

First State Bank salutes WNCC Student Leaders Kling and Whipple

For the first time, two students from WNCC were chosen by the Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network (BRIN) to further their education in biomedical research. Judy Schnell says that Michael Kling and Sean Whipple have a great opportunity through this program.

"Not only does the BRIN program offer support through a bachelor degree, but it will also be useful if they pursue any type of graduate degree," said Schnell.

Kling and Whipple will each be a part of a summer workshop from June 1 through August 7. There, they will be working with scientists in biomedical research labs of their choice and they will each be allotted \$3,700 for the summer.

"During the 10 week summer workshop I hope to be researching prion diseases (like mad cow disease) and neurological viruses," said Whipple.

As for Kling, his first choice would be to research comparative anatomy. He claims that his interest has been in the field of science since Junior High. Kling has attended WNCC for three nonconsecutive years and is planning on an Associate of Science Degree in molecular biology with an emphasis on research.

Whipple cannot recall a time when he was not interested in science. "Originally I wanted to go to medical school and become a doctor," said Whipple.

Whipple and Kling both plan on attending the University of Kearney. The two students will receive stipends throughout their college educations and all the way throughout a doctorate degree, if they choose to do so. The amount they are given will change from \$2,000 a semester to a minimum of \$20,000 (they get more each year as they progress).

Kling and Whipple both have had their share of science classes. Whipple

"I've been interested in science for as long as I can remember."

—Sean Whipple

"Thanks to Judy, we applied for the program."

—Michael Kling

said he has over 40 credits of just science classes alone. For such scientific guys, you'd think a thing like chemistry would be a breeze...

"Chemistry is not my strongest subject, it's the math aspect that gets me," said Kling.

"I hate chemistry, even though it sounds contradictory for a science major," said Whipple, "I like math and I like science, it's when you put the two together that we encounter a problem."

Though you can always find Whipple and Kling lingering around the science classes, you can also find them doing nonscientific things as well (believe it or not).

"I like to see a good movie every once in awhile," said Kling, "I also really like to work out."

"I was originally here to play baseball," said Whipple, "I really enjoy hunting, fishing, and other outdoor activities."

Kling and Whipple both mentioned that if it hadn't been for Judy Schnell, they wouldn't have applied for the BRIN program.

"We are thankful to Judy for working with us and encouraging us to apply for the program," said Kling.

"These boys are fully capable of the work," said Schnell, "They both know it will be more intense. They are good students, though and they will both be very successful."

TEXT BY
EMILY WARREN

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Hypnotist visits two campuses

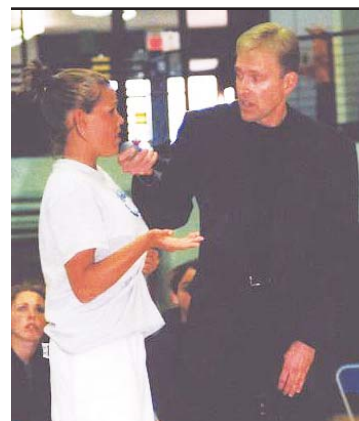
BY STACY MACK
STAFF REPORTER

Volunteer Heather Ricketts sat slumped in a relaxed position. Her eyes were closed and she was breathing as though she was in a deep sleep. But she was not asleep, she was hypnotized and simply under the power of suggestion. Ricketts and the other volunteers sat on stage and listened to the persuasive and deliberate voice of Frederick Winters, hypno-therapist, recently at the Alliance and Scottsbluff campuses.

"I felt pretty good," Ricketts said, "It was kind of like floating on a cloud." She also said she would certainly volunteer again.

She just might get that chance because this was not the first visit for Winters to Western Nebraska Community College, and according to Jennifer Pedersen, activities coordinator,

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JENNIFER FRONAPPEL/SPECTATOR
Hypnotist Frederick Winters
talks to a student before he
puts her under in April.



The Western Nebraska Community College Vocalise performed at Carnegie Hall over Easter Break. The group, besides singing at the Hall, also saw different landmarks in New York City during the trip.

Each year the singing group participates in an prestigious event showcasing the musical talent the college has. Last year, the group sang the national anthem at a Colorado Rockies game in Denver.

COURTESY PHOTO

WNCC Gets to See Carnegie Hall

BY KAREN YERGLER
STAFF REPORTER

It is a rare opportunity to visit New York City's famed Carnegie Hall, let alone perform on stage, but members of Western Nebraska Community College's Collegiate Choral did just that. On April 2, 18 members of the Collegiate Choral, along with Vocal Music Director Rita Stinner, Speech Instructor Tim Cochran and Val Eirich, chaperones, left Nebraska on their way to the big apple.

The group made their way to Denver International Airport to begin their flight across the United States. After arriving in Newark, N.Y., and shuttling to NYC, members of the group were left on their own to enjoy shopping, eating, shows, lounging at the Hilton or whatever other activity they chose. On Sunday morning, however, the work started.

The choral members, as well as Cochran, were required to attend rehearsals, along with several other community colleges around the nation, and practice their music, Composer Maurice Durufle's "Requiem." Rehearsals with guest conductor Duane Davis, director of vocal music at Grand Rapids Community College in Grand Rapids, Mich., were long and tiring, requiring the singers to sing their best because, as the saying goes, singers only get to Carnegie Hall through "practice, practice practice!"

Rehearsing was not all that the singers did, however it was a big part of their day. During non-rehearsal hours, the choir members were allowed free time in which to thoroughly enjoy their visit to NYC. Some went to Broadway musicals such as "Beauty and the Beast", "Little Shop of Horror", "Rent and

Phantom of the Opera." All those who went to NYC spent time shopping at some time or other, as shops were everywhere.

WNCC choir members also had fun hanging out with all of the other young people from around the nation who were performing with them. Getting to see the sights and meeting new people from around the United States was Brianna Maiwald's favorite part of the trip. "I am thankful I got the opportunity to sing at Carnegie hall," said Danielle Williamson. "I enjoyed the whole experience."

On April 6, all the hard work paid off and the WNCC Collegiate Choral, along with other community college choirs from around the nation, performed on the same stage where numerous renowned musicians, such as Tchaikovsky, Frank Sinatra and the

Beatles once stood. Michael Schluter, from Greely, said that the performance and the crews were awesome.

"That whole performance was great," Schluter said, "It was just a beautiful thing." Just the experience of singing at Carnegie Hall had a "once in a lifetime feeling," said first year WNCC student Sharon Banister. "Getting to stand on the stage where the greatest musicians stood was unforgettable," Banister said.

"It's great to take a group of people to New York, to experience a place that's very different from where we live everyday," Cochran said. "I think everybody from our college was well prepared and I felt really proud to be an instructor at a college where all the students that we had seemed to be right on the ball... I know Rita (Stinner) was very proud of everyone."



Student Services

Pictured in the ad are the 2003-04 Phi Theta Kappa initiates that were inducted into the honorary society in March.

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