelia Marvin, Jerri Barnes, Samantha Sondrup, Carol Illian, Clayton Illian.



San Antonio (Seguin), Texas, 2017 gathering: Back row, Pam and Don Kalmbach, Gregg Richards, Doug Ingalsbe. Front row, Nick and Ann Makris, hosts Deanie and Dan Knight, Mindy Knight, Karen Pope, Faye Dierksen.



Douglas, Wyoming, 2017 event: From left, Jake Rissler, Paige Hughes, Doug Olson, Danielle Lecher, Kathy and Toby Spence, Brock Pyle, Angie and Jeremy Pyle, Lauren Bauer, Lisa Stein.



Omaha, Nebraska, 2017: Standing from left, Dale Timperley, Collin Cavanaugh, Leanna Scott-Timperley, Tim Turman, Rick Watson, Dianne Turman, Will Pope, Pat Watson, Larry Ruzicka, Zella Rathbun, Mitch Bean, Ben Watson, Samantha Graves, Joan Stewart, Sandra Rice Vassar, Allen Shepherd, Loree MacNeill, Jeff Liggett. Front row, Steve Bauermeister, Julie Simon, Nancy Peck Todd, Mike Galyen, Brianne Jordan, Pamela Graves, Sara Shepherd. Not pictured, Brenda Hampton and Mitch Pope.



Des Moines (Johnston), Iowa, 2017: Standing from left, Ben Watson, Kathy Welfring, Otto Welfring, host Jennifer Barp, Gary Fulton, Monica Rohde-Fulton, John Nielsen, Kristin Glockhoff, Tanja Frye, Connie Rasmussen, Casey Frye, Dana Sanders, Cory Sanders. Front row, Judy Hiles, Cheryl Emanuel, Colleen Heinz, Chad Emanuel, Karen Pope.



Houston, Texas, 2017 gathering: Back row, Wen Jiun and Tom Haase, Norm Running, Jill Wright, Jim Jacobs, Connie Rasmussen. Front row, Georgia Jacobs, Stacie Dilts-Harryman, Mary Running, Arlene and Gordon Waterman.



Mesa, Arizona, 2017 gathering: Left to right, Connie Rasmussen, Matt Strand, Helen Slattery, Larry Miller, Karen Miller, Larry Ruzicka, Pat Ruzicka, President Randy Rhine, Ben Watson, Teresa Nowak, Rick Nowak, Marsha Stewart, Bruce Stewart, Karen Pope.



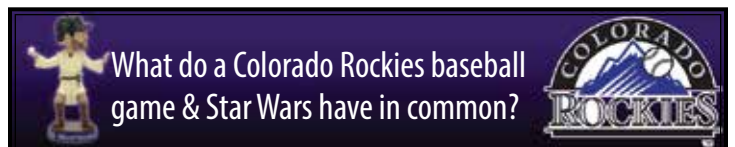
Scottsdale, Arizona, 2017 gathering: Back row, Ben Watson, President Randy Rhine, Larman Wilson, Bill Day, Mark Mayer, Matt Strand, Gary Shipley, Olga Wilson. Front row, hosts Lyle and Jackie Bown, Kay Mayer, Brenda Day, Connie Rasmussen.



Sun City West, Arizona, 2017 gathering: Dan Contonis, Hal Mundschenk, Donna Contonis, Ben Watson, Connie Rasmussen, Ray Murphy, Deanna Franklin, Cash Franklin, President Randy Rhine.



Chandler, Arizona, 2017 gathering: Back row, Ben Watson, Larry Gold, Curt Lecher, Marilyn Borders, Rod Borders, Mary Lecher, Edward Bieber, Glenn Price, Larry Miller, Ralph Byerly, Kendra Johnson. Front row, Susan Gold, Marlene Myers, Phyllis Howland, Linda Byerly, Jeanne Bieber, Freden Price, Karen Miller, Vickie Hoff.



## Chadron State College Night at the Ballpark on July 22

The Rockies play the Pittsburgh Pirates and it is Star Wars night at Coors Field.

Game time is 6:10 p.m.

**Discounted tickets will be available to purchase through the alumni office for \$25 (face value is \$40).**

Contact the alumni office to inquire if tickets are still available in the CSC seating block - field level of the outfield, along the first base line.

Call 308-432-6366 or email [sreece@csc.edu](mailto:sreece@csc.edu)

# Homecoming – Saturday, September 23, 2017

## There's No Place Like HOME-coming

**Thursday, September 21**  
 11 a.m. Survivor's Luncheon\* –  
 Country Kitchen, eat at noon

2–3:30 p.m. Campus Tours – Student  
 Center  
 5-7 p.m. Bratwursts and Beer– Bean  
 Broker Coffee House and Pub,  
 open to all CSC alumni and  
 friends

8 a.m. Eagle 5K Run/Walk – NPAC  
 Contact Cassie Mitchell,  
 308–432–6392 for details

**Friday, September 22**  
 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Registration in Alumni Office  
 – Sparks Hall

9:30 a.m. Parade – Main Street  
 10:30 a.m. Chi Omega Reunion - Crites  
 Hall Lobby

Noon Eagles Luncheon – Student  
 Center Bordeaux Room, visit  
 with President Rhine

**Saturday, September 23**  
 8 – 9 a.m. Alumni Coffee & Registration  
 – Student Center Lobby

11 a.m. Homecoming Luncheon –  
 Student Center Ballroom  
 Recognition of Family Tree,  
 Alumni Award Recipients and  
 Alumni Reunion Groups

### Homecoming Registration Deadline is September 15, 2017

**Please save, this will be the only notice!**

See the website for more details. Return with your paid reservations to: CSC Alumni Office, PO  
 Box 1210, Chadron, NE 69337 or call 308–432–6366.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grad year \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grad year \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday, September 21:**  
 Survivors Luncheon\*  
 Order from the menu # attending \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday, September 23:**  
 Homecoming Luncheon  
 \$15/adult # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$7.50/12 & under # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday, September 22:**  
 Eagles Luncheon \$10/person # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Brats and Beer \$8/person # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

1 p.m. CSC Football vs. Adams State  
 University, Elliott Field  
 Conclusion of game: Sports  
 Complex Groundbreaking  
 Ceremony – Elliott Field

4:30 p.m. Groundbreaking and  
 Postgame Reception at  
 Country Kitchen

6 p.m. Reunion Group Social and  
 Dinner

50 Year Reunion for Class of 1967\*\*  
 Chi Omega Reunion\*\*\*

**Check our website:  
[www.csc.edu/alumni/events](http://www.csc.edu/alumni/events)  
 for details about  
 Homecoming.  
 Or visit our Facebook page,  
 Chadron State Alumni.**



\*Survivors Lunch members will receive a postcard with details.  
 \*\*A specific RSVP for 50 Year Reunion activities will be mailed to class members.  
 \*\*\*A specific RSVP for Chi Omega activities will be mailed to members.  
 Check our website: [www.csc.edu/alumni/events](http://www.csc.edu/alumni/events) for details about Homecoming. Or visit our  
 Facebook page, Chadron State Alumni.