Chadron State students help Iditarod get off and going

By Justin Haag

It could be said that a recent journey by a group of Chadron State College students went to the dogs, but only in a good way.

Nine students and three faculty members of Chadron State College served as volunteers for the annual Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race in Alaska in early March.

While there, the group learned how to handle a team of sled dogs and were given the opportunity to show their skills. Prior to the official start of the race, the students and faculty members joined other trained volunteers in helping harness some of the 96 teams and guiding the animals and sleds about a quarter mile to the official starting line.

Dr. Chuck Butterfield, one of the three faculty members who accompanied the students, said the group worked with a wide variety of sled dog teams, from those that were well funded by sponsors to those just in it for the love of the sport.

He said the dogs are too distracted by all the commotion around the event's start to listen to commands, so keeping them controlled can be a challenge.

continued on page 3
Letter from the President

Dear Alumni,

I’d like to use this opportunity to thank you for helping Chadron State College become the thriving institution that it is today.

From coast to coast and beyond, Chadron State has you, the alumni, to thank for being great ambassadors in your volunteer efforts of promoting the institution.

Maybe you have told prospective students, or their parents, about the great experiences you had at Chadron State. Maybe you have given money for scholarships and facilities. Maybe you’ve publicly credited Chadron State for giving you the skills needed to succeed in your job or career. Perhaps, you have bought some Chadron State apparel or other merchandise and often display it with pride around your community.

Each of these actions helps Chadron State build on its success, and without the positive testimonials and wide range of support that Chadron State receives from its alumni, the institution would not be able to operate, let alone be the flourishing entity that it has become.

The people of Chadron State are extremely proud of its graduates. People who hold degrees from Chadron State have chalked up a long list of accomplishments while serving countless occupations and organizations.

You represent what Chadron State is all about, and you play an important role in making the institution thrive. Please continue telling people about your college days while cheering on the Eagles. You hold a key to Chadron State’s future, whether you realize it or not.

Sincerely,

Janie C. Park, Ph.D.
President
Chadron State College

Enrollment up again at CSC

More students are choosing Chadron State College to further their education, according to the institution’s enrollment figures from this spring.

In late January, CSC’s head count was 2,455, up 114 students, or 4.8 percent, from the third week of January 2007. CSC’s full-time equivalency, a figure determined from the total number of credit hours processed, was up 3.6 percent, or 66 students, from the same reporting period last year.

The increase comes just after the college’s second consecutive fall semester enrollment increase, which was bolstered by a 10.8 percent rise in the number of freshman students.

The Nebraska State College System reported a 3.3 percent system wide enrollment increase this spring.

Alumni gatherings

Carl and Diane McManis hosted an alumni lunch at the Pebble Creek Clubhouse on March 2. Seated from left: Helen Froehlich, Daisy Mundtschenk and Micki Siewert. Back row: Loren Froehlich, Harold Mundtschenk, Diane and Carl McManis, Gary Lambert, Mike Smith and Rich Siewert.

A group of alumni gathered at the Landmark Restaurant in Mesa, Ariz. in early March. Pictured in the back row from left: Jean McClurey, Vickie Hoff, Cheryl Moody, Kathy Baumann, Karen Pope and Connie Rasmussen. Seated are Larry Moody, Clayton Luther and John Johnson.

Alumni

Alum gives graduates tips for good living

By Justin Haag

Dr. JoAnne Owens-Nauslar of Lincoln, who travels far and wide to speak about the benefits of healthy, active living, offered the graduates of Chadron State College numerous one-liners and a list of seven pointers that she termed "fossil wisdom" in December.

Owens-Nauslar, who earned a bachelor’s degree from CSC in 1970, injected laughter and school pride to her alma mater’s commencement ceremony while delivering the keynote address.

Since graduating from CSC and entering the health and physical education profession, Owens-Nauslar has been writing and teaching about health and wellness. Her articles have been published in referred journals, health and physical education curriculum guides and self-help books. She has delivered more than 2,000 speeches and presentations and said she is nearing 2 million miles of air travel. She is employed by GeoFitness, a company based in Orlando, Fla., that encourages physical activity and fitness.

The vivacious speaker also holds a doctorate from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. A native of Newcastle, Wyo., she takes pride in being a cowgirl and ranches with her husband, Red Nauslar, west of Lincoln.

"Some folks get up and say ‘Good morning, Lord.’ Others get up and say Good Lord, it’s morning.” I live in a peak performance body, so I get up every morning and say, ‘You sexy thing, don’t you ever die,’” she said, prompting laughs throughout the audience.

While telling about the importance of setting goals and sharing them with others, she related an experience from obtaining the master’s degree she earned from UNL in 1976. After she completed her thesis, her adviser required her to write personal and professional goals for the next five, 10, 15 and 20 years. He signed and laminated the finished product. She didn’t rediscover the document until cleaning out a flooded basement 20 years later, but was ecstatic to realize that she had accomplished each item.

About healthy living, she told the students to “eat smart and move more.” She noted Americans know more about being healthy than ever before, yet obesity and diabetes rates in the United States continue to rise.

In managing stress, she encouraged students to “take charge of the things you can take charge of,” and to not be obsessed by things of which they have no control. “If your horse is dead, dismount,” she said.

She also told the students to laugh a lot and always help others.

The speaker encouraged students to continue becoming effective communicators and, as an example, related a quote from the billboard of a veterinarian and taxidermist: “Either way, you get your dog back.”

She expressed pride in the success of CSC’s football team, which had its second consecutive undefeated regular season in fall 2007. She encouraged students to be proud of their alma mater, as well as their individual accomplishments.

“Be proud of your accomplishments and being a Chad grad.” You are an amazing group of talented individuals, embarking on the next steps of life. You represent yourself, your family, your beliefs and Chadron State College.”

In relating the widely circu-
lated motivational quotation, “Leaders are like eagles. They do not flock, you find them one at a time,” she told the class that they will cross paths with many other CSC alumni during their travels.

“Wherever you roam in the world, I guarantee you, you will find Chadron State Eagles.” From Lincoln to London, from Gothenburg to Germany, Chadron State alums make their mark on the world.”

She also left the graduates with another favorite quotation about living: “People who want milk should not seat themselves on a stool in the middle of the pasture and wait until the cow backs up to them.”

Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race in Alaska

(continued from page 1)

“You’ve gotta make all these corners and keep the teams from getting tangled,” Butterfield said. “And those dogs just want to run. That’s what they’re trained to do. You learn that you are probably going to fall down, and when you do fall down, you roll out of the way so that you don’t trip everybody behind you or get ran over by the sled.”

In addition to Butterfield, the students were led by Dr. Charles Snare, dean of arts and sciences, and Dr. Luke Perry, assistant professor of social sciences. Snare’s wife, Karen, enrolled for the trip as a student. Other students who participated in the trip were Jennifer Cleveland, Gering; James Girard, Alliance; Austin Horn, Sidney; Brooke Stewart, Waterbury; Sarlyn Morse, Imperial; Dan Vest, Pleasanton; Shane Max, Gothenburg and Jacob Frost, Overton.

While there, the group met people who have built a name for themselves in sled dog racing circles. They had photographs taken with perennial Iditarod contenders Lance Mackey and Jeff King. Mackey finished first in this year’s race and King was runner-up. They also met Gary Paulsen, the author of many best-selling wilderness books.

The group also encountered Chadron State alumni on the trip. Judi (Wernsman) Roach, a Sidney fourth-grade teacher and 2002 graduate of CSC, was there as a participant of Target’s Iditarod Teacher on the Trail program. They also had dinner with Sara Beth (Ramsey) Lyon, a 2005 graduate who is an elementary teacher in Chugiak, Alaska. Butterfield said other alumni living in Alaska corresponded by e-mail upon hearing that the group was coming to their state.

CSC’s contingent was the only college or university group that assisted at the start of the race, and was recognized by the Iditarod officials for their help. “The thank you e-mail that got sent out to all the handlers specifically mentioned Chadron State College,” he said.

While the sled dog race may have been the highlight of the trip, the group visited a number of other educational events and sites related to the history and culture of the “The Last Frontier.”

They toured the WWII port of Whittier, the Alaskan Native Heritage Center and a West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Center. They learned from a number of Alaskan officials, including a college history professor, a soils expert and range-land expert. They also got up close with moose at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks experimental farm and toured a farm that raises musk ox.

Butterfield said the students on the trip learned of possible internship opportunities in addition to having a great experience.
O’Boyle named Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year

By Alex Helmbrecht
Sports Information Director

Always an offensive lineman at heart, Chadron State head football coach Bill O’Boyle is the first one to give credit elsewhere. However, that’s a difficult thing to do once you’ve been named the 2007 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year for Division II.

O’Boyle, along with Ron Zook of Illinois, Jerry Kill of Southern Illinois, and John Gagliardi have each been awarded the prestigious coach of the year honor for exemplifying integrity, responsibility, and excellence on and off the football field.

The winners were announced during the Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year program on ABC in late December, 2007.

“It hasn’t even really set in yet because I haven’t had time to sit down and think about it,” O’Boyle said. “Winning the award is great for the program and I’m happy for my family because it’ll mean a lot to my mom and dad. I’m also happy for my staff because those guys put their hearts and souls into Chadron State football. The award is nice to get, but I wouldn’t have had a shot at it without the coaches who surround me.

“I’m glad people are seeing what our staff is doing with what little resources we have, so I have to give all the credit to the other coaches for this award. This isn’t a reflection of me; it’s their award as much as it is mine.”

O’Boyle, who’s posted a career record of 28-8 in three years and two consecutive 12-1 seasons while guiding the Eagles to back-to-back Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference titles, was chosen from a field of 150 Division II coaches.

With the award, O’Boyle receives a $50,000 cash award to support civic and charitable activities, as well as a $20,000 scholarship donation to the school’s alumni association.

O’Boyle said he plans to donate a large portion of the $50,000 to Friends of Pets, a regional organization that finds homes for rescued dogs, as well as placing unwanted pets.

“I’m really pleased I’ll be able to help out Friends of Pets,” O’Boyle said. “It’s a great organization but they don’t have a lot of resources so they spend money out of their own pockets. It’s unbelievable what they do for animals and so I’m glad I’ll be able to help them out.”

College football fans and a selection committee including College Football Hall of Fame-inducted players and coaches and national media members cast their votes throughout the football season. Fan votes were worth 20 percent, the Hall of Fame vote accounted for 55 percent and the media’s vote was worth 25 percent.

In addition to O’Boyle, the finalists for Division II included Nebraska-Omaha’s Pat Behrns, Chuck Broyes of Pittsburg State, Dr. George Mihalik of Slippery Rock, and Dale Lennon of North Dakota.

The Liberty Mutual award is one of several coaching honors O’Boyle has received. He’s been named the RMAC Coach of the Year and the American Football Coaches Association Region 5 Coach of the Year two consecutive seasons. He was also named the Sportexx Division II Coach of the Year and Football Gazette National Coach of the Year in 2006. Last season O’Boyle was also the first Chadron State coach to be named the Lincoln Journal Star College Coach of the Year.

O’Boyle, who graduated high school from Des Moines East High School in 1982, began his coaching career at Western Illinois as a student assistant coach after breaking his neck in a football game his sophomore year. Once he earned his bachelor’s degree from Western Illinois, O’Boyle served as a graduate assistant and then assistant coach at Chadron State. After a four-year stint coaching in Western Illinois, O’Boyle returned to Chadron in 1994 and has coached the Eagles’ offensive line and served as offensive coordinator. During his 14 years as an assistant coach, the Eagles posted a 106-41 record.

O’Boyle said former Western Illinois coaches Bill Wilt, Bruce Craddock and Dan Dodd were instrumental in guiding him as a coach. O’Boyle also said former Chadron State head coach and current athletic director Brad Smith had an influence on his coaching style.

In addition to his head coaching duties at Chadron State, O’Boyle is the offensive coordinator and coaches the offensive line. Away from the football field, he works with several organizations in Chadron including Friends of Pets, Operation Bread Basket, and Caring and Sharing for Christmas.

CSC grad Sharon Hoffman gets music award

A Chadron State College graduate who teaches vocal music at Bayard, Sharon Hoffman, received a second major state award in about a 15-month period earlier this year.

In late 2006, Hoffman was named Nebraska’s Music Educator of the Year during the fall meeting of the Nebraska Music Educators Conference in Lincoln. In late January, it was revealed that she was chosen by the Nebraska School Activities Association as the state’s recipient of its Music Educator Award for 2007.

A native of Rushville, Hoffman has taught music at Bayard ever since graduating from Chadron State in 1979.

She was a charter inductee to the CSC Music Hall of Fame in 2002.

The choral groups that Hoffman directs have consistently won top honors at festivals throughout the region and sung at many locations, including Mount Rushmore, Worlds of Fun in Kansas City, Elitch’s Gardens in Denver, the Jefferson Memorial and Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and Disney World in Florida and on two cruise ships.

1979 graduate to speak at spring commencement

Dr. Kelvin Sharp, a graduate of Chadron State College who is president of South Plains College of Texas, will return to his alma mater in May to deliver the commencement address. The ceremony will be Saturday, May 3, at 10 a.m.

Sharp earned a bachelor’s degree in physics and mathematics from CSC in May 1979. He earned both his doctorate and master’s degree from Texas Tech University at Lubbock.

Sharp was hired at South Plains as dean of arts and sciences in July 1999. He was promoted to vice president for academic affairs in January 2000 and was named president of the college in November 2004.

South Plains is a comprehensive community college that enrolls more than 19,000 credit and non-credit students each year at campus locations in Levelland, Lubbock and Plainview.

The institution serves 15 counties in west Texas that cover more than 13,000 miles of the southern portion of the Texas High Plains. Last Flag Day, 26 students from Bayard joined about 5,000 other high school musicians in the nation’s capital to participate in first lady Laura Bush’s National Anthem project.

During the 2006 state convention of the Nebraska Music Educators, Bayard was recognized for having at least 65 percent of its high school students involved in music. She said 11 of her former students are members of music groups at colleges and universities this year.

Hoffman’s husband, Ron, is also a Chadron State graduate. He is in the CSC Athletic Hall of Fame.
Sudan refugee speaks of perseverance

By Justin Haag

John Bul Dau, a native of Sudan who survived ruthless conditions after being forced from his war-torn village as a boy in 1987, gave an audience of about 500 at Chadron State College a lesson in perseverance in February.

During the 1,000-mile walk from his war-torn village to safer locations in Ethiopia and Kenya, Dau, who was 13 years old, and about 27,000 other refugees encountered countless trials, including starvation and crocodile-infested waters. As one of the older boys, he led a group that grew from 50 to 1,200. He said they ate mud and drank urine to stay alive, and those who survived were faced with the gruesome task of burying the bodies of the thousands who died on the journey.

Despite the hardships Dau has faced, he believes he is fortunate and credits his Christian faith for seeing him through the incredible challenges that began the night he awoke to bombing and whistling gunfire in the Dinka village. He said “giving up” has never crossed his mind, and encouraged others to live the same way.

“You don’t let yourself be held hostage to things that happened to you years ago,” he told the crowd.

Dau, who emphasizes the important role that education has played in his life, said he didn’t start schooling until reaching Kenya in the early 1990s, and was 20 years old in the third grade.

After coming to the United States in 2001 with help from a sponsor, Dau and other refugees faced the challenge of adapting to an entirely different culture while working multiple jobs to raise money for themselves and friends and family in Africa.

Despite the heavy subject of Dau’s hour-long presentation, he injected humor by pointing out differences in the American culture and that of his homeland, and the misconceptions he had before coming to New York.

He said just learning the controls of the electrical appliances and plumbing in his new apartment was a challenge.

“It was very difficult to comprehend all of the twisting and pushing,” he said.

He had been told by others that if a green card was placed around your neck in America, you could walk into a restaurant and eat for free. Not to mention, American technology, he was told, allowed for people to push buttons at their tables and food would appear out of nowhere. He also was told to be careful of American girls, because they “carry small bags with guns in them.”

“If you mess up with them, they will shoot you.”

Since arriving in New York, Dau has created foundations that have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for refugee causes and medical care in Sudan. He also has co-authored a book that resulted in a documentary and is working on his second degree from Syracuse University. He also has gained attention from Hollywood personalities. Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie have donated $100,000 to the medical clinic Dau opened in southern Sudan and Nicole Kidman narrated the documentary “God Grew Tired of Us” that was based on his book.

With the help of the American Red Cross, his mother and two sisters were located and also have moved to the United States.

Child care providers given pep talk at early childhood conference

By Justin Haag

About 380 early childhood professionals received encouraging words and helpful information during a conference at Chadron State College in February.

The 19th Excellence in Early Childhood Conference at CSC attracted child care providers from four states, some from as far away as 300 miles.

Those in attendance listened to presentations about a wide variety of health care topics, including ways to incorporate nature and sign language to their instruction and information about the societal impact of methamphetamine.

Jeff Johnson, a best-selling author who operates a child care center in Sioux City, Iowa, gave attendees tips on how to combat the “Attack of the Snoterpillars” during his keynote address Saturday morning.

He describes snoterpillars as not only the globs of green mucus that run vertically from a child’s nose, but also as the negative aspects of a child care provider’s job. He noted that 30-40 percent of child care providers leave the occupation in the first year because of stress and burnout.

“Getting in tune with children is physically, emotionally and mentally demanding,” he said.

“That’s why so many of us walk around burned out, stressed out and run down.”

He listed numerous snoterpillars that can make a child care provider become disen-chanted, from the disengaged dad who has a cell phone to his ear when he drops the children off in the mornings and when he picks them up eight hours later, to the elementary teacher who takes recess from one of the center’s energetic former enrollees when wrongfully diagnosis him with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

Despite those issues, he told those in the crowd to seek the “good stuff,” in their jobs, such as the smiles on the children’s faces and the “light bulb” moments when they learn.

“If you can have this outlook when you go into work in the morning, I guarantee life is going to be a little bit easier,” he said.

He also stressed the importance of the occupation.

“The job that you folks do is the most important job in the world,” he said.

“There are presidential candidates running around talking about how they are going to fix the world for us, how they have ideas to make this a better place to live, how they have the answers. The fact of the matter is that the answers to the world’s problems, society’s problems and your corner of the world’s problems are growing up in your programs, and you have the honor of getting to guide those future world leaders and problem-solvers in their growth and development.”

He encouraged child care providers to not only provide a nice facility for children, but also to connect with them emotionally.

He said their job is to “build a strong emotional bond, that leads to healthy emotional environments.”

“The physical environment is very important. We need our comfy, cozy area with our books and our block area and we need our space to be loud and noisy and we need to get messy,” he said.

“But, the environment we neglect is the emotional environment. We are, every day, creating an emotional environment in our programs that is much more important than our physical environment.”

Dr. Kim Madsen, a CSC family and consumer science professor who organizes the conference, said she received positive comments about Johnson’s presentations and the quality of the event’s speakers across the board.

“We have developed a good reputation for the quality we present,” she said.

She said the conference is not only beneficial to the region’s child care providers, but also gives CSC students a chance to become involved in a professional development activity.

Next year’s Excellence in Early Childhood Conference will be Feb. 20-21, 2009.
**Spotlight: Dr. George Watson**

What are the most profound changes you’ve noticed in teaching and your discipline of study during your career?

Similar to the above, Law is a fascinating field because it allows students to look at the American Society in a unique way. To use Kermit Hall’s metaphor, Law is like a Magic Mirror that reflects our values and what is significant and important to us as a society.

What do you like most about teaching?

Students and ideas. Students at CSC are very teachable and ideas are what change the world. I have a book on the coffee table in my office. The title is “Faith in a Seed” by Thoreau. As teachers, we plant seeds and we have to have faith that those seeds will grow with our students for a lifetime.

What courses are your favorites to teach?

I like a lot of courses but my favorite is the Judiciary and Constitutional Law. The clash of ideas at the highest levels forces students to grapple with important ideas, proof and really enhances the habits of a learner: reading, comprehending what they read, analyzing the material, applying and extending it to other situations and cases and communicating.

Please tell us about your most memorable teaching moment:

A student on our London Program asked me if it was the Japanese who bombed London in World War II. That student went to all the great museums and we went together to some bookstores where he bought over a dozen books about World War II.

What programs and activities within your department make you particularly proud? Please explain.

I am very proud we have a Department Honors program that provides accelerated learning opportunities for students. We have a course that takes students to Washington D.C., and to an international conference to present research.

The London Program is in its 32nd year. Students from CSC have been able to study in England, France, Scotland, the Netherlands and Germany. It is a great part of a student’s education and brings an international component to our students.

What are some role models you’ve had during your career?

Dr. Rolland Dewing for his scholarly publications and encouraging me to contribute to the body of knowledge in my area.

Dr. Charles Harrington who was the dean when I was hired for his vision and the way he dealt with staff and students.

Dr. Michael Cartwright who was a dean and colleague in English who was always willing to engage in interesting and fascinating conversations.

Dr. George Griffith who always brought insight and humor to everything.

You’ve recently encountered some health problems. Please tell us a little bit about the illness and the challenges you face because of it.

I was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in February. I am undergoing treatment at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and surgery is scheduled for late May. My colleagues in the department each had to pick up a class for me and I am indebted to them for all the extra work they have undertaken.

What is your favorite book, food, beverage, movie and television program?

**Book:** “To Kill a Mockingbird”

**Food:** Pasta of any kind

**Beverage:** My students will say Diet Coke but I prefer a good English ale or bitter

**Movie:** “Cool Hand Luke” with Paul Newman

Tell us about a job or chore you had as a child or teenager that might surprise the readers:

I milked cows for two years for an elderly woman in my home town. My brother and I split the $2 per week.

What hobbies do you most enjoy?

I enjoy golf, tennis, fishing and running.

What was your first vehicle?

A blue 1959 Chevrolet that had big tail fins. Pretty cool.

Please tell us about a memorable experience from your college days:

I went to Hastings College and we were a part of the old Nebraska College Conference with CSC, Kearney, Wayne and Peru. Chadron State beat us in our homecoming game and I covered my brother all over the field and he covered me all over the field as we both played the same positions.

The next year, CSC was undefeated and ranked, my brother was the flanker and defensive back, my brother-in-law Tim Turman was the quarterback and my sister was a CSC cheerleader, and we beat them. On a side note I finished second in the nation in receiving per game, edging out my brother who was third or fourth, in the last game of the season. On another side note, the first time I started in a college basketball game was against CSC in the Chadron Holiday Tournament.

Where is your favorite vacation spot?

The British Isles or in Canada on a fishing trip.
Biology professor discovers microscopic organism

Dr. Chris McAllister shows a dead rattlesnake that he's preserved for research.

By Justin Haag,
Communications Coordinator

When considering the size and location of a recent discovery by a Chadron State College professor, one can surmise why it's been overlooked for so long.

Dr. Chris McAllister, CSC associate professor of biology and life-long herpetologist, has discovered a microscopic parasite that has not been recorded in any previous literature. The single-celled protozoan was found in the feces of a marbled salamander and is just 40 to 50 micrometers long. For comparison, a grain of salt is about 1,000 micrometers. The finding will be published in an upcoming issue of the Journal of Parasitology.

McAllister said discoveries of species such as his are not uncommon, but are considered significant accomplishments.

"Since salamanders, in general, are rarely examined for this type of parasite, when you find one the possibility exists that it's a new discovery that has never been reported," he said.

McAllister said he's had a fascination with reptiles and amphibians since he was a child growing up in Little Rock, Ark.

"I used to bring snakes home and my mom would freak out," he said.

Since then, the attraction has led him to a bachelor's degree from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock and a doctorate from the University of North Texas. Through the years he has studied countless salamanders, toads, frogs, bats and millipedes.

A high point in his career occurred in September 2005 when he and students from Angelo State University made national news when they discovered a two-headed rattlesnake under a rock. The discovery remains prominent on Internet search engines.

"I know herpetologists who have been turning rocks and logs for longer than I have been, and have never made a discovery like that," he said.

The low point came at his home in 1995 when he was bitten by a captive diamondback rattlesnake while cleaning its cage. He survived the bite with 27 vials of anti-venom from the Dallas Zoo. Despite the bite, McAllister had the snake released and remains a staunch advocate of keeping reptiles and amphibians in the ecosystem.

"It was my fault. The snake was just doing what comes natural to it," he said.

McAllister, who joined the CSC faculty in 2006, has found the relatively arid northwest Nebraska climate to contain many fewer reptiles and amphibians than the region near his hometown. Arkansas has more than 20 species of salamanders and Nebraska has just two, he said.

He said the majority of parasites that he finds are species-specific to their hosts and that most of them do no harm to animals or humans.

"It's not to their advantage to kill the host, or even make them very ill," he said. "And, they aren't pathogenic to humans. I'm not going to, but I could lick my fingers after doing a necropsy and not worry about getting an infection."

When making a discovery such as McAllister's, scientists are given naming rights to the organism and it is common courtesy to name it after a colleague. McAllister, who has had two species named after him, said he is naming this species after a fellow herpetologist at Arkansas State.

"Not very many people want something that's found in feces to be named after them, but it's an honor because it is published in the refereed literature and it's there forever," he said.

Education professor selected for conference

A Chadron State College assistant professor of education, Dr. Arthur Borgemenke, was selected to present a paper at the 19th annual Conference-within-a-Conference, an event of the National Association of Elementary School Principals and the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration. The conference was April 4-8 at Nashville, Tenn.

Borgemenke’s paper examines the effectiveness of an online cohort model in a standards-based educational administration degree program, as compared to a traditional face-to-face format. He is using Chadron State’s specialist in education online cohort program as a model. The 30-credit-hour program is designed to help aspiring Nebraska school superintendents become certified.

In the presentation, Borgemenke told about how the new method of delivery has affected completion times for those enrolled.
Students

Stream Team studying area’s water resources

By Justin Haag

Water is anything but a dry subject for a group of Chadron State students. Unfortunately for area residents, some of the group’s findings focus on the lack of water, however.

About a dozen faculty members and 34 students who make up the CSC Stream Team are nearing the culmination of a year-long study of the resources in the Chadron Creek watershed. The Stream Team will take its findings to Washington, D.C., on April 19 for the Environmental Protection Agency’s annual Sustainable Design Conference. While there, the team will join about 40 other higher education projects in competing for a $75,000 grant in the P3 Award competition.

Chadron Creek begins near the top of the Pine Ridge about 12 miles south of Chadron and joins the White River west of the city after it descends about 1,000 feet in elevation. Much of the watershed was burned in the 2006 wildfires.

Dr. Mike Leite, a CSC geoscience professor who serves as the project’s principal investigator, said that availability of water along the creek is becoming threatened. A northern section of the creek went dry this summer, which group members say is cause for concern.

“The great thing about Chadron Creek is that it had been flowing year around, even though we’ve been in a drought, because of the springs,” Leite said. “For the first time in the memory of people who have lived here for many decades, it went dry this year in the heat of the summer. That’s a frightening occurrence.”

Leite said some of the stresses on the High Plains Aquifer can be found outside the watershed.

“We can project all sorts of dire consequences because of what we see happening around us. The wellfield that Chadron has to the south is directly on the edge of this huge agricultural pumping area in north Box Butte County that is literally going to drain our water supply off to the south. Not only from the well field, but from Chadron Creek itself.”

He also said the increasing number of trees near the creek, which did not burn in the wildfires, also are causing a drain on the water supply.

“Trees are nice, of course, but they use a lot of water. Their roots are going down into the aquifer,” Leite said.

The group has not found any alarming problems with the water’s quality. Leite said organizers expected to find issues with water quality because of ash from the wildfires that burned thousands of acres south of Chadron and threatened the city.

“We were expecting an effect on the water quality from the ash, but we haven’t actually seen that,” he said. “We’ll see if there’s an effect from that during the runoff this spring.”

Organizers say the project has created a spirit of cooperation among varying disciplines on campus, government agencies and other stakeholders in the community.

The Stream Team has collected a full year’s worth of data during sampling days every few months. At each sampling, students spend 7-10 hours collecting data at about 10 sites along the watershed. The students gained access to the sites by approaching landowners and other public agencies.

The student leader for the project is Jennifer Balmat of Chadron, a senior geoscience student. She is in charge of coordinating all the student activities and recruiting participants. She is especially close to the project, being the one who stumbled across a brochure about the award competition.

After approaching Leite and other faculty members, a grant was received from the EPA and the Chadron project was born.

The national P3 Award competition was launched by the EPA in 2004 to respond to challenges of the developed and developing world in moving toward sustainability – the idea of supporting the needs of a resource’s stakeholders without depleting its resources. Through the award process, college students research, develop and design scientific, technical and policy solutions to sustainability challenges. P3 is short for “people, prosperity and the planet.”

Leite said the group is finding success in its goal of interdisciplinary cooperation and development of a message for members of the community who may not understand how the resources are being threatened.

“The greatest accomplishment has been the cohesiveness of the group,” Leite said. “People from all of these different disciplines can cooperate, communicate and help each other out. It’s not just a science group any more. We have a solid group of people from across the campus, including students in communication arts, history, economics and range management.”

In order to relay findings to the community and gain input, the group presented its information at the Dawes County Fairgrounds in late 2007. Posters for each facet of the study outlined the room. However, attendance at that event was smaller than anticipated because of a snowstorm, which paradoxically

continued on next page
Students learn about reptiles and amphibians from herpetologist

By Con Marshall

A number of Chadron State College students and most of Dawes County’s elementary students know a lot more about reptiles and amphibians following presentations in mid-February at CSC by one of the Midwest’s, if not the nation’s, leading herpetologists.

David Nieves of Bellevue spoke five times during his one-day stop in Chadron about his passion for what some may think are “creepy creatures,” but to him are fascinating.

Sponsored by Chadron State, the Chadron Public Schools and the Nekota Reading Council, Nieves had numerous “repeat customers” during his final presentation in the Sandoz Center at CSC because students of all ages who had seen him earlier in the day were enthralled by what they’d learned and came again.

Now 43, Nieves has been working with snakes, turtles, lizards and their cousins since he was 8 years old. During his trip to northwest Nebraska, he brought along eight of the 45 specimens he keeps in a special climate-controlled facility in his home.

“I can’t imagine having any other kind of career,” said Nieves. “It requires a lot of travel, long hours and going to some strange locations, but I love it.”

Nieves showed slides of some of the places he’s visited. Much of his work has been done in the Caribbean and Central America and ranges from swamps and rain forests to deserts. He’s also climbed trees to get a closer look, photographed or capture snakes and has gone underwater to study other species.

“I don’t always find what I’m looking for, but sometimes I find interesting creatures that I wasn’t looking for,” he said.

Among those he showed off included a turtle that he found in Guadacanal in the Pacific Ocean, a milk snake from Central America, a python from North central Australia, a vine snake that is a native of North Vietnam but was obtained from the Moscow Zoo, and Maggie, a huge albino Burmese python.

Nieves said he and Maggie have a special relationship. He saw her hatched and began taking care of her when she weighed only a pound. That was 18 years ago. She’s now about 15 feet long, weighs 150 pounds and hasn’t stopped growing. She eats only once or twice a month, but she’ll consume about 35 pounds of rabbits or chickens at a time.

While he doesn’t show off Maggie at every speaking engagement because he tries to keep her relatively stress-free, Nieves said she’s been seen by nearly a half million people.

Besides speaking about reptiles and amphibians, Nieves gave some writing lessons. He has written two books called “Reptiles Up Close” and “More Reptiles Up Close.” They include photographs of his friends, descriptions and suggestions on where the readers can learn more about them.

He illustrated how he strives to make his descriptions interesting. For example, instead of merely stating that the Alligator Snapping Turtle hides in water trying to catch fish, he wrote:

“The Alligator Snapping Turtle has an incredible tongue. It is red and thin like a little worm. While holding his mouth wide open under water, this turtle wiggles his tongue to trick fish into thinking they found a lunch. When fish try to catch the “worm,” the turtle has them for lunch. It is kind of like wiggling your tongue and having cookies jump into your mouth.”

Nieves said he is extra careful while working with some of the creatures he studies. He said he was once nipped on the arm by an alligator and never handles poisonous snakes unless another person familiar with them is present. The research facility in his home is always locked when he is not in it.

Besides hearing Nieves, the approximately 90 students from the Dawes County rural schools participated in hands-on science activities created and administered by CSC teacher education students in the Student Center.

Stream Team

(continued from previous page)

was welcomed by the group for the moisture it brought. The group plans to have another community session and has weekly meetings that are open to the public. Those meetings are Fridays at 4 p.m.

Dr. Ron Burke, one of two CSC economics professors involved in the project, said it has been a positive experience for the professors and the two economics students who have been collecting data with help from area agencies. He said it can serve as an example for future college projects to become engaged in community betterment.

“We tend to be stuck in our own little hole,” he said. “This project has helped us get out and work with people at CSC and the community who we normally wouldn’t work with.”

The economics students have collected data from the City of Chadron, U.S. Forest Service, and the Upper White-Niobrara Natural Resources District.

Burke said the cooperation from those agencies has been outstanding.

Burke said a decrease in the availability of water will have a widespread economic impact. For instance, if the water table declines, people will need to spend money to drill deeper wells.

Leite and Dr. Chuck Butterfield, CSC range management professor, will lead 17 students on the trip to Washington. The day before their departure, students and faculty members will present at the Nebraska Academy of Sciences annual meeting at Lincoln.

At the NAS meeting, CSC students and professors will present information about 10 different topics from their Stream Team studies. They include the historical perspective of civic water projects, chemistry of water quality, analysis of fecal coliform bacteria, economic impacts of the Spotted Tail Fire, macroinvertebrate assessment, rangeland and upland forest health, fish, geology, and discharge of the creek.

For the Washington conference, the group will consolidate all of the information for presentation at one booth that explains the project.

“We need to distill all of these different projects into one message,” he said. “What is it that we actually accomplished? Where are we going with this?”

Regardless of the results in Washington, Leite said the project has been successful.

“There is very strong interest among the students and everybody has pulled together on it. It’s been a lot of work for them. Nobody’s gotten paid for anything and everybody’s working really hard.”
Dear Alumni,

I hope this letter finds you well and in good health.

The 2007-08 school year has provided many exciting experiences for Chadron State College fans. The football team did not miss a beat in the fall as they continued to dominate the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. The Eagles played exceptionally well in the NCAA Division II playoffs before dropping a heartbreaker to the eventual national runner-up in the quarterfinals. The great season was capped off with All American running back Danny Woodward winning his second consecutive Harlon Hill Award and Coach Bill O’Boyle being awarded the Liberty Mutual Division II Coach of the Year. The volleyball team also improved its record from a season ago by earning eight more wins and Coach Amy Spruiell has the Eagles heading in the right direction.

Our men’s and women’s basketball teams provided CSC fans with many thrilling moments during the winter campaign. Coach Brent Bargen led our men’s charges, while first-year coach Mike Maloney guided the Lady Eagles. The wrestling team, under the tutelage of Scott Ritzen, had a great year and qualified four grapplers to the NCAA II National Championships in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Indoor track and field also had a wonderful season with many student athletes setting school records and personal bests. Coach John Reiners had five tracksters (three men and two women) qualify for the National Indoor Championships in Mankato, Minnesota.

Spring sports are fighting the weather but have shown signs of success. Our women’s softball team, with first-year coach Rob Stack, is continuing to improve in its second season. Michelle Rickenbach’s women’s golf team has resumed its season and the track team will move the competitions outdoors soon.

We all can be proud of our athletic teams both on the field and in the classroom. Our student-athletes continue to shine in the classroom and 112 student-athletes were on the Dean’s List or President’s List in the fall semester.

If you get the opportunity to see any CSC team compete, please take the time to do so. Once again, thank you for supporting Chadron State College athletics. We look forward to seeing you in the very near future.

Yours in CSC Spirit,
Brad Smith
Director of Athletics

---

Football team adds home and home series with MIAA power Pittsburg State

Because of a mutual agreement between Central Washington and Chadron State, the home and home series between the two teams has been dropped.

The Wildcats and Eagles were set to play each other this upcoming season in Chadron on Sept. 6, but since the Great Northwest Athletic Conference will add another team in the 2009 season, the Eagles were unable to find a date to play in Ellensburg, Wash., next year.

The Eagles will now play a home and home series with Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association member Pittsburg State. The Gorillas will play at Chadron State on Sept. 6 in 2008 and CSC will travel to Pittsburg, Kan., in 2009. The 2008 game will be the first meeting between the two teams.

Also new in 2008 will be the assistance of Chadron State College graduate Chris Stein in athletic marketing. A 1989 graduate of CSC and a former regional manager for a billboard group, Stein brings a wealth of experience in the business world to the newly formed position at the college.

“The ultimate goal of marketing our athletic programs at Chadron State is to raise funds for all the athletic programs and to increase scholarships,” Stein said. “We’ll be able to add improvements to our athletic facilities and it also gives CSC athletes a better chance to compete at a higher level.”

Stein, who will be entering his eighth year as an assistant football coach for the Eagles, said his new position will not affect his coaching duties.

“I want to do what is best for Chadron State College,” he said. “I feel that my responsibilities in the athletic department will only add to my new marketing duties and I’m excited to promote Chadron State and its student-athletes.”

While Stein will primarily focus on securing sponsorships, sickness, or poor performance in the classroom, however, the 97 players who did practice, made up the biggest spring camp CSC has ever had.

“The best thing about our numbers is that it provides competition at every position,” O’Boyle said. “Now is the time for people to get noticed.”

Eagles end successful spring practices

Ninety-seven CSC football players participated in position drills during spring football practices that began in February.

Football teams are allowed 15 practices during the spring and CSC Head Coach Bill O’Boyle said the Eagles took full advantage of the time allotted. The Eagles also had three scrimmages, culminating in the Spring Game that was played on March 29.

“Spring ball is a great time for guys to gain a lot of experience, especially the guys who redshirted last year and the transfers who just came in,” O’Boyle said. “We teach a lot of fundamentals during the spring and really what we do now is the skeleton for the upcoming season.”

Some players didn’t participating in spring practices because of injury, an obligation to the track and field team, or personal reasons.

The Eagles return 59 letter-winners to a squad that finished 2007 with a 12-1 record and claimed a second consecutive Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference title.

Chadron State College football begins its season Aug. 28 at the University of Mary in Bismarck, N.D.

---

2008 Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 28</td>
<td>at University of Mary</td>
<td>Bismarck, N.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 6</td>
<td>Pittsburg State</td>
<td>Chadron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>at Adams State</td>
<td>Alamosa, Colo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Sept. 20</td>
<td>at Colorado State-Pueblo</td>
<td>Pueblo, Colo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Sept. 27</td>
<td>at Nebraska-Kearney</td>
<td>Chadron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Oct. 4</td>
<td>at New Mexico Highlands</td>
<td>Las Vegas, N.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Oct. 11</td>
<td>at Western New Mexico</td>
<td>Chadron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Oct. 18</td>
<td>at Fort Lewis</td>
<td>Durango, Colo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Oct. 25</td>
<td>Colorado School of Mines</td>
<td>Chadron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Nov. 1</td>
<td>at Mesa State</td>
<td>Grand Junction, Colo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Nov. 8</td>
<td>Western State</td>
<td>Chadron</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference games, Schedule subject to change
Majerus claims national title at 197 pounds; wrestling team finishes ninth in standings

By Alex Helmbrecht

Chadron State’s Josh Majerus, who was ranked No. 1 at 197 pounds all season long, capped off his stellar junior season by claiming his first national championship with an 8-3 decision over Donovan McMahill of Western State during the final round of the NCAA Division II Wrestling National Championships on March 14.

“It feels great,” Majerus said. “I went into the tournament pretty confident and I was able to take that through the entire thing.”

Majerus, who defeated McMahill twice this season before the final, never trailed in the championship match. He led 4-0 after the first period and enhanced his lead to 6-0 after two periods. In the final period, McMahill, a redshirt freshman, earned three points from an escape and a takedown, but Majerus countered with an escape of his own and another point for riding time to earn the 8-3 decision.

Majerus ends his junior season with a 37-3 record, including an undefeated record against Division II competition. In addition to being named an All-American for the second-straight year, Majerus was also named a First Team Academic All-American during the tourney.

The other Chadron State wrestler to earn All-American accolades was Devlon Webb who finished in fifth place at 125.

Thanks to Majerus’ individual title, the Chadron State wrestling team finished in the top 10 for the second consecutive season. The Eagles scored 31 points to finish in ninth place.

The other two wrestlers who qualified for the national tournament were Brett Hunter and Jimmy Savala.

Unfortunately, Hunter, the defending national champion at 165, didn’t earn All-American status and redshirt freshman Jimmy Savala lost both his matches.

Hunter ends the season with a 98-24 record. With 14 victories next season he’ll become the school’s all-time winning wrestler.

Majerus should also reach the 100-win plateau next season. Through three seasons he has an 83-35 record, including a 17-match winning streak.

Despite not winning a match, Savala, who was hampered due to an elbow injury that limited his movement, said he was glad he qualified for the national tourney.

The Eagles, who finished the regular season with a 13-9-1 record in duals and fourth in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference, return all 10 varsity wrestlers next year. In addition to the four national qualifiers, several key grapplers return, including true freshman Max Baker at 149 pounds, junior Willy Jones at 174, redshirt freshman Sam Udell at 184, and junior heavyweight Shaine Odell.

Rodeo off to fast start in spring season

Fourteen Chadron State students continue to compete for the CSC rodeo team. After a successful fall campaign, the cowboys and cowgirls began the spring season on March 28-30 at the Eastern Wyoming College rodeo in Torrington this weekend. The EWC rodeo was the first of six this spring in the Central Rocky Mountain Region. Four rodeos took place in the region last fall.

The CSC rodeo is April 11-13 in Crawford.

The CSC team had some hard luck recently. The leader through the fall rodeos, Chance Kvistad, suffered a broken leg during an encounter with a heifer while working on an area ranch. He won’t be able to compete until about mid-April, CSC Coach Shar Sapp said.

Kvistad, a native of Minnesota who now lives near Crawford, is sixth in steer wrestling and 15th in bull riding in the region after the fall rodeos.

Three more CSC contestants are among the top 15 in the standings entering the spring season. They are Jennifer Fenster of Buffalo, Wyo., barrel racing, Lisa Vroman of Buffalo, S.D., breakaway roping; and Del Kraupie of Bridgeport, steer wrestling.

Sapp has been busy recruiting the past few months and her efforts apparently are paying off. She said nine newcomers have signed to join the team next fall. All of them have grade point averages of 2.5 or higher.

Some of the new riders have signed to take part in the CSC Billy “Buck” Richardson Memorial Scholarship program this spring.

Three more CSC contestants are among the top 15 in the standings entering the spring season. They are Jennifer Fenster of Buffalo, Wyo., barrel racing, Lisa Vroman of Buffalo, S.D., breakaway roping; and Del Kraupie of Bridgeport, steer wrestling.

Sapp has been busy recruiting the past few months and her efforts apparently are paying off. She said nine newcomers have signed to join the team next fall. All of them have grade point averages of 2.5 or higher.

Some of the new riders have signed to take part in the CSC Billy “Buck” Richardson Memorial Scholarship program this spring.

The CSC rodeo team will compete at Chadron State on April 18-20, at Casper College on April 25-27, and at the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference meet in Laramie.

Chadron State’s Josh Majerus wrestles Western State’s Donovan McMahill during the 197-pound championship match at the NCAA Division II Wrestling National Championships.
Softball team hopes to make more progress in 2008

After Chadron State revived its softball program last season after a 25-year hiatus, excitement has grown around the diamond. The same sentiment should hold true this year as well. The Eagles return six starters, who led CSC to a 16-24 record in 2007, and welcome three transfers and five incoming freshmen.

Rob Stack, who replaced former head coach Jim Webb, is entering his first-year at the helm of the CSC softball program. He, along with assistant coach Victoria Masters, helped guide the Eagles to a 12-4-1 record during the exhibition season and he’s hoping to see more success this spring.

“I really like the group of girls that we have,” Stack said. “The team chemistry is pretty good and all the girls work hard and just enjoy playing the game of softball.”

The Eagles are already off to a solid start. As of April 1, the softball team’s record is now 13-11-1 overall and 8-11-1 in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

Britt McEndaffer left the team and a season-ending anterior cruciate ligament injury to shortstop Kristy Long, the middle of the infield is a big question mark.

Jennica Seville is the likely choice to take over Britt McEndaffer’s spot at second base, and true freshman Jamie Mazankowski is slated to be the starter at shortstop.

Outfield: One of the Eagles’ strengths is the play of the outfield. Kaelyn Moore and Humphrey both patrolled the grass last year. Humphrey will play right field when she’s not pitching, Erica Colbert, who had a good fall season, will play left field, but Stack said freshmen Angela Heesacker will also see time in the outfield.

Position-by-Position Breakdown

Pitcher: Casey Williams, a hard-throwing junior college transfer from Coastal Georgia, who has been clocked in the high 60s, is the No. 1 pitcher. Joining Williams in the rotation will be Cassie Humphrey and Stephanie Hillman.

Humphrey, a sophomore from Chadron, posted a 4-8 record last season. Hillman was 0-5.

Hillman, a sophomore from Rapid City, S.D., will mainly serve as a relief pitcher, but Stack said she could also be a spot starter.

Catcher: One of the Eagles’ strongest positions thanks to the excellent defense provided by junior Blair McEndaffer. During the fall season no runners tried to steal on McEndaffer while she was behind the plate. In 2007, she posted a .966 fielding percentage and committed just eight errors while starting all 40 games.

Infield: Before the start of the spring season Chadron State’s infield was seen as a strength. Now, however, after second baseman Candace Hendricksen only committed 10 errors at third last spring and she was also the team’s top hitter. In 40 games she had a .357 batting average and drove in 32 runs while accounting for 83 total bases.

The 2008 Chadron State softball team. Front row, left to right, Andrea Wyman, Jonella Yrkoski, Brittanie Hendricksen, Katelyn Moore, and Victoria Masters.

Basketball teams show improvement

Although the Chadron State men’s and women’s basketball teams’ seasons didn’t end the way they had hoped — both squads suffered tough losses to Regis University in the season finale — the Eagles have plenty of reasons to hold their heads high.

Both teams improved their win totals from a season ago and statistically, the men and women made progress.

The women, who finished the season with a 9-18 record and claimed seven more victories than they earned in 2006-07, had a noticeable improvement on defense thanks to the tutelage of first-year head coach Mike Maloney. This season, CSC allowed 15.5 fewer points per game than a year ago.

Offensively, the Eagles shot 40.2 percent from the field this season compared to 33.9 percent in 2006-07. They also outscored the opponents 336 to 323 from the free throw line after being outscored 551 to 433 from the line the previous season.

“I was very proud of the way the girls played, especially in the last two weeks of the season. I think they feel good about the things we accomplished,” Maloney said.

The men’s team is also heading in the right direction. Despite having three losing streaks of more than four games, the Eagles were highly competitive in every contest. Thirteen of CSC’s 20 losses were by 10 points or fewer. The men also got much better on defense by decreasing turnovers by three each game and they led the RMAC with 318 defensive rebounds.

“We’re disappointed in our win total but I’m excited about where the program is going and where it’s at,” said CSC second year coach Brent Bargen. “The general direction the team is going is a positive one and as the guys continue to mature into college players, we’ll get better.”

The CSC men, much like the women, will welcome back a majority of their players. Felipe Cecilio and Kyle Cotton, two important players the last two seasons, will graduate in May but 11 players will return to the team with another year of experience.

Chadron State’s Sunni Busch looks for an opening during one of the Eagles’ games last season at Armstrong Gymnasium. Busch, a sophomore, led the team in scoring and rebounding.
Smith, Wells named All-Americans at National Indoor Meet in March

There was a happy ending for the Chadron State College track and field entries at the NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field Meet at Manhato, Minn., in mid-March, when two Eagles became All-Americans.

Mary Wells of Albion finished fifth in the shot put with a mark of 46-11 3/4 and Mike Smith of Litchfield Park, Ariz., placed sixth in the 200 meters in 22.04 seconds.

Wells’ best throw was her first one. She also had a mark of 46-9 1/2 that would have placed fifth in the competition. Her career best is 47-6 1/4, which came in mid-February and automatically qualified her for the national meet.

Several members of Wells’ family were in attendance at the national meet, including Mary’s sister Jacqueline, who placed second in the shot put at the National Indoor Meet as a senior at Chadron State in 2006 with a school-record throw of 48-1 3/4.

Mary earned her first All-American honor last spring, when she was seventh in the discus at the NCAA Division II Outdoor Meet. Mary holds the school record in the discus and Jacqueline is the only CSC woman to throw the shot farther.

Smith’s time in the finals wasn’t quite as fast as the career-best 21.96 that he posted in the preliminaries, but he moved up three places to earn sixth place.

Joel Duffield, who had a time of 21.76 in 2006, is the only Chadron State sprinter to ever run the 200 faster indoors than Smith.

“I am really happy for both Mary and Mike,” said CSC Coach John Reiners. “It’s a great honor to be an All-American, and both of them have worked really hard to accomplish that. It’s a special thrill when seniors become All-Americans.”

With more than 30 athletes making a contribution, both CSC teams finished fourth in the team standings at the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Indoor Track and Field Meet in Kearney.

The CSC men scored 89 points and the women 88.5. There were nine schools in the women’s competition and seven in the men’s field.

Reiners said the Eagles had many stellar performances and a minimum of disappointments.

The Eagles won three events and earned runner-up honors four times besides picking up an array of other placings. The conference champions included Wells in the shot put and Smith in the 200. Wells also was fourth in the weight throw and Smith was second in the 55 meters.

Following his sprinting successes, Smith was selected by the coaches as the male athlete of the meet.

Another Chadron State entry, Brandon Harrington of Grand Island, repeated as the conference champion in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.30 seconds. The win was Harrington’s fifth in five high hurdle races this winter. Reiners said Harrington “leaned at the right time” to get the nod at the RMAC Meet.

Earning seconds at the conference meet besides Smith in the 60 dash were Perisha Hinton in the 400 meters, the women’s 4x400 relay team made up of Sara Pilakowski, Barbara Goe, Laurie Eklund and Hinton, and Jourdin Holden, who went 24-1 in the long jump.

Both Hinton and the relay team set school records during the season. Hinton lowered the school record in the 400 to 58.91 seconds while the relay team had a best of 3:58.50.

A pair of distance runners from Alliance set several records during the season. Stacy Girard lowered the Eagles’ 1500-meter record to 4:51.0 and the 3000-meter mark to 10:34.50. Joe Schultz set new records in the 1500 (4:03.3), mile (4:18.63), 3000 (8:33.09) and 5000 (14:32.05).

Schultz also anchored the distance medley relay that set a record, giving the Eagles nine new marks this winter. Running with him on the relay were Matt Snay, John Girard and David Virgets.

Reiners said that while injuries slowed a few of the Eagles during the indoor season, many of the team members showed improvement.

“We’re looking forward to having a good outdoor season,” Reiners said. “We’ve got some people in several of the events that we can’t have indoors who should make us stronger outdoors.”

Come join us for Homecoming
October 25, 2008
Alumni groups planning to return for Homecoming are:
RHOP
Chi Omega

Joe Schultz runs during the RMAC Indoor Track and Field Meet. He set four new school records in distance events during the indoor season.
Forum explores diversity

By Justin Haag

Members of a panel at Chadron State College in February encouraged an audience made up largely of middle school students to keep an open mind while pursuing new acquaintances and cultural experiences.

The panel, which consisted of four college students and two college employees from various cultural backgrounds, spoke during the second annual Diversity Forum in the Student Center. The forum was sponsored by CSC’s Students in Free Enterprise team and organized by senior member Felipe Cecilio of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The event was attended by the entire Chadron Middle School, which consists of more than 225 students in grades 5 through 8. After the forum, they spent the afternoon participating in free enterprise activities led by SIFE members.

The panel members consisted of junior Christy Webber of Manderson, S.D., Jovan Mays of Aurora, Colo., Julia Bayer of Stuttgart, Germany, Iuliia Kovalenko of the Ukraine, CSC student services counselor Carl Cousin and Dr. Gary White, dean of Business, Economics, Applied and Mathematical Sciences.

Panel members read a number of their favorite quotations from notable figures from history. Mays quoted Martin Luther King about the dangers of “sincere ignorance and conscious stupidity.”

“Being diverse is not just being a friend of someone who is of a different race or embracing people because of those differences,” Mays said after reading the quote. “It’s also the same as learning. Every time you read a book, every time you go to class, every time you learn something new, you are constantly making yourself more diverse.”

Mays recited “Impossible,” a poem he wrote about conquering issues of race. The middle schoolers expressed amazement after Mays completed the piece, which was more than three minutes and 20 seconds long.

Cousin, the other black member of the panel, told about how his service in the military helped him become more diverse. After growing up in Axton, Va., he was stationed in Fairbanks, Alaska, for 3½ years after enlisting in 1988.

Cousin said he “cried a little bit” when receiving his orders, but said his time in Alaska ended up being one of the greatest experiences of his life.

“He said, ‘Carl, I just want to tell you, you’re the first black person I ever liked.’ He told me that in the small town he lived in, there was one black person and that person caused trouble. So, from that one individual, he stereotyped an entire race.”

Cousin, who coordinates the college’s study abroad efforts and assists international students, said he tries to make a point of becoming more diverse each day.

White, who is white, also related his cultural experiences to the group.

“When I grew up on a small farm in northeast Iowa, I didn’t know anything about diversity,” he said. “In other words, when I was your age, I don’t think I’d ever seen anyone of color.”

White said that he has since lost count of the number of countries to which he’s traveled and the number of international students with whom he’s worked.

“As I have progressed through my professional career, I’ve begun to understand that diversity is a strength. Understanding and getting to know people of a diverse background makes you a better person.”

He encouraged the students not to be judgemental about the differences of people from other cultures, but to explore the dissimilarities and learn from them.

Webber, a 2005 graduate of Pine Ridge High School, told the students that they don’t need to travel to another country to become more diverse. She said the United States, including the American Indian reservation just north of Chadron, offers many opportunities for people to explore other cultures.

Most of the questions from the middle school students were directed to the three international students — Bayer, Kovalenko and Cecilio — who shared similarities and differences with their countries and the challenges of leaving their homeland. Each gave examples of their language, and fielded inquiries about their countries’ foods and sports.

Cecilio said one of his first challenges in his first semester as a college student in the United States was a speech class.

“I play basketball, and I don’t remember sweating so much playing basketball as I did in that speech class,” he said.

Child Development Center earns fifth re-accreditation, scores highly in all areas

By Justin Haag

For the fifth time, the Chadron State College Child Development Center has been re-accredited by a national organization that specializes in early childhood education.

Officials at the National Association for the Education of Young Children in January notified the CDC’s director, Dr. Kim Madsen, about the child care center’s success in achieving another five-year re-accreditation.

The accomplishment means that the CDC retains its position as one of 84 centers in Nebraska that have been accredited, and one of just four in the state west of Grand Island. The center has been accredited for 18 consecutive years.

Madsen noted that the CSC center scored highly in all 10 evaluation topics of the accreditation process. The CDC met 100 percent of the criteria in eight of the 10 topics, with its lowest mark being 92 percent. Programs are required to meet 80 percent of criteria. The topics are relationships, curriculum, teaching, assessment of child progress, health, teachers, families, community relationships, physical environment, and leadership and management.

Madsen and others at the center spent much of last year gathering and producing supporting materials for the accreditation, which culminated in a site visit by an evaluator from the NAEYC in October 2007.

Madsen said the process changed during the last five years, and required much more preparation than previous accreditations. Madsen commended assistant director Pam Leonard and head teacher Joleen Conway in helping with the preparation.

“This is a much better process, but it’s a lot more work,” she said.

Madsen said the accreditation confirms the CDC’s quality, both for parents of children and for the college students who work at the center while studying early childhood education.

“I want the students to see the best. When they go out in the field and get hired, I want continued on next page
Spring brings fine arts events

Chadron State College played host to a wide array of fine arts events during the spring semester.

March brought a pair of high profile events of the Galaxy Series of fine arts events. One was the performance of New Orleans jazz trombonist DelFaye Marsalis. The other was the traveling Aquila Theatre Company’s production of “Julius Caesar.”

The CSC theatre department produced “The Shape of Things,” a tale of a romance between a female art student and her security guard boyfriend, in February and “The God of Hell,” a fable of a Wisconsin farm couple who are visited by a former friend and an enigmatic government agent, in April.

Prior to the opening of “South Pacific,” the Frontier String Ensemble will take the stage. The group, which is based in Omaha, consists of 35 violin and viola players between the ages of 6-17 who play a wide repertoire, including sacred, fiddle tunes, classical, show tunes and pop.

The complete schedule and ticket information can be found on the Post Playhouse Web site, www.postplayhouse.com.

Post Playhouse to feature musicals

The Post Playhouse repertory theatre at Fort Robinson State Park will feature three musicals this summer.

The first of the three plays, “Oklahoma,” will open June 13. The curtain will rise for “South Pacific” on June 27, and “Guys and Dolls” will take the stage July 15. The plays will be shown each Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. with a Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. One of the three musicals will be shown each night.

Prior to the opening of “South Pacific,” the Frontier String Ensemble will take the stage. The group, which is based in Omaha, consists of 35 violin and viola players between the ages of 6-17 who play a wide repertoire, including sacred, fiddle tunes, classical, show tunes and pop.

The complete schedule and ticket information can be found on the Post Playhouse Web site, www.postplayhouse.com.

In addition to the plays, three special musical performances by Nebraska groups also are planned this summer. The Post Playhouse will open Memorial Day Weekend with the bluegrass sounds of Chadron’s Bald Mountain Rounders on Saturday, May 24, and the music and humor of the Sandhills’ Double-D Wranglers, a yodeling cowboy band, on Sunday, May 25. Each show begins at 8 p.m.

The spring semester also featured concerts by CSC’s many student and faculty music groups. In addition, two CSC jazz groups, the Jazz Birds and the Faculty Lounge, frequently entertained crowds at Wrecker’s Roadhouse in downtown Chadron.

In February, the CSC music department sponsored a performance by Petronel Malan, a native of South Africa who has become a critically-acclaimed concert pianist.

Two shows that featured student talent from outside the music program helped promote diversity on campus this spring. CSC student Jovan Mays in April organized the second annual “Release,” a show in Memorial Hall that featured music ranging from bluegrass to hip hop, and poetry ranging from “cowboy” to “slam.” CSC’s International Club Food Tasting Party in February featured cuisine and entertainment from CSC students who are from about a dozen countries, including Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Nepal, Germany, Russia, Ukraine, Botswana and Lebanon.

In addition, an audience in Memorial Hall was given insight into the life of a Hollywood stunt-man in late January by Chris Daniels, who has served as actor Tobey Maguire’s double in each of the three “Spider-Man” movies. The Galaxy Series also sponsored the presentation by Sudan refugee John Bul Dau in February.

Five from CSC present for lecture series

The list of presenters for the Reta King Library’s Dorset Graves Lecture Series this spring included five employees of Chadron State College.

Dr. Joyce Hardy, associate professor of science, opened the spring schedule of speakers with her research of plant life in Sioux County. Hardy has examined the plant life of three drainages in northeastern Sioux County in recent years, and has been surprised by the findings.

Loree MacNeill, who has who has organized shows and exhibits for Chadron State College’s Galaxy Series since the program’s inception, encouraged an audience to find art in their everyday living. She noted that art can be found on the design of the dishes from which people eat to the songs they can’t get out of their heads.

Dr. Ann Buchmann, assistant professor of biology, led a book discussion of Loren Eisley’s “Star Thrower.” The book is a compilation of Eisley’s work. In addition, Dr. Joel Hyer and Dr. Catherine Lockwood were among the series’ presenters who addressed topics related to explorers Lewis and Clark. Hyer told about the the lives of American Indians on the Northern Plains before the Lewis and Clark’s westward journey. Lockwood discussed the landscape of a portion of the land covered by the explorers – the northern Great Plains from Fort Mandan to the Yellowstone River.

Chadron State’s Marshall to be inducted into Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame

LINCOLN – Chadron State College’s Con Marshall, who served as the school’s sports information director from 1969 to 2007, will join 18 other individuals being inducted into the Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame during ceremonies at the Lied Center in Lincoln on Sept. 28.

This will be the 14th Hall of Fame induction ceremony. This year’s induction class brings the total number of inductees to 323.

Though he retired in the summer of 2007 from his sports information director post, Marshall, a native of Chadron and a CSC graduate, still remains highly involved in the college’s publicity efforts.

He joins Wally McNaught, who was a longtime Lincoln Southeast coach and administrator, the only two individuals being inducted as contributors to high school athletics.

Other inductees include Charles Bryant, Tom Haase, Kurt Lauer, Dave Lebsack, Paul Mohr, Joe Scarpello, Cory Schlesinger, Russ Snyder, Teri Steer-Cantwell, Nikki (Stricker) Best, Larry Vlasin, Harold “Mac” Maciejewski, Jim Morrison, Gail Peterson, John Reta, Larry Ribble, and Rudy Stoehr.

Marshall and his wife Peggy have three adult children and six grandchildren.

Tickets to the ceremony are $25 for adults and $10 for high school and elementary students. Pre-school children are admitted free. Doors open at noon with the program beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Tickets are available by contacting the Nebraska Sports Council at P.O. Box 29366, Lincoln, NE., 68529, or by calling 1-402-471-2544 or, in Nebraska, 1-800-304-2637.
Drueller leaves outstanding legacy in Health Professions program

The driving force behind Chadron State’s thriving health professions program, Dr. Jay Druecker, died in early January at his home in Chadron, sending shockwaves throughout the community, college and far beyond wherever his former students are living.

Many have noted that he left an outstanding legacy with the many health care professionals who had been his students.

Authorities said Druecker, 69, took his own life after experiencing emotional distress for several months.

Druecker was on the Chadron State science faculty 36 years. He retired from his teaching duties in May 2003 and remained on the staff part-time another year to advise students seeking to enter the health professions.

Colleagues described Druecker as an energetic person who was well-organized and meticulous in his role as a professor and advisor to students pursuing careers in medical fields. It has often been stated that he was the major reason Chadron State was the first college selected to partner with the University of Nebraska Medical Center in the development of the Rural Health Opportunities Program that has turned out scores of health professionals in the past 15 years.

In 2000, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the School of Allied Health Professions at UNMC. He was also the recipient of the J.G. Elliott Award in 2004 for improving health care services for Nebraska and supporting the education of students in the health professions.

"Jay was the one who made the health professions program at Chadron State what it is today," said Randy Lawson, who has taught biology at the college since 1974 and was a close friend of Druecker. "He found out exactly what was expected of students at medical schools and made sure our students met that criteria."

This year, Chadron State has 92 students in RHOP. College officials report that more than 200 students who received their pre-professional training at Chadron State have graduated from UNMC since the partnership was formed in 1990. Besides the RHOP students, Chadron State has an additional 218 students majoring in human biology and the health professions.

Druecker was born in Omaha on June 20, 1938 and grew up at Murray, Neb., a small town south of Omaha. After graduating from Plattsmouth High School, he majored in biology and had a minor in chemistry at Nebraska Wesleyan University. Following graduation he spent six years earning a master's degree and doctorate at the University of New Mexico. He came to Chadron State in 1968 primarily to teach environmental biology. After a few years he switched to human biology.

"I was always interested in anatomy, maybe because I had worked construction before I went to college," Druecker said during a 2005 interview. "I like to see how things are built. Plus, I saw that our students who wanted to go into medicine needed someone who could help them meet that goal."

During the 1977-78 school year, Druecker took a sabbatical from Chadron State and enrolled in courses in anatomy and pathology for credit at UNMC. "I was already teaching these courses, but I didn't have as strong an academic background as I needed. While I was there (in Omaha), I was invited to help interview students who were seeking to enter medical school and attended every function for health professions advisors. I became acquainted with a lot of people and learned a lot that year."

"Jay was deeply committed to the health professions," said Dr. Ron Weedon, who has been on the Chadron State science faculty since 1971. "His legacy is scattered all over the state and the region in the form of his former students who are now serving as doctors, physical therapists, physician assistants, nurses and in similar occupations. He accomplished the multiplier effect and created a cadre of outstanding alums."

Weedon added that for years Druecker was in his office by 4 or 5 a.m. "He worked hard to keep up to date with the latest developments in health care. He often pointed out things that were taking place in other scientific fields to the rest of us."

Dr. Lois Veath, now vice president of academic affairs and former dean of the School of Math and Science at Chadron State, said Druecker used a "tough love" approach while teaching.

"He set high standards and worked his students hard," she said. "He was demanding and had high expectations, but after many years, many of them came back and thanked him for preparing them so well."

Veath also said Druecker frequently used his carpentry skills to make improvements and repairs in the classrooms and laboratories in the college Math and Science Building. In addition, she said he built the trailer to bring the first donor bodies that were obtained from UNMC for use by health professions students at CSC.

During the mid-1980s, Druecker founded the annual Health Professions Day at Chadron State. It features personnel from UNMC and area health care professionals who discuss the requirements and expectations for students entering medical schools. The program last fall was attended by about 300 high school students.

In addition, Veath said Druecker founded the Health Professions Club that has about 225 members, set up a health professions advisory board and gave his students seeking entrance into medical school mock M-cat exams and interviews similar to what they were about to experience.

Survivors besides his wife Jane include sons Scott, who last fall joined the science faculty at the University of South Dakota after teaching for several years at Colorado State University, and Craig, a controller for a manufacturing plant at McPherson, Kan.

New Year’s resolutions get help from Health Fair

Chadron State College helped those with New Year’s resolutions of a healthier 2008 by hosting the college’s Regional Health Fair in January.

The health fair, which featured information presented by representatives of 31 agencies, businesses and programs from northwest Nebraska and southwest South Dakota, was the first of what organizers hope will become an annual event.

Although attendance figures were not recorded, Dr. Bill Roweton, CSC director of sponsored research, said he saw hundreds of people walk through the fair in the Nelson Physical Activity Center during the nine-hour event.

Information was presented about a wide variety of topics, from those considered to be traditional health care and fitness subjects to others, such as massage therapy, dancing and tips for buying shoes.

"I’d never helped organize a health fair before, but what really interests me about this event is that there are so many creative ways that we can address the topic of health and wellness," Roweton said.

Shellie Johns, CSC coordinator of conferencing, said about 75 letters were sent to possible presenters during the event’s planning stages. She said one of the event’s goals was to attract topics of interest to not only traditional college-age students, but others in the region.

The health fair was organized in conjunction with the Chadron State College Residence Life Association’s blood drive. Jill Reading, Edna Work Hall residence director, said the drive exactly met its goal with 85 units of blood collected by American Red Cross staff from North Platte.

Roweton said the health fair gives Chadron State a way to interact with other agencies, programs and people of its region.

“There are not many better ways for people in the community to become acquainted than to physically put them next to one another at an event like this,” he said.
Graves speaks of life long Shakespeare fascination

By Justin Haag

Dr. Dorset Graves’ life-long fascination with William Shakespeare’s work continued late last year when the retired Chadron State College language arts professor talked at length about the classic playwright during a presentation in the Reta King Library.

Graves’ discussion was presented as an installment of the library’s feature that is named in his honor, the Dorset Graves Lecture Series.

Much of the retired professor’s presentation was intended to bring people “up to speed” about recent commentary about Shakespeare, who died on his birthday almost 400 years ago. Graves also gave insight about how he became the Shakespeare enthusiast that he is today.

Graves said his first encounter with Shakespeare occurred in the 1930s when he stumbled across a battered copy of Shakespeare’s complete works while rummaging through the attic of his grandmother’s two-story home in east-central Missouri. He was 10 or 11 years old at the time.

Despite the fact that the covers had been torn from the piece and the compilation had no introductions, footnotes or glossary of unfamiliar terms, Graves took a liking to it and found himself working through the pages of “Romeo and Juliet.” The Elizabethan narrative was difficult, especially for a boy his age, to decipher, but he was familiar with the story because Hollywood had recently brought it to the big screen.

“I wasn’t a child prodigy. I didn’t pick up on it right away. It took me quite a while, but I was determined,” he said.

Soon, the budding literature professor approached his middle school’s principal and proposed to lead his seventh-grade classmate in a production of “Romeo and Juliet,” offering to “rewrite it so everyone would understand.”

“Mr. McBride was horrified,” Graves said. “He said, ‘No, no. It’s not the kind of play young teens should read, much less perform.’ Now, of course, R and J is practically the only play by Shakespeare in ninth and 10th grades throughout the U.S.”

Despite the setback, Graves’ love of Shakespeare continued to flourish. Before long, he memorized three speeches from classic works: Hamlet’s “to be or not to be,” Portia’s remarks about the “quality of mercy” from the “Merchant of Venice” and the words Mark Antony spoke over the body of Caesar.

“Someone, I forget who, managed to, or I should say, encouraged me to write out three speeches from my copy of Shakespeare and memorize them, the better to amuse visiting relatives. And I was just enough of an insipient hand to do just that,” he said.

Graves’ fascination with Shakespeare has followed him many places. While serving in the Battle of Okinawa during World War II, Graves said he was reading Shakespeare’s plays atop a troop transport ship, with “battle gear in hand, filling the many boring hours on duty.”

“I got tired of seeing those Japanese planes go over and go down. It just became boring after a while,” he said.

Graves taught English at CSC for 32 years, where he became recognized as an expert on Shakespeare and for spending countless hours perusing books at the library.

During his discussion, Graves was surrounded by copies of literature about Shakespeare and referred to more than a half dozen pieces written by the playwright’s critics. He noted that an almost immeasurable number of such volumes is available.

He said 46 shelves of books are dedicated to the classic author in CSC’s library, but noted CSC’s collection is “just a fraction of a fraction of all that has been written.” While pointing out the value of the critical work, Graves said much has been produced that is “un Scholarly, frivolous or meant to be understood only by a fellow theorist.”

Graves said he doubts that all the works dedicated to Shakespeare have been assembled in one place, except possibly the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C.

King Library hosts Lewis and Clark exhibit

Activities at Reta King Library focused on the Lewis and Clark Expedition this spring.

The events focused on the traveling exhibit “Lewis and Clark and the Indian Country” that was displayed for six weeks in March and April. CSC was one of just 23 locations in the country to house the exhibition.

Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and their small group of voyagers crossed the traditional homelands of more than 50 American Indian tribes during their journey to the Pacific Coast and back.

The exhibit examines the monumental encounter of cultures and examines the past and present effects of that encounter on the lives of the tribes which still live in the region.

“We are pleased to have been selected as a site for this exhibit,” said Milton Wolf, director of the King Library. “The story of the Lewis and Clark expedition is well-known to most Americans, especially because of the recent bicentennial celebrations, but the Native American perspective on their voyage is not as well known. It is important to understand that although this great journey essentially opened American eyes to the West and encouraged national expansion, it also contributed to a dramatic change in the well-established cultures of the Indian tribes already living in the region.

In many ways, the Lewis and Clark expedition was analogous to the adventures of the TV series Star Trek, where variegated cultures encountered, where variegated cultures
Class Notes

If you gave us news during the Phonathon, it may or may not be in this issue. We were still sorting papers at press time. Thank you for your patience.


Bonnie and Rex Yocum ’44, Cheyenne, Wyo., celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary April 4, 2008. Marlene and Floyd Holmgrain ’49, Minitonka, Minn., celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary March 8, 2008.


Alyce and Ed Jolovich ’55, Torrington, Wyo., celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary Aug. 6, 2007. Al currently is on the Goshen County School Board and supervising student teachers for Chadron State.

Don Mahlan ’58, Fairbury, received the Fairbury Chamber of Commerce Community Service award at a banquet held Feb. 8, 2008.

Kia Glabius at ’59 Wisner, was honored for 45 years with the 4-H clubs in Cuming County and has been a TEAMMATE mentor for 5 years.

Don Schmaderer ’62 retired as President of the Tri-County Bank Stuart, Atkinson and Bassett and was elected Chairman of the Board and CEO. He and his wife Sally reside in Stuart.

Phyllis Eitemiller ’63, Chadron, retired from Chadron Medical Clinic after 45 years of service.

James Jones ’65, Sidney, retired June, 2007 after 25 years as an agent with Farm Bureau Insurance.

Dan Henning ’67, retired in 2007 after 41 years as a social studies teacher.

Larry ’65 and Jean Matthesen ’64, Custer, S.D., attended the State of the Union Address after an invitation from Congressman Adrian Smith.

Deborah and Martha Wilson ’67, Lemoyne, operate the Lazy Five Ranch, which will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2008. Dusty Wilson ’96 represents a fourth generation on the ranch.

James Sullitt ’69, retired from Nebraska Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Omaha in Nov. 2007. He and his wife Marilyn have moved to McCook.

Don Buecculli ’68, retired June 2007 from South Orangefield School District. He and his wife Corinne ’69 reside in Surrey, Maine.

Lee Schierkolk MA ’70, Prairie Farm, Wisc., was honored Nov. 4, 2006 by the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association for his activities involving The Prairie Farm Panther Booster Club and involvement in the baseball program of the community.

Richard "Rick" Wheatley ’72, Chadron, retired from work as a minister. He is a bus driver for Chadron Public Schools and Chadron State College.

Robert Pile ’73, Gering, was promoted to President and CEO for the Panhandle Coop Association in Scottsbluff. His wife Elaine ’73 works for Platte Valley Companies.

Jerry Schumacher ’74, Chadron, was elected president of the Nebraska State Intercollegiate Activities Administrator Association.

Glenda Gamby ’77 and current staff, was chosen as the Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association Auxiliary member of the year for 2007. Glenda and her husband, Dr. John Gamby, live in Chadron.

Michael Mattson ’78, Syracuse, N.Y., was recently appointed executive director of gift planning in the Division of Institutional Advancement at Syracuse University.

Sue Kandel ’82, retired as Principal at Leyton High School in 2007. She resides in Dalton.

Craig Witte ’83, was elected and is serving as State Representative District 8 in Montana. He resides in Kalispell, Mont., with his wife Susan.

Martin Fleming MS ’84, Tarboro, N.C., accepted a new position as Special Education Teacher with the North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Kelly DeHaes ’89, Norfolk, retired June 2007 from South Orangefield School District. He and his wife Corinne ’69 reside in Surrey, Maine.

Theresa Petska ’89 is the Principal at Centurina High School in Cairo. She lives in Ord with her husband Greg ’80, who is the owner of Petska Fur.

David Russell ’00 has been promoted to assistant principal and athletic director at First National Bank North Platte, Chadron branch.

Nicole Powell ’01 has received certification as a certified strength and conditioning specialist. She is employed by Hastings Physical Therapy as a physical therapist. She and husband Travis ’00 reside in Doniphan and Travis has started a new business in Grand Island, Essential Personnel.

Kendra Schmid ’01, Eagle, received her Ph.D. in statistics from the University of Nebraska, where she is an assistant professor.

Bobby Griese ’01 received certification as a certified strength and conditioning specialist. He is employed at Chadron Community Hospital’s rehabilitation department.

Christie Glab ’02 is employed as a physical therapist on the spinal cord team at Immanuel Medical Center in Omaha, where she resides with her husband Joe and son Carter.

Brent Heyen ’02 is teaching fourth-grade science classes at Aquinas Catholic School in Chadron City.

Austin Forney ’04 resides in Rothenburg, Mich., where he is employed at the Lake JL Ranch as a musher. He leads a pack of 25 dogs.

Brittany Smith ’04 graduated from Creighton University in Omaha with a degree in Occupational Therapy. She is employed by Jacobsen Therapy Services in Norfolk.

Ashley (Pullen) Decker ’05 has successfully passed the CPA exam and received her CPA license in the state of Wyoming. She was promoted to the tax compliance accountant position for the University of Wyoming.

Marriages

Vicki Rice ’95 and Vance Kraeger were married Aug. 25, 2007. They reside in Nebraska City, where Vicki is working as a staff writer for the University of Nebraska at Kearney media relations department.

Lori Beaver ’97 and Homer Hall were married Dec. 29, 2007. The couple resides in Charlotte, N.C.

JoAnn Supeer ’01 and Brian Hageman were married Oct. 12, 2007. The couple resides in Tulsa, Okla.

Sandi Sether ’01 married Rich Fuerst Sept. 29, 2007. The couple resides in Rapid City, S.D.

Robin Fugier-Dieken ’01 and Daniel Pladson were married Sept. 15, 2007. The couple resides in Dunseath, N.D.

Tami Spahn ’01 and Casey Fosher ’06 were married May 3, 2007. The couple resides in Fort Collins, Colo., where Tami is the marketing director for Bank Colorado. Casey is an account executive with the Harlem Ambassadors.

Robyn Clevenger ’02 and Joseph Lane were married May 19, 2007. The couple resides in LaVista.

Dane Rasmussen ’03 and Alyssa Derry ’04 were married Sept. 8, 2007. The couple resides in Whitewood, S.D. Dane is a deputy sheriff for Meade County Sheriff’s Office and Alyssa is a dental hygienist.

Lindsay Vrbicky ’04 and Brad Schwartz were married June 30, 2007. The couple resides in Columbus.

Michaela Thompson at ’04 and Matthew Gasseling ’05 were married Oct. 6, 2007. The couple resides in Menzies, Montana. Michaela is employed at Regional West Medical Center as a Registered Dietitian and Sonographer.

Brooke Miller at ’04 and continued on next page
Bob Burford were married June 9, 2007. The couple resides in Bayard.

Erica Griesman ’04 and Craig Miller ’06 were married Oct. 27, 2007. The couple resides in Manhattan, Kan.

Shane Terrel ’06 and Kelly Keiser were married Sept. 15, 2007. The couple resides in Manhattan, Kan., where Shane is pursuing his veterinary medicine degree at Kansas State University.

Bobbi Blaine ’06 and Kase Kossman ’06 were married Jan. 6, 2007. The couple resides in Sierra Vista, Ariz.

Nathan Cheetsos att ’06 and Emily Volkmer ’07 were married July 7, 2007. The couple resides in Kearney.

Births

Faculty and Staff

Clara Michelle to Mike, staff, and Megan Spargo, current student, Chadron, Jan. 7, 2008.

80’s

Marte and Randy Oestman ’85, Cheyenne, Wyo., adopted two girls from Russia, Darya 5 and Natalia 4.

90’s

Sarah Grace to William and Grace (Haldeen) Brott ’90, Paxton, May 22, 2007. She joins siblings Tristan and Cora.

Reece Jacob to Stacey and Nichole (Bateman) Satterwhite ’91, Miami, Okla., Aug. 18, 2006. Reece joins big brother Jackson.

Anthony to Tracey and Peter Chase ’91, Amarillo, Texas, March 9, 2007.

Samuel Richard to JoAnna and Tony Cordova ’93, Kearney, Jan. 26, 2008.

Allison Rose to Christopher ’94 and Jennifer (Smith) Baer ’00, Gering, Oct. 16, 2007. She joins big sister Jessica.


Alexis Mae to Weston and Megan (Widdick) Inglisbee ’97, Strasburg, Colo., Jan. 21, 2008.


Gillian Chere to Craig ’99, staff and Joleen (McKibbens) Conway ’05, staff, Chadron, Jan. 17, 2008.

Kate Marie to Pat and Janette (Simpson) Coffing ’98, Elk Grove, Calif., Sept. 21, 2006. She joins big brother Wyatt.


Ben to Darby and Sara (Holmgen) Paxton ’99, Stuart, Jan. 8, 2007. Ben is welcomed home by big brother Will.

00’s

Rylie Katharine to Brady ’00 and Sara (Fastenan) O’Hare, Tulsa, Okla., July 16, 2007. She is welcomed home by siblings Carsyn and Garrett.

Tayven Christopher to Tyler ’03 and Melony (Manfee) White ’00, Black Hawk, S.D., June 13, 2007.


Hudson Timothy to Kris and Jeremy ’00, Dimock, S.D., Feb. 27, 2007.


Dilan to Justin ’01 and Linda (Sondergard) Raymer ’01, Hay Springs, Aug. 24, 2006.


Kate Elizabeth to Somer (Treman) ’00 and Jeffery Pioper ’02, La Vista, Dec. 7, 2007. Kate is welcomed home by big brother Gannon.


Tucker James to Jennifer and Robyn (Clevenger) Lange ’02, La Vista, Dec. 7, 2007. Tucker was welcomed home by big brother Gannon.


Owen Kurtiss to Jeaninne (Mueller) ’02 and Dan Bruner ’03, Sheridan, Wyo., May 18, 2007. He was welcomed home by sister Natalie.


Mackenzie Shae to Jennifer and Craig Carey MS ’03, Whitestown, Ind., Aug. 23, 2007. She joins big brother Quinn.

Clay to Beau ’03 and Tara (Warta) Sheets ’03, Colby, Kan., Sept. 18, 2007. She joins siblings Kamdyn and Ty.


Reese to Rebecca (Gross) ’04 and Blake Holsher ’04, Kearney, Jan. 23, 2008.


Malaya Rae to Ignacio and Trisha (Seidler) Cockcroft ’04, Council Bluffs, Iowa, Nov. 30, 2007.


Obituaries

Friends


Athel Fuller, Chadron, died Dec. 1, 2007.


Elaine A. Gieseler att ’44, Chadron, died Dec. 6, 2007.

50’s

Elsie Elizabeth Freeman ’52, Germantown, Md., died Sept. 6, 2007.


60’s

Dr. Kathleen Mae Schmich ’61, Fresno, Calif., died Feb. 23, 2008.


Edith Geraldine Olesen ’63, Sidney, died June 29, 2008.

Agnes M. Bruns ’64, Hemingford, died Nov. 28, 2007.


70’s

Terry L. Christopher ’70, Sidney, died Feb. 22, 2008.


Pam (Hogeland) Cederberry ’70, Kimball, died Oct. 2007.


Terry L. Statton ’72, Big Piney, Wyo., died Dec. 9, 2007.

80’s


90’s

Carl and Diane McManis join Living Legacy Club

The Living Legacy Society recognizes those who have made provisions for a future gift to Chadron State in their estate plans. We are pleased to have the opportunity to recognize these individuals, and thank them for their future gift during their lifetime!

Carl and Diane McManis met at Chadron State while both were students in the early 1950s and have never forgotten “their college,” as Carl calls it. Already significant contributors to the Chadron State Foundation, the McManises recently joined the Living Legacy program through the foundation. That means they have made provision to leave a portion of their estate to the college.

With Diane lending strong support, Carl has had an interesting and rewarding career. He came to Chadron State “during the Blizzard of ’49” after his football scholarship (as well as those of his teammates) were rescinded at Montana State during some coaching turmoil. Through the urging of a friend, he transferred to CSC after contacting Ross Armstrong, then the Eagles’ football coach.

“Ross told me Chadron State didn’t have any scholarships, but he’d get me a job. I wound up managing the Student Center, which at the time was in the basement of Crites Hall. The second year there, I met Diane and we were married. We’ve had a great life together.”

After Carl coached all the sports at Chadron and Gering High Schools for seven years, he was a sporting goods salesman for 14 years before founding his own firm, Confidence Golf Co. in Gardena, Calif., in 1972. Shortly after that he began exporting American-made golf equipment to Japan when the sport became popular there. He also began International Sports Consultants that helped numerous American manufacturers distribute their products throughout the Pacific Rim.

When many American casting companies found the aerospace industry more lucrative than the golf industry, Carl was the first to establish foundries abroad that made golf equipment components that were imported. The manufacturing initially took place in Japan, then Taiwan and now China.

“Everything to do with playing golf today is made in China except the balls. They still make the balls in the U.S.,” Carl said.

In recent years, Carl and his son Mike have operated USA-Sino, a firm that assists many of the big names in the golf equipment business. Sales this year are expected to approach $25 million. But as of March 1, 2008 at age 81, Carl retired and turned everything over to Mike, who is now the one making the frequent trips to China and Hong Kong to keep the business ties intact.

“Quite a few times, I was at the right place at the right time, and that includes my time at Chadron State,” Carl said. “Both Diane and I have many fond memories of Chadron State and are glad we’ve maintained close ties with the college. I know we’ll continue to do that as long as we live.”

Carl has one regret. Although he was an all-conference football ball player at CSC, he said he has never been a good golfer and turned everything over to Mike, who is now the one making the frequent trips to China and Hong Kong to keep the business ties intact.

Carl and Diane McManis have a portion of their estate to the college.

Phonathon generates 154k for campus support

Chadron State College in February celebrated the conclusion of its annual Phonathon fund-raising effort with a party in the Student Center.

Thirty-eight CSC students called alumni and other members of the CSC community during three weeks in February to raise $154,342.41, which is more than $27,000 over last year’s total at the conclusion of the calling period. The money will be used by the Chadron State Foundation to provide campus support.

Special recognition was given to callers who raised the most money and have been with the program for multiple years. Sara Pilakowski of Genoa, a junior studying to be a dentist, was the top fund-raiser, while Joslynne Simpson, a senior who graduated from Alliance High School in 2004, has participated in the program four years.

The total amount is expected to grow as those who didn’t answer phone calls are being given an opportunity to donate by mail.

During the party, members of the alumni staff, and the students, expressed thanks for the generosity of the effort’s donors.

Vacation program offers ‘Walk in Their Boots’

By Joy Blundell, Sandoz Center Intern

June brings the opportunity to learn about the Old West through a learning-based vacation designed by the staff of the Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center and others at Chadron State College in northwest Nebraska.

The vacation program, Walk in their Boots: A Cowboy Life, takes place June 23-27.

The program has been designed for a family vacation, but also has been tailored to individuals and couples who want to experience many of the everyday experiences of a cowboy’s life.

The adventure takes place in and around Chadron, regarded by its residents and vacationers as a hidden treasure. Participants can experience the majestic beauty of ponderosa pine trees, spectacular sunsets and sunrises, rolling plains and the Sandhills.

Many of the Phonathon callers display a check that shows how much money was raised.