

Summer 2019

CHADRON STATE MAGAZINE





Dr. Randy Rhine
President of Chadron State College

Greetings from the PRESIDENT

Dear Chadron State College Alumni and Friends,

In October, Ben Watson, Dr. Charles Snare, Karen Pope, and I met with community and business leaders in Alliance, Broken Bow, Chadron, North Platte, Sidney, and Scottsbluff. These meetings provided us with a vital opportunity to listen to the needs and interests of local leaders and their feedback is guiding discussions on campus about how we might better meet the needs of the region.

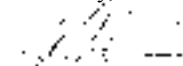
We followed up our fall meetings in April with civic and industry leaders in these locations to further discuss how CSC's academic programs and graduates match their needs. We were able to share the Rural Business Leadership Initiative, which was developed by our faculty based on the needs expressed during the fall meetings. This initiative provides scholarships to students interested in pursuing a career as a Certified Public Accountant or in the banking industry. Our first class is forming for Fall 2019 with 12 students already enrolled. The expectation is that students completing this initiative intend to work in rural Nebraska following graduation. If you know of someone interested in these fields and contributing to rural Nebraska, please send them our way.

We understand the importance of keeping our rural communities healthy and the college's role as a resource in this effort. The college is pleased to serve as a business knowledge resource and catalyst, and we are ready to lend expertise to collaborative projects with regional cities and towns.

For example, we plan to continue to strengthen our leadership role by expanding internship and partnership opportunities in agriculture, business, and health care, among other areas. A new focus for some CSC internships may include a component of community involvement such as attending city council and school board meetings. This requirement would expose students to more facets of civic life and prepare them to become actively engaged citizens and leaders.

The general feeling in both our fall and spring meetings was one of genuine interest in sharing mutual concerns about how we can best work together to impact the rural area where we live. It's gratifying to see the Rural Business Leadership Initiative launched as a result of these gatherings and we look forward to continuing our conversations.

Sincerely,


Dr. Randy Rhine
President

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

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On the Cover:

A group of Brooks Hall first-year residents pose for a photo. (Courtesy photo)

RETIREES HONORED AT LUNCHEON

By CSC College Relations

The annual Chadron State College Faculty and Staff Recognition Luncheon included special acknowledgement of six employees who retired during the 2018-19 year. They are Jerry Cassiday, Amy Coates, Don Keiper, Dr. Robert Knight, Roger Mays, and Patti Porras.

Jerry Cassiday

The greatest feelings of accomplishment as a licensed counselor at Chadron State College, said Jerry Cassiday, arose from the sense that a student who had come in for help left the office in a better state of mind.



Jerry Cassiday

"It was day-to-day successes," said Cassiday, who retired from a 17-year career with CSC in May.

Cassiday grew up mostly in several different Nebraska communities while his father was a minister with the United Church of Christ. He followed in his father's footsteps, serving as a UCC minister for 17 years.

After deciding it was time for a career change, Cassiday enrolled in the master's program in counseling at CSC and was hired after he graduated in 2002. Cassiday also served as the college's disability services contact for 15 years.

Cassiday and his wife, Cheryl, who retired after serving as head of nursing at Chadron Community Hospital for years, have three children and five grandchildren.

Amy Coates

Amy Coates retired at the end of May after working in every building on the Chadron State College campus since she was hired by the custodial department in January 1998.



Amy Coates

When Coates was assigned to Sparks Hall in 2009, she said it felt like home because she was again working with the Alumni and Foundation staff who moved to Sparks after Kline closed.

"You build a relationship with people. That's going to be hard to leave. The relationships I've built through the years, I'll maintain those," she said.

Maintenance Manager Todd Baumann said Coates' skills made her a valuable employee.

"She's willing to help out. She knows her job and does a good job," he said. "She's con-

scientious and has a lot of knowledge. She's flexible. She can go whenever, wherever we need her, which is a great quality. Amy has been an important part of the custodial department."

Don Keiper

Don Keiper retired in January 2019 after 23 years at Chadron State College. He became the Director of Security in 2010 after two years as Security Supervisor and 13 years as a part-time Security Officer.



Don Keiper

CSC Security was the Sidney, Nebraska, native's second career after retiring from the Nebraska State Patrol in 1994.

His retirement plans include attending the Sturgis Rally in South Dakota, which he hasn't missed since 1962.

He also wants to write another novel chronicling the life of a former Vietnam War-era Marine known for vigilante justice, McAlister. His other novels include "McAlister: Fire in the Desert," "McAlister: Steel Street Agenda," and "McAlister: Not in My House."

Keiper has two sons, and his wife, Margaret, has one son and two daughters. Together, the couple have 19 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren in Nebraska, Rapid City, and Chicago.

Robert Knight

As a teenager growing up in San Diego, just a 15-minute drive from Mexico, Dr. Robert Knight said he became curious about the systems of government that gave rise to the stark differences in living conditions he observed on occasional visits across the border.



Robert Knight

That curiosity led Knight, who retired in May, to study political science.

Knight has taught a variety of courses since arriving at CSC in 2008, including introduction to political science, U.S. politics and government, American political thought, politics and religion, and international politics.

"I have had great colleagues here in our department that I have worked with. And we have some outstanding students that are really quite sharp and quite dedicated," Knight said.

At the end of the semester Knight and his wife, Louise, will move back to San Diego, where they still have a house and their daughter lives.

Roger Mays

Roger Mays clearly recalls his first foray into the world of theatre: As a high school student in Doniphan, Nebraska, the school librarian asked him to take a part in a one-act play.



Roger Mays

Success in that first high school play landed Mays a scholarship to the University of Nebraska-Kearney, where he studied theatre.

Later, Mays taught at Oglethorpe University, followed by a stint as musician and actor with the Montana Repertory Theatre. In the summer of 1998, he and his wife, Lucinda, moved to Chadron.

Mays' breadth of theatre experience has been valuable. He has taught diverse courses including acting, makeup, acting for the camera, directing, and children's theatre. The CSC theatre department has staged four shows each year since Mays arrived.

He also spent 10 years working summers with the Post Playhouse at Fort Robinson State Park, started a children's theatre workshop at CSC, and organized a free preview of each show for Pine Ridge Job Corps Center students.

Mays said the students he has worked with top the list of his favorite memories, particularly advising those who are the first in their family to attend college.

Patti Porras

Patti Porras enjoyed the customer service aspect of working in Chadron State College's Business Office for 20 years. She was hired in July 1998 and retired in October 2018.



Patti Porras

"I enjoyed working there and I learned a lot. I'll miss the students and my colleagues," Porras said.

As an Accounting Clerk II, she said she built a lot of friendships while helping parents.

"It was my goal to turn their fears into a positive experience, whether they were worried about money, saying 'goodbye' to their child, or both," she said.

Porras said she received several thank you notes and some flowers from parents thanking her for going the extra mile.

She recently returned from a trip to Dallas with her daughter, Mackenzie Suko. They visited Porras' son, Riley Nemeth, and his wife, Krista, and visited historical sites including a marker that honors Porras' great-great-grandfather.

CSC employees, dining services work long hours during closure

By Tena L. Cook

Winter Storm Ulmer resulted in a historic three-day closure of Chadron State College March 13–15.

Although classes were canceled and offices were closed, more than 800 essential personnel hours were logged by Maintenance, Custodial, and Grounds staff between March 13 and March 16, according to Todd Baumann, maintenance manager.

At the height of the snow removal operation March 14, 31 staff members were working. Before and after the peak snowfall, personnel staggered their shifts to cover 12-hour days.

“We had to prioritize the buildings so we worked first and foremost to clear the sidewalks between the Student Center and the residence halls so students could eat,” Baumann said.

In addition to cleaning residence halls and emptying trash, Custodial and Maintenance crews shoveled snow away from buildings so Grounds crews with equipment could pick it up or move it.

The amount of snow, its high water content, and driving winds combined to make snow removal a daunting task. Baumann said it took him 30 minutes on a utility vehicle to clear the sidewalk from Andrews Hall 50 yards to the main sidewalk across campus.

Baumann said he was grateful for the equipment his staff had available: a front-end loader, a forklift with extended boom, and three Bobcat Toolcats.

“We could only use the Toolcat with the blower in the mornings when the snow was dry because when it started to melt, the wet snow jammed the auger,” Baumann said.

Baumann said in his 18 years with the college, it was the first time he recalled three snow days in a row.

Snow removal teams received meals from CSC Dining Services in the Student Center, according to Deb Kuskie, office manager.

“Many of them said it was the first time they had eaten in the Dining Room and they loved it. It was our way of saying thanks for cleaning out our dock and parking lot, so our staff and possibly trucks could get to work,” Kuskie said.

One food supply truck came to Chadron March 13, but could not reach campus, so some of the CSC Dining Services employees met the truck across town and hauled supplies to campus. All other food supply trucks were unable to reach Chadron until March 16, when regular deliveries resumed.

Kuskie said the staff adjusted menus to make the food from the lone truck, plus what they had on hand, work to feed between 150 and 225 students for lunch and dinner on the three days campus was closed. Normally, between the Dining Room and the Eagle Grille, Dining Services serves about 600 for lunch and



Chadron State College football team members clear Elliott Field Friday, March 15, 2019, to prepare for the first day of spring practice March 18, 2019. (Photo courtesy Dave Collins)

550 for dinner. The Eagle Grille was closed, and the Dining Room operated from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 13 and March 15, and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 14.

“We worked with a reduced staff to keep as many of our employees safe as possible,” Kuskie said.

Mark Hunt, security supervisor, said there were no issues related to safety during the storm and he was encouraged when he saw several students helping dig out each other’s vehicles.

Lucinda Mays, grounds supervisor, said she was happy to report no tree damage from the blizzard.

“Ever since Winter Storm Atlas in October 2013, the grounds crew has been working to improve the structural soundness and strength of our trees with proper trimming practices and it really paid off,” Mays said. “Thankfully there was no ice and wind combination, or it could have been a completely different outcome.”

With spring practice scheduled to start March 18, head football coach Jay Long organized 110 football players to clear the snow from Elliott Field on March 15.

“The snow was too deep and heavy to plow or brush off, so we had to do it by hand. It was a great team building exercise,” Long said.



Chadron State College Admissions Representative and Staff Sgt. Heidi McClintock, second from left, and Nebraska State College System Chancellor Paul Turman, center, accept the Chair’s Outstanding Performance Certificate at the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Awards Banquet in Lincoln April 26, 2019. From left, Ron Bogle, North Carolina Chair, McClintock, Turman, Mike Navrkal, Nebraska Chair, and Major General Daryl Bohac, Adjutant General, Nebraska National Guard. (Courtesy photo)

AN EVENTFUL SPRING SEMESTER IN CHADRON AND BEYOND



CSC alumnus Austin Forney of Leadville, Colo., visits with former CSC professor Chuck Butterfield as Forney finished the Alpine Stage of the Pedigree Stage Stop dogsled race Jan. 27 at Alpine, Wyo. (Photo by Dorrene Butterfield)



Paola Rodriguez models traditional clothing during a fashion show at the Chadron State College International Club’s annual Food Tasting Party, Feb. 23 in the Student Center Ballroom. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)



Members of the Chadron State College grounds department steady the CSC historical marker during installation April 23 at 10th and Main. From left, Bryan Enos, Craig Price, Steve Weber, and David Draper. (Photo by Lucinda Mays)



Practitioner in Residence Dr. Katherine Kral-O’Brien, right, assists Chadron State College student Josee Hotz with a wind speed test during an agriculture class activity, April 25 outside the Rangeland Complex. Funding for this program is provided by the Bill and Virginia Coffee Family Foundation. (Photo by Kelsey R. Brummels)



Cindy Mattmiller of Chadron, left, makes a mixed media collage with the help of Chadron State College student Chris Wright of Gering, Neb., during ArtVenture, a collaborative effort between the CSC Art Guild and Girl Scouts, Jan. 27. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)



Chadron State College theatre students rehearse a scene from “Vanya, Sonia, Masha and Spike” by Christopher Durang. The play premiered Feb. 15. Pictured, from left, are Trajan Garcia, TaylorThies, Casey Kukowski, Mickenzi Loyd, Kori Teasley, and Hannah Smith. (Photo by Daniel Binkard)



Wayne Roberts of Austin, Texas, left, great nephew of Ray Graves, and Arkie Snocker of Gering, Neb., CSC alumnus, stand by a photo of Ray and Faye Graves at the Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center Jan. 13. The Center hosted a reception for its exhibit, “Photos from the Rubble,” that showcased photos, negatives and other memorabilia from the Graves’ studio in Chadron in the early 20th century. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)



The Big Event staff poses for a photo before registration, April 13 in the Chicoine Center. (Courtesy photo)



Associate Professor Dr. John Wojcik, center, leads the Chadron State College Wind Symphony and Community Symphonic Band concert April 9 in Memorial Hall. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)

STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM STUDYING ABROAD



Members of the Chadron State College Study Abroad group pose at the Radcliffe Square at Oxford University Thursday, May 10, 2018. (Photo by Tracy Nobiling)

“I wanted to get a taste of what it was like to study abroad. I had gone to Europe before but wanted to travel to different countries with an educational experience.”

— Renae Kueter

By Kelsey R. Brummels

Last May, Chadron State College students Ameer Diers of Hay Springs, Nebraska, and Renae Kueter of Pierre, South Dakota, embarked on a trip that led them on a unique learning experience.

The pair joined 25 other students from CSC’s Business, Justice Studies, and Education departments to venture on a two-week study abroad trip to London and Dublin in May 2018.

Both Diers and Kueter believe the trip was an exclusive experience.

“For me it was a once in a lifetime opportunity that provided unique travel, cultural and business opportunities,” said Diers, CSC’s assistant director of Human Resources, who earned a master of business administration degree from CSC in May 2019. “I really feel that for graduate students it gave a practical opportunity to see the insides of

different businesses, which other than an internship that’s the only time that you can get hands-on learning.”

For Kueter, a Criminal Justice major with an emphasis in Forensic Studies, the opportunity to study abroad fulfilled a curiosity triggered by having a foreign exchange student as a peer in fifth grade.

“I wanted to get a taste of what it was like to study abroad. I had gone to Europe before but wanted to travel to different countries with an educational experience,” Kueter said.

Previously primarily interested in forensic science, Kueter feels corrections is a career option that she may be more drawn to after seeing other countries’ prison systems.

“What was most interesting to me was when we got to see the prisons. The spring semester before, I was in institutional corrections, where we got to go to American

prisons and jails. Having that experience gave me insights on cultural differences when we were abroad,” Kueter said.

A specific prison experience exposed Kueter to cultural variances in prison structures and techniques.

“In American prisons, it is a punishment to be in jail. At Arbor Hill in Dublin, the focus was on rehabbing. They had so many different programs, such as music and cooking programs, and they were in their own clothes and some even had Xboxes in their rooms,” Kueter said.

A definite example of the prison’s success was that an inmate came in illiterate and was working on his master’s degree when Kueter and the Criminal Justice students visited.

Diers said she gained insight from the cultural differences when touring businesses abroad.

“The type of businesses we visited when we were abroad were very different from what we would observe in rural Nebraska or that we would participate in. They also were very non-structured and collaborative. It’s interesting to me how business continues to evolve for entrepreneurs and how much more entrepreneur-friendly the world is becoming,” Diers said.

Diers noted how teamwork was essential to many of the businesses, specifically with Collaborative Café, a restaurant in which different entrepreneurial chefs shared one location to lower overhead costs.

“The Collaborative Café was really interesting to me. I just think about how many people struggle with teamwork, and the company is entirely built on teamwork and rotating and how they really have a unique niche with a different menu every day because they have new chefs coming in,” Diers said.

Working in higher education, Diers was intrigued by the incubator business school at the University of Central Dublin.

“I thought it was really neat how they are working on patents and products,” Diers said. “It is a unique way to fund your institution because students need help getting through that process of getting something to production and the university gets to recoup some of the funds for future ideas.”

Diers said all of the businesses were excited and passionate about the group studying business and answered their questions, which contrasts to a more secretive atmosphere in U.S. businesses.

During any free time, students were encouraged to explore on their own. Kueter said those opportunities allowed her and her group members to see what they were capable of.

“Personally, I got to see how well I could handle different situations. Knowing I could handle myself in those situations gives me confidence now to do other things,” Kueter said.

The experience helped Kueter, who extended her trip for two more weeks to visit

friends in Spain, Switzerland, and Amsterdam.

Kueter said she appreciated how supportive the trip’s faculty members, START Office, and Kate Pope, Study Abroad Project Coordinator, were throughout the process.

Kueter said anyone interested in studying abroad should attend an informational meeting because, although it is a big commitment, none of it is unmanageable. In addition, she said financial aid and scholarships are available.

Diers said the experience is something students should not fear.

“I think a lot of people think there is some barrier. While it might seem financially daunting, if you make a plan and stick to it, it is definitely possible,” Diers said. “The opportunity provides a bigger box of tools because you see how people handle things outside of the states. I would go again in a heartbeat.”

Kueter encouraged students to take advantage of the experience.

“I can’t stress how much I would recommend going on this trip. For me, it was a really unique experience that I don’t know if I would have got otherwise,” Kueter said. “It’s really easy to play it safe or timid in a new place, but you are over there on a once in a lifetime experience, so you might as well do everything that you can.”

NOBILING RECEIVES NSCS TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Nebraska State Colleges Board of Trustees selected Dr. Tracy Nobiling as the 2019 Teaching Excellence Award Recipient for the Nebraska State College System. Nobiling was selected during the Board of Trustees meeting March 21 and was celebrated during the spring commencement ceremony at Chadron State College on May 4.

“Dr. Nobiling epitomizes all of the attributes recognized by the Teaching Excellence Award through her efforts to provide students with relevant, meaningful, student-centered, high-impact learning experiences,” said Chancellor Paul Turman of the Nebraska State College System. “She is an exceptional educator committed to fostering academic success for her students as well as advancing teaching success for her colleagues at Chadron State.”

Each year the NSCS recognizes a faculty member from one of the three state colleges with the Teaching Excellence Award. A nominee from each college is submitted for consideration after being selected as the college-level Teaching Excellence Award recipient. The award is given in recognition of superior teaching and advising, innovative

instructional practice, high educational standards, and engaging learning environments that inspire and motivate students.

Nobiling’s genuine interest in her students’ goals and post-graduation success, innovative teaching methods, dedication to excellence, and cultivation of student opportunities outside of the classroom makes her a deserving recipient of the teaching excellence award.

“Dr. Tracy Nobiling is an exemplary member of the Chadron State College community. She is a highly respected faculty leader who prioritizes quality student learning in her daily work,” said Dr. James Margetts, Dean of Essential Studies and the School of Liberal Arts at Chadron State College. “Something that sets Tracy apart is her commitment to high-impact learning. I admire how she incorporates extra-curricular assignments within her introductory courses to engage students in campus-based activities outside their discipline, things like attending a concert, theatre performance, or intercollegiate sporting event, or visiting an art gallery or museum.”

“I am humbled to be named the 2019 Teaching Excellence Award winner. I would not be



Tracy Nobiling

the teacher I am without the help and guidance of my colleagues. Thank you for this great honor,” Nobiling said.

Nobiling earned her Ph.D. and master’s degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and her bachelor’s degree in psychology from the University of Northern Iowa.

KNIGHT ENCOURAGES MASTER'S GRADUATES TO BECOME CIVIC ENGAGEMENT SPARK PLUGS

By Tena L. Cook

Eighty candidates for master's degrees were honored during Chadron State College's Graduate Commencement May 4 in Memorial Hall.

Amee Diers of Hay Springs, Nebraska, offered the opening moment of reflection, and Kattie Ranta of Rapid City, South Dakota, gave the closing moment of reflection.

Dr. Robert Knight, a professor retiring from the Justice Studies, Social Sciences, and English Department, offered advice about civic engagement in his speech.

"We achieve fulfillment by helping others. We avoid anomie by forming our identity and values in the context of mutual responsibilities and the joys of fellowship. We gain self-esteem when we contribute to our communities. Success is an empty goal untethered from other values. It will not satisfy our deepest needs of love and companionship," Knight said.

He said civic engagement is in one's self-interest, even though it may be counter intuitive.

"De Tocqueville called this 'self-interest well understood.' Civic participation is essential to a healthy democracy. We underestimate how much our own welfare depends on a healthy society and good governance," Knight said. "It is individually rational for you not to be civically engaged. It costs you time and money. But if we all made such an individually rational choice, clearly our democracy would perish."

Knight encouraged the graduates to become community leaders or spark plugs, a term coined by Michael Schudson, and ignite the flame of civic participation.

"Seek to achieve empathetic understanding of those with whom you disagree. Be well informed. Consider arguments from all sides. Be skeptical and trusting at the same time. Support limits on power, even when those you support are in power," Knight said.

He said expectations for democracy to be orderly and efficient are misguided.



Dr. Robert Knight delivers his address at Chadron State College's Graduate Commencement May 4, 2019, in Memorial Hall. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)

"To quote Winston Churchill: 'democracy is the worst form of government except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time,'" Knight said. "As civic leaders, it is important for the health of our democracy that you are engaged. We must seek common ground and compromise, and we must be satisfied with incremental improvements."



SCHMIDT ADVISES GRADUATES TO SERVE OTHERS

By Tena L. Cook

Two hundred forty-two candidates for bachelor's degrees were honored during Chadron State College's Undergraduate Commencement May 4 in the Chicoine Center.

Samantha Merrill of Hot Springs, South Dakota, offered the opening moment of reflection. Ashley Jackson of Wylie, Texas, offered the closing moment of reflection.

Connor Besse of Littleton, Colorado, received his commission as a Second Lt. in the Army.

Trevor Schmidt, 2016 Distinguished Young Alumni Award recipient and an attorney living in North Carolina, offered advice about developing character and careers in his address to the graduates.

Schmidt referred to a biblical story from a podcast by JD Greear, a North Carolina pastor. Greear described the years after David was anointed to become king but remained a shepherd as the pasture of obscurity where he developed the trust, courage, and convictions he would need to rule.

"Don't despise the pasture of obscurity. In the coming months, you will be back to the relative obscurity of starting something new.

This is where character and integrity take hold, and this is where greatness begins," Schmidt said. "Wherever you are at, whatever stage of your career, take the opportunity to learn from that moment. Find that next goal and start working toward it, even if means stepping back into obscurity for a time."

He also urged the graduates to define their own version of success.

"If you want to stay at home and pour yourself into your kids, dads too, don't give that up because the world tells you that value can only be found outside of the home," Schmidt said.

Schmidt said his observations of society have led him to the conclusion that those who disagree seem to have lost the ability to talk about differences civilly.

"Have the confidence to consider the possibility you might be wrong. Give people the benefit of the doubt. We can disagree without despising," he said. "Seek to serve other people. When we open ourselves up to the pain and suffering of another person, we have a chance to see the world from their perspective."

Schmidt asked the graduates to be proud of their affiliation with CSC.



Chadron State College's 2016 Distinguished Young Alumni Award recipient Trevor Schmidt speaks during CSC's Undergraduate Commencement May 4, 2019, in the Chicoine Center. (Photo by Dewayne Gimeson)

"I have had some setbacks and I have had some tremendous leaps forward. But in all these things, I have built upon the foundation of knowledge, skill and experience that I earned at CSC. You may someday meet people who don't know anything about Nebraska or its people. Be their first impression and blow their doors off," Schmidt said.

SMILES ALL AROUND AT GROUNDBREAKING



Chadron State College Track and Field groundbreaking ceremony April 29, 2019, south of the Chicoine Center. From left, Head Track and Field Coach Riley Northrup, donor John Sides, V.P. of Finance and Administration Kari Gaswick, Bahr Vermeer Haecker representative Ed Hoffman, Chadron State Foundation Board President Marjean Terrell, donor Steve "Nellie" Nelson, donor Dr. Frank Ferguson, CSC Student Trustee Sam Klammer, CSC Student Senate President Lukas Klueber, Adolfsen and Peterson representatives Brian Faulkner and Brian Clark, Nebraska State College System Board of Trustee Chair Gary Bieganski, NSCS Chancellor Dr. Paul Turman, and CSC President Dr. Randy Rhine. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)

NEARLY 200 STUDENTS RECEIVE RECOGNITION DURING IVY DAY

Chadron State College recognized seniors at the annual Ivy Day ceremony May 3 in Memorial Hall. The event, which has occurred at CSC every year since 1919, is co-sponsored by the Blue Key and Cardinal Key honor societies.

Ivy Day royalty elected by the student body were queen Kimberly Hernandez of Scottsbluff, Nebraska, and king TJ Aanenson of Curtis, Nebraska.

The queen's attendants were Brittany Soukup of O'Neill, Neb., Katie Odvody of Crete, Neb., Gabrielle Brumfield of Pendleton, Ind., and Hannah Fessler of Alliance, Neb.

The king's attendants were Logan Spencer of O'Neill, Neb., Justin Hartman of Valentine, Neb., Luke Fick of Loveland, Colo., and Jaisean Jackson of Denver.

The Platinum Eagle awards were presented to Hartman and Samantha Merrill of Hot Springs, South Dakota. 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.

Student orators were Odvody and Lance Stasinski of Crawford, Nebraska. The faculty greeter was Roger Mays, a professor in the Theatre program. He came to CSC in 1999 and retired at the end of the spring semester.

The winners of the royalty competition and Platinum Eagle were just some of the outstanding graduates who received accolades during Ivy Day. Nearly 200 students were also recognized for their outstanding accomplishments in their primary fields of study or other areas.



Chadron State College Platinum Eagle recipients Samantha Merrill of Hot Springs, S.D., and Justin Hartman of Valentine, Neb., at Chadron State College's Ivy Day Friday, May 3, 2019, in Memorial Hall. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)



Brooks Hall in 2013. (Photo by Michael Kruger)

BROOKS HALL HAS FILLED MULTIPLE ROLES IN PAST HALF CENTURY

By George Ledbetter

Brooks Hall, the Chadron State College building constructed as a men's dormitory in the post WWII era, has proved its worth as a home for students but also for a variety of programs serving the college and the community during the past half century.

The three-story brick structure on 10th Street has provided housing for male and female students from CSC, the Pine Ridge Job Corps, and the Upward Bound program, space for a college switchboard, a cafeteria, campus counseling, community health services, and Head Start preschoolers. It has also served as office space for an adult and community education program, the Chadron Public Schools superintendent and school board, vocational rehabilitation services, the state road department, and the Community Action Program.

Although the building is named for Wiley G. Brooks, the CSC president who guided the college through the tumultuous war years and their immediate aftermath, planning for the men's dorm began under Brooks' successor, Barton Kline.

In 1955, when Kline proposed building the dorm and nine other major construction projects, the demand for campus housing for men was intense. Male students were packed three to a room in Men's Hall (now Crites Hall), the

first men's dormitory at CSC, "The Eagle" reported in September 1955.

Kline told the paper, "Freshmen boys need only hang around to their sophomore year to move into the new \$400,000 residence hall. Our hope and our aim is to have the building ready for occupancy next fall."

Designed by Clark and Emerson architects, plans for the 146-foot long building called for 54 double occupancy rooms, a first-floor apartment for the house mother, and a basement with two apartments, a kitchen, dining and recreation room, and a laundry.

The dorm was set to be completed in a year, but Kline anticipated possible construction delays, because of shortages of cement and structural steel, "The Eagle" reported. Financing for the project was arranged by reactivating the housing corporation that had financed the two other college dormitories, and issuing revenue bonds.

A Salina, Kansas, firm, Busboom and Rauh, placed the low bid of \$304,000 for general construction, while a Denver company was awarded a \$60,475 contract for plumbing and heating. ABC Electric of Chadron got the electrical contract for \$4,142.

Excavation for the structure started in early December 1955, but cold weather, which froze the sand being shipped in by train, delayed

pouring of basement walls, "The Eagle" reported in January 1956.

The building was formally named at a dedication and cornerstone laying ceremony in June 1956. Wiley Brooks attended the event, which included renaming Men's Hall for Edwin Crites, and Women's Hall for Edna Work.

Construction delays pushed completion of the building past the fall 1956 semester, when enrollment set a new record of 560 students. It still wasn't ready when the spring semester began, but by April 1957, Zena Rhoads, a daughter of a northwest Nebraska pioneer family, had been hired as housemother, and a campus switchboard system, with three operators on duty, began operation in the basement of the new building.

The first students moved into Brooks Hall in fall 1957, when enrollment jumped to more than 600 students. Youngest of the dorm's new residents was Brit Coupens, the 10-month old son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Coupens.

"The Eagle" reported that \$24,000 had gone into "the best in modern furniture" for the rooms and quoted Rhoads as saying, "Oh, we think it is wonderful."

Although the dorm rooms were only for men, the basement cafeteria was open to all students and faculty, and offered a 45-cent breakfast, 60-cent lunch and 90-cent supper.



Brooks Hall residents work on a project in a photo from the 1960 Anokasan yearbook. (Chadron State College Historical Photo)



Brooks Hall with homecoming decorations, undated. (Chadron State College Historical Photo)

The anticipated demand for rooms apparently didn't materialize immediately, and occupancy in Brooks dropped to 82 in the spring 1958 semester. However, enrollment kept rising and all three dorms were full in the fall of 1959.

Brooks Hall was a popular place in the early 1960s. "It houses newer and much nicer facilities than does Crites," "The Eagle" reported in a 1963 story that also praised the modern design. That report may have also reflected a Brooks-Crites rivalry that included an annual water fight using the city fire hydrants, which prompted a 1963 resident to say "...Crites Hall is still second to Brooks."

The building's allure of modernity seems to have dimmed after Andrews Hall dormitory opened in 1966 and even more with construction of High Rise two years later. "The Eagle's" reports on dormitory occupancy and activities seldom mentioned Brooks over the next decade, and a 1977 story said only six students were living there.

The building wasn't empty, however. A late 1970s photo of the west entrance shows it



Brooks Hall, from the 1960 Anokasan yearbook. (Chadron State College Historical Photo)



Brooks Hall residents at Chadron State College relax in the TV room at the east end of the building. The lobby has remained a gathering area for residents throughout Brooks Hall's history. From the 1960 Anokasan yearbook. (Chadron State College Historical Photo)

was home to the Vocational Rehab Services, Adult and Continuing Education, and the Nebraska Department of Roads. The Head Start preschool education program occupied the building's basement at that time, recalled Gary Bieganski, who headed the Adult Education program.

In the fall of 1984 Brooks was again put into service as a dorm, this time for women who were abruptly relocated from Kent Hall to free up space.

Brooks Hall also provided temporary housing on several occasions in the 1980s for Pine Ridge Job Corps students who were displaced due to power outages at the center south of Chadron. Later in the decade a group called Serious Adult Students had an office in the building, and it housed offices for Chadron

Family Planning and other medical services offered through the Community Action Program.

The 1990s saw the building's first floor become home to CSC counseling and health services, though use as a dorm continued when needed. In 2001 it was put into service as housing for freshman women, and students in the college-sponsored Upward Bound program have roomed there in the summer for many years. The building was again pressed into service for the community in 2006, when it provided temporary space to a newly opened business call center that had located in Chadron.

Brooks Hall continued to fill occasional needs for overflow housing on campus until 2017, when it was temporarily closed as a cost-saving measure.

Alumni Memories: Brooks Hall

by JB Svoboda, '97

I have very fond memories of Brooks Hall. In 1994, we were lured there with the promise of private rooms with beds that were the longest on campus! As long as we kept up our GPA, we could keep our long beds, and nerd hall was born! The thing I loved most about Brooks was our diversity. We were a patchwork of personalities with many late-night, deep conversations. We were respectful of each other and learned from each of our experiences, helping everyone in the process!

We soon figured out that if you twisted the door knob base in the correct manner you could take it off and get into anyone's room. We were all respectful of each other, so this was not an issue until I was out late one night. When I snuck back to the dorm at 1 a.m., I was shocked to see my entire room furniture all sitting in the lobby for me! My buddies were waiting there where we all had a great chuckle, after taking pictures of course! Then, because they were all good guys, they helped me move my stuff back in my room. I will always love that place and appreciate Chadron State for providing a supportive environment for their students, and my legs with the longer bed!

by Ivan Kershner, '70, '74

In late summer of 1966, my parents dropped my buddy, Cy Yusten, and me off in front of Brooks Hall, helped haul our several suitcases to our second-floor room (facing the street and closest to the lobby), and promptly drove away. Freshmen at CSC! Just as promptly, one of us dropped a bottle of English Leather aftershave onto the tile floor where it immediately discolored the floor. Our room smelled like a bordello for the few months we were in the room prior to being relocated to the then-new Kent Hall. Good times...

Brooks Hall Facts and Figures

\$304,000	original cost of construction
1957	residence hall opened
112	original capacity
39	rooms
4	floors
3	apartments
3	community restrooms
2	lobbies
1	exercise area
1	computer lab
1	kitchen



A group of Brooks Hall first-year residents pose for a photo. (Courtesy photo)



JB Svoboda's friends once pulled a good-natured prank on him, moving the furniture from his Brooks Hall room into the lobby. (Courtesy photo)



Brooks Hall boys. (Courtesy photo)

WILEY BROOKS LED CHADRON STATE THROUGH WWII AND AFTERMATH

By George Ledbetter

When Wiley Glen Brooks took office as the third president of the State Normal School at Chadron in July 1941, he was well aware of the challenges facing institutions of higher education in a nation on the cusp of war.

Even while facing the likelihood of a war that would shrink enrollment and make it difficult to keep the doors open, the farsighted Brooks, namesake of the third dormitory constructed at CSC, was thinking of how to respond once the conflict had ended.

"The problems of peace are more difficult than the problems of war," Brooks said in a speech to the Nebraska Education Association in Scottsbluff on Nov. 5, 1941. "Schools will have an indispensable part to play when these events have run their course. A large measure of the stability of America is due to the equality and universality of our schools, the opportunities they open up, the hope they afford."

Brooks brought an impressive background in education to the job of running the college when he succeeded President Robert E. Elliott, who presided for 24 years. Professor Edwin L. Rouse was acting president for just over a year after Elliott resigned in 1940.

A native of Ohio, 56-year-old Brooks had bachelor's degrees from York College and Peru State, a master's degree from Columbia University, and a doctorate from the University of Iowa. He had been a school superintendent for a quarter century at schools in Nebraska and Iowa, served as president of the Nebraska and Iowa State Teachers Associations, and was a member of the Nebraska Schoolmasters Club and the Iowa Superintendents Club. Prior to taking the job at CSC, he had been president of Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington for two years, and then worked at Columbia University in New York in the two years.

Brooks and his wife, Etha, were greeted enthusiastically by "The Eagle" student newspaper when they arrived in Chadron and moved into their home at 734 Main Street.

"The training and experience of Mr. Brooks qualifies him preeminently for the position of president," the paper wrote.

Chadron's college enrollment in fall 1941 had fallen to 345, more than 100 fewer than the average during the Depression years, but Brooks was undaunted.

"War or no war, the college will operate as usual," he was quoted as saying.

A few months later, on Dec. 17, 1941, "The Eagle's" front page declared: "War has hit college campus."

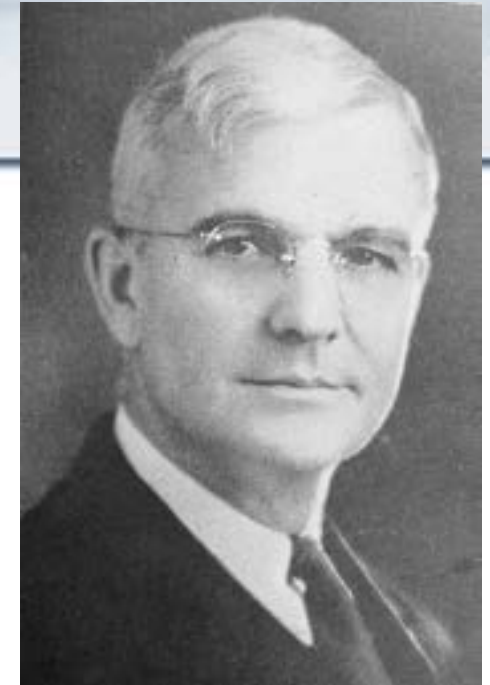
"We have come face-to-face with the startling fact that we are at war," Brooks told students who had gathered to hear President Franklin Roosevelt's radio address following the Pearl Harbor attack.

Changes to the college were immediate. Enrollment dropped as men left for military service, and in March 1942, Brooks instituted a program aimed at addressing a wartime teacher shortage by making it possible to earn a degree in three years with two summer sessions. The college also began offering correspondence and off-campus classes to meet teacher certificate requirements, a program that eventually served more than 700 students in 30 different Nebraska counties.

Brooks also submitted a plan to use college facilities for military training that wasn't enacted, but a civilian flight training program begun in 1939 became a naval aviation program, with Brooks himself as one of the instructors.

College enrollment dropped to 95 students in 1943, and hovered a bit above that number for the next two years, but began to rebound in 1946, as returning soldiers took advantage of educational benefits in the G.I. Bill. As dormitory space began to fill, Brooks arranged for the college to bring in 10 trailer homes for married veteran students, and purchased 54 bunk beds to house an overflow of residents in the men's dorm.

He also arranged for a student union, the Eagle's Nest, to open in the basement of Men's Hall (now Crites Hall) in 1946.



Wiley Brooks

Responding to the college's revival, Brooks in 1948 presented a 10-year plan to the State Board of Normal Schools that called for construction of a new auditorium, a new teacher training school, a student union building, and remodeling of the existing training school (now Hildreth Hall) for the rapidly growing industrial arts division. The auditorium, Brooks' top priority on the list, was approved in 1950. Despite delays caused by Korean War material shortages, Memorial Hall was nearing completion in November 1953, when Brooks announced his resignation, effective July 1, 1954.

After his 13-year tenure in Chadron, Brooks and his wife moved to Plattsmouth, where he was elected to the school board and later served as principal for two years. He returned to Chadron in 1956 to attend a dedication ceremony for the college dormitory that bears his name.

Brooks died in 1971 and is buried in Plattsmouth.

"(Brooks) guided the college through some difficult times," longtime CSC information director Con Marshall summarized in his 75th anniversary book of college history. "Keeping it open at all through WWII was perhaps his greatest accomplishment."

Request for Kline Center Memories

Please share your memories, stories, or photos about the Kline Center via email to alumni@csc.edu or mail to the Alumni Office, 1000 Main St., Chadron, NE 69337.



STUDENTS HELP WITH NEBRASKA FLOOD RELIEF

By Tena L. Cook

When news about flooding in eastern Nebraska reached Chadron State College, members of the science honorary organization Beta Beta Beta started discussing what they could do to help.

“Literally, the next day we had donation boxes and bins in place across campus with signs on them saying what people needed. The first week, we worked with Wahlstrom Ford because they were doing their collection for the Fremont area,” said Beta Beta Beta’s president Brittany Soukup of O’Neill, Nebraska.

The items collected included bottled water, cleaning supplies, paper products, rugs, bath mats, kitchen supplies, fans, towels, and cleaning equipment.

CSC alumnus A.J. Huffman, with Wahlstrom Ford, said he did not expect the CSC students to collect as much as they did.

“It’s awesome how the students and staff came together to help. We sent over a truck and when it came back, it was completely full. The community as a whole is amazing, along with the college. I wasn’t surprised that people wanted to help,” Huffman said.

Soukup said the club members contacted CSC student Rebecca Hiatt of Spencer, Nebraska, the following week, and asked her to deliver a load of donated items to her hometown.

Items collected during the third week were sent with CSC student Kenade Tomjack to the O’Neill area.

Soukup said the effort to deliver items to eastern Nebraska will continue as long as donations continue.

“It’s great seeing Nebraska pull together in the face of so much loss and heartbreak. Even though Chadron has not been hit directly with that much flooding, they were still able to help people across the state, which is a really awesome thing to see. Lots of club members have worked on the project and two Mormon missionaries helped us sort and pack contributions,” Soukup said.

Hiatt said she volunteered in the Lynch flood-relief center, about 13 miles from Spencer, since it was hit harder than her hometown.

“You saw the destruction [in Lynch]. People were out of their houses. We were stripping everything out of the houses down to just studs,” Hiatt said.

When Hiatt brought donations from CSC to Spencer, the community had run out of storage space so she delivered the items to Lynch instead.

Volunteers in Spencer are also helping residents in western Knox County because the Mormon Canal Bridge went out.

“We’ve kind of adopted them,” Hiatt said. “People are very grateful. A lot of people lost their houses and are displaced. Small communities look out for other small communities.”

Because other bridges are also washed out, Hiatt’s normal 30-minute drive from Spencer to O’Neill is now a detour of more than an hour.

Tomjack said her family near O’Neill was surprised with the donated items she brought from CSC.



Chadron State College students who have helped with flood relief in eastern Nebraska and South Dakota pose with a donation box in the King Library on April 3. From left, Kenade Tomjack of Atkinson, Neb., Brittany Soukup of O’Neill, Neb., and Rebeca Hiatt of Spencer, Neb. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)

“They were stunned. People are very grateful and humbled that a group of college kids can band together to do something like this,” Tomjack said.

Beta Beta Beta faculty adviser Dr. Ann Buchmann also delivered more than a carload of donated supplies from the CSC campus to the Great Plains Tribal Chairman’s Health Board that is assisting residents in the flooded sections of Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Buchman said she is proud of the students’ efforts and grateful for the generosity of the campus community.

MSOM OFFERS STUDENTS OPTIONS FOR GROWTH

By Kelsey R. Brummels

Chadron State College’s Master of Science in Organizational Management with a focus in Sports Management offers students opportunities for growth.

The 36-credit, online program consists of classes on research methods, statistics, organizational management, leadership, and other Sports Management related courses.

According to Dr. Scott Ritzen, professor and program liaison for the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Program, a key piece of the program is leadership.

“Leadership stands out about the degree. Beyond the core classes, everything should be geared toward leadership and working in an environment to make a change,” he said.

Ritzen said another valuable piece is that students are required to complete a thesis, scholarly project, or internship. He said the majority of students choose to complete an internship, which can lead to employment or other potential.

Though the program is online, Ritzen said it is hands-on and flexible for each student.

“A lot of what we do for assignments or exploration focuses on putting students in situations where they have to explore what they would do or what they think they would do as a working professional,” Ritzen said.

Alumni have used the degree to help them advance in their careers, as well as gain leadership skills.

Michele Carter is now the CEO of the Boys & Girls Club of Douglas in Douglas, Wyoming. Christian McGhee and Darin Monroe have found success as athletic administrators.



Graduate Christian McGhee, of Pine Ridge, S.D., center, poses with friends following Chadron State College’s Graduate Winter Commencement, Dec. 14, 2018, in Memorial Hall. From left, Raynor Aden Whitcombe holding Manaia Whitcombe, Sunny Red Bear, and Acea Red Bear Giago in front. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)

McGhee is the athletic director at Red Cloud High School in Pine Ridge, South Dakota, and Monroe earned his degree to help him achieve his career goals of becoming a head softball coach and athletic director at Rock Valley College in Rockford, Illinois.

McGhee said the education he received at CSC helped his career.

“My education has helped me in my day-to-day duties, as well as long term. Taking courses directly related to my job has helped me become better in every possible way,” McGhee said.

Other examples of career advancement of Sports Management alumni include moving

from coaching to athletic administration, advancements in sporting organizations, transitioning from the high school coaching level to the college level, and athletic training.

No matter the student’s career goals, Ritzen believes the degree is beneficial.

“We expect our students to go out and be great leaders, and to do that, they have to be in touch with research as it will drive decisions they make,” Ritzen said. “The nine or 12 hours for the option will always evolve to put you in a position to know what is going on with Sports Management, and the leadership part just makes you a better person in all aspects of interpersonal relationships.”

NSCS ANNOUNCES DISASTER RELIEF TUITION WAIVER PROGRAM

By Nebraska State College System

The devastation caused by the late winter flooding and blizzard will have far-reaching impacts on a number of Chadron, Peru, and Wayne State College students who come from all corners of Nebraska. To help alleviate some of the financial hardships on returning and incoming students and families affected by the natural disasters, the Nebraska State College System is launching the 2019 Disaster Relief Tuition Waiver Program.

Financial waivers are available for new and returning students. The waivers will be based on need and availability.

Returning students should contact the Financial Aid office for additional financial waivers at 308-432-6061 or start@csc.edu.

New incoming students should contact the Admissions office at 1-800-CHADRON or cscadmissions@csc.edu.

There is no admission application fee at the State Colleges.

If students have unique circumstances, they should reach out to Chadron, Peru, or Wayne State Colleges to see what options are available. The mission of the Nebraska State College System is to keep a high quality, affordable higher education option available for all students who want to attend college. Our Colleges will work with you to make your dreams possible.

As partners to the rural communities they serve, Chadron, Peru, and Wayne State Colleges have already initiated temporary housing, meal options, and other needs to support current students, staff members, and community members who are in need due to the storms.

The challenges caused by the flooding will affect many of our communities and students for quite some time, but the Nebraska State Colleges will continue to support their students and neighbors.

“The State Colleges will continue to be a community partner with and provide volun-

teer opportunities to for students to help rebuild the affected communities and keep Nebraska strong,” said Gary Bieganski, Chair of the NSCS Board of Trustees.

CSC President Randy Rhine is pleased the state colleges collaborated in a positive manner.

“I am proud the Nebraska State College System, Chadron State College, Peru State College, and Wayne State College collaborated in such a positive way to impact students and their families who were affected by the recent flooding and blizzard in Nebraska. Chadron State College is committed to providing access to higher education and these waivers certainly support that commitment.”



Nebraska State College System

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Explore Opportunities.
Experience Growth.
Expect Success.



Chadron State College students Lance Stasinski of Crawford, Neb., left, and Brittany Soukup of O’Neill, Neb., pose with donations collected by the Beta Beta Beta honorary society March 15. CSC students and employees donated items to assist flood victims in eastern Nebraska. (Courtesy photo)

CSC ALUMNI JOIN LIVING LEGACY SOCIETY

By George Ledbetter

Following a highly successful career in the aerospace industry launched with a bachelor's degree at Chadron State College, Scottsbluff native John Jacox and his wife, Karyn, also a CSC graduate, are helping future generations of students as members of the Chadron State Foundation's Living Legacy Society.

A 2013 recipient of CSC's Distinguished Alumni Award and 2015 commencement speaker, Jacox earned a bachelor's degree in math and physics from Chadron State in 1971 and a master's in aerospace engineering from Texas A&M University. In the course of a nearly 40-year career in the aerospace industry he specialized in managing large, technically complicated, high-value engineering programs, as well as developing new business, and managing small businesses.

Working with some of the largest American aerospace companies, Jacox managed U.S. Department of Defense programs with total value of more than \$320 million, including design, development, and testing of propulsion or aerodynamics for advanced weapons systems.

Now a resident of Indianapolis, Jacox is also the owner, since 1996, of the Cleveland Model and Supply Company, the oldest continuously operating model airplane company in the world.

Family ties are part of Jacox's connection to Chadron State. His first acquaintance with

Chadron came when his mother was completing her degree at CSC in the late 1950s. An older sister also graduated from the college.

Jacox said the family connections, and a realization that \$1,200 he had saved for college would not cover the cost of his intended study of automobile design at a school in California, led to his decision to attend Chadron State and enroll in pre-law. But after learning aeronautics was being used in automotive design he decided to become an aeronautical engineer, switched majors and plunged into a full load of math and science courses.

"I didn't go (to CSC) for a good time. I went there for an education. For me Chadron was an ideal place," he said.

"I wouldn't have accomplished the things that I did in my life if it hadn't been for the quality of education I got at Chadron State College."

— John Jacox

After three years at Chadron State, Jacox transferred to Texas A&M to complete his education in the aerospace engineering program, but took an overload of classes and was placed on academic probation, so he returned to Chadron to finish his bachelor's degree. That's when he met his future wife, Karyn Foster, a student from Alliance. After graduating in 1976, Karyn went on to a successful career in banking and finance. The couple have now been married for 47 years.

In addition to including Chadron State in their estate plan, the Jacoxes have established a two-year, renewable, full-tuition scholarship for a junior math or science student with a GPA of 3.5 or better.

The couple desires to help others achieve



John and Karyn Jacox

their goals and find success. John said he wants the scholarship to go to someone with the same kind of drive and focus that propelled him through school and his career.

"I wouldn't have accomplished the things that I did in my life if it hadn't been for the quality of education I got at Chadron State College," Jacox said. "Karyn and I wanted to do something that would have a lot of positive impact on people."

"John and Karyn's commitment to join the Living Legacy Society at Chadron State will have a huge impact for generations to come," said Ben Watson, Chief Executive Officer of the Chadron State Foundation. "Future generations of Eagles will follow in their footsteps. John and Karyn have had exciting and successful careers and their willingness to help future students realize their goals are attainable through Chadron State is as remarkable as they are."

Rural Business Leadership Initiative



15 Tuition Scholarships Available
The Rural Business Leadership Initiative offers 15 tuition scholarships for each incoming academic class in the fields of banking and accounting. Scholarships do not cover non-tuition expenses. Participants are free to apply for additional financial assistance.

For more information, contact:
Dr. Gary Dusek
rbli@csc.edu or 308-432-6283

GRIMES LIVING HIS CALIFORNIA DREAM

By Kaleb Center

It's a good thing Isaac Grimes didn't have anywhere to go March 13.

That's the first day he could finally wake up in his own bed on campus and reflect on what it meant for him to be an NCAA track and field champion. But that day also happened to be the start of Winter Storm Ulmer.

"In three years being here, I haven't seen snow like that," Grimes said.

For Grimes, a sophomore from Moreno Valley, California, that day was a welcome opportunity to slow down and appreciate what he accomplished.

The previous week, he and teammate Ashton Hallsted, traveled to Pittsburg, Kansas, to compete at the 2019 NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships. It was his third national meet after earning All-America in both indoor and outdoor long jump as a freshman in 2018.

From the beginning of his sophomore campaign, Grimes had dominated the Division II indoor men's long jump. All six of his jumps at the Colorado School of Mines Classic in early December had exceeded the NCAA automatic qualifying mark of 24-feet, 11-inches. Not only did he break the school record on his third attempt, as well as two successive tries, but he also landed the fourth-best leap in Division II history at 26-1.

That winning jump was the No. 1 distance on the international performance list, at the time, and Grimes remained on top of the world for about six weeks into the season.

"It's every kid's dream, going into college," Grimes said of his achievement. "Be-



Sophomore Isaac Grimes spent the first half of the collegiate indoor track and field season ranked number one in the world for men's long jump, en route to a NCAA Division II title in the event. He also earned runner-up in the triple jump and was named National Field Athlete of the Year by the USTFCCA in March. (Photo by Tim Flynn, Colorado School of Mines)

ing able to rank highly like that is a blessing. I actually didn't find out until we were getting on the bus to come back from that meet. It's a humbling feeling, I guess you could say."

From December to February everything was smooth sailing for the CSC phenom, who also set a new school record triple jump of 49-3 3/4 and won the 60-meter dash at the Mines meet. He qualified for nationals in all three events right off the bat.

All was well until he came up with a hamstring injury that put him out of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference championship meet while competing in the 60-meter dash.

Head Coach Riley Northrup had to sweat out Grimes' injury, but Grimes leapt 25-8 3/4 on his final jump, the best mark at the meet by two inches.

"Getting that jump on my last attempt was a pretty good feeling," he said. Basically, I was saying to myself, 'You've practiced all year. If you can get the same run up to the board and the same pop you get at practice, it should all come together.'"

As if the gold medal in long jump wasn't enough for Grimes, he returned to the runway on the second day and earned silver in the triple jump.

In late May, Grimes capped off his stellar sophomore season at the 2019 NCAA outdoor championships in Kingsville, Texas by

earning his fifth All-America by winning the silver medal in the long jump, pushing past 26 feet for the first time outdoors and setting a new career best. His top measurement of 26 feet, 6.25 inches, ranks him among the 15 best all-conditions performers in Division II outdoor season history.



Jordan Raben of Chadron celebrates after his teammate, Mike Olson of Martin, S.D., sank a putt on Hole No. 3 at Ridgeview Country Club on May 26, 2019. The other team members are Bob Osmotherly of Crawford (left) and Cory Olson of Chadron. Their team tied for fourth and fifth in the Championship Flight of the 25th anniversary of the CSC Golf Classic - Don Beebe Tournament. (Photo by Con Marshall)



While completing the 2019 Annual Bataan Death March in White Sands, New Mexico, CSC alumna Melissa Tatro Koss and her husband met a team of five CSC ROTC students, who were also completing the event. (Photo by Melissa Tatro Koss)

SPORTS

Coach hopes CSC hoops team continues to progress

By Con Marshall

The 2018-19 Chadron State College men's basketball team didn't achieve all its goals, but made progress that Coach Houston Reed hopes will carry over to the future.

The Eagles were contenders in nearly all 28 games and finished near the .500 level. Their 12-16 overall record and 10-12 mark in the RMAC were the best since 2011-12.

"This was a really competitive team. We played good basketball and had a great culture. They always came to practice ready to go," Reed said.

Eight of the Eagles averaged from 5.7 to 12.1 points. Reed said deciding who to play and when was probably the most stressful part of the season for him.

The Eagles shot 44.3 percent from the field, including 37 percent from the 3-point range, and made 73.4 percent of their free throws.

Diontae Champion was the team's leading scorer at 12.1 points, followed by Michael Sparks at 10.9.

Jeremy Ruffin, whom Reed calls "one of the most dependable players I've ever coached," led rebounding at 6.8 per game while Champion was second at 5.4.

Sparks and Jackson will return in the fall. The third senior will be former Alliance standout Jordan Mills. The juniors will be Brady Delimont and forward Walker Andrew.

Also waiting in the wings is 6-11, 235-pound Bomb Dobooul, who redshirted this year and has two years of eligibility remaining.

Clasen, French qualify for national wrestling tourney

By Kaleb Center

Chadron State College wrestlers had many individual accomplishments to be proud of in 2018-19.

Two of the wrestlers became regional champs and received All-Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference honors. They were 149-pound Chase Clasen and 197-pound Wade French.

It had been 11 years since Chadron State had a regional champion and 13 years since two Eagles won regional titles the same season.

Clasen and French also extended a streak of national tournament appearances by the wrestling program. The pair represented CSC at nationals for the 51st consecutive year.

At the NCAA Super Region 6 Championships in Kearney, Brandon Kile at 133 and heavyweight Rulon Taylor came closest besides Clasen and French to qualifying for nationals. Kile wrestled for third place against an opponent from San Francisco State who he defeated earlier in the day, but lost. Taylor came up one takedown short, in overtime,



Diontae Champion, a 2019 All-RMAC honorable mention pick, provided a high-flying repertoire of abilities which thrilled fans in the Chicoine Center during his senior season. (Photo by Con Marshall)

Last fall, Reed signed three seniors from Colorado high schools to join the Eagles in the fall. Guard Andre Sepeda of Greeley West averaged 17.8 points and was named the conference's most valuable player. Kevin DiMarco of Coal Ridge High averaged 17.3 points and 9.8 rebounds, shot 59 percent from the field, and blocked 66 shots. Jax Wilke of Mead High near Longmont averaged 12.4 points and 8.2 rebounds, and led his team in assists.

from defeating the eventual third-place finisher from Colorado Mines, and wrestling for a trip to Cleveland.

The NCAA Championships did not turn out as hoped for either of CSC's entrants. Both went 1-2 in the national meet, finishing their junior seasons among the sport's elite.

Joining the Eagles in 2019-20 are 10 incoming high school seniors, plus another nine who redshirted their first season at CSC. The new recruits are Lane Eubank of Kokomo, Indiana; Ryder Fuchs of Pierce, Nebraska; Harrison Gocke of York, Nebraska; Damien Kersten of Battle Creek, Nebraska; Kobe Lepe of San Fernando, California; Gavin Peitzmeier of Omaha; AJ Serna of Parachute, Colorado; Seth Simants of North Platte, Nebraska; Tate Stoddard of Glenrock, Wyoming; and Evan Waddington of Wood River, Nebraska.

Especially anticipated in the CSC lineup next season is Colton Adams of Scottsbluff, Nebraska. Adams is a former UNL Husker and was a four-time state champion in high school.

Gutsy season for CSC softball team

By CSC Sports Information

There is never much doubt that springtime in Chadron will have its share of weather-related disruptions, and for Chadron State College softball, 2019 was no exception.

Not one, but three late storms threatened to play havoc with the Eagles' home schedule this year.

However, the Eagles weathered the storms and still managed to be in contention to qualify for the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference playoffs the final week of the season. In the end, late season losses to Black Hills State forced CSC to miss the RMAC playoffs for the first time in the last four years after finishing 14-35 overall and 11-28 in the league in 2019.

A pair of star freshmen emerged along the way. All-RMAC First Team second baseman Haley Hoefs from Lincoln, Nebraska, led the team with a batting average of .447, and she scored 40 runs with 19 doubles and 12 home runs. Bailey Marvel, a native of Lakewood, Colorado, led the team with 67 hits, batting .396 for the season.

Looking ahead to 2020, the Eagles expect to return four of their top five batters as well as junior Peyton Propp, their number one pitcher for most of the season's home stretch.

Propp and freshman Cassidy Horn led the Eagles in the circle. Horn led the team with 25 appearances and 11 starts, while pitching 80.1 innings. Propp appeared in 24 games, starting 12.

Senior Kayla Michel received post-season honors for her play. The first baseman from Berthoud, Colorado, received honorable mention in the conference. Michel set a new school single-season record with 53 RBI's and led the team in home runs with 15, batting .365.

Four Eagles were named to the RMAC softball All-Academic honor roll. Michel and Alyssa Geist, both seniors who started all 49 games, each received their third straight honor roll recognition. Juniors Kate Eldridge and Angelica Maples both qualified for the second season.



Following the season, second baseman Haley Hoefs was the first All-America recipient since the program's 2007 reboot, batting .447 for the year. (Photo by Tara Medigovich)

Influx of talent takes women's golf to new levels

By Kaleb Center

The women's golf program got a boost in 2018-19 with the arrival of four talented true freshmen who made an immediate impact and made the team competitive in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

Anna Branscome of Lakewood, Colo., Kayla Elder of Fort Collins, Colo., Alpine Hickstein of Chadron, and Abby White of Ontario, Canada, were the rookies who joined senior Sam Rahmig of Scottsbluff, Neb., to form the varsity lineup to begin the season.

The newcomers quickly found their footing, setting new school records for team round score (319) and team tournament score (646) at their second outing, the RMAC Preview in Grand Junction, Colo.

The team followed that up by winning the South Dakota Mines Tournament. Hickstein's score of 166 was good enough to take the individual tourney title, while all five golfers, including sophomore Tori Meschke, placed in the top 15 of the five-team meetup.

At the RMAC Championships the CSC team proved it could compete on a championship course with the rest of the conference. The Eagles were one place away from their best championship finish ever, tying for ninth

CSC women's basketball showed promise during 2018-19 season

By CSC Sports Information

There were moments of success for the young Chadron State College women's basketball team this past season.

After tuning up in preseason scrimmages, the Eagles opened the season on a positive note by defeating Texas A&M International, 55-51. However, following their promising start, the Eagles suffered 10 straight losses.

The Eagles returned in the new year with renewed energy and focus, pulling out a pair of wins at home over Adams State University and Fort Lewis College, and an upset win over Colorado School of Mines. CSC couldn't keep its winning ways going, though, and ended the season on a losing streak, to finish 4-24 overall and 3-19 in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

The Chadron State women found some reliable contributors and they should be prepared to handle more responsibilities next year. CSC expects to return three of its top five scorers and top four rebounders.

Sophomore Taryn Foxen, the team's leading scorer with 11 points per game, showed her talent in a loss at Regis. She poured in 33 points and grabbed eight rebounds in a season high for both statistics. She also scored 27 in a win over Fort Lewis.

Freshman guard Jori Peters exploded for 21 points in the home win versus Mines in January. She led the team with 83 assists. Peters



The women's golf team at CSC got a boost from four true freshmen in 2018-19, most notable among them Chadron native Alpine Hickstein. The Chadron High grad won a tournament in Rapid City, helping the Eagles to their first team win in three years, and recorded the program's all-time best seasonal stroke average of 81.0. (Photo by Kaleb Center)

with Fort Lewis. The team's second day score of 321 is the program's fourth-best round in school history.

When the season stats were tallied, Hickstein had the lowest yearly stroke average on file at CSC of 81.0 strokes, followed by Elder at 81.3.

The team will say farewell to their veteran leader, Rahmig, but it picked up early commitments from four others who will be freshmen next year. They are Brooke Kramer of Aurora, Colo., Kenzey Kanno of Mitchell, Neb., Kinsey Smith of Windsor, Colo., and Allison Acosta of Oro Valley, Ariz.



The tallest member of the CSC women's basketball team was 6-foot-3 Savannah Weidauer of Pleasant Grove, Utah. She led the team with a field goal rate of 48.4 percent and 16 blocked shots. (Photo by Lynni Talady)

also tied for the team lead with 113 rebounds on the season, averaging four per game.

The team's success going forward will depend largely on the consistency and health of those two as well as a pair of rising seniors, McKenna McClintic and Jessica Lovitt. At 5-10, both are athletic forwards who can get up and down the court, and the Eagles defense relies heavily on them.

Six high school seniors and one junior college transfer are signed to play at CSC next year.

ALUMNI EVENTS



Chandler: Back row, from left, Ben Watson, Nelson Foster, Larry Miller, Perry Beguin, Wes Cain, Bill Day, Mike Mykris, Karen Pope, Shelece Yoakum. Front row, Marlene Myers, Karen Miller, Verona Beguin, Vickie Cain, Brenda Day, Carolyn Mykris.



Chicago: From left, Vester Van, Ben Watson, Ryann Uden, Stacy Uden, Cynthia McLaughlin, Chris Doyle, Ric Wampner, Shannon Wampner, Cherity Parks, Tricia Lukawski. This was the first CSC gathering in Chicago and we are looking forward to the next trip.



Scottsdale: Back row, from left, Mark Mayer, Jacki Bown, Kent and Cheryl Levi, Verona and Perry Beguin, Gayle and Jack Hytrek. Front row, Larry Miller, Ralph Byerly, Olga Wilson, Ben Watson, Kay Mayer, Marlene Myers, Karen Miller, Larman Wilson.



Sioux Falls: Standing, from left, Ben Watson, Roxie Schmitz. Seated, Elizabeth and Doug Lynch.



Colorado Springs: From left, Ilse Stratton, Ben Watson, Tim Kearns, Richard Stratton, Karen Pope.



Denver: From left, Arne and Barb McDaniel, Ben Watson, Sharry Payne, Scott Nielsen, Gloria and Don Curtis, Maggie and Paul McDaniel.



Sun City: From left, Cash and Deanna Franklin, Dan and Donna Contonis, Jean and Fran Wrage, Karen Pope.



Tucson: Back row, from left, Brad Smith, Judy and Bob Wickham, Patty and Jerry Howell. Front row, Karen Pope, Claire and Tom Brown, Ben Watson.



Grand Island: Standing, from left, Ben Watson, Jon Marquez, Marilyn and Marv Heckman, Greg Hughes, Jeff King. Seated, Melody Pebley, Marjorie Finley, Edith Deuel, Karen Pope.



Mesa: From left, Bruce and Marsha Stewart, Rex Brown, Vickie Hoff, Ben Watson, Dorothy and John Kaus.



Minneapolis: From left, Susan Niederhauser, Brian Beeman, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, Ben Watson, Jeana Hamm, Rick and Marilynne Rickenbach.



North Platte: Back row, from left, Mike Nozicka, Judy Zohner, Gregg Uehling, Russ Derickson, June Derickson, Connie Leffers, Tom Willnerd, Mary Willnerd, Stuart Simpson, Ben Watson. Front row, Karen Pope, Bob Zohner, Janelle Uehling, Larry Baumann, Ted Daigger, Brenda Hampton, Roger Hengen, Richard Simmons, Victoria Simmons, Julie Jesse.

CLASS NOTES

Former Faculty

The late **Mack Peyton**, former coach and athletic director, was inducted into the University of Wyoming Athletics Hall of Fame. He was a basketball and baseball standout in the late 1940s.

'50s

Ann (Knapp) Gire '51 and husband Darrel celebrated 66 years of marriage on Jan. 28, 2019. They live in Marion, Iowa.

Ina (Dunlap) Glaubius att '59 Wisner, was named 2018 Citizen of the Year by the Wisner Lions Club and has served 56 years as a volunteer leader of the Peppy Peppers 4-H club.

'60s

Michael Varney '60 Torrington, Wyoming, retired after 40 years of service in city government, first as a city council member then as mayor.

Larry Kehn '63 Batesland, South Dakota, and wife Nancy celebrated their 50th anniversary.

Ward Larson '64 Yukon, Oklahoma, and wife Caroline are enjoying retirement and spending time with their children and grandchildren.

Dianne (Dalton) Aveyard '64 Beatrice, retired after 53 years of teaching.

Ronald Tibbitts '66 Cheyenne, Wyoming, has won national art competitions including Best of Show out of a field of 300 competitors.

Stanley Bills '68 Sterling, Colorado, retired as executive director of the Snow-Redfern Foundation.

Gary '67 and wife **Laura (Kitchin) Hall '68** Kimball, celebrated their 50th anniversary.

Gene LeMaitre '68 Casper, Wyoming, retired in 2012 after 43 years of teaching.

Ed Planansky BS '69, MS '71 Hemingford, was awarded the Outstanding Service Award for wrestling by the Nebraska School Activities Association.

'70s

Ronald '71 and wife **Michele (Throne) Kohn '72** Rapid City, South Dakota, celebrated their 50th anniversary.

Tim Turman BA '71, MA '76 Wahoo, is being inducted into the 2019 class of the Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame. His family is also receiving the Fischer Family Award.

Barbara Skala-Irish BS '72, MS '79 Bassett, retired in October 2018 from substitute teaching for Rock County Public Schools.

Norman Townley, Jr. '72 Johnstown, Colorado, retired from the Colorado Department of Revenue where he served as a compliance agent.

Robert Pile '73 Gering, retired in 2017 after working 41 years at the Panhandle Coop.

Roxann (Jones) Thompson '76 Scottsbluff, retired at the end of the school year after 35 years of teaching English at Gering High School.

Audrey (Davis) Caskey '77 Bassett, and husband Dale celebrated their 71st anniversary.

Vicki (Christensen) Kotschwar '77 Chadron, and husband Glen were named 2017 Chadron Citizens of the Year.

David Beemer '78 Powell, Wyoming, retired last May from coaching sixth grade girls' basketball. He still officiates football and basketball.

Andy Pope BS '79, MS '90 Chadron, was named 2019 District 6 Athletic Director of the Year by the Nebraska State Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

Art Washut '79 Casper, Wyoming, was elected to the Wyoming House of Representatives in November and appointed to the Judiciary Committee. He was also honored as 2019 faculty member of the year by the Wyoming Association of Community College Trustees.

Kim Wilson '79 Benkelman, retired from Chase County Schools after teaching high school science for 23 years.

'80s

Betty (Hebbert) Leapley '80 Coleridge, completed 16 years serving on her local board of education.

Dr. Michael Montgomery '80 Eagle, retired from his position as superintendent of Leigh Community Schools.

Angela (Haney) Sermak '80 Strongsville, Ohio, retired in June 2018 after 25 years of teaching elementary school.

Eileen (Wilson) Vickers '80 Newcastle, Wyoming, retired after 32 years of teaching and counseling.

Michael Greene '81 Peachtree City, Georgia, retired after 31 years as a special agent for the FBI.

Harrison Phillips son of **Tammie (Schulz) Phillips '82** Omaha, is playing in the NFL for the Buffalo Bills as a defensive tackle.

Dr. Richard Patterson BA '84, MS '86, SE '89 Torrington, Wyoming, has been named interim superintendent of the Goshen County School District.

— HOMECOMING 2019 —



Schedule of Events Friday, September 27

- 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Registration in Alumni Office:
Sparks Hall
 - Noon Eagles Luncheon, visit with
President Rhine: Student Center,
Bordeaux Room
 - 2–3:30 p.m. Campus Tours: Student Center
 - 5–7 p.m. Homecoming Huddle: Don Beebe
Stadium, Lewellen Hospitality
Room
- Open to all CSC alumni and
 friends

Saturday, September 28

- 8 – 9 a.m. Alumni Coffee & Registration:
Student Center, Lobby
- 9:30 a.m. Parade: Main Street
- 11 a.m. Homecoming Luncheon: Student
Center, Ballroom
- Recognition of Family Tree, Award
Recipients and Alumni Reunion
Groups
- 1 p.m. CSC Football vs. Colorado Mesa
University: Elliott Field
- 4 p.m. Postgame Reception: Country
Kitchen
- 6 p.m. Reunion Group Social and Dinner
50 Year Reunion for Class of 1969*

Homecoming Registration

See the website for details about events.

Please save, this will be the only notice! Deadline is September 20, 2018. Return with your paid reservations to: CSC Alumni Office, PO Box 1210, Chadron, NE 69337 or call 308-432-6366. OR register and pay online at www.csc.edu/alumni/events/homecoming.csc

Name _____

Grad year _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Grad year _____ Additional Guest(s) _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Friday, September 27:

Eagles Luncheon \$11/person # _____ \$ _____

Homecoming Huddle \$10/person # _____ \$ _____

Saturday, September 28:

Homecoming Luncheon

\$17.50/adult # _____ \$ _____

\$8/12 & under # _____ \$ _____

5 & under are free # _____

Grand Total \$ _____

*A specific RSVP for 50 Year Reunion activities will be mailed to class members.
 Check our website: csc.edu/alumni/events for details about Homecoming. Or visit our Facebook page,
 Chadron State Alumni.



Chadron State College Night at the Ballpark August 3 Game Time 6:10 p.m.

The Rockies play the San Francisco Giants at Coors Field. Discounted tickets will be available to purchase through the alumni office for \$27 (face value \$40).

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

**Call 308-432-6366 or
 email kpope@csc.edu**