

Recent Wauneta-Palisade High School graduate attends UNMC

Written by Wauneta Breeze
Thursday, 11 July 2013 16:42 -



Jenae Bischoff, a student studying for pre-clinical laboratory science, was accepted into the RHOP program through Chadron State College. (Courtesy Photo)

By Christi Christner

The Wauneta Breeze

Jenae Bischoff, daughter of Rhonda and Bill Bischoff, was accepted into the RHOP program through Chadron State College (CSC).

Bischoff is no stranger to the Wauneta community. She is a three year alumnist of Wauneta-Palisade High School, where she spent all of her high school career.



BRONCO TRAILS

**A series featuring stories
of Wauneta and
Wauneta-Palisade Alumni**

This story is part of an ongoing series focused on telling the stories of Wauneta and Wauneta-Palisade High School Alumni who have made an impact on their communities, within business or in the lives of others.

Those who would like to suggest other alumni to feature in the series should contact Sheri Hink-Wagner at waunetabreeze@bwtelcom.net or 308-394-5389.

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Bischoff was involved in many extra curricular activities during high school. She played volleyball, basketball and softball all four years and did track for three years.

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Student Council (STUCO), National Honor Society (NHS), Speech and One-Act were other activities she was involved in.

Bischoff served as both the vice president and president of STUCO.

During high school Bischoff caught an interest in science during her Advanced Biology class her junior year.

Wauneta-Palisade science teacher Teresa Hayes helped Bischoff further her interest by helping her get the opportunity to job shadow Lori Mendenhall at the Chase County Community Hospital.

Mendenhall, who was the lab manager at the time, has also played a huge part in Bischoff's career choice, she had gone through the RHOP program at Wayne State.

Bischoff plans on being a pre-clinical laboratory scientist, which means she will be performing analytical tests on body fluids, cells and products to help physicians diagnose diseases, select and monitor treatment and counsel for prevention of diseases.

One of her favorite things about pre-clinical science is the microbiology requirements.

Microbiology is the study of microorganisms. For example bacteria, viruses and fungi.

Right now Bischoff is working at the Chase County Community Hospital. She is certified in phlebotomy which means she can draw blood for testing, transfusions, donations and or

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research.

To be a certified phlebotomist, you have to take a course or class and have clinical experience.

At Chadron, Bischoff is involved with a Health Club. It is an organization that is meant for people who are going into the health profession.

They do fundraisers to raise money and are involved with some community services.

Through her health club, Bischoff went to Jamaica for ten days on a missions trip.

In Jamaica, Bischoff and her team held a medical and dental clinic. They saw about 90 patients a day.

What is RHOP

RHOP, Rural Health Opportunity Program, is a medical program that encourages rural Nebraska residents to pursue a health career.

The program is offered at Chadron State College (CSC), where Bischoff is going, or Wayne State College (WSC).

There is a certain criteria you have to meet to be selected.

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You have to have academic potential, commitment to practicing in rural areas in Nebraska, must graduate from a Nebraska high school and be a resident of Nebraska.

There is a special consideration that is given to students from Nebraska counties that have less than 25,000 or communities of 10,000.

Bischoff applied through CSC. She met their requirements after going through paperwork and a couple of interviews.

Bischoff will be going through an 11 month program through UNMC (University of Nebraska Medical Center).

For three months she will be at UNMC in Omaha.

The next eight months Bischoff will go to Scottsbluff and do rotations.

The RHOP program has been helping future rural health care students for many years.

When asked if the process was extremely difficult Bischoff says, " If I can do it, anybody can."

Bischoff advises other high school students who are interested in going into the medical field to not let money or anything stop you. "Once you realize you want something, go for it."