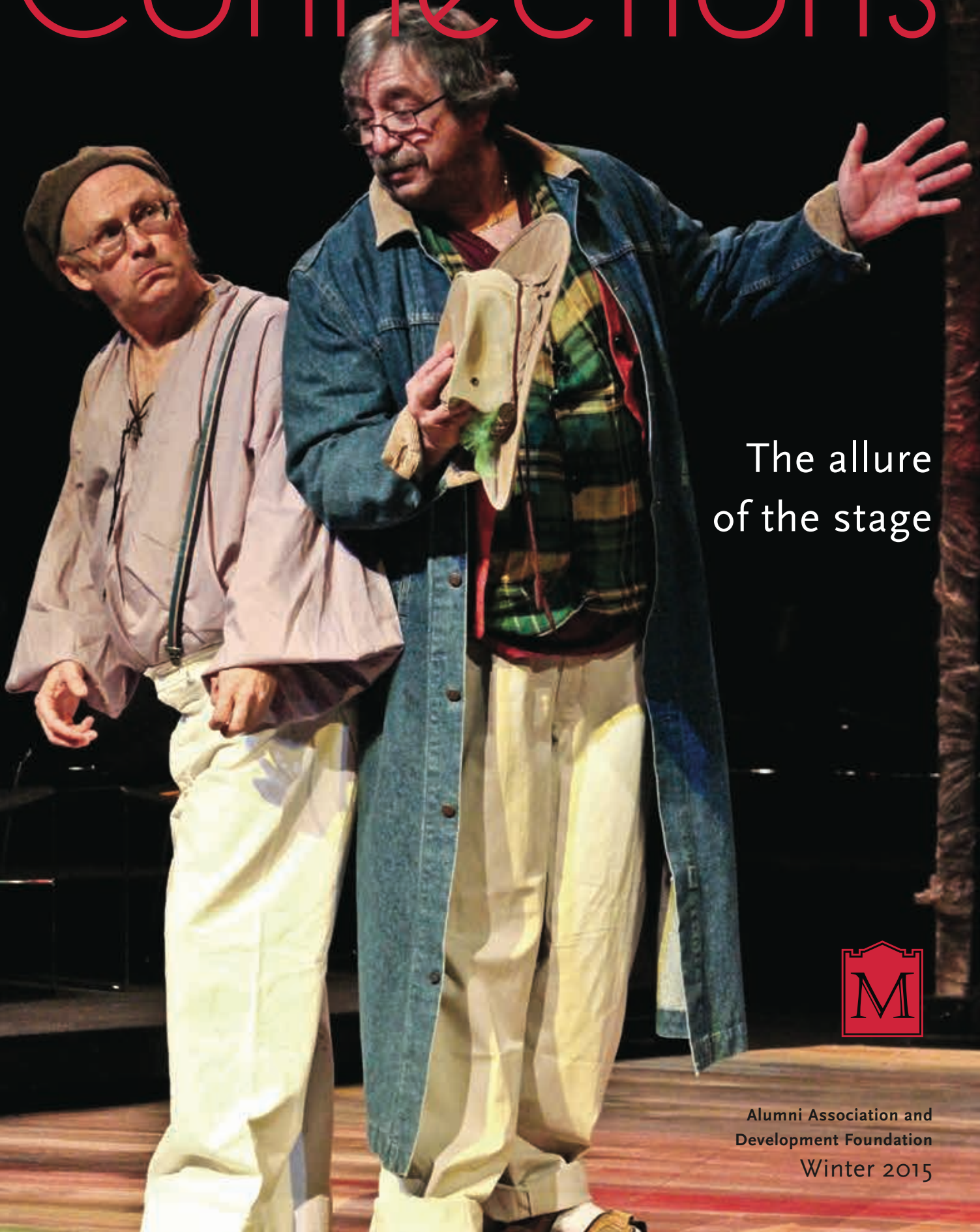


Connections



The allure
of the stage



Alumni Association and
Development Foundation
Winter 2015

Message from the President



Welcome to the Winter 2015 issue of Connections. As you read this publication, Minot State University will be midway through the spring 2015 semester, the North Dakota Legislature will be in full swing with its 64th Legislative Session, and hopefully we will be enjoying a February that is slightly warmer than the frigid start we had to January!

As you can see on the cover, the Minot State University Summer Theatre program will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2015. What a remarkable accomplishment! It is incredible to consider this important program has been such a vital part of the MSU campus for fully half of our university's century-long existence. As you read the cover story and see the accompanying photos, it is clear how impactful this program has been at Minot State University for students, faculty, staff, alumni and the community at-large. This has been "must-see" entertainment during the summers in Minot for five decades. When our family moved to Minot last summer, one of the very first things we did was attend the MSU Summer Theatre production of "Spamalot." Less than two weeks on the job at Minot State, and we were instantly hooked! A couple weeks later we attended "Big River: The Adventures of Huck Finn." It is easy to see why this has been such a longstanding success — there truly is no better way to spend a beautiful summer

evening in Minot than under the stars with some popcorn, a root beer float, and enjoying the talents of all those in theatre. Congratulations to Professors Kevin Neuharth and Conrad Davidson (featured on the cover photo) and all the talented individuals who have made MSU Summer Theatre such a success and integral part of the campus for five decades. Here's to another 50 great years!

Beyond the theatre cover story, you will also find articles featuring other important Minot State anniversaries. Fifty years of the Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, 50 years of Pi Omega Pi, and 60 years of MSU's Department of Communication Disorders. As you read those stories, it quickly becomes apparent how important each of these areas has been in creating unique experiences for our students. Many of you have perhaps participated in one of those areas and have a story to tell or an experience that comes to mind. These areas have flourished and succeeded for so long, not only because of outstanding students, but also

due to the diligent work and tireless efforts of caring faculty and staff. Employees committed to providing the absolute best for students and ensuring unique learning opportunities are what make Minot State such a special campus; there are countless examples of that commitment as you reflect on these special anniversaries.

I sincerely hope you are all enjoying a wonderful start to the New Year. I am excited to be moving full-steam ahead in my first full calendar year at Minot State! All the best as we transition from a long winter into the glorious North Dakota spring months, and I look forward to seeing you at future MSU events — be it a ball game, a theatre or music performance, the Arizona alumni events, the Gala, commencement, or some other activity in the months ahead. Thanks for your support of Minot State and our students, and as always, GO BEAVERS!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Steven W. Shirley". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

STEVEN W. SHIRLEY, PH.D.
PRESIDENT

INSIDE

FEATURE ARTICLES

- 4 The allure of the stage
 - 10 Communication Disorders strives for excellence for 60 years
 - 14 We are a product of our experiences
 - 16 Lasting friendships formed through Sigma Tau Gamma
- ATHLETICS
- 18 Good team chemistry equals great season success
- ALUMNI HAPPENINGS
- 22
- DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
- 25
- CLASS NOTES
- 26
- IN MEMORY
- 29
- BABY BEAVERS
- 30

CONNECTIONS STAFF

Vice President for Advancement: Marv Semrau
 Managing Editor and Writer: Alysia Huck
 Writer and Editor: Frank McCahill
 Writers: Michael Linnell, Linda Benson '83/ '00
 Photography Coordinator: Teresa Loftesnes '07
 Publication Design: Doreen Wald
 Alumni Happenings: Janna McKechnie '14
 Baby Beavers: Kate Marshall '07
 Class Notes: Bonnie Trueblood
 In Memory: Renae Yale '10

PHOTOGRAPHERS:

Gemar Photography
 Richard Heit '07
 Michael Linnell, MSU Athletic Department

PHOTO CREDIT:

Basketball photos on page 18 and 21 courtesy of the Minot Daily News (as indicated)

Connections is published three times a year by the Minot State University Alumni Association and Development Foundation. Send comments, articles or photo submissions to *Connections*, MSU Alumni Office, 500 University Ave. West, Minot, ND 58707. Telephone 701-858-3399 or 1-800-777-0750. Fax 701-858-3179. Email: alumni@minotstateu.edu

Printed on Forest Stewardship Council certified stock. Third class postage paid at Fargo, ND 58101

COVER STORY

4

The allure of the stage

It's captivating — in the eye of the audience as well as the performers, bringing them back year after year for the past 50 years. From a tent to a full-fledged amphitheater, MSU Summer Theatre continues to entice thousands from near and far each summer.

Cover photo:


Summer Theatre directors Conrad Davidson and Kevin Neuharth perform in the 1997 production of "The Odd Couple."



"Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" (2014).



Summer



The allure of the stage

“ALL THE WORLD’S A STAGE,
And all the men and women
merely players; they have
their exits and their
entrances, and one man in
his time plays many parts.”

—William Shakespeare

Fifty years after the first tent was pitched, Minot State University’s Summer Theatre remains a staple of the community. Its grip reaches near and far, magnetizing seasoned attendees and performers and drawing in new ones each and every year.

Theatre

“I think the impact can be seen in the number of folks who come back to perform and attend the performances year after year,” Kevin Neuharth, Summer Theatre director, said. “When you have the same performer return for 19 seasons, that suggests the program impacts somebody’s life and that person impacts the program. And the audience feels like they are a part of the program. That is so cool to me. I see so many of the same people year after year.”

MSU’s Summer Theatre has changed in many ways since its inception. In the 1960s, faculty members Tom Turner and Harold Aleshire decided the Magic City needed a Summer Theatre, and by 1966, the first performances of “Bye Bye Birdie,” “Damn Yankees” and “After the Ball” were taking place in McFarland Auditorium and outside McFarland on exceptionally hot days.

Early productions were sometimes held in a makeshift tent on campus, but high winds wreaked havoc with the tent. One specific event was cemented in the mind of alumnus Tim Davis, ’68, who moved to Bottineau shortly after his graduation from MSU, establishing a community theater based on his experience.

“When I lived in Crane Hall, we were rousted out of bed at four or five in the morning because of a storm, and we had to go throw ourselves spread-eagled on top of the tent to keep it from blowing

away,” Davis said. “We had to stay overnight and take turns sleeping on cots under the tent as a security measure. I don’t know if we did any good!”

Ultimately, organizers had to find a more permanent structure. Turner and Aleshire decided to build an amphitheater and selected the north side of campus. By the fall of 1970, a stage, orchestra pit, seating area and light booth were constructed. By the following summer, a crew of 14 N.D. National Guardsmen used heavy equipment to carve out a parking area south of the amphitheatre.

“Sure there were times of frustration, specifically weather conditions, but MSU Summer Theatre impacted me in such a positive way and is one of the reasons I chose to do theater as long as I have,” Davis said.

One may ask what keeps the performers coming back to MSU’s Summer Theatre year after year, working 12 to 15 hour days in the heat of the summer. While recreating a great experience is key in Neuharth’s eyes, each performer has his or her own special draw.

John Weninger, ’87/’98, who currently resides in Milwaukee, always considered himself a late-bloomer, but ultimately he found his niche in theater. He went on to pursue an MFA in technical theater from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, returning to MSU each and every summer through 1995.



Tent Theatre — circa 1968.



“Into the Woods” (1992).

“The interesting part about MSU Summer Theatre is you do everything,” Weninger said. “I came back as a technical director, but it was an expectation, honor and hope to be cast in shows as well.

Directors are directors and actors are actors at larger theaters. But by having this type of world we lived in for two and a half months each year, we got to test all of the roles. On many levels, I was able to give back and learn.”

With little persuasion from Neuharth, Weninger will return once again to perform in this summer’s performance of “Greater Tuna.”

“It’s such a welcoming invitation to come back to a university that shaped my life.”

—John Weninger ’87/’98

“It’s a wonderful love affair with my hometown, and my family is all there,” Weninger said. “It’s such a welcoming invitation to come back to a university that shaped my life, and there is a dear spot in my heart for MSU and especially for Kevin. Without those experiences, I would not have returned.”

A small theater often means a small budget, forcing one to think outside of the box. Sandra Nelson, ’97, who went on to obtain a master’s degree in educational theater arts,

utilized those skills by passing them on to her students.

“I was the technical director for many summers at MSU, and I learned so much about construction and how to do things safely and economically,” Nelson said. “Knowing we needed something in our purse at the end of the year to pay royalties, I learned how to get that money and spread it out. I learned so much from Kevin (Neuharth), Conrad (Davidson) and so many others. I got a great education at a smaller university from very experienced professors.”

Keeping costs down so the show could go on was not only important for budget reasons, but to keep the doors open to a wide range of viewers who fill the seats 50 years later.

“To this day, they do a good job of keeping ticket prices down,” Nelson said. “We want all to attend. It’s not so expensive, like a movie, and there are so many shows with children involved which piques their interest in the arts.”

Affordable costs are not all that keeps the audience and performers coming back.



*“SHREK
the Musical”
(2013).*



"Forever Plaid" (1997).



"Once Upon a Mattress" (1991).



"Nunsense" (2000).

Neuharth strives to keep the shows interesting, mixing a little traditional with not-so-traditional. From "Oklahoma" to "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Music Man" to the more current "Spamalot" and not-so-familiar "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," Neuharth strives to appeal to a wide range of performers and attendees alike.

"Some shows have not drawn well, but how do you succeed if you don't try?" Neuharth asked. "Sometimes the stars don't align, but that doesn't stop the audience

from coming back. For instance, 'Clue the Musical'—some shows you never think would be a draw. I thought maybe 200 (people), and we ended up with over 400. That tells us the audience will allow us to go in different directions. It shows a lot about the audiences in this town and region."

And the audience and performers continue to return.

"It's so cool to see the same people year after year," Nelson said, "and they remember me, even when I'm in the audience.

Summer Theatre puts on as good a quality show as any regional theater or university on a limited budget. It's solid acting with great directors. So many want to come back with the 50 years this summer, and that shows their entry into the arts was quality."

Summer Theatre is vital to any community. Performers develop a certain camaraderie. The young, and even the very young, get to interact with the experienced, and everybody learns from each other. Brett Olson, '12, can attest to that.

"As an actor, I was met with many opportunities to grow," he said. "Each season offered so much more. I could almost point to each season and say what I learned that season. It's a pretty unique experience to study something throughout the school year and get the chance to apply those skills all summer long."

Summer Theatre brings a unique flavor of the arts to the region. It is the mixing of an array of personalities to create a spectacular event.

"The Sound of Music" (1975).



"The Foreigner" (1988).





"Crazy for You" (2008).



"My Fair Lady" (2011).

"It's so cool to see the same people year after year," Nelson said, "and they remember me, even when I'm in the audience."

"There's this balance of playfulness and professionalism," Olson said. "It creates this world and this moment that's being shared by the audience. That is what it is all about — enriching lives."

"It's a 12-to-15-hour-a-day job," Neuharth said. "If you spend that much time with people, and you keep coming back, I suspect they must have had a pretty good experience."

So what might be the plan for the 50th-anniversary celebration? To start, the Summer Theatre Chair Campaign went off without a hitch. Three hundred seats were purchased and will be installed in time for the anniversary season. In addition, other upgrades will include painting, lighting, security lights and motion lights for the parking lot. Last, and most important, are the performances. The season

will kick off with the musical comedy "Nonsense" and continue with "Greater Tuna," the first in a series of four comedic plays. Other shows being considered are the musical "The Music Man," the British farce "No Sex Please, We're British" Broadway musical "Annie" and "Noises Off."

"We are looking at five shows, one from each decade," Neuharth said. "We will be

contacting performers who worked these shows in previous years to ask if they would be interested in returning, and 'The Music Man' would allow them to bring their children and get them involved. We have a great season in store."

While actors and attendees will come and go, the support and desire for MSU Summer Theatre is apparent as it continues to endure and grow.

"Spamalot" (2014).



Turner (left) takes his cast through their paces —circa 1986.

MSU SAYS GOODBYE ...



TOM TURNER, associate professor of communication arts, taught at Minot State University from 1965 to 1990. He developed the MSU summer theatre program and conceived and planned the current

amphitheater. He created the historical display of MSU in Hartnett Hall. Turner also wrote an original full-length play, "They Died With Their Hats On," produced in 1986. Turner passed away Jan. 7, 2015.



COMMUNICATION

strives for excellence for 60 years

MSU'S Department of Communication Disorders delivers one of the institution's premier programs.

That department and its curriculum evolved steadily from its beginning in the 1930s. Edna Gilbert was most responsible for its origin, evolution and maturation. A Chicago native, Gilbert earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. In 1930, George McFarland, Minot State Teachers College president, asked Gilbert to help students with speech correction, so they could get teaching jobs. She developed and administered a program in speech correction. To fulfill these obligations, the division divided its programs and courses into three parts: education of the deaf, speech correction and mental retardation. With the exception of 1945-1946 and 1954-1955, Gilbert remained at MSTC until she retired in 1968.

In 1951, legislation was passed to provide speech and hearing services in the public schools. In 1954, the first students graduated with degrees, so communication disorders celebrates its 60th anniversary from that year. Into the 1960s, Gilbert led an ambitious program designed to meet the needs for those engaged in speech training and speech correction in the public schools. Initially offered only as a minor, the program soon expanded to become a major, the first in North Dakota. Not long afterward, new courses in areas involving cleft palate, cerebral palsy and faulty hearing appeared.

Under Presidents Carl Swain and Casper Lura, Gilbert added majors in speech correction and education of the deaf. Both degrees involved clinical practice. In 1962, MSTC created a separate Division of Special Education with Gilbert as the director. Her charge included overseeing not only the division's faculty and curricula but also monitoring a speech and hearing clinic.

In 1963 during Gilbert's tenure, another momentous event occurred for the Division of Special Education and the institution: Minot State College received authorization from the State Board of Higher Education to grant graduate degrees, namely Master of Science in speech correction and education of the deaf. In 1968, the major's title was changed from speech correction to speech pathology and audiology.

The division's expansion, which began in the early 1960s, intensified in the 1970s. The number of faculty almost tripled to 22, and undergraduate classes increased from 28 to 42. The three-part division of undergraduate classes was



Edna Gilbert — circa 1965.

DISORDERS



Denise (Hockley) Shellian '80 and Marty Charlebois '86 work with a group of preschoolers — circa 1978.



The younger children in the speech and hearing clinic learn by associating words and objects — circa 1963.

expanded. The new format included four areas: education of the deaf, education of the mentally retarded, speech pathology, and audiology.

If the Division of Special Education's expanded undergraduate program with its multiple Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees was impressive, even more so was the college's graduate program. It started out modestly. In November 1964, six women constituted the first full-time group of graduate students. In the 1970s, the North Dakota Speech and Hearing Journal was published from MSU. Audrey Lunday, a long-time speech-language-pathology faculty member, was its editor.

By 1980, Minot State College's Division of Special Education Graduate School offered six advanced degrees: Master of Science degrees in audiology, education of the deaf, education of the mentally retarded, learning disabilities, special education, and speech pathology. The Graduate School set rigorous and detailed admission standards for all these programs, including high test grades and grade point averages. The degrees were designed to prepare personnel to function as specialists in their particular fields. Moreover, the possession of such a degree brought with it certification. Today, Minot State's Department of Communication Disorders enjoys a reputation as an outstanding



The speech and hearing clinic also works with older people and their needs — circa 1963.



Professor Cheryl Gilson demonstrates human bone structure to Andrea Baht '12.



Brynn Villeneuve '13 practices word recognition with a young client.



Leisa Harmon, chair and professor of communication disorders, monitors Natasha Brenzil's clinic session.

“We have graduates all over the continent. We have Canadian graduates and American students throughout the nation and the world. The majority of speech-language pathologists in western North Dakota were educated at Minot State.”

—*Leisa Harmon, department chair*

program, not only on the Northern Plains but nationally and internationally.

“Presently, we have 10 faculty members engaged in both classroom teaching and in clinic supervision,” said Leisa (Halvorson) Harmon, ’88/ ’89, Department of Communication Disorders chair. “We have an on-campus clinic where we serve community members, from children to adults, who come in for speech therapy and for hearing, speech and language evaluations. The students work directly with community members under the supervision of faculty members. We serve the full life span, from infants to the elderly.

“We have graduates all over the continent. We have Canadian graduates and American students throughout the nation and the world. The majority of speech-language pathologists in western North Dakota were educated at Minot State.”

Kylee (Olson) Geer completed her bachelor’s degree at MSU in 2005, and she continued on in communication disorders to receive a master’s degree in 2007. After working as a speech-language pathologist in Fargo for five years, Geer returned to MSU and was a clinical supervisor from August 2012 to May 2013. In August 2012, she opened the Minot Center for Pediatric Therapy. She employs Cassie McLeod, a speech-language pathologist who graduated from Minot State in 2014, and Krisann Miller, an occupational therapist.

“We see children for speech-language therapy and occupational therapy,” Geer said. “I see children one to two times per week for therapy. Parents and guardians and sometimes siblings



Kylee Geer opened her clinic in August 2012.

are included in therapy activities, and the majority of kids I currently see have a medical diagnosis, such as autism, Down Syndrome or developmental delay. I see kids for speech therapy and also feeding therapy. I hope to continue to offer services to help children with special needs learn to communicate with others and participate in the community.”

The Minot State University Communication Disorders Clinic, Geer and the thousands of graduates of MSU’s communication disorders program know that an unmet need for speech, language and hearing services exists. They are working hard to fill the need, in western North Dakota, the United States, Canada and throughout the world.



Kylee Geer sees children one to two times per week for therapy.

“We are a product of our experiences”

Roger Looyenga '68

For generations, the MSU business education program and faculty have been instrumental in the development of student careers

PI OMEGA PI

celebrated its 50th anniversary at Minot State during Homecoming in September 2014. The national honor society is made up of prospective business education teachers.

Thirty former members of the local Delta Omega Chapter were on hand for the reunion weekend. Former faculty advisers Adelaide Johnson, '47, Julianne Eklund, '69, Roger Mergenthal and Robert Sando also attended the festivities.

The chapter was founded in May 1964 with 23 charter members. Dale Atwood and Gayle Sobolik were faculty advisers. Over its five-decade history, Pi Omega Pi has had 388 members.

One of those members is Jan (Thompson) Repnow, '84, of Ray. She graduated from

the business education program in 1984 and taught on the secondary



level for *Jan (Thompson) Repnow* 23 years. She returned to MSU eight years ago as business education coordinator

and Pi Omega Pi advisor. She compiled a history of the honor society for its golden anniversary.

Business education has grown in its level of sophistication since the days of the State Normal School at Minot. The 1919-20 college bulletin mentioned typing and school accounting as elective courses that prospective elementary teachers could take. Soon after, courses in penmanship, spelling and shorthand were added.

In 1927, the Commercial Club, a student society for those planning to teach commercial subjects, was established with 18 members. Course offerings in teacher education continued to expand in the 1930s.

During World War II, emphasis shifted to non-teaching business training to support the war effort. After the war, the Commerce Division's staff and course offerings continued to grow under the direction of J. Bernard Busse.

A comforting constant in the modern history of the business education program was advisor Adelaide Johnson.

After graduating from Minot State in 1947, Johnson taught on the high school level



Adelaide Johnson — circa 1978

for 14 years. She then served at Minot State from 1962-78, teaching typing, accounting, computer programming and data processing.

“Adelaide taught the methods courses,” Repnow said. “She was the university supervisor when student teachers went out. She touched the lives of so many business education students.”

Notable graduates of the program include Roger Looyenga, '68, former CEO of Auto-Owners Insurance Group; Lisa (Christensen) Feldner, '86, N.D. University System vice chancellor for IT and institutional research; and Kim Slotsve, '87, assistant superintendent with the Minot Public Schools.

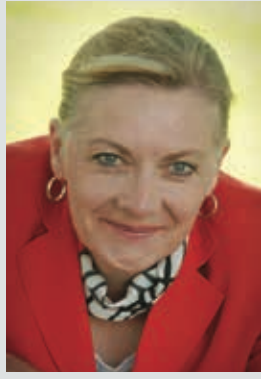
In recent years, the business teacher education program has



J. Bernard Busse assists a student — circa 1958



Roger Looyenga '68



Lisa Feldner '86



Kim Slotsve '87

The business education program continues to adjust to real-world demands as it has over its century-long history.

“As businesses change, we need to be adaptive,” Willoughby said.

graduated a steady five to 10 students per year.

“We flooded the market with business teachers awhile back,” said Lori Willoughby, chair of the Business Information Technology (BIT) Department, which oversees business teacher education. That group is retiring; now we’re seeing vacancies. We’ve become a shortage area in the state.”

Happily, reinforcements are on the way. Some past MSU graduates in management are

reassessing their careers and succumbing to the irresistible pull of teaching. These 20- and 30-somethings have entered MSU’s transition-to-teaching program.

“We’re now putting people in the classroom who have the business knowledge and skills,” Willoughby said. “They’re becoming very effective teachers.”

Repnow teaches the business methods courses and supervises student teachers,

as they evolve from self-conscious outsiders to confident professionals radiant with enthusiasm.

“Seeing them blossom in front of their students is so rewarding,” she said.

The business education program continues to adjust to real-world demands as it has over its century-long history.

“As businesses change, we need to be adaptive,” Willoughby said.

The program is also adjusting to a generation of students that favor distance delivery of coursework and anytime mobile access to accommodate heavy off-campus work schedules.

In their first two years of college, many students work full time and attend classes part time to avoid incurring heavy debt. As they near graduation, they reverse the work-school balance.

“They’re very smart about their time and their finances,” Willoughby said. “The whole dynamic has changed on campus.”

To showcase its growing menu of offerings, the BIT Department sponsors an annual Technology Day. Students from area high schools compete in eight business-related areas. The program is in its 17th year.



Business education instructor Jan Repnow answers a question for Emily Mark — April 2014

Lasting friendships formed through SIGMA TAU GAMMA



Sigma Tau Gamma co-founders, John Theisen, '67 and Lou Trombetta, '67 stand by the shield, which once hung in front of their fraternity house at 116 University Avenue West.

Fifty years ago, John Theisen, '67 and Lou Trombetta, '67 launched the Gamma Delta Chapter of the Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity at Minot State University. The chapter's creation and the resulting friendships will be celebrated at a reunion Sept. 17-19, 2015, at the Grand Hotel as part of Homecoming Week.

"We will have people here from all over the country," said Dwight "Ormy" Ormiston, '64, reunion organizer. "Friday night will be the big event. I feel we will have a pretty large contingent. And we will take part in the parade, football game and tailgating."

The start of the fraternity at Minot State goes back to when Theisen and Trombetta, both members of Beta Rho Chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma at Moorhead State University, Minn., transferred to MSU. The two were recruited by Hank Hettwer, a wrestling and football coach, and roomed together in Pioneer Hall during spring quarter 1965.

With a prospective list of men they considered worthy of being Sig Taus, Theisen and Trombetta contacted the national fraternity's executive office in St. Louis, Mo., stating their desire to found a colony at Minot State. E. Kennedy Witsitt, national executive sec-

retary, visited Minot and gave them permission to institute a colony, with the Grand Council's approval. Theisen and Trombetta spent the remainder of spring quarter planning.

The following fall quarter, 13 men pledged. The charter pledge class was composed primarily of athletes, since Theisen, a quarterback, and Trombetta, a linebacker and wrestler, were athletes. In the 10th week of fall quarter, 16 more men pledged. With this pledge class, the colony was represented by every campus division, 11 states, Canada and Greece.

"Every division on campus — accounting, music, history, science and business — was included in an effort to round out and balance the entire group," Theisen said.

Also balancing "town and gown," Ron Archer, MSU assistant professor of special education, John Greenslit, MSU baseball coach, Dr. Robert Deckert, Minot podiatrist, and Frank Barron, insurance and real estate broker, were appointed to the chapter's advisory board. Later after Greenslit left Minot, Gary Scott, MSU director of guidance and counseling, served on the board.

Initially, meetings were held in Pioneer Hall's TV area. The colony elected Theisen as president with

Trombetta, Joe LaDuke, '67 and Tim Sanderson, '68 as vice presidents.

The two older fraternities, Mu Sigma Tau, a local fraternity, and Tau Kappa Epsilon, another national one, tried to impede Sigma Tau Gamma's progress by claiming pledging violations of the Interfraternity Council constitution, which stated "that pledging shall begin no sooner than the fifth week of the quarter." The Sig Taus were penalized for "violation of the spirit of the constitution." The penalty included no pledging or rushing, social probation for the rest of the quarter and a \$50 fine, which was paid in pennies.

Sigma Tau Gamma continued to grow and pledged 23 men in spring quarter 1966. The Sig Taus completely dominated the 1966 Greek Week. A high point was the Sig Taus pulling the Mu Sig and Teke pledges into the Mouse River during a tug of war.

The chapter's creation and the resulting friendships will be celebrated at a reunion Sept. 17 – 19, 2015, at the Grand Hotel as part of Homecoming Week.

“Each year, we had Greek Week, which included different competitions, like chariot races and tug of war,” said Ormiston, who was a member of the spring 1966 pledge class. “But we also volunteered and had work projects, where you really developed friendships. We had a big fencing project, and we helped with the cleanup from the ’69 flood. There were guys who risked their lives helping people out in that flood.”

The members of Sigma Tau Gamma also excelled at building floats for the Homecoming Parade. Al “Albee” Allstadt, ’69, an art major from Long Island, N.Y., had seen many elaborate floats in New York City parades, like Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. He served as project manager, and the Sig Taus built enormous, animated floats with gears and pulleys. When MSU played Valley City State University in 1967, their float included an MSU Beaver with moving eyes, mouth and tail. The beaver was followed by eight VCSU Vikings, who were

cartoon characters in a boat. The float had the inscription, “When the Rowing Gets Rough, the Beavers get Tough.”

“Reminiscing about the floats brings back a lot of great memories,” Allstadt said. “When I look back and think about our ages at the time and that none of us were trained engineers, it was an amazing group effort by the whole fraternity to achieve a new level of animation for Homecoming floats.”

Sterling Breed, national Sigma Tau Gamma president, Dave Blum, national executive assistant, and Whitesitt were present on May 28, 1966, for Gamma Delta Chapter’s installation ceremony and charter presentation. Breed announced that Theisen and Trombetta won the Kenneth Winebrenner Award for outstanding leadership for founding Gamma Delta Chapter.

With a successful organizational year as a colony and a chapter, the stage was set for the next 20 years. Gamma Delta won many fraternity



The Sig Tau Gamma’s first-place Homecoming float — circa 1967.

awards and had many members win individual awards.

“When all the fraternities and sororities were active, they pretty much ran the show,” Ormiston said. “If there were activities going on, we were involved in full force. We took part in student government and academics, along with social activities. We helped a lot of people really develop lifelong friendships.”

Tony Kulig ’68, who pledged in 1967, credits his involvement in the fraternity to Trombetta.

“Louie was a next-door neighbor of mine in Pitts-

burgh, and he talked to me about going to school out here,” Kulig said. “I had no plans on going to school. My intent was to work in the steel mill out there. I got a much better life here (Minot).”

Minot native Jay Altringer, ’75, pledged with 11 others during his freshman year in 1971. He credits the fraternity with giving him friends from several states and two provinces.

“It was fun and a great way to make friends,” Altringer said. “I have good friends from those days, and we stay in touch. Many will say that being a Sig Tau gave them a reason to finish school.”

“It’s fun to look back. So many years went so quick, but when we get together, it’s as if we haven’t been apart,” Ormiston said. “We just have a good time.”

For information about the 2015 Sigma Tau Gamma reunion, visit the Sig Tau of Minot Facebook page.



L-R – Front: Sig Taus Don Hummel ’75, Greg Fjeld ’81, Randy Armstrong, Curt Krueger ’80, Jay Altringer ’75, Back: Steve Sidener ’67, Rian Luehe, Tony Kulig ’68, Mark Gorde ’70.



good team
chemistry
= great season success



lot is said about chemistry being one of the most important factors to a team's success. No Minot State University team has exemplified that more than the 2004-05 men's basketball team. In fact, finding that chemistry off the court might have been the turning point in the season.

"I remember a practice right after Christmas," said Jordan "Coop" Cooper, '08, then, a sophomore from Westhope. "We were starting to gel a little on the court, but coach (Mike) Hultz said, 'Yeah, do you know each other off the court? Do you know anything about each other?' We started to understand that if this was going to work we needed to get to know each other away from basketball."

Hultz's plan worked, and the rest is Minot State men's basketball history. The Beavers

set a record with 23 wins, going 15-3 after the break and earning the team a trip to the NAIA Division II National Tournament in Branson, Mo.

The team

It was that chemistry and a ton of hard work that elevated the 2004-05 team. MSU was coming off a stellar 19-11 season with a veteran group, led by Kent Bloms, '04, Jeff Brandt, '06 and Steve Grabowski, '04, that tied the 1972-73 squad for most wins in a season. But the group

only returned one starter in Qasim "Q" Ward, '06, a senior from New Jersey, along with junior Jeremy Feller, '07, (Surrey), sophomores Lance Allerdings, '07, (Minot) and Drew Hysjulien, '07, (Grand Forks), bringing in 11 new players to start the season.

"We had a lot of local North Dakota kids, and that wasn't usually the recipe for success then," said Feller, who is a teacher and coach at Our Redeemer's Christian School in Minot. "But the local kids lived and worked together, and

*Former MSU guard Lance Allerdings, '06, drives in the lane during a home game at the MSU Dome.
Photo courtesy of the Minot Daily News.*

we were pretty good friends. When we brought in the guys from outside the area, they were good friends. So, there were two separate groups. Every day, we got a little closer and just started clicking. I think that was the most important thing for our success.”

It wasn't just the local guys who had to adjust to players coming in from all across the nation.

Hultz brought in a wealth of talent from nearly every corner of the country that season. Cooper spent one season at Lake Region State College before transferring to MSU. Courtney “Co-Co” Haley, '07, a junior guard who would eventually be a two-time NAIA All-American, and TJ Collings, '08, a junior post, were from Chicago. Tagg Williams, a freshman guard, hailed from Terreton, Idaho, and Charles Roark, a point guard, came from Lakeland, Fla.

“At first, it was tough not knowing anybody on the team, but after playing together the first couple of games, everyone felt like family,” Roark said. “I believe that team was like a close-knit group of guys. We ate together, partied together and played well together.”

“Our relationships were good, and I think we were going to click anyway, but the meeting at the shoot-around really kick-started it,” added Cooper. “We started to understand our teammates, not just if they were going to pass the ball in the corner but truly understand who they were and where

they came from. It just took off from there.”

The Beavers were 8-6 after the first three months of the season, losing to both its rivals, 79-69 at the University of Mary and 88-71 at Dickinson State. It wasn't a wash at the break, but the team wasn't quite living up to what it and the coaching staff thought it could do.

“Our rotation that year was typically nine, and there were five transfers in that group,” said Hysjulien, a teacher and coach in Minot. “We all brought something different to the table with our skill sets, and it fit together nicely. I think it took

“Players make plays in big moments, and that's a shot that will go down as one of the greatest ever in MSU history,” said University of South Dakota head coach Craig Smith. “It's one of the best games I have been a part of in my 19 years in coaching.”

some time for us to get used to each other and learn our roles, but by the time we got into the second half, we were very good.”

January hit and, with the sit-down during practice, things turned around quickly. MSU topped Presentation College in a nonconference game just after the New Year and then blitzed the DAC-10. MSU went 11-3, won all eight games in January and 12 of 13 games at one point. It ended the conference season by hammering both DSU and U-Mary to earn the regular-season title.

That solidified the Beavers berth in the NAIA National Tournament, but there was one more piece to the puzzle before the trip to Branson.

The shot

The play wasn't exactly an Xs and Os masterpiece as Cooper recalls it.

“Hultz just yells at me to go to the opposite side of the court, and I don't know if he told TJ to set a screen, but I got to go either way, the corner or the elbow,” he said. “I thought the corner would be a better angle as I am right-handed and got the ball and faded away. It felt good.”

Cooper's buzzer-beating 3-pointer from the corner off a screen from Hysjulien tied the DAC-10 championship game with Mayville State at 73. The Beavers went on to outscore the Comets 86-82 to win the first of two postseason titles under Hultz.

It also seemed fitting to end a fairy-tale conference season with a charmed shot.

“It's one of those weird things — everything just seemed to come together that season and on that play,” Cooper said.

“The game was a heavy-weight fight — it had an Elite

Eight feel to it,” said Craig Smith, former Mayville coach and current head coach at the University of South Dakota. “Both teams had such a competitive spirit and made big play after big play.

“I remember we deflected a ball out of bounds with 2.4 seconds to go. We almost called a timeout to talk out our defense, but Minot didn't have any left. We decided not to call one up to see if they had a last-second play in. MSU did a great job of executing. I still remember the look of our guys coming to our bench. We looked like we were in shock. As good of a shooter as Cooper was, I'm not sure he could make that shot three times if he shot it 100 times. Players make plays in big moments, and that's a shot that will go down as one of the greatest ever in MSU history. It's one of the best games I have been a part of in my 19 years in coaching.”

While Cooper's 3 pulled the Beavers back from the brink of a loss, according to Grabowski, it didn't seem like a desperation shot at all.

“The end of the game, going to overtime, the atmosphere at the Dome, Cooper hitting the shot, the crowd going crazy — with the way the second half of the season went — it was like, ‘Yeah, that was supposed to happen,’” he said. “Sometimes you create your own luck, and things fall into place. We felt like that during that season. The combination of the chemistry and guys knowing their role, once we



Jordan Cooper '08, a guard from Westhope, eyes the basket during a game at the MSU Dome.

got going, we felt like we were going to win before we stepped on the court.”

That feeling continued with the Beavers to Branson, only to have another crazy game, another would-be fairy-tale-type game, go the other way. The Beavers’ run was stopped in double overtime in an opening loss in the national tournament to No. 16-ranked Cedarville University. It was one of the top games in the tournament.

“I think the best memory I have of that season was the trip to Branson,” said Grabowski, an assistant coach at the University of North Dakota. “Yeah, we

lost the game, but the guys had fun. That and cutting the nets down in old Swain Hall (after winning the title) were just fun.”

Knowing roles

The team chemistry that became a calling card for the 2004-05 team stemmed from a knowledge of each individual’s role on the team. According to Feller, it wasn’t about limelight and headlines.

“Now, as a coach, I really understand that concept of knowing your role on the team,” he said. “Kyle (Pankratz, ’09, junior center from Minot) was going to get in there and

play great defense. He didn’t care if he scored or not. Q was the same way. You have to have guys like that. Week in and week out, it was a different guy in the headlines.”

“That is a big part of it,” Grabowski said of team member’s understanding their roles. “We knew CoCo was going to score; Q would run through a brick wall; Charles would find the open man; Coop would hit his shots, and Feller would do his thing in the middle. Everyone played his role and played as a unit, and it was fun to watch.”

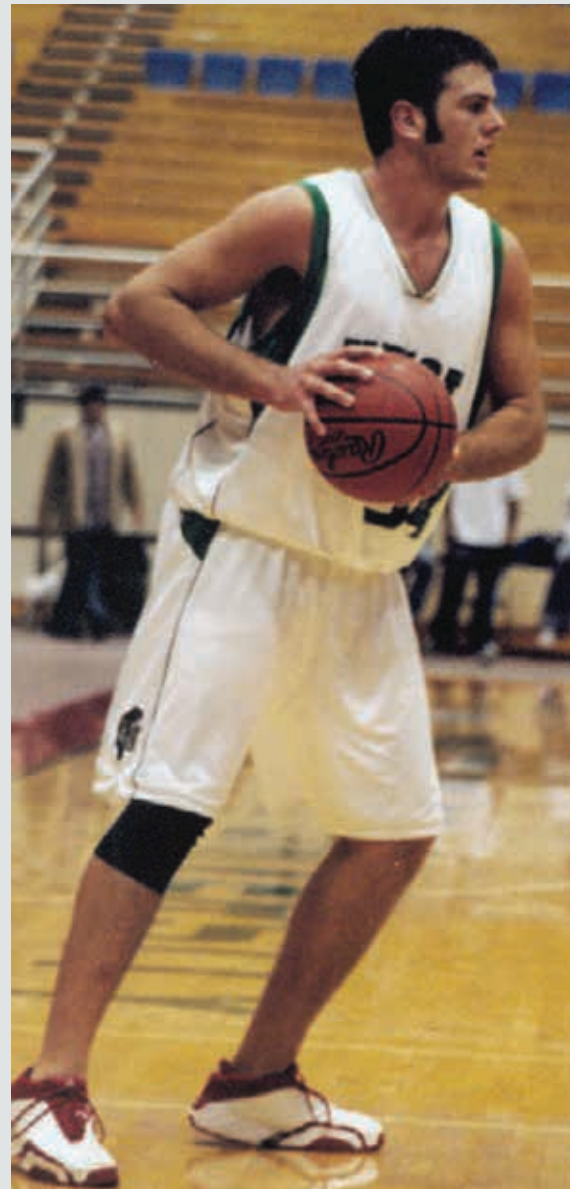
The Beavers had tremendous balance, as eight players averaged at least 6.9 points per game (counting Jorsua Chambers, who left the team at Christmas). Only three players reached double figures, paced by Haley’s 14.3 points-per-game average. Seven players finished with 3.5 or more rebounds on average. Allerdings, Feller and Haley started all 32 games, but MSU had seven other players who started at least one game.

“If you wanted to put together a basketball team, we were a perfect model,” Cooper said. “Drew and I were the shooters, so if one was off, the other would pick them up.

CoCo could be counted on for 14 to 15 a night. Chuck could spread it around. Lance and Jeremy played hard, and we pushed each other in practice. Hultz did a great job. The entire coaching staff with Steve and Taro (assistant coach Taro Fujimoto) really chipped away at the statue all year. Our practices were brutal, and we didn’t know who was going to start. There were six to seven guys off the bench ready to come in at any time.”

The Beavers’ leadership in Hultz, Grabowski — who was in his first year coaching after playing for the Beavers — and

Jeremy Feller, '07, Surrey, looks to pass.



Fujitmoto, along with great team leadership, stood out for Smith.

“The Minot State team of 2004-05 had tremendous talent and great leadership,” said Smith, who was an MSU assistant coach under Hultz before his time at Mayville. “They were very well-coached, and their triangle offense was very difficult to defend with their personnel.

“I learned more about basketball from an Xs-and-Os standpoint from coach Hultz than any other coach I have worked for.”

Educating the next generation

While the 2004-05 team fulfilled its expectations on the court, it has been doing much of the same off the court since graduation. Multiple members of the team have gone on to teach and coach, Minot State’s longest tradition as a former normal school.

Along with Cooper, Feller, Hysjulien and Roark (who coaches), Scott Delorme, ’06 (Williston) teaches and coaches tennis at Minot High, and Tim Brandt is a teacher and basketball coach at West Fargo Sheyenne, while Ward recently completed a master’s in education.

“There were a lot of educators and coaches on that team,” Hysjulien said.

Lasting teammates

While many of the individuals off the 2004-05 team came back in 2005-06, the group couldn’t muster the same chemistry on the court

and fell short of a return trip to the tournament. That, however, hasn’t stopped the group from remaining close since that year.

“Most of us local guys see each other because we are all in the same area,” Cooper said. “We haven’t done a ton of reminiscing or anything, so I don’t know if what we accomplished that year has really set in. I know that I have been looking for a magical year like that now that I am a coach.”

“I keep in touch as much as possible,” said Roark, who is back home in Florida coaching and training players. “CoCo and I have remained close. I probably talk to him at least once a week, and with Facebook I have been able to keep up with the rest of the guys.”

While the group hasn’t been together to talk about the game, Feller says that when he is with a member of the team, stories from the year usually come up — at least what they can remember.

“It’s more of a joking thing than really reminiscing about the year,” he said. “We talk about how much fun we had and the different stories from the road trips. There

were some good memories from that year, even if some of the details have been forgotten.”

Hysjulien agreed that it isn’t so much the games and strategies but the things the team did away from the court.

“It’s mostly funny stories,” he said. “We had a crew who, for a good three years or so, spent about every minute of the day together. Needless to say, over the course of that time, we have a lot of stories.”

Grabowski feels it extends beyond just that season.

The group he played with

before the 2004-05 season and the teams over the next few seasons have added to the tradition of men’s basketball at MSU. The Beavers finished their run in the Dakota Athletic Conference with the second-best winning percentage in the 2000s, playing in three DAC title games and advancing to the national tournament twice. But, more importantly, the players remained close as a group.

“The local guys stay in touch, but even the guys from out of state will stay in touch,” he said. “I still have great connections with that group.”

*Lance Allerdings, ’06, drives past a University of Mary player.
Photo courtesy of the Minot Daily News.*



ALUMNI NIGHT @ MSU



Larry Eidsness '76 and Dave Senger '72 reminisced over dinner.



The 2015 MSU Basketball Appreciation Night garnered a great turnout (Helgeson) Look '65, and Bev Alex (right) at the MSU Dining Hall.



Andy and Teal (Eggert) Leraas '09 along with their children cheered on the men's and women's basketball teams.



Service with a smile: MSU Alumni Board members Ben (Beuchler) Kitzman '92, Julie (Kouba) Benning '93 served a great dinner to hundreds of alumni.



Alan '61 and Marjorie Westphal enjoyed the evening and conversation.



Following a great dinner and social hour, MSU basketball fans enjoyed the game while music faculty members Dr. DeVera Bowles and Dr. Ken...

Beaver Basketball



Great turnout. George and Polly Bernsdorf joined David and Ardis [unclear] me.



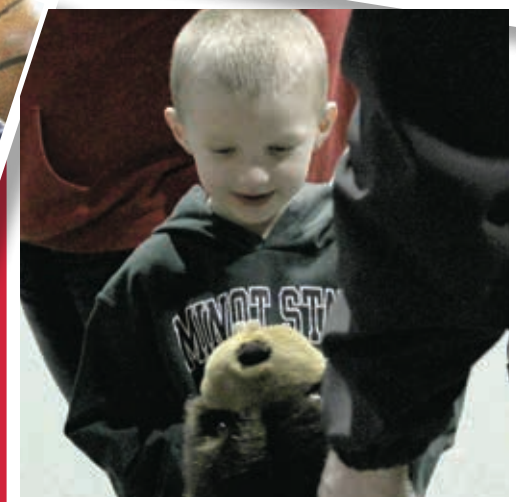
Jerry Lokken '68 and Curt Medalen '64 also won new Beaver gear.



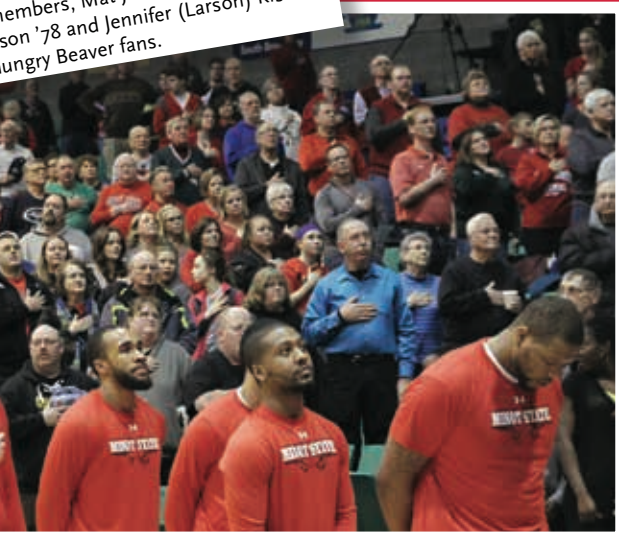
Members, Mat Jensen '07, Judi Kissner '78 and Jennifer (Larson) Kissner are hungry Beaver fans.



Jan (Ennis) Barlow '61 excitedly showed her new Beaver sweatshirt.



Oakley Trueblood, a young Beaver fan, was excited to receive his prize, Bucky the Beaver.



An exciting night of Beaver basketball. Fans and players stood at attention as the Minot State Band sang our national anthem.



Connie (Seibel) Knudson was the winner of a Beaver t-shirt.

We invite you to the 2015

Arizona

Reunion Events



*Come and meet
MSU President,
Dr. Steven W. Shirley*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

ALUMNI & FRIENDS SOCIAL: 6 – 7 P.M. ■ The Brat Haus
3622 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale, Ariz.

SCOTTSDALE ART TOUR: 7 – 9 P.M.
Main St. and Marshall Way, Scottsdale, Ariz.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

MSU GOLF SCRAMBLE: The Duke Golf Club, 42660 W. Rancho
El Dorado Parkway, Maricopa, Ariz. ■ \$89 includes cart, green fees,
range balls and lunch ■ Shotgun start at 9:30 A.M.
Please pay for this event at www.MinotStateU.edu/alumni/events

ALUMNI & FRIENDS SOCIAL: 6 – 8 P.M. ■ Luxe Lounge,
inside the Ultrastar Multi-tainment Center at AK-Chin Circle,
16000 North Maricopa Road, Maricopa, Ariz.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

ALUMNI & FRIENDS REUNION: 5 – 8 P.M.
Jay and Dyanne Altringer's, 18490 N. Avalon Ln., Surprise, Ariz.

PLEASE RSVP and watch for updates to the events at www.MinotStateU.edu/alumni or call the Alumni Office at **1-800-777-0750, ext. 3234**.

If you have any questions prior to or during the event, call the Alumni Office at the number above or Janna at 701-720-0089.



MSU Development Foundation

*Y*OUR GENEROSITY HAS LED TO OUR STUDENT SUCCESSES.

This past year was a record-breaking year at Minot State University from donors who recognize that an investment in students will pay dividends for generations to come. Your 2014 donations to Minot State University supported:

- A record number of new scholarship endowments for a single year
- Voice Lab equipment for Communication Disorders students

- New leadership training opportunities for students
- An expanded program for research into business opportunities in the Bakken
- New Summer Theatre seating
- Additional support for nursing students
- And the list goes on ...

Without thoughtful people like you these opportunities would not have been available. It takes a coordinated effort by many alumni and friends.

It is reassuring to know that Minot State University can count on your outstanding support. However there are still many student needs that must be met.

Please consider a gift today to Minot State University. Your gift will maintain outstanding education opportunities for our deserving students. Contact the Advancement Office at 701-858-4483 and we will work to match your dreams with the needs of our students.

— Marv Semrau
Vice President for Advancement



1951

Lando Vix and his wife, June, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Dec. 16.

1961



Gary Leslie was honored by the Audubon Refuge Partners as volunteer of the year. Leslie was cited for constructing kiosks, assisting youth in the safety of shooting air rifles during the refuge's Blue Goose Day, participating in the trick-or-treat nature trail Halloween event and joining a field trip to Sully's Hill National Game Preserve.

1964

Harlan Volk was inducted into the Lisbon Public School Hall of Fame. Volk graduated from Berwick High School. While at MSU, he lettered in wrestling four years. He taught a total of 33 years and coached 77 junior high and varsity seasons. He and his wife, Sandy, have four children and 11 grandchildren.

1966

F. Bruce Walker received the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce's Business Stewardship Award. The Business Stewardship Award recognizes individuals who understand what the definition, "Magic City" means. Walker's career has ranged from teaching, to real estate, to construction, to community building. He established the local Habitat for Humanity chapter and possesses a special passion for ALS research and leads in fundraising efforts. He has presented Junior Achievement material and has been active in the Chamber.



1969

Sharon (Ervin) Johnson was recognized by AARP North Dakota with its 2014 AARP Andrus Award for



Community Service. The Andrus Award is AARP's most prestigious and visible volunteer award for community service and symbolizes that individuals have the power and ability to make a difference in the lives of others. The award is given to one North Dakotan annually. Johnson volunteered in Minot for the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, YMCA, Rotary Club, Minot State University, United Church of Christ, Minot Area Men's Winter Refuge, Minot Public Library, Minot Area Council for International Visitors, Norsk Høstfest, English as a Second Language Program and AARP. In addition, she serves on the Prairie Public Broadcasting board of directors.

1970

Ed Lockwood was inducted into the sixth Hall of Fame class of the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. Lockwood began his career at Berthold High School by coaching football and track and field and teaching social studies. He spent the next 10 years at Mohall High School as the head football coach. After two years in Mohall, he was named activities administrator. He became principal and athletic director at Underwood High School before moving on to become athletic director at Williston High School. In 1991, Lockwood landed at Fargo South High School as assistant principal and athletic coordinator, where he remained for almost 20 years. In 2003, he was named director of student activities for the Fargo Public Schools, a position he held until he retired in 2012. Since his retirement, Lockwood has served as the North Dakota Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association executive director.



1972

Lianne (Lawrence) and Fabian Zeltinger, '75, purchased the Magic City Flea Market business and will continue the business as Minot Flea Market.

1973



Linda (Mau) Hildahl received the Door Opener Award from the Minot Area Community Foundation. She was honored for being a founding member of The Power of the Purse group in Minot.

David Shomento was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Minot City Council effective Sept. 8. Shomento spent a number of years in the banking industry and currently owns and operates Sammy's Pizza.

1974

Kurt Carlson retired from his position as postman, for the Minot post office, after 30 years of service.

1979

Jim Bonnichsen has joined Capital Credit Union in Fargo as a mortgage loan officer. Bonnichsen has more than 22 years of experience in the financial services and insurance industries. He is originally from Council Bluffs, Iowa, and a U.S. Air Force Veteran.



1980

Thomas Rakness is a certified proctor for Minot State University's Center of Extended Learning. Prior to joining MSU, he worked at the Minot Daily News. Rakness has a Master of Fine Arts in theatre from Western Illinois University, Macomb. He is active in MSU Summer Theatre and Mouse River Players.



Joe Kurkowski has been in banking/financial services for 34 years. Presently, Kurkowski is vice president and chief credit officer at Little Horn State Bank in Billings, Mont. He and



his wife of 29 years, Ramona Stephens, have two daughters, ages 26 and 18.

Angie (Foster) Bartholomay, an assistant professor of physical sciences at Dakota College at Bottineau, is one of 25 teachers chosen to participate in NASA's Global Precipitation Measurement Master Teacher Program.

Richard and Sylvia (Vallejo) Timboe sold their Magic City Flea Market business, closed Dakota Antiques and relocated to Montana.

1983

John Warner is studying for the pastorate through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's Theological Education for Emerging Ministries. He has been matched with Saron Lutheran Church, a country church south of Minot. Warner has represented District 4 in the North Dakota Senate since 2005.



Melissa (McGowan) Bliss, a 31-year veteran of Ward County Social Services, has been named the department's director. Bliss, a licensed social worker, began her career with Ward County after graduating from MSU. She worked largely in child welfare, most recently in supervising the in-home services unit. She also has worked with foster care and elderly services.

1984

Sharon (Gebhardt) Langley is the music teacher at Ellendale Public School. Langley teaches K-12 vocal and instrumental. She and husband, Jeff, have two children.

1985



Gary Orluck retired from the North Dakota Highway Patrol after 29 years of service. Orluck became the director

Class notes

of security and safety at Minot State University in November.

1986



Scott Grochow, head football and boy's track and field coach at Rugby High School, was inducted into the 2014 N.D. High School Coaches Association's Hall of Fame.

Rod Belzer and his wife, Tracey, were presented with a national Angels in Adoption award for their outstanding commitment to adoption. The presentation was made by Senator John Hoeven. During their 26-year marriage, the Belzers have cared for 132 children in addition to their five daughters, two of whom are adopted. They have been foster parents in Ward County for 16 years. Their youngest daughter was adopted when she was 4 and their second youngest was made a permanent member of their family through guardianship when she was 11. They are currently fostering four children. Tracey works at Easter Seals, where she is a buddy to two young people, one with Down Syndrome, and the other is autistic. Rod is a territory development manager for a restaurant supply and equipment company.

1989

Karla (Juergens) Eggen-Paurus is the cash management representative at First International Bank & Trust. Eggen-Paurus is responsible for identifying, analyzing, marketing, selling and supporting online products and services; both personal and business. She and husband, Mike, have one daughter.



Donna (Rist)

Knutson participated in Miami University's Earth Expeditions global field course in Costa Rica. Knutson studied biotic, physical and cultural forces that affect tropical biodiversity at the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve and La Selva Biological Station. She is a science teacher at Century High School in Bismarck, and took the graduate course in pursuit of her master's degree from Miami University's Global Field Program.



1990

Wendell Nelson is the junior high music teacher at Watford City. Nelson has 14 years of K-12 music teaching experience in North Dakota and Minnesota.

1992



Brian Nelson retired as a captain from the Minot Fire Department, following 22 years of service. Nelson is now employed at Baker Hughes. He is married to **Christy (Carlson) '92**, and they have three children. He is the son of **Judy (Sneva) '64** and Bob Nelson.

Stephanie (Gerhardt) Hoffart, president of the Minot Area Development Corporation, has received certification as an economic development finance professional from the National Development Council.



1993

Mike Marchus is the franchise owner of Minot's new Batteries Plus Bulbs store. Marchus served as a City of Minot police officer for more than 20 years.

1994

Jeff Tweten is a safety instructor for the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives, Mandan. Tweten worked as a

journeyman electrician for the past 24 years in the commercial electric industry.

1998

Dan Girard is the elementary principal at Ellendale Public School. Previously, Girard taught fourth and sixth grades in Mandan and was assistant coach for girls' basketball. He also was head coach for girls cross country and an assistant coach in girls track. He received his master's degree in elementary administration from the University of Mary. He and wife, Gretchen, have two children, Gannon and Micah.

John Porter and Melissa (Blise)

Porter, '99 received the Multi-cultural Award from the North Dakota Department of Human Services and licensed child placing agencies for their efforts to nurture the cultural heritage of a child they adopted from China in May 2014.

1999



Ann (Bailey) Klein joined First Western Bank & Trust in Minot as a mortgage loan processor in the real estate department in July.

Diane Sjol is an associate professor of nursing at Minot State University. Sjol previously taught at Dakota College at Bottineau. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from MSU and a master's degree in nursing from Walden College.



Janet (Beuthe) Anderson has been hired as library director at the Minot Public Library. Anderson received her master's degree in library sciences from Indiana University and worked for public libraries in Indiana and Virginia before returning to Minot in 2012 to work for the Minot Public Library. She

and her husband, **Justin, '00**, have two children and live in Burlington.

2000



Tom Rafferty, Verendrye Electric Cooperative's community relations manager, graduated with a master's degree in public administration from the University of North Dakota in August.



Evan Borisinkoff is an assistant professor of special education at Minot State University. Borisinkoff taught in the Albuquerque Public Schools before returning to MSU. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in special education from MSU.

2002



Larry Sebastian is the superintendent at Hettinger Public Schools. Sebastian who is originally from Hebron, previously worked in school distance educational programs and as a principal in Glen Ullin. He enjoys restoring and refurbishing old tractors, his home and antique furniture. He continues to work on his family farm and at Hebron's Roughrider Area Career and Technology Center.

Perry Olson joined First International Bank & Trust as a business development officer. He provides customer relations and service to better serve and identify the needs of potential and current clientele.



2004

Ryan Johnson is the assistant principal at Bismarck High School.

SEND US YOUR NEWS
www.MinotStateU.edu/alumni

Class notes

2005



Joseph Engler joined Minot State University as an assistant professor of psychology. Engler previously taught at Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kan. He received his doctorate from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion.



Renee Molina is a nursing instructor at Minot State. Molina previously worked for Dakota Travel. She completed her Master of Science in nursing from the University of Mary.

2006

April Keller-Anderson is employed at Lake Region State College as the director of the Devils Lake Adult Learning Center. She resides in York with her three children.

Tanya (Goebel) Ide was honored by the North Dakota Department of Human Services' Division of Vocational Rehabilitation for her work assisting North Dakotans with disabilities to obtain employment.

2007



Zach Burdick joined American Bank Center of Minot as a business banking officer.



Nicole DesRosier is the news director at KMOT-TV. DesRosier started working at KMOT as a college student. In 2002, she transferred to KFYZ-TV in Bismarck, working as a director, production editor, and graphics and web designer, later becoming the executive producer.

2009

Ashley (Morgan) Nichols is teaching fifth grade in Stanley. Her previous experience includes being a Title 1 teacher at Minot

Public Schools. She and husband, Kyle, live in Stanley.



Tyler Neether, vice president of business lending at Town & Country Credit Union, graduated from CUNA Management School, earning the certified credit union executive designation.

2010

Mallory Westby joined Starion Financial in Bismarck as a personal banker. Westby has several years of retail and banking experience.



Derek Van Dyke has been hired as an account executive at the Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota Minot office. Van Dyke's primary responsibilities include employer group sales and retention. He previously worked as an MSU admissions counselor.

2011

Nikki (Holmen) Heinle is teaching marketing, accounting, management accounting and keyboarding in Stanley. She and husband Lynn live in White Earth, is engaged and has a daughter, Maycee.

Bethany (Ritterman) Mack is teaching a third-fourth grade combined classroom at Little Flower Catholic School in Rugby. Mack previously taught for two years at Wolford Public School.



Josh Moen was promoted to financial services officer for Town & Country Credit Union in Fargo. Originally from Nekoma, N.D., Moen has six years of financial industry experience.

Kyra Hansen received first in artistic recognition from the Minot Camera Club in October.



Heather (Hohbein) Heinle completed the certified community bank security officer program through the Independent Community Bankers of America. Heinle has been with Starion Financial for 12 years.

2012

Kendra (Schaefer) Evensvold teaches business classes at Stanley High School after teaching for two years in Bowbells. She and husband, Adam, live in Palermo.

Doriane Kouame, Trinity Business Office, received the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce's Eagle Award in November. MACC sponsors the program to recognize Minot workers who exhibit superior customer service.

2013

Jake Nissen is teaching high school science at the Rugby Public Schools. Nissen previously was a long-term substitute teacher in the Minot Public Schools.

Robin (Williams) Nadeau is an adoption worker for the Adults Adopting Special Kids (AASK) program for the Catholic Charities of North Dakota. Nadeau works out of the Grand Forks office.

Stephanie Deutsch is teaching high school math for Beulah Public Schools.

Jacey (Pulver) Schank is a third grade teacher for Beulah Public Schools.



Jeremy Johnston is teaching first grade at Rugby Public Schools Ely Elementary.

2014



Courtney Albertson is teaching family and consumer sciences at Stanley's

Junior-Senior High School and is the Family Career Community Leaders of America advisor. Albertson is engaged to Nicky Rystedt.

Morgan (Zinke) Lang is the executive assistant at Northland Community Health Center in Turtle Lake.

Jamie Larson is teaching kindergarten at Prairie View Elementary in New Salem. Larson is also coaching junior high volleyball.

Thomas Langemann graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson in Columbia, S.C.



Kaycee Grochow joined MSU's Office of Enrollment Services as the office manager.

Attended

H. Weyburn Niewoehner was recognized by the Minot Golden K Kiwanis Club for 50 years of membership. Niewoehner operated the Niewoehner Funeral Home in Rolla for 43 years.

Andrew Maragos recently was re-elected to serve a three-year term on the Dakota Certified Development Corporation's board of directors.



Renee (Kummer) Coad was honored as a 2014 Professional Woman of the Year by the National Association of Professional Women. Coad was recognized for leadership in office management. She has managed the offices of a number of health care providers for 20 years. She and husband, Lynn, live in Anchorage, Alaska.

Friend

Jason Zimmerman was appointed to serve a one-year term on the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce board of directors.



In Memory



It is with honor we dedicate this section to recognize alumni and friends who have passed away from approximately September 2014 to December 2014, or as submitted.

Graduates

- '40 Lee (Gliege), Viola; Minot
- '41 Aubol, Quentin; Bonita, Calif.
- '42 Danielson (Bakke), Edna; Williston
- '43 Triplett (Solberg), Delores; Minot
- '46 Hartsoch (Werner), Marlys; Tioga
- '49 Mork (Evenson), Alyx; Edmonds, Wash.
- '52 Sondrol (Bischke), Marlene; Bismarck
- '50 Jensen, Thomas; Dickinson
- '54 Aubol (Zahn), Mildred; New Town
- '54 Kohlman, Eugene; Minot
- '57 Jundt, Roy; Aberdeen, S.D.
- '57 Steffen (Hance), Dorothy; Minot
- '60 Riebe, Jimmie; Westminster, Colo.
- '60 Whitecotton (Leidholm), Faye;
Larrabee, Iowa
- '62 Lucht, Virgil; Bismarck
- '64 Keller, Darryl; Bismarck
- '65 Flath, Ronald; Helena, Mont.
- '65 Haye (Atwood), June; Minot
- '70 Schall (Forness), Jenice; Minot
- '72 Sande, Dean; Bismarck
- '73 Johnson, Randy; Mohall
- '73 Nelson, Marilyn-Gene; Minot
- '74 Lee (Benson), Carla; Minot
- '75 Willert (Zimmerman), Sarah; Minot
- '79 Crowther, Donald; Silver Spring, Md.
- '80 Heupel, Marvin; Mandan
- '81 Benjamin (Hickman), Claudia; Center
- '83 DuGarm, H. Keating, Jr; Oakdale, Minn.
- '85 Lange, Geraldine; Calgary, Alberta
- '91 Gehring (Morse), Karlene; Bismarck
- '93 Bennett (Evenson), Connie; Kenmare
- '94 Jacobson, Renelle, West Glacier, Mont.
- '09 Ruland, Jeffrey; Minot

Attended

- Bergo, Paul; Tempe, Ariz.
- Cossette (Overlie), Mabel; Portland, Ore.
- Dvirnak (Frank), Kathryn; Killdeer
- Espeseth (Thvedt), Gladys; Crosby
- Frounfelter (Moen), Helen; Everett, Wash.
- Garcia, Craig; Baldwinsville, N.Y.
- Goggin, Joseph; Red Wing, Minn.
- Goldade (Roerick), Bertha; Eyota, Minn.
- Goodwin (Schuster), Patricia; Minot
- Haine (Gaardsmoe), Clara; Minot
- Jensen (Breeding), Arline; Powers Lake
- Johansen (Sander), Florence; Devils Lake
- Kanzelman (Olson), Faye; New Rockford
- LaVallie, Travis; Belcourt
- Mattson (Anderson), Eunice; Kenmare
- Neale, Mary Kristen; Minot
- Noteboom (Simpson), Carol; Minot
- Polsfut, Julian; Arvada, Colo.
- Reynolds (Erb), Geraldine; Garrison
- Rosenthal, Ron; Minot
- Tollerud, Clayton; Devils Lake
- Welch (Friesen), Luana; Kennewick, Wash.

Friends

- Adams, Dennis; Mandan
- Arnott, Jerald; Minot
- Bauer (Waltz), Ruby; Minot
- Beston, John; Parshall
- Brostrom, Raymond; Bismarck
- Dammel, Len; Minot
- Fetzer (Stebleton), Judy; Surrey
- Haenke, Richard; Biwabik, Minn.
- Johnson, Wallace J.; Minot
- Lynch, John "Jack"; Bismarck

- Lysne, Gloria; Devils Lake
- McCallum (Anderson), Janet; Bismarck
- McKay, Kent; Carpio
- Messmer (Trihub), Denise; Minot
- Montgomery, Frank; Minot
- Nehring (Capps), Judy; Minot
- Oas (Inscore), Charline; Minot
- Rakness, Lyle; Minot
- Sagsveen (Quick), Frances; Bismarck
- Schouweiler (Robitsch), Dorothy; Minot
- Tollefson, Orlan; Minot
- Tvedt, DuWayne; Plaza
- Walker, Bruce "Chowder"; Sun Lakes, Ariz.
- Yri (Debertin), Doris; Plaza

Faculty and Staff

- Connole (Peterson), Merri Jo ('04); assistant director of financial aid; Minot
- Fetzer, Erwin; former facilities management staff member; Minot
- Jurgensen, Richard; former Lutheran campus minister; Galesburg, Ill.
- Meek (Krogh), Shirley, former executive secretary for the dean of students; Minot
- Nelson, Randy; former head baseball coach, assistant football coach and assistant basketball coach; West Fargo
- Turner, Thomas; associate professor of communication arts; Yountville Veterans Home of California



Minot State University

GOLDEN

Awards

The MSU Alumni Association is currently accepting nominations for the 2015 Golden Awards and Young Alumni Achievement Award.

Please utilize the official nomination form on our website at www.MinotStateU.edu/alumni or contact the Alumni Office at 701-858-3234.

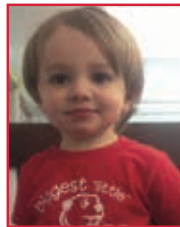
Meet our biggest "little" Beaver Fans

Have you had an addition to your family within the last 12-18 months?

We want to know! Contact Kate Marshall, donor relations coordinator, at kate.marshall@minotstateu.edu to receive a free T-shirt for your new little Beaver! Please be sure to tell us your baby's name and birth date. Also, please provide your graduation year, spouse's name and contact information. After you receive your **biggest "little" Beaver fan** T-shirt, email your baby's photo to: kate.marshall@minotstateu.edu.

Crisp

Noah Dominic was born Sept. 14, 2012, to **Jennifer (Aspaas) Crisp '04** and her husband, Michael.



Hinton

Daniel Hinton '10 and **Dana (Entze) Hinton '01** joyfully welcomed



twins **Davis Lee** and **Daniel Burke** on Aug. 15, 2014.

Sherven

Alison (Klabunde) Sherven '08 and her husband, **Jared**, welcomed **Eden Grace** on Aug. 26, 2014. She joins big sister **Quinn**.



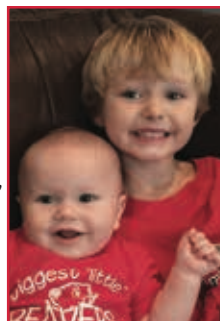
Ennis

Luke Austin was born March 9, 2014, to **Janel (Laubacher) Ennis '00** and her husband, **Philip**.



Keyes

Kanon Liam was born May 14, 2014, to **Alysha (Bartsch) Keyes '07/'12** and her husband, **Chris**. Kanon joins big brother **Grady**, who is 3 years old.



Spah

Whitney (Friesen) Spah '07/'11 and her husband, **Ryan**, joyfully welcomed **Tenley Paige** to their family on Feb. 27, 2014. She joins big sister **Brielle**, who is 3 years old.



Grina

Ashley (Bartsch) Grina '09 and her husband, **Justin**, welcomed **Korbin Lee** into the world on Nov. 3, 2014.



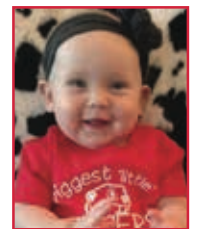
Kringen

Josh Kringen '08 and **Katie (Aide) Kringen '07/'09** had **Piper Sue** on April 30, 2014. She joins big brother **Cruz**.



Van Dyke

Miley Dina Van Dyke entered the world on April 13, 2014. Proud parents are **Mia Buhay '07/'09** and **Charles Van Dyke**.



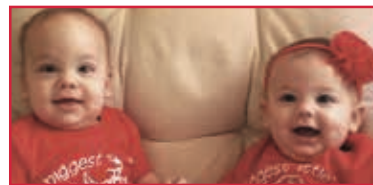
Henne

Brett Henne '04 and his wife, **Jessica**, welcomed **Alexander** on May 21, 2014. He joins big sister **Kaitlyn**, who is 5 years old.



Schmalz

Hudson Blaine and **Harper JoLynn** entered the world on April 25, 2014. Proud parents are **Britni (DesLauriers) Schmalz '07/'12** and her husband, **Terry**.



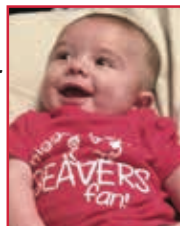
Westom

Nate Westom '01 and his wife, **Pamela**, welcomed their second child, **James**, in August 2014. He joins big sister **Sunnie**, who is 3 years old. The family resides in **Portland, Ore.**



Heser

Holden Joseph was born May 29, 2014, to **Tyler Heser '09** and **Lyndee (Hoiland) Heser '04**. He joins big brother **Teegan**, who is 3 years old.



Severn

August Henry entered the world on Jan. 31, 2014. He is the son of **Maseray (Bangura) Severn '07/'09** and her husband, **Andrew**. He joins big brother **Desmond**.



Zrymiak

Haley (Roth) Zrymiak '06/'08 and her husband, **Tyler**, welcomed **Emmy** on Feb. 16, 2013. The family resides in **Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**.



MSU Alumni Association 32nd annual

Gala Dinner & Auction

Friday
May 1, 2015

Grand Hotel
Minot, ND

Social 5:30 P.M.
Dinner 7:00 P.M.

Tickets \$60

*Call to reserve
your tickets:*
701-858-3234





Minot State
UNIVERSITY

Alumni Association

500 University Ave W
Minot, ND 58707

Change service requested

Non-profit org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Fargo, ND 58102
Permit No. 1890



“MSU provides many opportunities for our community and the surrounding communities. We are grateful for the education we received at MSU and look forward to our children and others having the same opportunity. We strongly believe in giving back, as Minot State is a great asset to our community. We are proud to support it!”

Jay '97 and Jacie '01 (Malo) Lundeen, owners of Jerome's Collision Center and ASK Fitness Center, are pictured with their children Jordyn, Taylor and Tytan. Jay serves on MSU's Board of Regents.