



Men's Soccer Team in Home Debut

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WNCC SPECTATOR

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Scottsbluff, NE 69361-1899
Permit No. 141
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Volume 48, Issue 1 • September 23, 2003

Pioneer Hall full to the max

Fire Code forces many students to fit three to a room

By KAREN YERGLER
Staff Reporter

At Western Nebraska Community College, two may be company, but, as many students who live in the dorms are finding out, three can definitely be a crowd.

The WNCC dorms are absolutely full this semester, so full that 12 of the rooms are now occupied by three students rather than the usual two.

"It's crammed and noisy at times," soccer player and dorm resident Stephanie Paulson said.

Paulson said that she and her roommates try to clean at least once a week to help keep their room organized and to free up space. "If my stuff's on their side of the room they usually just kick it back," Paulson said.

"We have 30 more [occupants] than the end of the year last year," Residence Life/Activities Coordinator Jennifer Pederson said.

Pederson said that the dorms are now at maximum capacity due to regulations set by the fire code.

In order to make life a little more comfortable for the cramped Cougar students, WNCC officials bought all new furniture for the tripled rooms. Loft beds with drawers and room for a desk underneath are more practical and save a little bit of the already crowded space in these rooms.

The cost of these rooms was also lowered, and Pederson said that if a room opens up, those in the tripled rooms had two options.

They could either stay with their arrangements, or draw to see who would get to move into the available room.



JUSTIN GREIBE/SPECTATOR

Dorm Residents (l-r) Sam Lore, Jessica Fast and Elisa Torres are living in tight quarters this year with three to a room. Because of a housing crunch, many dorm students have to live three to a room.

WNCC has tried to accommodate the students by making improvements to dorm life. To help appease the crowded students, changes and repairs have been done.

These improvements include the halls having been repainted and carpeted and some of the bathrooms having been redone.

A kitchen has also been added for the students to use.

Some extra activities in the game room have been added as well. "Basically any

thing to get them out of their rooms and away from their roommates," Pederson said.

The search for more dorm room space has not stopped, however. Pederson said they have a plan for what they would like. "We just don't know how we're going to pay for it."

Pederson said that WNCC officials hope and "have their fingers crossed" that by August of 2004 there will be dorms with room for up to 200 students aside from the preexisting dorms.

New Height Reached

By KAREN YERGLER & JUSTIN GRIEBE
Staff Reporters

Enrollment at Western Nebraska Community College hit its all-time high at the beginning of September.

Sophomore Tyshawn Yopp was officially the 1000th student to register at a WNCC campus.

On Tuesday, September 16, an all-day celebration was held at WNCC. It started off in the commons area (the "pit"), where cake and punch were served and John Harms, President of WNCC, spoke.

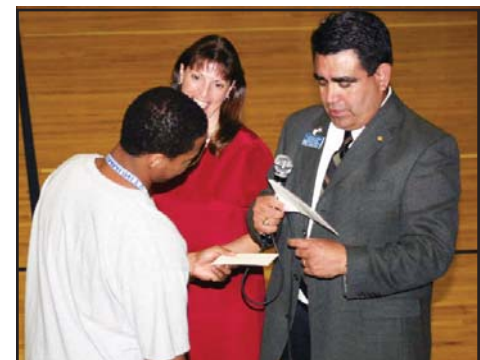
The celebration continued with a barbecue on the front lawn of the Scottsbluff campus.

Then, between the second and third matches of the Volleyball teams' triangular match with McCook and LCCC, Harms again addressed the audience and presented Yopp with gift certificates.

"It was definitely cool to receive something during the game," Yopp said.

Full-time enrollment at WNCC campuses is now up to 1013 students and part-time enrolled students is up to 1703. All together, enrollment is 2716, a whopping 564 more students than last year.

When asked how it felt to be the 1000th student, Yopp said, "It works for me."



MARK REIN/SPORTS INFORMATION

Tyshawn Yopp, receives certificates from Tim Alvarez, dean of Student Services as being the 1,000 student this semester at WNCC.