A Dazzling Night on the Town

Razzle Dazzle was one of the highlights of FLP in the beginning of first semester. It was a great getting to know not only your mentor group experience but everyone. The first event, the shoe question game, was a great kick off for the rest of the night. There were several events that took place over the whole night. One of the best was the marshmallow snowball fight. At first it was not too bad because that marshmallows were still puffy but towards the second and third rounds of the fight the marshmallows became sticky and globbed together making it much more interesting. The scavenger hunt was also a good bonding event for the individual mentor groups. It helped us to get to know our group much better by the way that each individual went about fulfilling the requirements of the hunt. Razzle Dazzle was a fantastic kick off to the beginning of a great year in FLP, and a great way to spend time in awesome weather.

By Andrew Scott

The High Wire Act

Imagine waking up at 6:30 am to the sound of “The Hampster Dance” at full volume. Well that is just how the day of the FLP ropes course started off. The wild and crazy morning began with breakfast and a long bus ride with a lot of singing. Once there we were split into three groups. Each group rotated on the challenges. The First challenge that my group encountered was the team ropes course. This was meant to challenge our team work and communication skills. There were a variety of obstacles to attack including ones where physically leaning against each other was the only way to complete it. The reward for this task was getting to ride the zip-line. These challenges were great and really forced us to get to know each other.

The Second Challenge that my group faced was ground level activities that had a lot of doing with balance. Some of the activities included walking with a partner that slowly grew in distance from each other. We also had to have about 10 of us balance on a 3 foot by 3 foot plank and sing a song while maintaining our balance. The last activity that we did there was the Trust Fall. This was a great way to help those who were quieter really feel like they connected to us because it forced them to put their faith in us that we would catch them.

The Third set of Challenges we faced were individual based. It was to challenge ourselves to see how far we could push ourselves physically and mentally. There were rockwalls to scale, swings to cross, a balance beam to run and tight ropes to cross all while hovering in air. The day concluded with a bus ride full of sleeping FLP’ers after a day in the life of a circus performer.

By Peter Freeze
FLP’ers Give, and Gain, in Weekly Service Roles

It’s Tuesday afternoon, which means that all the FLP’ers are piling into Creighton vans bound for their designated service sites. The weekly, or biweekly, hour of service at a local Omaha center, provides an opportunity for us freshmen to serve – as well as be served by – the community. The places we visit include the Omaha Boys & Girls Club, which provides programs and activities for children in the Omaha area who need it most; the Hope Center, which provides support for poor youth in North Omaha; and Lindenwood Nursing Home, which provides care for the elderly.

One of the favorites, by far, is Precious Memories child care center. Over the past few years, Freshman Leadership Program has developed a special relationship with “Grandma” Verna and her kids at the daycare. This daycare will take any child, regardless of parents’ inability to pay or any disabilities the child may have. This makes Precious Memories a very special place, and consequently one where FLPers love spending time playing with the children.

My service site is Jackson Elementary School’s program called Campfire USA. This after-school program provides 90 elementary schoolers with sports, activities, games, tutoring, homework time, and library time. When my group gets there at the end of the school day, the kids are bursting with energy, happy to be done with school and excited to go to Campfire. They surround us seven FLPers, competing for hugs and smiles, babbling with details of their days. In a population that is about 68 percent Hispanic, some of the younger kids cannot even speak English, but they still find ways to communicate with us in the form of bright smiles.

From there, the children break into groups; some play soccer (the third grade boys giving the college freshmen a run for their mon-