

tuesdays with Kipp...



(...and Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and Fridays...)

Goodnow Hall's Advisor of the Year
2004-2005

Throughout the year, Kipp has truly devoted himself to loving others, to the community of Goodnow Hall, to the individuals he advises, and to creating an atmosphere in which he can serve a purpose and inspire others to create something that gives themselves purpose and meaning. The above quote from "Tuesdays with Morrie" illustrates the life that Kipp Van Dyke, Residence Life Coordinator, lives as an Advisor in Goodnow Hall.

"So many people walk around with a meaningless life. They seem half-asleep, even when they're busy doing things they think are important. This is because they're chasing the wrong things. The way you get meaning into your life is to devote yourself to loving others, devote yourself to your community around you, and devote yourself to creating something that gives you purpose and meaning."

-Morrie Schwartz, in "Tuesdays with Morrie" by Mitch Albom-

Mondays with Kipp

...Advising Resident Assistants, a Multicultural Assistant, and an Assistant Residence Life Coordinator...

In late August, fourteen undergraduate staff members moved into Goodnow Hall ready to begin the 2004-2005 school year. Some of these staff members had worked in Goodnow Hall previously and the rest were new to the staff role. Anticipation mounted as training began and the staff of Goodnow Hall had the opportunity to see what their new supervisor would be like. Kipp Van Dyke did not disappoint.

From the very beginning, Kipp set the tone for what the year would look like. Each day of training, Kipp kept a positive attitude and encouraged his staff to "have fun." During the long hours of training and check-in, it was Kipp that could always be found smiling and encouraging a staff member. There was never an issue too big to handle or a question too small to ask. With that foundation laid, staff members were more willing to suggest new ideas, voice concerns, and ask for help.

Kipp kept the positive attitude as his staff became busy with classes, meetings, and their personal lives. As a first year Residence Life Coordinator in Goodnow Hall, Kipp did have some obstacles to pass. While Kipp faced the challenge of being "the new guy" in Goodnow Hall, he embraced this challenge and remained patient as staff spoke about how things "used to be done." Kipp's patience began to pay off as staff members began to see the heart he had for his staff and Goodnow Hall as a whole. *"Being a 3rd year RA, it was hard for me coming into this year not knowing my RLC and not knowing what to expect for my last year on staff. After meeting Kipp and working all year with him, I am happy to say that it was a great experience and he made the transition good for me with his openness for advice and his support and encouragement for me. I am glad that I had the chance to meet and work on Kipp's first staff team at KSU."*-Tiffany Happer, Goodnow Hall Lower Terrace Resident Assistant

Kipp has continued fostering a positive working environment. He has kept an open mind to new ideas, while sliding in his own theories every now and then. In late January, four staff members approached Kipp and suggested the program idea of "I Know What You Did Last Night." This program had never been done at Kansas State before. They knew the idea was a bit risky, but Kipp provided some feedback and gave them the encouragement they needed to proceed with their idea. Not only does Kipp encourage creative programming, but he encourages staff support at programs. It's easy to ask staff to go to one another's programs, but it's



a different story to attend nearly every program yourself. Kipp has done this throughout the year, sometimes bouncing from program to program in a single night. He makes sure to let a staff member know if he won't be able to make it, and he always offers feedback after a program has ended. His consistency in supporting staff in this manner has encouraged other staff members to follow his lead and attend programs. When staff members asked Kipp to serve as a second auctioneer for the annual Goodnow Hall Date Auction, Kipp eagerly agreed and did a fantastic job.



Many times this year, Kipp has opened up his apartment for movie watching, game playing, and socializing with his staff members. On two particular nights, his generosity really made a mark on female staff members. In need of a “get-away”, Kipp offered to let the female staff members use his apartment one evening. *“I really appreciate his willingness to support the staff. He has opened up his apartment several times even when he was not there for the staff's use. One occasion when he opened his place was instrumental in the connections formed among the female staff; it was that night that strong bonds for the spring semester were formed.”*-Aaryn Clark, Goodnow Hall 4th floor Resident Assistant

Kipp opened up his apartment once again in February for the female staff to host a “Bachelorette Finale” party. This had been a tradition from the previous year for many of the female staff and their former supervisor. Kipp recognized the importance of this tradition and allowed the female staff members’ use of his apartment for the entire evening. These acts, while perhaps not impressive to some, speak volumes about Kipp’s passion to connect with and support each of his staff members.

As part of his fall supervisory responsibilities, Kipp directly supervised nine Resident Assistants (RAs), the Multicultural Assistant (MA), and the Assistant Residence Life Coordinator. During the spring semester, his responsibilities remained the same with the exception of one RA. The Assistant Residence Life Coordinator was looking for more experience and thus Kipp entrusted her with the responsibility of supervising an additional RA. Kipp meets one on one with each staff member he supervises once a week. These meetings have become a key opportunity for Kipp to become invested in his staff members on a more personal level.

“Kipp always wants to know how my life is going outside of Goodnow. This makes me feel like he wants to actually know me as me, and not just as one of his RAs. It's good to know that my boss wants to hear about my life and not just about work related stuff.”-Carolyn Wenzel, Goodnow Hall 6th Floor Resident Assistant

“Kipp Van Dyke has been more than a supervisor to me. He's become a friend. I can't help but respect the way in which he finds commonalities with everyone he meets, so as to connect with everyone on a solid, personal level. Kipp knows that I enjoy photography and twice he's taken me out so we could photograph whatever we could find around the city. Often I'll find Kipp successfully connecting with other staff members, too. I don't get angry if he's busy relating to them. I don't get jealous of my connection with him. I know that Kipp values the quality of the relationships he has with the people around him, especially who he works with, and I am thankful for it.”-Nicolas Kline, Goodnow Hall 6th floor Resident Assistant



“Kipp Van Dyke has been like no other advisor I have ever had. He has the admirable skill to instantly become interested in the lives of anyone he meets. This skill is aided by the fact that he is knowledgeable about a great deal of activities in life. If he isn't the most knowledgeable person about something, he strives to improve. As my advisor, he has acted more as a peer and a friend. Kipp is always there when I need him. He can calm me, motivate and encourage me, make me laugh, and solve any problem. I believe what makes Kipp such an outstanding advisor is that he gets to know you on a personal level. He has done this not only with me, but with almost every one of the residents of Goodnow hall.”-Dustin Duntz, Goodnow Hall 1st floor Resident Assistant

While Kipp does not serve as a direct supervisor to five of the Resident Assistants in Goodnow Hall, he still strives to form the same type of relationship as what he has with his supervisees. *“I got the opportunity to run with Kipp the other day and I told him it was a little less than three miles. Well it turned out it was about four, but I must say I wasn't the slight bit sad I had mistold him the mileage on our trek. I haven't been "advised" in my one*

on one's with Kipp this year and I really haven't had too many opportunities to just hang out with him, largely due to my own schedule, but I was incredibly excited when I called him up and he said he wanted to go running. Well it was a blessing just getting to talk with him and hearing his heart for Goodnow Hall. He has a delicate balance between focusing on the now, yet planning for the future. He has done an amazing job for his first year as a Hall Director and I look forward to hearing more about his love for Mr. Rogers and Kermit the Frog."

-Kyle Baack, Goodnow Hall 4th floor Resident Assistant

"I have personally valued my interactions and conversations with him. They have been thought-provoking and meaningful. I will be excited to hear about Kipp's growth next year because he has laid a strong foundation to build upon from his advisory role to the Goodnow Hall HGB and to the RAMA staff this year."-Aaryn Clark, Goodnow Hall 4th floor Resident Assistant

Tuesdays with Kipp

...Advising a Hall Governing Board and Judicial Board...

During the fall semester, Kipp co-advised the Goodnow Hall Governing Board (HGB), HGB executive board, and the Judicial Board. During the spring semester, Kipp has continued to co-advise the HGB and Judicial Board (J-Board). Kipp has been a constant encouragement to the young leaders of Goodnow Hall, providing them issues to think about when planning programs, suggesting ideas for new ways to do things, and providing support when things become a little frustrating. Kipp recognizes that their positions are done on a voluntary basis, and encourages recognition for HGB's hard work in Goodnow Hall. *"It's hard to believe this is Kipp's first job outside of college. He is already a seasoned pro and his transition to K-State has been remarkable. From the residents to the board members and the staff of Goodnow, Kipp has left a positive mark that will live on through all of us."*-Skip Cowan, Goodnow Hall Events Coordinator



While Kipp hasn't always been able to answer questions that HGB and J-Board members have asked, he does everything possible to find the answer and follow up as quickly as possible. *"The first time I met Kipp I thought, 'Great, he's new at this and won't know anything, and I'll be on my own throughout the entire year working on Judicial board stuff.' But he proved me completely wrong. I was correct in thinking that he didn't know much at first, but he worked hard on it, he called people to find answers, he spent hours on end to find answers to problems and to find the correct way to deal with situations. He talked with me numerous times just so we could figure little things out. By the end of the year we had everything working smoothly and I know I would have ripped my hair out because of frustration if Kipp hadn't helped me along. Even after he has helped put a sanction down on someone, they still come to him for advice and you could even say 'mentoring.'*-Kurt Rotering, Goodnow Hall Chief Justice

Kipp can be seen not only promoting nearly every HGB program, but also in attendance at it. And at points, has even participated in the presenting of programs. During Goodnow Hall's "Matters of the Heart Week," Kipp



facilitated a program titled "Sex in the Dark," which provided residents with the opportunity to ask questions about the opposite sex. In addition, Kipp assisted with promoting the "Goodnow Hall Date Auction" by performing a song with staff members at the Association of Residence Hall's (ARH) meeting. *"Kipp Van Dyke was one of Goodnow Hall's Governing Board Supervisors. As the president of Goodnow Hall I was greatly impacted by Kipp. I had one-on-ones with Kipp where I acquired excitement and encouragement. Many times through HGB Kipp has given encouragement to the Hall Governing Board. At the Hall*

Governing Board Spring Retreat Kipp gave the closing statement to encourage and motivate the board members to exceed in all ways. Kipp has also gone above Hall Governing Board and has attended Association of Resident Hall's meetings. The most memorable meeting is when Kipp played his guitar and other Goodnow Hall Staff sang

to ARH to promote Goodnow Hall's Date Auction. The effect that Kipp has had on Goodnow Hall's Governing Board has assisted in the success of Goodnow Hall."-Aleigha Ford, Goodnow Hall President

Wednesdays with Kipp

...Interacting with 600 residents...

One of the most admirable traits of Kipp is his desire to connect with each and every resident. *"I don't think I've ever seen an RLC as dedicated and as observable in the hall as Kipp. Everyone knows who he is, because he's always getting to know the residents in the hall and they are attracted to his contagious personality. He's hilarious at times and serious at times, but I believe that he uses the perfect blend of personality to get through to his staff and residents in the hall. It has been my pleasure to work for Kipp this year, and I look forward to working with him in the future."*-Nathan Vallette, Goodnow Hall 5th floor Resident Assistant

Early in the fall semester, Kipp took advantage of his large apartment and set up an "Open House Night." Residents of Goodnow Hall were invited to come see Kipp's apartment, watch some magic, socialize, and eat free food. This event was a huge success with well over one-hundred residents showing up.



Socialization with residents, however, has not been isolated to one event. *"In Kipp's role as an advisor, one attribute I admire so much about him is how student-focused he actually is. Many advisors in a hall are very close with the student staff, student leaders, and those that go through the judicial process. I have seen many coordinators overlook the majority of the residents - those that are not involved and those that are not documented for violations. This is not the case when it comes to Kipp Van Dyke. He knows so many residents throughout the building, and can often be seen eating, doing magic tricks, and just having fun with them."*-Carolyn Denney, Goodnow Hall 3rd floor RA

Kipp has continually made himself visible by doing regular rounds through Goodnow Hall, both with RAMA staff members and on his own accord. During these random rounds, Kipp gives out candy, stops to admire peoples' rooms or their pets, or just simply hangs out. *"Kipp comes by my room and checks on me. That means a lot to me. He is always happy, and that cheers me up when I am in a bad mood. He brightens up my day."*-Quaameeka Saunders, Goodnow Hall 3rd floor Resident

Kipp's dedication to programming in the hall has also made him visible to residents. *"I've noticed that he's very easy to get along with and very social. It's not uncommon to see Kipp out and about in the hall. I've seen him at a number of programs in the building. One program in particular is the reoccurring EA Sports nights. These are sports video game tournaments sponsored by one of the halls RA's and open to any resident in the building. Kipp routinely attends and participates in many of these tournaments. He always seems to have fun, and those playing around him seem to enjoy his presence as well. He has utilized his interests and hobbies to form relationships with other residents."*-Dave Bartlett, Goodnow Hall 5th floor Resident

Kipp has been known to bake cookies in his apartment on the 1st floor and leave his door open, hoping that the smell will entice residents to come in and chat. *"Kipp always brings me homemade cookies that he baked when I am working at the front desk, just to make sure the shift is a happy one."*-Katie Shaeffer, Goodnow Hall 2nd floor Resident. In addition, Kipp has also been seen playing his guitar in the first floor lobby on more than one occasion. *"Kipp will entertain me at the front desk with his amazing guitar skills. He is a great RLC."*-Katie Lehrman, Goodnow Hall 5th floor Resident. Eric Mann, 3rd floor Resident Assistant also stated, *"One of the experiences that most clearly defines Kipp's leadership style is when he plays guitar while chillin' behind the front desk. It exemplifies his balance between insuring safety and order and encouraging a fun, laid back, college atmosphere in the residence halls."*

Kipp's desire to build personal relationships does not end with his staff. Kipp has made an extreme effort to learn names, spend time with, and engage in activities with the residents of Goodnow Hall. *"Kipp definitely tries to*

get to know you as a person. He acts like a friend and he IS a friend. I can go to him with any problem. He is in a way, inspiring, just by the way he treats others.”-Adrienne Ralston, Goodnow Hall 3rd floor Resident

Part of Kipp’s desire to connect with each resident is by making them feel unique. He seeks out residents and tries to bond with them by finding similar interests.

“Kipp is the reason I decided to take up guitar.” -Todd Bruce, Goodnow Hall 3rd floor Resident. Another resident stated,

“Kipp and I have the same sweater and him and I both wore them on the same day so we could be twins. I thought it was awesome.” -Austin Apple, Goodnow Hall 3rd floor Resident.



“Kipp was one of the first people on the staff here at Goodnow that I really got to know. This was so easy to do because he makes an honest effort to make every individual person feel special. I remember different times during the year when this occurred. For example, when I switched rooms at semester, he sat down with me in the lobby to discuss certain issues, and was very patient with me when I kept going back in forth. When I did finally decide to move, he made sure the paperwork went through quickly because it was the middle of finals week. However, the time that Kipp really made me feel like an important part of the halls was when my mother came up to visit me. He was outside busy with some friends when she got here but still came over on his own to introduce himself to her. She later commented that not a lot of people would even think to do that. I hope every advisor I have from here on out ranks as high as Kipp does in my book.”

-Morgan Brazier, Goodnow Hall 1st floor Resident

Not only can Kipp be spotted eating meals with staff, but he also makes it a point to invite residents to eat with him, or he will join them at their table. “He is constantly out talking with and hanging out with his residents. One day I ran into him in the Dining Center and he invited me to eat dinner with him. During the course of our conversation he asked if I was going to the football game that weekend. When I said that I was he asked if he could tag along, as he enjoyed talking to and getting to know people. We spent three hours talking and cheering for the Wildcats and I learned first hand just how personable he is.”-Dave Bartlett, Goodnow Hall 5th floor Resident

Another trait that Kipp possesses is a real concern for the residents of Goodnow. “Kipp is very out reaching and concerned with us residents. He pays attention to the well-being of the people in his building.”-Jodi Dedrick, Goodnow Hall 5th floor Resident.

“Kipp has been a role model for me and my floor mates all year. He challenges me to be better in school and around the campus. He’s like my big brother.” -Kyle Becker, Goodnow Hall 1st floor Resident

”It is easy to tell that Kipp really cares about all of his residents and employees. He is always friendly and helpful to everyone.” -Cole Worley, Goodnow Hall 2nd floor Resident

Thursdays with Kipp

...Involvement outside of Goodnow...

In addition to running a building with over 600 residents, supervising a sixteen member staff, and co-supervising HGB and J-Board, Kipp is involved beyond Goodnow Hall. As a member of Housing and Dining’s



Diversity Action Team, Kipp has played a large role in the creation of educational posters for the residence halls. Likewise, Kipp has also served on the Enrollment Management committee. During the fall semester, Kipp also volunteered to spend an evening serving breakfast at the ARH annual Late Night Breakfast, in which residents are treated to a free late night meal prior to finals week. In January, prior to the opening of Goodnow Hall for the spring semester, Kipp volunteered his time at Leadership Challenge 2005, a retreat for K-State leaders that provides them an opportunity to learn more about themselves, about those around them, and about how they can make positive impacts on the K-State community. “During Leadership Challenge, Kipp Van Dyke was a great motivating presence. Kipp has a talent of making others smile

and he always does so with a positive attitude. His energy and excitement are some of his leadership qualities. By following Kipp's example I was able to become a stronger leader.”-April Heady-Smith, Leadership Challenge Participant

“I had the privilege of working with Kipp on Leadership Challenge and he is someone I admire and look up to. He is a wonderful example of leadership through simply caring for the people he works with. He is very dedicated to what he does and loves every minute of it. His friendly demeanor is very approachable and warm. He is very knowledgeable in his field and does a great job relating to students.”-Emily Clement, Junior Expedition Leader for Leadership Challenge. Volunteering at Leadership Challenge gave Kipp the opportunity to not only network with members outside the Residence Halls, but to also serve as a role model to campus student leaders. “I



was fortunate enough over the winter break to attend the Leadership Challenge, and participate in Kipp's small group. Kipp showed a true passion and dedication towards influencing others. Kipp took the advantage of the limited time and made an effort to get to know everyone there, by interacting and challenging everyone. This showed his great leadership by showing a great example.”-John Bensman, Leadership Challenge Participant. Candi Hironaka, Director of Leadership Challenge had this to say about Kipp’s performance as a Leadership Challenge Staff Member, “Kipp Van Dyke was a Senior Expedition Leader for Leadership Challenge 2005. He and his junior expedition leader received outstanding evaluations. The positive feelings about them are reflected

in the following comments: ‘really nice and easy to talk to. I was made to feel comfortable enough to open up to others.’ ‘The time spent in small group was great--Kipp's magic was a highlight.’ Kipp brought in fresh energy and added a wonderful sense of collaboration and fun to the process.”

Upon returning home from Leadership Challenge, Kipp set to work along with Carolyn Denney, 3rd floor Resident Assistant, to prepare a program to present at Spring RAMA training. The program entitled “Mr. Rogers: 101,” emphasized how Mr. Rogers would approach the RA position. Using the famous quote by Fred Rogers, **“If you could only sense how important you are to the lives of those you meet; how important you can be to the people you may never even dream of. There is something of yourself that you leave at every meeting with another person,”** Kipp and Carolyn presented information that really made RAs think about how the simple things matter. In addition they placed this quote on paper and distributed it to the people in attendance to remind them of the impact they have on the lives of their residents. *“I have grown to respect Kipp very highly through my interactions with him this past year. His leadership style is a very personal one, and it is one he shares readily, as he did for Spring RAMA training this year, where he and Carolyn Denney presented leadership lessons from Mr. Rogers.”-Nickolas Zimmerman, Moore Hall Resident Assistant.*



In the month of January, Kipp was selected as “Advisor of the Month,” for his amazing contributions during that month. During the spring semester, Kipp volunteered his time to be an Assistant Basketball coach for the Manhattan Liberty, a team consisting of eight year old girls. Kipp greatly enjoyed this experience and the opportunity to spend time within the Manhattan community. He hopes to have the opportunity to coach once again.

In late March, Kipp attended The American College Personnel Association (ACPA) conference in Nashville. This conference is a chance for Student Affairs Professionals to gather together for professional development opportunities. While at ACPA, Kipp along with his partner in the competition received 2nd place in the New Professional Case Study Competition. Also in the spring semester, Kipp has been co-teaching EDCEP 311, a class that prepares Resident Assistants and Multicultural Assistants for the position. *“Kipp is great for his knowledge and currently he is teaching me how to be an RA and how to be a good one.”-Chris Lollar, Goodnow Hall 2nd floor Resident*



In addition, Kipp recently spent a day performing magic to promote the residence halls at the Kansas State University Open House. Kipp would greet potential new students, offer them a poker chip with contact information for the Housing and Dining Services Office, and entertain them while answering their questions.



Fridays with Kipp

...a few more details...

The events mentioned in this bid cannot begin to capture how dedicated Kipp is to the residents and staff of Goodnow Hall. Actions speak louder than words, and Kipp's actions have continually spoken in a positive way to the people he has impacted in Goodnow Hall.



"Kipp has done an outstanding job transitioning into his role as a first-year hall coordinator. Acting as "the new guy" can be tough, but Kipp has faced this challenge with confidence. As a returning staff member, I was hesitant at what having a new supervisor would mean. Kipp has surpassed my expectations. Working as his office assistant this year has given me the opportunity to observe his job more closely, and I must acknowledge the fact that I have learned an incredible amount from him. I am not hesitant to say that I am extremely lucky to have worked on his staff this year." -Carolyn Denney,

Goodnow Hall 3rd floor Resident Assistant

"Kipp is an amazing individual who continually impresses me with his unique personality and one-of-a-kind attitude. Kipp has worked everyday to make Goodnow a stronger hall and I feel that he has successfully impacted the building and our community. Something that really stands out in my mind when I reflect on Kipp's efforts over the year is the way he consistently challenges others to do their best. He has always presented situations in a thought-provoking way, encouraging us as staff members to look beyond the obvious and see what is truly important. He is supportive in our endeavors yet also reminds us that we all have the potential to grow and do even bigger and better things. Many of the most wonderful parts of Goodnow Hall can be attributed to Kipp's guidance, friendship, and care. He is a fabulous advisor that has made all of the difference." -Ashley Boldt,
Goodnow Hall 2nd floor Resident Assistant

"Kipp has done a great job stepping into the RLC position. He has added his own personality to the building in his time here. It is obvious to me that his heart is committed to Goodnow Hall." -Aaryn Clark, *Goodnow Hall 4th floor Resident Assistant*

"When my first year of being an RA comes to a close, I will consider it a success, not simply because of the job I've done, but because of the person I've become. Kipp holds a large responsibility of shaping who I've become over this year. He has answered every question, responded to every "crisis", listened to every concern, and smiled at every opportunity when I've been frustrated and as a result he's witnessed my growth first hand...always stating 'this is part of the college experience!' Through a situation on my floor, I developed an even greater amount of respect and admiration for Kipp. He went above and beyond what was expected of him, staying up well into the morning with my residents and I, simply because he wanted to be there. Kipp's leadership and dedication to his staff and the residents of Goodnow Hall have really inspired me to pursue the field of Student Affairs. I know that Kipp does not need to be recognized as "Advisor of the Year" to feel like he has accomplished something great, for he has that



opportunity every day—during the simple interactions that have made all the difference in the residents and staff at Goodnow Hall.”-Rachel Trowbridge, Goodnow Hall 1st floor Resident Assistant

“Kipp Van Dyke has been a stronghold and a gentle confidant to me as both a supervisor and as a friend. As commander and chief of Goodnow Hall, Kipp has done an excellent job of supervising me in my role as the Multicultural Assistant. This has been a new challenge for Kipp as his Alma mater did not have Multicultural Assistants and thus he had no prior experience in supervising them. Personally, Kipp’s attitude about life, views on social issues, and the strong skills that he possess in dealing with people of all backgrounds has revolutionized the way I treat others and relate to their personalities. Kipp has been by my side through several tough situations and decisions and has stood by me through times when I simply needed someone to talk to. Perhaps the most important way that Kipp Van Dyke has touched my life is by the way he empowers me. Kipp believes in me and knows my abilities. He is never afraid to let me stand on my own, but yet knows when I may need a shoulder to lean on. Kipp is simply quality - and quality never goes out of style.”-Jonathan Tarman, Goodnow Hall Multicultural Assistant

“Kipp is a great advisor. He seems very willing to take time out of his schedule to talk to students about issues relating to the residence halls. A few weeks ago, I was trying to decide what kind of a hall leadership position I wanted. One of my first thoughts was to talk to Kipp about the two positions that I was considering. He agreed to speak with me and even made time for our meeting on the same day that I contacted him. In our discussion I asked him which of the two positions he thought I would do better in. His response was that I would do great in either position. He suggested that I consider which of the two positions I thought I would gain the most from and choose based on that. By the time I left his office I had chosen which position I would apply for.” -Dave Bartlett, Goodnow Hall 5th floor Resident

Often you’ll find Kipp’s office filled with staff members, HGB members, or residents who just want to hang out and chat. If you apologize for keeping Kipp from doing his work, he’ll say, “This is why I went into this profession; the students.” Throughout the year, Kipp has indeed left footprints in each individual’s life that he has come in contact with. We hope you will consider those footprints and the dedication that Kipp has exhibited daily in his time with staff and residents of Goodnow Hall.

"Some people come into our lives, and quickly fade away. Others stay for awhile and leave footprints on our hearts and we are never the same again."

-Unknown-



April 6, 2005

Dear Advisor of the Year Selection Committee,

It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for Kipp Van Dyke, the Goodnow Hall Advisor of the Year nominee. My interactions with Kipp started in July of 2004 as he has been my direct supervisor in my roles as a Goodnow Hall Resident Assistant and his office assistant during the 2004-2005 academic year.

This year Kipp came to us fresh out of graduate school ready to serve as a first-year hall coordinator. As a returning staff member I was hesitant at what changes were going to occur from our previous coordinator, but Kipp has done an extraordinary job transitioning into his role. He has brought new ideas and a new outlook to our staff, but has also been more than willing to listen to our thoughts and learn from us as well. In his role as HGB advisor, he is consistently holding himself accountable and has grown so much over the course of the year. He is constantly pushing staff and students to look at things from a different perspective which can be challenging at times, but is definitely worthwhile. I also have been amazed at how student-focused he is. He is constantly seen spending time with residents throughout the whole building, as I believe this is something that many professionals in Residence Life lose sight of.

In my role as Kipp's office assistant, I have had the opportunity to work with him in a different capacity. Being able to observe his commitment to the job even closer has been a great experience for me as his approach might be considered different from some coordinators, but I believe extremely effective. Kipp has truly taught me the importance of caring about students, and what a big impact we can have on their development. His caring nature shines through in a variety of ways from writing OTM's to holding an open house for all residents to see his apartment to giving up his apartment just so the girls on our staff had a place to have a girls' night or watch a TV show together.

This year Kipp has also been an amazing resource and support for me in my efforts to find a graduate assistantship in housing. He was always willing to answer questions, give his advice, or even let me just process through my thoughts with him. I don't believe many other coordinators would have given as much time to me as he has given. Encouraging me to be proactive in my development, he even presented a program at Spring RA/MA training with me.

His professionalism and character in his role are admirable and I can only hope I will have half the impact on my future staff members as he has had on me this year. In my role as a Resident Assistant, I wish I could see more professionals with Kipp's enthusiasm, commitment, and logical approach to the job. I greatly respect him for what he has accomplished during his first year at Kansas State University. I feel fortunate to have worked for him, and I am very excited to be able to have him as one of my colleagues in the future. I can think of no better advisor to be the recipient of the Advisor of the Year award.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Denney
Goodnow Hall Resident Assistant

April 13, 2005

OTY Selection Committee,

An important element required to work with students and be successful is the ability to be a good advisor. Advisors are often times called upon to listen, mediate, as well as aid in the operations of an organization and the students involved. It is important to remember that empowering and supporting students, while remaining unbiased is key to the success of an advisor. Kipp Van Dyke, the Residence Life Coordinator of Goodnow Hall, is an excellent example of a respected, successful advisor that has shown his dedication and support for the hall through many of his actions throughout the past year.

As a first year RLC and member of the Goodnow Hall community, Kipp wasted no time in learning everything he could about Goodnow, its staff, its student leaders, and its reputation. As a result, Kipp made his own goals and expectations of what he wanted to achieve as a supervisor, as well as advisor of the Hall Governing Board and Judicial Board. Kipp is always willing to offer his thoughts, accept feedback, and learn about how Goodnow's Hall Governing Board runs, while always showing support through attending every program and weekly meeting, offering recognition and acknowledgement to student leaders, and simply keeping his door open allowing residents to know he is available.

Kipp's positive attitude and approachability have given him the ability to earn the respect and trust of the Hall Governing Board and residents of Goodnow Hall, and has helped him motivate student leaders to achieve their goals. There have been numerous occasions where a resident's conversation with Kipp has inspired them to get involved in the hall, or even an activity that is of interest to them outside the hall. Kipp has shown that he has the ability to relate to students and empower them through constant support of ideas and efforts. Kipp has also shown that he is willing to learn and is eager and excited for each new experience he encounters as an advisor and member of the Goodnow Hall community.

As someone who is directly supervised by Kipp, as well as someone who interacts with him on a daily basis, I have complete confidence that he is deserving and possesses all of the qualifications of Advisor of the Year. His dedication and devotion to the residents of Goodnow Hall have been noticed and appreciated by those around him, and make him worthy of this award.

Sincerely,

Amanda Mock
Assistant Residence Life Coordinator
Goodnow Hall