Special Events Update

On May 2-3, the Shiprock, New Mexico Marathon celebrated its 31st anniversary this year as hundreds were in attendance to support or participate. Diné College has partnered with Shiprock Marathon organizers and hosts the official finish line at the South Shiprock Campus, as well as the ceremony in which the race winners are honored. This year the race recorded its highest number of runners at 1,855 in all categories combined. The main attractions were the full marathon that had 231 runners and the half marathon with 548 runners. Other racing events were the half marathon relay, the 10K, 5K and the Kid’s marathon. According to the Race Organizer Tom Riggenbach, the marathon has increased in popularity among athletes with each passing year. “Each year we get more runners from all over the world, it’s a great attraction to the Navajo Nation,” said Riggenbach. Several Diné College cross-country athletes and employees participated in this year’s race. Some of the employees of the College assisted as volunteers with planning and recruitment activities.
44th Annual Diné College Pow Wow

On May 2 & 3, the 44th Annual Diné College Pow Wow was held at the Tsaile, Arizona Campus Gymnasium. Diné College student organization, Red Dawn Club coordinated this year’s event. As one of the oldest events at the College, the Pow Wow has gained admiration among contestants across the United States. The sound of drums and chants reverberated throughout the Gymnasium as contestants took part in a series of dance competitions. In addition to the Pow Wow, Diné College students attempted to make the World’s Largest Fry Bread and qualify for a Guinness World Record. Unfortunately, they were unsuccessful at setting the record but have to be admired for their monumental effort. The Pow Wow and the world record attempt was an outstanding event for the students and they aim to organize another fun filled occasion next year.

Pow Wow photos by Brenda Daines