

Western Nebraska Community College

COUGAR BEAT

Vol. 5, No. 13
June 25, 2009
Scottsbluff, NE



*Bytes Computer wins
Cougar Golf Classic
page 4*

**Basketball
camps are
fun time
for youngsters**
Page 8



National champion

Former WNCC Cougar wins title for Washington

Can you say National Champions?

Former Western Nebraska Community College softball player Jessica Ventoza can say that after being a part of the University of Washington's softball team that claimed the school's first national championship on June 2. Ventoza, a senior, said it is hard to imagine winning a national title at the Division I level.

"It was a dream come true to win a national title," Ventoza said. "It was hard work and our bodies and minds got tired but that's when we got tougher. We have been to some pretty amazing stadiums and places and have been able to see a lot of the country.

"To actually win a national title is one of the most amazing feelings ever, no one can ever take it from us and we have made history. It was pretty crazy after we won the title. We all rushed onto the field and embraced each other, crying, laughing, and yelling. It was by far the most amazing moment so far in my life."

The Huskies, behind their junior pitching sensation Danielle Lawrie, claimed the title by going 5-1 at the College World Series in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. What was amazing about the championship run was they did it on the road, spending 20-plus days living out of suitcase.

"It was hard and we had to be careful to keep our distance when we were getting tired of it," Ventoza said. "But, overall, it

went by fast and it was a blast. It was hard missing school and our lives back home. We all knew what we were here for and to come back empty handed was not an option."

Ventoza said that it wasn't an easy road to the national championship by any means, especially since they didn't sleep in their own beds for over three weeks.

"Anytime you play in the World Series the road is tough; the other seven teams are there because they are great teams too," she said. "The team that is going to win it all has to keep everything in perspective and keep their minds focused on that one thing; there is no time for doubt or disbelief. I have so many memories there are too many to talk about the championship run, but the best one is holding the trophy high in the air with all of my teammates."

The Huskies definitely played some of their best ball during the NCAA regionals as well as the World Series. The biggest game



(top) Jessica Ventoza holds the National Championship trophy after Washington won the title over Florida.

(above) Scenes of the Washington team that was shown on the big screen at a Seattle Mariners game, which honored the team.

that stands out was the 15 inning, 6-1 win against Massachusetts in the opening round of regionals. That spearheaded the Huskies run for a crown.

Washington then topped Georgia Tech 7-1 and 7-0 at the Super regionals earning them a ticket in the College World Series. At the WCWS, Washington won their pool by dropping Georgia 3-1 and, Arizona State 1-0 in eight innings, before falling to Georgia 9-8 in nine innings. They rebounded by dropping the Bulldogs 9-3 to earn a berth in the national championship series.

Continued Next Page >>>>

Ventoza part of national title team

<<<< Continued from previous page

It didn't take the Huskies long to take control of the series against No. 1 Florida, winning the opening game of the best 2-of-3 series 8-0. They then won the championship by dropping the Gators 3-2.

Ventoza said they played great during regionals and the World Series.

"Everyone was ready to go and we knew that we were there for one reason and we dominated," she said. "There were times where it got close but Danielle gets tougher every time she steps on the mound and that was the biggest momentum builder."

Ventoza said the big key for them was making adjustments. The Huskies lost just twice during the playoffs – once to Massachusetts at regionals 5-1 and then came back to win 6-1, and then to Georgia at the World Series. That loss, Ventoza said, gave them focus.

"Georgia was a tough team and had given us problems earlier in the season but we knew that we were better and that we belonged at the top," she said. "The second game we made better adjustments hitting, and defensively Danielle came out huge. She was mad and pumped and that's all it took."

Once the Huskies arrived back in Seattle with the national championship, the excitement really started to heat up for the softball team. Ventoza said there will always be a high in winning a national title. "It is one of the greatest feelings and I will never forget it," she said.

The celebration included plenty of special events, including meeting Seattle Mariners Ken Griffey, Jr. at a home baseball game.

"We had a police escort home from our chartered airplane and we were greeted at Husky Stadium with the band and about 200 fans cheering with the media everywhere," she said. "Then we all jumped into Lake Washington with all our travel gear on. Then a couple days later we threw out the first pitch at the Mariners game and got to meet Ken Griffey Jr. we were also treated with suite seats.

"A couple days later we had a banquet that was open
Continued Next Page >>>>



"To actually win a national title is one of the most amazing feelings ever, no one can ever take it from us and we have made history. We all rushed onto the field and embraced each other, crying, laughing, and yelling."

— Jessica Ventoza



Former Cougar Jessica Ventoza (second from left) along with her WNCC softball family (from left) WNCC softball head coach Maria Winn-Ratliff, Heath Martin, former WNCC admissions recruiter, and assistant softball coach Molly Bonuchi. The three were there to watch Ventoza's team, Washington, win a national title.

From the Cougar Vault



Dave Johnson putts on the golf course during a meet at the Scotts Bluff Country Club during a meet back in 1990.

Cougar Roars Dave Johnson

From the April 9, 1990, Arrow newspaper

An all-around athlete is an athlete who can play three or more sports fairly well. At WNCC, there are several individuals who fit that description and one of those is Cougar golfer Dave Johnson.

Johnson graduated from Sterling, Colo., High School in 1988, but went to Ft. Collins High School 2 1/2 years before Sterling. While at Ft. Collins, Johnson participated in golf, basketball and track. At Sterling, he played basketball and golf.

While at Ft. Collins the golf team won the state championship his junior year. Johnson was also an all-state selection in golf. Johnson was also involved student council in high school. As for basketball, Johnson said he was alright. "I had a couple of schools who wanted to give me partial scholarships to play basketball, but they weren't anything big," he said. "I thought about walking on the basketball team here, but I decided NAH."

One of the main reasons Johnson decided to come here was it was close to home. Johnson was also impressed with WNCC. "It's a fun school," he said. "It's small. My high school was three times bigger. But, the teachers do a good job and help you out a lot one-on-one."

As a freshman last year Johnson helped the golfers to the Region IX championship for the second straight year. At nationals he said he was a little nervous. "It was fun. There was pressure. You get a little bit nervous because there are other coaches from other schools there," he said. Johnson added that it was a good experience for the team this year.

This year's national will be played in Scottsdale, Ariz. The golfers spent a week in Arizona and New Mexico getting in some valuable practice time over spring break and getting used to the Arizona climate.

Johnson feels they have an excellent chance to repeat as regional champs and make a good showing at the national tournament. "I think we will win regionals again as long as we are all playing well and we play well at regionals

Ventoza part of national title

<<<< Continued from previous page to the public where about 200 more fans and media people came and we signed autographs and talked about our experience. That has basically been it for now, but we get to meet the President in the fall and we will receive our rings in the fall as well.”

Ventoza also appreciated seeing WNCC head coach Maria Winn-Ratliff, WNCC assistant Molly Bonuchi, and Heath Martin, who was an admissions recruiter for the Cougars and the PA announcer for the softball games at the College World Series, cheering on the team.

“It was amazing seeing them and I am so blessed to have been able to experience it with those three,” she said. “Each one of them mean a lot to me and have been there from the beginning of my time at WNCC. It was amazing walking up into the stands and hugging them with tears falling from our faces because this is what everyone plays and coaches for. I was able to experience the championship not only with a great team but with great support as well.”

Ventoza actually didn’t get to play in any of the games because of a torn lebrum in her hip. She did, however, see a lot of action in the first half of the season. Ventoza is expecting to have surgery later this month to repair her hip.

With her collegiate playing days finished, she is now looking for another chapter to begin in her live. She is hoping to be able to coach someplace, and if it is back in Scottsbluff, she will gladly take it.

“I plan on coaching somewhere but not sure where yet,” she said. “There is always the possibility of returning to WNCC. I have a special place in my heart there and I would not mind coming to be a Cougar again.”

In fact, Ventoza credits coming to WNCC for that one year back in 2006-07 that helped her horn her softball skills and give her that change to play at the Division I level.

“I would not have been at Washington if I had gone somewhere else [other then WNCC],” she said. “Coach Winn has been a big part to do with that as well as Molly.”

And as for that national championship ring, Ventoza is looking forward to that priceless piece of jewelry.

“It’s going to be sweet,” she said, “but it is not too big.”



Bytes computer wins golf classic

Twenty-eight teams took part in the 6th annual Western Nebraska Community College Cougar Golf Classic held Saturday at the Monument Shadows Golf Course in Gering.

The Bytes Computer team of Darrell Lewis, Doug Rupp, Mark Payne and Todd Lewis took home first place in the tournament, collecting the \$400 gift certificate to the pro shop.

Second place went to NTC (Phil Holiday, Jared Ross, Greg Trautman, and Brooks Batt), while the WNCC team (Dave Groshans, Dick Douglas, Junior Alvarez and James Chacon) took third.

Fourth went to the Beardogs, the all-female team of Stacy Mitchell, Wendy Goos, Stacy Celli and Joy Arnold, while fifth place went to Roy’s Plumbing and Heating (Roy Robles, Tim Rojas, Rob Robles and Larry Yarnall).

WNCC athletic director Jennifer Pederesen said the golf tournament went well.

“2009 was another excellent year for the Cougar Golf Classic. The weather was good and it was apparent that all of the golfers had a good time,” she said. “We all really appreciate how well the community supports this event and we look forward to another perfect tournament next year.”

Besides team awards, the golfers had an opportunity to win prizes at different holes. The winners of the hole prized included:

Hole 4, Longest Drive – Ron Robles; Hole 10, women’s longest drive, Brooke Dollarhide; Hole 18, Men’s longest putt, Ron Robles; Hole 2, women’s longest put – Becky Randall; Hole 5, closest to the pin in 2 – Matt Filbert; Hole 9, Closest to the water – Stacy Mitchell; Hole 12, closest to the sand – John



Top: The team of Bytes Computer, who won the golf tournament.

Above: Incoming women’s basketball player Maddie Keller puts for a team during a betting hole.

Below: Dingus McKee watches his tee shot during the classic.



Einfalt; Hole 8, men’s shortest drive – Tony Branson; Hole 15, women’s shortest drive – Rhonda Roth; Hole 13, Closest to the pin in 1 – Jeremy Dollarhide.

The search is on ...

Joyce resigns to take assistant coaching position at Division I Liberty University

In just two seasons at the helm of the Western Nebraska Community College men's basketball team, Brian Joyce has turned the program around.

Now, Joyce will get the opportunity to contribute to another quality program in Lynchburg, Va., after accepting an assistant coaching position at Liberty University.

"The people in this community, the administration at the school and the dorm parents have really embraced our family as well as our team and for that we are grateful," Joyce said. "It has been an honor to serve as the head coach at Western Nebraska and in the Scottsbluff community. Our family will miss the relationships through the church, Community Christian School and within the community. God truly blessed us with the opportunity to be with the people in this area."

WNCC athletic director Jennifer Pedersen understands why Joyce is leaving.

"As a department, we are saddened at the loss of Coach Joyce to Liberty University," she said. "While we understand the goals that each coach has to achieve at a higher level of intercollegiate athletics, we will still miss his presence on campus and in the community. We wish him well with his new endeavor. As a department, we will work hard to bring in a coach that will continue the winning tradition Coach Joyce has brought back to WNCC."

Last season, Joyce helped lead the Cougars to one of its best seasons in the last Decade. The Cougars finished 25-7 with the best record in Region IX. WNCC also won the East Sub-region and won 21 of their last 25 games. The Cougars also received votes in the NJCAA national polls the last three weeks of the season.

"My goal when my family and I came to WNCC and Scottsbluff was to re-establish the program as one of the premier programs again in Region IX," Joyce said. "Even though we didn't accomplish our ultimate goal of winning the region, we definitely proved that WNCC is a force once again in Region

Search to find head coach is a tedious job in a short turnaround

The process to find a new men's basketball coach is not as easy as 1-2-3. There are a lot of factors that go into finding a head coach, according to athletic director Jennifer Pedersen.

Pedersen said the process begins by opening the position for an certain period of time.

The college, in posting an advertisement, listed the candidate needs to be able to teach transfer-level college courses in one or more of WNCC's academic program areas, as well as the overall development of the men's basketball program.

Pedersen then said that a committee will be assigned by human resources director Dave Groshans that is comprised by several employees of the institution.

The committee meets and narrows the pool of applicants down to approx five to seven top applicants. The committee then makes a recommendation to the HR director regarding those applicants they would like to interview. HR then calls and sets up the interviews.

Pedersen said they will start looking at applicants within a week and try to get the field narrowed down as soon as possible to a coach in place ASAP.

"It's a long process," she said. "The committee really looks at resumes, qualifications, and experience. It's a difficult task to learn about people from a small stack of papers."

Pedersen is hoping to have a coach named sometime in July, the earlier the better, she said.

IX. Finishing with the best regular season record in the region is an example of the strides we made. These strides would have been impossible without the support of our boosters and most importantly our players. Coaches receive opportunities because players are dedicated to the program. These strides and relationships are a major reason why this is such a difficult decision for me and my family. "

Joyce has experienced plenty of success at the junior college level. Joyce has a 138-59 record as a head coach at WNCC and Northeastern Junior College. Overall, Joyce has over 11 years of college coaching experience, including a stop at Colorado State University and the University of Central Oklahoma as an assistant coach.

Colorado State is where Joyce met current Liberty coach Dale Layer. Layer served as the head coach at Colorado State before serving as an assistant coach at

Continued on next page >>>>



Brian Joyce goes through a drill during a practice earlier this season. Joyce resigned earlier this month to take a position at Liberty University.

Joyce takes position at Liberty

<<<< Continued from previous page

Liberty University in 2007-08 and last season Layer was an Assistant Coach at NCAA participant and Big East powerhouse, Marquette University. Layer was named Liberty's head coach in April. Last season, Liberty finished 23-12 and fell in the quarterfinals of the conference tournament.

Layer said Joyce will be a positive asset to the Liberty coaching staff.

"Brian brings head coaching experience, a tireless work ethic and excellent player relations to our coaching staff," Layer said. "He has achieved success at every stop in his career and brings a great deal of passion to our program. Brian and his family will be a welcomed addition to Liberty Basketball."

Joyce said he was offered the job and needed a few days to think about the position, since it will be hard to leave the Midwest for the Eastern states. Joyce is originally from Albuquerque, N.M., while his wife (Tina) is from Castle Rock, Colo.

"We are excited about the next phase of our life, both professionally and personally," he said. "I have enjoyed the privilege of working with young people who enter college from high school with both anxiety and ambition. Helping them move toward the goal of moving on to a four-year school both athletically and academically has been extremely rewarding. I am equally excited now to see the development of our student-athletes come to fruition by helping them complete the educational cycle by finishing a four-year degree and moving on to the important phase of becoming husbands, fathers, and mentors after graduating and completing their eligibility."



Former Cougar baseball player Giovanni Gonzalez dies in car accident while on patrol for department

Former Western Nebraska Community College baseball player Giovanni Gonzalez was killed in an automobile accident on Tuesday in Miami.

Gonzalez played baseball at WNCC during the 2004-05 season.

Gonzalez, 23, was a Miami-Dade police officer. He died after his police car collided with a dump truck on Florida's Turnpike. Rescuers worked to free Gonzalez, who was trapped in the wreckage. But by the time they pulled him out, it was too late. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Miami police continue to investigate the accident.

WNCC baseball coach Mike Jones remembers Gonzalez as a student-athlete that everyone enjoyed being around.

"As a person, he was awesome. He was a great individual and he was a very, very hard-working individual," Jones said. "He was a little bit undersized for a college baseball guy, but he made up for his size with his big heart."

After returning home to Miami, Gonzalez coached high school baseball before graduating from the police academy.

"It is terrible. It is tragic. It is tough for all of us," Jones said. "There have been a lot of phone calls and text messages going on with between everybody that has been involved with Giovanni and our program. He was a great teammate and a great individual to have in the program."

Gonzalez had dreams of becoming a major league baseball player. After one season at WNCC, Gonzalez returned home to Miami and coached a youth team before joining the Miami-Dade police. He just bought a house and was set to move in with his girlfriend.

The funeral Mass was held June 18 at the St. Raymond Catholic Church in Miami.

The full story can be found online on the Miami Herald website.



Teeing off

Junior Alvarez, with the Monument in the background, tees off during the Cougar Golf Classic on June 6 in Gering.

Phillips Orta pitching well at Single A Savannah

Former WNCC baseball player Phillips Orta is making an impression with the Savannah Gnats, which is a Single A minor league affiliate with the New York Mets organization.

In his latest appearance, Orta pitched two innings, striking out two and allowing one hit in a 7-3 loss to Charleston on June 21.

Orta had been pitching well, though, since being assigned to the Savannah team a few weeks ago after extended spring training. In two appearances against CSC on June 19 and 20, he did well.

In his first action since being called to the team on June 19, he pitched just one inning, allowing a earned run, striking out two and walking two.

He quickly got back on the mound the next night against the same team, going two innings and striking out two while allowing just one hit.

The Sand Gnats will have a six-game home series with CSC beginning Jan. 25 and running through Jan. 30. The team is currently at the all-star break and the team is 35-35 in the SAL Southern standings, five games behind division leading Greenville. The all-star game is slated for Tuesday, Jan. 23.

Orta was a 10th round draft pick of the Mets in the 2007 draft. Last season he was 1-1 with a 1.69 ERA in three starts at Rookie-level Kingsport and 3-3 with a 2.25 ERA in 11 relief appearances. He was then promoted to Class A Savannah, where he made two starts from Aug. 26-31.



Learning basketball

Scottsbluff's Dawson Mohr learns how to dribble a basketball during the second day of the boy's basketball camp.

RANDOM COUGAR THOUGHTS

	Insect you would like to eat	Favorite store	Lacrosse, rugby, or rowing	Cat name	Favorite vegetable
 <p>Mateus Chaves Men's Basketball</p>	<p>Live Fish Bait</p> 	<p>Staples</p>	<p>Rugby</p> 	<p>Charlotte</p> 	<p>Broccoli</p> 
 <p>Lorena Medeiros Women's Basketball</p>	<p>Mosquito</p> 	<p>Nike</p> 	<p>Lacrosse</p> 	<p>Tucker</p> 	<p>Spinich</p> 
 <p>Gianni Bianconi Men's Basketball</p>	<p>Crunchy Cock Roaches</p> 	<p>Polo Ralph Lauren Store</p>	<p>Lacrosse</p> 	<p>Shembe</p> 	<p>Peas</p> 
 <p>Sierra Schmidt Volleyball</p>	<p>Lady Bug</p> 	<p>Aeropostale</p>	<p>Lacrosse</p> 	<p>Otis</p> 	<p>All of them</p> 

Basketball camps take center stage

The Western Nebraska Community College girl's and boy's basketball camps saw nearly 50 girls and over 50 boys take part in the four-day event recently at Cougar Palace.

There were 44 girls that took part in the girl's camp held June 15-19. The girls ranged in age from six years old to 14. Girls from Omaha, Rapid City, S.D., and many Panhandle communities such as Chappell, Oshkosh, Bayard, Mitchell, Bridgeport, Hemingford, Gering and Scottsbluff, to name a few took part.

The three local women's basketball players – Hemingford's Shelby Campbell, Bayard's Amber Kistler and Scottsbluff's Maddie Keller helped with the camp along with WNCC women's coaches Dave Harnish and Jennifer Pedersen, and WNCC men's assistant coach Gianni Bianconi.

The next week, Bianconi conducted the boy's basketball camp that featured over 50 boys ranging in age from six to 15. The boys camp taught the boys skills from dribbling, shooting, passing and offensive and defensive situations.



Trevor Schwartz of Gering goes up for a shot during the boy's basketball camp that was held June 22-25 at Cougar Palace under the direction of Gianni Bianconi

Top: Precious Campbell of Hemingford looks to keep the ball away from Alysha Schwartzkopf of Scottsbluff during the girl's basketball camp.

Above: Three of the campers during the girl's basketball camp show off their shirts they received. The three are Scottsbluff's Sally Welsh and Allie Boggs, and Gering's Emma Sterkel.

Cougar News Blog Poll Question

Latest Question and Results:

Who is your pick for outstanding Cougar athlete overall, regardless of sport?

Fatima Balza, volleyball — 7 (58%)

Francisco Cruz, men's basketball — 1 (8%)

Katie Groves, softball — 3 (25%)
Terri Huntington, women's soccer — 1 (8%)
Those were the only one that received votes.
Number of voters: 12

Current Poll Question
Who would you like to see as the next men's basketball coach?

2009-10 Incoming Cougar Players

Freshman coming to WNCC next year

Volleyball

Emily Hoehn Kearney, Neb.
 Kuulei Kabalis Hilo, Hawaii
 Tania Torres-Delgado Camuy, Puerto Rico
 Sierra Schmidt Gering, Neb.
 Kathryn Stock Thibodaux, La.
 Ariel Austin Woodland Park, Colo.
 McKenzie Westphal Scottsbluff, Neb.

Baseball

Camilo Baldelomar Miami, Fla.
 Joel Perez Miami, Fla.
 Jacob Stutzman Wood River, Neb.
 Tim Beard Holt, Australia
 Sidney Jones Le Ceiba, Atlantida
 Luis Martinez San Pedro Sula, Cortes
 Joel Perez Miami, Fla.

Softball

Alexandra Alverson Tooele, Utah
 Brittany Ashley Akron, Colo.
 Katie Hill Broomfield, Colo.
 Ashton Hughes Regina, Saskatchewan
 Amanda Saldivar El Paso, Texas
 Jordan Schoepflin Arvada, Colo.
 Afton Bartz Ft. Collins, Colo.
 Megan Bourdon Duck Lake, Saskatchewan
 Michelle Glaze Brighton, Colo.
 Charlotte Horsley Loveland, Colo.

Women's Basketball

Kelli Culver Arvada, Colo.
 Khayla Gladney Westchester, Calif.
 Madison Keller Scottsbluff, Neb.
 Tynetta Turner San Diego, Calif.
 Shelby Campbell Hemingford, Neb.
 Abigail Banta Colorado Springs, Colo.
 Tiffany Moorer Harbor City, Calif.
 Soulijah Evans Spring Valley, Calif.
 Ariane Brown Colorado Springs, Colo.
 Taylor Puttergill Mullen, Neb.
 Michelle Glaze Brighton, Colo.

Men's Soccer

Pedro DeLeon Las Vegas, Nev.
 Marcel Fernando Silva Sales Americana, Brazil
 Kareem Hernandez Lafayette, Colo.
 Miguel Leon Caracas, Miranda
 Kevin Lopez Denver, Colo.
 Jose Macias Aurora, Colo.
 Koulessi Franck Marcellales, Brazil
 Casey Zigray Ft. Collins, Colo.

Women's Soccer

Jordan Lutkin Greeley, Colo.
 Lyanne Hernandez Layfayette, Colo.
 Miriam Alfaro Denver, Colo.
 Johanna Barrera Barrio Las Villas, Bogota
 Hillary Cito Arvada, Colo.
 Brittany McNiell Milliken, Colo.
 Cristina Soto Longmont, Colo.
 Jessica Taylor Longmont, Colo.

Men's Basketball

Orion Hughes Aurora, Colo.
 Dusin Murray Wilson, N.C.
 Joe Stock Thibodaux, La.
 Mateus Chaves Brazil

Sophs that have committed for next year

Volleyball

Fatima Balza Penn State
 Nayka Benitez Creighton University
 Paloma Alvarez Western Carolina

Softball

Kelsey Garner University of Troy
 Alec Voci Adams State

Men's Soccer

Cesar Bazano Baker University
 Carlos Miranda Baker University
 Nikko Ouzounis Taylor University

Women's Basketball

Tawny Drexler U. of San Francisco
 JuJu Bassetto York College
 Lorena Medeiros York College
 Shaquillah Davis Arkansas Tech
 Michelle Lighthall U. of Colorado-Colorado Springs

Men's Basketball

Chris Hamblin Mississippi Valley State
 Daniel Smith Morgan State

Women's Soccer

LeeAnna Paxton Weber State

As WNCC coaches sign new players for next year, this list will keep getting bigger. For pictures of the players and more information, check out the Incoming Cougar Players page on the Internet at sports.wncc.net.



Athletic yearbook DVDs, Facebook now available

There is another DVD out there for individuals to view and cherish. This time it is a 45-minute athletic yearbook, detailing accomplishments of all seven sports over the past year.

The DVD is in sections with a section of just the players, athletic staff, and then the seven sports. After that, there is the athletic banquet pictures as well as graduation pictures.

The DVD is put to music or sound bits from the voice of the Cougar Matt Williams.

To get you DVD, just email me at mrein@wncc.net and one will be sent to you. Also, you may stop in at the college either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday to get you DVD.

If you want to preview sections of the DVD, in a lower quality and not with the same background music, visit youtube.com and do a search for Western Nebraska Community College. The videos are also linked off the individual sports webpages located at sports.wncc.net.

WNCC, Region IX now on Facebook

You want to track WNCC and Region IX athletic events? Now you can as WNCC and Region IX now have Facebook pages.



The WNCC Facebook site is more than just athletics, it is all college news, events and photos. There is plenty of information at that site. To become a fan of WNCC, just go to the main WNCC sports webpage and click on the Facebook logo.

The Region IX Facebook page is just getting started as it went live on Tuesday. To become a fan of this Facebook page, just go to the Region IX Athletic page (link is on the top of the WNCC athletic page) or go to regionix.wncc.net, and become a fan.

The purpose of this site is a way for colleges to get scores and highlights of games out to the public whenever they can. All someone needs to do is write on the wall of the Region IX Facebook page the information.

Schedules, rosters, photos and upcoming games and tournaments will also be posted on the website. Region IX colleges can also post events or games so people will know around the country what is going on at the school.

If anyone has any suggestions for the Region IX Athletic website, please forward them to mrein@wncc.net.

Athletic banquet DVDs still available

Missed the WNCC athletic banquet and a chance to listen to Tricia Downing inspirational talk? You still can listen to the speech as well as what all the coaches had to say about their season as they gave out their MVP awards.

There are a handful of DVDs still available from the athletic banquet. To request your DVD, just e-mail me at mrein@wncc.net and a DVD will be delivered or mailed to you.

The DVD is about 2 hours in length and features all seven sports' awards plus the all-campus awards and Downing's speech.

\$100 Club

Monthly Winners

Next year's \$100 Club winners will start in September. If interested for the new year, contact Pedersen at 308-635-6798.

June winners

\$50 — Mary Barkaloo, Mitchell

\$100 — C. Kabalis, Hilo, Hawaii

\$150 — Alma Fisher, Lakewood, Colo.

May winners

\$50 — Debra Willis, Cleveland, Ohio

\$100 — Monte & Cheryl Reisig, Scottsbluff

\$150 — Lori Graham, Lakewood, Colo.

April winners

\$50 — Tim Weimer, Ft. Morgan, Colo.

\$100 — Rebecca Shields, Gering

\$150 — Bob Fedro, Midland, Texas

March winners

\$50 — Chuck Russell, Minatare

\$100 — Kyndal Burgner, Scottsbluff

\$150 — Neal Blomenkamp, Gering

February winners

\$50 — Nancy Dillman, Scottsbluff

\$100 — Carmen Egging-Draper, Dalton

\$150 — Shelly Meisner, Gering

January winners

\$50 — Marv and Ann Green, Gering

\$100 — Mary Lou Blackham, Utah

\$150 — Carmen Egging-Draper, Dalton

December winners

\$50 — Eileen Ely, Scottsbluff

\$100 — Dan Kinney, Gering

\$150 — Jim Kozal, Scottsbluff

November winners

\$50 — Lori Graham, Lakewood, CO

\$100 — Karen Gibson, Rawlins, WY

\$150 — Betty Simpson, Alliance

October winners

\$50 — Sami Webb, Scottsbluff

\$100 — Cheryl and Monte Reisig, SB

\$150 — Ed Ratliff, Scottsbluff

September winners

\$50 — Ray Blomenkamp, Gering

\$100 — Ronda Roth, Gering

\$150 — Neal Blomenkamp, Gering

Booster
of
the
Week

LINWELD

Linweld has been a supporter of Cougar Athletics for a number of years, whether buying a Frontline Banner or sponsoring a team or hole in the annual Cougar Golf Classic. Linweld is one of those businesses that not only supports Cougar athletics, but high school and youth sporting events around the Panhandle Linweld, which is located on the Scottsbluff/Gering Highway just south of the river bridge, Stop in or call them for all your welding needs at 635-1333.

Alumni Corner

Alumni information received previously

Amy (Mitchell) Teets (1997-99) — Amy played volleyball for the Cougars on the 1997 and 1998 teams under head coach Michelle Gomez. She is now a freelance graphic designer in St. Louis.

Tom Georke (1990-92) — Tom played for the Cougar men's basketball team from 1980-81. He was also on the tennis team at the college as well. Tom is now teaching 7th and 8th grade math at St. Thomas More School in Centennial, Colo.

Dodi (Heim) McCloud (1980-82) — Dodi played on the women's basketball team in 1981 and 1982. She moved to Nashville, Tenn., in 2003 and is working for Nashville YMCA and also the Nashville Wraps. She also worked for Bass Pro Shops and while there, she met someone that she played against in college. She relates the story, "There was this real nice lady that introduced herself to me and we became great friends but the cool thing about it is that she played for McCook Community College but she is originally from Minnesota. I am originally from Nebraska. She also played in the years of 1981 and 1982. We both were point guards, therefore we would have had to have been up against one another so the point is...one...it's a small world...and two...there's a God given reason for certain paths to cross!!! True story and she is an awesome person and friend!"

Alumni information received previously

Brooks (Ehler) Talkington (1991-92) — Brooke played volleyball for the Cougars under Coach Michelle Gomez. She is now a physical education teacher in Scottsbluff and is married to Shane. They have two kids, Brayden (13) and Tate (5).

Peggy Johanssen (1980-82) — Peggy graduated from Bayard high school and played for women's basketball for Harvey Schmidt. She also wrote for the college newspaper the Spectator and went on to have a broadcasting job. She is now a civil rights investigator for the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Development in Miami.

Christy (Johnson) Torrens (1995-97) — Christy Johnson played volleyball for WNCC from 1995 - 1997, graduating in May of 1997. From WNCC she was offered a full-ride scholarship to Eastern Kentucky University. ECU is a DI program within the Ohio Valley Conference. Unfortunately, all of my credits transferred as electives so I lost 55 of my 62 credit hours by transferring to ECU. Although they were willing to keep me on the roster and continue to pay for 3 more years of my schooling, I decided it was time to go back home. So, Christy went back to Denver and started working in the professional world while taking some time off from school. Eventually, I put myself through college and graduated in March of 2007 with a BA of Science in Interior Design. I am currently attending Indiana University - Purdue University in Indianapolis and working on a Master's in Technology with an emphasis on Facilities Management. Christy is recently divorced and living in Highlands Ranch, Colo., where she is a facilities manager for Comcast Cable. She said she thoroughly loves her career! Christy is now playing the sport again that she enjoyed when she dedicated her life to.

Roxanne (Rohn) Chintale (WNCC 1989-1990) — Roxanne played for volleyball for Michelle Overby-Gomez and is excited to see the volleyball program excelling. Roxanne was a setter when she played. She is now coaching at Meeker High School in Meeker, Colo.

Alejandro Barrientos (WNCC 2005-06) — Alejandro played for the Cougars in the 2005 and 2006 seasons, graduating with an associates degree. He is now attending the University of Wyoming in Laramie, pursuing a bachelor's degree in structural engineering, as well as working as a resident assistant.

Jackie Jensen (WNCC 1997-1999) — Jackie played for Harnish from 1997-99 helping the team to the national tourna-

ment. Jackie was a lively player, who ran the guard position. She later went up to Chadron State. Jackie is now living in Douglas, Wyo., and working as a food service manager for the Converse County School District.

Doug Chappell (SJC 1953-55) — Doug played basketball for the Scottsbluff Junior College teams from 1953-55. He played for Bob Conner his freshman year, helping the team to a 12-6 record, and then Roy Kisling his sophomore year as the team went 14-7. After college, Doug worked at Scottsbluff High School from 1957-1995 as a math instructor and later as a guidance counselor. He also was a part-time math instructor at WNCC for four years.

Julie (Cook) Kuhlman (WNCC 1982-84) — Julie competed for the women's basketball team during the 1982-84. After WNCC, Julie transferred to the University of Wyoming and then started her teaching and coaching career at Albin, Wyo. After two years at Albin, Julie moved to Glenrock where she was an assistant volleyball and track coach, and the head girls basketball coach. Julie is still at Glenrock, serving as the activities director as well as teaching PE. She is married to Mark, who is a math instructor at Casper College, and has two sons ages 13 and 8.

Travis Ottey (WNCC 2001-2003) — Travis played baseball for the Cougars from 2001-03. Travis came to WNCC from Australia. He is currently married and living in Perth, Australia, managing a picture framing company.

Roy Pedersen (SJC 1958) — Roy played football for the Cougars back in 1958, helping the team to a 3-6-1 record. He later went to Southern Nazarene University and prepared for his Pastoral Ministry, graduating in 1963. He has been the pastor of seven churches. He currently lives in Visalia, Calif. He has written a book, "The Gift of the Journey."

Nikki Marotta (WNCC 2003-2004) — Nikki played soccer on the school's first two teams, helping them to a 19-1 record in 2003. She is now coaching Neosha County Community College in Kansas.

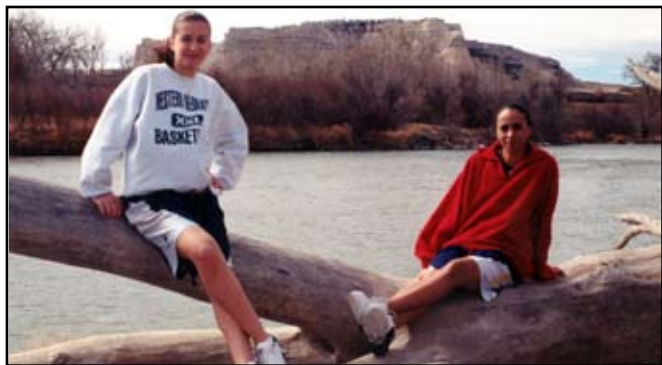
Adam Freeburg (WNCC 2000-2003) — Adam red-shirted for the Cougars 2000-2001 and then played in the 2001-2002 and the 2002-2003 seasons under Trace Bevell. He came to WNCC after a successful year at Southeast High School in Wyoming. He is currently in his second year teaching physical education at Gering High School as well as the assistant high school football coach, the head freshman boys basketball coach, and the sprint coach for the high school track team. Adam lives in Gering.

Rick Kinner (WNCC 1994-1996) — Rick came to WNCC after a heroic career at Scottsbluff High School. He graduated from WNCC in 1996 after two years of playing basketball and then accepted an athletic scholarship to Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, Calif., and played for two years in the Big West Conference. Rick set the Cal Poly record with eight 3-pointers in a game against University of Pacific. He graduated from Cal Poly with degrees in MIS and Criminal Justice. Rick has lived in San Francisco for five years, working for software companies Peoplesoft and Oracle. He now lives in Paris, France, since 2005, working for Business Objects and SAP. Rick currently enjoys the arts, improving his French and visiting regions in Europe. He said he enjoys spending time with parents, who still resides in Scottsbluff and brothers living in Vermont.

Christina (Petty) Westyn (WNCC 1997-99) — Christina played for WNCC from 1997-1999. After WNCC, she went to Chadron State and played for two years. Christina is now a teacher and she is said she is almost done with her master's degree. She currently lives in Denver and is a single mom with two kids.

Krystal (Williams) Pryor (WNCC 2003) — Krystal or Ritter
Continued next page

Alumni Corner



WNCC athletes come from all over and these two ladies came from Turkey to play basketball for Dave Harnish. Here, Didjem Tok and Sevinc Guler spend a day at the river.

of what many people called her, played for Rick Carpenter on WNCC's first womens soccer team that went 19-1. After leaving WNCC, Krystal continued playing soccer at the College of Saint Marys in Omaha, where she also ran cross country, winning the conference meet, regional meet and placing 13th at nationals. She graduated from CSM in 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in pre-law. She is currently the lead litigation paralegal for a large law firm here in Omaha.

Jennifer Kaan (WNCC 2001-2003) — Jennifer played volleyball for Chris Green for the 2001-02 and 2002-03 seasons after being an standout athlete at Crawford High School. She then went on to Colorado State University where she got her degree in Apparel Merchandising. Jennifer then moved to Las Vegas in 2005 and works at MaxMara at the Palazzo.

Georgann (O'Neill) Martinez (WNCC 1992-93) — Georgann played high school sports at Wheatland, Wyo., and then played volleyball for Michelle Gomez from 1992-1994. Georgann is now a Mortgage Loan Officer and Assistant Vice President at First State Bank in Wheatland.

Simon Kerle (WNCC 1988-89) — Simon played for Soupy Campbell back in the late 1980s. Simon is now living back in his home country of Australia.

Brian Trivette (WNCC 2001-2002) — Brian played baseball for the Cougars on their inaugural team. He is now married, living in Leesburg, Ga., where he is teaching 8th grade and coaching baseball at Lee County High School.

Riley Parkinson (WNCC 2006) — Riley, who played for the Alumni Corner Cougars in 2006, is now on a mission for the The Church of the Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, serving in the Florida Tallahassee Mission. He will be released from the mission in May 2009, and plans on playing college baseball again. He graduated from Mountain Crest High School in Utah in 2005.

Josh Kupfner (WNCC 2004-06) — Josh played baseball from 2004-06 and is in the process of finishing up his degree. he is working for Level (3) Communications.

Brenda (Schwarzkopf) Pszanka (WNCC 1990-92) — Brenda played volleyball for the Cougars from 1990-92 as a middle hitter. Brenda still stays involved in Cougar and area sports. She is currently a third grade teacher at Northfield Elementary in Gering. Shelly (Donahue) Yank (WNCC 1977-79) — Shelly was the Cougar mascot Cougars during the late 1970s.

An alumni page is getting started on the Cougar Athletic webpage and a complete listing of what the former athletes are doing will be on that page. So, if you are you a former Cougar player, please let me know what you are doing now and anyother other information. You can email me at mrein@wncc.net or even connect with me through Facebook. I will be posting past photos through there in the near future.



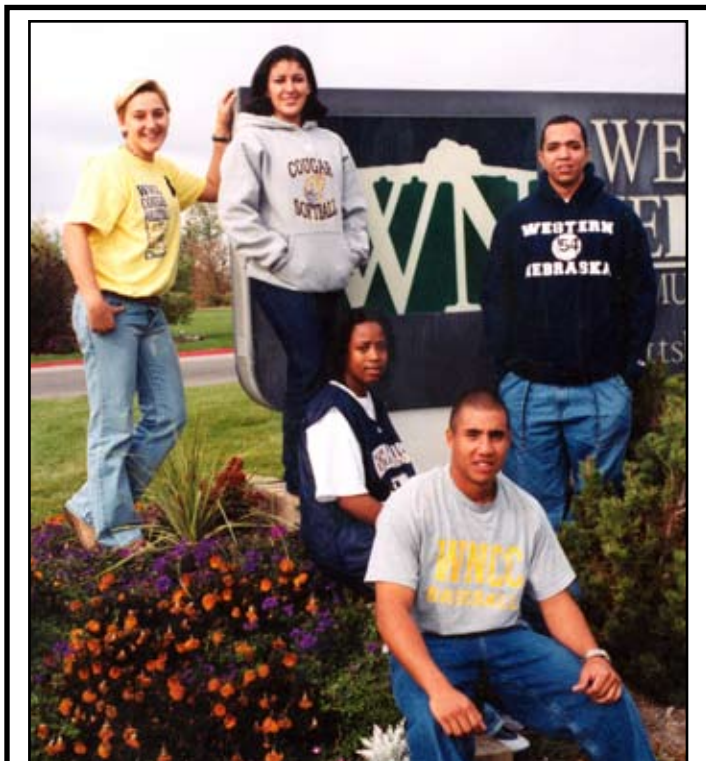
Cougar volleyball undefeated in sub-regional tourney

From the Saturday, August 26, 2006, Cougar News Blog. The blog was only a month old. This was the fifth story on the site

The WNCC volleyball team opened the 2006 season in impressive style at the South Sub-region tournament in La Junta, Colo., Saturday finishing the tournament with an unblemished 5-0 mark. The team defeated all of the south sub-region teams, including a big win over North-eastern Junior College. The Lady Cougars started the day by rolling over Trinidad State Junior College 30-9, 30-16, 13-15. The team followed that up with impressive, hard-fought victory over North-eastern Junior College 30-26, 23-30, 15-11. The team also claimed

Alumni Special

a win over Otero Junior College 30-10, 30-14, 15-12 to start the season at 3-0. WNCC coach Chris Green said that freshman setter Soriana Pacheco has been playing well, while freshman Stacie Meisner had a strong serving game. The Cougars finished off the tournament by sweeping Lamar Community College 30-11, 30-13, 15-12 and then running through McCook Community College 30-11, 30-15, 15-11. Leticha Kuhn paced the team with 10 kills against McCook. Assistant coach Amy Winters said that they played everyone and was running different lineups throughout the final two games.



Media guide front cover

This was one of the photos that was taken for the front of a media guide in early 2000s. So, do you remember all these players? Try to guess and let me know. One should be familiar.



Let me tell you how to play

Oh, boy, who are these two Cougar coaches and yes, they both are here. If you can't believe the one photo, take a look and you will see that baseball coach Mike Jones is explaining how to play laser tag with women's basketball coach and athletic director Jennifer Pedersen. More alumni and old photos will keep being run in all the newsletters.

Townsend switches from basketball to rodeo

As published in the March 16, 1992, college newspaper, The Spectator.

Alumni Special

Former Lady Cougar basketball player Colleen Townsend is riding high at Black Hills State in Spearfish, S.D.

This year, though, instead of dribbling around a court, it's more like galloping around an arena for the 5-foot-10 Townsend.

Townsend, who graduated last year from WNCC, is a member of the Black Hills State rodeo team and is currently ranked second in Breakaway (one of the rodeo events). Townsend's teammate is in first place only \$10 ahead of Townsend.

If Townsend stays in the top two in the region, she will be able to participate at nationals. The national collegiate rodeo championships will be held the first part of June in Bosman, Mont.

"The farthest we will travel is Ames, Iowa and Lincoln," Townsend said. "Then every weekend in April and May we are away to places like Dickinson, N.D., Huron, S.D., and Brookings, N.D."

Townsend, who has been around horses since the age of three, enjoys rodeo. She added it is also less painful.

"I have always like horses and I like the speed," she said. "Townsend started rodeoing at age five running barrels and poles in 4H. Townsend said Rhonda Sedgewick and Donna Baldwin-Hunt helped her the most in rodeo while living in Newcastle, Wyo. Her favorite event is roping (or breakaway).

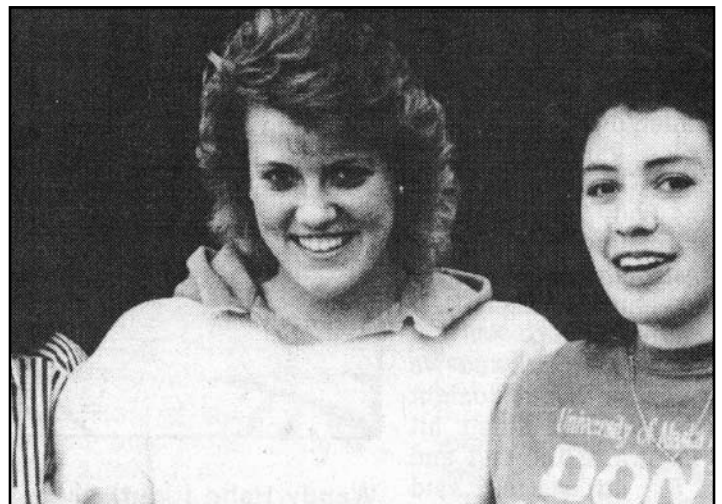
"I like roping because it's a quicker event and it deals more with my ability. It takes eye/hand coordination while barrels deals more with the horse's ability," Townsend said. "Also, it's cheaper."

Townsend said that some people will spend \$10,000 to \$12,000 for a fast horse to do barrel racing.

Townsend, who hails from Newcastle, Wyo., has three named Tick, Duz and Bay. "They all have their own personalities and characteristics," she said.

While Townsend was playing basketball at WNCC, she suffered torn anterior cruciate ligaments her freshman year which required surgery. Then, her sophomore year, she reinjured the knee. That's one of the reasons why she choose rodeo, because it is less painful.

"Now, I have a fitted brace which I wear because my ligaments are torn on both sides," she said.



Colleen Townsend, former Lady Cougar, went from playing basketball at WNCC to rodeoing at Black Hills State College when she was in college from 1989-1994.

It was also an injury in high school that led her to WNCC, but only it was to her horse.

"I was in rodeo a little bit in high school for two or three years until my horse came up lame," Townsend said. "Then I started to play basketball more seriously."

In Townsend's two playing years at WNCC (she was at the college three years because of the knee injury) she was a major force. Townsend tallied 340 points and 206 rebounds. Townsend was the same type of player as Maggie Sharp (current Lady Cougar in 1992) — physical.

Townsend is playing basketball at Black Hills State, but it's on the intramural level.

"I play on an intramural team, but it's not as serious," she said. "It's hard to go from a college team to intramurals. They are out there to have fun and dink around."

Townsend still keeps in touch with Dave Harnish and Loretta Uhrich, WNCC basketball coaches, and some former players. Townsend stopped by the college with her horse Feb. 1 during the Air Force Prep game to visit with the coaches and friends.

WNCC softball sign several players for next year

The WNCC women's softball team came up short of repeating as Region IX champions, but still the team had a solid season, finishing third at the Region IX championship, co-conference champions and topping the season with an sparkling 42-18.

Next year things could be just as rosy if not even more peachy. The team returns plenty of talent from this past season's team. On top of that, WNCC coach Maria Winn-Ratliff has some top freshman coming into the program. She is excited for next season.

"I am very pleased with the young ladies that we have coming in this year," she said. "We have a good mix of pitching, hitting, speed and power. I think we are going to be very athletic and deep in our lineup."

The incoming freshman that already signed letter of intents include players from all over. Winn-Ratliff commented on all the newcomers.

Jordan Schoepflin, 5-6 pitcher from Arvada West in Arvada, Colo. — "Jordan is a competitor that will work hard both on the field and in the classroom."

Katie Hill, 5-0 utility from Broomfield, Colo. — "Katie is a fireball. She will bring a lot of spunk to the team and will compete both in the infield as well as the outfield."

Afton Bartz, 5-8 utility/pitcher from Ft. Collins, Colo. — "Afton is a natural athlete. She has a tremendous amount of power at the plate."

Alex Alverson, 5-7 outfielder from Tooele, Utah — "Alex is a great young lady. She has great foot speed, arm strength and glove. She will help provide speed in our outfield."

Brittany Ashley, 5-10 utility player from Akron, Colo. — "Britt is a gifted athlete. She brings a variety of options to the field and

Youngest Bourdon excited to come here

Megan Bourdon is looking forward to playing softball at WNCC next season. And she is not worried about following in her two older sisters, Lauren and Jaclyn, footsteps, who also played softball here.

"Both my sisters came here and they really liked the experience," the youngest Bourdon said.

Bourdon played four sports at Stobart Community High School in Duck Lake, Saskatchewan, Canada. The 5-foot-4 catcher did basketball, volleyball, badminton and track and field. Then, in the summer, she played softball. She was also named the 2008 Athlete of the Year.

It is softball that led her to WNCC, especially since her oldest sister Lauren helped lead the Cougar softball team to the national tournament two years ago.

"Softball and my sisters said WNCC has a really good nursing program," she said. "So, I hope to get some classes that will help me get into the nursing program."

Her goals are simple: to bring another regional title to the college.

"I want to work hard at school and softball," she said.

is a tremendous student."

Ashton Hughes, 5-6 utility/pitcher from Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. "Ashton is one of the most versatile athletes that I have ever had in this program and it is going to be exciting to see where she fits in the lineup. She has a great work ethic and is a great student as well."

Amanda Saldivar, 5-0 utility player from El Paso, Texas. "Sally is a one of a kind player. Very hard work and a quick learner. I have the privilege to coach her in the past and she is a delight to have in our program. She is a triple threat and will see time both in the infield as well as the outfield."

Megan Bourdon, 5-8 utility/catcher from Duck Lake, Saskatchewan, Canada. "Megan is a Bourdon and they know how to compete. She is the youngest of the Bourdon sisters that have been Cougars. She can catch and play outfield. She is a competitor and will work hard everyday."

Michelle Glaze, 5-8 utility from Brighton, Colo. — "Michelle will also play basketball at WNCC. She works very hard both on the court and on the field and knows how to compete."

Winn-Ratliff still is looking for a few more players to fill out the roster. She expects to sign four or five more players, including a couple pitchers.

The Cougars will compete in three tournaments during the fall season — Sept 11-13 with the WNCC Classic, Sept. 26-27 for the Triple Crown Classic in Ft. Collins, Colo., and Oct. 2-4 with a tournament in Idaho.

The spring season will start Feb. 18-21 with a trip through Kansas followed by six home contests in March and April. WNCC will also host the Region IX tournament March 7-9 with hopes of getting to the national tournament March 20-22 in St. George, Utah.

A nose for the ball

When you lose a game at a basketball camp, the winning team gets to decide your penalty. Well, that is happened during the Cougar girl's basketball camp held earlier this month as these girls had to push a basketball with their nose for losing a mini game. Over 40 girls were in attendance of the camp.





Camp picture

The participants in the WNCC boys basketball camp's morning session get together for a group picture during the final day of camp on June 25. Participation certificates along with an end of camp pizza party concluded the camp for the younger boys. There were over 50 boys from around the Panhandle that took part in the camp.

2009 Fall Volleyball Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Sat., Aug. 15	Colby Scrimmage	Cougar Palace	7 p.m.
Sat., Aug. 22	Alumni Scrimmage	Cougar Palace	7 p.m.
Fri., Aug. 28	Iowa Western Invite	Council Bluffs, Iowa	TBA
Sat., Aug. 29	Iowa Western Invite	Council Bluffs, Iowa	TBA
Fri., Sept. 4	Salt Lake Invite	Salt Lake City, Utah	TBA
Sat., Sept. 5	Salt Lake Invite	Salt Lake City, Utah	TBA
Tues., Sept. 8	Eastern Wyoming College	Torrington, Wyo.	7 p.m.
Fri., Sept. 18	Pizza Hut Invitational	Sterling, Colo.	TBA
Sat., Sept. 19	Pizza Hut Invitational	Sterling, Colo.	TBA
Tues., Sept. 22	Casper College	Casper, Wyo.	7 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 24	Wyo-Braska Shootout	Cougar Palace	TBA
Fri., Sept. 25	Wyo-Braska Shootout	Cougar Palace	TBA
Sat., Sept. 26	Wyo-Braska Shootout	Cougar Palace	TBA
Tues., Sept. 29	Eastern Wyoming College	Cougar Palace	7 p.m.
Thurs., Oct. 1	Otero Junior College	La Junta, Colo.	7 p.m.
Fri., Oct. 2	Lamar Community College	Lamar, Colo.	7 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 3	Trinidad State Junior College	Trinidad, Colo.	1 p.m.
Tues., Oct. 6	McCook Community College	Cougar Palace	7 p.m.
Fri., Oct. 9	Seward County Invite	Liberal, Kan.	TBA
Sat., Oct. 10	Seward County Invite	Liberal, Kan.	TBA
Tues., Oct. 13	Northeastern Junior College	Cougar Palace	7 p.m.
Thurs., Oct. 15	Otero Junior College	Cougar Palace	7 p.m.
Fri., Oct. 16	Lamar Community College	Cougar Palace	7 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 17	Trinidad State Junior College	Cougar Palace	1 p.m.
Thurs., Oct. 22	Casper College	Cougar Palace	7 p.m.
Wed., Oct. 28	Northeastern Junior College	Sterling, Colo.	7 p.m.
Fri., Oct. 30	McCook Community College	McCook, Neb.	5 p.m.
Th-Sat., Nov. 5-7	Region IX Tournament	Sterling, Colo.	TBA
Th-Sat., Nov. 20-22	National Tournament	Council Bluffs, Iowa	TBA



**Western Nebraska
Community College**

2009 Cougar Volleyball Camps

Register online at www.wnccvolleyball.com

1) Little Cougars Camp (4th-6th grades)

July 1 & 2, 8:30-11:30 a.m. & 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$60 per camper (lunch on your own)

2) Individual Skills I (7th-8th grades)

July 7 & 8, 8:30-11:30 a.m. & 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$60 per camper (lunch on your own)

3) Setter/Hitter I (6th-9th grades)

July 9 & 10, 8:30-11:30 a.m. & 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$80 per camper (lunch on your own)

4) Individual Skills II (9th-12th grades)

July 14 & 15, 8:30-11:30 a.m. & 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$60 per camper (lunch on your own)

5) Setter/Hitter II (10th-12th grades)

July 16 & 17, 8:30-11:30 a.m. & 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$80 per camper (lunch on your own)

6) Team Camps (JV and Varsity)

July 30 & 31: competition starts at 8 a.m.

Cost: \$30 per player

Camp Instructor
Giovana Melo
WNCC Head Coach



Giovana Melo will begin her second year as the head coach at WNCC. In her first year, she led the Cougars to a 53-4 record and a third place finish at the national tournament.

Melo is no stranger to volleyball, having played for the Cougars in the 2001 and 2002 seasons and leading them to the national tournament. While attending WNCC, Melo earned second team NJCAA All-American honors her freshman year and first team All-American honors her sophomore year. She helped guide the Cougars to a 104-14 record in two seasons, including a third place finish at nationals in 2001.

After WNCC, Melo went on to play for Arizona State University, where she played two seasons, before tearing her ACL in her senior season for the Sun Devils and had to use a red-shirt season. She earned PAC-10 All-Academic honors in 2005.

*For more information, contact
Volleyball Coach Giovana Melo*

*WNCC: (308) 635-6028
Email: melog@wncc.net*

2009 Cougar Soccer Camps

**Western Nebraska
Community College**



Camp 1 — for Recreational Players July 20-24, 9 a.m. - 12 noon

The aim of this camp is to help players of all ages with their soccer abilities. The camp will have fun and creative activities planned, as well as small-sided games. There will be professional instruction from WNCC staff coaches and players. The camp will run from 9 a.m. to 12 noon each day. Players under 8 years of age that attend will attend from 9-11 a.m. and the cost will be reduced to \$75. The camp will be held at the Alan C. Landers Soccer Complex, located on the corner of 5th Ave and 42nd.

For: Recreational players of all ages and abilities
Cost: \$90 per camper, \$75 for ages 8-under from 9-11 a.m.
Includes: WNCC camp T-shirt and camp ball

Camp 2 — for Advanced, Competitive Players July 20-24, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

The aim of this camp is to help players finetune their their soccer abilities in a more competitive arena. The camp will be more intense than the morning session, with fun and creative activities planned, as well as small-sided games. There will be professional instruction from WNCC staff coaches and players. The camp will run from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. each night. The camp will be held at the Alan C. Landers Soccer Complex, located on the corner of 5th Ave and 42nd. Evaluations for advanced players available upon request. There will also be a 3-day goalkeeping camp for interested individuals during the sessions.

Note: Advanced players will be evaluated and grouped on the first day of camp and may be directed to the morning session if coaches believe they would benefit more from the morning camp.

For: Recreational players of all ages and abilities
Cost: \$90 per camper, \$75 for ages 8-under
Includes: WNCC camp T-shirt and camp ball

**Online registrations at
www.wnccsoccer.com**

2009 Soccer Camp Dates July 20-24

9 a.m. - 12 noon for Recreational Players

5:30 - 8:30 p.m. for Competitive Players

Cost: \$90 for one session, or \$160 for both

Soccer Camp Instructors

Todd Rasnic just finished his fourth year as the men's soccer coach and third as the women's coach and the one thing that makes Rasnic stand out is his passion for soccer. Last season, he guided the women's team to the Region IX championship and was one win away from the district championship.



With that kind of track record, the WNCC soccer program is in good hands under the guidance of Rasnic, who has been involved in the American Youth Soccer Organization program locally and nationally, holding a national AYSO coaching license.

He also has been a part of the AYSO here and coached in the Reccos Futball soccer program the past nine years. Reccos is a traveling program for advanced players from the local AYSO program. He has also officiated for AYSO, high school and college the past 15 years.

NOTE: Campers should have enough water or sports drinks for the camp. Also, campers **MUST** wear shin guards, as well as bring bug spray.



Summer activities

For WNCC baseball coach Mike Jones, the summer is filled with plenty of baseball. In fact, Jones lives baseball for 12 months. This summer Jones is coaching the Gering Platte Valley Companies senior legion baseball team. The Gering team will finish up their season the last part of July with Area tournaments. Here, Jones is coaching third base in a game against Rapid City 320 on July 24 at Oregon Trail Park.

Shop the Cougar Bookstore for all your Cougar items

Now shop online at
bookstore.wncc.net
and have the items
shipped straight
to you!



The Bookstore has everything
from activewear, casual wear,
fleece, hats, women's, kids, outer-
wear, T-shirts, and gift items.

Cougar Frontline Patrons

Platinum Sponsors

Ameristar Tours
Ideal Linen
Peerless Tire
Pepsi Cola
Platte Valley Companies
Quickcare
Runza Restaurant
TEAM Chevrolet

Gold Sponsors

Americo Carriers
FBG
US Bank
Nebraska Transport

Blue Sponsors

Arby's
B&C Steel
Bluff's Chiropractic
Bytes Computer
Chaloupka, Holyoke and Hofmeister Law
Clemen's Carpet
Dale's Tire
Domino's Pizza

Douglas, Kelly, Ostdiek Law
First National Bank
First State Bank
Fisher Roofing
Gary's Cleaning & Restoration
Gering Valley Plumbing & Heating
Hampton Inn
Heilbrun's Auto Parts
Hullinger Glass
Inland Truch Parks
Lampighter-American Inn
Linweld
Ole' Restaurant
Perkins Restaurant
Pinnacle Bank
Playhouse Skate & Fun Center
Print Express
Regional West Medical Center
Roosevelt Public Power
Safetyline Consultants
Sandberg Implement Inc
Scottsbluff Screen Printing
Simmons Olsen Law Firm, P.C.
Sports Racquet
Star-Herald

Taco Town
Valley Bank
Vertex Outsourcing

White Sponsors

Carr Trumbull Do It Center
Culligan Water
Family Gentle Dental — Dan Peterson
Floyd's Sales and Service
Hillyard
Panhandle Coop
Rusch's Construction
Valley Dental — Todd Pieper
Wendy's
Western Heritage Credit Union

Booster Club Members

Mary Wuest
Roger & Joan Green
Pat Lee
Dan and Jennifer Kinney
Schnell Family
Jeanette Johnson
Friend of Cougar Athletics