

UNL students finalists for British scholarship

In recent competition for Marshall Scholarships, UNL did better than all other schools which vie for the scholarship in an 11-state Midwest district, according to Ted Beck, Associate Professor of English at UNL.

Of the 32 Marshall finalists interviewed in Chicago last spring, only five attended state supported universities, and of these five, four were from UNL, Beck explained.

UNL finalists in Marshall competition were Scott Cooper, a senior majoring in zoology; Suzanne Schafer, a senior majoring in integrated studies, John O'Shea, a senior anthropology major and Mike Balters, a UNL graduate.

O'Shea was also one of the 32 national Rhodes Scholarship winners who will study for two years at Oxford University in England.

None of the Marshall finalists have yet been notified of winning, according to Joan Wadlow, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

The fund was established in 1953 by the British government "as an expression of British gratitude" for the European Recovery Program instituted by Gen. George Marshall after World War II.

Both men and women are eligible for Marshalls, unlike the more publicized Rhodes which is given only to men. Marshall winners can study for two years at any university in the United Kingdom,

according to scholarship terms.

During the six years that UNL has competed for Marshall Scholarships, six of its students have been finalists, said Beck.

Beck said he has guided students interested in applying for scholarships for several years.

"I have been enormously impressed on how many of our students have reached the Marshall finals. These students at UNL could compete with any in the U.S.," he added.

Despite this success, Beck said UNL must continue to upgrade its quality of education before it can be considered one of the nation's top academic institutions.

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