

Read more about the endangered Blanding's turtles on page 12

Math tutor + Christian leader = senior Tori Beye

MOLLY ANSON
Antelope Staff

Grand Island math major Tori Beye has made the most of her time on campus through involvement on campus with different organizations. She was a part of Christian Student Fellowship, International Christian Student Fellowship, The Learning Commons, Kappa Nu Epsilon, the Honors program, jazz band and choir.

As a leader of an international student Bible study and a math tutor, Beye carried out the idea that people at UNK really just care about each other. She influenced people with her generosity.

Chenxue Cia, a member of one of Beye's Bible studies said, "Tori was super nice and sweet; for me she is not only a Bible study leader who knows a lot about Bible but also a good friend who is very humble and caring person. I enjoyed the time being with her. I just love her. She is

a good friend who is a very humble and caring person."

Beye's minor in music also kept her involved and busy with different students.

Without hesitation Beye credits her professors who cared for her. "The professors. They really just care about you as a person."

Beye became involved in International Christian Student Fellowship (ICSF) responding to a sign in a dorm looking for people to help prepare meals for international students on Sunday nights. The leader of ICSF responded by asking her if Beye wanted to lead a Bible study. Beye said, "I absolutely did not feel qualified."

But the leader helped her. For three years, Beye led Bible studies with the help of a co-leader. Beye said that throughout her time with ICSF she helped make meals, lead Bible studies, took students on trips to the zoo, pumpkin patches and other places like that. She also hosted students at her



Photo by Molly Anson

Senior math major Tori Beye plans to continue her tutoring career after moving to Omaha. She will leave behind good memories of students she worked with. "Tori was super nice and sweet, for me she is not only a Bible study leader who knows a lot about the Bible; I also love spending time with her. I just love her," said Chenxue Cia, a member of one of Beye's Bible studies classes.

home and found international students really loved that because she has cats. She understands it is really comforting and fun to have a big, cuddly cat on your lap.

students feel welcome, serve them and be able to share their faith," Bye said. It also really helped her to get a different

"It was great to be able to make

BEYE, PAGE 11

The unsung hero of the English department shares love of photography, storytelling



More than 'just a secretary'

Photo by Laurie Venteicher

At 74 years old, Ruth Behlmann has worked for nearly 59 years and is still going strong. She is the youngest of five children, the mother of four and the grandmother of six. Since 1998, she has arrived at Thomas Hall promptly at 7 a.m. every day, Monday through Friday, to do the work many people take for granted. Behlmann is an office associate.

"With my background of 'you do the best you can,' you always kind of know inside that you may or may not ever be thanked or recognized. It's part of who you are. It's just what you do. It's nice to be recognized, I guess, but then it's kind of humbling," Behlmann said.

For the full story and additional photos, go to unkantelope.com.

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ELLIOT GONNELLA
Antelope Staff

I would be the first to admit that I am not a perfect being. I smoke from a pipe on occasion, eat a lot of sweet and fast foods, curse under my breath quite often and, most shamefully, I judge people based on their beliefs sometimes — though I have been doing my best to keep others in mind when it comes to my shortcomings.

I don't mind that I have to go outside to smoke (which is usually only once or twice a month), I try to eat better for myself (though maple bacon doughnuts are still delicious), I watch my tongue in gathered society and as long as people don't force their lives, beliefs or values upon me, I could care less what they think.

However, I notice that the latter is what many of the more vocal conservatives lack. Somehow stopping them from forcing their religion or moral code on others somehow infringes upon their freedoms.

“There are quite a few, especially snake oil salesman and former Presidential candidate Mike Huckabee, saying ‘transgender’ boys just want to spy on girls in the showers.”

The ones that you see on the TV or hear on the radio every 35 minutes whipping crowds into frenzies about how “the gays are indoctrinating your sons, the lesbians are corrupting your daughter into being a ‘butch,’ and the transgenders are molesting your children in the bathroom. The only way to stop this is to do whatever I say!”

You know, those conservatives.

In light of recent laws, specifically those about what bathroom people use

(to the point of some asking for bounties to be placed on who they consider to be in the wrong restroom), I decided to just ask a simple question: “How does someone else's sexual/gender identity personally and directly affect you?”

Really, if someone was born with male reproductive parts but believes that they are a woman, how does that negatively impact your life? How is your life changed because someone wants to be someone else either by dressing differently, falling in love with someone of the same sex or going through an operation to become

“I decided to just ask a simple question: “How does someone else's sexual/gender identity personally and directly affect you?”

anatomically correct? It sure as heck doesn't change who I am.

I know of at least four homosexuals in my life, and knowing that fact doesn't make me want to become ‘one of them’ as if they are something less than human. They are not injecting me with HIV blood to make me transform into a flamboyant individual. I just accept them as the human beings they are, they accept me for who I am, and I return the respect in kind.

There are quite a few, especially snake oil salesman and former Presidential candidate Mike Huckabee, saying that ‘transgender’ boys just want to spy on girls in the showers and bathrooms. They make it sound like it is an epidemic, and I just ask where is the evidence that this is the case. If it is happening at that alarming rate, where are the news reports, the testimonials, and the footage that shows boys are clambering over each other to see what happens in a woman's restroom? In a trial, the prosecution has to show beyond a

— INTOLERANCE, PAGE 11

Schilling fired over controversial post

Pitcher canned by ESPN after posting offensive anti-transgender photo

CHRISTIAN SCHWARZ
Antelope Staff

Curt Schilling, former Red Sox pitcher and baseball analyst for ESPN, has been fired after he tweeted a picture that seemed to be anti-transgender.

The picture showed a man in women's clothing, and included the words "LET HIM IN! to the restroom with your daughter or else you're a narrow minded, judgmental, unloving, racist bigot who needs to die!"

This was in response to a North Carolina law that barred transgendered people from using bathrooms or locker rooms that did not match their gender on birth certificates and the uproar has ensued since.

Musical performers get the most publicity, but corporations and even sporting events have publicly declared they will not do business in North Carolina.

ESPN released a statement saying, "ESPN is an inclusive company. Curt Schilling has been advised that his conduct was unacceptable and his employment with ESPN has been terminated."

This was not the first time Schilling has been in hot water for controversial posts.

Late last August, Schilling tweeted a

picture that seemed to compare Muslims to Nazis.

In the controversial picture, the caption wrote, "It said only 5-10 percent of Muslims are extremists. In 1940, only 7 percent of Germans were Nazis. How'd that go?"

“ ESPN is an inclusive company. Curt Schilling has been advised that his conduct was unacceptable and his employment with ESPN has been terminated.”

— ESPN

In November 2014, he came under fire when he lashed out on evolution and went on a social media tangent on creationism.

ONLINE: Read David Mueller's story about pre-planning to accomodate UNK transgender athletes.



Courtesy

The Facebook post that earned Schilling the axe. The photo reads: "LET HIM IN! To the restroom with your daughter or else you're a narrow minded, judgmental, unloving, racist bigot who needs to DIE!!!"



Courtesy

Schilling's deleted tweet comparing Muslims to Nazis



INSENSITIVE?

Curt Schilling, former pitcher and outspoken ESPN analyst has been axed for insensitive conduct.

Schilling, who is a three-time World Series champion, was fired by ESPN after posting a controversial picture on social media.

This followed previous comments about Muslims, for which he did apologize, and comments critical of evolution theories.

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What do transgender laws mean?

New laws in surrounding states on need for, or use of transgender bathrooms, dressing rooms complicated

KATTIE SADD
Antelope Staff

After Caitlyn Jenner's transformation last year, transgender has been a hot topic. Conservative surrounding states have now started developing bills that will alter the use of bathrooms and dressing rooms for transgender people.

Some progressive states such as Washington have begun to form bills that would allow transgender people to use the restroom or dressing room of their perceived sex.

However, more recently neighboring conservative state South Dakota is reviewing a bill that would require transgender people to use the restrooms and dressing rooms that correspond to their sex at birth.

What does this mean for Nebraska?

As the Nebraska Student Athletic Association wrestles with the decisions on letting transgender students participate in athletics, one of the biggest concerns is the dressing room.

Should transgender student athletes be able to use the locker room or dressing



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do legislatures need to rethink laws offensive to performers, corporations that won't do business in the state?

room of their perceived sex? The NSAA agrees that certain rules and regulations must be set into place.

According to ThingProgress.org, "A transgender student who has been granted permission by the NSAA to participate in activities of the gender with which the student identifies, but has not undergone sex reassignment surgery, shall at NSAA-sponsored contests be permitted to use the restrooms and locker rooms associated with their birth sex or shall be assigned private toilet, locker and shower room facilities appropriate for the student's gender identity, as appropriate and available."

One student who really didn't want to be quoted thinks potential laws allowing transgender people to choose the dressing room or bathroom they use are appropriate.

"I think there should be a law stating that transgender people use the locker room or bathroom that corresponds with

their biological gender. Laws that allow them to choose could potentially put others at risk when allowing a transgender person to impose on the privacy of the cisgender people in that locker/bathroom." –Anonymous UNK student.

"We are in a time and an age that people are responsible and mature enough to handle these situations." —Emily Fink

An example to take into consideration concerns a Seattle man who undressed in the women's dressing room at a Seattle public swimming pool, and after being asked to leave the dressing room, the man cited a new state law that allows people to

choose the dressing room they associate with.

No arrests were made in the Seattle incident, but it caused quite a commotion when the man returned to the women's dressing room and undressed again in front of a young female swim team.

Some students don't find any problem with allowing transgender people to choose their dressing/bathroom. But pros and cons with such a hot topic still exist.

"I think allowing them to choose the locker room or bathroom of their perceived sex is perfectly fine. We are in a time and an age that people are responsible and mature enough to handle these situations," said junior Emily Fink.

Fink is also a former tennis player for the Lopers, and after spending two years with the team she said, "Though the dressing room and locker rooms are an open place, you can still find privacy. Allowing transgender people to use the same dressing room wouldn't bother me at all."

No matter what the response is to these laws, it is evident that this topic is one that will hold controversy for years to come.

With the lengthy list of pros and cons that accompany these types of laws, congressmen and lawmakers have a lot to consider before finalizing laws. One of the problems is that conservatives are definitely not ready to be participate in open discussion.

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BENESCH 'CHASES' SENIOR GOALS ON THE TRACK

KATTIE SADD

Antelope Staff

Taking home more hardware than a construction worker, this cross-country and track and field standout uses her role as a leader to “keep the big picture in mind.”

Morgan Benesch, a junior from Columbus, Nebraska, says it is a bittersweet feeling knowing she only has a few seasons left.

“This is the last chance for me to compete at the collegiate level and run competitively,” Benesch said.

Benesch has realized her role on the team as a leader and has filled

those shoes... literally.

Head coach Brady Bonsall said, “For the women’s distance crew in particular, Morgan has a lot of influence. When she is doing well, I think the other women can draw confidence from what they see Morgan doing.”

Benesch has broken several school records including a 12-year-old school record in the steeplechase, and says she is excited to practice on the new facility next year that houses its own steeple pit.

To learn more about Morgan Benesch and Loper Track and Field, visit lopers.com.



I'm really looking forward to next year and being able

to have our practice facilities up to par with other schools in our conference.”

— Morgan Benesch

VIDEO EXTRA



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International students feel blessed by experiences

PHOTOS AND STORY BY INCHANG BACK

Antelope Staff



HAJEONG LEE
VOCAL PERFORMANCE
SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

Lee says she will miss UNK. “I am a senior this year, so I am going to graduate in this May. I am so excited to get bachelor's degree finally and start master's degree at Temple University in Philadelphia. I loved to stay and study in Kearney. I grew up in Seoul, a big city, in South Korea. I was so surprised when I just came here because people in Kearney were so nice, people who I could not meet in the big cities. Professors were also very nice to their students. I admired people in here a lot, so I am going to miss all my friends... Well, I am planning to visit Nebraska occasionally in the future.”



DUC NGUYEN
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT
DANANG, VIETNAM

Nguyen said it took him about four years and a half to graduate, and he is a little surprised that it is almost over. “I’m both happy and sad at the same time. It felt amazing when I thought ‘I made it. I almost achieved what I dreamed about after overcoming many obstacles.’ It is sad when you have to leave your favorite friends and instructors behind. The best thing I have experienced in UNK is meeting people from different countries in the world. They are the people you never would have seen or encountered in your hometown.”



RUIKO SAJI
TRAVEL AND TOURISM
NAGOYA, JAPAN

Saji feels she had positive experiences on campus. “This is my last semester here. I have been very blessed with people I have met here who have been changing my life in positive ways. I have been active on campus being a resident assistant and a part of many organizations. Among all of them, being a president of International Student Association in my last year has given me valuable experience. I am not nervous about my future because I know that all the experiences I will have, no matter it is positive or negative will make me stronger.”



KROLL

AARON KROLL
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
BASSETT

“After graduating with a degree in Business Administration with an Emphasis in Finance, I will be joining the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) this summer. My role with FDIC will be a financial institution specialist where I will be examining banks.”



SHENGQUN ZHANG
ACCOUNTING
SHENYANG, CHINA

"I am not planning to have a job, I will move back home this summer to prepare for the GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test) and will apply for a graduate study program in Jan. 2017. When I get accepted, I plan to apply to universities in Seattle, Los Angeles and Chicago.

ZHANG



KRUMLAND

**DAVID KRUMLAND: SENIOR,
PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR,
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO**

"After graduation I will be working at Good Samaritan as a phlebotomist! I am also getting married to my best friend in the world and she will also be working at the hospital as a nurse! We both plan on becoming nurses overseas as missionaries in a few years, so we are working in preparation for that!"



DELVAUX

LEXY DELVAUX
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
GRAND ISLAND

Following graduation, I will be getting married to my fiancé and we will live in Burwell, Nebraska, where I hope to find a job that allows me to use my teaching degree.

I plan to take more classes through UNK in the near future to begin working on my master's degree.

Imagining life after graduation

MOLLY ANSON

Antelope Staff

As it gets closer to graduation, seniors are rushing to get everything done. Between class work, jobs and preparations for graduation, senior students are beyond busy.

By now, most have somewhat of an idea about what they will be doing once they graduate. Some will be staying here in Kearney to work, others will be finding jobs throughout the area, and others will be taking a break before continuing on to other things. No matter what they decide to do, we know our seniors will succeed in every field they are in.



MCQUAY

KEESHA MCQUAY
SOCIAL WORK
MAGNET

"After graduation, I plan to pursue a career in the social work field. I plan to apply at Compass, Christian Heritage and Nebraska Children's Home Society.

I have a passion for foster care and adoptive services and aim to serve those in need of support. I love hearing people's stories and offering what I can to assist them in accomplishing their goals."



CITTA

SAMANTHA CITTA
SENIOR, OUTDOOR
RECREATION MAJOR
PAPILLION

"I'm not sure what exactly I'll be doing after graduation yet. I'm planning on living somewhere outside Nebraska for a year to explore and get different experiences in the recreation field before I come back to start my career in outdoor recreation."

SENIOR 'KICKS-OFF' FINAL FOOTBALL SEASON

KATTIE SADD

Antelope Staff

Senior football player Payton Fluckey says it's not the number of wins or losses that make up a perfect season.

Fluckey, a Loper's kicker, says he knows there is time and work to put in, but the team is ready to do it.

Next fall will be Fluckey's final season with the Lopers, and it's a bittersweet feeling, he says.

Teammate Jacob Runge, said the team is in it to win it together. "During the off season, Payton puts in a lot of

work. He is always asking if I will come catch punts for him, so that he can perfect his trade for this upcoming season."

“He is always asking if I will come catch punts for him, so that he can perfect his trade for this upcoming season.”

Jacob Runge,
teammate

The Lopers just kicked off the spring season, which Fluckey says will help them prep for fall ball next year.



It is crazy to think I'm almost done playing, but it just makes me want to work toward a perfect season even more.”

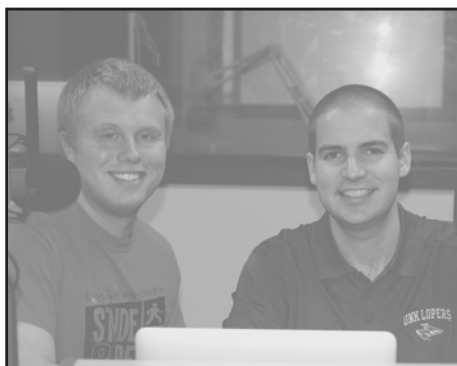
— Payton Fluckey

VIDEO EXTRA



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Tennis likely to head to NCAA

KATE BAKER

Antelope Sports Editor

As the spring semester winds down, so do spring sports. The Loper tennis teams both competed in their MIAA tournaments last weekend, and both teams look likely to compete at the NCAA tournament.



JIMENEZ



NEIL

On Friday, the women defeated Missouri Western State 5-2 to advance to the second round of the tournament. The women swept all three doubles matches to help the team advance. At the number 3 spot, Paula Jimenez, a senior business administration major from Barcelona, Spain, and Emma Neil, a sophomore history major from Papillion, managed an 8-6 win, bringing their record to 52-17 on the season. In the top spot, Jayden Trimble, a



TRIMBLE



PARNELL



RODRIGUEZ

sophomore pre-nursing major from Kearney, and Camryn Parnell, a freshman chemistry major from Lee's Summit, Missouri, won 8-5, pushing their season record to 9-5.

After UNK lost two singles matches and Missouri Western was closing the cap, Sthefani Rodriguez, a junior Spanish translation and interpretation major from Maracay, Venezuela, fought to avenge an early season loss by sweeping her competitor 6-4 and 6-0. Finally, Jimenez clinched the dual for UNK by rallying back after a first set loss to defeat her competitor, 3-6, 6-3 and

6-2.

This win placed UNK in the second

round of the MIAA tournament to face 18th ranked Southwest Baptist on Saturday. Unfortunately, the duo of Jimenez and Neil was the only win for the Lopers, with Southwest Baptist defeating them 5-1.

UNK should make the NCAA Tournament for a third straight year; the women's selection show is available at www.ncaa.com on Tuesday (May 3) at 7:30 p.m.

The men put up a hard fight in the first round of the MIAA tournament, but couldn't pull off the win against their rival, 12th-ranked Northwest Missouri State, on Saturday. The Lopers started out with a tough loss at No. 1 doubles, where the duo of Justin Nguyen, a junior business administration major from Louisville, Colorado, and Georges Wakim, a sophomore business administration major



RICHARDS



REEKIE

from Cairo, Egypt, were defeated in narrow victory 9-8.

At No. 3 doubles, the pair of Joey Richards, a sophomore aviation systems management major from Eden Prairie, Minnesota, and Aaron Reekie, a sophomore advertising and public relations major from Houston, Texas, won their match 8-6, giving the Lopers the lead heading in to singles. Unfortunately,

SBU swept UNK in their singles matches, which advanced them to the second round of the MIAA tournament.

UNK should make the NCAA Tournament for a third straight year with the Central Region likely hosted by Northwest. The men's selection show is available at www.ncaa.com on Tuesday (May 3rd) at 7 p.m.

Go to lopers.com for more results on both the women and the men's teams.

Loper juniors set new school records

KATE BAKER

Antelope Sports Editor

Competing in Kearney's first-ever athletic appearance in Michigan, juniors Morgan Benesch, an exercise science major from Columbus, and Cole Wellnitz, a health and P.E. major from Rushville, set new school records Friday night at the 50th Annual Hillsdale College GINA Relays.



BENESCH

Already the school record leader in the steeplechase, Benesch ran a 10:44.22 to place 11th in a field of 30. Beating seven Division 1 runners, Benesch jumps 17 places into 17th on the Division II national list.

In the men's 1,500 meter race, Wellnitz



WELLNITZ

ran a 3:50.24, good for 11th place in a field of 33, including defeating six Division 1 runners. Nationally, Wellnitz moves up to 34th for the moment. He already ranked tops in the

conference.

Another competitor from the relays was Ord redshirt freshman Andrew Fields (exercise science/political science major), who ran a 9:08.82 to finish seventh out of 35 in the men's championship steeple. This time ranks seventh in UNK history and places Fields on the national list for the first time in 2016. At this moment, he is 18th and also second in the Central Region.

Competing Thursday at the Nebraska Wesleyan Spring Invitational in Lincoln,



Cole Wellnitz, a junior health and P.E. major, places 11th in a field of 33 with a 1,500 meter time of 3:50.24.

the Loper track team finished out their regular season in style, winning 13 events and placing second in 12 others.

The team will use this momentum as they head to Northwest Missouri State next weekend for the MIAA championships.



Photo by Kori Hixson

TOP: Taylor Ehrhardt is a senior psychobiology and pre-med major. Ehrhardt is taking the MCAT in order to qualify for medical school and become an oncologist.

Courtesy

BOTTOM: Ehrhardt holds a starfish while on one of many beaches during her study abroad in Ireland.

ABOUT TAYLOR:

Class: Senior
Major: Psychobiology/pre-med
Hometown: Westminster, Colorado

Favorite color: Pink
Favorite animal: Tiger
Favorite movie: "The Little Mermaid"
Favorite superhero: Iron Man

"My biggest role model is Ronda Rousey. She's a very strong-willed woman and I think she shows girls that they can be both beautiful and strong." — Taylor Ehrhardt

Ehrhardt strives to be strong

KORI HIXSON
Antelope Staff

■ Q: What's your favorite thing about UNK?

A: My favorite part about UNK is the sense of community you have here. This is mainly because it is a smaller school and I'm used to a bigger town. It's nice that you are able to actually get to know your professors and they know you. You know more of the students than you would at a larger college.

■ Q: Why did you choose to join a sorority?

A: I chose to join a sorority because my mom was a member of Alpha Phi. Being from out of state I didn't know many people at UNK, so I knew it would be a great way to meet new people.

■ Q: What's your favorite Alpha Phi event?

A: My favorite Alpha Phi event is the Red Dress Poker tournament, to support women's health. Since I was a philanthropy chair, it's really close to my heart and I love how a large part of the community comes to support our philanthropy.

■ Q: Alpha Phi's motto is "Union Hand in Hand." What does this mean to you?

A: To me it means that you do not have to go through life alone and that you can always count on your sisters when you need them.

■ Q: You've recently become an alumna in the Alpha Phi sorority. What has your experience as a member in your sorority the past four years meant to you?

A: The past four years I've gained friendships that I never would have known without Alpha Phi. Being a member of my sorority pushed me to better myself. My experience in Alpha Phi has helped shape me into the strong, independent woman I am today.

■ Q: What factors played a role in your decision to pursue a medical career?

A: All throughout high school I did very well in math

and science, so I wanted to choose something that was related to my academic strengths. Family history also helped me make my decision to pursue a medical degree, because I had big doctors in my life and I want to be a great doctor in someone else's life.

■ Q: What are your future career goals, post-graduation?

A: Well, hopefully this summer I get a good MCAT score! I'll then get accepted into medical school, and continue my education to become an oncologist.

■ Q: Do you have any fun facts about yourself?

A: I'm part mermaid. *laughs* I also studied abroad in Ireland.

■ Q: What do you like to do in your free time?

A: In my free time I like to watch Disney movies with my friends – "Hercules" is our most watched – work out, and do adult coloring books.

■ Q: Who is your biggest role model?

A: My biggest role model is Ronda Rousey. She's a very strong-willed woman and I think she shows girls that they can be both beautiful and strong. She's not afraid to be "manly" and she sticks up for what she believes in. Even though she recently had a tough loss she doesn't give up on herself, which is so important in life.

■ Q: What is your guilty pleasure?

A: My guilty pleasure would probably have to be the "Fifty Shades of Grey" books and movie.

■ Q: If you could be anyone in the world, who would you be and why?

A: If I could be anyone in the world I would be Ronda Rousey, for the same reasons I mentioned earlier.

— EHRHARDT, PAGE 11

SWIMMING from insert page 8

continued to practice and compete the events she was capable of. She didn't let those stop her from having an incredible year of swimming."

Prochaska always placed in the Top Ten within the AquaLopers not just as a team member, but individually as well. During her college athlete career she swam the 200 Free Relay, 400 Free Relay and 400 Medley Relay.

Now that she is graduating this week she wishes she could tell her younger self one more thing "Join everything. I would tell myself to at least try it all once. A lot of club I thought sounded so cool or fun, but didn't join." If she could go back, she would certainly try to do as much as possible working around time required for swimming.

With just a few days left as an

TRUCKERS from insert page 8

truckers from near and far were shown how they are appreciated.

There was an overwhelming sense of gratitude from these men and women, and they valued the efforts that the UNK community made to show their support.

Nick Wiemers, a senior Business Administration major says, "Hanna and Reed's trucker appreciation project was a great way to educate the students and simply thank truck drivers who are out there on the roads. Without them, our daily needs and wants would not be provided in a timely manner."

Hanna and Reed would like to thank

BEYE from page 1

perspective on life by communicating with and helping students from a different cultural background.

She is also in her third semester as a math tutor at the Learning Commons. She tutors mostly in algebra but also some in calculus. Beye said that while tutoring, she has noticed that most students view math as "this weird set of rules." They are fearful of math when they come to her, she said.

Her biggest boundary to overcome tutoring was the difference in learning styles between students. Over the years though, Beye said she learned to work with each student to help them with whatever style works best for them. Beye says throughout the semester it is really great to see students gain confidence in their

"I would put myself through everything I did the last four years all over again..."

— Alex Prochaska

undergraduate she recalls that even though she would have like to do other things than just is a student athlete she would not really change much. "I would put myself through everything I did the last four years all over again, because everything I went through has shaped who I am right now."

Prochaska plans to move to Omaha after graduation to start living this new phase of her life. She might have wanted to be a pop star when she was little, but know she is about to become a college graduate and for maybe, a college degree will possibly be better than becoming a pop star.

"The enjoyment that the truck drivers got out of being recognized made the entire project worthwhile."

— Reed Bellamy

the professors, volunteers, and all the students that contributed toward this cause and made the project a success.

math skills. She loves to work with students throughout the semester and see how they improve. Her favorite memory of tutoring is seeing students around campus and being able to ask them how their test went."

She also tutored some international students in math and found that more difficult. Besides the language barrier, she said sometimes it was very difficult to convey math concepts in a language that is not your own. With work, she said she was able to get over the barrier and help all her students, no matter what nationality.

Beye plans to continue on her tutoring when she graduates. She will be getting married and moving to Omaha with her husband where she will seek a job as a math tutor.

INTOLERANCE from page 2

reasonable doubt that this did happen, not the other way around.

On a side note, don't restrooms have stalls with doors? Privacy is still retained, and who honestly still showers in gym class besides the die-hard athletes?

Homosexuality and transgenderism is nothing new in this world — this didn't come about in the 1980s when there was an AIDS epidemic. Many cultures, specifically the warrior cultures which many jingoists praise, such as the Spartans and Feudal Japan, practiced many forms of homosexual patronage. Therefore, homosexuality isn't something practiced by the 'weak,' those 'corrupted' by rock and roll. It has been around since soldiers have been hammering iron to form the many historical weapons we value highly today.

Transgender has been around in many mythologies and religions, with very gender neutral or confused deities spanning from the Far East to modern culture today. Eunuchs are examples of feminine looking boys who saw themselves as simply having no sexual urges, or saw themselves as merely human beings - not belonging to any gender.

So with all of this in mind, why are we combatting unseen and unproven threats when there are far more tangible problems we see every day? Think of all the money thrown into these lawsuits about marriage equality and compare it to the number of students going through college with the

EHRHARDT from page 10

For Halloween I dressed up as Ronda Rousey, which proves how much I really do look up to her. She is very inspiring and I admire her attitude and confidence.

Q: What has been your favorite college memory over the years?

My favorite college memory over the years has been my experience studying abroad in Ireland. Just being able to see the world and experience different cultures is something I will never forget.

Q: If you could go back and change one thing about your last four years at UNK, what would you change and why?

I would want to not get so tied up

“Think of all the money thrown into lawsuits about marriage equality, and compare it to the number of students going through college with the burden of tremendous debt.”

burden of tremendous debt. That may have a bigger impact on your personal life than two dudes cutting into a white layer cake.

What about the time and money law enforcement officials would be spending on hunting down someone whom others thought of being "out of place," and how that could be better spent educating those same officers in better techniques to connect with a community?

These are bigger problems than two people of the same gender filing shared taxes or using the restroom they think is the right one for them. Knowing who these people are doesn't change me in the slightest; I am more concerned about the tangible problems. Chasing ghosts may sound fun, but at the end you have nothing to show for it but wasted time and effort.

in situations that could have been easily avoided. I would want to tell my past self she needs to realize when people are toxic in her life and know when to remove them from her life. Instead of making excuses for them and thinking that everything they do is fine, when she knows that it's not.

Q:Any words of advice for underclassmen?

Live it up. You have four years to be young, wild, and crazy so just make the most of it. Yes, study hard for your tests, but play hard as well. Don't think you won't be able to do something – for example I never thought I would be able to study abroad, and I did. Don't hold yourself to any limits.

Francis to count endangered Blanding's turtles

Blanding's turtles found dead along road may be causing decline of the species in Ravenna area

KATEE DALY
Antelope Staff

Kayla Francis has always had a love for animals. She grew up in Nebraska City working at the vet clinic with lots of dogs. This made her choose to major in biology comprehensive with an emphasis in wildlife.

She will start wildlife research this summer counting turtles near Ravenna.

About choosing specifically to do a research program on Blanding's turtles, Francis says she took an amphibians and reptiles class with Dr. Geluso and really connected with him in class, so she decided to ask him to be her mentor.

"He came up with the idea and I went for it, and it really sounded interesting," she said.

Francis will study these turtles because recently they were found in the Ravenna, Nebraska, area, which is not common.

She says, "These turtles are mostly found in the Sandhills, but other than that we don't know where they are found."



DR. KEITH GELUSO

The Blanding's turtles were recently listed as threatened or endangered. Students and environmentalists up in Valentine, Nebraska, are working to gather research on the species in that area.

Dr. Keith Geluso, a professor in the biology department who is Francis' mentor, says, "The state is working with the feds to put up a turtle fence along the road between the two wetland marshes in the Valentine National Wildlife Refuge."

The theory is that the roads are the main reason these turtles are endangered.

Francis is going to research the Ravenna area and count dead turtles. Her study is based on the turtles hit by cars.

Francis says she will be driving on the Ravenna road and counting dead turtles. This potentially will help get fences put up to stop the decrease in population.

Dr. Geluso says, "The Ravenna area has listings of the species through the



Photo by Katee Daly

Kayla Francis studies Blanding's turtles as they become more endangered. These turtles have been found in the Ravenna, Nebraska area where Francis will be doing her research.

museum documents. These documents are from the 1970s, so she needs to go through those documents, and then find out if the species is still there."

Francis says that these turtles will be the main focus, but they will also be studying all the other turtles as well in that area. "We are hoping to get our hands on

some trail cameras and maybe catch the turtles going into culverts."

The study will take place in May and go until the end of July. Francis is ready to go. "I am really excited for this. I will be counting dead turtles, but I really hope it leads into something bigger than that," she said.



MEET DONNY THE BLANDING'S TURTLE

Donny, what is your life expectancy?

"Blanding turtles live up to 80 years."

Where did your ancestors come from?

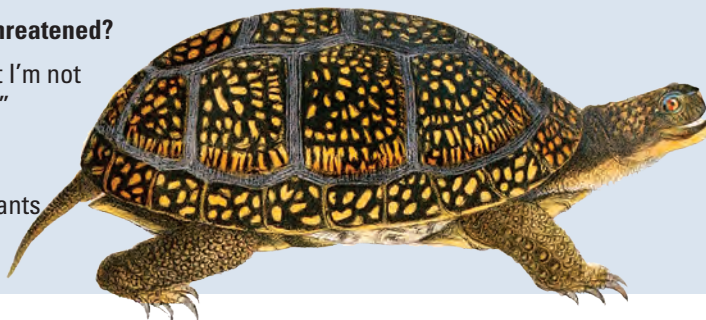
"They are originally from Nebraska."

What do you do when you feel threatened?

"Mostly I hiss and urinate, but I'm not much of a biter like other turtles."

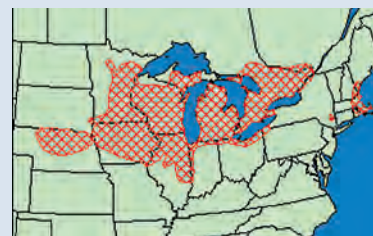
What did you have for lunch?

"I'm omnivorous, so mostly plants seeds and...a crayfish."



MORE ABOUT BLANDING'S TURTLES

- Group: reptile
- Class: chelonina
- Order: cryptodeira
- Family: emyridae
- Shell length: 15-25 cm
- Endangered species
- Hibernate at the bottom of permanent water bodies from October until April
- Fossil evidence suggests they evolved in what is now Nebraska
- Nebraska has most of Blanding's species
- Eats aquatic vegetation, macro-invertebrates, small fish
- Lay one clutch of eggs a year (10-26 eggs)
- Illegal as pets



- Blanding's turtles are found in the red area
- Ravenna is located 35 miles northeast of Kearney

687 to graduate Friday at UNK; Large crowd expected

UNK COMMUNICATIONS

Nearly 700 graduate and undergraduate degrees will be conferred at University of Nebraska at Kearney commencement exercises at 10 a.m. Friday. With 687 graduates, a large crowd is expected and guests are advised to plan ahead to get to their seats early. Doors to the Health and Sports Center will open at 8 a.m.

Distinguished alumnus Scott P. Moore, J.D., will address the graduates. Moore is a 1992 graduate of UNK with a degree in political science. He pursued his juris doctorate at Creighton University School of Law, where following his studies he became deputy chief of the employment litigation section of the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division in Washington, D.C.

He led the Department of Justice's Title VII enforcement against state and local governments, which included pattern of practice cases and individual charges referred to the department by the EEOC. Now with Baird Holm in Omaha, Moore is widely recognized as a national expert in housing law and litigation. He provides

training in fair housing, ADA and Section 504 across the country. He has been listed in The Best Lawyers in America and Great Plains Super Lawyers. Moore is a married father of twin daughters and is a wheelchair racer and hand cyclist.

The University Wind Ensemble, directed by Duane Bierman, UNK Associated Professor of Music and Director of Bands, will provide music. The national anthem will be performed by soprano Hajeong Lee, class of 2016, accompanied by John Paul Lempke, also class of 2016.

Tyson Lanka will give the senior class reflection. A native of Ogallala, Lanka is earning a bachelor of science degree in business administration with an emphasis in finance. Lanka's numerous campus involvements include serving as a Chancellor's Ambassador, Student Government and membership in Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

Kearney Mayor Stan Clouse will receive the annual Ron and Carol Cope Cornerstone of Excellence Award. The award was established in 2003, with Carol Cope its inaugural recipient, as a way to recognize

individuals who have exhibited excellence in elevating the campus to new levels. Awardees are individuals who have provided significant service, support or promotion of UNK, the greater Kearney area, state of Nebraska, or the objectives of higher education. Clouse, account manager for NPPD, was elected to the Kearney City Council in 2003 and has been mayor since 2006.

NU Regent Jim Pillen of Columbus will give the Board of Regents greetings.

Parking in the west lots is encouraged. Visitors with handicap parking permits can park east of the Health and Sports Center. Family members transporting a handicapped person will have access to drop off the person on the east side of the complex, but will need to move their vehicle to another lot.

Visitors with wheelchairs can sit in the corner seating sections on the main floor or use the elevator in the northeast corner of the building to sit in the designated section on the arena floor. Individuals who have difficulties with steps should arrive at least an hour early to have access to seats just below the railings on the main floor or to obtain seating on the arena floor bleachers.

When: 10 a.m., Friday, May 6

Where: UNK Health and Sports Center, 24th Street and 15th Avenue, Kearney

Social Media: Follow @UNKearney and #lopergrad on Twitter to see photos and posts from graduates, their friends and families

Live Broadcast: Watch the commencement live and join in the #lopergrad conversation at <http://unk.edu/eventdashboard>

An overflow area and family spaces are designated for watching options in Health and Sports Center.

For those unable to attend in person, UNK commencement ceremonies are webcast at www.unk.edu

NOTE: Abbreviations that appear in the listings, and what they represent, are:

Undergraduate Degrees:

BA – Bachelor of Arts

BAE – Bachelor of Arts in Education

BS – Bachelor of Science

BSE – Bachelor of Science in Education

BFA – Bachelor of Fine Arts

BGS – Bachelor of General Studies

BM – Bachelor of Music

Graduate Degrees (GR):

EDS – Education Specialist

MA – Master of Arts

MAED – Master of Arts in Education

MS – Master of Science

MSE – Master of Science in Education

MBA – Master of Business Administration

HP – Honors Program

Neiley Fernau – AINSWORTH

BAED Elementary Ed, Mild/Moderate, Magna Cum Laude

Julie Smith – AINSWORTH

MSE School Counseling Student Affairs

Ariel Christensen – ALMA

EDS School Psychology Education

Tanner Hays – ALMA

BS Agribusiness

Benjamin Ritter – ALMA

BS Information Networking and

Telecommunications

Matthew Ulrich – ALMA

BS Psychology

Kyli Haines – AMHERST

BS Athletic Training, Honorable Mention

Hope Pracht – ANSLEY

BFA Visual Communication and Design,

Magna Cum Laude

Jamee Smith – ANSLEY

MSE Instructional Technology

Ian Thomas – ARAPAHOE

BFA Visual Communication and Design

Paul Callahan – ASHLAND

MAE Curriculum and Instruction-Transitional Certification

William Pettit – ASHLAND

BS Political Science, Summa Cum Laude, HP

Kirby Mendyk – ASHTON

BS Industrial Distribution

Cody Hoegh – AURORA

MAE School Principalship Pre-K-8

Taylor Kittle – AURORA

BAED Early Childhood Unified, Elementary

Education, Cum Laude, Mortar Board

Jessica Vettel – AURORA

BS Business Administration

Erin Lambert – AXTELL

BAED Elementary Education, Mild/Moderate,

Summa Cum Laude, HP

Aaron Scott – AXTELL

BS Broadcasting

Pamela Barrow – BASSETT

MAE Curriculum and Instruction –

Transitional Certification,

Harlee Hollenbeck – BASSETT

BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood

Unified, Summa Cum Laude

Aaron Kroll – BASSETT

BS Business Administration, Magna Cum

Laude

Jordan Maurer – BASSETT

MSE Speech Language Pathology

Taylor Wennekamp – BATTLE CREEK

BS Exercise Science Fitness and Wellness

Landon Ziemba – BATTLE CREEK

BS Industrial Distribution

Kylie Bartholomew – BEATRICE

BAED Elementary Education, Mild-Moderate

Jaci Ballou – BEAVER CITY

BGS General Studies, Summa Cum Laude

Taylor Reaves – BEAVER CROSSING

MSE Speech Language Pathology

Riley Arnold – BEAVER CROSSING

BS Exercise Science, Cum Laude

Taylor Brown – BELLEVUE

BA English

Lindsey Cork – BELLEVUE

BS Exercise Science, Summa Cum Laude, HP

Julie Donaldson – BELLEVUE

MAE Art Education

Elizabeth Norman – BELLEVUE

MAE Physical Education Exercise Science –

Non-Thesis

Sadie Foster – BELLWOOD

MSE Instructional Technology

Jillana Edwards – BENKELMAN

MSE Speech Language Pathology

Joshua Barger – BENNINGTON

BS Criminal Justice

Joshua Edgar – BENNINGTON

BS Chemistry, Summa Cum Laude, Mortar

Board, Phi Kappa Phi, HP

Bryce Mason – BERTRAND

BS Athletic Training

Dillon Spiegel – BERTRAND

BS Sports Management

Sydney Veskma – BLAIR

EDS School Psychology Education

Andrew Harsin – BLAIR

BS Industrial Distribution

Joseph Hubl – BLUE HILL

MSE School Counseling Secondary

Lauren Reiman – BLUE HILL

BS Chemistry

Grady Lamphiear – BOELUS

BS Agribusiness

Marissa Bongers – BRAINARD

MAE Physical Education Exercise Science –

Thesis

Normajean Driscoll – BRIDGEPORT

BS Exercise Science, Magna Cum Laude, HP

Nicole Strope – BRIDGEPORT

MAE Curriculum and Instruction –

Transitional Certification

Brice King – BROKEN BOW

Swimming to graduation

Prochaska reflects on what she would tell her freshman self

ANA SALAZAR

Antelope Staff

"I wanted to be a pop star," said Alexandra Prochaska when she was asked what she wanted to do when she grew up. As she got older she learned that just wanting to be something doesn't automatically mean it will happen. There are challenges that need to be overcome and dreams to fight for.

The dream of becoming a pop star might have died when she realized her real passion. Knowing what she wanted to do for the rest of her life brought up the decision of whether or not college was what she needed to accomplish her dream. Now after four years of college education one of the greatest life accomplishments is about to happen for her and 687 others: Graduation.

Graduation not only represents the accomplishment of the undergraduate college career, it means the end of sleepless nights, early mornings, unwatched TV shows and precarious social life.

Graduation means the end of an era and that seniors can't help but go back and revisit all their college experiences. The idea of finishing this part of their life sometimes makes them wonder if they could go back in time to give some advice their freshman self what would they say?

Prochaska, a business administration

senior from Ralston reflects on things she could have done differently and what she would do again. "If I could go back and tell something to myself I would say 'it all will be OK.' No matter what, the next day is going to come. While today might feel like a stress overload, you will get it all done. You will go to bed feeling accomplished and it all is going to be okay."

Prochaska was part of the AquaLopers for the four years she attended UNK and even though it was stressful, swimming was fun and allowed her to create wonderful lasting friendships like December grad Skylar Tatreau, close friend and swim team member from Tekamah.

"Alex always brought a high energy to the swim team. Her passion for swimming and her team spirit made her a wonderful role model," Tatreau said.

And though it was stressful being a student athlete, Prochaska would not change anything concerning that aspect of her college life. "If anything, I would push myself even harder than I already have. I would tell myself to put in that extra 15 minutes on top of the countless hours of studying already."

Tatreau recalls how Prochaska finished her senior year as part of the swim team after she had a shoulder injury that would have slowed many down. But not Prochaska,

"She has perseverance. Despite the challenges she faced with the injury, she

————— **SWIMMING**, PAGE 11

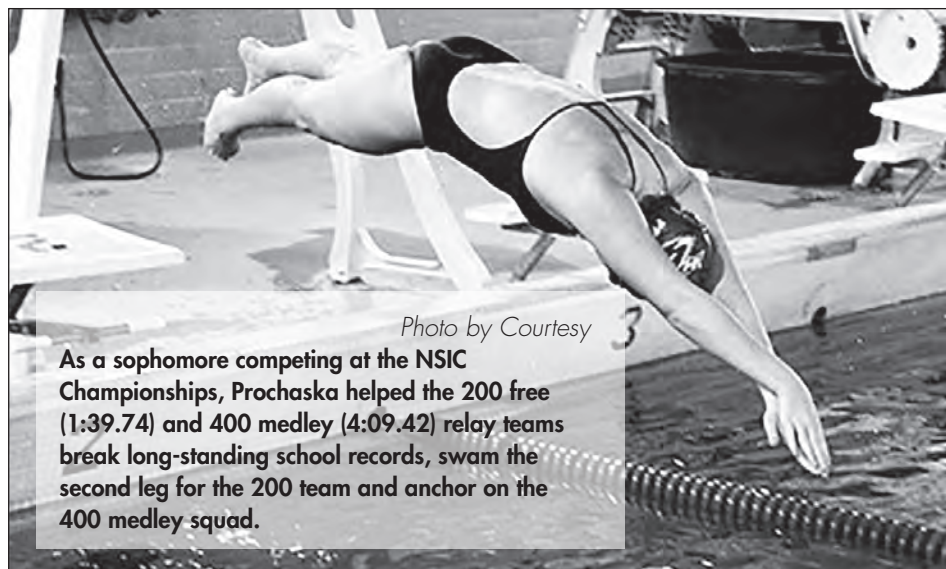


Photo by Courtesy

As a sophomore competing at the NSIC Championships, Prochaska helped the 200 free (1:39.74) and 400 medley (4:09.42) relay teams break long-standing school records, swam the second leg for the 200 team and anchor on the 400 medley squad.

Project leads to gratitude and appreciation at UNK

Seniors take on project which makes an impact on their lives, as well as the truck drivers they met



Photo by Courtesy

Nick Wiemers, Hanna Wade, and Jordan Starostkasa sit at the Trucker Appreciation Day booth set up in the Student Union, to bring awareness to campus about the impact the truck driving industry brings to our daily lives.

KATTIE SADD

Antelope Staff

Reed Bellamy and Hanna Wade, two seniors in Dr. Susan Jensen's MGT 409 Leadership: Skills, Applications and Research course didn't know the leadership project they would conduct would ultimately change their lives.

Members of the class were to create their own leadership-based project throughout the semester.

Bellamy and Wade decided to host a Trucker Appreciation Day. You might have seen them set up with a booth in the Nebraska Student Union a couple of weeks ago.

Their booth was created to bring awareness to campus about how much of an impact the transportation industry brings to our daily lives.

"The goal of the project was to spotlight an industry that doesn't get as much attention for the service they provide," Wade said.

With the help of Dr. Gregory Benson the group also provided

students with information about the Supply Chain Management major at UNK that focuses on the transportation industry.

At the booth, a number of UNK students took the time to sign thank you notes that would eventually be given to the truck drivers.

The group headed to Bosselman Travel Center in Grand Island, Nebraska, to personally thank truck drivers for the job they do.

Fellow UNK students Jordan Starostka, Nick Wiemers and Thomas Gillen volunteered their time in the student union and in Grand Island to show students how vital of impact truck drivers have on our economy and to directly thank those individuals.

Bellamy said, "It was amazing to have the students on campus volunteer their time to this cause. The enjoyment that the truck drivers got out of being recognized made the entire project worthwhile."

Meeting around 50 drivers from over 20 states, along with parts of Canada,

————— **TRUCKERS**, PAGE 11

MAE School Principalship Pre-K-8
Laura Marshall – BROKEN BOW
MAE Curriculum and Instruction – Early Childhood Education
Nicole Miller – BROKEN BOW
BAED Language Arts
Emily Plock – BURWELL
BS Biology, Cum Laude, HP
Brooke Kruger – BUTTE
MSE Speech Language Pathology
Brady Vieth – CAIRO
BS Agribusiness
Taylor Johnson – CALLAWAY
BSED Communication Disorders, Cum Laude
Darcie Kennedy – CALLAWAY
BS Psychology, Cum Laude
Hannah Meyer – CALLAWAY
MSE Speech Language Pathology
Kayla Banzhaf – CAMBRIDGE
BS Social Work
Kalen Farr – CAMBRIDGE
BS Exercise Science
Andrew Armatys – CEDAR RAPIDS
BS Business Administration, Honorable Mention
Crissa Burchfield – CENTRAL CITY
BS Family Studies
Jessica Lee – CENTRAL CITY
BS Business Administration
Aaron Schnitzler – CENTRAL CITY
BS Criminal Justice
Tyler O’Daniel – CHADRON
BS Business Administration, Honorable Mention
Adam Osborn – CHADRON
BS Recreation Management
Brooklyn Sorenson – CHAPPELL
BFA Visual Communication and Design, Honorable Mention
Ashley Wit – CHESTER
MAE Curriculum and Instruction – Transitional Certification
Marissa Pfeifer – CLARKSON
BFA Visual Communication and Design, Summa Cum Laude
Taylor Kester – CLEARWATER
BS Criminal Justice
April Becker – COLUMBUS
MAE Supervisor of Special Education
Jenna Dubas – COLUMBUS
BS Social Work, Magna Cum Laude
Hannah Fuchs – COLUMBUS
BS Psychology
Audrey Grant – COLUMBUS
BA Political Science, Magna Cum Laude, Mortar Board, HP
Holly Hartman – COLUMBUS
BS Psychobiology, Magna Cum Laude, Mortar Board, HP
Suzanne Huhman – COLUMBUS
BS Exercise Science
Lindsay Klassen – COLUMBUS
BS Family Studies, Summa Cum Laude
Jackson Osborn – COLUMBUS
BS Political Science, Summa Cum Laude

Dylan Recek – COLUMBUS
BS Aviation Systems Management
Corissa Staack – COLUMBUS
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified, Honorable Mention
Nicholas Stevenson – COLUMBUS
BS Journalism, Honorable Mention
Ryan Wurdeman – COLUMBUS
BAED History Education, English Education
Ellen Mannschreck – COOK
BS Family Studies, Social Work
Kari Harbison – COZAD
BA Philosophy, Magna Cum Laude
Estrella Monrroy – COZAD
BS Biology
Daniel Revelo-Martinez – COZAD
BAED English as a Second Language, Spanish Education
Bailey Sigler – COZAD
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified
Trey Stombaugh – COZAD
BS History Social Science
Andrew Tellus – COZAD
BM Music
Christopher Tvrdy – COZAD
MAE Curriculum and Instruction – Secondary Education
Yecenia Luna Rodriguez – CRETE
BS Social Work
Rebecca Watkins – CURTIS
BS Respiratory Therapy
Benjamin Weyeneth – DANBURY
BSED Mathematics Education
Kaitlin Hehnke – DANNEBROG
BS Psychobiology, Summa Cum Laude, Mortar Board, Phi Kappa Phi, HP
Seth Linnemeyer – DANNEBROG
BS Business Administration
James Burklund – DAVEY
BS Agribusiness
Jacob Clancy – DAWSON
BS Business Administration
Bailey Hansen – DEWEESE
BS Business Administration
Katie Kroenke – DODGE
BS Athletic Training, Honorable Mention
Cameron Sinner – DONIPHAN
BS Construction Management
Matthew Thomas – DUNNING
BAED Health and Physical Education, Magna Cum Laude
Michelle Ostmann – EAGLE
BGS General Studies
Gared Rathe – EAGLE
BS Industrial Distribution
Daniel Feickert – ELKHORN
BAED Social Science Education, Summa Cum Laude, HP
Taylor Feickert – ELKHORN
BAED Art Education, Honorable Mention, HP
Peyton Lange – ELKHORN
BS Aviation Systems Management
Patricia Hellriegel – ELM CREEK
MSE Instructional Technology – School

Librarian
Maggie Johnson – ELSIE
MAE Special Education – Advanced Practitioner
Alek Pelster – ELSIE
BS Business Administration
Tamara Amesbury – ELWOOD
BS Criminal Justice
Justine Sebade – EMERSON
BS Exercise Science, Summa Cum Laude
Karen Archdekin – EUSTIS
MAE School Principalship Pre-K-8
Jerod Strong – EUSTIS
BS Construction Management
Zachary Ramold – EWING
BS Industrial Distribution
Alison Buchli – FAIRBURY
BA Journalism, Magna Cum Laude
Heather Hull – FAIRBURY
MAE Special Education, Mild-Moderate
Jason Peterson – FAIRBURY
BS Business Administration, Honorable Mention
Megan Brauer – FAIRFIELD
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified, Honorable Mention
Jennifer Rains – FAIRFIELD
BS Business Administration
Jacklyn Ridgway – FAIRFIELD
BAED Art Education, Honorable Mention
Wendy Craig – FALLS CITY
MAE School Principalship Pre-K-8
Kari Kreifels – FALLS CITY
BS Social Work, Criminal Justice, Honorable Mention
Sophia Weinert – FALLS CITY
BSED Mathematics Education, HP
Jordan Adkisson – FARNAM
BS Family Studies
Konnor Oltman – FIRTH
BS Exercise Science, Honorable Mention
Miranda James – FRANKLIN
BAED Elementary Education, Mild/Moderate, Cum Laude
Connie Rocker – FRANKLIN
EDS School Psychology Education
Kathryn Dolejs – FREMONT
BAED Elementary Education, Mild/Moderate
Mallory Ritthaler – FREMONT
BS Exercise Science, Cum Laude, Mortar Board
Kirsten Styskal – FREMONT
BAED Elementary Education, Mild/Moderate
Miranda Coffey – FRIEND
BS Exercise Science
Abigail Carroll – GENEVA
BGS General Studies
Kelsy Belgum – GERING
BS Psychology
Chelsey Blanco – GERING
BAED Elementary Education, English as a Second Language
Zachary Deeds – GERING
MSE Instructional Technology – Informational Technology
Kyle Gaudreault – GERING

BS Criminal Justice, Honorable Mention
Darrin Gonzales – GERING
BA English, Cum Laude, HP
Kyle Peters – GERING
BS Construction Management
Taylor Godberson – GIBBON
BS Criminal Justice
Jaxson Kenton – GIBBON
BAED English Education, Honorable Mention
Jaime Lopez – GIBBON
BS Business Administration
Keefer Michel – GIBBON
BS Criminal Justice
Keysha Foulk – GILTNER
BS Sports Administration
Karen Franzen – GOTHENBURG
BS Psychology
Erica Houchin – GOTHENBURG
BS Social Work
Jacy Ostergard – GOTHENBURG
EDS School Psychology Education
Tanner Schwanz – GOTHENBURG
BS Business Administration
Tori Beye – GRAND ISLAND
BS Mathematics, Magna Cum Laude, HP
Dusty Broxterman – GRAND ISLAND
BS Chemistry
Makayla Carter – GRAND ISLAND
BS Exercise Science, Honorable Mention
Brittani Clarkson – GRAND ISLAND
BS Organizational and Relational Communication
Joshua Cleveland – GRAND ISLAND
BS Social Work, Honorable Mention
Joseph Cochnar – GRAND ISLAND
MAE School Principalship Pre-K-8
Malorie Connely – GRAND ISLAND
BSED Middle Grades
Alexis Delvaux – GRAND ISLAND
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified, Summa Cum Laude, HP
Lacy Dye – GRAND ISLAND
BS Criminal Justice
Emily Fierstein – GRAND ISLAND
MSE Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Luke Friesen – GRAND ISLAND
BS Athletic Training, Magna Cum Laude, HP
Megan Gregg – GRAND ISLAND
BS Psychology
Justin Harris – GRAND ISLAND
BS Business Administration
Ashley Jasnoch – GRAND ISLAND
BS Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude, HP
Emily Kaslon – GRAND ISLAND
BS Geography and GI Science
Kaitlin Kruse – GRAND ISLAND
BAED Elementary Education, Art Education, Honorable Mention
Clarissa Larson – GRAND ISLAND
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified, Honorable Mention
Cinthia Malvais Rosas – GRAND ISLAND
BAED Elementary Education, Honorable Mention

graduation

Dylan McIntyre – GRAND ISLAND
BA Economics
Sasha Mettenbrink – GRAND ISLAND
BS Business Administration
Casey Miller – GRAND ISLAND
BS Construction Management
Ana Nolasco Cuevas – GRAND ISLAND
BFA Visual Communication and Design
Zachariah Obermiller – GRAND ISLAND
BS Business Administration
Reyna Raymundo – GRAND ISLAND
BS Business Administration, Honorable Mention
Allison Rodriguez – GRAND ISLAND
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified
Amy Samuelson – GRAND ISLAND
MAE Curriculum and Instruction, Early Childhood Education
Stephanie Sander – GRAND ISLAND
BS Exercise Science
Mattie Sims – GRAND ISLAND
MSE Speech Language Pathology
Ruth Tejada Castillo – GRAND ISLAND
BS Business Administration
Kelly Ward – GRAND ISLAND
BS Psychobiology
Brianna Wardyn – GRAND ISLAND
BSED Communication Disorders, Summa Cum Laude, HP
Ashton Watson – GRAND ISLAND
BSED Communication Disorders, Honorable Mention
Ana Gamboa Urrego – GRAND ISLAND
BA Spanish Translation and Interpretation
Adilene Gonzalez – GRAND ISLAND
BS Family Studies
Chayse Gulzow – GRAND ISLAND
BS Industrial Technology
Anna Mendyk – GRAND ISLAND
BAED Elementary Education
Rosalina Sebastian – GRAND ISLAND
BA Spanish Translation and Interpretation
Karen Malmkar – GRANT
MSE Science Math Education
Makenzie Cockerill – GREELEY
BSED Communication Disorders, Summa Cum Laude
Riley Racicky – GREELEY
BS Agribusiness, Honorable Mention, HP
Justin Ellingson – GRETNA
BS Information Technology
Shelby Rust – GRETNA
BA International Studies, Mortar Board
Leah VanderWeijden – GRETNA
BAED Language Arts, Summa Cum Laude, HP
Jacob Wolf – GRETNA
MAE School Principalship 7-12
Nicole Swisher – HALSEY
BS Sports Management
Todd Williamsen – HAMPTON
BS Criminal Justice
Leah Uhing – HARTINGTON
BS Social Work
Traysea Gilmore – HARVARD

BA Spanish Translation and Interpretation
Lauren Bartunek – HASTINGS
BSED Communication Disorders
Ryan Bruna – HASTINGS
BS Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude
Alexis George – HASTINGS
BGS General Studies
Kaley Hodgen – HASTINGS
MBA Business Administration-Accounting
Christopher Hollister – HASTINGS
MSE Instructional Technology
Mitchell Huffaker – HASTINGS
BS Exercise Science
Aarika Lomax – HASTINGS
BAED Elementary Education, Mild/Moderate
Katilyn Michel – HASTINGS
BS Biology, Honorable Mention
Grace Napier – HASTINGS
BS Social Work, Honorable Mention
Shelby Rowan – HASTINGS
BS Agribusiness, Honorable Mention, HP
Summer Schmidt – HASTINGS
EDS School Psychology Education
Hailey Schroer – HASTINGS
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Kappa Phi
Jenny Scott – HASTINGS
BGS General Studies
Dalton Sealey – HASTINGS
BS Exercise Science
Emily Shuck – HASTINGS
BA Psychology, Honorable Mention
Jacob Uden – HASTINGS
BAED German Education, Cum Laude
Alyson Wolfe – HASTINGS
BA Psychology
Jenna Pacht – HEBRON
MSE Instructional Technology-School Librarian
Shelby Cameron – HERMAN
BS Advertising and Public Relations
Jennifer Davis – HERSHEY
BSED Mathematics Education
Jacqueline Star – HERSHEY
BS Interior Design, Honorable Mention
Alex Brown – HERSHEY
BS Agribusiness, Honorable Mention
Alyssa Carey – HILDRETH
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified, Magna Cum Laude
Quinlan Becker – HOLDREGE
BS Industrial Technology
Rachel Berreckman – HOLDREGE
BS Early Childhood and Family Advocacy, Honorable Mention
Jace Johnson – HOLDREGE
MAE Physical Education Exercise Science-Non-Thesis
Emily Kowalski – HOLDREGE
BFA Studio Art, Magna Cum Laude
Noah Steward – HOLDREGE
BS Criminal Justice
Taylor Schulze – HUMBOLDT
BS Physical Science

Hobie Hayward – HYANNIS
BS Criminal Justice
Casey Loomis – HYANNIS
MAE School Principalship 7-12
Taylor Gellerman – IMPERIAL
BS Agribusiness, Honorable Mention
Carolina Ramos – IMPERIAL
BAED Art Education
Joshua Schuman – IMPERIAL
MSE School Counseling Student Affairs
Tanner Teel – INDIANOLA
BS Industrial Distribution, Honorable Mention
Calvin Vontz – INDIANOLA
BS Agribusiness
Tarik Arram – KEARNEY
MA History
Amber Banning – KEARNEY
BA Spanish, Magna Cum Laude
Sarah Bartling – KEARNEY
MSE Instructional Technology
Ryan Bauer – KEARNEY
BAED Health and Physical Education, Summa Cum Laude
Wyatt Behn – KEARNEY
BS Physics, Summa Cum Laude
Laura Benson – KEARNEY
MSE School Counseling Secondary
Lindsey Berglund – KEARNEY
BGS General Studies
Andrew Butler – KEARNEY
BS Biology
Dulce Cerano – KEARNEY
BS Social Work
Sean Cherry – KEARNEY
BS Industrial Distribution
Megan Chramosta – KEARNEY
BS Business Administration
Victoria Crook – KEARNEY
BS Business Administration, Cum Laude, HP
Jamie Crosby – KEARNEY
BS Business Administration
Joshua Darveau – KEARNEY
MAE Curriculum and Instruction-Instructional Effectiveness
Jennifer DeBord – KEARNEY
BAED Elementary Education, Mild/Moderate
Lane Deines – KEARNEY
BS Psychology, Honorable Mention
Anthony Donovan – KEARNEY
BS Chemistry, Magna Cum Laude, HP
Colton Dorr – KEARNEY
BS Industrial Distribution
Daniel Dotson – KEARNEY
BS History Social Science
Matthew Driml – KEARNEY
BS Industrial Distribution
Brett Duester – KEARNEY
BS Business Economics
Keathan Fertig – KEARNEY
BS Computer Science
Brittany Forbes – KEARNEY
BAED History Education, Spanish Education
Brittany Frederick – KEARNEY
BSED Communication Disorders, Summa Cum Laude

Arelica Guerrero – KEARNEY
BS Psychology, Cum Laude
Hattie Hagan – KEARNEY
BS Family Studies
Rashawn Harvey – KEARNEY
MSE Instructional Technology
Saralisa Helleberg – KEARNEY
BA English Writing, Honorable Mention
Martin Hobelman – KEARNEY
BS Industrial Distribution
Nick Houtwed – KEARNEY
BS Telecommunications Management
Andy Huynh – KEARNEY
BS Political Science
Jordan Ingersoll – KEARNEY
BS Biology, Summa Cum Laude, HP
Miles Johnson – KEARNEY
BS Business Administration, Cum Laude
Kaitlin Kreutzer – KEARNEY
BS Agribusiness
McKahla Kuecker – KEARNEY
BS Family Studies
Rachel Leigh – KEARNEY
BS Business Administration, Cum Laude, HP
Amanda Lewis – KEARNEY
MAE Reading PK-12
John Lowe V – KEARNEY
BS Industrial Distribution
Matthew Lueck – KEARNEY
BS Computer Science, Honorable Mention
Lindsay Lund – KEARNEY
MAE Music Education
Jacob Lundgren – KEARNEY
BS Business Administration
MacKenzie Matthews – KEARNEY
BS Social Work, Honorable Mention
Sarah McCaslin – KEARNEY
BS Interior Design
Lori McCollough – KEARNEY
BS Social Work
Alexis Mercado – KEARNEY
BS Exercise Science Fitness and Wellness, Honorable Mention
Kelly Messbarger – KEARNEY
BS Biology, Summa Cum Laude, Mortar Board, HP
Jacob Miller – KEARNEY
BS Industrial Distribution
James Mitchell – KEARNEY
BS Criminal Justice
Logan Muhlbach – KEARNEY
BS Agribusiness
Riley Myers – KEARNEY
BS Telecommunications Management
Kelsey Naegele – KEARNEY
BS Respiratory Therapy
Anna Nelson – KEARNEY
BS Biology, Spanish, Honorable Mention, HP
Megan Nickel – KEARNEY
EDS School Psychology Education
Ethan Ochoa – KEARNEY
BFA Visual Communication and Design, Honorable Mention
Casey Ohlrich – KEARNEY
BS Business Administration

Nicole Potthoff – KEARNEY
BS Exercise Science, Summa Cum Laude,
Mortar Board, HP
Kory Reeder – KEARNEY
BM Music Performance
Alexander Regenos – KEARNEY
BS Industrial Distribution
Brieana Richard – KEARNEY
BS Sociology
Nicholas Rimpley – KEARNEY
BS Agribusiness
Megan Rogers – KEARNEY
BA History, Honorable Mention
Kayla Roth – KEARNEY
BS Exercise Science
Justine Runge – KEARNEY
BS Psychobiology
Kelsey Seifert – KEARNEY
BS Biology, BAED Elementary Education
Hayley Skiles – KEARNEY
BS Criminal Justice
Sarah Snyder Essay – KEARNEY
MAE Curriculum and Instruction-Secondary
Education
Lance Sorensen – KEARNEY
BSED Mathematics Education
Jarod Speer – KEARNEY
BS Biology, Cum Laude
Elizabeth Spellman – KEARNEY
BS Family Studies
Kaitlyn Steele – KEARNEY
BS Business Administration, Honorable
Mention
Tiana Stithem – KEARNEY
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood
Unified, Summa Cum Laude
Shawna Strong – KEARNEY
MAE School Principalship Pre-K-8
Rachel Taylor – KEARNEY
BA Spanish, Cum Laude
Jordan Tucker – KEARNEY
BS Aviation Systems Management
Jennie Turner – KEARNEY
BS Business Administration, Honorable
Mention
Jonathon Vasquez – KEARNEY
BS Business Administration
Tyler Walker – KEARNEY
BM Music Performance, Music Education,
Honorable Mention
William Westman – KEARNEY
BS Biology, Magna Cum Laude
Breann White – KEARNEY
BS Exercise Science, Honorable Mention,
Mortar Board
Caleb Schescke – KEARNEY
BS Multimedia
Brittany Blankenship – KENESAW
BS Organizational and Relational
Communication
Marcy Burr – KENESAW
MAE Special Education
Jonathan Kauk – KENESAW
BS Computer Science
Derek Poe – LAWRENCE

BS Telecommunications Management
Whitney Schroer – LAWRENCE
BS Athletic Training
Jarred Royal – LEIGH
EDS School Superintendent
Keyli Aldana – LEXINGTON
BS Advertising and Public Relations
Maira Chavez – LEXINGTON
BS Business Administration
Christopher Dietz – LEXINGTON
BGS General Studies, Magna Cum Laude
Luis Gamero Gutierrez – LEXINGTON
BA Spanish Translation and Interpretation,
Honorable Mention
Ashley Larsen – LEXINGTON
BS Geography and GIScience, Cum Laude
Tyler McKeone – LEXINGTON
BAED History Education, English Education,
Magna Cum Laude, HP
Jessica Miner – LEXINGTON
BS Business Administration, Cum Laude, HP
Noemi Murillo Corona – LEXINGTON
BA Spanish Translation and Interpretation
Alexandria Olsen – LEXINGTON
BFA Studio Art
Joanna Pinedo – LEXINGTON
BA Spanish Translation and Interpretation,
Honorable Mention
Margarita Ramierez – LEXINGTON
BAED Language Arts
Estefania Reyes – LEXINGTON
BA Spanish Translation and Interpretation
Maggie Salen – LEXINGTON
BS Sports Management
Meghan Schwank – LEXINGTON
EDS School Psychology Education
Morgan Sentelle – LEXINGTON
BM Music Education
George Tovar – LEXINGTON
BS Criminal Justice
Matthew Van Pelt – LEXINGTON
BS Business Administration
Sydney Wagner – LEXINGTON
BSED Communication Disorders, Magna Cum
Laude
Abel Arias – LEXINGTON
BS Social Work
Courtney Deuel – LEXINGTON
MAE Curriculum and Instruction-Reading/
Special Education
Shellee Becker – LINCOLN
EDS School Psychology Education
Suzanne Carnazzo – LINCOLN
BAED Elementary Education, Middle Grades,
Magna Cum Laude
Grace Childress – LINCOLN
BS Organizational and Relational
Communication, Cum Laude
Nancy Elizalde-Trejo – LINCOLN
BS Criminal Justice
Turner Goa – LINCOLN
BS Business Administration
Ty Hartley – LINCOLN
BS Construction Management
Aaron Hoeft – LINCOLN

MAE School Principalship 7-12
Ellisa Janzen – LINCOLN
BS Family Studies
Jacob Johnson – LINCOLN
BS Business Administration, Honorable
Mention, HP
Zachary Justus – LINCOLN
MBA Business Administration-Accounting
Angela Krolikowski – LINCOLN
MAE School Principalship Pre-K-8
Courtney McClellen – LINCOLN
BS Political Science, Magna Cum Laude, HP
Ethan McClellen – LINCOLN
BS Criminal Justice
Justine Meyer – LINCOLN
BAED Elementary Education
Katie Ohnoutka – LINCOLN
MSE Instructional Technology-School
Librarian
Jillian Schernikau – LINCOLN
MAE Curriculum and Instruction-Transitional
Certification
Josiah Scollard – LINCOLN
BAED Social Science Education, Mild/
Moderate
Marissa Upton – LINCOLN
BS Business Administration, Honorable
Mention, HP
Rachel Westphalen – LINCOLN
MSE Instructional Technology-School
Librarian
Sarah Wiebusch – LINCOLN
BS Social Work, Music, Magna Cum Laude
Sarah Karst – LINCOLN
BAED Elementary Education, French
Education, Honorable Mention
Charles White – LINCOLN
BS Industrial Distribution
Nolan Kratzer – LITCHFIELD
BS Athletic Training, Cum Laude
Aspen Abrams – LODGEPOLE
BS Biology
Alexander Humpfer – LODGEPOLE
BS Criminal Justice, Honorable Mention
Carissa Allen – LOOMIS
BSED Communication Disorders, Summa
Cum Laude, Phi Kappa Phi, HP
Matthew Huston – LOOMIS
BS Industrial Distribution, Honorable Mention
Judy McClain – LOOMIS
MAE Curriculum and Instruction-Early
Childhood Education
Jonathan Larchick – LOUP CITY
BS Business Administration
Alex Hinrichsen – LYNCH
BS Psychology, Honorable Mention
Keesha McQuay – MAGNET
BS Social Work
Marc Grote – MARTELL
BS Industrial Distribution
Ruth Meyer – MAXWELL
MAE Curriculum and Instruction-Secondary
Education
Lori Carfield – MCCOOK
MAE Reading PK-12

Cory Dallam – MCCOOK
BS Sports Management, Business
Administration
Kirstie Hiatt – MCCOOK
EDS School Psychology Education
Sara Larington – MCCOOK
BS Business Administration, Magna Cum
Laude
Stephanie Sis – MCCOOK
MAE Curriculum and Instruction-Elementary
Education
Nathan Weintz – MCCOOK
BFA Visual Communication and Design
Katrina Wetton – MCCOOK
BS Sociology, Magna Cum Laude
Jordyn Duffek – MCCOOL JUNCTION
BS Biology
Lindsey Pearson – MEAD
BSED Mathematics Education, Cum Laude
Jacob Griffith – MERNA
BS Industrial Distribution
Mary Yarrington – MERNA
MAE Reading PK-12
Austin Gabehart – MILFORD
BFA Visual Communication and Design,
Honorable Mention
Savannah Lohmeier – MILFORD
EDS School Psychology Education
Alexa Olson – MILFORD
BAED Elementary Education, Magna Cum
Laude
Daniel Anderson – MILFORD
BS Business Administration
Kisha O'Meara – MILLER
BS Sports Adminstration
Michael Breight – MINDEN
BS Biology
Benjamin Petersen – MINDEN
BS Exercise Science Fitness and Wellness
Monica Pettz – MINDEN
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood
Unified
Katherine Rieck – MINDEN
BAED Music Education
Bailee Schuster – MINDEN
BS Organizational and Relational
Communication
Nicole McAuliff – MINDEN
BAED Mild/Moderate, Cum Laude
Alysha Watson – MINDEN
BS Business Administration
Chelsea Wickard – MITCHELL
BS Exercise Science
Maggie Feltgen – MORRILL
MSE Instructional Technology-School
Librarian
Skyler Manville – MORRILL
BS Industrial Distribution, Magna Cum Laude
Nathan Vinton – MULLEN
BS Biology, Cum Laude
Kimberly Benorden – NORFOLK
EDS School Psychology Education
Ethan Brozek – NORFOLK
BS Business Administration
Mariah Hergott – NORFOLK

graduation

MSE Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Hunter Love – NORFOLK
BS Sports Management
Monica Amavi – NORTH PLATTE
BS Criminal Justice
Jared Arensdorf – NORTH PLATTE
BS Exercise Science, Honorable Mention
Jake Berglund – NORTH PLATTE
BS Business Administration
Christopher Curry – NORTH PLATTE
BS Professional Chemist, Honorable Mention
Emily Donohoe – NORTH PLATTE
BS Sports Administration
Alexis Erickson – NORTH PLATTE
BS Psychology
Jessica Ferguson – NORTH PLATTE
MSE Speech Language Pathology
Ashley Forrester – NORTH PLATTE
BS Biology, Spanish
Maysa Hammond – NORTH PLATTE
BS Business Administration, Honorable Mention
Taylor Heinzen – NORTH PLATTE
BS Social Work, Honorable Mention
Robert Kosmacek – NORTH PLATTE
BS Construction Management
Jordan Krizek – NORTH PLATTE
BS Sports Management
Ashley Lopez – NORTH PLATTE
BS Business Administration
Derra Lusk – NORTH PLATTE
BS Family Studies
Aaron McCauley – NORTH PLATTE
BS Family Studies, Magna Cum Laude, HP
Michaela McConnell – NORTH PLATTE
BS Journalism
Wendy McDermott – NORTH PLATTE
BS Agribusiness
Michaela Menghini – NORTH PLATTE
BS Psychology
Jessica Nichols – NORTH PLATTE
BS Journalism, Cum Laude
Lauren O'Brien – NORTH PLATTE
BS Interior Design
Jillessa Ochs – NORTH PLATTE
BSED Communication Disorders, Cum Laude
Brittney Saner – NORTH PLATTE
BS Biology
Trevor Schramm – NORTH PLATTE
BS Exercise Science, Magna Cum Laude, HP
Joseph Smidt – NORTH PLATTE
BS Geography and GIScience, Honorable Mention
Brian Steffes – NORTH PLATTE
BS Agribusiness
Nicole Weiss – NORTH PLATTE
MSE Instructional Technology-School Librarian
Aubrey Chevalier – NORTH PLATTE
BS Psychology, Honorable Mention
McKenzie Connot – O'NEILL
BS Business Administration
Austin Ducker – O'NEILL
BS Construction Management, Honorable Mention

Katherine Rowan – O'NEILL
MAE Curriculum and Instruction-Early Childhood Education
Alyssa Sobotka – O'NEILL
BS Journalism, Summa Cum Laude
Andrew Schissel – OAKLAND
BS Biology
Benjamin Bomberger – OCONTO
BS Applied Computer Science
Trisha Hendricks – OCONTO
BAED Social Science Education, Honorable Mention
Sarah Maginnis – ODELL
BAED Mild/Moderate, Cum Laude, Mortar Board
Shad Krajewski – OGALLALA
BS Construction Management
Tyson Lanka – OGALLALA
BS Business Administration, Summa Cum Laude, Mortar Board
Jessica Paloucek – OGALLALA
BS Psychology, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Kappa Phi, HP
Alexander Rudolph – OGALLALA
BM Music Education, Honorable Mention
Nicholas Bauwens – OMAHA
BS Industrial Distribution
Jacob Burklund – OMAHA
BS Biology, Business Administration, Honorable Mention, HP
Chloe Christensen – OMAHA
BS Psychology
Tyler Cogswell - OMAHA
BAED Elementary Education, Mild/Moderate, Honorable Mention
Tess Dugan – OMAHA
BS Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude, HP
Laura Eberly – OMAHA
MSE Instructional Technology – School Librarian
Meghan Forsgren – OMAHA
BS Organization and Relational Communication, Honorable Mention
Abbey Giller – OMAHA
BS Family Studies
Brett Grell – OMAHA
EDS School Superintendent
Christopher Heiman – OMAHA
MSE Instructional Technology – Leadership in Instruction Tech
Kyle Honeycutt – OMAHA
BS Business Administration
Alyssa Jacobs – OMAHA
MSE Speech Language Pathology
Chelsea Jansen – OMAHA
BAED Elementary Education
Cayle Jones – OMAHA
MSE Instructional Technology – Leadership in Instruction Tech
Bronson Marsh – OMAHA
BS Exercise Science, Business Administration
Patrick McCue – OMAHA
BA Political Science, International Studies, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Kappa Phi, HP

Nicholas McGrath – OMAHA
BS Political Science, Summa Cum Laude, HP
Elizabeth Meister – OMAHA
BS Psychology, Honorable Mention
Emily Miller – OMAHA
BA International Studies
Brianna Monter – OMAHA
BS Family Studies
Delanie Phillips – OMAHA
BS Psychology
Mallory Placek – OMAHA
BS Organizational and Relational Communication, Spanish, Summa Cum Laude, Mortar Board, Phi Kappa Phi, HP
Cameron Riecke – OMAHA
BS Industrial Distribution, Magna Cum Laude
Jeffery Rodis – OMAHA
BS Business Administration
Jocelyn Suing – OMAHA
MAE Physical Education Master Teacher – Special Populations
Gregory Verraneault – OMAHA
MAE School Principalship Pre-K-8
Nicholas Wiemers – OMAHA
BS Business Administration, Honorable Mention
Rachel Wood – OMAHA
MAE Curriculum and Instruction-Elementary Education
Lauryn Young – OMAHA
BS Exercise Science
Maria Hernandez – OMAHA
BAED Spanish Education, History Education
Rachael Schacht – ORCHARD
BFA Visual Communication and Design
Shannon Stelling – ORCHARD
MAE Supervisor of Special Education
Jessica John – ORD
BFA Studio Art
Ryan Kroger – ORD
MAE Curriculum and Instruction – Secondary Education
Deborah O'Neal –ORD
MAE Curriculum and Instruction – Secondary Education
Cale Streeter – ORD
BAED Health and Physical Education
Logan Watts – OSCEOLA
BS Industrial Distribution
Ethan Enochs – OVERTON
BS Agribusiness, Honorable Mention
Rachel Hosick – OVERTON
BS Psychology
Jacob Olmstead – OVERTON
BS Industrial Distribution
Morgan Ransdell – OXFORD
BAED Elementary Education
Chloe Wichmann – PALMER
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Kappa Phi, HP
Montanna Hosterman – PAPILLION
BS Criminal Justice
Rachel Slowick – PAPILLION
BA Advertising and Public Relations

Michaela Turner – PAPILLION
BA Spanish, Summa Cum Laude
Kayla Carriker – PHILLIPS
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified, Honorable Mention
Alyssa Blair – PIERCE
BS Psychobiology, Honorable Mention
Marcus Blunck – PIERCE
BS Business Administration, Honorable Mention
Mason Rohrich – PIERCE
BS Industrial Distribution
Laurie Venteicher – PIERCE
BA Journalism, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Kappa Phi, HP
Payton Wragge – PIERCE
BS Exercise Science, Magna Cum Laude
Kelsey Bonta – PLAINVIEW
BS Psychobiology, Cum Laude, Mortar Board, HP
Kelli Bauer – PLEASANTON
BAED Elementary Education, Mild/Moderate, Summa Cum Laude
Cole Pritchard – PLEASANTON
BS Criminal Justice
Adam Ripp – PLESANTON
BS Political Science, Spanish, Summa Cum Laude, Mortar Board, Phi Kappa Phi, HP
Kelsey Martinsen – PRIMROSE
BS Business Administration, Summa Cum Laude, Mortar Board, HP
Alexandra Prochaska – RALSTON
BS Business Administration
Hannah Backer – RANDOLPH
BFA Studio Art
Zachary Chrastil – RAVENNA
BS History Social Science
Crystal Gross – RAVENNA
BAED Middle Grades, Cum Laude
Taylor Hand – RAVENNA
BAED Early Childhood Unified, Mild/Moderate, Honorable Mention
Jordanna Glock – RISING CITY
BS Molecular Biology, Honorable Mention, HP
Jake Kohl – SCHUYLER
BS Industrial Distribution
Thais Murua – SCHUYLER
BS Psychology, HP
Mayra Ortiz – SCHUYLER
BS Family Studies, Spanish Translation and Interpretation
Alan Parsons – SCHUYLER
BS Industrial Distribution
Sarah Hansen – SCOTIA
BS Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude
Madeline Burford – SCOTTSBLUFF
MAE School Principalship Pre-K-8
Jordan Hoff – SCOTTSBLUFF
BGS General Studies
Jeslynn Kearney – SCOTTSBLUFF
BS Family Studies
Mayra Perez – SCOTTSBLUFF
BA Spanish Translation and Interpretation
Molly Simmons – SCOTTSBLUFF

BA German
Scout Wilson – SCOTTSBLUFF
BS Biology, Philosophy, Cum Laude
Kelsey Weatherholt – SEWARD
MSE Speech Language Pathology
Alexis Brandt – SHELTON
MSE Speech Language Pathology
Catherine Geogiana – SHELTON
BS Psychology, Honorable Mention
Denise Lyons – SHELTON
BS Criminal Justice
Joshua Wiese – SHELTON
BS Biology, Honorable Mention
Kaci Clevenger – SHELTON
BS Business Administration, Honorable Mention
Amy Henderickson – SHICKLEY
BS Social Work, Honorable Mention
Thomas Arellano – SIDNEY
BAED Health and Physical Eucation
Anjeanette Jacobsen – SIDNEY
MAE Supervisor of Special Education
Jennifer Ramsey – SIDNEY
MSE Instructional Technology – Library media
Susie Sawatzky – SILVER CREEK
BS Organization and Relational Communication
Zach Wurdeman – ST. EDWARD
BS Industrial Distribution
Jacie Bean – ST. LIBORY
BS Exercise Science Fitness and Wellness, Honorable Mention
Jamie Camden – ST. PAUL
MSE Instructional Technology
Barbara Schmidt – ST. PAUL
BAED Early Childhood Unified
Cale Eacker – SUMNER
BS Geography and GIScience
Miranda Ward – SUPERIOR
BS Business Administration
Landon Zimmer – SYRACUSE
BS Industrial Distribution
Nicole Hoffman – TABLE ROCK
BSED Middle Grades, Mild/Moderate, Honorable Mention
Brittany Wolken – TECUMSEH
BFA Visual Communication and Design, Honorable Mention
Jessie Andersen – THEDFORD
BS Criminal Justice
Shelby Saner – THEDFORD
BAED English Education, Honorable Mention
Brittany Snider – THEDFORD
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified, Honorable Mention
Tanis Pettit – TYRON
BA History
Katharina Stuhr – UTICA
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified, Cum Laude
Joshua Mooney – UTICA
BS Agribusiness
Kara Mercure – VALENTINE
BA International Studies
Samantha Spain – VALENTINE

BS Family Studies
Gabriel Haberman – WAHOO
BM Music Education
John Lempke – WALLACE
BM Music Performance, Summa Cum Laude, Mortar Board, Phi Kappa Phi, HP
Ethen Scott – WALLACE
BS Athletic Training, Honorable Mention
Whitney Smith – WALLACE
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified, Summa Cum Laude
Robert Polson – WATERLOO
BS Criminal Justice, Honorable Justice
Brett Klima – WAUNETA
BS Biology, Cum Laude
Brendan Basine – WAVERLY
BS Business Administration
Taylor Stowater – WAYNE
BS Biology
Joshua Leas – WELLFLEET
BS Industrial Distribution
Tyler Welch – WEST OMAHA
BS Business Administration
Anthony Hunke – WEST POINT
BS Organizational and Relational Communication, Summa Cum Laude
Sky Burger – WILBER
BAED Elementary Education, Early Childhood Unified, Honorable Mention
Briar Kinnan – WILBER
BS Psychology
Danielle Killinger – WOLBACH
MAE Curriculum and Instructional – Elementary Education
Shelby Rother – WOLBACH
BSED Communication Disorders, Cum Laude
Jordan Franke – WOOD RIVER
BS Agribusiness
Dylan Warford – WYMORE
BS Exercise Science
Amanda Hinds – YORK
BAED Elementary Education, Mild/Moderate, Magna Cum Laude
Alex Obermier – YORK
BS Agribusiness
Jessica Schlegelmilch – YORK
BS Family Studies, Honorable Mention

OUT OF STATE

Stefanie Wall – ANCHORAGE, AK
MAE Curriculum and Instruction – Reading/ Special Education
Rachel Ulmer – SPANISH FORT, AL
Reading PK-12
Yentle Dyas – ALMA, AR
BAED English Education, Honorable Mention
Lori Applegate – CASA GRANDE, AZ
MSE Instructional Technology – School Librarian
Kari Emery – TUCSON, AZ
BS Psychology
Gina Gage – TEMPE, AX
MA History
Meaghan Pasbrig – CHANDLER, AZ

BS Political Science
Jocelyn Chan – SAN JOSE, CA
MSE Speech Language Pathology
Lisa Jablonski – SAN FRANCISCO, CA
MAE Art Education – Classroom Education
Cyrine Kebhaj – LOS ANGELES, CA
MS Biology
Carli Seaver – APTOS, CA
MS Biology
Frederick Williams Jr. – HANFORD, CA
BS Sports Management
Renee Xiong – LOMPOC, CA
BS Business Administration
Holly Brown – GLENWOOD SPRINGS, CO
BSED Communication Disorders, Cum Laude
Heather Brunelli – MONTE VISTA, CO
BS Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude
Alison Carter – CENTENNIAL, CO
MSE Instructional Technology
Joseph DeSimone – THORTON, CO
BS Sports Administration
Taylor Ehrhardt – WESTMINISTER, CO
BS Psychobiology, Cum Laude
Krysta Kaiser – WESTMINISTER, CO
BS Social Work, Honorable Mention
David Krumland – COLORADO SPRINGS, CO
BS Psychology
Kati Kuntz – OTIS, CO
BS Exercise Science, Honorable Mention
Alyssa Morrison – LOVELAND, CO
BS Sports Management, Magna Cum Laude, HP
Patrick Rauch – HOLYOKE, CO
BS Exercise Science
Erin Steele – JOHNSTOWN, CO
BAED Elementary Education, Honorable Mention
Tanner Stark – WINDSOR, CO
BS Geography and GIScience, Cum Laude
Russell Tappy – MERINO, CO
BS Business Administration, Honorable Mention
Taylor Turecek – STRASBURG, CO
BAED Mild/Moderate
Alissa Zink – AURORA, CO
BS Psychology
Melissa Paquin – EASTFORD, CT
MS Biology
Joseph Petrone – COS COB, CT
MA History
Jennifer Brunson, TALLAHASSEE, FL
MSE Science Math Education – Chemistry
Adriana Da Silva – MIAMA, FL
MSE Science Math Education – Biology
Allen Sampson – TAMPA, FL
MAE Physical Education – Research and Field Work
Pamela Sommers – VERO BEACH, FL
MAE Art Education – Museum Education
Gillian Bryant – MOODY AFB, GA
MA History
Leah Vélez – VALDOSTA, GA
MAE Spanish Education

Liana Horovitz – KULA, HI
MA History
Emily Cunarro – ANKENY, IA
MAE Spanish Education
Dina Dowden – CLARKVILLE, IA
BS Organization and Relational Communication
Brenda Schaeffer Hansen – DAVENPORT, IA
MA History
Lauren Van Winkle – TREYNOR, IA
BFA Visual Communication and Design, Magna Cum Laude
Jeffrey Jimenez – CHUBBUCK, ID
MA History
Jaralea Pierce – Tully – PARMA, ID
MAE Special Education, Mild/Moderate
Nathan Corbit – VIENNA, IL
MAE Art Education
Rachel Matthews – DES PLAINES, IL
MAE Art Education – Classroom Education
Danielle Crane – LOGANSPORT, IN
MA History
Reed Bellamy – GOODLAND, KS
BS Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude
William Broeckelman – NORTON, KS
BSED Mathematics Education, Summa Cum Laude
Karlynn Mizell – NORTON, KS
MSE Speech Language Pathology
Alexandria Rizzo – HUTCHINSON, KS
MS Psychology
Daniel Wilson – HAYSVILLE, KS
MAE Special Education – Gifted
Jeffrey Steller – FORT THOMAS, KY
MS Biology
Rachel Pikstein – WEST BLOOMFIELD, MI
MS Biology
Nicholas Stevenson – GRAND RAPIDS, MI
MS Biology
Marvin Whitehorn – DETROIT, MI
BS Respiratory Therapy
Todd Scripture – WORTHINGTON, MN
MS Biology
Amy Gatlin – LAKE OZARK, MO
MS Biology
Britni Norfolk – BRASHEAR, MO
MSE Speech Language Pathology
Amanda Penick – ST. JOSEPH, MO
MS Biology
Ashley Wilson – KANSAS CITY, MO
MAE Supervisor of Special Education
Braxton Flaming – BILLINGS, MT
BS Business Administration
Desiree Gebhart – GALLUP, NM
MAE Physical Education Master Teacher – Pedagogy
Emily Casey – LIVERPOOL, NY
MAE Music Education
Tiffany Holliday – MORROW, OH
MAE Art Education – Museum Education
Sarah Lehman – BLUFFTON, OH
MS Biology
Kirk Humilovich – DILLSBURG, PA
MA History

Business administration major gains new outlook

NATE ABEGGLEN

Antelope Staff

Graduating seniors will go in all directions following graduation May 6. Some will go to places far away, some will stay in central Nebraska, some will stay here in Kearney, and some, well some will take the talents they've developed and return home.

One of those students whose future plans begin with helping their home town is Tyler O'Daniel, a business administration major and accounting minor, who plans to go back to Chadron after he graduates.

The experience of college not only gave O'Daniel a new set of skills he is taking back with him, it also gave him a sense of accomplishment. "I'm very excited about bringing the opportunities that college presented me with back to my hometown. With college, besides practical skills in

business, I feel I've also developed people skills and that these skills will help me tremendously step more into a leadership role rather than what I would be able to accomplish without the college experience."

O'Daniel said his favorite part of college is the friends he made here. "I would have to say that my roommates have been my favorite part of my college experience. I know there are always horror stories of people who have been stuck with roommates they didn't get along with, so I feel very fortunate to have found multiple people who helped make my college experience what it was."

Of course, with the joys of college, there always are the challenges as well. "The most challenging part of college for me was the early morning classes. It's just difficult to bring the focus necessary to college courses on a consistent basis, especially toward the end of the semesters."

O'Daniel also had some advice to offer students that are just beginning college on what he would have done differently if he started again (hind-sight's always 20/20). He said, "If I would do it over again I would have started my college career undecided and would have taken all of my generals first. I began in pre-med, and although I know programs like that are enticing because of the large paychecks you hear about, they are also a big commitment. If you end up like me and decide that that route isn't the way you want to go, it is a somewhat major set back when you take almost all challenging science classes in your first year."

O'Daniel said that the experience of college is one that everyone can gain from. Sure, there are times that the challenges are too daunting; but through the challenges, you can to gain both "people skills" and a new outlook on the world... and yourself.



I know there are always horror stories of people who have been stuck

with roommates they didn't get along with, so I feel very fortunate to have found multiple people who helped make my college experience what it was."

— Tyler O'Daniel

Joshua Mann – YORK, PA

MA History

Kathleen Stump – HANOVER, PA

BS Organization and Relational Communication, Summa Cum Laude

Virginia Anderson – BEAUFORT, SC

MAE Art Education – Classroom Education

Christine Frost – BRITTON, SD

EDS School Psychology Education

Hanna Wade – LAKEVIEW, SD

BS Business Administration, Cum Laude

Jeanne Gacke – SIOUX FALLS, SD

MA History

Katelyn Haschke – SIOUX FALLS, SD

BS Psychology, Cum Laude

Catherine Hayen – RAPID CITY, SD

BS Psychology

Daniel Thyren – RAPID CITY, SD

MAE Physical Education Exercise Science-Non-Thesis

Hilary May – SPRINGFIELD, SD

BAED Early Childhood Unified, Honorable Mention

Kelly Minder – MORRISTOWN, TN

MA History

Bryce Bell – FRISCO, TX

BS Family Studies

Latisha Dominguez – LUDDBOCK, TX

EDS School Psychology Education

Benjamin Highsmith – KELLER, TX

BS Business Administration

John Higley – AUSTIN, TX

MS Biology

Camille Merck – HOUSTON, TX

MS Biology

Joel Montes – EL PASO, TX

BM Music Performance

Diana Morales – EL PASO, TX

BS Business Administration

Colby Roming – CANYON, TX

BS Business Administration

Fletcher Sheridan – GEORGETOWN, TX

BS Geography & GI Science

Stephen Jones – AMERICAN FORK, UT

MS Biology

Jonathan Terry – SANDY, UT

MSE School Counseling Student Affairs

John Nye – LYNCHBURG, VA

MS Biology

Kristy Craig – RACINE, WI

MS Biology

Sareena Hoffman – MILWAUKEE, WI

BS Psychology

Kelly Davis – WESTON, WY

BAED Social Science Education, Honorable Mention

Amanda Nunn – LARAMIE, WY

MSE Instructional Technology-School Librarian

Miranda Ostrowski – CHEYENNE, WY

MS Biology

Michelle Reutter – WORLAND, WY

BSED Mathematics Education, Physical Education

Justin Shadrick – GLENROCK, WY

EDS School Superintendent

Aaron Smith – CHEYENNE, WY

BGS General Studies

Cara Tarullo – CASPER, WY

MS Biology

INTERNATIONAL

Mahugnon Avande – COTONOU, BENIN

BS Information Technology

Bradley Holmes – ONTARIO, CANADA

BS Business Administration, Honorable

Mention

Rocco Racioppo – ONTARIO, CANADA

MS Biology

Chenzue Cai – URUMQI, CHINA

MSE School Counseling Student Affairs

Thomas Johnson – BEIJING, CHINA

BAED English Education, Summa Cum Laude,

HP

Tianyang Liu – SHIJIAZHUANG, CHINA

BS Information Technology

Chenxu Wang – SHIJIAZHUANG, CHINA

BS Information Technology

Shengqun Zhang – SHENYANG, CHINA

BS Business Administration

Carlos Tejada Castro – BOGOTA,

COLOMBIA

BS Aviation Systems Management

Chloe Roberts – PLYMOUTH, ENGLAND

MAE Physical Education Exercise Science-

Non-Thesis

Priscilla Patague – AVIANA AIR BASE,

ITALY

MAE Curriculum & Instruction-English as a

second language

Katsuya Amano – MATSUE, JAPAN

BS Aviation Systems Management

Rika Asai – YASHIO, JAPAN

BS Recreation, park & tourism management, Magna Cum Laude

Ayane Nakajima – FUJISAWA, JAPAN

BM Music Performance

Ryo Suzuki – TOKYO, JAPAN

BS Business Administration Summa Cum

Laude

Yukiko Ueno – KITAKYUSHU, JAPAN

BGS General Studies

Saule Kontautaitė – BERCIUNAI,

LITHUANIA

MAE Physical Education-Research & Field

Work

Suraj Bhatta – KATHAR, NEPAL

BS Business Administration

Anit Rana – KATHMANDU, NEPAL

BS Business Administration

Roshan Thapa – KATHMANDU, NEPAL

BS Business Administration

Yearim Kim – ICHEON, SOUTH KOREA

BS Business Administration

Hajeong Lee – GOYANG-SI, SOUTH KOREA

BM Music Performance, Cum Laude

Soohyun Yoon – ANYANG-SI, SOUTH

KOREA

BS Social Work, Cum Laude

Paula Jimenez Sanchez – BARCELONA,

SPAIN

BS Business Administration

Omer Vatanever – ANTALYA, TURKEY

BS Business Administration