

SUMMER 2022

CHADRON STATE MAGAZINE





Dear Alumni and Friends,

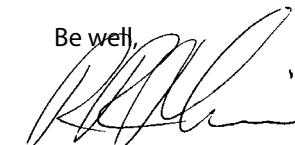
As you will see later in this summer edition of the Alumni Magazine, Chadron State College is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the legislative passing of Title IX. Title IX, enacted as Federal Law in 1972, states that no person on the basis of sex shall be “excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

What this meant at the time and still means to this day is that every higher education institution that receives Federal monies must strive to provide educational opportunities that are available and accessible to everyone. In order to make that happen it is vital to ensure that colleges and universities create an educational environment that is free from discrimination and Title IX has been an important tool in that effort by creating an outline to ensure institutions and individuals are accountable for their actions.

Of course, no legislation or the administration of a law is perfect, which is why the college looks for ways to better meet the needs of its students and employees. One such place on campus is the newly created Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Space. The IDEA Space is a safe space for underrepresented students, faculty, staff, and others to meet, research, study, and foster community. While it is not specifically devoted to Title IX, the IDEA Space is a step in the right direction for this campus as we continue to cultivate a culture of inclusivity, respect, and compassion.

As we reflect on the 50th anniversary of Title IX, let’s remember to not focus our energy on fighting the old, but building the new. I am proud of the many individuals involved with this college who have blazed trails and effectively taken that belief into their communities. Enjoy reading some of those stories later in this edition, and join me in reaffirming your commitment to equitable treatment for all.

Be well,



President Randy Rhine



Math Science Building Served Campus Well for Five Decades

Chadron State College incorporated classes in mathematics and science from its beginnings in 1911, and many early graduates taught those subjects in schools across the region. More specialized science courses began as early as the 1920s, when paleontologist Harold J. Cook and his wife, geologist Eleanor Barbour Cook, presented a series of lectures on regional geology and fossils. Soon after, Eleanor Cook established the Department of Geology, with a classroom and lab in the basement of the Administration Building. In 1938, Cook became director of a natural history museum in the basement of Crites Hall. By then the college had other scientists on the faculty, including chemistry professor Dr. Lyle Andrews, whose students included Val Fitch, later a Nobel Prize winner in physics.

In 1960, Chadron State added the High Plains Herbarium, a botanical research and collection center, but math and science classes and labs still had no dedicated place on campus, and were taught in rooms on the Administration building's top floor.

Efforts to establish a home for science and math programs began in the 1960s, along with the rapid growth in student numbers that sparked a construction boom on campus. In 1966, the board governing the Nebraska State Colleges approved several building projects for Chadron State, including construction of a new math science building. The Omaha firm of Kirkham Michaels provided architectural services and in 1968 Fullen Construction of Scottsbluff was awarded the building contract for more than \$1 million.

The building opened in 1970. It featured an open rotunda with a two-story Foucault pendulum, a device that gives direct evidence of earth's rotation. Students had the benefit of a planetarium to learn about astronomy and labs for biology, chemistry, and botany experiments. The building provided a home for the herbarium, and space for specimens that remained following the closure of the Crites Hall museum.

Over the next five decades, thousands of students received instruction in scientific and mathematical disciplines in the building. The building's importance increased with the 1989 establishment of the Rural Health Opportunities Program and the expansion of collections in the High Plains Herbarium and the Eleanor Barbour Cook Museum of Geology and Paleontology.

A \$32 million renovation and expansion that began in 2020 ensures continuation of the building's tradition of excellence under a new name: the Math Science Center of Innovative Learning. The expanded and improved building is set to open this fall.

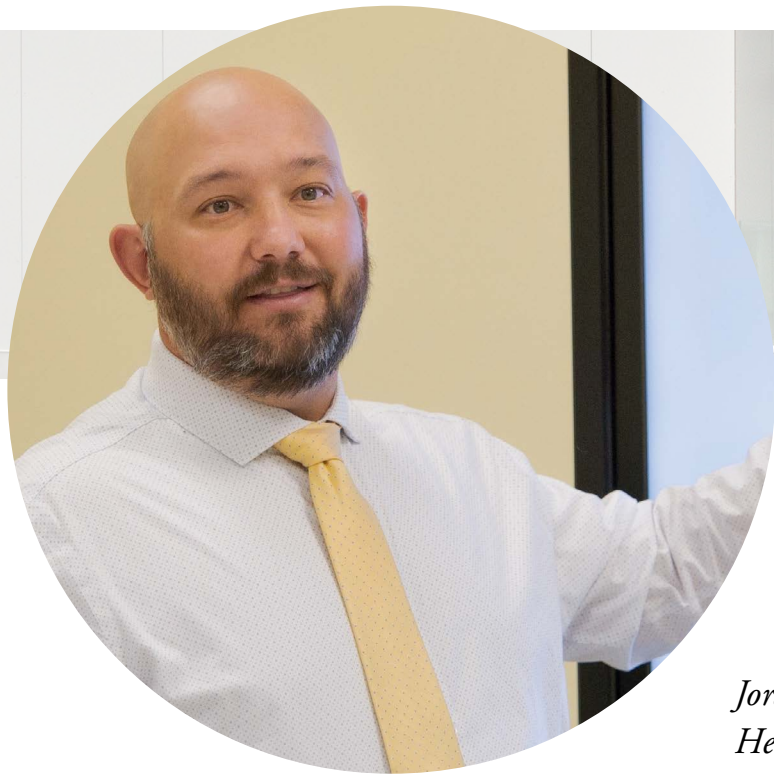
Story by George Ledbetter

Photo by Daniel Binkard



Read math science alumni memories online at csc.edu/alumni/connected

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MATH SCIENCE BUILDING FROM THOSE WHO TAUGHT AND LEARNED INSIDE OF IT



Jordan Haas is an Instructor of Mathematics. He has taught at CSC since 2020.

Jordan Haas

What inspired your interest in mathematics?

I first knew I wanted to be a teacher and a coach. I thought about what I was best at in high school and knew that math teachers were in need.

What was your first impression as a student of the Math Science building?

I wasn't all that impressed with the old building until I explored a bit. It takes some exploring to find the really awesome parts.

Did your professors fill blackboards with complicated equations?

I'm just a little young for that. I did experience dry erase boards. The CSC Math Program has been on the cutting edge of technology even before I was a student. They were some of the first to provide an in-class experience for fully online students by recording daily lectures and sharing them. It started with a giant camcorder with a dubbing

VCR and has since transformed into a digital recording students can access five minutes after the class is done. With the classroom technologies in the new building, the sky is the limit for what is next.

What is the atmosphere in the Math Science building?

As you walk through you can tell there are a lot of goal-oriented, hard-working individuals who are busting their tails studying for the next test. Unless you are doing it too, most people have no idea. There's a special bond that got built in that building—a bond of mutual respect for someone with the same struggle as you.

Do math students care what kind of building they are taught in?

I don't think it matters as long as students feel comfortable and part of the class. Our teachers at CSC could teach in a cave and provide great

lectures. A shiny new building only helps students with an even better experience.

Algebra, trigonometry, calculus: which is your favorite?

Algebra. Algebra is the building block for the others. Without having a grasp on algebra, the other two are very difficult. I like helping students build a base that will help them through the rest of their career.

Do students benefit from having math and science classes in the same building?

Math and science are closely related, so it's nice to have like-minded individuals around that you can ask for ideas or suggestions. I have a lot of respect for what the people in the science department do and I'm happy to share a building with them.

Other than a seven year stint, Professor Dr. Joyce Hardy has taught in the Science program at CSC since the early 1980s.

Dr. Joyce Hardy

What was your first experiment as a student in CSC's Math Science building?

Documenting plant distributions/ occurrence and habitats, closely followed by work with plant genetics. Most of my research at the time involved documenting the presence and locations of plants in the Nebraska Sandhills and High Plains region of western Nebraska.

Did special features in the building inspire interest in science?

I started working in the High Plains Herbarium my first semester and continued through most of my student experience. The plant museum remains one of the most active in the nation under the direction of Steve Rolfsmeier. The geology area was also very important. My husband Bob worked with paleontology fossils and we met at the water fountain between the herbarium and the geology labs.

What was your most memorable science experience?

Searching for and eventually finding Blowout Penstemon (*Penstemon haydenii*) in the Valentine Wildlife Refuge. In the late 1970s, Dr. Ron Weedon and I found quite a

few different populations in the Nebraska Sandhills. The plant is endemic to Nebraska, breathtakingly beautiful, has a significant role in sand dune stabilization, and remains rare.

What was the most unusual experiment in the building?

Merlin Butler conducted genetics studies during the 1970s using whiteflies grown in the CSC greenhouse. The progeny of those experiments were with us until we moved from the building for remodeling, so for at least 40 years.

What did students like most about the Math Science building?

The best part of the building was the open spaces that encouraged student-to-student and student-to-faculty interactions. The openness of the rotunda, the coffee pot in the botany lab, and the many spaces for informal gatherings or studying made this a welcoming learning environment.

What did you like best?

The people of the Math Science building remain the most important part of the learning experience at CSC. Formation of friendships, mentoring



from professors, and connections and exploring differences in opinions and backgrounds are key factors in our learning experiences. For me, faculty such as Mr. McCafferty, Mr. Kaus, Dr. Gibson, Dr. Agenbroad, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Fox. These people remained key supporters, mentors, and eventually friends.

What feature of the new Math Science Center of Interactive Learning are you most excited about?

The gathering spaces for students! The new expanded herbarium and geoscience museum! The additional storage space! The classrooms that support 21st century learning rather than 1950s style lecturing. This facility will support the best of our programs: the interactions within and outside of the classroom that are so critical to deep learning and the continued scientific research that is exceedingly important to our region.

*Stories by George Ledbetter
Photos by Daniel Binkard*



Math & Science Building, October 16, 1986. (Historical Photo)

Alumni memories of the Math Science Building



Math & Science Lab with Dr. Struempler, January 1987. (Historical Photo)

One of my favorite memories of the original Math and Science Building was as a freshman in 1981-82, we played handball in one of the storerooms in the basement. There were no handball courts on campus at that time and several students and a couple staff had regular matches down there. Dr. Art Struempler was the main faculty sponsor. He was an excellent player and formidable opponent. In later years we moved matches to the racket ball courts downtown. Eventually courts were built on campus.

Mark Brohman '81



I was a student at CSC in the mid 1980's (Deb Gaswick, class of 1987) and the Homecoming theme had to do with magic. Our math club, headed by Mr. Kaus, Dr. Fickel, and Dr. Ferguson; decorated the pendulum area. The sign in the background (around the stairway) said: Formulas Work Magic. I was the one who drew the rabbit in the magician's outfit and our math club building won that year. (That is me standing in the background.) The one pic was printed in the newspaper.

The Math/Science building was my home-away from home while I was in college. I have taught math for 32 years. I currently teach all HS math classes in a small Wyoming School in Baggs, WY; which my husband and I commute 38 miles each day from northwest Colorado. I loved my CSC math professors--they made my college days at CSC very memorable.

Deb (Gaswick) Yoast '87



Across the Country on Two Wheels

Not all learning at Chadron State College takes place in the classroom.

This summer, Social Sciences Professor Dr. Kurt Kinbacher, senior Jace Demeranville, (both shown in this photo) and English faculty Dr. Mary Clai Jones and Markus Jones left Chadron on bicycles loaded with camping gear and supplies for a ride across the country. Riding trails and backroads, while camping along the way, they will pedal to Washington, D.C., board a train to Seattle, then get back on bikes for the return trip to Chadron. The 3,500-mile adventure is a Capstone course, Biking USA, that allows students to challenge themselves physically while experiencing the variety of people, places, and cultures that make up America.



Jace Demeranville Looking Forward to Biking Journey

How old were you when you learned to ride a bike?

According to my mom, I learned to ride around the age of seven, after I crashed into a van down the street from my house. The first bike I remember was a green Walmart BMX complete with pegs on the front and rear wheels.

Have you ever done a long-distance bike ride?

I rode a 67-mile gravel race...and a three-day trip in the Chadron area only averaging 20 miles a day. This will be my first truly long trip.

Have you trained for this trip?

The weather makes it hard, but on a nice, not so windy day, I will try and ride 30 to 40 miles.

What is your biggest concern about the Biking USA trip?

Keeping up with the LA Dodgers. Seriously, I tend to go with the flow and trips like this really require that mindset. My mom is worried about my safety and just hopes I do not get hurt.

How does the trip fit into your academic and personal goals?

In my academic goals, the trip fills my Capstone requirement. Personally, I love a good adventure. A trip like this will allow me to challenge myself and I enjoy challenges. I am an Eagle Scout and this trip will be a good time to revisit why I was in the Scouts.

Would you ever consider only using a bike for personal transportation?

Once I bought my bike for the trip, all I could think about was how and where I could ride. Currently, I am not able to make it a primary mode of transportation, but hopefully one day I can implement it into daily tasks like going to work or grocery shopping.

What do your classmates think about your cycling across the country?

They are all for this trip and think it is awesome and a once-in-a-lifetime experience. There might be a few who are excited to see what I can create through writing and photography.



Dr. Kurt Kinbacher: Professor, Bike Expert, and Pie Aficionado

When did you learn to ride a bike?

I was probably six. My sisters and I all learned on a Schwinn with a tractor seat that someone had painted powder blue. All the cool kids had Stingrays. I got a paper route in fifth grade. I bought a yellow Schwinn Varsity 10-speed with my paper route money. Then I was cool, too.

How long has a bike been your only personal transportation vehicle?

Going on 40 years, I think.

What do you enjoy most about cross-country cycling?

I like to eat pie when I can find it, which is almost everywhere. But seriously it's one big package. You ride, you meet people, you learn about places, you eat, you sleep, then repeat until the trip is over.

How often do you stop during a ride?

I make sure to stop and have something to eat every hour or hour-and-a-half. The stops get longer as the day wears on. Some days are more leisurely than others.

What are your primary safety concerns?

Riding on safe roads. Roads with wide shoulders are fine. I try to avoid busy two-lane highways that do not have shoulders. Now that gravel (road) riding is a good option I like that best.

Do people you encounter while bikepacking think you are crazy?


There are a few well-traveled routes in the U.S. and folks that live around there are used to us. Sometimes people in RVs think we need a cookie or a PBJ sandwich. They are both kind and generally correct.

How does cross-country cycling relate to your academic pursuits?

When I think about history, I start thinking about place. You really get to know a place going as slow as we do. Bicyclists feel the terrain and the climate in an intimate sort of way.

Stories by George Ledbetter

Photos by Daniel Binkard

 Follow Biking USA's journey on Instagram @speed_goats

Chadron Volunteer Fire Department Chief Leading by Example

A childhood incident in Newton, Kansas, ultimately led Branden Martens to devote thousands of hours to the Chadron Volunteer Fire Department in the decade since completing his Chadron State College business management degree.

Going home from baseball practice one day, Martens' father encountered a crashed car and pulled an unconscious woman from the burning vehicle, said Martens, who is now in his third year as chief of the Chadron VFD.

"If my dad had not seen the wreck she probably wouldn't have lived," Martens said. "I was pretty young and didn't do more than get in the way, but that was a key point for me. I wanted to help out."

Following high school graduation, Martens attended Fort Scott Community College for two years then came to Chadron State. He graduated in 2012, got a job with a local hardware store, and wrestled with deciding what to do next.

"I always was intrigued on the fire department side," he said. "I put in an application (at the Chadron Fire Hall). That's how it all started."

Becoming a qualified firefighter takes time, Martens said. Chadron requires a one-year probationary

period, and intensive training, so volunteers know what is expected of them. Specialized training follows, to prepare for the diverse situations the Chadron department encounters.

"We run emergency medical services, wild land fire, and structure fire," Martens said. "There is a lot of different knowledge to learn."

Now an emergency medical technician with several levels of firefighter qualifications and training in hazardous materials, vehicle extrication, and other fields, Martens regularly attends required refresher courses. That's part of how he leads the Chadron department, which currently has 49 members.

"I want to lead by example," he said. "I never want to ask anyone to take a class that I haven't done or am not willing to go do with them."

Business courses at Chadron State have proved useful in Martens' role. Chadron's department has three funding sources for operations, which means tracking three different budgets, as well as community donations and a capital improvement fund, he said.

Martens credits local support for keeping the Chadron Fire Department strong.

"It's the community that makes the department move smoothly," he said.

He is grateful for the backing of his wife, Trisha (Gortsema) Martens, a 2016 Chadron State graduate.

"Her sister, brother-in-law, and mom are on the Crawford Fire Department. She grew up with it more than I did," he said.

Chadron State plays a role in keeping the all-volunteer department staffed, as many CSC students join while enrolled in college, Martens said.

"We have a lot of volunteers from CSC," he said. "Many have found this was something they wanted to do and expanded their careers to paid departments."

That's a rewarding part of being fire chief, Martens said.

"I really enjoy helping people. I want to be there when someone is having a bad day and get the knowledge and training to the volunteers who are on our department, so that they can continue to grow and make our department better."

Story by George Ledbetter

Photo by Daniel Binkard

"It's the community that makes the department move smoothly."

— Branden Martens



Biology Grad to Begin Research Career

Isioma Akwanamnye has cultivated lasting friendships at Chadron State College, experienced personal growth, and is confident of a promising future.

Although she had earned a doctoral degree in ophthalmology from the University of Benin, she discovered the career path was not a comfortable fit for her so she went online to look for good science programs and CSC appeared in her search results. An additional attraction was the IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) program, a statewide grant program that funds Nebraska undergraduates' research for two years.

"I really liked research and I wanted to go where I could be independent and be my own person. I decided to get a human biology degree, a step forward toward a Ph.D. and doing research," she said.

Akwanamnye, who has earned a full fellowship at Case Reserve Western in Ohio, is grateful for CSC academic advisors who tailored her course schedules for her intended career as a research scientist.

"My science classes ground you and give you a different perspective. You develop skills and advance to the next class using and integrating all of that information. The faculty put you in

positions where you have to logically think about problems and critically analyze them, which is what you do in graduate school. I took classes at CSC that I needed to thrive in grad school. I think that's one of the major benefits I received," she said.

After Akwanamnye graduates from Case Western Reserve, she plans to return to Lagos.

"I am going to set up labs for people like me who want to be scientists, but don't have the resources to travel like I did. Nigeria isn't very research-driven, we're more of a consumer country," she said. "I want to bring solutions to their problems. That's the big drive for me."

She realizes the importance of having and being a role model.

"Someone once told me that for you to be able to reach your goals, you have to envision other people who look like you being in that position. Before I came to the U.S., I'd never seen a scientist who looked like me. Then, I went to UNMC and met people on a daily basis who looked like me and were doing awesome science work. I want to be that person young students look to and say, 'Well, she's doing this, so I can do it too.' I want to step into that space," she said.

*Story by Tena L. Cook
Photo by Daniel Binkard*



Swanson Flourishing at Chadron State

Several things drew Abigail Swanson to CSC: small classes, a rural campus and community, scholarships, appealing majors and minors, and the distance from her home in Grand Island, Nebraska. In December 2020, Swanson earned a bachelor's degree in business administration with a minor in creative writing and is pursuing an MBA in Digital Marketing.

"CSC gave me a place to grow. More than the classwork, CSC gave me an opportunity to become myself and explore what I believe and what is important to me. Yes, I learned professional skills of how to effectively use the five P's of marketing or how to properly show and not tell in writing, but what has really helped me, personally and professionally, is learning to be comfortable putting myself and my ideas out into the world," Swanson said.

Swanson creates jewelry and other crafts, preserves foods, and makes her grandfather's fudge with black walnuts she finds in nature.

"I see the world differently than a lot of people and I want to share that whether through writing, photography, or jewelry bits and bobs. I've always been a maker. I think it comes from growing up for a time without many disposable financial resources. I love the process of taking

incomplete pieces and turning them into a real thing with value. I think that also draws me to writing, the process of taking an empty page and filling it with black squiggles of meaning that didn't exist before," she said.

She gained a meaningful experience in March through a church group's 10-day visit to a Movida missions training center in Switzerland. She helped plant trees, prepare garden plots, and visited Swiss and German churches.

"Experiencing the beauty of another country was unreal to me. I woke up in the morning and had to keep checking the mountain landscape outside to remind myself where I was. It was strange being hampered in communication by language barriers. It made me see I really should work on expanding my lingual knowledge. But despite the language barrier, I was able to develop friendships and connections with people from all over the world," she said.

For her future plans, Swanson would like to publish books, earn a graduate degree in creative writing, gain life experience, and teach writing in a college setting.

*Story by Tena L. Cook
Photo by Daniel Binkard*



“When I got to CSC, Roger (Mays) and Scott (Cavin) opened my eyes to so many new ways of performing and building a show.”

— Staysha Adams

Alumni Reunite for Theatre Production

A recent North Platte Community Playhouse production of *Clue*, based on the board game of the same name about a murder at a mansion with several suspects, featured four Chadron State College alumni. Actors included Staysha Adams (2014) as Mrs. Peacock, Lane Swedberg (2016) as Mr. Green, Chantel Burch (2014) as Mrs. White, and Jesse Young (2015) as Wadsworth, the butler.

Adams, an Elementary Education major, has a long history of theatrical involvement and participated in many CSC productions from 2011 to 2014. She said the Theatre faculty worked hard to ensure the students were well-rounded in all areas.

“When I got to CSC, Roger (Mays) and Scott (Cavin) opened my eyes to so many new ways of performing and building a show,” Adams said.

The skills she built at CSC helped her succeed as a director of high school one-act plays and as company manager at Theatre West in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. She has also found applications in her current role as an elementary special education teacher in North Platte.

Swedberg, a Middle Grades Math and Science Education major, acted in several CSC productions, but focused mainly on studying Music. He has been involved in the North Platte

Community Theatre for six years and plays trumpet, flugelhorn, and piccolo trumpet. He has played in the pit band for six shows and acted in six more.

Swedberg felt a personal connection to his character from playing *Clue* as a child.

“When I played the board game growing up, I would pick my game piece solely off of their color, blue and green being my favorites, so it is very fitting that I got to play the part of Mr. Green,” Swedberg said.

Young, a Justice Studies major, recognized his fellow CSC alumni when he auditioned at the end of February.

“I saw Chantel during auditions and thought, ‘I know her ... I think I went to college with her,’” he said.

Burch, a Communication major, said she has enjoyed reviving old stories with her fellow CSC alumni.

“I’m so grateful we could reconnect and get to know each other better. I feel like I have a new group of old friends,” Burch said.

Adams agreed it has been a good opportunity for CSC alumni to reconnect.

“This cast is made up of a very fun, very talented group of people, and there is never a dull moment,” Adams said.

Story by Abigail Swanson

Photo by Daniel Binkard

Scenes from Spring Commencement

Commencement is always a special time at Chadron State College. Here are a few glimpses into the celebration.

Clockwise, from top, Chadron State College 2022 Ivy Day royalty, from left, attendants Alexis Heller of Wisner, Neb., Aubree Noble of Chadron, Abigail Klammer of Juanita, Neb., Isi Akwanamnye of Lagos, Nigeria, and Queen Jori Peters of Mitchell, Neb., King Estabon Bozeman of Los Angeles, attendants Kael Juelfs of Kingman, Ariz., Justin Gress of Hebron, Neb., Riley Hill of Greybull, Wyo., and Jordan Orr.

Damien Zuniga of Colorado Springs, Colo., right, is congratulated by Chadron State College President Randy Rhine during Commencement May 7.

Graduate Donald Clabaugh and his wife, Caty, of Sheridan, Wyo., pose with their daughter, Cambree, following commencement May 7.

Graduate Arianna Anderson poses with her mortar board following commencement at the Chicoine Center.

Platinum Eagle runner-up Aubree Noble of Chadron, winners Abigail Klammer of Juanita, Neb., and Nate Cronin of Fort Pierre, S.D., and runner-up Estabon Bozeman of Los Angeles, pose in Memorial Hall following Ivy Day.

All photos by Tena L. Cook



Join us for the first Day of Giving for CSC

Oct. 12, 2022

Inspire – One Day for CSC is a 24-hour virtual day of engagement and giving to support Chadron State College students. CSC supporters across the nation will come together to raise critical funding for scholarships, programs, student organizations, athletics, and more.

24 Hours to Help CSC Change the World

inspire.csc.edu

Former Female Athletes Proud of Their Accomplishments as Students

Only 35 words comprise a piece of legislation that revolutionized not only athletics at Chadron State College, but all of education, when Title IX went into effect in 1972. Its purpose was to create academic and athletic opportunities for female students at all levels of education, including hundreds of CSC alumni over the years.

On the 50th anniversary of the educational amendment's passage, three Eagle alumnae — representing three generations — reflect on their experiences as female student-athletes at Chadron State.

Dr. Joanne Owens-Nauslar attended CSC before Title IX was passed, and it was a time when women's athletics looked much different from their current form.

She had been limited to primarily intramural competition, as a teen growing up in Newcastle, Wyoming. The one exception was when she toured local rodeos, going by the name "Jo Owens," with her ponytail tucked firmly under her cowboy hat, and attempted to stay atop a bull for eight seconds. Her high school did not sponsor interscholastic competition, and offered limited programs in volleyball and basketball. Girls did not qualify for varsity letters.

At CSC from 1966 to 1970, Owens-Nauslar competed in the college's athletic offerings under the Women's Recreation Association. The organization provided opportunities in volleyball, basketball, and softball, but women were not eligible for a letter, or any other sanctioned acknowledgement. She recalls she did not realize that gender equity was lacking at the college until after graduation.

"My experience at Chadron was great," Owens-Nauslar said, "because I

got to do what I wanted to do, which was just to be physical. I wanted to see what this unique gift, called the human anatomy, can do in terms of skill building, participation, and competition. I don't know that I thought, 'Oh dear, why can't I earn a letter?' I don't even remember processing that. I was just grateful to continue to do physiological skill building."

Love of sports inspired Owens-Nauslar to go back to Newcastle and start interscholastic volleyball, basketball, and track programs at the high school.

It was during the mid-70s that Owens-Nauslar began her advocacy work for gender equity. She was able to connect with pioneers in the space, such as Billie Jean King, Pat Summit, Patsy Mink, Christine Brennan, Brenda VanLengen, and Barbara Hibner. In graduate school in Lincoln, she was an assistant coach for Nebraska women's basketball coach George Nicodemus, and under athletic director Bob Devaney, she helped plan the implementation of women's sports at UNL.

As a lifelong educator, Owens-Nauslar believes strong organizational management and innovation were key to getting women's sports off the ground.

"It's one thing to say, 'We have to do this,'" she said, "but it's another thing to help with a plan. Had we already known how to do it, then maybe we'd have done it before.

"People say, 'Think outside the box, and push the envelope,' but I say 'Think outside the envelope, and push the box.' Because the other saying is, 'If you always do what you've always done, then you'll always get what you've always gotten.' We have to think about things differently."

By the time Tricia Lukawski arrived at CSC in 1989, the implementation of Title IX was underway.

Lukawski grew up in East Chicago, Indiana, during a time when women's sports were still developing. She noticed the progress in the late 70s and early 80s. Lukawski started playing softball at age eight, and fell in love with basketball in elementary school.

"I was probably more aware of it when I was in high school," Lukawski said. "My high school won a couple of the first Indiana girls' basketball championships, in the 10 years before I got there. Even in those 10 years, the development of the sport was night and day."

At CSC, she became the Eagles' all-time leading scorer, first women's basketball All-American, and first female inductee to the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Hall of Fame.

She went on to coach middle school volleyball, freshman high school basketball, and college basketball, and currently teaches high school physical education at Merrillville High School in Indiana.

Lukawski said she would not change a thing about her CSC experience.

"It gave me exactly what I was looking for at the time," she said, "without even knowing that's what I needed."

The athletic program during her four years was moving toward gender equity, she said, but was not all the way there yet.

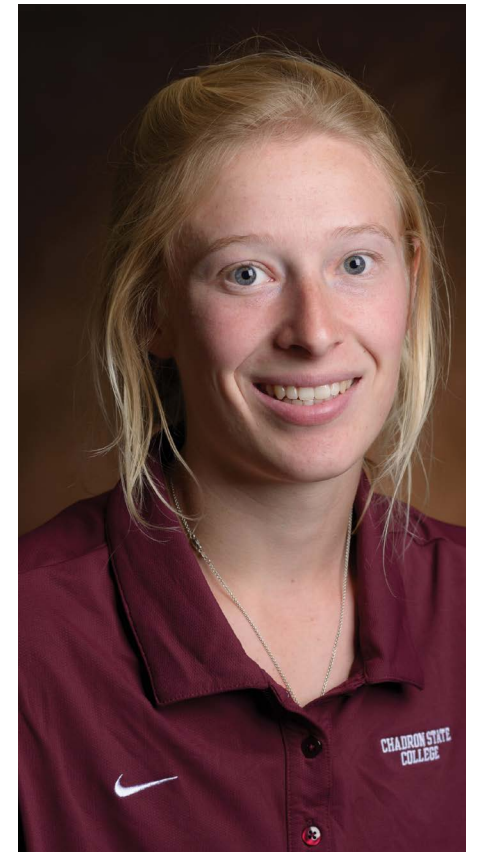
"They were starting to try to even out scholarship money and travel expenses," Lukawski said. "We were right on the cusp of it, but I don't think we were really to the point that the beneficiaries of Title IX are today. In terms of what money was allocated to each sport, they didn't have full scholarships for women. I was one of



Dr. Joanne Owens-Nauslar



Tricia Lukawski



Stachia Reuwsaat

the very first to have a full ride, and even that took some creative license to figure out where to get the money from."

As someone who follows the WNBA and other women's sports closely, Lukawski sees opportunity yet to be made in gender equity. In her perception, women's financial incentives, for instance, don't match up with those offered to men.

"Where Title IX is concerned," she said, "I know there's been great advancements, in terms of trying to get equality in women's sports. Yes, it has made a big difference, but I just don't think we're there yet, in terms of equality."

Both Owens-Nauslar and Lukawski helped pave the way for two-time national champion Stachia Reuwsaat, who is one of the most decorated student-athletes in CSC track and field history.

"The opportunity to compete at Chadron State meant the world to me,"

Reuwsaat said. "I was surrounded by people who challenged me to grow as a person and as an athlete every single day. It gave me a community from day one."

The eight-time All-American from Black Hawk, South Dakota, graduated in 2017, and coached track and field before enrolling in law school at the University of Notre Dame. She was accepted into the Wyoming Bar Association last fall, and serves as a clerk to Judge Liam P. Hardy at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the U.S. Armed Forces in Washington, D.C.

She continues to benefit from her experience as a student-athlete, citing discipline and learning from failure as two attributes from athletics that she was able to cling to through law school. Reuwsaat also has a profound appreciation for the legislation that made it all possible.

"I loved being a female athlete," she said. "It's formed and shaped who I am as a person, and it has catapulted my career

in an intangible way, which I couldn't properly express or measure. There hasn't been a single job interview where I haven't been asked about my time as a track athlete. It's something I learned a lot from, and it continues to give to me. My sport is important to me, and I think it's invaluable to have women in those spaces."

Owens-Nauslar encapsulates the legacy of all the female students and athletes who have passed through Chadron State College, and gone on to greater things, thanks in part to Title IX.

"It's about equitable opportunities," she said. "Forget problems, and think opportunity. Watch me be bigger, better, and bolder than even I thought I could be, let alone those around me. Watch me soar. I'll soar with my strength, manage my weaknesses, and go make a difference."

Story by Kaleb Center
Photos by Daniel Binkard,
CSC Historical Archive



CLASS NOTES

'60s

John Brehm '69, Scottsbluff, was named 2021 Citizen of the Year by the Star-Herald for the second time in recognition of his service as a veterans service officer.

'70s

Yvette (Danielson) Engelhaupt '70, Grand Island, joined the board of the Grand Island Public Schools Foundation.

Dennis Holmes '76, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, was appointed the United States Attorney for the District of South Dakota.

Steve Gardiner '77, Lake City, Minnesota, published his seventh book, "Mountain Dreams: The Drive to Explore, Experience and Expand," which is an account of his mountain climbing trips throughout the world.

Andy Pope BS '79, MS '90, Chadron, retired as athletic director at Chadron High School after serving 38 years in the district.

Kathleen "Kit" Watson MS '79, Chadron, had her artwork showcased in an exhibit, "Take Me to the Moon," at the Prairie Arts Center in North Platte.

'80s

Dr. Richard Patterson BA '84, MS '86, SE '89, Torrington, Wyoming, was named interim president of Eastern Wyoming College.

Randy Jarzynka '86, Cairo, reached 100,000 lifetime running miles.

Mike Lecher '87, Chadron, received the Mike Berens Coaching Award from Huskerland Prep following a 9-0 season.

Kimberly Engel '87, Scottsbluff, joined the board of the Nebraska Community Foundation.

'90s

Brian Maschmann '91, Norris, was named superintendent of Norris Public Schools.

Moni Hourt '91, Crawford, was honored by History Nebraska with its Advocacy Award for her contributions to Nebraska history.

Chris Stein BS '91, MS '03, Chadron, was hired as principal of Alliance High School.

Sean Velte '98, Grant, was named the North Central Region Trooper of the Year by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the first time a Nebraska trooper was chosen for the region.

'00s

Rick Barry '01, Crawford, was named Chadron Public Schools activities director.

Dr. Michael Moravec '01, Scottsbluff, leads a team of physical therapists at Bluffs Physical Therapy.

Maggie (Ryan) Mintken '02, Grand Island, is the new principal at West Lawn Elementary.

Lukas Benzel BSE '07, ME '14, Gering, is the new principal at Longfellow Elementary.

Taryn Retzlaff ME '09, Norfolk, has been hired as the Nebraska State Athletic Association assistant director.

'10s

Lily (Amare) Carr '10, Lincoln, was promoted to partner at Cline Williams Wright Johnson & Oldfather.

Dan Maciejczak '11, Pierre, South Dakota, was named assistant football coach at T. F. Riggs High School in Pierre.

Annie (Lofgren) Seamann BSE '13, ME '18, Maxwell, was hired as head girls' varsity basketball coach at Maxwell Public Schools.

Kelsey Cahill '17, North Platte, was hired as K-12 guidance counselor for Brady Public Schools.

Hank Strauss '17, Aztec, New Mexico, was hired as head football coach at Aztec High School.

Marco Sanchez '19, Lake Charles, Louisiana, was hired for the football coaching staff at McNeese State University as defensive quality control.

Sharaya Toof '19, Scottsbluff, was hired as small business outreach and public relations coordinator by the City of Scottsbluff.

'20s

Trent Grizzle '20, Crawford, was hired as head football coach at Crawford High School.

MARRIAGES

'10s

Draper Sullivan '17, Grand Island, married Raychel Thomas Aug. 14, 2021.

Emily (Blaha) Felton '16, Ord, married Jason Felton Dec. 11, 2021.

Jessi (Aufrecht) Bandy '18, Peculiar, Missouri, married Matthew Bandy Jan. 28, 2021.

Patrick Cassidy '19, Orlando, Florida, married Lillie Cooper April 22, 2022.

'20s

Vonsinh '20 and **Gabriele (Moody) Sayaloune '20**, Vermillion, South Dakota, married Aug. 7, 2020.

FUTURE EAGLES

'00s

Charlotte to **Joshua Russo '04** and Brooke, Lincoln, Oct. 4, 2020.

'10s

Nora Elise to **Christopher Zayas '10** and Carra, Houston, Dec. 30, 2021.

Grace Abigail to **Rayna (Waggener) Woodward '13** and Dan, Rapid City, South Dakota, Jan. 7, 2022. She joins brother Samuel.

Evaline Wava to **Angela (Christensen) Osborn '15** and Trevor, Gillette, Wyoming, May 5, 2021. She joins sister Adalyn Kay.

Ayven Lee to **Holly (Bracht) att. and Kylee Polsley '15**, Hampton, Virginia, Feb. 14, 2022.

Amber Sue to **Melissa (VanDerslice) '17** and **Cole Kayton '17**, Burwell, Oct. 27, 2021.

Hayes Louis to **Sara (Joe) Dexter '17** and Hiram, Central City, Oct. 10, 2020.

'20s

Nekosivonh "Neko" to **Vonsinh '20** and **Gabriele (Moody) Sayaloune '20**, Vermillion, South Dakota, July 2020.

OBITUARIES

Former Faculty/Staff

Janet "Jan" Adams, Chadron, died May 6, 2022.

Jean Drinkwalter, Chadron, died May 8, 2022.

Roger Mays, Chadron, died March 5, 2022.

Dr. Noranne Sue Yeager, Kalispell, Montana, died Oct. 10, 2021.

Friends

Jerry Kallhoff, Chadron, died May 18, 2022.

'40s

Dorothy (Amende) Hodson '48, Rapid City, South Dakota, died Dec. 25, 2021.

Marvin Spracklen '49, Boise, Idaho, died April 17, 2021

'50s

Harry Hull '52, Denver, died Dec. 23, 2021.

Joan (Forbes) Wilson '52, Lincoln, died Feb. 5, 2022.

Leta (Dreyer) Marx '59, Rushville, died April 26, 2022.

'60s

Martha (Simons) Foster '61, Valentine, died Dec. 12, 2021.

Max Allen BS '64, MS '66, Omaha, died April 29, 2022.

Joan (DeLong) Pearson BS '64, MS '69, Fort Morgan, Colorado, died Nov. 24, 2021.

Robert Yost '64, Kingman, Arizona, died Oct. 5, 2021.

Marian Ludeman '65, Boise, Idaho, died April 30, 2022.

Lanny Neese '66, Glendale, Arizona, died Jan. 23, 2022.

Phyllis (Marshall) Grieser '67, Porterville, California, died March 20, 2022.

Thomas Crokier '67, Henderson, Nevada, died Dec. 9, 2021.

Judy (Lemons) Bach '67, Pierre, South Dakota, died March 4, 2022.

Kenneth Harrod '68, Edgemont, South Dakota, died April 7, 2022.

Gary Butler BS '69, MS '72, Trimble, Missouri, died May 1, 2022.

John Schoneberg '69, Sutton, died April 6, 2022.

Perry Beguin '69, Spearfish, South Dakota, died May 6, 2022.

'70s

Steve Edwards '70, Ogallala, died Feb. 11, 2022.

Stan Rochlitz '70, Paxton, died Jan. 27, 2022.

Ralph Scheffey '71, Selbyville, Delaware, died Jan. 16, 2022.

Diane (Gordon) Wallace '71, Las Vegas, died Feb. 7, 2022.

Dale Anderson '72, Chadron, died May 18, 2022.

Randall "Randy" Stutheit '74, Casper, Wyoming, died March 12, 2022.

Martha "Marty" (Conner) Boyer '75, Mullen, died March 29, 2022.

Debra (Waterman) Stranberg '77, Omaha, died March 4, 2022.

Dolores (Hagman) Boldon '78, Alliance, died Jan. 4, 2022.

Polly (Sundin) Swayne '78, Gordon, died April 9, 2022.

'80s

Michael Cruickshank '80, Torrington, Wyoming, died Feb. 7, 2022.

Delynn (Clark) Cain, wife of **Rodney Cain '80**, North Platte, died Feb. 4, 2022.

Philip Curd '81, Chadron, died March 5, 2022.

Wanda (Wedekind) Kreitman '83, Chadron, died May 10, 2022.

Donald Gilman MA '85, Chadron, died April 8, 2022.

Pamela (McCall) Buffington '86, Minatare, died Jan. 22, 2022.

Gregory Baker '87, Scottsbluff, died April 3, 2022.

Jill Smith BA '89, MA '92, Torrington, Wyoming, died Dec. 21, 2021.

'90s

Gary Gustafson SE '91, Newton, Iowa, died Jan. 9, 2021.

Kevin Exley '92, Casper, Wyoming, died Dec. 24, 2021.

Timothy Wolfe '93, Wellfleet, died Dec. 16, 2021.

Gary Knispel MS '94, Murdo, South Dakota, died Jan. 21, 2022.

Lauri (Nickerson) Lamm '95, Cheyenne, Wyoming, died July 16, 2021. *Corrected.*

Alicia (May) Stolley BSE '98, ME '08, Chadron, died April 21, 2022.

James Shuey '99, Omaha, died Jan. 15, 2022.

'00s

Richard "Rick" Ryan '04, North Platte, died April 27, 2021.

'10s

Rylee (Hanks) Downs '17, Crawford, died Jan. 14, 2022.

Craig Conway, a Publications Specialist in College Relations who managed the Chadron State College Print Shop, died May 29, 2022. He was 46.



During his life, Conway was diagnosed with rare cancers multiple times and within the last decade, he underwent several surgeries, extended hospital stays in Illinois, Georgia, and Colorado, as well as multiple rounds of chemotherapy and radiation. Throughout his entire illness, Conway maintained a positive attitude and served as an inspiration and beacon of perseverance for many.

Conway, a CSC alumnus, worked at the college for 21 years. He was hired as a Print Shop Technician and operated the college's offset printing press for several years while also handling finishing services, such as binding, folding, and cutting. In addition to his printing expertise, Conway was a talented graphic designer and artist.

Conway is survived by his wife, Joleen, and daughter, Gillian.

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

Magazine Staff

Daniel Binkard	George Ledbetter
Kaleb Center	Con Marshall
Tena L. Cook	SuAn Schreuder
Brandon Davenport	Karen Pope
Dwayne Gimeson	Abigail Swanson
Alex Helmbrecht	Ben Watson

Please forward address changes to:

CSC Alumni Office, 1000 Main St., Chadron, NE 69337 or alumni@csc.edu

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Issues of the Chadron State Magazine can be found at www.csc.edu/alumni



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Schedule of Events

Friday, September 30

- 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Registration at Alumni Office: Sparks Hall
- Noon Eagles Luncheon, visit with President Rhine: Bordeaux Room, Student Center
- 2-3:30 p.m. Campus Tours: Student Center
- 5-7 p.m. Homecoming Huddle: Lewellen Hospitality Room, Don Beebe Stadium

Saturday, October 1

- 8-9 a.m. Alumni Coffee & Registration: Lobby, Student Center
- 9:30 a.m. Parade: Main Street
- 11 a.m. Homecoming Luncheon: Ballroom, Student Center
Recognition of Family Tree, Alumni Award Recipients, Reunion Groups
- 1 p.m. CSC Football vs. Colorado School of Mines: Don Beebe Stadium
- 4 p.m. Postgame Reception: Country Kitchen
- 6 p.m. Reunion Group Social and Dinner
Golden Era Reunion*
Alpha Omicron Pi Reunion*

*Watch for specific RSVP and event details in your mail for:

- Golden Era Reunion: Class of 1972
- Alpha Omicron Pi Reunion

Learn more at csc.edu/alumni/events or Chadron State Alumni on Facebook.

Homecoming Registration

Event details at csc.edu/alumni/events/homecoming.csc

Please save, this will be the only notice. Deadline is September 23, 2022. Return with your paid reservations to: CSC Alumni Office, PO Box 1210, Chadron, NE 69337 or call 308-432-6366. You can also register and pay online at csc.edu/alumni/events/homecoming.csc

Name _____

Grad year _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Grad year _____ Additional Guest(s) _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Phone _____

Contact E-mail _____

Friday, September 30

Eagles Luncheon: \$17/person # _____ \$ _____

Homecoming Huddle: \$15/person # _____ \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Saturday, October 1

Homecoming Luncheon

\$20/adult # _____ \$ _____

\$10/12 & under # _____ \$ _____

5 & under are free # _____

Total \$ _____

Grand Total \$ _____

Requests for registration refunds will be honored for cancellations made by September 16, 2022.