

SPRING 2008

connections

Minot State University Alumni Association & Development Foundation

**Learning
leads to
success**



**MINOT STATE
UNIVERSITY**

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME



‘Our job...is to continue to set our bar high on performance and quality, and to demand that our students continue to receive the best in teaching and learning and for them to realize their potential for success.’

Colleges and universities are getting a great deal of scrutiny these days, particularly in how they are accessible to and affordable for students, and how accountable they are to the general public. A common question asked of us is whether we are doing enough to examine our own practices and our student learning to see if we are accomplishing what we say we are doing.

Achieving Minot State University’s goal to become one of the premier public, regional universities in the “great” Great Plains depends on our continued efforts to study how we’re doing and to see how we compare to premier universities in the Great Plains and elsewhere. There is no question that we’ll need to remain affordable, accessible and accountable, but we also need to make sure that we raise high our expectations for academic quality, for what we expect from students, and for what we know is required for our students to succeed in this competitive global environment.

Recently, our faculty decided to adopt and implement the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA), a tool that assesses and measures critical thinking, problem solving and writing of our students, while measuring their growth from their first year to their final year. We are the only institution in North Dakota to adopt the CLA and to monitor the extent to which our incoming students develop as critical thinkers and writers. By so doing,

we are taking a significant step to focus our assessment on critical thinking, engagement and student growth.

Another measure of accomplishment is the success achieved by our own graduates. Every day, I hear about our students’ successes, our faculty’s achievements, and our graduates’ attainments and accomplishments. I’d invite you to judge for yourself by looking at the examples of success through the achievements of Clint Severson, who was recently named Forbes Magazine’s entrepreneur of the year; David Marquart, a distinguished teacher and a finalist in NASA’s Teacher in Space Project; Les Anderson, who received the distinguished service award by the National Association of Student Councils; Rhonda Grindy, who won a Milken National Educator Award for teaching excellence; four alumnae who recently received awards from the North Dakota Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, and the many other alums and their achievements noted in the following pages of *Connections*.

These alums and their achievements set the bar high for our students and our campus. Our job now is to continue to set our bar high on performance and quality, and to demand that our students continue to receive the best in teaching and learning and for them to realize their potential for success.

Thank you.

— DAVID FULLER,
President



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ON THE COVER

Jenna Frueh, Minot, senior
 4.0 student in communication disorders
(photo by 360 Digitography)

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Fortune

OCTOBER 1959



Forbes Magazine names Minot State graduate 2007 entrepreneur of the year

MSU's Severson revives Silicon Valley company

Clint Severson, who earned a business administration degree in 1973 from Minot State, rescued Abaxis, a California-based medical device maker, from bankruptcy and positioned it to be a major player in the \$5 billion-a-year blood-chemistry market.

“That was quite an honor,” Severson said about the Forbes award. “I had no idea they were going to pick me or Abaxis. It’s great to see all the hard work we’ve done get some attention.”

The firm’s flagship product, the Piccolo machine, runs a battery of blood tests in 12.5 minutes. Patients can get an accurate diagnosis before they leave a doctor’s office. The machine eliminates the need for outside labs, with their added costs, delays and potential for error. The machine is termed a disruptive technology in the business world.

“If we are successful, we will change the way routine blood-chemistry tests are delivered,” Severson said.

The shoebox-sized blood analyzer is portable and requires little training. It is sold to doctors, hospitals, managed-care organizations and the military.

When Severson joined the company in 1996, it was losing \$6 million a year. Last year, it netted \$11 million on sales of \$89 million, earning it the No. 11 spot on Forbes’ list of 200 Best Small Companies.

Abaxis spent \$100 million over a decade to develop the \$15,000 Piccolo machine. The firm had to steer through a maze of government regulations, lawsuits, cash shortages, firings and operational mishaps to bring its technology to market.

In citing Severson’s achievement, Forbes wrote that the Abaxis chairman and CEO was “contentious, but supremely competent.” Severson happily accepts the characterization.

“When you’re a small company competing with the biggest industries in the country for market share and resources, you have to be contentious and combative, or they’ll walk all over you,” he said.

Severson honed his aggressive style over a 35-year business career, much of it in the hard-charging world of sales.

“Only a sales guy could have built Abaxis because what we were doing sounded so outlandish,” he said. “Most of the money managers and stock analysts would say, ‘Forget it, it will never happen.’ What we were trying to do was something no one else had ever done before.”

‘I was competing with the best-educated people in the country — Stanford, Berkeley, Harvard guys — and I was winning. I was prepared as well as any of the people I was competing with.’

Severson's ascent to the top of the business world began modestly. After he graduated from Minot State, he drove across country for three months, looking for a job and a place to live. Coming from a small school, Severson was insecure as he interviewed for jobs in large markets like San Francisco.

"You never know where you stand relative to the rest of the world," he said.

Severson's apprehensions quickly evaporated as his job search continued.

"I was competing with the best-educated people in the country — Stanford, Berkeley, Harvard guys — and I was winning," he recalled. "I was prepared as well as any of the people I was competing with."

After two weeks in San Francisco, he received three job offers without benefit of a permanent address. One was with an olive co-op, another with the copier division of Smith-Corona and a third with the diagnostics division of Dow Chemical. He joined Dow and sold diagnostic equipment to hospitals, doctors' offices and medical labs.

Even then, Severson had a keen eye for future trends. He noted that a new three-bedroom house in San Jose sold for \$35,000, comparable to the price in Minot. He discerned that

real estate values would soar as Silicon Valley exploded with high-tech ventures.

"I started investing in real estate in 1975," he said. "I've been collecting houses ever since."

Minot State is never far from Severson's mind as he revolutionizes the point-of-care blood testing industry.

After Dow Chemical, Severson worked for Syntex, the company that invented the birth control pill. It also developed drug-abuse tests and pioneered therapeutic drug monitoring. Severson started as a salesman and ascended to national sales manager in three years.

"That was my breakout job," he said.

Severson later worked for Mast Immunosystems, which sold blood tests to allergists. He pushed sales from \$7 to \$25 million in seven years. Hitachi Chemical bought the firm in 1996. He then joined Abaxis, which had 60 employees at the time. Today, it boasts a workforce of 320.

Minot State is never far from Severson's mind as he revolutionizes the point-of-care blood testing industry. He often chides employees with tony degrees and polished résumés to emulate his Midwestern acumen.

"I say, 'Look guys, you're Harvard, Yale. I'm Minot State. Come on, you've got to be able to figure this out,'" he said.

Severson wants to double his company's earnings per share over the next couple of years and move up to a 10 percent slice of the blood-chemistry market. In the process, he hopes the firm's Piccolo analyzer will make life easier for physicians and patients alike.

"We'll make a big change for the better," he said.

Abaxis began with NASA contract

The genesis of the Abaxis technology took place at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, where under contract to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) scientists sought to develop and manufacture a small biochemical analyzer for use in space laboratories.

Abaxis was founded in 1989. Shortly thereafter, Abaxis acquired the exclusive patent rights from Oak Ridge National Laboratory to develop and manufacture a biochemical analyzer that was capable of performing multiple blood tests from a single drop of whole blood. In 1992, Abaxis completed the concept design for the then-named "EPOC 2000" system.

To be able to measure multiple parameters from a very small quantity of whole blood, Abaxis developed the Orbos technology. The Piccolo analyzer was introduced to the market in 1995 with two reagent discs. Since then, Abaxis has added new tests and reagent discs to fulfill different physicians' needs.

The VetScan analyzer was introduced in the U.S. veterinary market in 1995.

Currently, Abaxis covers more than 90 percent of the general chemistry tests normally used in medical and veterinary diagnostics.

Abaxis markets and sells its products through direct sales forces and independent distributors in North America, Europe and Asia Pacific. Its headquarters is in Union City, Calif.

— *courtesy of the Abaxis Web site*

Piccolo machine tests blood in minutes

A few drops of blood are inserted into a disc that can test for up to 14 compounds that make up the blood's chemistry. No test tubes or centrifuge are necessary.

As the disc spins, plasma separates from red blood cells, is siphoned into a chamber, diluted and spun again before mixing with chemical reagent beads and being exposed to light.

An electric sensor measures the light's wavelength and translates the results into chemical measurements. After 12.5 minutes, the Piccolo machine provides a printout of the results, along with a comparison with a normal range.

A doctor can immediately prescribe the appropriate regimen.

NASA finalist to speak at May commencement

David Marquart, a former Teacher in Space finalist, will give the commencement address at Minot State University May 9.

“It’s a thrill for me to come back and visit my friends. I’m looking forward to it,” he said.

Marquart earned a business education degree from Minot State in 1965. He taught business and computer courses in the Boise (Idaho) School District for 40 years before retiring in 2005.

NASA created its Teacher in Space Project in 1984 to spark student interest in mathematics, science and space exploration. More than 11,000 teachers applied to the program; Marquart was selected as one of 10 finalists.

After a series of tests and interviews, NASA officials selected Christa McAuliffe of New Hampshire to be the first teacher in space with Barbara Morgan, another Idaho teacher, as her backup. The remaining finalists were penciled in for future space missions.

In January of 1986, the space shuttle Challenger broke apart 73 seconds into its flight. McAuliffe and the six other crew members lost their lives. Marquart was at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, but he left when bad weather delayed the launch. Like most Americans, he watched incredulously as television replayed the tragedy.

“Christa was an excellent teacher and good friend. That’s how I’ll remember her,” Marquart said. “I often remember the sacrifice the seven astronauts made for our country, and I used the tragedy as an educational tool as I helped shape the future citizens of our nation.”



After the accident, the space shuttle program went into hiatus for 32 months as the Rogers Commission investigated NASA safety procedures. Marquart and the other finalists fanned out around the country to keep the dream of space travel alive. From 1985 to 1988, he worked for NASA in California, visiting schools and implementing NASA education programs.

As the Teacher in Space Project continued, Marquart returned to Idaho to resume teaching. For the next 18 years, he attended numerous NASA-sponsored workshops and spoke to many classes and community groups about space programs.

In 1998, NASA selected long-time backup Morgan as an educational astronaut. She flew on space shuttle Endeavor in August of last year, 21 years after the Challenger disaster. Along with the other teacher finalists, Marquart was invited by NASA to the Kennedy Space Center to see his friend and colleague go to space.

‘I often remember the sacrifice the seven astronauts made for our country, and I used the tragedy as an educational tool as I helped shape the future citizens of our nation.’

“It was a picture-perfect launch,” he said.

At Minot State, Marquart’s adviser, J. Bernard Busse, encouraged students to improve the communities they lived in. With that in mind, the veteran teacher has been involved in Boy Scouts, Civil Air Patrol and a World War II air museum. He also served six years on a county planning and zoning commission in Idaho.

Marquart’s wife Barbara (Street) graduated from Minot State in 1963, also with a degree in business education.



The NASA Teacher in Space logo was made in 1984 before any selection of teachers was announced.

When the 11,000 teachers were asked to participate, the logo was included. 114 teachers were initially selected with the final 10 selected in June 1985.

Pictured on the logo. Four white stars—men
Five blue stars—women
One shuttle—Christa
Flame of knowledge

No one knew there would be four men and six women when the logo was designed.

MSU science instructor collects beetles

Collectibles are a multimillion dollar industry. People collect everything imaginable, but few stockpile what MSU's Guy Hanley does.

He collects beetles.

Hanley, an instructor in the Science Division, has nearly 10,000 specimens in his collection, which he started in 1994.

Like many kids, Hanley collected baseball cards, Star Wars cards and bottle caps. Later at MSU, Science Professor Ron Royer showed him his butterfly collection, and the young student was captivated.

"That struck me as something I wanted to do," he said. "You can collect something, and it's going to be scientifically valuable."

Over the years, Hanley has become an expert on beetles, having written "Cerambycidae of North Dakota," an atlas and identification guide to 87 species in the state. Cerambycid beetles are called "longhorn" beetles because of their greatly elongated antennae. The book includes identification diagnostics, habitat descriptions and county distribution maps.

Hanley is also working on guides to the ladybird beetles (Coccinellidae) and the carrion beetles (Silphidae) of North Dakota. Collecting beetles is a perfect conjunction of man and vocation.

"It gives my obsessive-compulsive side something to do," he said. "Insect collecting is so organized. It's the way the collections look in the drawers. Everything is identified and perfectly aligned."

One out of four living organisms on earth is a beetle, Hanley noted.

"It's this underworld of critters that nobody pays attention to, until they're eating their trees. Then they panic," he said.

Little research has been conducted on beetles in the Minot area. To obtain baseline data, Hanley will work with city forester Brian Johnson to trap beetles at several locations around the city.

He hopes to collect several thousand specimens to discover which species currently call Minot home and to diagnose various tree ailments.

One potential invader is the Emerald Ash Borer, which could threaten one of the state's most popular trees. Although the species currently does not occur in North Dakota, it could become a problem through the importation of infested firewood and wood products. A nationwide survey is currently under way, and Hanley's study will provide data for both state and federal governments.

In addition to hunting bugs, Hanley also teaches geology and entomology courses, serves as curator of collections for the Science Division, prepares specimens for public display, develops exhibits in the Cyril Moore Hall museum, manages the division's Web site and helps students with digital imaging for scientific publications.

"I love coming to work," he said. "Every day, it's something different. There's no time to get bored."

Hanley's other interests include furniture construction and refinishing, home remodeling, competing in archery tournaments, motorcycle riding, and playing drums in rock 'n' roll bands.



Guy Hanley displays a portion of his 10,000-specimen collection. (Photo by Jesse Kelly.)

'I love coming to work. Every day, it's something different. There's no time to get bored.'

Telemark University College officials visit MSU

Minot State University hosted a visit by officers from Telemark University College in Skien, Norway, in October.



Bill Harbort, associate professor in art, and Conrad Davidson, interim dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, meet with Telemark University officials Anne Glenna, chair of the Department of Teacher Education and former executive board member; Trine Ellefson, director of international relations and executive board member; and Knut Duesund, vice rector and vice chair of the TUC Executive Board.

The purpose of the visit, held in conjunction with Norsk Høstfest, was to work out details regarding an agreement signed by the two institutions in June.

Representing Telemark were Knut Duesund, vice rector and vice chair of the TUC executive board; Anne Glenna, chair of the Department of Teacher Education and former executive board member; and Trine Ellefson, director of international relations and an executive board member.

Duesund and Glenna are also members of Telemark's International Committee, which deals with international relations and programs, student exchanges and related matters.

Both institutions made presentations at a general meeting. The groups made progress on facilitating faculty and student exchanges.

The three Telemark officials then met with the deans of the three MSU colleges, Graduate School and Center for Extended Learning to discuss program specifics.

PaiChai University representatives visit MSU

Minot State University hosted a successful visit by officers from PaiChai University in Daejeon, South Korea, in early December.

The purpose of the visit was to establish a partnership between the two institutions. Representing PaiChai were HyeKyung Lee, provost; and Chang In Lee, director of the TESOL Program; and Yae Sock Roh, professor of marketing and hospitality at Central Michigan University.

"MSU would benefit by increasing the diversity of students on campus and because MSU students would have more exposure to students from other countries," said JoAnn Linrud, dean of the College of Business.

PaiChai University, which offers both undergraduate and graduate programs, was established by Christian missionary Henry Appenzeller in 1885. Lee said the institution was a high school when the country was under Japanese rule, but it became a college in the 1950s after South Korea gained its independence.

PaiChai's Appenzeller School of Global Business will begin its new program next semester with 40 students: 10 Americans, 10 Europeans, 10 South Koreans and 10 from other Asian countries.

Students will study for three years at PaiChai and spend a fourth year abroad. Because the program is just being established, it would be several years before students from PaiChai come to Minot State.

According to Lee, the Korean university is interested in sending students to study at MSU because Minot is a quality university in a moderate-size American city.

Lee said the English spoken here is good, standard English. In addition, parents of students at PaiChai are concerned about safety when they send their children abroad.



Pictured left to right are: Libby Claerbout, MSU director of International Programs, Chang In Lee, director of the TESOL program, PaiChai; David Fuller, MSU president; HyeKyung Lee, provost, PaiChai; JoAnn Linrud, dean of the MSU College of Business; and Yae Sock Roh, professor of marketing and hospitality, Central Michigan University.

The provost said that PaiChai is highly globalized, with a number of international students. Many of its students study abroad. Both Lee and Linrud said that international experience is vital for people entering the business field today.

PaiChai University's new business program will be taught in English. Linrud said there could be opportunities for MSU faculty to teach at PaiChai and for PaiChai faculty to teach at Minot State.

MSU already has partnership agreements with SIAS International University in Zhengzhou, China; Kadir Has University in Istanbul, Turkey; and Telemark University College in Skien, Norway.

ATHLETICS

Both Beaver men's and women's basketball teams make national tournament

First time in History

The Minot State University Men's Basketball team qualified for the NAIA National Tournament via C.J. DeWitty's buzzer beater in the Dakota Athletic

Conference tournament championship against Jamestown College.

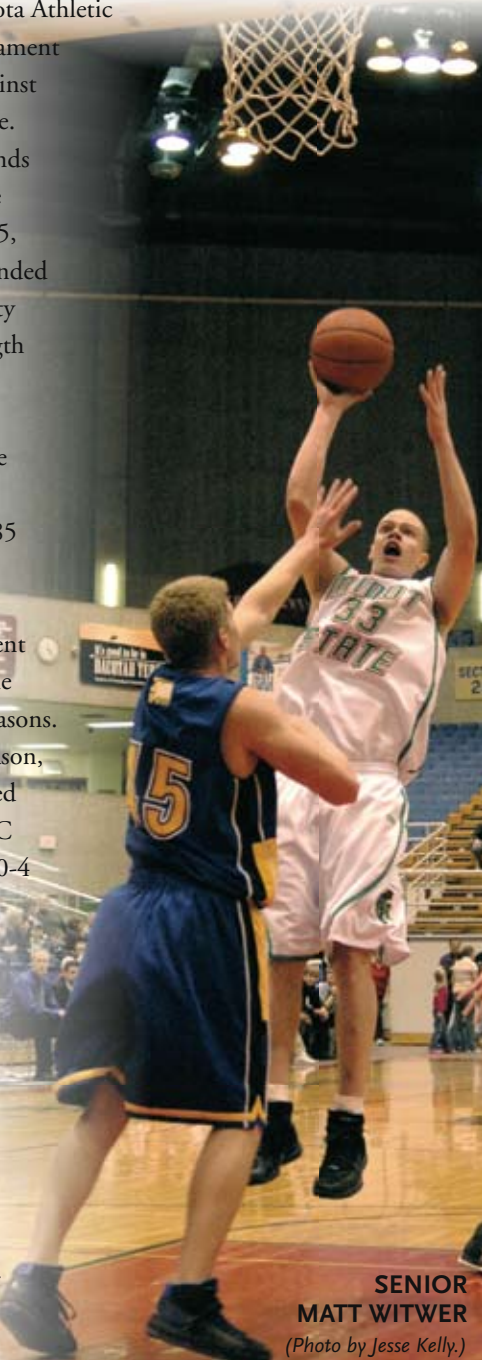
With just 10 seconds remaining and the score knotted at 85, the Beavers inbounded the ball to DeWitty who went the length of the court and nailed a leaning nine-footer as time expired to lift the Beavers to an 87-85 win. The win put the Beavers in the national tournament for the second time in the past four seasons.

For the regular season, the Beavers finished second in the DAC with a record of 10-4 and 19-11 overall.

The Beavers have won at least 19 games for the third time in five seasons. Four MSU players gained individual honors for their efforts during the year. Matt Witwer was named to the DAC First-Team,

C.J. DeWitty and Aaron Patterson to the Second-Team and Joe Gathings earned Third-Team All-Conference honors.

The Beavers were defeated in the first round of the national tournament by Northwestern College (Iowa) 97 to 90.



**SENIOR
MATT WITWER**

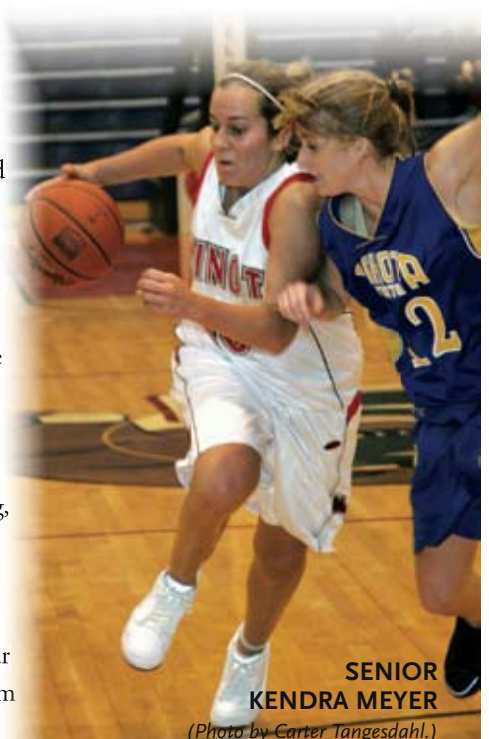
(Photo by Jesse Kelly.)

The MSU women's basketball team started the season picked to finish sixth in the Dakota Athletic Conference (DAC). Coach Green Gerding posted that ranking in the locker room and used frequent reminders to motivate her team. It worked. The Lady Beavers finished in a tie for second place with a 10-4 DAC record and 19-10 overall. The Beavers ended the regular season ranked #23 in the NAIA poll and earned a berth in the national tournament.

The Lady Beavers made it all the way to the Elite Eight and lost a stunner 87-86 to Morningside College (Iowa) after a last second shot was waived off following review of video tape after it was initially signaled that it counted. While it was a heartbreaking loss, the Beavers competed with the best teams in the nation. In first round action the Beavers defeated Shawnee (Ohio) State 94-82 and in second round play they beat William Jewell College (Missouri) in a dramatic double overtime 94-93 win.

Minot State senior Kendra Meyer finished her career with 1,648 points pitting her as the All-Time leading scorer in MSU history. Kendra broke the six year old record held by Kayla Blom Dascher of 1,620 points. Kendra was named First team All-Conference for the second year in a row and was named the DAC's Most Valuable Player. Brittni Walker was named to the second team All-Conference while Lashay Bagsby was named to the third team.

Green Gerding says of the season, "These ladies have really come a long way. I am so proud of our effort and our willingness to work hard and improve everyday. We have a lot to be proud of this year. We will miss our seniors (Kendra Meyer, Kayla Rettig, Heather Lizotte) and are proud of the contributions they have given our team and wish them the best."



**SENIOR
KENDRA MEYER**

(Photo by Carter Tangesdahl.)

Weppler named MSU baseball coach

Athletic Director Rick Hedberg has announced Brock Weppler as the new head baseball coach at MSU. Weppler has been an assistant coach with the MSU baseball team for the past



two years, working with hitters and catchers.

“Brock will provide great leadership to our baseball program,” Hedberg said. “He has the respect of the student-athletes and fellow coaches. I look forward to working closely with him.”

Weppler, a native of Burlington, is a graduate of the University of Mary, where he played baseball for two years. He also attended MSU-Bottineau and played two years for the Lumberjacks.

“I’m excited for the opportunity to step into the head coaching position,” Weppler said. “It’s been a goal of mine, and I look forward to the challenge. Minot State University is a great school, and we have a lot of potential in our baseball program.”

Weppler has spent the last seven summers directing the Burlington baseball program.



MSU named Champions of Character institution

Minot State University, through its Athletics Department, has been named a Champions of Character institution for the 2006-07 school year.

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics designated MSU for the accolade for the sixth consecutive year.

Introduced in 2000 by the NAIA, the nationally recognized program tries to create environments in which student-athletes, youths, parents, coaches, officials and spectators understand the true spirit of competition through the five character values of respect, responsibility, integrity, servant leadership and sportsmanship.

“We’re excited once again to be chosen as a Champions of Character institution,” said Rick Hedberg, MSU’s athletic director. “This is an annual goal of our department, and I need to commend our coaches and student-athletes on their commitment to this program.”



During the past year, MSU student-athletes have been involved in such projects as an elementary reading program, character development program in local schools, a food drive for a local food pantry, a giving tree Christmas project through the Domestic Violence Crisis Center, involvement with the North Dakota Special Olympics and various Red Cross projects.

“Our involvement on campus and in the community is important for our department,” Hedberg said. “The community supports us a great deal, and we want to give something back.”

Become a member of the
BEAVER BOOSTER CLUB
and support our athletes!



The Beaver Booster Club enthusiastically assists the Minot State University Athletics Department in promoting and maintaining the highest level of excellence. The club provides funds to support athletic scholarships for students who have distinguished themselves in competition and in the classroom. It also provides funds for special needs of the Athletics Department.

Contact Chad McNally at 701-858-4451, 1-800-777-0750, ext. 4451 or chad.mcnelly@minotstateu.edu and become a member today!



Five inducted into MSU Athletics Hall of Fame

The MSU Athletics Department inducted five into its Hall of Fame during Homecoming. Those honored include Steve Auch, Eureka; Nev., Kathy Clott, Minot; Bob Holmen, Minot; Bill Koering, Upland, Calif.; and Sheldon Warawa, Edmonton, Alberta.



Auch

AUCH was an accomplished athlete and three-year letter winner for the Beaver football team from 1964 to 1967. He also participated in gymnastics and wrestling and served as an assistant football coach after his career ended. During his time on the field, Auch was a two-time NDCAC All-Conference running back and was an Honorable Mention All-America selection in 1965. Auch was also an accomplished gymnast, being named Honorable Mention All-Conference in the rings and parallel bars. In 1965, he was ranked 12th in the nation in individual wrestling.



Clott

CLOTT, a special achievement award winner, attended Minot State University from 1971 to 1975. She played softball for the university from 1972 to 1974. Following graduation, Clott began working in the MSU Athletics and Physical Education Departments on June 1, 1975. She retired last year, with exactly 32 years of dedicated service. For 15 years, she served as the administrative assistant for the two departments. When physical education moved to Old Main, Clott worked exclusively with Athletics in the Dome. She also served as a mentor and mother for hundreds of student-athletes during her time at MSU.



Holmen

HOLMEN was a four-year letter winner at Minot State in football and track from 1979 to 1983. In 1982, he was an All-Conference, All-District, and Honorable Mention All-America selection as an offensive tackle. Holmen started 32 consecutive games for the Beavers. He was also a letter winner in track at MSU in the shot put and discus. Currently, Holmen is a mathematics instructor and track and field coach at Minot High School.



Koering

KOERING was a three-year letter winner in baseball, two-year letter winner in football, and one-year letterman in track. As a cornerback, kicker and punter for the Beavers, he led the Beavers in both offensive and defensive scoring numerous times from 1970 to 1973. In 1971 and 1972, he was an Honorable Mention All-Conference player in the NDCAC. He led District 12 his senior season with a 38.2 yard punting average. In 1972 and 1973, Koering was a third basemen and pitcher for the Beaver baseball team, and he led the team with a .449 batting average. He was a NDCAC All-Conference selection as well as a NAIA District 12 choice both seasons. At the conclusion of the 1973 season, he was named the Most Valuable Baseball Player in the NDCAC. In addition to his individual accomplishments, Koering also helped MSU to two conference championships in football, one in baseball and one in track. Koering had professional baseball tryouts with the Minnesota Twins, San Francisco Giants and Pittsburgh Pirates and had a professional football tryout with the Dallas Cowboys. He played semi-pro football with the Racine Red Raiders in the CSFL in 1974. In 1998, Koering was inducted into the North Dakota Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame.



Warawa

WARAWA played football for the Beavers from 1991 to 1994. He was a three-time All-Conference and one time All-District 12 football player while playing on the offensive line for Minot State. During his four years, Warawa helped the Beavers to four NDCAC championships and four NAIA playoffs berths. In 1992, the Beavers made it to the Final Four of the NAIA playoffs. Warawa was also an Honorable Mention All-American Offensive Lineman in 1993 and a First Team All-American in 1994. Minot State football teams were 17-3 in the NDCAC during his tenure, with an overall record of 29-14.



HOW MUCH do they need?

Recently, my wife Barb and I went through an exercise that we all need to do, but is difficult to make ourselves do. We met with our attorney and financial adviser and updated our wills.

One question that was posed to us in this process was, “How much do your children need from your estate?” This was an interesting question. How much do they need? 50 percent? 80 percent? 90 percent? 100 percent?

This was a good opportunity to give careful consideration to what type of legacy Barb and I can leave. We gave it a great deal of thought, and after consultation with our children, we chose to leave most of our estate to our children. But we also picked four organizations that are close to our heart to receive some of our estate.

What a great feeling it is to provide for our children and for organizations that provide a great service to our people.

Every day, I am reminded of others who have made similar decisions. At Minot State University, we enjoy matching the dreams of our supporters with the needs of our students.

We continually learn of the successes of our graduates. Many have benefited from some type of scholarship or learning experience that was provided by people who had a dream to help students become the best they can be.

If you have a dream for Minot State University and its students, please contact the Advancement Office at 1-800-777-0750, ext. 4483, or e-mail marv.semrau@minotstateu.edu.

— **MARV SEMRAU**
Vice President for Advancement

HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Schwarz penned fight song during his stint at Minot State

When a band plays the Beaver fight song at an MSU athletic event, it has Ira-Paul Schwarz to thank for the rousing melody.

“He wrote that song for the pep band in the fall of ’61 when he came to Minot. It’s been used ever since,” said Jerry Spitzer of Minot, a former student of the professor.

Schwarz taught in the Music Department from 1961 to 1966. He conducted the college band, Minot Symphony Orchestra and Minot City Band. He was also active with the International Music Camp.

Schwarz collaborated on an opera while at Minot State. “All in Black My Love Came Riding” (later revised and renamed “The Ghostly Bridegroom”) was an all-Minot State production.

Former humanities instructor Gary Don Luckert wrote the libretto, and Schwarz contributed the score. Theater instructor Richard Hesler directed the Campus Players in the 1966 production.

At the time, Luckert described the opera as an allegorical satire on

existentialism, containing numerous puns on literature and music.

“It was well-received,” Spitzer recalled. “Doc” Schwarz was always willing to share his expertise with his students, Spitzer said. In 1964, Schwarz was instrumental in creating the Minot Symphony Association, the fund-raising arm of the orchestra.

Schwarz went on to teach at the State University of New York at Brockport for 25 years. He composed numerous musical works and wrote four books on music and related arts. The Iowa native’s compositions have been performed in the United States, Europe and the Far East.

Schwarz studied composition under Nadia Boulanger while he was in the U.S. Navy during World War II. The French instructor taught several pre-eminent American composers and conductors of the 20th century, including Aaron Copland, Virgil Thomson and Leonard Bernstein.

Despite his international reputation, Schwarz always retained a fondness for the Magic City and MSU.

“He wrote ‘Heritage Overture’ for the City Band to celebrate the Ward County Centennial,” Spitzer said. “He returned to Minot to direct the premier performance.”

Schwarz retired from full-time teaching in 1993. After his wife died, he moved to England in 1998 and continued to compose and write. He died in 2006. Mary, his second wife, continues to live in England.

“We went to visit him in England the year before he passed away,” Spitzer said, referring to himself and his wife Judy.

Years back, Schwarz asked the Spitzers to be his literary heirs, and they agreed. They hope to find a place on the Minot State campus to house his papers and artifacts. It will allow his former students to return and reminisce about their earlier days on campus.

The Spitzers along with other friends of the late maestro are in the process of endowing a scholarship in his name.

For more information on the scholarship, e-mail alumni@minotstateu.edu or call 1-800-777-0750, ext. 4483.



Onward Beavers

Onward Beavers, onward to win
Onward Beavers, never give in
'Cuz when we fight
You know we'll always be
A team of champions
Pushin' on to victory.
So onward Beavers on to the test
For the school we love the best.
So, hail, hail, the gangs all here
As we fight on to victory.
Fight! Fight!



Appreciation night at the Dome



The MSU Alumni Association and Beaver Booster Appreciation Night was held on January 11, 2008, at the MSU dome. 600 alumni, Beaver Boosters and friends got a chance to watch the basketball teams in action, win some prizes and have a great meal!

ABOVE: Alumni Association Board members Brenda Foster, Amy Simmons and Verla Rostad serving the Appreciation Night meal at the Dome.



RIGHT: MSU alumni and faculty enjoying the meal at the Basketball Appreciation Night in January.

Alumni event in Denver November 2007



L to R: Jeff Podolski '86, Patricia (Brekke) Podolski '89, Kathleen Brekke '88, Eddie Scott Christine Brekke-Scott '86, Margaret Earle '71, Tom Earle, Andrea Steenstrup-Bobb '88, Kari Sorenson '88, Tawnya Bernsdorf '04, Terry Summers '81 (host).

Alumni Association

Gala
dinner & auction

2009 GALA

April 24, 2009

Grand International

ALUMNI FEATURES

Minot principal wins rare recognition

A Minot State graduate has received a distinguished service award from a national education group, only the third such award in its 76-year history.

The National Association of Student Councils recognized Les Anderson, principal of Jim Hill Middle School in Minot.

"I'm humbled and appreciative of the recognition," he said. "It was a total surprise."

National dignitaries presented the award to Anderson at a state conference in December. More than 1,200 students from 80 schools belong to the state organization.

"They like to come to your home state and recognize you in front of the people you work with," he said.

Anderson has held national and state positions in the student council group for 30 years. He will also be recognized at the organization's national conference in Dallas in June.

Anderson graduated from Minot State in 1968 with a degree in math education. After four decades as a teacher and administrator, he plans to retire this spring.

"After 40 years, it's time," he said. "I'm still having a great time. I love the kids and the stuff we're doing at Jim Hill. I want to retire when I feel good."

After retirement, Anderson plans to stay involved with the student council organization. He will also continue his active lifestyle, which includes exercising, biking and playing golf.

Anderson's wife, Debbie, graduated from Minot State with a degree in elementary education in 1970.



Math teacher earns national award

MSU alumna Rhonda Grindy has won a Milken National Educator Award for teaching excellence.

Dr. Wayne Sanstead, state superintendent of public instruction, presented Grindy with the award before a cheering crowd of supporters at Jim Hill Middle School in November. A blue-ribbon state panel selected her for recognition.

Grindy will receive a check for \$25,000 at the Milken National Education Conference in Santa Monica, Calif., in late March. Attendees are required to wear tuxedos and floor-length gowns for the event dubbed the "Oscars of teaching."

Grindy graduated from Minot State in 1988 with a bachelor's degree in math and computer science. She was the Minot Education Association's teacher of the year in 2005-06.

The veteran math teacher tries to overcome a negative mindset that many seventh-graders bring to her class.

"I try my best to make them not hate math," she said. "If I can get them to be comfortable with it at this age, then it will carry through."

Jim Hill Principal Les Anderson, a recipient of the award himself in 1993, nominated Grindy without her knowledge.

"You're surprised that someone nominated you and that you received the award," she said.

The Jim Hill teacher was the only recipient from North Dakota last year. Eighty teachers received the award nationwide. The Milken Family Foundation has awarded \$58 million to more than 2,300 educators since 1987.



Four alumnae receive state awards

Four Minot State University alumnae are recipients of annual awards from the North Dakota Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance in November.

Betsy Gerhart, a 1983 graduate who lives in Minot, was named elementary teacher of the year. She is a physical education instructor at North Plains and Dakota Elementary Schools at Minot Air Force Base and a track coach at Minot High School.

Vicky Bender, Regan, was named middle school teacher of the year. She graduated from MSU in 1983. She teaches physical education at Wilton Public School.

Terry Eckmann, an associate professor in MSU's Department of Teacher Education and Human Performance, was named college/university teacher of the year. Eckmann received B.S., B.S.E., and M.S. degrees from MSU. She earned a master of science degree from the University of Montana and a doctoral degree from the University of North Dakota.

Kathryn Lenertz, Minot, was named administrator of the year. She is principal of Dakota Elementary School at Minot Air Force Base. She graduated from Minot State in 1983.

The mission of NDAHPERD is to provide professional development and support for health, physical education, recreation and dance professionals.

Henry's universe continues to expand

Corey Henry has come a long way from his hometown of Newburg, N.D., with its population of 150.

As a student at Minot State, Henry served as president of the Student Association for two years. He was also active in the Economics Club.

At one point, club members conducted a running debate on state economic development with a University of North Dakota professor in the newspapers. MSU Economics Department faculty assisted the club with the project.

"Dr. (Steve) Huenneke served as our adviser and did an incredible job of helping us understand the details and merits of both sides of the debate. I learned so much from him and the other professors who worked with us on the project," he said.

Henry's MSU achievements caught the eye of then-Gov. Ed Schafer, who appointed him to the State Board of Higher Education as the first student member with voting privileges.

"I learned so much from that experience," he said of his one-year stint on the board.

"I came into contact with so many great people, including Jack Hoeven, for whom I have a tremendous amount of respect. He gave me my first job and became a great mentor in my career."

Schaefer currently serves as secretary of agriculture in the Bush administration. Hoeven is a retired banker and father of current North Dakota Gov. John Hoeven.

Henry said that extracurricular activities at Minot State enhanced his leadership skills and built his confidence.

He graduated with a degree in economics in 1997. He worked at Minot's First Western Bank & Trust for a year and then served as a caseworker in U.S. Sen. Byron Dorgan's Fargo office for 3 1/2 years.

He earned an M.B.A. from the University of Minnesota and then spent two years with an investment bank in Phoenix. In 2005, he moved to New York City to work for Moody's Investors Services in its asset finance group.

"I did it in stages," he said. "Gradually, I got into larger cities. There was no way I could have gone from Newburg to Manhattan without some sort of transition."

Henry plans to get married in May. Whitney, his fiancée, is originally from Florida. Her first visit to North Dakota was a memorable one. "I brought her home to meet the family over Christmas, and it was negative 40 degrees," he said.

...extracurricular activities at Minot State enhanced (Henry's) leadership skills and built his confidence.

Johnson pursues theatrical career in Windy City

MSU alumnus Nate Johnson is making full use of his college education.

Johnson graduated in 1997 with a degree in computer science, but he minored in music and communication arts. He participated extensively in theater and music, his twin passions.



Today, Johnson is pursuing a career in musical theater from his home in Chicago. He currently is touring with the North American company of the Broadway hit "Mamma Mia!" He dances and sings in

the ensemble and understudies two of the leads.

The tenor, who trained as lyric baritone under MSU's Ken Bowles, feels the university gave him a distinct advantage in the theatrical world.

"MSU allowed me to perform," he said. "It was an opportunity to try different things onstage."

Johnson did it all at Minot State. He acted, directed and designed shows. He worked on publicity, built sets and ran lights.

He's learned from fellow actors from larger universities that they graduated with little onstage experience compared to what he experienced at MSU. Some students are even dismissed from theater programs when they don't meet performance standards.

"I didn't have that pressure to produce," Johnson said. "I was given the opportunity to grow at my own pace."

The theater world is extremely competitive, he said. Roughly 10 percent of Actors Equity members are working at a given time. This cold reality often dissuades performers from stretching their talents.

"Things that I take with me today I had an opportunity to try at Minot State in a safe environment, where you can fail, and it doesn't haunt you," he said. "If you do that in the real world, you can get blacklisted."

When Johnson does find himself between theatrical jobs, he utilizes his computer science degree to earn a living.

Johnson earned a master's of fine arts (M.F.A.) from Western Illinois University in 2000. He and his wife Dee Ann moved to Chicago in 2003. She is a graphic designer by day and an equine artist at night. The couple welcomed daughter Lilia to the family on Christmas Day.

Once done with the touring life, Johnson hopes to remain active in the Chicago theater scene and perhaps teach on the college level someday.

ALUMNI FEATURES

Police officer found a home at Minot State

A small-town girl's vision came into focus when she attended Minot State in the early 1980s.

Margie Zietz grew up on a family farm near Clifford in eastern North Dakota. When she graduated with nine others from Clifford High School, she had a hazy career goal of working with troubled teens.

After brief stops at Mayville State and Valley City State, she transferred to Minot State.

The Criminal Justice Department became her haven away from home, with its small classes and helpful instructors. Zietz immersed herself in coursework and extracurricular activities.

"A group of us girls had a football team, bowling team, basketball team," she said. "We were active all year long."

Zietz's mentors opened her eyes to the numerous opportunities available in the criminal justice field. Her psychology courses proved especially helpful in her chosen field of law enforcement.

"If you can understand people's behavior, you've got half the world licked," she said.

As a 1983 graduate, her diploma bears the name of Dakota Northwestern University, one of several names the school had over a short period.

After graduation, Zietz worked for the Traill County Sheriff's Department and at the Ward County Jail in Minot. In 1984, she was one of only two people hired by the Minot Police Department from a field of 176 applicants.

At the time, she was the third woman on the force. She feels her gender aids her in police work.

"Crime isn't just for males anymore," the police sergeant said. "We deal with females on the street. It's nice to have a female (officer) there, especially if children are involved."

Today, Zietz is one of seven females on the 60-member force.

In 2002, she was transferred from patrol duty to the crime prevention unit. The unit features 26 programs, including Adopt-A-Cop, McGruff House, Crime Stoppers and Character Counts. She regularly visits schools and speaks to community groups. The assignment has been a morale-booster for her.

"I've worked with the community more. That's really been enjoyable. You're not always working patrol and seeing the negative in people," she said.

Zietz is a single mother of five boys, ages 17, 12, 11, 9 and 6.



Class A coaches share common bond

Even without the Minot High School team playing in the semifinals of the Class A Boys Basketball Tournament in early March, there was plenty of Minot flair in the boys final four.

Dickinson coach Dean Winczewski '99, Fargo South coach Mike Hendrickson '91 and West Fargo coach Greg Limke '90 all played basketball at Minot State University.

Winczewski and Limke both starred at Bishop Ryan before college, while Hendrickson prepped at Williston High.

The one thing all three have in common is that they played for former Minot State Head Coach Dick Limke.

"If you watch the sets we run, they all go back to Dick," Winczewski said. "It's a lot of respect to Dick and his ability to get shooters the basketball."

Hendrickson had to laugh when he talked about plays he still uses that he learned at MSU.

"That's the funny part," he said. "Greg and I even use the same signals. We both run 'fist' as the exact same play we did in college."

Both said the nature of Minot State as a school for educators led to many students going on to coaching careers.

"It's an educational school," Hendrickson said. "On our basketball team, there was five or six guys that wanted to be coaches. It was something just driven by going to school there."

Wahpeton coach Jeff Ralph '88 and Williston coach Mark Slotsve '91 are both MSU alums who coached in the state tournament this weekend.

"It's nice to see the Minot State guys have success," Winczewski said.

— excerpted in part from the *Minot Daily News*

Class A champion girls basketball coach also a Minot State grad

Mandan girls basketball coach Greg Amundson '72 and his Braves have won six straight state titles.

It was Mandan's eighth title in nine years and its 20th-straight state tournament victory. The Braves have collected a 26-1 record in the state tournament since the fall of 1999.

— excerpted in part from the *Bismarck Tribune*

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www.minotstateu.edu/alumni/diploma.shtml

CLASS NOTES

50s.....

Tom Myhra '57, Fridley, Minn., was inducted into the Fridley hall of fame in recognition of his many contributions of service to his community.

60s.....

Lela (Atwood) Peterson '64, Reynolds, teaches at Lake Agassiz School in Grand Forks.

Tim Davis '68, Bottineau, was awarded the Jaycees lifetime achievement award by the Bottineau Jaycees.

70s.....

Margaret (Soland) Earle '71, Colorado Springs, Colo., currently is the president of Preceptor Beta Iota, a local chapter of Beta Sigma Phi International Sorority. She is a cancer survivor since April 2006.

Karen (McFarland) Buchholz '72, Del Rio, Texas, is retiring after 38 years of teaching high school chemistry.

Paul Johnson '72, Bismarck, was named North Dakota superintendent of the year.

Rosanne Olson '72, Seattle, Wash., featured her art work at the Cando Art Center Gallery. Her photographs are exhibited in New York City, Houston and Seattle.

Marsha Looysen '73, Minot, is currently teaching freshman English at Minot High School Central Campus and coordinates National History Day. She received her master of arts degree in English at Middlebury College in Vermont. She was recently named the North Dakota teacher research scholar.

Rev. Lee Herbert '74, Bismarck, has been installed as a pastor at First Lutheran Church, Mandan, in January.

Nancy (Livingston) Miller '74, Drake, is currently teaching at Drake.

Jeanell (Pfau) Nelson '74, currently teaches at Central Campus High School. She and her husband Bruce '73 have two sons, Eric and Paul.

Vicki (Pitzer) Boehnke '75, Kramer, is in her 28th year of teaching in the early childhood special needs program at Bottineau

Deb (Bosch) Barros '77, Dickinson, has been selected by the Dickinson Women of Today as its outstanding woman of the community.

Kathy (Ross) Feist '79, Minot, is teaching Title I at Lewis and Clark Elementary School in Minot. She is in her 28th year of teaching.

Lorraine Jacobson '79, Milnor, is working as a reporter for the Sargent County Teller. She is also the Sargent County coroner and

tobacco prevention coordinator for the Sargent County District Health Unit.

80s.....

Angie (Foster) Bartholomay '80, Bottineau, completed a master's of science degree at Bemidji State University in May 2007.

Terry (Ferebee) Eckmann '81, Minot, was named the college/university teacher of the year by the North Dakota Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. She is an associate professor at Minot State University in the Department of Teacher Education and Human Performance.

Julie (Neumiller) McLain '81, Stanton, was named the 2007 Mercer County educator of the year. She is currently the Title I teacher for Grades 1-6, the librarian, and third- and fourth-grade spelling and phonics classroom teacher at Stanton Elementary School. She was married to the late Ed McLain.

Bonnie (Nelson Engel Dees) Avery '82, Oxford, Miss., was the featured speaker at the annual Chemistry Alumni Lecture and Scholarship Presentation at the University of North Dakota in October.

Nadley (Dempsey) Buehler '83, Oberon, teaches third grade in Maddock. Her oldest daughter is a music major at Bemidji.

Marjorie (Erbstoesser) Zietz '83, Minot, received the 2007 North Dakota Peace Officer Association peace officer of the year award in November.

Irving Curless '84, El Paso, Texas, graduated from Grand Canyon University in July 2007 with a master's in teaching. Having taught English for 19 years and serving as the literacy coach for 1 1/2 years at Andress High School for the El Paso ISD, he accepted the position as the high school facilitator for reading/English language arts for the El Paso ISD, the seventh-largest school district in the state of Texas in November 2007.

Scott Aalund '85, Studio City, Calif., received citations from the Mayor of Los Angeles, the California State Senate, and the California State Assembly for his efforts in teaching at the Phoenix House.

Allen Knudson '85, Bismarck, has been named the N.D. Legislature's top budget analyst.

Deb (Janssen Williams) Beck '86, Bismarck, received her autism certificate in 2003 and is currently working as an autism specialist.

Christine Brekke-Scott '86, Westminster, Colo., married Eddie Logan Scott. They have a daughter, Kayleen.

Kevin Burckhard '86, Minot, has been appointed to managing director by Northwestern Mutual in Minot as well as northwest North Dakota. His daughter, Elizabeth, was named the winner of the Ward County spelling bee held in February.

Leonard Henderson '88, Minot, retired from the Air Force and moved to his home state of South Carolina. In 1998, he received a B.A. from Coastal University in Conway, S.C. In 2000, he married Liana Herrera, a Spanish instructor at Minot State University.

Andrea Steenstrup-Bobb '88, Centennial, Colo., is a paralegal informational service director for Westwind Management Group, Inc. Her husband, Bill, is employed with the USPS as a letter carrier. They have two daughters, Annika, 9, and Tailyn, 6. They also have a 1-year-old golden retriever named Belle.

Mark Wax '88, Bismarck, was promoted to rural housing program director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development in North Dakota in October.

Jeff '89 and Pat '89 Podolski, Denver, Colo., have two sons, ages 16 and 14.

90s.....

Cheryl (Tryhus) Nilsen '90, Riverdale, completed an Ed.D. in curriculum and instruction with a minor in math at Montana State University at Bozeman, Mont.

Michael McKay '93, Fargo, is employed as a correctional officer at the Cass County Jail. He also serves as a field training officer at the jail to help train the new staff.



Chris '93 and Donna (Sukarukoff) Peterson '94, moved to Regina, Saskatchewan. Donna is a speech pathologist

with the Prairie Valley School Division. Chris is working as a photographer with the CBC and has covered everything from presidential races to Stanley Cup finals and is now relishing the slower pace that Regina offers. This also allows him to care for "his girls"—Dakota Rae, 1, and McKenna Lauryn, 5. In his spare time, he is on the board of directors for a charity golf tournament that raises money for a food bank.

CLASS NOTES

Please let us hear from you with news of your career updates, marriage, family, address change, etc. While you're at it, include a photograph if you have one.

Name _____ Class _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Mail to: Alumni Association
 Minot State University
 500 University Avenue West
 Minot, ND 58707
 e-mail: alumni@minotstateu.edu

Debby (Ballard) Boechler '94, Bismarck, joined AAA North Dakota as a sales and service agent in October.

Sherry (Hunter) Finan '94, Whitecourt, Alberta, teaches third grade in Whitecourt. She and her husband, Darren, have a 5-year-old son, Declan Hunter.

Michael McCloud '94, Max, has been reassigned to serve as sergeant of the Highway Patrol northwest region in Minot.

Aimee (Pegors) Swartwout '94, Minot, currently teaches at Central Campus. She and her husband, Cory, have four children, Ashlee, Hunter, Andrew and Breanna.

Jerry Obenauer '95, Hazen, is Hazen's middle school principal and athletic director. Jerry and his wife, Christie, have three children.

Dean Banet '96, Devils Lake, joined Western Finance & Lease as a credit analyst in January.

Heather (Skari) Gillihan '96, Minot, vice president and assistant manager for First International Bank & Trust, completed the certified community auditing program in November.

Kathryn (Graner) Lenertz '96, Minot, was named administrator of the year by the North Dakota Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. She is principal of Dakota Elementary School at Minot Air Force Base.



Kelly (Campbell) '98 and Jordan Thornton '98, Regina, Saskatchewan, were married on

September 4, 2004. Kelly is teaching pre-kindergarten at the Regina Early Learning Centre. Jordan is a master control operator for Saskatchewan Communications Network. They have a one son, Traeh Anthony Thornton, born Oct. 2, 2007.

Nicole Witikko '98, recently returned to Minot and is working for the N.D. School for the Deaf as a parent-infant and outreach specialist. Since graduating as a deaf education and elementary education double major, she has student taught in Louisiana and graduated with a master's degree from Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Ore. She has worked as an early childhood special educator and deaf educator with children from birth to 3-years-old in Minnesota and Germany. Last year, she worked in Washington D.C., at the River School, a private oral deaf school, in two toddler classrooms.

Erika (Anderson) Azure '99, Portland, is employed at Microsoft in Fargo. Her husband, Daniel, teaches at MayPort CG High School. A daughter, Kennison Marie, was born on June 12, 2007. She joins a brother, Kelby, 4.

Donanne (Hensen) Derr '99, Glenburn, is teaching third grade in Glenburn.

Brad Fleck '99, Fargo, joined Valesco Mortgage as a mortgage banker in November.

Brian Weigel '99, Bismarck, was named 2007 employee of the year at the North Dakota Department of Corrections, Division of Adult Services, in October.

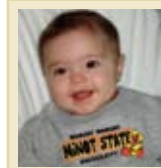
00s.....

Sandra (Olson) Larson '00, Minot, is employed at Erik Ramstad Middle School as a computer keyboarding teacher. She and her husband, **Tracy '88**, celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary in 2007. They have twins, Journey and Carter, born in December 2006.

Amber (Wyman) Thorenson '00, Newburg, teaches music at Westhope Public School.

Julie Goebel '02, Williston, was awarded the doctor of audiology degree from the School of Audiology at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry in January

Trevor Sinclair '02, Washburn, is the fourth-grade teacher at Washburn School. His wife, **Shayla '02**, teaches fifth grade and coaches in Washburn.



Shawn '03 and Andrea '05 Roedocker, Burlington, are the proud parents of a son, Drew LaDel, born on May 30, 2007.

Richard "Rusty" Bigelow '04, Bismarck, has been promoted to computer and network specialist II, and is the main technician at Job Service North Dakota.

Jancy Brisson '04, Bottineau, has joined the staff of MSU-Bottineau and will serve as an admissions counselor and recruiter.

Jesse '04 and Kelli '01 (Jacobson) Maupin live in Savage, Minn. Jesse is employed with McGladrey & Pullen in Minneapolis and is a certified public accountant. Kelli is employed with Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota in the Minnetonka outpatient facility.

Jason Merck '05, Minot, was recognized as the new representative of the year at the network awards banquet for Northwestern Mutual Financial Network held in January

I would like to take this opportunity to express how appreciative I am of the quality education I received at Minot State University. I graduated from Minot State University in 1991 with my bachelor of social work degree. Since that time, I've been working in a variety of settings until something prompted me to go back to school. My education at Minot State University prepared me well when I entered graduate school at the University of Wyoming in Laramie. Thanks to the foundational base that was laid for me I was able to successfully complete my master of social work degree this past spring. Minot State University should be proud of the quality of education it provides to those it serves.

— KERI KINZELL

in Fargo. He is a financial representative for NMFN.

Kyle Aschenbrenner '06, Minot, was presented the Meredith Hanson Persistency Award at the network awards banquet for Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, held in January in Fargo. The award recognizes exceptional customer satisfaction. He has been a financial representative for NMFN since 2006.

Jamie Eraas '06, Tioga, was named the president for the Tioga Chamber of Commerce in January.

Jessica Pfau '06, Devils Lake, is employed at Four Winds High School in Fort Totten, where she teaches ninth- and 10th-grade English.

Jennifer Sundahl '06, Minot, joined American Bank Center as a credit review officer in January.

Cassie Dahl '07, Finley, is the business teacher at Northwood High School.

Mat Jensen '07, Minot, was named a loan officer for Farm Credit Services of North Dakota, Minot branch, in September.

Brandi Marum '07, Berthold, is the fourth-grade teacher at Parshall.

Noelyn Meckle '07, Ray, has been hired as Ray's auditor.

Attended.....

Tiffany Buttke, Oakes, is the administrative assistant for the superintendent at Oakes Public School.

Pat Donovan, Beulah, featured his art work in the Smithsonian Museum's traveling exhibit, "Between Fences." The exhibit explores fences as dominant features throughout our country's history and throughout Americans' lives.

Michelle Eichler, Fargo, has joined the law firm of Jeffries, Olson & Flom in Fargo.

Alicia Hegland, Bismarck, joined AAA North Dakota as a travel counselor.

Karen Johner, Mandan, was promoted to president at the North Dakota Guaranty and Title Company in January.

Christine Jones, Fargo, was promoted at the accounting firm of Fiebiger, Swanson, West & Co. in November.

Shelby Kary, Fargo, joined MeritCare Island Park and FastTrack by MeritCare, both in Fargo, as a nurse practitioner in the field of family medicine.

KC Kondos, Minot, joined American Insurance Center as an agent in January.

Joel Kostelecky, Mandan, was promoted to vice president-business banking at Starion Financial. He provides financing, leasing, online banking for business and other financial services in the Bismarck-Mandan markets. He joined Starion in 2004 as a business banking officer.

Brian Lovdahl, Tioga, is the new president of the Tioga Economic Development Corporation.

Bev Mikkelsen, Garrison, retired as vice president from Garrison State Bank in December.

Benjamin Nelson, Milnor, is the math instructor at Milnor Public School.

Colleen Ranum, Grand Forks, is a personal banker at Bremer Bank.

John Reimer, Fargo, joined the Fargo office of Fiebiger, Swanson, West & Co., as an in-charge accountant in November.

Kami Roberts, Minot, joined American Bank Center as a financial service representative in December.

Stacy (Louser) Schaeffer, Minot, opened a law practice in Garrison. She offers services in domestic relations, family law, estate planning, corporate law, real estate and collections.

Scott Vigested, Minot, purchased an interest in M&S Concessions Inc. in December and was named vice president.

Jennifer Whitmore, Stanley, is the English/language arts teacher for grades 7-12 at Powers Lake School.

Have you received copies of these issues of Connections magazine?

With changes in postal endorsements, anyone with a change of address may not have received the copies pictured. If you wish to receive them, we will be glad to honor your request. Contact the Alumni Office at 701-858-3234 or e-mail alumni@minotstateu.edu.

Also, let us know if you would rather receive Connections electronically.



Moving

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or e-mail us at: alumni@minotstateu.edu

IN MEMORIAM

It is with honor we dedicate this section to recognize alumni and friends who have passed away from approximately October 16, 2007 to February 25, 2008, or as submitted.

'30s.....

- '30 Walter, Dailey, Grand Forks, December 2007
'32 Mehus (Jorstad), Odney J.; Perryville, Ky., December 2007
'32 Strong (Jones), Agnes M.; Laurel, Mont., March 2007
'35 Keeney (Cain), Ida A.; Mandan & New Town; February 2008
'36 Van Camp, Sylvia R.; Minot, February 2008
'37 Landgren (Snyder), Amy M.; Underwood, December 2007
'39 James (Miller), Bertha "Bert"; Kenmare, December 2007

'40s.....

- '40 Hain (Hazelton), Margaret; Sherwood, December 2007
'40 Nelson (Smith), Eileen R.; Rapid City, S.D., January 2008
'40 Richter, William B.; Siblimity, Ore., November 2007
'44 Ryan (Larson) Evelyn O.; Wildrose, December 2007
'44 Taylor, Thelma M.; Minnetonka, Minn., 2007
'46 Heilmann (Wold), Joyce T.; Minot, November 2007
'49 Anderson, Arthur L.; Minot, January 2008
'49 Hoff (Holtz), Shirley M.; Billings, Mont., November 2007

'50s.....

- '51 Miner, Adah L.; Minot, January 2008
'53 Cline (Doehle), Alwina; Centennial, Colo.; February 2008
'53 Olson, Rueben S. (Nick); Minot, October 2007
'53 Thompson (Klebe) Viola; Willow City, December 2007
'54 Glore (German), Ardis D.; Salem, Ore., December 2007
'56 Hoppmam, Bernice; Minot, January 2008
'57 Fettig, Leo K.; Bismarck, November 2007
'57 Seter, Clair; Montgomery, Texas, October 2007
'58 Frydenlund (Molden), Jeanette B.; Fargo, October 2007

'60s.....

- '61 Maesner, Clarence M.; Portland, Ore., October 2007
'63 Armstrong, David H.; Minot, January 2008
'63 Kline (Lockrem), Pearl; Minot, January 2008

- '64 Talley, James "Jim"; Lansford, December 2007
'64 Weisenberger, Harry, Fargo, January 2008
'66 Zimmer, Loren O.; Kenmare, January 2008
'67 Christenson (Bonebrake), Sally E.; Bountiful, Utah, November 2007
'68 Fagerland (Meyer), Loretta A.; Rapid City, S.D., December 2007
'68 Rust, William D.; Grand Forks, November 2007

'70s.....

- '70 Brown (Anderson), Peggy; Minot, October 2007
'70 Clark (Olson), Corliss C.; Minot, January 2008
'70 Slagg, James C.; Montgomery City, Mo., November 2007
'71 Berg, Paul M.; San Antonio, Texas; November 2007
'75 Larson (Lee), Marilyn J.; Lambert, Mont.; September 2007

'90s.....

- '98 Davidson, Bram E.; Reno, Nev., October 2007

'00s.....

- '03 Gunville, (Vivier), Aurelia A.; Dunseith, November 2007

Attended.....

- Backlund, Dayton H.; Minot, October 2007
Coughlin, Mert W.; Kenmare, January 2008
Ellingson (Link), Theresa; Killdeer, December 2007
Fandrich (Nachatilo), Normeley; Rugby, December 2007
Forsberg, Reub; Minot, November 2007
Huettl, George J.; Max, October 2007
Larson (Svalestuen), Edna E.; Bottineau, January 2008
Paulson (Weisdal), Margaret C.; Crosby, February 2008
Malaterre, Rod B.; Rolla, December 2007
Mathison (Opsahl), Martha; Harvey, January 2008
Meland, Eugene "Butch"; Hazen, November 2007
Misuraca, Eric A.; Minot, January 2008
Myers (Carter), Emelia F.; Parshall, September 2007
Neifert (Misslin), Katherine "Kay"; Pocatello, Idaho, December 2007
Nelson, Clifford L.; Spicer, Minn., September 2007
Olson, Rodney M.; Sun City West, Ariz., October 2006
Prochaska, Tracy L.; Minot, November 2007
Reiswig (Miller), Mildred; Mandan, February 2008

- Rude (Ege), Edna; Kenmare, November 2007
Sage (Johnson), Dorris M.; Great Falls, Mont., November 2007
Sandford (DuPaul), Marie M.; Minot, December 2007
Sheldon (Jefferis), Lois E.; Fargo, December 2007
Smith (Torgerson), Flora M.; Oklahoma City, Okla., January 2008
Stengle, Bernice; Bremerton, Wash.; November 2007
Stevens (Cunningham), Geneva E.; Upham, January 2008
Stevens (Dudley), Marion; Kenmare, November 2007
Strehlow, Benjamin "Ben" C.; Bismarck, October 2007
Svor (Wallentinson), Arlene S.; Tioga, October 2007
White, Sandra K.; Bowman, February 2008

Friends.....

- Aamot, Wayne; Minot, Makoti, October 2007
Christensen, Harold "Harry" R.; Woodburn, Ore., January 2008
Elm, Elm E.; Minot, November 2007
Hildahl, Allan O.; Minot, October 2007
Hovdestad, Brent G.; Minneapolis, Minn., October 2007
Huggins (Swain), Carol M.; Phoenix, Ariz., October 2007
Knorr, Arthur G.; Sawyer, January 2008
Lowe (Janes), Jennifer R.; Minot, December 2007
Ryan, James M.; Minot, February 2008
Schreiner, Ralph I.; Minot, November 2007
Stiles (Neuens), Elsie R.; Minot, February 2008
Stockman, Esther A.; Bellevue, Wash., December 2007
Thorson (Reiquam), Lois; Minot, November 2007

Former Faculty/Staff.....

- Brooks (Goddard), Margaret (Peggy) A. '81/'92, Minot, January 2007; a graduate of MSU and a biology instructor from 1995-97. Her husband, Dr. Fred Brooks, was also a professor at MSU in the Ed/ Psych department. (The last names in a previous posting were inaccurate.)
Curtis, John J. Jr., Minot, January 2008. He was an instructor in the Division of Literature and Language from 1964 until retiring in 1995. He taught American literature and English composition and regularly contributed to the Humanities Seminar Series.
Moore, Charles (Chas), Storm Lake, Iowa, October 2007. He was a music instructor and had many of his music compositions performed throughout the United States.

1969 Tournament of Roses Marching Band Reunion



The trip to the 1969 Tournament of Roses Parade for the Minot State College Marching Band started with an invitation dated June 10, 1968. Dr. James Jurens, director of bands, answered the call after careful

consideration of the logistics.

Fundraisers were undertaken, and money was raised through a cookbook sale and blood donations. The parade would prove to

be an historic event for the college, with perfect weather and more than 100 million viewers in the television audience. The 160-member band marched 5 1/2 miles in 17 rows. Band members were on their feet for five hours that day, with three hours of

continuous marching during the parade itself. This grueling work out didn't phase band members. The band proudly performed until the end of the parade route. (A feat many other bands in the parade could not claim.) The band received high praise that day from many people, including President of Minot State College Gordon Olson, Tournament of Roses Parade commentator Mike Douglas, North Dakota Gov. William T. Guy, and countless others who watched the parade. The trip proved to be a historic event in the history of bands at Minot State College.

The 2008 Minot State University Homecoming celebration is taking place Sept. 21-27. Sept. 26 is the Alumni Reunion at the Holiday Inn. The Homecoming Parade is on Sept. 27 at 10 a.m., with the Homecoming football game at 1:30 that afternoon at Herb Parker Stadium

MSU is inviting the Tournament of Roses Marching Band back for Homecoming with the opportunity to play with the Beaver Athletic Band during the football game. All members of this historic band are invited to join us to relive old times and to



help support our Beavers!

Special recognition is being given to members of the 1968-69 Minot State College Band for the Tournament of Roses Parade. The 2008-09 academic year marks the 40th anniversary of this historic performance.

SAVE SEPT. 26 AND 27 FOR MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING 2008!

Do you have photographs or memorabilia from the 1969 Tournament of Roses Parade trip? If so, contact: Alumni Association, c/o 1969 Tournament of Roses Reunion, Minot State University, 500 University Ave West, Minot, ND 58707, Phone: 1-800-777-0750, ext. 3234, or 701-858-3234, e-mail: alumni@minotstateu.edu.

Muralist leaves his mark on Student Center



Ryan Burr, an artist from the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, has painted three murals in the MSU Student Center.

Burr first created the Blue Mosque of Istanbul, Turkey, on a wall outside the Office of International Programs.

Burr next painted a Native American panorama on a 50-foot wall outside the Multicultural Center. It features Native American figures, buffalo, buttes, prairie grass, teepee village and beaver dam.

“President (David) Fuller said, ‘Let’s go with something that gives it a sense of place,’” Burr said.



The third mural is on a column outside the Office of International Programs. It features cultural sites from around the world.

The artist used multisurface acrylic paints and artist’s brushes to create the colorful murals.

Burr developed a talent for drawing as a child. He began painting professionally in 1988 and started doing murals in 2002.

He has created murals for the Three Affiliated Tribes building in New Town, Fort Berthold Community College and 4-Bears Casino and Lodge. He teaches art at Fort Berthold Community College.



(Photos by Sandra Nordstrom.)



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