

By Jan Schultz

The Imperial Republican

Two college athletes who are graduates of Chase County Schools were in the national spotlight with their collegiate teams last week.

Scott Ohlson, a senior at Doane College, ran with the Tiger cross country team at the NAIA national meet, while RyAnn Spady, a sophomore at North Platte Community College (NPCC), played in last week's Division II national NJCAA volleyball tournament.

Ohlson was a 2006 CCS graduate, while Spady graduated in 2008.

Ohlson finished third for his team, running 138th overall in the men's division, as the Tigers finished in 28th place at the Nov. 21 meet in Vancouver, Wash. Ohlson crossed the finish with a time of 27:21 on the 8K course.

In the same meet, Nebraska's Concordia College finished second in team standings, behind national champion Malone College of Canton, Ohio, which won the meet a third consecutive season.

Volleyball nationals

NPCC pulled some upsets, and finished ninth at last week's national volleyball tournament in Wisconsin Dells, WI.

Spady was the starting libero on North Platte's team this season.

The No. 13 seed Lady Knights lost their opening match on Thursday to last year's national champion, Kishwaukee College (Ill.), in three straight, 23-25, 19-25 and 16-25.

But, they pulled a couple of upsets in the loser's bracket, first defeating No. 12 seed Iowa Lakes in four, 25-23, 25-23, 15-25 and 25-17.

Then, NPCC beat No. 9 seed Hagerstown (Md.) Community College, losing the first game 20-25, but coming back to win the match by taking the next three games, 25-22, 25-17 and 25-23.

The Lady Knights earned the ninth place finish after a defeat Saturday of the No. 10 seed Glendale (Ariz.), 20-25, 25-16, 25-21, 14-25 and 15-9.

Illinois Central overcame Cowley (Kan.) Community College in the championship finals Saturday night.