

# Future Therapist Wins Scholarship

### Optimist Turns Unfortunate Accident into Positive Career Choice

They say that every cloud has a silver lining. For most people, watching a friend recover from a serious injury, and then sustaining an injury themselves would definitely be a negative experience. For Andrea Kuipers, these unfortunate experiences would steer her towards a career choice. Now, after winning the Basin Electric scholarship, Andrea will have an extra \$1,000 to help her achieve her goal of becoming a physical therapist.

Andrea is the daughter of Ken and Donna Kuipers of Platte. She is currently a senior at Platte Community School. Upon graduation, she plans on attending Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa, to major in psychology and minor in biology. She then plans on completing her

**“I realized that physical therapy would be an awesome way to help people.”**

graduate work at a physical therapy school.

Andrea says she first thought of becoming a physical therapist when a classmate suffered a head injury in an automobile accident. After watching her recovery, Andrea was impressed with the progress her friend made while undergoing therapy. Andrea says, “That is when I realized that physical therapy would be an awesome way to help people.”

As if this experience wasn't enough, the decision was firmly cemented in Andrea's mind after she injured her shoulder during her junior-year volleyball season, and had to experience therapy first-hand as a patient. Due in part to the efforts of her physical therapist, Andrea returned to the



court in half the estimated recovery time, and with her career choice confirmed. Andrea says, “I want to do that for people. I want to make them feel better and get better more quickly.”

During her high school years at Platte Community, Andrea has

been active in a variety of sports as well as band/chorus, drama club, and cheerleading. She is a three-year member and officer of the National Honor Society. Her leadership abilities were recognized by the Governor of SD at a luncheon for outstanding students. In keeping with her desire to help others, Andrea also spends time mentoring and tutoring other students. Andrea stays active in her community through several church youth group activities.

We congratulate Andrea on her outstanding academic achievement, and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.



A volleyball injury could have sidelined Andrea Kuipers, but she managed to turn it into a positive experience.

## Easter Greetings



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