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Dear Alumni,

As you may know, I am officially beginning my tenure as Chadron State College president as 2013 begins. For me, I can’t imagine a better way to start the New Year. Chadron is a wonderful community and my wife, Ann, and I are excited about the opportunity to continue serving an outstanding institution of higher learning in a great place.

I am becoming president at a terrific time. Institutions of higher education are being challenged by changing demographics, shrinking state support, increased accountability, escalating costs and confusion about their mission. Almost all institutions of higher learning face these challenges and most are struggling with them. Unlike many, though, Chadron State College has a number of strategic initiatives that are moving the college forward.

In recent years, Chadron State has reimagined itself with structural changes such as the new Essential Studies program for general education that is exposing students to high-impact learning from the moment they begin classes. Another is the cross-trained staff of Student Services, which enables resident students to enroll with visits to 2-3 offices instead of 6-10. The institution is participating in innovative initiatives such as the Kaleidoscope Project, a system of open education resources that is helping students learn with materials available in the public domain rather than expensive textbooks. A number of new market development initiatives are expanding Chadron State’s enrollment with corporate, international, domestic and online opportunities.

This fall, Chadron State surpassed the 3,000 enrollment mark for the first time in many years. In the coming year we can look forward to progress on three big construction projects – the renovation and expansion of the Armstrong Physical Education Building, the Coffee Agriculture Pavilion of the Rangeland Complex, and the Eagle Ridge housing units. These projects will greatly enhance our academic opportunities and strengthen the campus and greater community in many ways.

Chadron State continues to be recognized for having outstanding programs. Just this fall, we were again ranked highly on the Military Times Edge “Best for Vets” list.

Indeed, the list of good things happening at Chadron State is a long one.

It has been a pleasure to meet an increasing number of alumni since being named interim president in May. One of Chadron State’s greatest assets is its committed alumni, friend and other supporters. I look forward to meeting more of you as time goes on.

Chadron State will continue to evolve, remain strong and relatively accessible and provide the next generation with the kind of educational experience that will prepare them for the world in which they live.

Sincerely,

Randy Rhine, Ed.D.
President

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

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Past issues of the Alumni Magazine can be found at www.csc.edu/alumni

On the Cover:
Snow blankets the prairie hawthorn tree and Russian sage between Kent Hall and the Lindeken Clock Tower on Oct. 25. The early season snowfall provided a welcome break from the drought which made conditions ripe for the numerous wildfires in summer and fall.
(Photo by Justin Haag)
Blazing trails:  
College breaks ground on Rangeland Complex

By Justin Haag

And, they’re off.

In a ceremony that involved charging horseback riders on the windy prairie, Chadron State College marked the beginning of construction for the Rangeland Complex on Sept. 6.

About 200 people gathered on the east side of campus for the ceremonial groundbreaking of the $2.9 million first phase of the new facility, which will serve CSC’s programs for rangeland management and agriculture.

While the event featured the obligatory photo op with shovels, a part of the ceremony that was uniquely western drew applause.

Prompted by Interim President Dr. Randy Rhine, three members of the Chadron State College rodeo club – Bridger Chytka, Collin Chytka and Kelsey Scott – helped kick off the ceremony by charging the nearby hilltop on horseback. One of the riders carried a CSC flag to the spot east of the CSC Softball Field parking lot where the facility will be constructed.

The Rangeland Complex is one of three new construction projects that will soon begin at CSC. It, along with new housing units on the east side of campus and the first phase of renovation and expansion of the Armstrong Physical Education Building, will total more than $19 million. The first phase of the Rangeland Complex includes an indoor arena, along with the extension of 12th street, utilities and other infrastructure.

“While it’s exciting to see these projects begin, we know that they will eventually allow us to serve our students better,” Rhine said. “It is also rewarding to know that they will create a flurry of economic activity for the community and the region for a number of years to come.”

The half-hour ceremony included comments from CSC officials and others who have been involved with the project.

Stan Carpenter, chancellor of the Nebraska State College System, spoke about the value of CSC’s rangeland management offerings and commended it for being the second largest such program in the nation.

“We don’t break ground in the State College System very often,” Carpenter said. “This rangeland program at Chadron is one that is unique and one that is important to the college, to the region, to the state and to all who live in northwest Nebraska,” he said.

Carpenter also expressed assurance in the eventual completion of the project’s $3.5 million second phase.

“When we get this first phase done, I am confident that we will find funding to begin the second phase of this project because it is so very important to this college and this area.”

Dr. Chuck Butterfield, who serves as chairman of CSC Department of Applied Sciences and teaches rangeland management courses, related the importance of agricultural offerings to the region and told about his department’s make-up and history. He described the project as a team effort that has come far, recalling a meeting with CSC administrators that he and fellow professor Georgia Younglove attended in 2002 to begin discussing the possibility of an arena.

Butterfield noted that courses in general agriculture, agronomy and soils were among the first classes offered when the college was established in 1911. Soon after, in 1917, the college added a department of agriculture and the institution’s first livestock courses. He talked about a number of ups and downs in the program, with the addition of a rodeo team in 1955 among the milestones.

“This is a great opportunity for our program. Half of this state is rangeland. We’re out here in the heart of range country,” Butterfield said.

One of the speakers, Chadron State Foundation board chairman Fran Grimes, said she became a true believer when Butterfield led her and others on a tour of the Department of Applied Sciences’ current arrangement in the Burkhiser Complex.

“I was surprised at the inadequacy of these facilities,” she said. “This turned me into a true believer that the rangeland agriculture Center and Pavilion is not just a worthy project, but that it is greatly needed.”

The Rangeland Complex is heavily funded by the private contributions of Vision 2011, a fundraising effort by the foundation. Grimes expressed gratitude to all of the project’s supporters, including 20 major donors.

Grimes noted that Vision 2011 raised $1.5 million for the Rangeland Complex through December 2011. She also pointed out the $1 million rural development loan made possible continued on page 18
By Con Marshall

Dr. Sam Rankin, the president of Chadron State College for almost 12 years from September 1986 through June of 1998, died Sept. 30 in a Dayton, Ohio, hospital following a short bout with pancreatic cancer.

Rankin and his wife Sharon had lived in Huber Heights, Ohio, a Dayton suburb, since moving from Chadron in 2007. Both were natives of Dayton.

He had turned 70 on Sept. 28, two days before his death.

During Rankin’s presidency many improvements took place at Chadron State. Several new programs that flourished were begun, there was a tremendous expansion in technology, the enrollment grew by more than 45 percent, scholarship support doubled and the assets of the Chadron State Foundation tripled.

Initiatives begun during his tenure as president included the Rural Health Opportunities Program that brought many outstanding Nebraska students to the campus to study for the medical profession, the Non-Resident Scholars Program that lowers the costs for top students from other states to attend Chadron State, library automation that greatly increased the college’s access to information, a master’s degree in business administration and a major in range management.

In addition, Chadron State became a leader in interactive distance learning and assisted many regional residents in obtaining a college.

After Rankin became president emeritus, he remained on the campus for nine years as a Board of Trustees Professor of History. After the Rankins moved to Ohio, he continued to teach western civilization courses on line for the college for three more years.

Sam Rankin led CSC during a time of remarkable progress. The enrollment blossomed and banner initiatives such as RHOP and the Non-Resident Scholars Program began.

Sam Rankin and his wife, Sharon, ride in Chadron State College’s centennial homecoming parade in October 2011. (Photo by Justin Haag)
education. Numerous other technological improvements occurred, including opening of a site on the World Wide Web, several computer upgrades and offering courses over the Internet for the first time.

Rankin also led the way as the Eagles joined the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference after not having a viable conference affiliation for about 20 years. He was inducted into the CSC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2006.

Physical improvements at the college during Rankin’s tenure included construction of the wood-fired heating plant, the Student Center and the Lindeken Clock Tower. The conversion of the Miller Building from a moth-balled gymnasium into a state-of-the-art classroom facility was begun, the college’s electrical distribution system was upgraded and the Elliott Field stadium and press box were expanded and improved.

After returning to teaching, Dr. Rankin established the reputation of being an outstanding scholar who was popular with students as he challenged them to make comparisons to what’s happening in the modern world with what they have learned through the study of history.

“My time in teaching was extremely enjoyable because I had the pleasure of being paid for doing something that is my hobby, the study of history and its application to today’s world,” he said.

Rankin graduated Magna Cum Laude with a major in history from St. Joseph College in Indiana in 1964. He received his master’s degree from the University of Wyoming in 1966 and earned a Ph.D. from Kent State University in Ohio in 1971. He received the Alumni Achievement Award from St. Joseph College in 2001.

Rankin was just 32 years old when he was chosen vice president of academic affairs at Valley City State University in North Dakota in 1974. Earlier that year he had been selected as the institution’s outstanding faculty member.

He was at Valley City State for nine years before accepting a similar position at Eastern Montana College, now Montana State University-Billings. He was in his third year there when he was selected as Chadron State’s eighth president.

Survivors include three sons and a daughter, their spouses and seven grandchildren.

Mrs. Rankin is a registered nurse who worked in that capacity for the Chadron City Schools for 10 years and often was a community health screening volunteer. She served on the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications board of directors, a statewide selection committee for the nation’s military academies and the Chadron Community Hospital board.

By Korinne Tande

Nebraska State College System Chancellor Stan Carpenter announced Nov. 29 that the NSCS Board of Trustees will name Randy Rhine as the 11th president of Chadron State College at its Jan. 15, 2013, board meeting. Rhine serves as the interim president, a position he has had since Janie Park’s retirement in May. Park had served as president of CSC for seven years.

Rhine is a familiar face around CSC. His career at CSC began in 2005 when he was brought to the college by Park to provide leadership in increasing enrollment and designing initiatives targeting CSC’s mission of access to affordable high quality education.

The national search for Chadron’s 11th president was conducted by a committee representing various Chadron constituents, including faculty, staff, students, the community and NSCS Trustees. The two finalists for the presidency visited Chadron Nov. 12-13 to meet with a number of college groups and individuals. They also met with the board and NSCS office staff.

Board Chairman Carter “Cap” Peterson of Wayne said, “Randy is an excellent choice for president at CSC. I believe he will make Chadron an even stronger institution than it is today. The Board of Trustees was very impressed with the quality of candidates for the presidency, and congratulates the search committee on a job well done.”

Carpenter said, “Randy has a great understanding of CSC and the Nebraska State College System. In his role as president, Dr. Rhine will continue his work with Chadron’s business and education leaders and those in ranching, farming and agribusiness across Nebraska and the high plains region generally. His experience with enrollment growth and retention, as well as developing partnerships with business and industry, will greatly benefit CSC and its students.”

Prior to joining CSC, Rhine served as the dean of the College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning at Montana State University-Billings. He worked with university leadership to coordinate the college’s outreach efforts and provide an entrepreneurial approach for expansion in the community, region and internationally.
Members of the Chadron State College Show band march the homecoming parade route Oct. 27. (Photo by Justin Haag)

Homecoming king and queen Donald Hlava and Megan Dimmitt wave from the homecoming parade route Oct. 27. (Photo by Justin Haag)

The winners of Chadron State College’s homecoming bedsheet decorating contest are unveiled during the spirit rally Oct. 25. The winners were Chi Alpha, originality; Social Work, humor; The Pit at the Student Center, spirit; and the Health Professions Club, people’s choice. (Photo by Justin Haag)

Fans who got to the Chadron State College homecoming football game early were treated to a flash mob organized by students. Appropriate to the "Zombie Apocalypse" theme, the students danced to the CSC Show Band’s rendition of Michael Jackson’s "Thriller." (Photo by Brooke Schumacher)

Members of the Chadron State College International Club make their way along the homecoming parade route Oct. 27. (Photo by Justin Haag)

People line the street as the Valentine Middle School band makes its way up the homecoming parade route Oct. 27. (Photo by Justin Haag)
Seven receive alumni honors during homecoming

Seven graduates of Chadron State College were among those receiving special alumni honors during homecoming festivities Oct. 27.

The list includes five recipients of the institution’s Distinguished Alumni Award and two recipients of the Distinguished Young Alumni Award. The awards, along with CSC’s Athletic Hall of Fame inductions, will be presented during a luncheon in the Student Center.

The Distinguished Alumni Award recipients are research entomologist R. Nelson Foster of Mesa, Ariz., former CSC director of information Con Marshall of Chadron, NBA team executive Larry Riley of Oakland, Calif., healthcare company CEO Susan Salka of Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., and retired physical therapist David “Cactus” Shumway of Centennial, Colo.

Those receiving the Distinguished Young Alumni Award are NEBRASKAland magazine regional editor Eric Fowler of Lincoln and cardiologist Joseph Tuma of Rapid City, S.D.

The awards are presented to graduates who have shown exceptional service to the college, their career or their community. The award for young alumni is presented to those who are under age 40 or have been graduates for less than 20 years.

R. Nelson Foster, Class of 1967 – Foster has put his studies in biology and chemistry to good use, as he has been called upon by the federal government to manage and control insects. Foster is an applied research entomologist who specializes in developing management and control treatments and tactics as well as equipment and protocols for major insect pest programs sponsored by the USDA.

Con Marshall, Class of 1963 – Marshall usually doesn’t need an introduction at Chadron State College events. Through his work, his name has become familiar throughout the CSC community during the past four decades. Marshall, who grew up in the Chadron area, has worked at the college for 40 years, much of that time as the director of information and sports information director. He also has worked for the Chadron Record, Scottsbluff Star-Herald and Sidney Telegraph.

Larry Riley, Class of 1966 – Riley has established a remarkable career in basketball since his days as a player and coach for the Chadron State Eagles. Riley serves as the director of college scouting for the NBA’s Golden State Warriors after three seasons as the team’s general manager. As director of scouting, Riley’s main focus is on the NBA draft as well as advising with respect to trades and free agency. As general manager, he was responsible for overseeing all aspects of the team’s basketball operations, including trades, free agent acquisitions, contract negotiations, scouting, the NBA draft and several other team related matters.

Susan R. (Woeppe) Salka, Class of 1985 – Salka has become an influential business leader since her studies in accounting and economics at Chadron State College. As CEO and president, she is an active industry spokesperson in the healthcare and investment community, and has been one of the driving forces behind AMN Healthcare’s strategic and operational success since joining the company in 1990. Under her leadership, AMN has become known as the innovator in healthcare workforce solutions and the largest and most diversified healthcare staffing company in the nation. The company generates approximately $1 billion in annual revenue and listed in the New York Stock Exchange.

David “Cactus” Shumway, Class of 1972 – Shumway became known for his work in physical therapy after his days growing up in Chadron and graduating from Chadron State College. Now retired, he has been among the pioneers of physical therapy, serving cities near and far. The communities he’s served include The Dalles, Ore., Sidney, Neb., Casper, Wyo., Riverton, Wyo., Los Angeles, Calif., and Denver, Colo. He was among the first to promote Norwegian manual therapy and an active exercise approach to rehabilitation and established the first out-patient physical therapy clinic in Wyoming.

Eric Fowler, Class of 1993 – Fowler has become known throughout Nebraska and beyond for his stories and photographs about the state’s great outdoors. Since 2001 Fowler has been a regional editor for NEBRASKAland magazine, the monthly publication known for its breathtaking images and features. Prior to joining NEBRASKAland Fowler spent six years as a newspaper reporter and photographer, first at the Chadron Record and then the Scottsbluff Star-Herald. He joined the staff at the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission as publications editor before moving to the magazine.

Joseph Tuma, Class of 1994 – Tuma has become a highly respected cardiologist since graduating from Chadron State College with a bachelor’s degree in the health sciences. Tuma serves as the director of cardiac catheterization laboratories at Rapid City Regional Hospital, and is a staff cardiologist at Regional Heart Doctors. Known best for his work in cardiovascular disease and endovascular interventions, he also serves as a consultant cardiologist at hospitals in Alliance, Gordon and Spearfish, S.D. In addition to his medical practice, he is associate professor of biomedical engineering at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. Prior to beginning work in Rapid City, he was a staff physician at two eastern Nebraska facilities, the Beatrice Community Health Center and the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Omaha.

Eleven inducted into Athletic Hall of Fame

Eleven athletes were inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame during homecoming Saturday, Oct. 27.

Among the inductees was Patty Buettner, who was the first softball player to enter the CSC Hall of Fame.

The other CSC Hall of Fame inductees were football players Curtis Deines, Jason Funk, Judd Hoos, Doug Lytle and Curt Moffat along with basketball players Jami Huckfeldt and Jason Robinson, track and field standout Livi Malone, volleyball player Misty Gill Leslie and wrestler Corey Arndt.

Lytle also was an outstanding thrower for the track and field team.
By Con Marshall

Dorset Graves shared passion for literature

Dr. Dorset Graves holds the Shakespearean volume he had purchased for $2.98 while he was in the Navy and looks at the painting depicting King Lear’s rejection of his daughter, Cordelia. The photo was taken in May 1990 when Graves retired as a full-time professor at Chadron State College. However, he continued to teach there 15 more years. (Photo by Con Marshall)

Dorset Graves speaks about Shakespeare for the lecture series that bears his name in November 2007. (Photo by Justin Haag)

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

— Dorset Graves

Dorset Graves continued to teach there 15 more years. (Photo by professor at Chadron State College. However, he was taken in May 1990 when Graves retired as a full-time faculty member, for 15 more years. He often said he would teach Shakespeare without being paid.

Besides teaching, he was chairman of the Division of Language and Literature for 29 years.

Graves died at age 87 on Sept. 1 at Crest View Care Center, where he had resided the previous two months after breaking his hip. Survivors include his wife Meredith, two sons and six grandchildren.

His wife noted, “Dorset loved teaching and was proud that the members of his department always seemed to have a harmonious relationship.”

Several of his colleagues have given glowing testimonials about the admiration they had for their long-time friend and mentor.

Graves had never heard of Chadron State when he received a telegram from Dr. Barton Kline, then the college’s president, asking that he apply for an opening in the English Department.

Kline had been traveling through Iowa and stopped at Grinnell College to see if it had any alumni who were working on graduate degrees. Graves was studying for his doctorate at Duke University in North Carolina, and was given such a high recommendation by Grinnell personnel that he was immediately offered an associate professorship at Chadron State.

When the telegram arrived, Graves and his wife used a road map to find Chadron. He also responded by telegram, exchanged a few letters and in about two weeks agreed to join the faculty the following fall, in 1958.

Graves had a lifelong affection for books and reading. Through the years, he undoubtedly checked out several times more books from the CSC Library than anyone else, often borrowing at least a half dozen at a time. In 2006, the library named its weekly lecture series in his honor.

While giving the lecture series program the following year, he recalled that when he was 10 or 11 years old he was rummaging through the attic of his grandmother’s two-story farm home in east-central Missouri and discovered a battered copy of Shakespeare’s works.

He was particularly fascinated with “Romeo and Juliet” after seeing a movie about the tragic romance.

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

As a seventh-grader, he approached the junior high principal and offered to rewrite the play “so everyone can understand it” and to lead his classmates in producing the play.

Graves said the principal was horrified, noting that Romeo and Juliet wasn’t the kind of play young teens should read, much less perform.

Despite the setback, Graves’s love for Shakespeare continued to flourish. Before long, he had memorized three speeches from the classic works.

Soon after graduating from Wellsville High School in Missouri in 1943, Graves joined the Navy. While stationed near San Francisco, he purchased a thick volume of Shakespearean works for $2.98. He served aboard troop transport ships that made six round trips across the Pacific during World War II. His duties as a gunnery captain’s communications assistant placed him beside a 16-inch gun on the ship’s fantail. During long periods of inactivity, he read all the plays and some of his favorites more than once.

After the war ended, Graves enrolled at Grinnell College. Highlights there included meeting Meredith Miler of Mason City, Iowa, his eventual wife, and author Robert Frost. The latter revealed during his second visit to the Iowa college that he had read one of Graves’s poems to a group at Harvard.

After graduating in 1950, Graves moved to New York City, where he spent one year as a railroad dispatcher for Snow Crop Frozen Foods and the next year teaching at Hicksville High School on Long Island.

While living in New York, the couple was married on June 21, 1951.

After earning his master’s degree from Duke in 1954, he taught English at Idaho State College at Pocatello for two years before returning to Duke to work on his doctorate.

His highlights at Chadron State included receiving a national outstanding teaching award.
Four families receive alumni awards

By Justin Haag

Four families with a tradition of attending Chadron State College received special recognition during the institution’s annual Family Day celebration Saturday, Sept. 22.

The awards are presented annually to families with three or more generations of CSC graduates. The families will be honored during a private luncheon in the Student Center that preceded the Eagles’ football game against Western State.

The Feldhausen Family

The Feldhausen Family may not have the most graduates of this year’s recipients, but its roots run deep. Members of four generations of the Reading family have studied at CSC.

The late Della Lura Clayton, a Chadron native who later married John Feldhausen, was among the first students to attend what was then Nebraska State Normal School at Chadron. She earned an elementary teaching certificate in July 1916, just five years after the institution’s founding.

Members of the family who have attended the institution, include the daughter and son of the Feldhausens – Betty (Feldhausen) Reading of Chadron and the late Clayton Charles Fieldhausen.

Members of the family have completed studies in health administration, pre-nursing, business, aviation, science and education.

Three members of the family who are CSC alumni are the children of Betty, and her late husband John Reading. They are John Reading of Blackfoot, Idaho, Steven Reading of Atlanta, Ga., and Joanne (Reading) Schulte of Rogers, Minn.

John Reading and his wife, Kay, are the parents of the two members of the two family members in the fourth generation, Clint Reading of Cheyenne, Wyo., and Kim Reading of Blackfoot, Idaho.

The Gillett Family

The Gillett family, which has had at least 20 members enroll at Chadron State, has lineage in northwest Nebraska that goes back to its 1880s family homestead on the Table area south of Chadron. Two members of the family, brothers Wallace and Steven Gillett, sent their children to the Nebraska State Normal School at Chadron.

Wallace and Mary Gillett’s son, Rowland Hill Gillett entered the institution in September 1911 as its 174th student, shortly after it was founded. He later married Harriet Dickerson, a school teacher who would earn a bachelor’s degree from Chadron State College at age 60 in the same ceremony that their son LaVern earned a master’s degree.

Other members of the first generation were Jerome Canning Gillett, Wendell Lynde Gillett, Roger Wallace Gillett, Fisher Schuyler Gillett and Alzina Luella Gillett. Agnes Gillett, the daughter of Steven and Fannie Gillett also is among the CSC alumni.

The first Gilletts to attend the institution went on to use their educations in a variety of ways, including agriculture, service on local school boards, and teaching a variety of subjects, including science and art. Several were accomplished musicians.

Six of Rowland and Harriet’s 13 children, and/or their spouses, were among the family’s second generation to attend CSC.

In addition to LaVern, who now lives in Lincoln, they are Phyllis Elsie (Gillett) and Orlando S. “Landy” “Slim” Osborn of Chadron, Robert Harry “Bob” Gillett of Lincoln, Neb., the late Willa Caroline Gillett, and Terence “Terry” and Phyllis Kay (Masters) Gillett of Harrison, Neb. Richard W. Davis, the husband of daughter Norie, also graduated.

Others family members who attended CSC are Ellen Gillett of Grant, Neb., the daughter of Wendell and Emma Gillett, and the children of Alzina – Elsie Marie Coleman, Rose Coleman, Ernest Coleman Jr., John Coleman and Ruth Coleman.

The third and fourth generation to attend CSC includes a nephew and niece of the Osborns, Tony Elbert Lutz of Benkelman, Neb., and Brittnay Lutz of Oshkosh, Neb.

The Lee Family

This family’s association with Chadron State College goes back to the institution’s beginning. More than 20 members of the family are members of the CSC alumni.

Hattie Gertrude (Fox) Lee of Agate, Neb., in Sioux County was among the first class to enroll when the Nebraska State Normal School at Chadron was founded. The family has a copy of her registration card date June 13, 1911.

Hattie and her husband, Modie Lee, had six children, four of whom went on to study pursue degrees at Chadron. They are the late Dorothy (Lee) Scott, Edith (Lee) Murphy, Charles Lee and Louise (Lee) Hilton.

Family members have pursued a wide range of studies at CSC, including education, administration, English, music and pre-dentistry.

Other members of the family who have attended or graduated from CSC are Dave and Judy (Lissman) Hamaker of Lusk, Wyo., Judy (Hilton) Broeder of Mitchell, Neb., Gene Murphy of Mitchell, Neb., Marilyn (Lee) and Rick Cotant of Torrington, Wyo., and Cheryl (Lee) and William Schwarzkoph of Forsyth, Mont.

The fourth generation of the family to enroll CSC includes Cindy (Hamaker) Bergstrom of Lusk, Wyo., Will Broeder of Mitchell, Amy (Broeder) Horst of Chadron, Cody (Murphy) Haun of Mitchell, Brian Cotant of Buffalo, Wyo., and Eric Locker of Pavillion, Wyo.

Dave Hamaker’s mother, Goldie, and several cousins also are among the CSC alumni.

The Nitsch Family

At least 16 members of the Nitsch family have been among the Chadron State College student body, and several family members have been active on campus following their studies.

It started with Gil Nitsch of Chadron, a native of Hayes Center, Neb., who played football for the Eagles in 1962-1965 and was awarded a bachelor’s degree in business in 1966. His late wife Linda Nitsch, a native of Laramie, Wyo., was a business professor at CSC from 1997-2004. She earned a bachelor’s degree from CSC in 1990 and a master’s degree in 1995.

Combined, Gil and Linda have seven children. All seven of the children and four of their grandchildren, have either graduated or attended CSC. Members of the family have completed studies in a wide range of majors, including business, pre-nursing, pre-medicine, education, psychology, and health, physical education and recreation.

Other members of the family who have either attended or graduated include Chris and Nancy Stein of Chadron, Kory and Becki Richardson of Gillette, Wyo., Stacy and Dan Beebe of Elburn, Ill., Cody Spinaci of Aurora, Colo., Dean Nitsch of Cheyenne, Wyo., Kristin Yeutter of Bellevue, Neb., and Tyson and Debbie Floyd of Torrington, Wyo.

The third generation to attend CSC includes three of Chris and Nancy’s children, Kassi Hartman, Karyssa Stein and Kendra Stein.

The Chadron State Alumni Association annually awards two $500 scholarships.

Applicants must have a relative who graduated from CSC. Interested applicants may print and complete the scholarship application on www.csc.edu/alumni/scholarship.csc

Return it to the Alumni Office by April 1. Contact the Alumni Office for additional information.
The Chadron State Foundation Board of Directors has two new members. Sheila Dormann of Sidney and Sid Harchelroad of Imperial were appointed by a vote of foundation trustees this fall.

Harchelroad is CEO and sales manager at Harchelroad Motors, the full-service GM dealership that his grandfather started in 1935. It has grown to be one of the most successful auto dealers in the Midwest and is known far and wide for its outstanding selection of Chevrolet Corvettes. The company has grown to 40 employees and has expanded from its original Wauneta location to include an Imperial site, which Sid manages. He earned a bachelor’s degree in business from CSC in 1983.

Dormann is the senior director of integrity, compliance and internal audit for Cabela’s, the Nebraska-based sporting goods giant that has expanded to locations throughout the nation. She has been with the company since 2000 serving the positions of internal audit manager and director of internal audit before assuming her current role in 2011. Before joining the company, she worked as a certified public accountant at a regional firm for seven years. She graduated from CSC with a bachelor’s degree in 1992.

The 18-member Chadron State Foundation Board of Directors was established to secure, manage and administer gifts for the benefit of Chadron State College. Members have the option to renew for a second three-year term after their first.

Harchelroad and Dormann filled positions that were vacated by Jay Alderman of Rapid City, S.D., and Dan Contonis of Spearfish, S.D.

**Chadron State again named ‘Best for Vets’**

By Justin Haag

Chadron State College has again been named one of the nation’s best institutions for military veterans seeking higher education.

For the third consecutive year, Military Times Edge magazine has placed CSC on its “Best for Vets” list of colleges and universities. CSC’s No. 11 ranking is its highest yet.

This year’s accolade follows rankings of 13 and 23 the past two years. Of the more than 650 colleges and universities that responded to the Military Times Edge 150-question survey, only CSC and two other Nebraska institutions were listed in the top 68.

“We are pleased to again be listed among the best colleges and universities for veterans,” said Dr. Randy Rhine, CSC’s former vice president for enrollment management and student services who is scheduled to become president in January after serving eight months as interim. “It says a lot for not only Chadron State College but also the surrounding area. We are proud to live in a community and region that is very military-friendly.”

Jon Hansen, CSC veteran and military enrollment coordinator, said the institution’s affordability, with low tuition and features such as free tutoring, make it stand out from other colleges and universities.

CSC gets high marks from the Military Times Edge survey for its veteran services office on the third floor of Crites Hall, where coordinator of veteran affairs Chris Singpiel and others are located.

CSC also gained points for having costs below the cap for the G.I. Bill’s Tuition Assistance program and for participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program, a federal initiative that pays tuition and fees for veterans attending public institutions. In addition, CSC accepts credits from the American Council on Education, a program that awards college credit based on military training and experience.

Adding to affordability and dedicated service, Hansen notes that CSC has four Veterans Affairs work-study students and the institution’s proximity to the VA hospital in Hot Springs, S.D. He also said Chadron has a low cost of living compared to most other college communities.

“We have a wide range of programs available and we have one of the most liberal transfer policies,” Hansen said.

In recent years, Chadron State has placed a concerted focus on serving active military and veterans.

In the survey’s reporting year, 2011-2012, the CSC enrollment included 203 students with military affiliation. Hansen notes that the number has increased from 86 veterans and active military students in 2010 – the year Hansen, a retired U.S. Army officer, joined the CSC admissions staff to assist in recruiting students from military backgrounds.

“About half of our students are from the National Guard, whether it’s South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming or Colorado,” he said. “The other half is a combination of ROTC cadets, active duty from all the services or just straight-up veterans.”

Military Times Edge isn’t the only military media to take note of CSC. During the past three years, CSC also has been listed among G.I. Jobs magazine’s list of military-friendly schools. Only 15 percent of colleges and universities in the United States earn that designation.
Profit, preservation linked in bison ranching, professor says

By Justin Haag

A Chadron State College professor charges that contrary to common historical accounts, profit and preservation have always been linked when it comes to raising bison in North America.

Dr. David Nesheim, CSC assistant professor of social and communication arts, authored a 30-page article which addresses the bison population from 1920 to the mid and late part of the 20th century. The article appeared in the July issue of Environmental History, the journal for the American Society for Environmental History.

Nesheim said that traditional interpretation asserts that bison ranching began after World War II because of the booming domestic economy. Many believe, he said, that the bison were saved at the turn of the century as a noble gesture by society, without any “crass commercial aspect.”

“My main argument is that profit and preservation were always linked,” he said. “There was never a period in which you had preservation without some commercial activity. Even at Yellowstone, after the herd was established and started to grow, the park turned to the commercial market in the 1920s to deal with the surplus.”

Economics have required people to use the animal in order to save it, Nesheim said. “The problem is that bison are really expensive to maintain. The federal government could do that because it had funding from Congress,” he said. “Custer State Park, on the other hand, was set up so it wouldn’t be a burden to the state. When the park was proposed, it was supposed to operate in the free and clear. It was supposed to generate some revenue. So, the buffalo and timber were tapped early on for that.”

Nesheim’s article derives from the thesis for his master’s degree from Northern Arizona University, which he started in 2003. The professor also studied the Great Plains for his doctorate from the University of Nebraska.

Nesheim said he became interested in studying bison after his wife asked him a question about the animal’s history that he could not answer. He researched the topic and became fascinated. Nesheim, a graduate of Rapid City Central High School, said studying bison is also an apt fit for his heritage, noting that the Dupree family were the first South Dakotans to protect a herd of bison, and those animals were later purchased by rancher Scotty Philip. Nesheim’s connection: his father was raised in Dupree, S.D., and his mother in Philip, S.D., to the south.

Philip’s namesake is known as the “Man who Saved the Buffalo,” as the species was near extinction when his bison operation began. The herd grew from 74 to more than 1,000 before his death in 1911.

The entire population of North American bison, once projected at more than 50 million, was decimated to less than 1,000 by the 1890s. The population has rebounded to an estimated 500,000 today, half of which are in Canada.

Nesheim joined the CSC faculty in January. His studies include Native American history, including Oglalas, Yanktons and Omahas. In addition to bison, he has written about ducks, fish and insects of the Great Plains.
Ceremony marks beginning of 
Armstrong project

The groundbreaking ceremony for the renovation and expansion of the Armstrong Physical Education Building made a great Eagles football Saturday even better.

By Justin Haag

Chadron State College football players and fans are always jubilant after a win, but they had even more reason to celebrate after the Eagles’ 41-23 homecoming victory over the Western New Mexico Mustangs on Saturday, Oct. 27.

Immediately following the game, players ushered fans to the nearby Armstrong Physical Education Building to witness a groundbreaking ceremony for the facility’s upcoming renovation and expansion.

Excitement has long been building for the Armstrong project, the first phase of which
includes a new 2,100-seat sports arena to the
south of the existing structure.

Speakers at Saturday’s ceremony were Dr. Randy Rhine, CSC interim president, Randy Bauer, the member of the Chadron State Foundation board who co-chaired the campaign, Brad Smith, athletic director, women’s basketball player Sadie Waugh of Paxton and football player Lane Haller of Gordon.

Each spoke with enthusiasm about what the facility will mean for CSC and the community.

“When completed, it will provide our outstanding student athletes with a facility that is competitive with any school in the RMAC,” Rhine said.

For many at the ceremony, the project’s size and scope was first realized Saturday when the corners of the expansion’s footprint were marked. The building’s perimeter will reach beyond the current parking lot to the south.

According to the plans, most of the existing Armstrong Building, which opened in 1964, will be retained. The building serves as head-quarters for CSC’s NCAA Division II sports programs, including offices, weight training, the home court for basketball and volleyball, and locker rooms for football. In addition to the new arena, the plan includes space for classrooms, offices for athletic and sports medicine staff, locker rooms, concessions, ticket sales and storage.

The speakers thanked a sizable list of people who helped make the project possible, including Nebraska Sen. John Harms of Scottsbluff, an alumnus of CSC, and other legislators. The Legislature this spring approved a $6.7 million appropriation for the facility, which was approved by Gov. Dave Heineman. Members of the Nebraska State College System office and board were given praise for working with the Legislature to secure the funding.

Also receiving accolades Saturday were the Chadron State Foundation and retired CSC President Dr. Janie Park for believing in the project and raising the $2 million required for the Legislature’s appropriation.

Rhine also commended the Leo A Daly architectural firm for a design that will “carry us far into the future,” along with Adolfson & Petersen Construction and their local partner, Fuller Construction. Officials expect the first phase of the project to be completed as soon as fall 2014.

“They companies have laid out an aggressive timeline for the project to ensure the least disruption to our athletic programs as possible,” Rhine said.

Bauer, a Chadron insurance agent who co-chaired the Vision 2011 fundraising campaign, said the project has been needed for four decades. He said the building had the space needed for the sports that were offered in 1964, the year of its construction, but that it “became obsolete overnight” when Title IX gender equity legislation ushered in women’s athletics in 1972.

“Today, that 40-year wait is over,” Bauer said. “We are finally going to have a building that is adequate for athletic programs – a building that we can be proud of. This, indeed, is a day to celebrate.”

Bauer encouraged students to show appreciation to the alumni who contributed to the project.

“All of you students out there, I know the term alumni sometimes conjures up in your mind the image of a bunch of old people coming back to campus to reminisce about the old days,” he said. “But the next time you are walking behind an older alumni, like me, shuffling around campus, you may just want to say thank you. It may just well be that one of us old codgers may have paid for your new locker room.”

He also thanked the student-athletes for signing on to become CSC Eagles, telling the upperclassmen that they “brought us here” even though they may not get to use the building as athletes.

“We owe them a debt of gratitude for choosing to be CSC Eagles. Particularly those whose sports are housed in Armstrong,” Bauer said. “You have done more with less than any of the schools you compete against. You joined a long line of CSC athletes who have had to make do with inadequate facilities. In fact, most people don’t realize we have been waiting 40 years for this day.”

Smith, the Eagles’ former football coach, reminisced about arriving to CSC in 1987. He said the football locker room has expanded from being “about a quarter the size it is now,” but is still inadequate. He, too, said he is proud of the athletes and their accomplishments.

“You never give up. You never look back and feel sorry for yourself and say ‘Boy, our facilities are terrible and we can’t do this and we can’t do that. You’re always focused and looking ahead to the future. The future is here,” he said.

Waugh, a senior forward, said she’s excited for the project to get under way.

“Not only do our future athletes deserve this, so do our community, our fans, and everyone who supports us,” she said. “Thanks again to everybody who has helped bring this together.”

Haller, a sophomore cornerback who had broken up a pass and made two tackles before his impromptu speaking engagement, echoed Waugh’s sentiments.

“This has been a long time coming, and we are super excited about the new facilities,” he said. “I know it takes a lot of effort by a lot of different people and we just want to thank you.”

Waugh also provided insight to what made her decide to become an Eagle.

“Aside from Chadron being such a great school both academically and athletically, the biggest reason that I chose (CSC) is because of the community. I come from a town of about 650 people so I’ve come to know and love that small-town everybody-knows-everybody feeling,” she said. “When I heard about Chadron and the way the community interacts with the people at the school, I couldn’t have been more sold. In the last four years that I’ve been here, I couldn’t be happier with my decision. I’ve met many people in the community and I’ve felt nothing but compassion and support from everybody. I’m really proud to call myself an Eagle.”

Many others were proud to call themselves Eagles on Saturday, too.

As the Show Band played the school fight song one last time to close the ceremony and homecoming, Eagle fans marked the end of a ceremony and the beginning of a new chapter of CSC athletics.
By Justin Haag

Students of Chadron State College’s range-land management program often study how the land has evolved throughout history. Now they are watching with excitement as land east of CSC’s main campus is being transformed to the new facility that will serve their program and others in the Department of Applied Sciences.

Workers from Sampson Construction began moving dirt in late December to prepare for the construction of the Coffee Agriculture Pavilion of the Rangeland Complex. The pavilion, which will serve as a facility for handling large animals and rodeo practice, is the first phase of the Rangeland Complex.

Dale Grant, CSC vice president for administration and finance, said the company is completing the “dirt work” and installing the concrete piers that will serve as the strength of the building’s foundation. He expects the construction to move fast after the foundation is complete and steel arrives between Jan. 15 and Feb. 1. If construction goes as scheduled, the building will be erected before May 2013 ready for use in August.

Also, a road will extend from 12th Street, which runs between the Burkhiser Complex and the softball field, to access the facility. Grant said the road’s profile will be created and covered with three inches of rock. For the near future, he said the street will remain unpaved to allow for easy installation of utilities along the roadway, such as the water line, fire hydrants and electrical service. He said the college is better off devoting available funds to building construction rather than paving at this point in the process.

“It might be a couple of years, but it will get paved,” Grant said. “We don’t want to put in curbs and come back in six months and have to cut them out.”

Construction of foundation piers also will soon begin for another big project on campus, the renovation and expansion of the Armstrong Physical Education Building. Grant said construction workers plan to begin that work where the new arena will be constructed south of the existing building this January.

Grant said the foundation piers on both the Coffee Pavilion and the Armstrong construction will defend against settling issues.

Much of the upcoming work for the Armstrong project will be inside the existing structure. Adolfson and Peterson, the construction manager for the Armstrong project, recently chose a sub-contractor for the demolition of the swimming pool and construction of the new floor in the area. When complete, the area will serve as a new strength training facility. Once the pool is removed, Grant said steel beams will span the area to provide support for the new concrete floor.

Mobile office units were placed near the Armstrong building in early fall in preparation for the evacuation of the building’s north wing, which consists mostly of offices. Employees of the Armstrong Building will temporarily work in the mobile units as the wing is demolished and new offices are constructed as part of the new addition.

The third large construction project on campus also is making progress.

Grant said the schematic design process is complete for the new housing complex at the east edge of campus, dubbed Eagle Ridge. Architects plan to present design and development documents for approval at the January meeting of the Nebraska State College System Board of Trustees. After approval, the architects will create detailed construction documents.

Eagle Ridge, which will replace West Court, will have 72 beds, configured in six pods with four bedrooms in each. A living room, kitchenette and bathroom shared by each pod. Grant is hopeful that the new housing will be ready for use in fall 2014.

He said revenue bonds, which will pay for the project, recently went public with an average 20-year rate of 2.72 percent.
The Chadron State Foundation, with the help of dozens of volunteers, added $177,370 to its funds to help provide scholarships and a wide range of other campus support.

Volunteers of the foundation’s annual fall fundraising campaign gathered at a Chadron restaurant Monday to celebrate the successful effort. The volunteers solicited funds from throughout the region during a three-week period beginning Oct. 10.

Foundation executive director Connie Rasmussen and development officer Leslie Bargen, who coordinates the effort, thanked the volunteers and donors, noting that the foundation’s success largely hinges on their work each year.

Each year, the foundation recruits 124 volunteers to do the campaign’s legwork. Volunteers are divided into teams of six – 10 comprised of CSC employees and 10 of other community members. Four of the volunteers help lead the campaign. This year it was Tina McLain and Jason Carnahan from the community side, and college employees Dr. Donna Ritzen and Brent Bargen.

Leslie Bargen presented awards to the top teams, which were determined by a point system that encourages new and increased pledges. She also presented awards to individual point leaders and humorous awards based on stories from the volunteers.

A team consisting of Chadron Community Hospital employees took top honors among the community volunteers. They are Russ Bohnenkamp, Harold Krueger Jr., Kimberly Ouderkirk, Bobby Griese, Jordan Raben and Tricia Thayer. For the college, the winning team consisted of Craig Conway, Keith Crofutt, Dewayne Gimeson, Justin Haag, Alex Helmbrecht and Con Marshall.

Leslie Bargen said the campaign total will continue to grow as she follows up with potential donors, including those who could not be reached during the campaign. People who wish to contribute may call the foundation office at 308-432-6366.

Since 1988, the foundation’s assets have grown to more than $18 million. During that period, the combined net funds raised from the annual campaign and the student phonathon have grown from $186,000 to about half a million dollars.

—CSC Information Services
Television pioneer relays scenes of inspiration

By Justin Haag

Nebraska public television pioneer Dr. Ron Hull of Lincoln relayed the advice that he’s gleaned from several notable Nebraskans as he served as commencement speaker for those receiving bachelor degrees at Chadron State College on Friday, Dec. 14.

Hull, who has been involved with the Mari Sandoz Heritage Society since its inception and was instrumental in the development of the Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center on the CSC campus, spoke immediately following his acceptance of the CSC Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. He was chosen for the honor for his outstanding service to CSC and greater society.

Hull was the ETV program manager from 1955-1982 and continues to serve as senior adviser to Nebraska Educational Telecommunications and professor emeritus of Broadcasting for the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

“I’ve discovered that the most important aspect of our lives is the relationships that we have with each other,” he said during the 21-minute speech to the 114 graduates. “Nothing passes that. When I was in college, I remember some cynics would say, ‘Ah, you won’t get ahead. It depends on who you know.’ It’s true. It depends on who you know, but you make those connections yourself.”

Hull recalled stories of both Mari, the acclaimed author from northwest Nebraska, and her sister, Flora. He had developed a relationship with the family after producing 18 hours of television interviews with Mari.

Hull recounted advice from Flora, who joined Hull in speaking to CSC graduates in May 1975. She received the CSC Distinguished Award that year and Hull served as the commencement speaker. Hull described Flora as a “no nonsense person,” and said her presentation to the graduates was one of the best speeches he’s ever heard.

“She looked those graduates right straight in the face and said ‘Hitch your wagon to your star. Get in harness and pull your own load. There is lots of work to be done. Thank you.’” Hull also encouraged graduates to emulate the work ethic of Mari. He described Mari as a “High Plains person” and said she worked harder than almost anyone else from he’s met during his profession.

He recalled Mari telling him that her most satisfying book was “Crazy Horse: The Strange Man of the Oglalas.” She told him that her first version of the book contained a great story, but was told from a “white man” perspective and lacked effectiveness. She proceeded to rewrite the entire book to give it an Indian voice.

“She gave 100 percent of herself, her energy and her talents to tell the stories to tell the people of the High Plains country,” he said. “The traits Mari Sandoz had are your traits, too – hard work, give it your best shot. We’re western people. I’m from Rapid City. You’ve got it already because you’re High Plains people.”

Hull also spoke about John Neihardt, the Nebraska poet laureate who died in 1973. A lot of guidance can be taken in Neihardt’s book, “Black Elk Speaks,” Hull said, noting that it has a wealth of information about “how to live our lives.”

Hull relayed a story Neihardt told him about his exchange with a troubled student during the author’s teaching days at the University of Missouri. It was the era of the Vietnam Conflict and Hull said the student was distressed by the state of the world.

“Neihardt said, ‘You know you’re right. We could take 24 hours and talk about how terrible things are in this country – in our lives. But you can’t do that. There is no one listening. What you have to do is live your life. It’s the only way you can change things,’ ” Hull said.

“She looked those graduates right straight in the face and said ‘Hitch your wagon to your star. Get in harness and pull your own load. There is lots of work to be done. Thank you.’”

Randy Rhine, Chadron State College interim president, presents the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree to Ron Hull of Lincoln, at left. Giving applause is Gary Bieganski, member of the Nebraska State College System Board of Trustees. (Photo by Tiffany Valandra)
Professor touts value of degrees to master’s grads

By Justin Haag

Dr. George Griffith, Chadron State College professor of English and humanities, reassured the institution’s master’s degree graduates of the value of their degrees while delivering their commencement address Friday afternoon, Dec. 14.

Griffith, who in his 37th year at CSC has been employed longer than any other faculty member, interspersed humor and sincerity while addressing the class of 67 graduates in Memorial Hall.

The professor noted that compared to the undergraduate class, which received degrees later that afternoon, members of the master’s degree group are mostly older, more mature and already have jobs and families.

“I can’t see a single ‘Hi, Mom’ taped on top of any mortarboards, and I’d probably be safe to bet beneath those gowns not one of you is wearing shorts and sandals,” he said in the opening remarks of his eight-minute speech.

Griffith commended the graduates for mastering new skills, obtaining knowledge and developing open minds during their pursuit of education. He also said the graduates have developed valuable confidence while accomplishing a master’s degree while dealing with the distractions of life as adults.

“Many of you earned these degrees while your life insisted on going on indifferent to your having to write papers, read books, participate in online discussions, fulfill projects and take tests.”

The graduates were awarded one of CSC’s four master’s degrees – Master of Arts in Education, Master of Business Administration, Master of Education and Master of Science in Organizational Management. Each which will repay the graduates for their hard work well into the future, Griffith said.

“You may have now one of education’s greatest gifts, which is not answers, but questions,” he said. “Can we name any important human achievement that was not the product of a question?”

In addition to addressing the intangibles, Griffith cited 2009 U.S. Census Bureau statistics about the value of higher education. The report, he noted, states that master’s degree recipients will earn $1.3 million more in their lifetime than those with just a high school diploma.

“With some good fortune, someone will still need you this degree will still feed you when you are 64,” he said, making a reference to the lyrics to a classic Beatles tune.

In closing, Griffith encouraged the graduates to take pride in their accomplishments, but to be most thankful for their family.

“No matter what this job may do for you in your employment, your job is not your life,” he said. “Jobs don’t hug you or surprise you. They don’t laugh or cry with you. They don’t share memories or tell stories. Your family is there for you for that.”

Ron Hull Continued from page 14

Everywhere you look you will find something that is not good.’ But, he said, ‘If we’re going to do that, let’s take 24 hours and let’s talk about the things around you that are good and wonderful,’ ” Hull said.

Following that advice, Hull encouraged the students to find their happiness.

“You choose the life you want to have. If you have the life you want, believe me, that’s the first step to happiness.”

Hull also told of his experiences during the Vietnam era. In 1966 he signed on to help establish a television network in Vietnam to assist in President Lyndon Johnson’s efforts to “win the hearts and minds of the country.” Hull gave credit to his wife for supporting his involvement, even though it meant she would have to care for their four small children without his help until he returned.

He noted that many Vietnamese families had fled the war-torn countryside to live in the comparatively safe cities. It was common to see families living under culverts, in boxes and under eyes, he said.

Although advised not to give the native Vietnamese money, he said he became compelled to give $20 to the mother of four children who was living on the streets. Later, while walking the street, he noticed that she had used the money to have her hair done. Around her, he said, were her children with pride in their eyes.

“Those smiles told me that was the best investment of 20 bucks I had ever made in my whole life,” he said.

He encouraged the graduates to use their educations to “get out in the world and do things for other people.”

“I promise that it comes back to you 12-fold all the time,” he said. “That’s how the world works.”

Hull told about broadcasting a television show to the Vietnamese from a large aircraft equipped with an antenna. The “flying studio” was the source of two-hour broadcasts 10,000 feet above Saigon, a temporary solution as the television network was being constructed below.

Hull said he hopes that the Vietnamese were inspired by the broadcasts of history and arts, much like the college graduates have been inspired by the faculty who have helped them along the way.

“I kept thinking, can we inspire some of those little kids to maybe dream and have their own dream?” he said. “You never know. You do your best. You don’t know where you’ll plant a seed.”
CSC football team continued its winning way, traditions

By Alex Helmbrecht

There was a coaching change, but the Chadron State College football team continued its winning ways and its tradition of playing sound, hard-nosed, passionate football this fall.

In short, the 2012 season was another highly successful one for the Eagles. They reached the NCAA Division II playoffs for the eighth time in 17 years and finished with a 9-3 record.

The Eagles’ first-year head coach, Jay Long, an excellent student-athlete at Chadron State College in the late 1990s when he both played center for the football team and wrestled, was among those who were proud of the season.

While the Eagles will return a majority of this year’s team, they are also graduating some great seniors, seven of whom were placed on one of the RMAC’s top three units.

“We had a great group of seniors who overcame a lot of adversity and provided great leadership,” Long said. “We’re going to miss them. But we’ve also got an outstanding group of players who’ll be back. Many of them already have a lot of experience because we played nearly everyone who was on the travel squad in every game. I’m excited about our future.”

So far two Eagles have earned All-American honors - linebacker Kevin Lindholm and kicker Alex Ferdinand - and several more honors are expected to come in following the conclusion of the season.

Lindholm was also named the 2012 Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Defensive Player of the Year and he was joined on the RMAC All-Conference Team by 14 of his teammates.

In addition to Lindholm, four other Eagles are first team selections. They are tailback Glen Clinton, offensive lineman Garrett Gilkey, defensive end Keifer Burke, defensive tackle Jan Karlos Medina and safety Trelan Taylor.

The Eagles’ second team selections include quarterback Jonn McLain, offensive linemen Brandon Ratcliff and Jake McCrary, linebacker Shea Koch and kicker Alex Ferdinand.

The third team selections are wide receiver Nathan Ross, tight end Cody Roes, defensive end Tau Ho Ching, cornerback Lane Haller, safety Bryce Huebner and both Ross and Taylor were tabbed as kick and punt returners.

Eagles end season ranked 18th; three players named All-Americans

By Alex Helmbrecht

The Chadron State College football team is ranked 18th in the final American Football Coaches Association Top 25 poll.

The Eagles, who have now been ranked in the final AFCA Top 25 poll eight times since 2000, went 9-3 during the 2012 campaign and qualified for the NCAA Division II Playoffs.

Several CSC players had special seasons, particularly linebacker Kevin Lindholm, safety Trelan Taylor and kicker Alex Ferdinand. Lindholm has already been named to three All-America teams, Taylor earned a place on the Associated Press Little All-America team, which honors players from Division II, III and NAIA.

He led the Eagles with 122 tackles this season. He added 20.5 tackles for a loss and he also had 4.5 sacks and three fumble recoveries.

Taylor, a junior from San Diego, is an AP Little All-America First Team choice and a second team member of the Daktronics squad.

Taylor finished the season as the RMAC leader in interceptions with eight and he was the Eagles’ third-leading tackler with 74. He also averaged 12.2 yards on 22 punt returns and he tied a school record by scoring on an 86-yard punt return.

Ferdinand, a sophomore from Rapid City, S.D., is a second team pick of the Beyond Sports Network All-America Team. He led the Eagles in scoring with 94 points and converted 16 of 19 field goals.

CSC athletic program unveiled new website in July

By Alex Helmbrecht

Chadron State College officially unveiled its new athletic website at www.chadroneagles.com in late July.

The new web home for the Eagles was done in conjunction with SIDEARM (Sports Information Distribution Engine with Archives and Records Management) Sports, a web-based content management company based in Syracuse, N.Y.

“This is an exciting day to be involved with Chadron State and its athletic program,” sports information director Alex Helmbrecht said. “I’ve always wanted to create a virtual front door for the Eagles’ athletic program and I feel that’s been accomplished. I hope those associated with Chadron State are eager to see what the site has to offer.”

SIDEARM, which was founded in 1996, has designed over 500 athletic department websites, including eight in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

Chadron State’s modernized website features several updates, including facility photos, multimedia content and historical information. There is also an interactive Hall of Fame, composite schedules, social media integration and fan polls.
Cross country had successful first season

By Alex Helmbrecht

Both the Chadron State College men’s and women’s cross country teams wrapped up their seasons in a successful fashion Nov. 3 at the NCAA Division II South Central Region Cross Country Championships hosted by Regis University.

The Chadron State women finished 18th out of 24 teams in a 6K race and the Eagles’ men were 19th out of 22 teams in their 10K competition.

The Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference dominated the team standings. Adams State, Western State and the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs went 1-2-3 in the women’s division, while Adams State, Western State and Colorado School of Mines took the top three spots on the men’s side.

Ashley Riesen, who paced the CSC women all season long, led the Chadron State women by finishing in 44th place with a time of 24:05 in the women’s race.

Also for the CSC women, Jayme Nunes finished in 25:28, Becca Volf wasn’t far behind in 25:56, Miranda Karn timed in 26:06 and Ashley Appelt rounded out the team’s score with 27:11.

Evans Koech led the CSC men in a time of 36:09 and finished in 83rd place. Alex Johnson followed in 93rd in a time of 36:18 and Nathan Faulkner followed in 37:18 and Simon Gudeta wasn’t far behind in 37:49.

Also for CSC, Michael Steube (38:08), Domingo Torres (38:56) and Jake Moore (40:44) added to the team’s total.

Clinton named Academic All-American

By Alex Helmbrecht

Glen Clinton was named to the Capital One Academic All-America Division II First Team in early December.

Clinton, a junior tailback from Cody, Wyo., and a three-time Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference All-Conference selection, rushed for 1,350 yards and scored seven touchdowns for the Eagles this season. His rushing average of 6.2 yards per carry was second in the RMAC and it has been exceeded only by three other tailbacks in CSC history.

He also had 21 receptions for 218 yards and a TD and has rushed for 3,138 yards in his career, which ranks him fourth all-time at Chadron State.


Baily, Hunter named interim coaches during summer

By Alex Helmbrecht

Janel Baily

Janel Baily, a former volunteer assistant coach at Chadron State College, and Brett Hunter, a national champion wrestler and former graduate assistant for the Eagles were each hired as interim coaches late in the summer.

Baily, a native of Arvada, Colo., is no stranger to Chadron State College or its volleyball program. She worked two years as a volunteer assistant under former head coach Amy Spruill from 2009-10, and her husband, Ryan, has been the Eagles’ track and field coach since 2009.

Baily and her husband, Ryan are the parents of two children. Their daughter, Jayden, is 4 and their son, Trenton, is 3.

Hunter, a two-time national champion and the Eagles’ all-time winnigest wrestler, replaced Dr. Scott Ritzen, who retired from coaching in June.

Prior to being named the interim head coach, Hunter served as a graduate assistant under Ritzen for two years and was a student assistant coach the year before that.

Hunter and his wife, Ashley, a native of Sargent, Neb., were married in the summer of 2011. They are expecting their first child in the summer of 2013.

Jones is academic all-district; Eagles finished season strong

By Alex Helmbrecht

Mollie Jones was named to the 2012 Capital One Academic All-District Six Volleyball Team in early November.

To be eligible for the all-academic team, which recognizes the nation’s top student-athletes for their combined performances athletically and in the classroom, a student-athlete must maintain at least a 3.3 cumulative GPA.

Jones a senior outside hitter from Longmont, Colo., has a 3.90 GPA in legal studies. For the season, she finished with 214 kills and 284 digs.

The Eagles, who finished the season with a 5-25 record, improved from their 2011 campaign in nearly every statistical category. In fact, the Eagles won three more matches, including their first Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference match in almost two years.

While their record wasn’t where they wanted it to be, the Eagles were competitive and interim head coach Janel Baily often said opposing coaches were impressed with how hard Chadron State College played.
in 1972, helping CSC become the first state college to develop an integrated humanities curriculum in the mid-1960s and taking over the philosophy courses in 1972.

Graves was proud of his department at CSC.

“We’ve been fortunate in getting well-trained, intelligent and stimulating personnel,” he said during an interview when he stepped down as a full-time professor in 1990. “They’re ‘state of the art’ people who love their discipline and communicate that love with compelling verse.”

Two of Graves’s students became CSC English professors after they had earned their doctorates. Both say they are grateful to Graves for helping them discover the joys of language and literature.

One of them, Dr. Bob McEwen, said he had “an undying, lifelong gratitude for this man” and frequently had Graves read and correct the punctuation in poetry he wrote.

The other, Dr. Michael Cartwright, said Graves was his inspiration as he chose a career in teaching literature and called his mentor “a stellar lecturer, ingenious inquisitor and congenial, but demanding, taskmaster.”

Another long-time member of the department at CSC, Dr. Walt Scholl, called Graves “a great person who was unique in many ways. Few have the intellectual capacity that he possessed.”

Dr. George Griffith, who succeeded Graves as head of Language and Literature at CSC, said Graves was an outstanding scholar with a tremendous understanding of 19th century American literature, as well as Shakespeare. Griffith said they had an extremely cordial relationship.

Griffith recalls that Graves personally purchased books through a wholesaler which normally did not sell to individuals.

“I was always amazed how many boxes of books he received at the college and the many books he had collected,” Griffith said.

When Graves finally quit teaching in 2005, he rented an apartment to store the books he had kept at his office at CSC.

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After the family had conferred with college officials, between 3,000 and 3,500 books that were stored in the apartment were donated to the Chadron State Library in July. That was about half of the collection.

Both of the Graves brothers, Chris, who lives in Pocomoke City, Md., and Mark, of Chadron, and three grandchildren moved the books.

“Books were Dad’s love,” said Mark. “Whenever we went on vacation, we always stopped at used book stores and bought some more. I seldom saw him when he didn’t have a book in his hand.”

by the USDA and the Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association.

Among the members of the audience who received special acknowledgement were longtime CSC supporter Virginia Coffee of Harrison and members of her family. Rhine announced that members of the Nebraska State College System Board of Trustees, who attended the ceremony, were scheduled to take action on naming the arena the “Coffee Agriculture Pavilion” the following morning.

Many of the speakers gave credit to Dr. Janie Park, retired CSC president, who drove from Montana to attend the ceremony.

“Janie had a big role in working with the foundation and our supporters to make this happen,” Rhine said.

Chadron Mayor Karin Fischer spoke about the ongoing partnership between the City of Chadron and CSC, noting that the facility will help ensure and improve that relationship.

Joel Hyer, the CSC dean who oversees Applied Sciences, related the Rangeland Complex to the institution’s identity.

Dickens to characterize the project:

“…constructed; but a thing created is loved before it is constructed; but a thing created can only be loved after it is constructed; but a thing created is loved before it is constructed.

Rhine opened the ceremony by relating the event to the wildfires that burned more than 165,000 during the previous week.

“It’s timely that we’re breaking ground on this project today after the wildfires of last week,” he said. “They were events that reminded us of the power of nature and its ability to trump us, the greatness in the hearts of our neighbors who risked life and limb to battle the blazes, and the importance of understanding the rangeland we call home.”

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Alumni Gatherings

The Golden Era Reunion during Homecoming weekend honored the Class of 1962. Attending the Saturday evening dinner were, front row, from left, Marilynne (Redfern) Rickenbach, Patty Redler, Sharon (Johnson) Needham, Alumni Board member Dorine Daniels, Ruth (Gudgel) Strauch, Karen Bays and Judy (LeBar) Treadway. Back row: Harold Keenan, Don Schmaderer, Rick Rickenbach, Jim Redler, Fran Needham, Bob Zahm, Alan Strauch, James Bays and Jerry Treadway.

The Chadron State College concert choir was selected to perform at the Nebraska Music Educators Conference in Lincoln in November. Some of the alumni attending the reception following the choir’s performance were Mark Wilson, Peggy and Glenn Shorney, Marjorie Finley, Glenda Ward and Don Alcorn.

Alumni and friends of the college enjoyed a morning coffee in McCook in September. Visiting with Foundation Executive Director Connie Rasmussen are Christine and Kevin Grooms, Becky and Sean Wolfe, Ladonna and Warren Everts, and Lois and Don Reiners.

The Montana State University booster club of Great Falls invited Chadron State College alumni, parents and fans to join their tailgate party prior to the opening football game with CSC at Bozeman.

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Dr. Ken and Kathie Emonds hosted an alumni lunch in New Castle, N.H. The October gathering coincided with the beautiful fall colors in New England. Attending were Chadron State Foundation Executive Director Connie Rasmussen, Beverly and Grant Clark, Ken and Kathie Emonds, Marlena Richardson, Camille Frame and Alumni Director Karen Pope.

North Platte area alumni and friends enjoyed lunch together in September. Front row, from left, Michael Nozicka, Gregg and Janelle Uehling, Pat Cullen and Bill Fulcher. Standing, Alumni Director Karen Pope, Melissa Shepherd, Foundation Executive Director Connie Rasmussen, Bobi Johnson, Levi and Angela Shute, Lisa and Stuart Simpson, and Lisa and Stuart Simpson.
Faculty
Alex Helmbrecht Chadron, was a district winner in the 2012 College Sports Information Directors of America Fred Stabley Sr. Writing Contest. Since becoming director in August 2007, he has claimed seven awards in the Stabley Sr. Writing Contest, including four first place awards in event coverage.

‘60s
Lyle Shanks ‘60 Golden, Colo., retired from a life-time public accounting career as a certified public accountant in the Denver area.

‘70s
Steve Wickham ’75 Kearney, is the new superintendent for Axtell Community Schools in Axtell.
Randy Butcher ’75 Arnold, is the new guidance counselor for Arnold Public Schools in Arnold.
Gwen Reed ’78 Gillette, Wy., was inducted into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame, in Springfield, Mass. on Sept. 8, 2012.

‘90s
Colleen Slavik ’91 Sidney, Iowa, joined Elwood Public Schools in Elwood as the K-12 guidance counselor.
Deb Spicklemeier Noble ’91 Cheyenne Wy., was inducted into the Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame.
Jeff Crymble ’94 Ogallala, was named Nebraska State Patrol sergeant of the Ogallala station in August 2012.
Corey Staab ’96 Houston, Texas, was promoted to vice president of procurement with Kinder Morgan, Inc.
Candy Spady ’97 Lewellen, joined the South Platte faculty in Chappell, as a special education teacher.
Rachel Leitner – Murray ’99 Deshler, accepted a position as a bank teller at Midwest Bank in Deshler, where she lives with her husband Ben and 7-year-old daughter.
Camille Frame ’91 Boston, Mass., owns a travel agency in Boston called Rites of Passage Travel. The company is a travel planning service specializing in luxury travel with a cultural focus.

‘00s
Shannon Shuck ’09 Chadron, accepted a position as the head teacher at Trunk Butte Christian Schools in Chadron.
Dave Pauli ’00 Gering, accepted the position of activities director at Scottsbluff High School in August 2012.
Jeanne McKerrigan ’00 Scottsbluff, won US Bank’s Pinnacle Award, which is the company’s highest employee achievement honor. This is Jeanne’s third Pinnacle Award and she has been with US Bank for 16 years.
Tim Kamerzell ’02 Overland Park, Kan., was one of 12 medical students selected for a Sarnoff Cardiovascular fellowship. This fellowship will allow him to leave his medical training at the University of Kansas for a year to conduct research in the cardiovascular field. He has chosen to work with a cardiologist at Harvard and a systems biology professor at Mount Sinai in New York.
Richard Smock ’10 McCook, is teaching social studies and American history at McCook Middle School.
Bobby Wiegel ’10 Morrill, is teaching physical education for kindergarten through twelfth grade, an assistant football coach, the head wrestling coach for junior and high schools, assistant track coach for junior and high schools, and the boys junior high assistant basketball coach for Morrill Public Schools in Morrill.
Kelsey Kaitfors ’12 Whitewood, S.D., is teaching K-12 vocal music at Creek Valley Schools in Chappell.

Class Notes
Members of the Chadron State College choral groups present “The Truth Fairy” for a Madrigal feast in December. This year marked the first time in many years that CSC had offered a Madrigal dinner. The group presented one show in Crawford and two at the Sandoz Center. Faculty members Dr. Una Taylor and Dr. Joel Schreuder led the students and hope to offer the event annually as a fundraiser for the department and local causes. (Photo by Justin Haag)
MARRIAGES

‘80s
Shawn Wragé ’89 and Rebecca (Steele) were married Sept. 22, 2012 in North Platte.

‘90s
Jennifer (Giebel) ’96 and Michael Priest were married Oct. 22, 2011.

‘00s
Michelle (Reichenberg) ’01 and Joshua Dowling were married in Sioux Falls, S.D., Oct. 20, 2012.
Russell Anderson ’03 and Kirsten (Elkins) were married June 25, 2011 in Pine Bluffs, Wyo.
Amber (Balius) ’04 and Trent Carroll were married October 2011. Amber is a physical therapist at Cheyenne Regional Medical Center in Cheyenne, Wyo.
Jeremy Palacz ’06 and Stephanie (Dubes) were married June 2, 2012 in Fullerton.
Denise (Phillips) ’07 and Nate Lehmann were married June 2, 2012.
Joslynne (Simpson) ’08 and Jeff Struss were married June 23, 2012.
Chase Olsen ’08 and April (Roes) were married in Spearfish, S.D., June 23, 2012.
Audra (Liebig) ’08 and Robert West were married July 7, 2012, in North Platte.
Nathan Graves ’09 and Katherine (Voss) were married March 3, 2012, in Scottsbluff.
Travis Nitsch ’09 and Madison (Huston) were married June 2, 2012.
Marshall Fischer ’09 and Hollie (Hansen) were married June 22, 2012, in North Platte.
Melissa (Zapata) ’09 and Shane Cullan were married June 29, 2012, in Alliance.
Justin Lemmer ’09 and Krista (Blakeman) were married Dec. 22, 2012.
Kody Schwager ‘11 and Jessica (Bilby) ‘08 Chadron were married in St. Onge, S.D., June 9, 2012.
Kimberly ( Olson) ’05 and Todd Auer, former CSC football coach, were married July 27, 2012.
Shawn ’05 and Shelly (Langemeier) ’08 were married in Hot Springs, S.D., July 28, 2012.

‘10s
John ‘10 and Cassandra ( Humphrey) ‘10 Chadron, were married Aug. 25, 2012. Both Cassie and John are employed at CSC.
Chip Hartman ‘10 and Jessica ( Johnson) were married Sept. 29, 2012, in Chadron.
Carling (Barker) Main ‘11 and Justin Main were married Aug. 2, 2012, in Pawcatuck, Conn.

FUTURE EAGLES
Faculty and Staff
Willow Rain to Teresa (Zimmerman) and husband EJ Frink, Nov. 5, 2012. Teresa is an applied sciences professor at CSC.

‘00s
Tyson Robert to Janelle (Hutt) ’01 and husband Gregg Uehling, North Platte, May 25, 2012. He joins his sibling Carson and Addison.
Tallyn Danielle to Dan Chesley ’02 and Heidi (Raum) ’98 Harrisburg, Feb. 2, 2012. She joins her big sister Karsyn, 2 ½.
Eric Charles to Johanna (Long) ’02 and Michael John Miller BS ’96 MS ’01 Moorhead, Minn., June 1, 2012.
Karlee Ann to Ashley (Grabenstein) ’04 and Cory Johanson ’02 North Platte, April 4, 2012. She joins her big brother Cash.
Emily Madison and James Dylan to Jessy (Bird) ’05 and Alva Roberts ’06, Chadron, Aug. 6, 2012.
Ella Grace to Craig Calkins ’09 and Rebecca (Soule) ’11, Aug. 11, 2012.
Kadence to Jason Carnahan ’02 and Lori (Scheier) ’00 Chadron, Nov. 27, 2012. She joins big sister Kyndall and big brother Kole.
Kyleigh to Bryan Linegar ’08 and Malinda (Sprentall) ’06 Chadron, June 24, 2012. She joins brother Brayden.
Tatum Julianne to Dustin Wilkie ’03 and Sandy (Mathiesen) ’00 Nov. 27, 2012.
Cameron Anthony to Brock Mittleider ’04 and Stacie ( Smoelinger) ’03 Nov. 29, 2012.
Marshall McIntock to Rachel (Kearney) ’05 and husband Paul Mandelko June 18, 2012.
Bristol Calvary to John Girard ’09 and Stacie (Langemeier) ’09 Nov. 1, 2012.
Bryce Mitchell to Craig Hoffman ’05 and Tara (Schafer) ’03 Jan. 23, 2012. He joins big brother Jayce and big sister Brooklynn.

‘10s

OBITUARIES
Faculty/Staff
James Ray Chadron, a former master electrician at CSC, died Sept. 23, 2012.
Milton Wolf Chadron, died Aug. 30, 2012. Milton was the library director at CSC and had worked at the college since 2005.

Friends
Madge Fortune-Chicoine Chadron, died Nov. 4, 2012.

‘30s

Helen Schulz ’39 Chadron, died Sept. 6, 2012.

‘40s
Roberta Planasky ’40 Cayucos, Calif., died June 10, 2012.
Sam Appell ’47 Elizabeth, Colo., died Jan. 12, 2011.
Marcia (Reid) Affleck att. Salem, Ore., died Sept. 2012.

‘50s
James McCafferty ’51, Whitney, a long time CSC science professor, died Sept. 18, 2012.
Gary Naylor ’58 Greeley, Colo., died Sept. 8, 2012.

‘60s
Donald James Richardson ’63 Gillette, Wyo., died July 5, 2012.

‘70s
Michael Mundt ’70 San Diego, Calif., died July 17, 2012.
Evelyn Fiegenschuh ’75 Sidney, died Sept. 11, 2012.

‘80s
Mildred Hardy ’83 Hay Springs, died April 18, 2012.
Mary Bailey ’83 Soldatna, Ala., died June 4, 2012.
Mark Cox ’83 Palisade, died Aug. 5, 2012.
Third time’s a charm: Steinway concert set for February

By Justin Haag

When it comes to centennial piano concerts, Dr. James Margetts is hoping that the third time’s a charm.

After a pair of postponements, Margetts, Chadron State College associate professor of music, is scheduled to introduce the CSC Music Department’s newly refurbished 1919 Steinway Model D concert grand piano to audiences during a concert in Memorial Hall on Sunday, Feb. 17, at 3 p.m.

The piano is being restored with a $35,000 contribution from former Dr. Jackson Hammitt, retired CSC Music Department chairman, and his wife, Peg. The concert was originally scheduled for CSC’s centennial year, 2011. Sadly, the Rapid City, S.D., man who was handling the restoration became ill and died. That caused the piano to be moved to Denver for restoration and the concert to be postponed.

The piano is expected to arrive to Memorial Hall in early January and, with a month of becoming acclimated to its “new” environment, should be ready for tuning and the concert, Margetts said.

Margetts said he has selected to perform a number of classical pieces that relate to the period of CSC’s founding. For instance, he said performers and music lovers would have been celebrating the 100th anniversary of the birth of some of the composers at the time of the college’s beginning.

“All of the music is related to those years one way or another,” he said. “I started out trying to put together a program in which all the music was written during that time, but it didn’t feel like it gelled very well.”

Margetts said the concert will also provide an opportunity to display how piano music evolved with advancements in materials, such as the use of cast iron instead of wood, and craftsmanship. He said that unlike the newer Steinway Model Ds, the CSC piano has an ornate cabinet that adds to its beauty.

“They’re doing a beautiful job on it,” he said. “I think everybody will really appreciate that it has been preserved and restored to a beautiful state.”

Margetts said the refurbished piano will be a great asset to the department, not only serving as a quality instructional tool, but also an attractive piece for recruiting and for use by performers who otherwise would not agree to present a concert at CSC. At nine feet, the Model D is the largest concert grand Steinway makes, he said.

The Steinway concert will join a number of other performances at CSC in the spring semester. In addition to concerts by the Music Department, the CSC Galaxy Series will present renowned countertenor Terry Barber on Feb. 7 and The Water Coolers, a New York-based comedy and music group, March 21.

When you see “CSC” on your caller ID…

A CSC student will be calling soon…

to talk with you about your Chadron State experience and how you can make a difference in the lives of current CSC students.

Please consider a gift to fund scholarships and campus services to help students reach their educational goals.

CSC Phonathon
February 4-12, 2013

Because of you…we succeed.