

Rasmussen checks off bucket list items

Story By
Terri Licking

Some of us have a bucket list of things we want to do in our lifetime. For many going to Australia is on their list. Tenley Rasmussen, 18-year-old daughter of Heath and Kris Rasmussen of Thedford, was able to check that one off her list.

Rasmussen, the valedictorian of Thedford High School this spring, was invited to play in a basketball tournament down under in Australia. She is an all-around athlete, excelling in basketball, volleyball and track. She won four medals in her last state track meet this year in Omaha and six total in her four years of high school. She also competed on the Nebraska High School rodeo circuit. The invitation came because of her prowess on the basketball court mid-year in her junior year.

"It was a tough decision because I love rodeo as much as basketball so I knew I had to give up my last season of that to do this. It was down to the wire when I committed to go to this tournament. It was an opportunity of a lifetime for me," Tenley said.

After her decision was

made she began a fundraising campaign. Among her fundraising activities were selling baked goods and a 50/50 raffle. Tenley's mother, Kris accompanied her on the trip.

"I am so glad we had this experience together. My parents have always been my biggest cheerleaders. My dad Heath and sisters Whitley and Kaley stayed home to care for our ranch and the cows."

The 2022-23 high school year allowed her to play with her sister, Whitley, a freshman.

"Seeing us both on the court at the same time was one of my mom's bucket list items."

Rasmussen was successful in her fundraising and the pair were gone from June 6 to 17. They left from Denver, flew to Los Angeles, then to Sydney and finally arrived in Melbourne, Australia June 8 after a 15 1/2 hour trip. The tournament was held June 10-12 and they stayed over for more sightseeing as being in Australia may not ever happen again for either of them. Part of the package included going to Brisbane to a Wildlife Sanctuary and petting a kangaroo.

There were 815 teams of various ages and both

genders from all over the world in the tournament.

"Our team USA had eight members in the 18-year-old girl's bracket. Two of us were from Nebraska, two from Las Vegas, Nevada, one from Michigan, North Carolina, New Mexico and Texas. The other Nebraska player was Catherine Bryner from Alliance."

"We will get to play against each other in college, so that is pretty neat. We played a total of six games. We had one practice, lasting an hour and a half. The exciting part was we won the tournament in our age division," Tenley adds.

Besides the trip, playing in an international tournament was scratched off her bucket list as was sea kayaking with dolphins, whales and sea turtles. She even surfed.

"There were many amazing moments, but surfing had to be the top of the list. The instructors said don't worry if you can't stand up on the board the first time, but I did."

Kris made sure she recorded plenty of photos and shared them on her Facebook page.

Tenley left for Morning-side University in Sioux City, Iowa on August 20. She received a scholarship to play basketball. Playing collegiate ball



Photo By: Kris Rasmussen

Tenley Rasmussen, front row right, with her other Team USA members in Melbourne, Australia.

was on her bucket list for several years. Before she left she was able to see Whitley begin her sopho-

more sports season on the volleyball court at the Gatorade scrimmage in Thedford on August 18.

Another item she did not know was on her bucket list, but is now crossed off.

Sign-Up For A Library Card Today

Get in Your Element this September—sign up for a library card.

From borrowing books, e-books, and to getting homework help, learning new skills, or attending story time, a library card helps you do more of what you enjoy. Get a library card and dive into a new hobby. Use your library card to spark your creativity. A library card is your most important school supply—it's elemental, really—and everyone should have one!

Do you have friends who don't have a library card? Invite them to sign up during September.

OverDrive's free Libby app is the easiest way to get started with digital books, audiobooks, and magazines from your

public library. Libby is available for Android, iOS, Windows 10, and some Chromebooks.

The Thomas County Library Bookmobile will be near Brownlee on Wednesday, September 13th.

The Bookmobile will also be in Halsey on Wednesday, September 13th and Wednesday, September 27th. The Thomas County Library also serves the community of Tryon. The Bookmobile will be in Tryon on Thursday, September 14 and Thursday, September 28.

If you don't have a library card, the Bookmobile staff can help you obtain one. Adult Books are also available on the

Bookmobile.

Please call the Thomas County Library if have questions. (308) 645-2237. Library hours: Monday 1:00 pm - 4 pm, Tuesday 10:00 am - 4:30 pm, Wednesday 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, Thursday 10:00 am - 4:30 pm. Friday CLOSED.

Thomas County
Bookmobile Schedule
Brownlee

September 13, October 11, November 8, December 6, January 10, February 7, March 6, April 3, May 1 and June 5

The bookmobile will be near the Craig Miles residence at 10:30 to 10:45 a.m.; Brownlee School at 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. and Goosecreek School at 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.

Halsey

September 13 and 27, October 11 and 25, November 8 and 22, December 6 and 20, January 10 and 24, February 7 and 21, March 6 and 20, April 3 and 17, May 1 and 15 and June 5.

The bookmobile will be parked near Sandhills Elementary from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Tryon

September 14 and 28, October 12 and 26, November 9 and 21, December 7 and 21, January 11 and 25, February 8 and 22, March 7 and 21, April 4 and 18, May 2 and 16 and June 6.

The bookmobile will be parked near Tryon Elementary from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Photo By: Kris Rasmussen

Tenley Rasmussen makes a friend while she was "down under" in Australia.

Thomas County Sheriff assists with DUD arrest

A tip by a motorist and a call by a local business resulted in the arrest of a 60-year-old Kansas man Friday, August 18. A call was made to dispatch at approximately 5:00 p.m. in reference to a disoriented driver. He had hit the cement barriers at the gas pumps at Kimber's, got fuel and took off after paying inside.

Logan County Sheriff Sean Carson was notified that the person was northbound on U.S. Highway 83. Thomas County Sheriff Joseph Smith was called to assist in stopping the suspect.

A report was also received from a Kimber's employee that a person had been following the vehicle and the driver was all over the roadway.

Sheriff Smith stopped the vehicle approximately five miles south of Thedford and Sheriff Carson was on scene five minutes later.

They identified a disoriented man who was

bleeding from his head, arm and side. Sheriff Smith contacted Thedford Fire & Rescue to tend to the man's injuries and Sheriff Carson investigated his condition and discovered he was under prescription medication, Zolpidem a generic for Ambien, a schedule 4 controlled substance.

Lance Jording was arrested for DUD (driving under the influence of drugs). Alcohol was also retrieved from the vehicle, but Sheriff Carson was not able to detect alcohol consumption.

Jording had a driver I.D. only and no driver's license. He was cited for DUD, no driver's license and driving left of center.

Due to his injuries he was cited and released and Thedford Fire & Rescue took him to Great Plains Health in North Platte for treatment.

Jording is scheduled to appear in Logan County Court, Tuesday, September 12.

Nebraska Stockman's Tour scheduled in Ogallala

You are invited to the Nebraska Stockman's Tour. The program will be held at Ogallala Livestock Auction Market, 1507 W. 1st St., Ogallala NE. Check-in is September 7th at 12:30 Mountain Time with the program starting at 1:30 pm.

This is your chance to

get Beef Quality Assurance certified as well as gain knowledge on beef production and handling. Topics and speakers for the tour are:

Controlling Flies and Lice on Livestock by Dave Boxler, Nebraska Extension Educator.

Livestock Behavior Principles by Ruth Woiwode,

Nebraska Extension Animal Behaviorist.

Livestock Handling Techniques and Tips (Demonstration) by Randy Saner Extension Educator and Ruth Woiwode Nebraska Extension.

BQA Training and Certification by Jesse Fulton, Director of Nebraska Beef

Quality Assurance, NE Extension

For more information and to register for the program contact Randy Saner by phone 308-532-2683 or by e-mail to rsaner2@unl.edu The cost is \$20 per person payable at the event which includes your BQA certification.

Send in grouse wings to help wildlife management

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission will conduct its annual grouse wing collection during the upcoming upland season starting Sept. 1.

Hunters in the zone east of U.S. Highway 81 already are required to send in wings, but hunters in the zone west of the highway also are encouraged to participate.

Hunters in the east zone are required to have a "special grouse permit" prior to hunting, in addition to a hunt permit and habitat stamp. This special grouse permit is free, but availability is limited to 400 overall and one per hunter. Requests for this permit are accepted in person at the Game and Parks headquarters in Lincoln, by phone at 402-471-5410, by mail or by email at ngpc.eastzone-grouse@nebraska.gov.

East zone hunters will be issued a hunt diary to record their hunting effort.