

# Connections



Spring 2023

Alumni Association and  
Development Foundation

COMMUNITY OF LEADERS:

**Trinity Health's  
Dr. Jeffrey Sather**



**TRINITY  
HEALTH**

**JEFFREY SATHER  
MD, MBA, FACEP  
EMERGENCY MEDICINE**



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## President's Message

Greetings from Minot State University! It has been a busy start to the new year across campus, and after a chilly start to winter, we have been enjoying some mild February temperatures in Minot.

As you will note in this issue of Connections, there are a lot of positive initiatives underway in the "Magic City," and Minot State alumni are playing very prominent roles with these activities. The transformative construction projects, nearly a billion dollars' worth, are investments in this community that will provide new opportunities and benefits for decades. It is an exciting time right now in Minot with so many quality-of-life enhancements underway, and it is truly wonderful seeing MSU graduates helping lead the way. Minot State has long been a place that has educated students and instilled values encouraging them to provide leadership in their communities, and now seeing these talented graduates leading projects that will improve life in Minot for years to come is extraordinary.

On campus, the largest single financial project in MSU's history is well underway with the complete renovation of Hartnett Hall. The North Dakota Legislature appropriated \$25 million in November 2021 for this project, and it is on-track to be completed less than a year from now. As one of our largest academic spaces, Hartnett is of major importance for our students, faculty, and staff. We look forward to welcoming you all back to see this transformed space once the project is complete. Elsewhere across campus, additional renovation projects are in various stages including at Summer Theatre, in the MSU Dome, and in the Student Center. Stay tuned for more updates.

Last fall, I completed a tour visiting most of the high schools within a 100-mile radius of Minot. We visited approximately 30 schools over the course of several months, and it was a wonderful opportunity meeting with many teachers and administrators and also interacting with so many MSU graduates who are serving in these roles. After connecting with so many of these folks, it is clear our alumni certainly play a vital role in helping shape the future of North Dakota!

On a final note, in this issue you will find a story commemorating Dean Frantsvog. Dean was a long-time faculty member in the College of Business who unfortunately passed away last summer. He had a tremendous impact on our students during the past two decades. In January, Dean was posthumously recognized at the NCAA National Convention for being the outstanding Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) among all 300 NCAA Division II colleges and universities — a very fitting recognition to honor Dean's lasting legacy at MSU.

Thank you for staying up-to-date with Minot State and thank you for your ongoing support of our students. As always ...

**GO BEAVERS!**

**Steven W. Shirley, Ph.D.**  
**President**

## The Alumni Association is now accepting nominations for the 2023 **GOLDEN AWARDS** and **YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

**NOMINATE AN ALUM** who has excelled in his/her profession, in service to their community, or in service to Minot State. **SCAN THE QR CODE** or **VISIT [MinotStateU.edu/alumni](https://www.minotstateu.edu/alumni)**

to complete the nomination form and for a full list of qualification criteria and former awardees.

**Deadline to submit nominations is March 31, 2023.**

For more information call the Alumni Office at 701-858-3373 or 800-777-0750.



## Cover Story:

### 4 COMMUNITY OF LEADERS: Sather's investment in community making a difference



# Inside: Volume 31 | Issue 2

## Feature Stories

- 7 – 15 COMMUNITY OF LEADERS continued:
  - 7 Twenty years as CTE director helping Minot thrive
  - 10 Weeks relishing a one-in-a-million opportunity
  - 13 Epic opportunities
- 17 New home for MSU liberal arts programs
- 27 Minot State mourns the passing of Dean Frantsvog

## Athletics

- 25 Hysjulien honored to be first Minot North head coach

## Every issue

- 16 Where are they now? Relationships take center stage for Neuharth
- 18 Under 30: Army captain appreciates people power
- 20 Under 40: Counting connections
- 22 Alum from Day One: Profiles of MSU students, faculty, and staff
- 26 Development Foundation
- 31 Class notes
- 35 In memory
- 36 Baby Beavers



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Kevin Neuharth '74: pg. 17  
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Drew Hysjulien '08: pg. 25  
Janna McKechnie '14: pg. 29-30  
Bruce '73 and Linda '72  
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Baby Beaver families: pg. 36-37

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# SATHER'S

## investment in

# community

## making a

# difference

by Michael Linnell

NORTHWEST NORTH DAKOTA CALLED DR. JEFFREY SATHER '94 BACK TO THE AREA TWICE.

Each time, a combination of connection to the community and an opportunity to make a difference weighed heavily on his decision.

"I think the biggest difference in a larger, metro area is there isn't the same investment in the community," he said. "You might live in a more rural town, but you probably work somewhere else and vacation elsewhere. I had to move away to really realize that. I lived in Washington state and liked it there, but I could sense a difference and couldn't put my finger on what it was. After moving back, I understand now, you can make a difference here.

"You can be a big fish in a big pond and still no one notices. Here, if you can work hard, there will be opportunities to make a difference."

Sather moved to Yakima, Washington to be an EMT, and after four years, started to think about medical school. The timing turned out to be perfect as the Velva native got a call to come to Trinity Health to work with the ambulance service and then started his undergraduate work at Minot State.

"I got to work with education training for the staff and do advanced life support at Trinity," he said. "I was missing home and was really thinking of going to med school, so the timing was right, and I enrolled at Minot State while working full time as the chief paramedic. We developed the helicopter service at Trinity, and I was a full-time student, so I was pretty busy."

While most pre-med students choose a path in biology or chemistry in their undergrad program, it ended up being happenstance that Sather finished at MSU with a psychology degree. He initially took a required psychology class and felt drawn to taking more. By the time he was nearing graduation, his advisor noticed he was closer to that degree than his originally intended biology track.

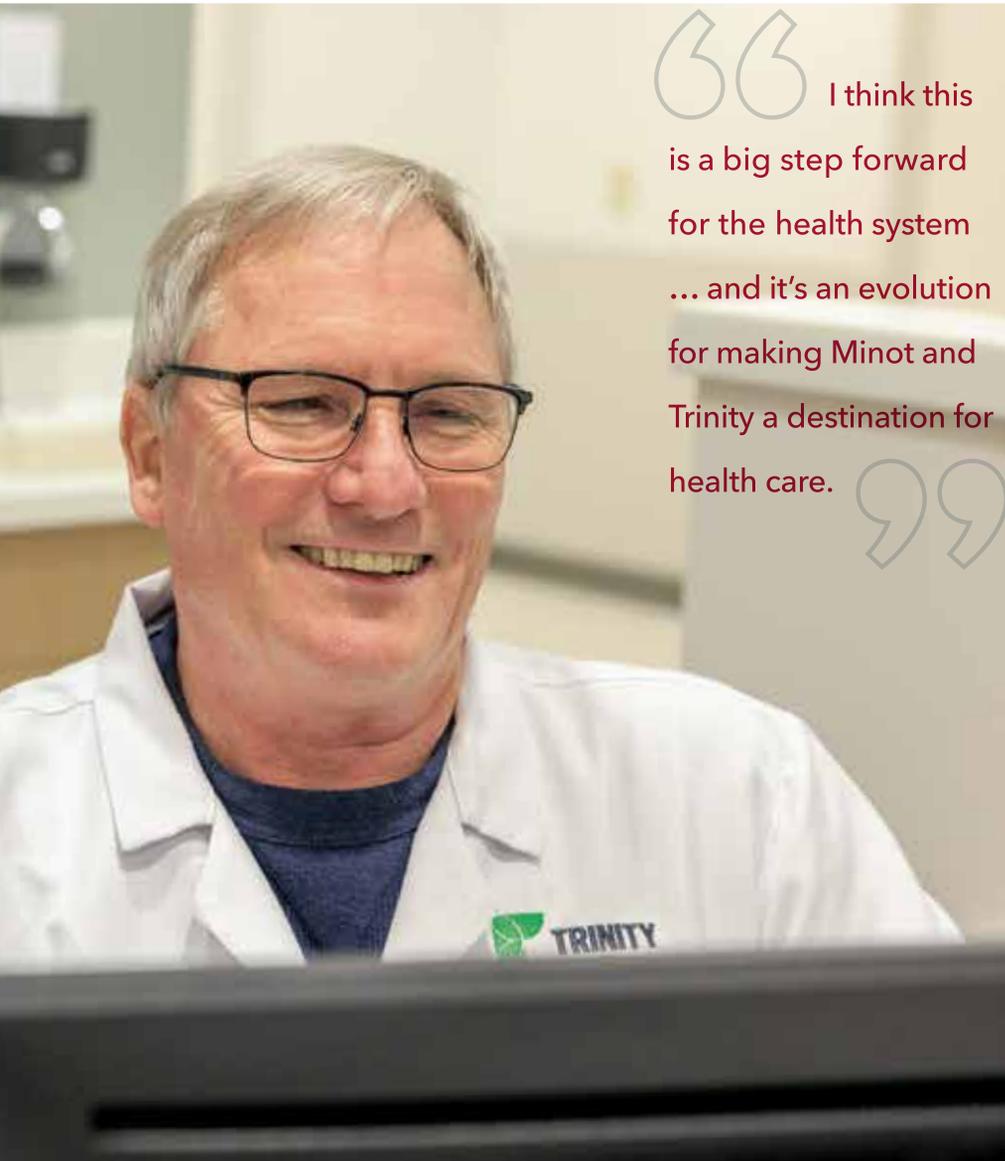
"I took one class, then another, a summer class, and really seemed to have an interest in psychology," he said. "My track changed because I liked the department. I still did all the prerequisites for medical school and there isn't a



requirement for biology or chemistry as your degree. I think it ended up being a big benefit for me, it gave me a background in an area I wouldn't have had much content in, and still finished all the things I needed to for med school. I certainly don't regret that decision at all."

His second move back to the Magic City came after completing medical school at the University of North Dakota and his residency at St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center in Toledo, Ohio. Sather didn't waiver much from his plan to return to Trinity's emergency medical team.

"My plan when I left med school was to come back," Sather said. "I applied to medical school, got my interview, and got it, I think mainly



“ I think this is a big step forward for the health system ... and it's an evolution for making Minot and Trinity a destination for health care. ”

due to my professional experience, but also the strong education and connections I made at MSU. Then I applied to six residencies. Now, with the internet, it's like 100 because it is a couple clicks, but then you had to fill out the application and mail it. I ended up doing just two visits and it worked out I was selected in Toledo.”

While in medical school, he explored other options for his career, but he kept returning to emergency medicine.

“I kept an open mind,” he said. “Like most going through school, I liked some rotations and didn't like others. I thought I would like pediatrics, but didn't, and I didn't think I would like obstetrics, but did. I entertained anesthesia, but in the end, my

experience started at 20 working with the ambulance crew, and I knew that was going to be my choice.”

Sather also knew he had other interests within the hospital hierarchy. Since joining Trinity Health in 2001, he has served in numerous leadership positions including chair of the department of medicine and Chief of Staff.

“I've had interest in the administrative and business side,” he said. “One of the things that attracted me to emergency medicine was the variation. You do see things over and over, but you also see something different just about every day. It can be hectic. I think dividing some of my time with administrative duties allows me even more variation and relieves some of that hectic pace. You have to find your

pace and protect yourself, find time to get away, that's something I think I've learned over time.”

That lesson might have been most important over the past three years as the COVID-19 pandemic inundated medical staff throughout the world. Sather was just a couple years into his time as Chief of Staff when the pandemic started and believes the time was some of his most frustrating and rewarding days in medicine.

“Being Chief of Staff can be a frustrating job in itself, you are working with behavior issues and quality of care issues,” he said. “It was a very difficult time for everyone. The normal things you wanted to do just couldn't happen. I got to make a lot of connections during that time and those connections helped me stay on top of what was happening, but it also kind of made me a spokesperson locally. Dr. (Casmir) Nwaigwe and I were the ones that got most of the questions. There were a lot of unknowns, and it became a political disease.

“But something I think Trinity did a good job of, and a place where I got back to my undergrad in psychology, was communication. We knew early on it was a big thing to do and we started doing a better job of communicating with our medical staff. I think we really came together as a staff during that time, we had a neurosurgeon volunteering to help out in the ER and people volunteering to work as assistants on the floor.”

His team continues to work on the mental health side of the industry.

“I think we did the best we could at the moment with the information we had. We relied on a lot of smart people looking at the studies, but the reality is, and really, medicine is always changing,” he said. “When COVID came in, it changed dramatically, not over 20 years, but day by day, week by week.

“Mental health has always been one of our biggest health care concerns and I feel like I've been able to see that and hopefully make adjustments. I worry about our younger people coming up, I see how difficult it has been.”



## Trinity Health Center

IN SEPTEMBER 2018, TRINITY HEALTH broke ground on a \$520.5 million healthcare campus and medical district, launching their “Making More Possible” brand. Both activities were a key part of their overall strategic plan to transform

healthcare in northwest North Dakota.

The approximately 800,000 square foot hospital will feature 147 private rooms with an additional 200,000 square foot medical office building on a 43-acre lot in southwest Minot. Trinity Health is looking at a late spring 2023 opening.

The state-of-the-art campus will also feature 27 private exam rooms in its Emergency Trauma Center to maximize management of large-scale emergencies and to reduce waiting time. The canopied center will protect patients from inclement weather, a dedicated ER ramp will guide ground ambulance vehicles into the enclosed ambulance bay entrance equipped with electronic doors, and patients will be unloaded away from traffic bottlenecks and inclement weather. Trinity’s First Response helipad lies next to the ER entrance, providing direct access and reducing transfer time to a minute or less.

The hospital has been designed around the needs of patients, families, and staff for improved healthcare outcomes. From the beginning of the project, Trinity Health frontline staff members and providers worked alongside architects and contractors to make sure plans matched the reality of patient care. The collaboration of staff, providers, architects, and contractors resulted in a fully integrated design that enables clinical practices, information, and technology to come together and provide superior medical care.

A key feature of Trinity Health’s dedication to this concept is the inpatient hospital room. All patient rooms are same-sided, meaning every room is entered on the right-hand side of the patient. Physicians and staff will encounter the same distribution, layout, and lighting in every room. This standardization makes routine tasks simpler and significantly reduces the risk of errors by staff.

Trinity Health has developed five floors of the new center to include a chapel, gift shop, coffee shop, cafeteria, pre-op and post-op surgery, radiology, women’s health including obstetrics and gynecology, neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), labor and delivery, pediatrics, a family birth center, intensive care unit (ICU), and progressive care unit (PCU). The sixth floor of the hospital, as well as 32 additional acres, are available for future expansion. ■

He hopes Trinity Health’s move to its new \$520 million medical campus this spring will help inspire and excite not only his team, but the entire staff.

“I’m excited for what is to come. I’ve worked for Trinity for 30 years and we’ve talked about needing this new hospital for a long time,” he said. “Trinity has done a lot of firsts — first open heart surgery between Minneapolis and Seattle was done here, the first heliport built on a hospital in the United States was here, and we were the first in the state to have electronic health records — but we’ve lagged in new buildings.

“Fifteen years ago, when we first started talking about this, I told people I was going to work in a new hospital and there were a lot of naysayers — it will never happen, you’ll be long dead before it happens, or the health system will have sold out. But to be a part of the planning and then to see the blueprints and walk the halls when they first came together, just the size compared to what we’ve had is incredible.”

He believes that internal excitement will spread throughout the city and region.

“I think this is a big step forward for the health system and for what we can offer in the space, and it’s an evolution for making Minot and Trinity a destination for health care,” Sather added. “I’m proud to be a leader in this organization and of our CEO, our vice presidents, Board of Directors, and staff who are really invested in the community.

“I don’t know how you can’t be excited; it’s going to have a huge impact on staff and an incredible legacy for our community.” ■

# Twenty years as CTE director helping Minot thrive

by Emily Schmidt



WITH THREE DEGREES from Minot State, Pam (Correll) Stroklund '85/ '97 uses them with one purpose in mind: to create more opportunities for people in Minot.

Stroklund earned bachelor's degrees in business administration and business education along with a master's degree in management. These distinctions have given her knowledge and experience to make her an effective director of career and technical education for Minot Public Schools for the past 20 years.

To Stroklund, the most important part of her job is to foster a diverse workforce training environment in Minot so the community can provide any career path people might desire. Career and technical education (CTE) is a crucial part of that goal.

"To me, CTE means opportunities," she said. "Career and technical education programs provide awareness, knowledge, and technical skills to guide

community members of all ages toward a future career and fill our local workforce openings.”

Currently, the scope of this goal has grown to include three projects that will vastly expand CTE opportunities and education in Minot: designing the new Minot Area Workforce Academy, designing the CTE program

storming a plan to use all the educational facilities in our community to advance workforce training opportunities, Dr. Mark Vollmer, superintendent of Minot Public Schools, and I testified at the 2021 state legislative session in support of CTE capital projects funding.”

Stroklund led a committee which assessed the community’s workforce

provide a preschool for children from low-income households and training for students wanting to enter the career field. A commercial driver’s license (CDL) simulation lab will address the additional training requirements and need for transportation workers. Finally, a large, multi-purpose skills-training center will serve educational



I’m proud of everything we have accomplished throughout the years. It all means more opportunities for people in Minot.



space at the new Minot North High School campus, and remodeling the CTE program spaces at Magic City Campus after their switch to grades 9 – 12.

Stroklund has worked on the Minot Area Workforce Academy’s implementation from the beginning.

“What sparked as an idea is turning into a reality!” she said. “After brain-

training needs and compiled the information into a proposal. They eventually secured \$10 million for increasing CTE opportunities for Minot area students and the community.

The Minot Area Workforce Academy will serve as the hub for the district’s career and technical education programming. An early childhood learning lab in partnership with Head Start will

needs in the Minot community.

With the grant secured and city plans to build the new Minot North High School, her job has pivoted towards leading the design and classroom layout work for the CTE program areas in the Minot high schools and the new academy.

“From adding a new program, securing a grant, to designing a new

## Minot North High School Campus | Minot Area Workforce Academy

After years in the making, Minot Public Schools broke ground on a second high school in the Magic City.

Voters in November 2021 overwhelmingly chose to fund construction of the new grades 9-12 high school and technical center at the site of the old Cognizant building on 37 acres in northwest Minot. Cognizant donated the property to the district for a fee of \$10.

The \$109 million bond issue will cover the \$84.8 million to fund the new school including \$24.2 million to pay for construction of a new competi-

tion swimming pool and new athletic complex with turf to include a track, press box, concessions, bathrooms, and dressing rooms. The remainder of the bond will cover renovations to turn Magic City Campus into a 9-12 high school and Central Campus into the third middle school in the city limits.

The existing former Cognizant building will undergo a total remodel and additions that will include classroom space, an auditorium, gymnasiums, and food services. Along with the bond issue, Minot Public Schools is using nearly \$7 million in grant funding

to remodel the former Voya building on the newly acquired campus, to offer skills training for the entire Minot community, not just students in the Minot Area Workforce Academy.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held in November 2022 after physical work started on the site in August. Renovations to Magic City Campus also started in August and all projects are expected to be completed by Fall 2024.

After input from the community, the Minot Public School Board chose the name Minot North High School with the nickname Sentinels. ■



facility, I'm proud of everything we have accomplished throughout the years," Stroklund said. "It all means more opportunities for people in Minot."

Stroklund explains that these programs will make Minot a competitive community in CTE training and the workforce. In her words, training local means retaining local and meeting the community's needs.

"When we don't have the training here in Minot, students have to go elsewhere, and when they go elsewhere, they get employed elsewhere," she said. "We want to be able to provide those opportunities here in Minot so

we can train our students, and they'll stay here for the jobs that we have."

The CTE programs Stroklund has helped create in Minot have proven to bolster the area's workforce.

"We train around 50-60 CNAs a year, and we're helping with that shortage in our community," she said. "We're giving the basics of auto mechanics, auto collision, welding. Students can go out there right away and get a job after they graduate. It helps our community thrive."

In addition to high school students, Stroklund emphasizes that CTE provides opportunities for people of all walks of life.

"It's not just our high school students," she said. "Life happens, and people don't go off and get their education, but they want to better themselves. We want to take away the barriers. These are opportunities we are trying to promote to allow them to get what they need to get a step up."

When people in Minot are ready to take the steps towards starting a new career, Stroklund wants Minot's CTE programs to be there to help.

"There are so many different pathways. Sometimes people get stuck in life, but when the opportunity is there, they can move forward." ■



# Weeks

## relishing a one-in-a-million opportunity

by Michael Linnell

LIZ (ANDERSON) WEEKS '14 admits it was a little scary to leave teaching to join the team of the Magic City Discovery Center. Scary, yes. Scared — not at all.

"I loved teaching and I loved the classroom and I thought that would be my lifelong career," she said. "But after getting on the board of directors, I just fell in love with the project. I had been an older-than-average student and an older-than-average job changer, so coming here didn't scare me, it was scary, but it didn't scare me."

As the physical building on Minot's North Hill becomes a reality, that leap of faith is paying off for Weeks.

"This is a one-in-a-million opportunity for me," Weeks said. "I think there were a lot of people who were unsure whether a children's museum was the right thing for Minot. I hope we are proving them wrong, and they will absolutely believe this is the right thing.

After being on the board, I realized the community needed something like this and if I could come here and continue as an educator, that would be ideal."

The move to the Magic City Discovery Center has been a part of a series of changes for Weeks and her family. She came to Minot in 2011 from Florida after her husband, Sean, moved north to work with Ackerman-Estvold. During her time in Florida, she had taken the General Knowledge Exam to teach kindergarten, but North Dakota required an education degree and wouldn't accept her Florida licensure.

After "hemming and hawing" for six months, she finally called Minot State.

"My husband kept asking, 'did you call MSU yet, did you call?' I finally picked up the phone and called the department and got Kathy Hintz (MSU professor, elementary education coordinator, and field

placement director)," she said. "Our connection was heartwarming. I went to St. Olaf and she was at Carleton College (in Northfield, Minnesota) at about the same time and she made me feel so comfortable.

"When I got the acceptance letter, I thought to myself, I'm 50 and I'm going back to school? I started in January, and I had a blast. I finally felt like I had some knowledge because of my past experiences in Florida and wasn't lost in the education and learning. I was right where I needed to be. I might have been all my colleague's mother's age, but it was natural and fun."

Weeks thrived in the two years in the MSU education department due to a greater sense of confidence and purpose.

"I loved being a student," she said. "We were in an apartment at the time and I would go to the community room at 10 P.M. to write pa-



pers and study, but it wasn't daunting at all. It was exactly what I wanted to do. I didn't realize how confident I was going to be. I gained a huge amount of confidence in who I was and how I wanted to lead my life. As an older



... I've never been a sitter.

I like to do things, I like  
to make things happen.

student, it maybe had a little deeper meaning for me, it was more purposeful in many ways."

She taught at Dakota Elementary after graduating from Minot State, teaching sixth, fifth, and first grades.

Then the Magic City Discovery Center came calling.

While she left the classroom setting, her role as educational director for the center has kept her teaching.

"We have been developing the outreach program since 2019, going to schools to do STEAM nights and classroom visits. I pitched it to the board, and they said yes, so I feel I'm in education and I still

get to witness the lightbulb going off when students learn things," Weeks said. "There just isn't the day-to-day classroom setting."

She will continue to do outreach events but has concentrated on getting



## The Magic City Discovery Center

Starting in 2014, a visionary community group succeeded in establishing a children’s museum in Minot to serve the greater North Dakota region.

The Magic City Discovery Center, a \$20 million, 28,000 square foot facility that includes 12 major galleries, 150 exhibits, and an outdoor patio on the center’s south side, is the culmination of those efforts.

From concept to humble beginnings in the Dakota Territory Air Museum, the center is a direct result of successful public-private partnerships with the City of Minot, Minot Park District, Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation - Department of Defense, the State of North Dakota, and numerous supporters from regional businesses, foundations, and individuals.

The Magic City Discovery Center project officially started in May 2021 with a ceremonial groundbreaking event in October in 2020. The construction began after the center received a \$6.3 million Department of Defense grant. In April 2021, the project received an additional \$5.9 million award from the North Dakota state legislature through the Department of Public Instruction. The center is expected to open in spring 2023.

the new building up and running. As project manager of exhibits, much of her time has been spent working with MindSplash, the Discovery Center’s exhibit team.

“When we got the (Department of Defense) grant and we knew this project was going to be a reality, the exhibit team said you are going to need a project manager,” Weeks said. “We all said, okay, and I volunteered, and I’m really glad I did. It has been so much fun. The team we work with has done a great job picking out exhibits and they really know their business.”

The path from her early days helping in her girls’ school to production manager and educational director for a \$20 million project has certainly been a whirlwind.

“It’s a little surreal coming

from those early days working in Florida at my children’s school. How did all of this happen?” Weeks said. “But I’ve never been a sitter, I like to do things, I like to make things happen. I was brave enough then to take the exam and get a principal to hire me with no experience, and I’ve taken some risks along the way. I’ve had tremendous support from my husband and girls, and I’m doing just what I am meant to do!” ■



Committed to creating extraordinary learning experiences that have the power to transform the lives of children and families, the Magic City Discovery Center’s STEAM-focused education is a creativity sanctuary where children will be challenged to solve problems and gain life skills while playing in a fun and safe environment.

The center will also feature one-of-a-kind exhibits, highlighted by the Magic Climber — an iconic steel B-52 shell to commemorate Minot’s partnership with the United States Air Force and the Minot Air Force Base.

With an ideal location on the top of Minot’s North Hill, patrons will also enjoy amazing views from every floor inside of the building including a rooftop patio. ■

# EPIC opportunities

by Amanda Duchscherer



When Vicki (Filipkowski) Campbell '02 of EPIC Companies began working at M&S Concessions, she didn't know she would eventually be overseeing the accounting for over 100 companies.

"I started with M&S Concessions in 2011 as an accountant for several companies handling the financials," the MSU College of Business alumna said. "In 2015, the president of our company (Todd Berning) had the vision for EPIC and the journey began. We started with property management and added different divisions as time went on.

"It began with only one employee and has grown to over 80 now."

While the company quickly grew, so did Campbell's work responsibilities. She moved from accountant, to controller, and then to vice president of finance before being named chief financial officer in 2022.

"It has been inspiring and humbling," she said. "EPIC has the best employees, and everyone is committed to making it a great company where we can learn and grow."

Continuing to learn has been an important tenet in Campbell's life, even if she had to wait for the right timing to pursue her higher education.

"I had wanted to attend college for quite a while and moving around with the military, it was difficult," she said. "I was finally able to attend when I moved here (to Minot). I had asked around and was only told good things about the school."

“

Every day brings new ideas  
and new projects. I never  
know what will be next —  
I guess I enjoy the  
surprise of it all.

”



## EPIC Companies

EPIC Companies continues a vision of delivering profitable investment projects with integrity and simplicity with the announcement of two major projects in Minot.

M by EPIC will renovate the iconic "M Building" in Minot with a 9,000-plus square foot mixed-use residential and commercial building in downtown Minot and The Tracks plaza is a multi-use development surrounding an entertainment plaza along 37th Avenue in Southwest Minot.

The two projects join 35 properties currently in use or in construction by EPIC Companies in North Dakota including Minot, Fargo, Bismarck, West Fargo, Grand Forks, Jamestown, and Grafton, and in Minnesota at Moorhead, Lake Park, and Perham. Blu On Broadway, Park South Essential Living, Park South Townhomes, and Beaver Ridge are four projects in Minot developed by EPIC Companies.

The M by EPIC project is currently in construction renovating the building first opened in 1963 as Minot Federal Bank. Minot residents remember multiple businesses being in this location including The Shirley Room, Arnold Theater,



Embers, Midwest Federal Bank, Blue Cross Blue Shield, New York Life, and the Minot Center for Family Medicine.

It will bring back an underutilized building downtown and spark life once again in it, improving the vertical landscape of the area. A \$14.7 million renovation will develop this mixed-use building into residential (condos and apartments) and commercial space.

Building upon the Magic City's live, work, and play mentality, The Tracks will be developed in phases starting with two buildings — named Maverick and Sheridan to pay homage to the theme — with Maverick in construction and Sheridan expected to break ground soon. Phase II will follow with two buildings and the public plaza space, while Phase III will include a parking structure, the remaining part of the public plaza, and two more buildings. The plan has the entire project opening in 2026.

The Tracks, estimated to cost \$140 million (fully developed value), will have 60,000-plus square foot commercial space and feature apartments and condos. ■

Minot State's learning options also helped.

"Since I was married and had children, the flexibility of classes worked well for me," she continued. "I was able to take online classes and night classes on base (Minot Air Force Base) for the first couple years."

As a military spouse in the United States Air Force, Campbell has had the opportunity to travel and live in a wide array of locations. From her hometown of Chicago, to San Vito, Italy, to Sacramento and Riverside, California, to Aviano, Italy and Minot, she finds a special connection with the community she has called home for over 27 years.

"I enjoy the small-town setting and the way the residents care about the town and their neighbors," she said. "You don't see that everywhere and it is something to take pride in."

She has been able to see that pride exemplified within EPIC Companies.

"With many EPIC employees being from the Minot area, we are all passionate about continuing economic growth and the ability to give back to the community," she said. "EPIC Charities will give us the opportunity to grow that aspect of EPIC."

The newly-formed EPIC Charities plans to coordinate youth and community events at public community spaces throughout North Dakota, including entertainment plazas which EPIC Companies has been developing across the state, such as The Tracks in Southwest Minot.

"EPIC Charities is that piece to the puzzle that brings everything together and helps ensure that our developments are catered to children and families," Campbell said. "We are excited to see it take off more over the next year."

As EPIC continues to "enhance communities through innovative development," Campbell is curious to see what the future holds.

"Every day brings new ideas and new projects," she said. "I never know what will be next — I guess I enjoy the surprise of it all." ■

# WHERE are they NOW

by Michael Linnell

## Relationships take center stage for Neuharth

DURING HIS FINAL SEASON DIRECTING MINOT STATE Summer Theatre, Kevin Neuharth '74 joked with Lowe's Garden Center owner Phil Lowe about his retirement plans.

"Phil asked what I'm going to do after retiring," Neuharth said. "I told him I was going to come work for him. He said, 'OK, I'll see you.' I'm not sure either of us was real serious about it, but I figured what the heck, I'll give it a try.

"I work there maybe six months out of the year and during Christmas selling Christmas trees. I've been doing that for the last six years. They are just good people (the Lowes) and the people there are great to work with."

Neuharth's general laid-back demeanor about retirement is similar to his decision to retire from teaching at Minot State after 40 years.

"It was just time. It wasn't like I hit the 20-year mark and said that's it, I've got to get out of here. Actually, the last 20 years went by pretty fast," he said. "I probably remember the first 20 more than the last 20. I guess I felt like I accomplished what I had wanted to and what I felt was important to the evolution of the theater department.

"So, it wasn't anything specific, plus with (wife) Cindy's (Black) '74 retirement, we felt it would be nice to have more freedom to take off when we wanted to. It just seemed like the right time."

During his 40 years at MSU, he was the coordinator of the communication arts department and served on numerous local and national committees, but his passion was theater. He directed 149 plays with

MSU Mainstage, Summer Theatre, the Sawmill Playhouse, Magic City Children's Theater, University of Oregon Second Season, and Minot's Magic City and Central Campuses.

The individuals involved in those productions are what made a lasting impression on him.

"I had great, great students, and I hope the passion I had was influential to them to be passionate about whatever career choices they made," he said. "I think I'm most proud of the number of graduates that went on to earn another degree, either a Ph.D, or a MFA, or even a JD. We had such smart, talented students who were very interested in exploration, discovery, and finding out about the world, real movers and shakers."

He is continually reminded of those lives as he interacts with former students.

"So many of the students could do anything they wanted to," Neuharth said. "Some focused on theater, but I remember a lot of them did so many other things. When I reflect on that, more importantly, there were just so many good people."

While he spends some time doing quintessential retirement events like traveling with his wife, reading, and his part-time work with Lowes, Neuharth continues to give back to the theater community.

"Cindy and I bought a little camper, and we are trying to hit every state park — North Dakota has fabulous state parks," he said. "I'm still on the board at Summer Theatre. We are working on the process to start a Hall of Fame and I still drive the golf cart every summer. I help out where I can."

But what about a return to the stage?

"The time investment is pretty substantial, so the best place would be Summer Theatre because it's really crunch time," he said. "But, yeah, if the right project came along, I wouldn't mind directing again." ■



# New home

## for MSU liberal arts programs

MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY is pleased to announce a \$25 million complete renovation to Hartnett Hall on the MSU campus.

The project began with relocation of Minot State academic departments in May 2022, followed by demolition last summer. Construction is expected to be completed in late 2023 or early 2024 with the newly renovated building being occupied in 2024. It was awarded by the North Dakota Legislature in a special session in 2021 and is utilizing American Rescue Plan

Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds for a complete renovation.

Built in the early 1970s, the renovation will help to relieve congestion, improve entrances, enhance flexibility of spaces, upgrade ventilation, and improve daylight throughout the building.

Hartnett Hall is home to several key liberal arts programs at MSU such as English, world languages, humanities, art, theatre arts, professional communication, including the KMSU radio station and television studio, and a

planned space for MSU's new esports program.

The programs displaced by the construction have been temporarily housed throughout campus with Old Main and Swain Hall serving as primary locations.

Through a competitive process, Minot State selected Ackerman-Estvold for the building design and McGough Construction to lead the construction.

The building's exterior transformation began with the front entrance renovation, new windows

throughout the building, and the façade improved to aesthetically blend better with other buildings on campus. The project will update landscaping on the grounds surrounding the building in the spring and summer.

Interior work continued during the winter with both the look and functionality of interior spaces improved with all new labs, workspaces, classrooms, offices, a new gathering space, and a new Aleshire Theater, modernizing the 200-seat auditorium. ■



# Army captain appreciates people power

by Emily Schmidt

ANTHONY BATTLE '17 WAS scared when he moved to Minot from North Carolina — until he met the people.

Having grown up in a military family, Battle moved often throughout his childhood. The most time he has ever spent in one place was five years. While living in Wahiawa, Hawaii for three years and graduating high school there, he finally thought he found his place to stay long term. However, one thing was missing: a college with a wrestling program.

So he moved to North Carolina, but the school and wrestling program still did not feel quite right. After compiling a list of universities whose wrestling teams needed people in his weight class, he received a phone call and a scholarship offer from Minot State and moved to North Dakota.

"The first day, I was by myself," he said. "I didn't know anything, didn't know anyone, I was pretty scared. But I remember seeing signs all over MSU that said, 'Alum from Day One.'

I didn't really understand it until school started, and I met people. It's like a family from day one, and I understood. It was like my home."

While he may have already felt at home on day one, like many North Dakota transplants, he was not prepared for the winter. Luckily, his new Minot State family helped him out.

"I didn't have any winter gloves. I didn't have any winter coats," he said. "My wrestling coach took me to the store and showed me what to buy."

On top of wrestling for two years during his time at Minot State, Battle earned a broadcasting degree, participated in KMSU's "Inside Out" TV show, and provided color commentary and play-by-play in MSU Athletics. When he graduated, he decided he wanted to follow in his father's footsteps and join the United States Army.

"As a kid, I always wanted to be like my dad," Battle said. "But he always told me, 'You're not joining the Army, and if you do, you'll most likely be an



... I remember seeing signs all over MSU that said, 'Alum from Day One.' I didn't really understand it until school started, and I met people. It's like a family from day one, and I understood. It was like my home.



officer. Just join the Air Force.' Obviously, I didn't listen to him. He's always been an influence on me. Whenever I have questions, he always gives me his wisdom, and I'm thankful I have him there for that. I wanted to emulate what he did. He changed a lot of peoples' lives."

Five years into his service, Battle has met many people throughout his different positions, one of which had a connection close to home.

"I actually worked with one of my dad's old buddies who he deployed with," he said. "Being able to talk to him and have him tell me stories about my dad, now I want to be like that and do those kinds of things, just be a positive impact on peoples' lives."

Today, Battle is a captain in the Army. His job is to lead his team of eight in effectively and securely transmitting satellite and radio signals between airplanes and people on the ground. Throughout his six-month captain's course in Georgia, his time in Minot came in handy.

"That's where a little bit of broadcasting came into play," he said. "The wiring, making a cable, things that I did at Minot State transferred over to what I did there, and now get-

ting feeds from the aircraft. Getting them to the people who break them down is another thing where Minot State is replaying over and over again, telling them what I see, what's on the feed right now, or if there's a disruption. I use my expertise to tell them 'This is what I think is going on.'"

Rising through the ranks, Battle's professional mindset has evolved.

"As a captain, I can step back and look at the whole picture. I can create stronger bonds with people and a more cohesive team," he said. "Yes, we're worried about the mission, but I also want to worry about the person, and I didn't understand that at first. Instead of running everything at 100 miles per hour, we can do 75 and still get everything done, but everyone isn't feeling as burnt out."

Looking forward, Battle plans on continuing his service with the Army with the hopes of becoming a lieutenant colonel. Until then, he'll focus on the people.

"At the end of the day, it is a job that we do, but it's people who make the job, because you can't have an Army without people," he said. "That's something that I learned from my dad, to take care of the person first, and the rest will come later." ■





# Counting connections

by Amanda Duchsherer

FOR MEGAN (PERDUE) AWALT '11, ACCOUNTING AND CREATING CONNECTIONS GO HAND IN HAND.

"I love working at Brady Martz for a number of reasons, but one of them is just getting to see those clients face to face and to interact with them," she said. "I'm very relationship driven.

"Which is partially why I've been the one to come on Minot State's campus for several years now, to do recruiting. I get to visit with all the students. I used to be in their shoes so I find that to be very exciting — getting to know all these young folks every year."

As a new set of interns began at Brady Martz & Associates PC in January, Awalt was beginning her 12th year with the firm. Having spent her entire professional career with Brady Martz, she was welcomed as a new shareholder in November 2021.

"Being in a leadership position, there are opportunities to meet people from across the state in all of Brady Martz's offices," she said. "We work more as a firm than we ever have before so you get to make connections with many great professionals, which has been really enjoyable."

While her climb up the company ladder seems straight forward, Awalt's path to becoming an accountant was not.

She initially enrolled at Minot State because it was the closest university to her family grain farm west of Ray and began taking courses in pre-pharmacy.

"I decided the medical world just wasn't for me, but I was strong in the areas of mathematics and science, so then I made a pivot to become a high school accounting teacher like my mom (Bernadette (Bartsch) Perdue '85)," she said. "Then I did a practicum and I just didn't know if the high school age was the right age for me to teach."

It was her then-boyfriend, now-husband, Brock Awalt's dad, Rick '86, who reoriented her, putting a "bug in her ear" about a potential new career path.

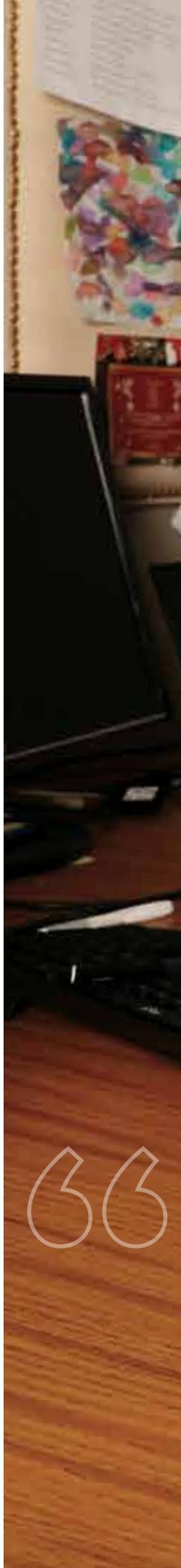
"I think the College of Business is fantastic. I had a lot of great professors, like Jay Wahlund '90 (accounting and finance chair and assistant professor) and Dean Frantsvog '97 (late business law professor)," she said. "I just kept having good experiences and that's what ultimately kept me at Minot State."

"I lived in Cook Hall my first year here and met a lot of great people, some of whom are still my friends."

Today, Awalt keeps busy with her professional responsibilities, running after her two young children, and making her way to campus from time to time.

"I attend the MSU Development Foundation's quarterly board meetings and have the opportunity to listen to Dr. Steven Shirley (president) and keep up on what's going on at Minot State. I always enjoy that," she said. "And Brock played football for MSU, so it's fun to get together with all the guys he played football with and take in a game."

"It's great to still stay in touch with Minot State." ■





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I had a lot of great professors, like Jay Wahlund '90 (accounting and finance chair and assistant professor) and Dean Frantsvog '97 (late business law professor). I just kept

having good experiences and that's what ultimately kept me at Minot State.



# Alum from DAY one

## FRESHMAN

### Ezra Hagerott

#### Accounting and finance ■ Minot

Ezra is in his first year at Minot State and is like most freshmen as he enjoys working out, hanging out with friends, and playing video games. But his main interest outside of school fits perfectly with his major: the business world. A prep soccer standout, he was Minot High School's most valuable player twice and was an all-state and all-region performer.

#### Why did you choose Minot State?

It was close to home, had the field I was interested in, and is on the more affordable side.

#### What is your favorite quote?

"It's fine to celebrate success, but it is more important to heed the lessons of failure." — Bill Gates

#### What has been your favorite class?

Personal finance. I could relate to the different life scenarios.

#### Who has been your most influential professor?

David Frantsvog '04/'07. If you come and ask him questions, he is great about giving you advice to help you have a better chance at being successful and wealthy.

#### What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

There's free soup almost every Tuesday, and you can get more than one bag.

#### What is your most memorable moment at Minot State?

So far, doing bad on my first test. It really woke me up for how college is different than high school.



## SOPHOMORE

### Ana Morelli

#### Nursing ■ Minot

Ana doesn't mess around when it comes to her grades, posting a perfect 4.0 GPA in high school and during her time at Minot State, earning a spot on the President's List each semester. But that doesn't mean she is stuck in the books all day long as she enjoys teaching dance, reading, watching her brother's hockey games, spending time with friends and family, and going to the lake in the summer.

#### Why did you choose Minot State?

I chose Minot State because it's in my hometown where I can still be close to family, the affordability, and the smaller professor-to-student ratio.

#### How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

MSU has allowed me to develop helpful relationships with professors and staff, provided scholarship opportunities, and given me access to beneficial learning resources, such as peer tutors.

#### What is your favorite quote?

"Be somebody who makes everybody feel like a somebody."

#### What has been your favorite class?

Psychology. I loved learning more about the mind and deepening my understanding of some of the reasons behind human behavior.

#### Who has been your most influential professor?

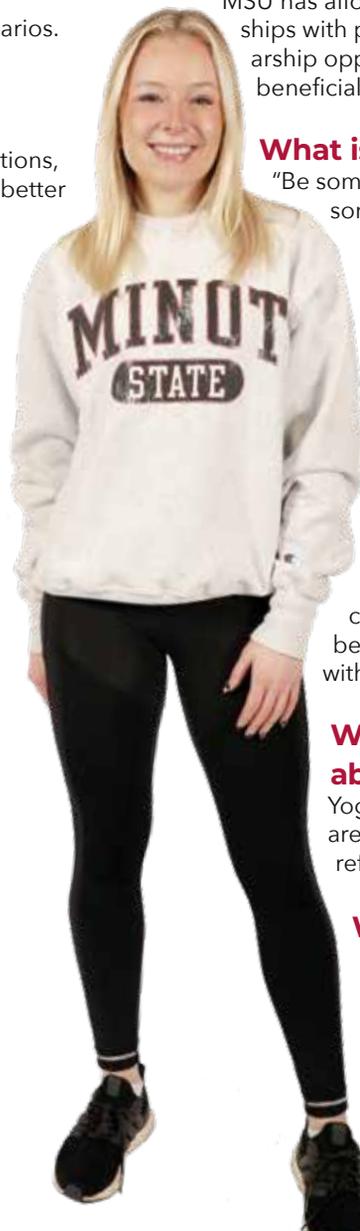
Terry (Ferebee) Eckmann '81/'82. She made it a joy to be in class every day, challenged us to be comfortable with being uncomfortable, and always left us with an inspiring life message.

#### What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

Yoga classes in the Wellness Center! They are so relaxing and leave you feeling very refreshed.

#### What is your most memorable moment at Minot State?

My first day of classes freshman year. I was so nervous for this new chapter of my life but walking around campus that first day brought overwhelming excitement and anticipation for what lies ahead.



## JUNIOR

# Hannah Peterson

### Social work ■ Minot

Hannah loves volunteering at Prairie Grit Adaptive Sports to “help people with all types of amazing abilities reach their goals by using grit.” She is involved in campus ministry with Cru and has found a passion for leadership, being nominated for the first Emerging Leadership Program. She has been a group leader at Launching Leadership and is an active member of the Looyenga Leadership Center.

### Why did you choose Minot State?

As a little girl, it was my dream to go to school where my dad (Scott Peterson) worked. I also liked that Minot State was close to home and had small class sizes.

### How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

MSU provides me with opportunities to get involved in my community through volunteering and internships. I have also developed leadership skills that are not social work focused. My social work professors have played a tremendous role in me developing into the person I am within my major by challenging me to look at the world and others in different perspectives.

### What is your favorite quote?

“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

— Maya Angelou

### Who has been your most influential professor?

Three professors that have influenced me the most, Lacey Corneliusen, Jim Sturm, and Beth Odahlen. I thank each for challenging me to find what I am passionate about and do it with confidence.

### What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

Minot State provides students with the opportunity to meet and get help from professors on a level that you wouldn’t receive at most universities.



## SENIOR

# Gavin Morgan

### Radiologic technology ■ Montego Bay, Jamaica

Gavin is a familiar face on campus as he is a student ambassador and is a member of Minot State Cru. Fitness is also a passion, as you can find him in the MSU Wellness Center or enjoying the outdoors. With all those events, he still found time to earn a certificate in French and likes to volunteer at soup kitchens and work with his local church.

### Why did you choose Minot State?

MSU had the major that I wanted for the most affordable price. There are opportunities to become closer to professors than at larger schools. At first, I didn’t like the weather, but the people of Minot really made me like the school.

### How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

I’ve been provided classes that are worth far more than what I pay for. The science classes such as anatomy and physiology, kinesiology, and immunology helped to prepare me for my future goal of being a physical therapist.

### What has been your favorite class?

Immunology. While it was a very challenging class, I loved learning about the immune system and all the chemicals and processes that keep us healthy.

### Who has been your most influential professor?

That has to be (former professor) Naomi Winburn. She was my freshman year chemistry lab professor and the head of the science club. She was very influential to me. She showed that professors are willing to help you with everything within their power if you put out the effort.

### What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

The tutoring available in the Academic Success Center. I didn’t fully utilize it my freshman year, but when I did, the difference in my grades was significant.





## MASTER OF SCIENCE

### Jenny (Reile) Ladendorf

#### Speech-language pathology ■ Minot

Jenny is in her second year in the master's program at Minot State after graduating with a bachelor's degree in communication science and disorders in 2022. While school keeps her busy, her two boys — who, according to her, are “wild and wonderful” — take up most of her time away from the classroom.

#### Why did you choose Minot State?

I chose MSU because of the reputation the communication disorders program has established. I also was drawn to the faculty and staff. From the moment I set foot on campus, I felt like I was already welcome.

#### How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

I was able to complete my undergraduate degree and continue to complete a master's degree within the same department. The undergraduate classes were small, and I established strong relationships with my instructors. My graduate school experience felt very personalized, as I was familiar with many of the faculty members.

#### What is your favorite quote?

“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.”  
— Benjamin Franklin

#### What has been your favorite class?

Probably any classes that had to do with neuroanatomy. I am fascinated with the innerworkings of the brain and how they affect the way we communicate.

#### Who has been your most influential professor?

Lesley (Chlopan) Magnus '85/'86. She always had high expectations for her students because she knew we were capable. She believed in you even when you didn't believe in yourself.

#### What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

The experience of attending a small university is unmatched. Your classmates become like family, and the relationships you build will last a lifetime.

## FACULTY

### Jay Wahlund

#### Business education ■ Minot

Jay '90 left public accounting to earn his business education degree at Minot State and has been a mainstay in the College of Business since. He earned a business administration degree with a major in accounting at the University of North Dakota and a master's in professional accountancy from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Jay has used the combined three degrees to educate future accounting majors at MSU, earning the Board of Regents Faculty Achievement Award in Teaching and the North Dakota State Society of CPAs Outstanding Accounting Educator.

#### Why did you choose Minot State?

When I left public accounting to return to school, MSU met my needs in terms of offerings and the opportunity to stay around family.

#### How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

As a faculty member, I am blessed to be able to teach which I enjoy immensely. There is a great satisfaction when you see your students understand the theory behind the application.

#### What is your favorite quote?

“Try not to become a person of success, but rather a person of value.”

#### What has been your favorite class?

I enjoy teaching governmental and not-for-profit accounting. Both have unique accounting principles to better measure, record, and communicate information for that setting.

#### Who has been your most influential professor?

Wes Luther '54 and Pearl Stusrud '52. Mr. Luther demanded that his students respect the educational process and Ms. Stusrud exhibited kindness in the educational process.

#### What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

MSU, no matter what the discipline, has students who could excel at the prestigious universities across the United States.

#### What is your most memorable moment at Minot State?

As a student, I met my wife Carla (Rodin) Wahlund '90 while attending MSU.



# HYSJULIEN

## honored to be first Minot North head coach

by Mike Stetson

DREW HYSJULIEN HAS WORKED HARD TO REACH THIS POINT.

A former two-sport star student-athlete at Minot State who graduated in 2008, Hysjulien now finds himself with the distinct honor of starting the new boys basketball program at Minot North High School.

"It's exciting to start a new program from scratch and imprint the way you'd like it to be built," Hysjulien said. "My first goal, as far as teaching, was to get into one of the biggest districts in the state, and as far as coaching, to go as high as I can in basketball."



After 15 years as an educator and coach, Hysjulien has worked towards those goals as the current Minot High School boys track & field coach and boys basketball assistant before being named the Sentinels new coach in May 2022.

The new high school is a long-awaited addition to Minot. "I think people are excited to have more opportunities for kids to play basketball in this town," said Hysjulien.

A native of Grand Forks, Hysjulien started down the path to be a teacher and coach when he toured the MSU campus in 2003.

"I just enjoyed Minot State from my first visit out of high school," he said. "I felt at home on campus from the start."

He made a name for himself during his time at Minot State as he contributed to the success of the 2004-05 men's basketball team which won the DAC-10 regular season and tournament titles and advanced to the NAIA National Tournament. The team was inducted into Minot State's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2021. He is still tied for seventh all-time in 3-pointers made in men's basketball (132) and holds the all-time outdoor triple jump school record of 49 feet, 4.5 inches.

“ I just enjoyed Minot State from my first visit out of high school. I felt at home on campus from the start. ”

Hysjulien fondly recalls the DAC-10 title game against Mayville State and the game-tying 3-pointer by Jordan Cooper '08/'10 that set up overtime, where the Beavers won to advance to nationals.

He has kept in touch with many of his teammates as several are coaches around the state and with his former head coach Mike Hultz.

"When I was coaching Class B, we sat down, and I've been able to bounce some of my ideas off him; and when I'm thinking of set plays, I reflect on him," he said of Hultz.

The focus after college turned to being an educator as Hysjulien, a James Madison Fellowship award winner, earned his Master of Arts in Teaching American History & Government from Ashland University (Ohio) and has devoted himself to earning his new role, both as a coach and teacher at Minot North High School.

"It's an honor to be hired as the first coach for Minot North," he said. ■

# EMPOWER



[MinotStateU.edu/Empower](http://MinotStateU.edu/Empower)



**Now in my seventh year within the MSU Development Foundation, I continue to be humbled by the passion and commitment of our alumni and friends.**

During Homecoming this past October, we announced the public phase of our EMPOWER capital campaign. This is a \$50 million comprehensive campaign that will transform our campus. Thanks to the generosity of so many of you, we have hit the \$40 million mark in the campaign, but we have much more to do. We are grateful for all of you that have assisted in the campaign to this point. For more information, please visit our website at [MinotStateU.edu/empower](http://MinotStateU.edu/empower).

We are already utilizing support from the campaign to assist in growing Minot State. For example, we recently announced our

EMPOWER grant program. This is a \$100,000 competitive grant program open to all faculty and staff that will provide support for programs or initiatives that will increase enrollment, advance academics, or enhance the academic experience for our students. Another example of support from the campaign is the increased funding for the Hometown Pride Scholarship and the newly created Prairie Rose Scholarship. These scholarships provide much needed support for students "in our backyard" of western and central North Dakota. In addition, through the EMPOWER campaign, we've been fortunate to add several

dozen new endowed scholarships. These are scholarships that will impact our campus for decades to come. One example of a newly created scholarship endowment is noted on the back cover of this publication, and we are grateful for the support from Bruce '73 and Linda '72 Christianson in the creation of a scholarship endowment in support of teacher education.

We are gearing up for our fifth annual MSU Giving Day to be held Wednesday, April 12. On this day, we will have more than 50 projects from departments across campus seeking support. Last year's Giving Day took place during a classic North Dakota bliz-

zard, but we still managed to raise over \$390,000! Again, this is a testament to the generosity and thoughtfulness of our alumni and friends. You can see the list of projects for this year's Giving Day at [give.MinotStateU.edu](http://give.MinotStateU.edu).

It's not too early to begin thinking about Homecoming 2023. This year's Homecoming activities will take place Sept. 13-16 and you are all welcome to attend. We are planning an All-80s reunion with the idea of honoring teams and campus groups from the decade of the 1980s. Please look for more information on Homecoming 2023 on our alumni website. ■

SAVE THE DATE

# MSU Homecoming 2023



SEPTEMBER  
**13 – 16**

featured reunion:



# Minot State mourns the passing of **DEAN FRANTSVOG**

Minot State University was saddened to announce the passing of alumnus, professor, and longtime supporter of MSU, Dean Frantsvog, who died in August after a battle with cancer. He was 47.

“Dean was an absolute pillar at MSU for the past two decades — educating thousands of students in the College of Business and providing terrific support to Beaver Athletics as our Faculty Athletics Representative,” said Minot State President Steven Shirley. “I join the entire community of Dean’s colleagues at MSU, along with our students, alumni, and supporters who will sincerely miss Dean and the wonderful presence he added to the MSU campus.”

2013. It recognizes faculty members at Division II schools for their dedication to supporting and mentoring student-athletes, as well as their commitment to Division II student-athletes’ lifelong learning, competition, and well-being.

In nominating Frantsvog for the faculty mentor award, Madeline Schorlemmer, associate athletic director of compliance, student life, and academic success, said he was “the embodiment of the NCAA Division II core values.”

“His passion for student-athletes’ success both in the classroom and their sport was evident throughout his entire career at Minot State,” Schorlemmer said. “Dean believed in every single



Frantsvog was a business law professor in the College of Business over the past 18 years. He graduated from Minot State in 1997 with a degree in criminal justice. He earned his Juris Doctorate in 2000 from Hamline University School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota.

As the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR), Frantsvog also helped review and advise Minot State and the Beaver Athletic department on compliance and policy issues during MSU’s transition from NAIA to NCAA Division II competition. He served as the department’s first NCAA FAR, beginning in 2010 until 2022. The Minot State Athletic Department inducted Frantsvog into the Athletics Hall of Fame in October.

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**“His passion for student-athletes’ success both in the classroom and their sport was evident throughout his entire career at Minot State.”**

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In January, the NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee selected Frantsvog as the recipient of the 2022 Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award. He was posthumously honored at the NCAA Convention in San Antonio, Texas.

The Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award is named after a Bellarmine physical therapy professor who died in

student-athlete who walked through the MSU doors. Dean’s actions and voice mirrored the Division II story. He met our student-athletes where they were and provided endless support in their academics, athletics, and community engagement projects.”

Others who submitted comments in support of Frantsvog consistently cited his belief in and commitment to the Division II core values of providing a balanced experience for student-athletes. He was a tireless supporter of their success — in athletics competition, in the classroom and, importantly, in preparation for their success in life after college.

Frantsvog, along with his wife, Sara (Christianson) ’99, American Bank & Trust Center, United Community Bank, and Vibeto Orthodontics, developed a state-of-the-art study space reserved for student-athletes. The Frantsvog Academic Success Center in the Minot State Dome opened in 2018. ■

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

# Upcoming **EVENTS**



MSU friend-raising  
**Golf Tour**

**6-13-23**

VELVA — Star City Golf

**6-27-23**

GARRISON Golf Club

**8-3-23**

KENMARE Country Club

2023 North Dakota State Fair



Wednesday,  
July 26

## SAVE THE DATE:

# HOMECOMING



SEPTEMBER  
**13 – 16**

2023 featured reunion:

# 80's decade

Scan →  
for more  
information



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON  
THE EVENTS ABOVE CONTACT:

Janna.McKechnie@MinotStateU.edu  
or call 701-858-3373.  
Register for events online at  
[MinotStateU.edu/Alumni](http://MinotStateU.edu/Alumni)

# ALUMNI APPRECIATION NIGHT AT THE DOME





MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY

Alumni Association's 39th Annual

# 2022 Gala & auction & dinner

Friday, May 5

The Clarion Hotel



Elegant dinner



Live and silent auctions



Mobile bidding



Contact the  
MSU Alumni Office at 701-858-3234,  
scan the code above or  
visit [MinotStateU.edu/Alumni](http://MinotStateU.edu/Alumni)

1972

**Doug Wurtz** and his wife, Linda, live in Bismarck. His retirement activities include nature photography as well as serving as a certified interpretive guide for the State Historical Society of North Dakota. He is past president of the North Dakota Archaeological Association.

1976



**Steve Watson** retired on Dec. 30, 2022 after spending 33 years with the Bottineau County Sheriff's Department. Following Minot State, Watson became an ag producer for over a decade on his family's farm in the Maxbass area. In August of 1989, he started his career in policing and that continued for over three decades. Although Watson is retiring, he will assist law enforcement in the area if needed.

1977



**Mark Koponen** retired July 1, 2022 as an associate professor of pathology at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Education Resources. Koponen worked for 13 years teaching pathology at the medical school and working as a medical examiner/coroner. Koponen graduated from the UND School of Medicine in 1986 and completed his pathology residency in 1991 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He completed a fellowship in forensic pathology at Emory University School of Medicine/Fulton County Medical Examiner's Office in 1992 and spent the next 20 years working as a medical examiner in Georgia. Koponen returned to North Dakota in 2009.



**Richard Lochthowe** retired following a 44-year career with Main Electric Construction, Inc. in Minot.

1980



**Stacy (Becker) Grunert** lives in Regina, Saskatchewan and works as a lay pastoral assistant. Though she retired from teaching band in 2015 in the Estevan, Saskatchewan area, she continues to be involved with the Saskatchewan Roughrider Pep Band and conducts the Regina Prairie Winds Adult Band. Grunert is also the coordinator of the Kenosee Summer Band Camp. She has been awarded the Paul Harris Fellow by the Estevan Rotary Club and recently received the Saskatchewan Band Association's Distinguished Band Director Award. Outside of work and band, she enjoys spending time with her family and travelling.

1981



**Rebecca (Annala) Gonzalez** retired in June after 41 years in education. She started her career teaching in New Town, Mandan, and Crosby before moving to Eastern Washington. Gonzalez taught elementary grades at Endicott, Washington for 34 years. During that time, she earned her master's from Gonzaga University and became a national board certificated teacher in 2004. She and her husband have two grown children.



**Mike Morken** retired following a 42-year career in journalism. Morken's career included 32 years working in television news in Fargo and 10 years in Minot at KX News.

1983



**Lynda Bertsch** was named to the North Dakota Officials Association Hall of Fame. Bertsch began her officiating career in 1983. During her career, she served as a North Dakota High School Activities Association Volleyball Officials Workshop supervi-

sor mentoring young and new officials and currently serves as a scheduler and assignor of volleyball officials in the Minot area. Bertsch has worked many district and regional volleyball tournaments at the high school level and has also officiated NAIA and junior collegiate volleyball matches. Bertsch officiated 26 NDHSAA volleyball state tournaments, including 21 Class B tournaments and five Class A tournaments. She has received numerous honors such as the National Federation of Interscholastic Officials Association Distinguished Service Award and the North Dakota High School Coaches Association's Special Recognition Award.

1987



**Duane Foley** joined the Minot ag lending team at Town & Country Credit Union as vice president. Foley has spent his entire career in the ag industry, and has extensive knowledge of agriculture operations and lending and most recently was the branch manager at AgCountry Farm Credit Services.



**Donna (Haman) Ryan** joined Glenwood State Bank as a personal banker at the Alexandria, Minnesota branch. Ryan has more than 30 years of banking experience. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her husband, Gary, and son, Daniel.

1988



**Mark Wax** is the deputy state director for the North Dakota United States Department of Agriculture-Rural Development.

1989



**Todd Borrison**, teacher, athletic director, and head varsity basketball coach at Mediapolis High School in Iowa, earned his

529th career victory. Borrison was awarded the Golden Plaque Award, an award given to an Iowa coach who has demonstrated a successful career while making notable contributions toward school, community, and the coaching profession. He was inducted into the Iowa State Hall of Fame and was a finalist for the National Coach of the Year. He and his wife, Trish, have two sons.

1990



**Wade Peterson**, a healthcare executive with 30 years of long-term care experience, has been named administrator of Trinity Homes under Trinity Health in Minot. Peterson, a Berthold native, received his nursing home administrator license in 1992 and went on to manage nursing homes in Napoleon, Stanley, and Bismarck. In 2008, he completed his master's in business administration from the University of Mary. Recently, Peterson led a joint venture between Sanford Health and Good Samaritan Society with responsibility for four Prospera facilities in the Bismarck/Mandan area. When Prospera was absorbed into the Sanford/Good Samaritan merger in 2020, he assumed the position as administrator of Good Samaritan's Augusta Place in Bismarck. An avid fisherman and bow hunter, Wade and his wife, Shelly, have four children and six grandchildren.

**Trini (Lach) Lipp**, a paralegal, is the deputy clerk of court for Burleigh County working both civil and criminal cases. Her husband, **Steve Lipp**, joined Active Life Chiropractic in Bismarck. He is a veteran of chiropractic care, practicing in Minot for 21 years serving patients of all ages. He retired from practice to work in development at the Bishop Ryan Catholic School Foundation and Minot State University Development Foundation. The couple have three grown children and three grandchildren.

1991



**Cord Scott** was recently awarded one of six Presidential Awards for the University of Maryland Global Campus system for his work.

The school caters to approximately 90,000 students worldwide, with the majority of the overseas students being either active duty military personnel or their dependents. Scott also released his third book, "The Mud and the Mirth," through the Marine Corps University press, had three book reviews published, and was part of a panel on military humor which was recorded and broadcast via the internet. He currently resides in Okinawa, Japan.

**Mary Beth (Wald) Votava**, center director of the Minot Small Business Development Center (SBDC), was awarded the America's SBDC State Star. Votava is the network's longest-tenured staff member, having been with the program since July of 2000. The Minot center serves seven counties in north central North Dakota. She is a certified business advisor, business certified appraiser, certified machinery and equipment appraiser, certified exit planning advisor, and accredited business intermediary. Votava's expertise includes accounting, lending and finance, strategic planning, loan packaging, government procurement, succession planning, business buy/sell planning, business valuation, and business recovery work.

1992



**Mitch Lunde**, athletic director for Minot Public Schools, was elected as the Class A West Representative to the North Dakota High School

Activities Association Board of Directors for the 2023-24 school year. Lunde obtained his master's degree in administration and leadership in 2001. Lunde began his teaching career in Killdeer. Before his current position, Lunde also taught in Pahump, Nevada and was an administrator in the Tuttle-Pettibone, South Prairie, and Beulah School Districts. Lunde is now in his 10th

year at Minot Public Schools. He was awarded the 2012 NDAESP Region 7 Principal of the Year.

1993



**Tom Foley** joined the Minot ag lending team at Town & Country Credit Union as vice president. Foley, who has 15 years of lending

experience, previously was an ag lender at AgCountry Farm Credit Services.

1995

**Alyson (Solberg) Schepp** is teaching pre-K through second grade special education for the Bottineau School District. Schepp was born in Bottineau and was in the Bottineau school system until the fifth grade. She went on to graduate from Mohall High School. Schepp has been in education for 28 years. She taught in Hope for three years, Langdon for one year, Valley City for one year, Dunseith for one year, and in Rugby for 21 years. She taught first grade, third grade, fourth grade, sixth grade, Title 1, and pre-K special education.

1998



**Kathryn Zurcher** was awarded a grant through the Lily Endowment Clergy Renewal Program that will assist in funding her sabbatical

in 2023. Reverend Zurcher was ordained into the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in 2006 and she has served as a pastor to congregations in the Minneapolis area, eastern North Dakota, and the Pacifica Synod. She has been pastor of St. John Lutheran Church in Kailua, Oahu, Hawaii for eight years. The grant money will make it possible for pastors from the mainland to minister to her congregation for the four months she will be on sabbatical. The funds will also allow her to spend time studying the art of storytelling with a focus on Broadway theater. She will be in New York City the majority of the sabbatical but will also spend time in London, driving around the New England

states, and on the island of Nantucket.

2002



**Jason Stadel** was promoted to Army sergeant major on Oct. 1, 2022. Stadel joined the Army in 2003 and has served in the active-duty Army for the last 19 years. Sergeant major (E-9) is the highest enlisted rank in the U.S. Army. He is in the Army public affairs career field and has deployments to both Iraq and Afghanistan. Stadel has also served an unaccompanied tour in South Korea. In 2021, the U.S. Army selected Stadel to attend the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss, Texas. He graduated from the SGM-A in June 2022 and moved to Fort Eustis, Virginia where he now serves as the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) public affairs sergeant major. Throughout his career, Stadel's wife, Stephanie, and their two sons, Jason Jr. and Anthony, have been by his side. In addition to his combat deployments and rotations, Stadel has served at Fort Bliss, Texas; Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Fort Stewart, Georgia; Fort Meade, Maryland; and Camp Red Cloud, Korea.

2003

**Jamie (Annel) Parsons** is working at the Bottineau Courant. Parsons was raised between the communities of Towner and Rolla where her parents owned a farm. She also lived and worked in Rolla for nearly 20 years and raised her family near the community of Glenburn. She is currently completing her master's degree in developmental psychology and then plans to go on for her doctorate degree in psychology with a graduation date in 2023.

2004



**Jordan Keith** joined Vision Specialists at their Council Bluffs, Iowa location. Keith is a North Dakota native who achieved his Doctor of Optometry at Pacific University

College of Optometry in Oregon and received the highest honor in his class, the Dean's Award. He completed his residency in ocular disease at Kansas City VA Medical Center and became full-time faculty at the Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago and saw patients at the Illinois Eye Institute. He served as Chief of Eye Care Services at the Sidney Hillman Health Center and received six teaching awards. He served as a trustee on the Board of the Minnesota Optometric Association, co-founded KMK Optometry Coaching, and to this day provides education to students and professionals around the world. Keith made Newsweek's "America's Best Eye Doctors" as voted on by his peers in 2022.

2005

**Niki (Wegenast) Carlson** joined Bravera Wealth in Minot as a retirement plan administrator. Carlson assists employers with the implementation and administration of retirement plans and helps individual clients establish new retirement plans or review existing plans.



**Brandyn Hendrickson** received the Optimist of the Year award from the Minot Optimist Club.

2007



**Larry Derr**, superintendent at Glenburn, was elected as the Class B Northwest Representative to the North Dakota High School Activities Association Board of Directors for the 2023-24 school year. Derr obtained his master's degree in educational leadership from NDSU in 2012. He started his teaching career in Glenburn in 2007, began his administrative career in 2010, and in May of 2020 was named superintendent. Derr was named Region 1 Principal of the Year in 2018.



**Nicole DesRosier** is the administrator for Minot's Downtown Business and Professionals Association. DesRosier has 20 years of experience in broadcast news and creative media. She is a small business owner and maker at the Foundry in Minot.

**Jeremy Froseth**, sales consultant, received the award of Torchbearer for Sysco's North Central Region. Froseth has previously been awarded Rookie of the Year, Executive Club, and Torchbearer. Torchbearer is the top award in the company chosen from those who qualify within the executive club.



**Amanda (Moser) Remyne** was promoted to vice president of operations and outreach for the Greater North Dakota Chamber (GNDC). Her new role will focus on organizational growth and success. Remyne joined GNDC in July 2019 as the director of communications. Prior to her time at GNDC, she worked numerous years within state government.

## 2008

**Rich Berg** retired in January as the executive director of the Souris Valley United Way.

## 2009

**Brian Walz**, seventh grade math teacher at Erik Ramstad Middle School in Minot, was awarded Ward County Teacher of the Year. Walz was nominated for the award by a student and teacher.

## 2010



**Justin Aberle** opened Souris Valley Accounting & Consulting, PLLC with co-owner Tyson Schatz '12. Aberle, a Minot native, is a licensed CPA in the state of North Dakota. The company will offer accounting, tax, and consulting services to help individuals and small businesses achieve financial goals.

## 2011



**Brad Heger** is the student resource officer for the Maple Valley School System. The district consists of the towns of Tower City, Buffalo, Fingal, Oriska, and Nome as well as rural Barnes and Cass County students. Heger began his career in 2007 where he worked in multiple county jails and a maximum security prison. He obtained his Peace Officers License through Lake Region State College in 2012. In 2016, Heger started working for the Cass County Sheriff's Office where he became a nationally certified car seat technician and certified emergency medical responder. While in Cass County he worked at the jail, on patrol, and as court transport.



**Josh Moen** is a branch manager for Town & Country Credit Union in Fargo. Moen, originally from Nekoma, has 16 years of customer service-related experience in the finance industry.

## 2012

**Taylor Jensen** was promoted to sergeant with the Minot Police Department. Jensen has been employed with the MPD since August 2012.



**Tyson Schatz** opened Souris Valley Accounting & Consulting, PLLC with co-owner Justin Aberle '10. Schatz, from Minot, is a licensed CPA in the state of North Dakota. The company will help individuals and small businesses achieve their financial goals with accounting, tax, and consulting services.

## 2013



**Camille Steen** joined First Western Bank & Trust's IT department as a computer technician in the Fargo region.



**Terry (TJ) Wald** and Erica Wald opened a second location of Commit Fitness Studio on Jan. 2 in the LoHi district of Denver. Commit Fitness is a private training studio offering personal training, small group training, and accountability coaching in Denver.

## 2014



**Tim Olson** is the communications & outreach specialist for the Minot Area Chamber EDC. Olson, a Minot native, spent more than a decade as an on-air broadcaster and journalist at KX News in Minot and later in Bismarck. He joined the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation serving as communications specialist in 2021. He and his family returned to Minot in August 2022.

**Robbie Sumlin** was promoted to master officer with the Minot Police Department. Sumlin has been employed with the MPD since July 2014.

## 2015



**KateLynn Albers** was named the Companions for Children 2022 Mentor of the Year. Albers is an assistant professor in the accounting and finance program at Minot State.

**Kouadjo Bini** is the senior cybersecurity specialist with Hess Corporation and will lead its North Dakota operational technology cybersecurity operations.

**Kylie (Ryals) Brown** is teaching fifth grade at Powers Lake School. Brown, a Westby, Montana native, spent the past seven years teaching second grade students in Burlington. She and her husband, Kole, have three children.



**Olivia (Fetherolf) Clinton** has been promoted to loan operations specialist for First Western Bank & Trust in Minot. Clinton has

been with First Western for over nine years, starting as a teller at the main bank in October 2013. She joined the loan department in 2015.

## 2016

**Abelein Dunn** joined the Pequot Lakes (Minnesota) School District staff teaching special education at Eagle View Elementary School. Dunn previously taught in Staples-Motley, Minnesota for four years and Verdale, Minnesota for one and a half years.



**Austin Halladay** is the community wellness coach with Trinity Health in the exercise physiology department located in Minot.

Halladay, originally from Estevan, Saskatchewan, was a fitness coach and personal trainer for five years before returning to MSU and receiving a bachelor's degree in exercise science and rehabilitation in 2022. In addition to cancer and Parkinson's exercise programming and interventions, Halladay focuses on general wellness and falls prevention programming; corporate wellness activities for contract clients; and community assessment, coaching, and wellness promotion.

## 2017



**Karlee (Galvin) Andrist** was promoted to loan operations processor III for First Western Bank & Trust in the Minot region.

Andrist started at First Western as a part-time teller in 2014 and joined the loan operations department in 2018.

## 2018



**Reece Burckhard** successfully completed the North Dakota Highway Patrol Academy and Field Training and is now a North Dakota Highway Patrol trooper assigned in Rolla.



**Tyler Rudolph** signed to play basketball for the 2023 season with the Ballarat Miners based in Australia.

2019



**Alexis Clark** is the community outreach coordinator for Companions for Children-Youth Mentoring in Minot.



**Austin Dickinson** has been named the head football coach for Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa. Dickinson spent

the previous two seasons as the defensive coordinator at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Prior to returning to the DIII level, he spent two seasons as the recruiting coordinator and defensive coach at Minnesota State University-Mankato.

2020



**Makensy Arlien** was promoted to consumer lender I for First Western Bank & Trust, Minot region. Arlien joined First Western in July 2021 as a consumer loan processor and loan documentation specialist at the Dakota Square branch.



**Julia Barlow** is the school counselor at Bowbells School. Barlow is currently working on completing her master's degree in counseling and clinical mental health at the University of North Dakota. This is her first year as a counselor. When she is not in Bowbells, Barlow is working at the Des Lacs-Burlington Schools and Sawyer School.



**Matt Flom** was promoted to business banking officer for First Western Bank & Trust. Flom began his career with First Western Bank & Trust in 2017.



**Sebastian Gutierrez** was signed by the NFL's Las Vegas Raiders. He spent time on the New England Patriots practice squad after initially signing with the Denver Broncos as a rookie free agent in May and was released in August.

2021

**Faith Brintle** was named the assistant women's basketball coach for the University of Jamestown. Brintle joins the staff after spending the 2021-22 season as an assistant coach at Laramie County Community College in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Brintle also had five seasons of AAU coaching experience with the Lady Prospects Basketball Club out of Lawrence, Kansas.



**Cole Brose** has been promoted to business banking officer for First Western Bank & Trust in the Minot region. Brose joined First Western as a consumer lender in April 2021.



**Lofton Klabunde** has been promoted to treasury management portfolio manager for First International Bank & Trust. Klabunde has been with FIB&T since 2019, most recently as a personal banker. He is located at the Minot Broadway office. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with family and friends, hunting, and fishing.

**Samantha (Topham) Knipp** is a forensic interviewer/family advocate with the Northern Plains Children's Advocacy Center in Minot. Knipp works with children and their families who are experiencing or have experienced abuse or neglect. She and her husband, Nicholas, have a 4-year-old daughter. In her free time, she enjoys swimming at the lake, camping with family, and spending time outside in the summer.

**Alyson Moses** successfully completed the North Dakota Highway Patrol Academy and Field Training and is now a North Dakota Highway Patrol trooper assigned in Williston. Moses was previously a police officer with the Valley City Police Department.

2022



**Josh Duke** is a cash management specialist at First Western Bank & Trust, Minot main bank. Duke was hired as a part-time teller in May 2021.



**Taryn Faul** was the grain merchandising and origination intern at the ADM Velva plant for several months. On Jan. 9 she began full time as grain origination specialist at the Velva office. Originally from Max, she is now working on her master's degree in management at MSU.



**Patrick Heide** was promoted to credit analyst for First Western Bank & Trust.



**Gwen Mathews** will be the Minot Public Schools North head girls tennis coach. Mathews teaches second grade at Washington Elementary, was an assistant on the Minot High girls tennis team, and coached the Majettes sophomore B volleyball squad.



**Delaney Smith** is the enrollment and program coordinator for Companions for Children-Youth Mentoring in Minot.

**Misty Weed** teaches kindergarten at Stanley Schools. Weed received her Associate in Applied Science Paraeducation Early Childhood from Dakota College at Bottineau and an early childhood education degree from Minot State.

Attending

**Hanna Grubb** is teaching second grade at Stanley Schools. Grubb lives in Powers Lake and enjoys traveling, watching movies, reading, and spending time at the lake.

**Alexis Heil** spent the summer in Guatemala working in a hospital to gain more medical experience. With her credentials as a student nurse, Heil was granted a CNA position at a hospital in Antigua where she worked on a floor for special needs patients.

**Megan McGinnity** is a special education teacher at Tioga Central Elementary. Prior to the pandemic, McGinnity worked at KSI until the economic crash in the spring of 2020 which resulted in a round of layoffs. She then began working at Central Elementary and received a grant to return to college full time while still working at the school.

**Marissa (Jensen) Nordloef** is teaching kindergarten at Stanley Schools. Nordloef, a Kenmare native, lives in Powers Lake with her husband, Aiden.

Attended

**Drake Jeffries**, free agent guard, signed with NBA's Orlando Magic.

Friend



**Jana Schultz** was named Lion of the Year by the Magic City Lions.



**Tom Seymour** was appointed by the Cass County Commission to serve on the board of directors of the Growth Initiative Fund of the Greater Fargo Economic Development Corporation. Seymour, professor emeritus, is a retired Minot State faculty member serving 31 years as an information technology professor in the College of Business.

# In memory



It is with honor we dedicate this section to recognize alumni and friends who have passed away from approximately November 2022 through February 2023 or as submitted.

## Graduates

'48 Biber (Johnson), Eilene; Tioga  
'50 Hanson (Skotland), Janice; Rugby  
'52 Herbel, Oliver; Bottineau  
'54 Klebe (Batema), Janet; Rugby  
'57 Emery, Wayne; Des Lacs  
'59 Clark, Roy; Williston  
'59 Johnson, Delbert; Portland, Ore.  
'59 Magnusson, Harlow; Minot  
'60 Sovig, Otto; Arnegard  
'61 Hadler (Mastvelten), Marjetta;  
Annandale, Minn.  
'61 Jacobson, Keith; Rochester, Minn.  
'61 Stevick, Arlo; Minot  
'62 Bilquist (Hanson), Donna; Williston  
'62 Campbell, Walter; Bismarck  
'62 Hickman, Delano; Burnsville, Minn.  
'62 Patten, Gordon; Mesa, Ariz.  
'63 Jan, Ronald; Minot  
'63 Johnson, Duane; Minot  
'63 Winden, Richard; Bismarck  
'64 Anderson, Lloyd; Washburn  
'64 Armstrong (Collins), Marilyn; Phoenix, Ariz.  
'64 Goodman, James; Minot  
'65 Bergstrom (Borgers), Sandra; Bismarck  
'65 Focke (Korman), Mary; Minot  
'66 Bethke, Lloyd; Minot  
'66 Enget, Owen; Powers Lake  
'67 Bjornson, David; Saint Paul, Minn.  
'68 Burns (Muttonen), Joan; Greer, S.C.  
'68 Burtness (Larson), Ardis; Minot  
'68 Richter, Marvin; Madison, Wis.  
'68 Skarphol (Wall), Ione; Bottineau  
'69 Benjamin, Noreen; Bismarck  
'69 Piotrowski, John; El Dorado Hills, Calif.  
'70 Anderson (Loberg), Almaree; Minot  
'70 Burnham (Erickson), Connie; Littleton, Colo.  
'70 Hagen (Smith), Darlene; Williston  
'70 Rutter, Shirley; Bismarck  
'70 Yecoshenko (Stromme), Amy; Bismarck  
'71 Fogarty (Hallum), Eleanor; Minot  
'71 Hailey, Frank; Fort Worth, Texas  
'72 Bolkan (Gange), Theresa; Parshall  
'72 Embrey (Hanscom), Diana; Friendswood,  
Texas  
'73 Ronning (Kramer), Colleen; Minot  
'74 Beauclair (Meuth), Janet; Bismarck  
'74 Miller (Livingston), Nancy Ann; Drake  
'74 Schmidt, Daniel; Bismarck  
'75 Schmitt (Fransen), Sherrill; Jamestown  
'76 Petrick, Steven; Minot  
'78 Duben (Smith), Cindy; Lansford  
'78 Sukumlyn, Timothy; Balfour  
'79 Parrill (Nelson), Mildred; Bottineau  
'80 Burgess, George Sr.; Warner Robins, Ga.  
'80 Guvakosky (Schoenberg), Evangeline;  
Garrison  
'81 Lockwood, Wilma; Max  
'82 Coleman, Ronald; Fargo

'85 Noren (Hoff), Karin; Chaska, Minn.  
'85 Tallman, David; Portland, Ore.  
'86 Grandy-Zandee, Caroline; White  
Bear Lake, SK  
'86 Knippel, Bernard; Schofield, Wis.  
'87 Taft, Brad; Edgewood, Md.  
'88 Krueger (Little), Linnea; Devils Lake  
'89 Landphere (Hendrickson) Lana; Minot  
'90 Smith (Vannett), Kathy; Temecula, Calif.  
'92 Fugleberg (Strand), Vicki; Portland  
'92 Hintz (Modrow), Loreale; Minot  
'92 Moore (Picek), Lori; Minot  
'95 Miller, Doug; Bismarck  
'97 Stigen (Sauvageau), Sharleen; Fairfield  
'98 Dixon (Coutts), Mary; Minot  
'98 Kidd, Mary; Chipley, Fla.  
'98 Schalow, Ronald; Fargo  
'99 Anderson (Ramsdell), Kimberly; York  
'99 Nygaard (Gjevre), Judy; East Helena,  
Mont.  
'00 Dionne, Arthur; Rolla  
'00 Rey, Mark; Minot  
'05 Christensen Jones, Kimberli; Bozeman,  
Mont.  
'08 Culver, Glen; Minot  
'16 Lorusso, Alexandria; Aurora, Colo.  
'16 Nogosek, Rodney; Minot

## Attended

Anderson (Fossen), Amy; Harvey  
Anderson, Floyd; Bismarck  
Bechtold, Margery; Minot  
Boehm, Leon; Jamestown  
Burthold (Loe), Ellen; Pekin  
Christensen, Richard; Portland, Ore.  
Dobler, Melanie; Bismarck  
Guttormson, Lynn; Minot  
Keller (Stromme), Marjorie; Baxter, Minn.  
Krebs (Nowak), Theresa; Minot  
Larson, Richard; Champaign, Ill.  
Marsland, Dale; Minot  
Mogren, Lance; Kenmare  
Mongeon (Hanson), Donna; Fargo  
Niewoehner, Henry "Weyburn"; Upham  
Novak, Richard; Minot  
Stevens, Gorton "Doc"; Lignite

## Friends

Aiken, Wilbur; Forest Lake, Minn.  
Anderson (Borstad), Linda; Minot  
Bakken, Lyle; Sun City West, Ariz.  
Bengson (Reierson), LaVonne; Minot  
Brendle (Parsley), Vivian Gail; Parshall  
Brevig (Kassner), Shirley; Rapid City, S.D.  
Buri (Aiken), Leola; Ocean Shores, Wash.  
Buzzell (Davidson), Betty; Minot  
Folven, Dale; Minot  
Dendinger (Wolff), Geraldine;  
Saint Cloud, Minn.

Effertz (Bymers), Norma; Velva  
Ehlers, Ralph; Minot  
Ellis (Moen), Lois; Minot  
Farstad (Johnson), Eunice; Boise, Idaho  
Feldner, Wayne; Minot  
Fisher, Sandra; Bismarck  
Getzlaff, Jason; Minot  
Giffey (Geving), Venetia; Garrison  
Helstedt (Weber), Ardella; Minot  
Honrud, Sonny; Bismarck  
Hordinsky, Irene; Minneapolis  
Hornbacher (Elefson), Ellen; Verona, Wis.  
Howe, Mildred; Hopkins, Minn.  
Hugelen, Audrey; Minot  
Irwin, Myron; Minot  
Leslie, Sheryl; Burlington  
Manning, R. James; Boise, Idaho  
Marschall, Elloide; Max  
Marsh, Doran; Minot  
Marshall, Charles; Highlands Ranch, Colo.  
Mogler (Armstrong); Josephine; Minot  
Neshem, Ardis; Minot  
Port (Lynne), Carol; Minot  
Prochaska, Paul; Ramsay, Minn.  
Radke, Percy; Minot  
Reich (Peterson Colby), Lila; Minot  
Rupp, Gene; Minot  
Sattler, Gabriel; Bottineau  
Schaeffer, Leo; Minot  
Schatz, Danny; Fargo  
Schmidt, Harley; Minot  
Strate (Pretzer), Almira; Peoria, Ariz.  
Taft (Kapaun), Susan; Minot  
Thompson (Furman), Isabelle; Minot  
Tollefson, Kristin; Minot  
Trihub (Krueger), Jane; Minot  
Walker, Richard; Minot  
Wittmayer, Harvey; Minot

## Faculty and Staff

Brow, William; former faculty; Davis, Calif.

# Look who's NEW!



Have you had an addition to your family recently?

We want to know. Contact Kate Marshall, director of foundation operations, at [Kate.Marshall@MinotStateU.edu](mailto: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 date of birth. Also please provide your graduation year, spouse's name, and contact information. After you receive your T-shirt, email your baby's photo to Kate.

Brown



Briggs was born Feb. 7, 2022 to **Josh '15 and Jordyn (Geer) Brown '12.**

Arntson



Landry RuthAnn was born April 29, 2021 to **Pat '15 and Jaci (Norbury) Arntson '15.**

Brown



Proud grandparents **Todd Cresap '83 and Linda Cresap,** director of MSU's Graduate School and business information technology professor, welcomed two new grandchildren, Oliver Wayne Brown born July 6, 2022 and Benjamin William Cresap born July 7, 2022.

Cresap



Axtman



Evy Mae was born Sept. 9, 2022 to **Bethanie (Bogers) Axtman '07/'09** and her husband, Jake. She joins big brother Ames.

Elgie



Charli Kay was born June 14, 2022 to **Liz (Nelson) Elgie '17/'19** and her husband, Zac.

Erickson



Proud parents **Ethan '17 and Courtney (Vogel) Erickson '17** welcomed Breckyn on Aug. 16, 2022. She joins big sister Briar (2).

Bloms



**Mac (Jensen) Bloms '18** and her husband, Alex, had Henry on Dec. 1, 2022. He joins big sister Layla (2).

Hall



**Chantz '10 and Alyssa (Harasym) Hall '12** welcomed Jaella on April 6, 2021 and Hadassah on Aug. 19, 2022.

## Jarmin



Blake Irene was born Aug. 24, 2021 to **Tess (Foley) Jarmin '15** and her husband, Zachary, of Stanley. She joins proud big sister Avery.

Atlas Jeffrey entered the world Nov. 14, 2022. Proud parents are **Derek Just '10** and his wife, Kelsea. The family resides in Durham, North Carolina.

## Just

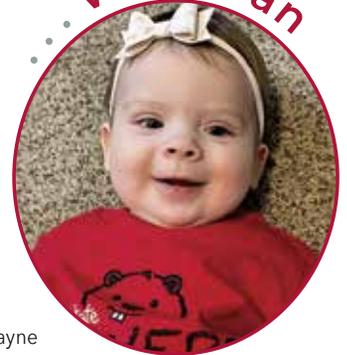


## Tessendorf



Winry Juanita Ruth was born June 5, 2022 to **Casara Tessendorf '18** and Madison Wigness. She is the granddaughter of **Tricia Tessendorf '96**.

## Westman



Harper entered the world on March 30, 2022. Parents are **BreAnne (Etier) Westman '17** and her husband, Lane.

## Krahler



**Bryan '12 and Morgan (Klose) Krahler '15** welcomed Kemper on May 31, 2022.

## Wurtz



Harvey Wayne was born to **Shelby (Bigelow) Wurtz '18** and her husband, Lucas. He joins big brother Ferguson.

## McHenry



Nora was born on Sept. 15, 2022 to **Kale '17 and Jocelyn (Haman) McHenry '18/'20**.

## Yale



**Dan '17 and NaTeal (Bosch) Yale '13** welcomed Jensen Jean on May 20, 2021.

## Neuhalfen



**Roger '11 and MaKayla (Sandvold) Neuhalfen '15** welcomed Ruby on Sept. 2, 2022.

## Yale



**Matt '15 and Sydney (Landsiedel) Yale '19** welcomed Phippen Mac on March 31, 2022. She joins big brother Grant Leonard (5).

## Rademacher



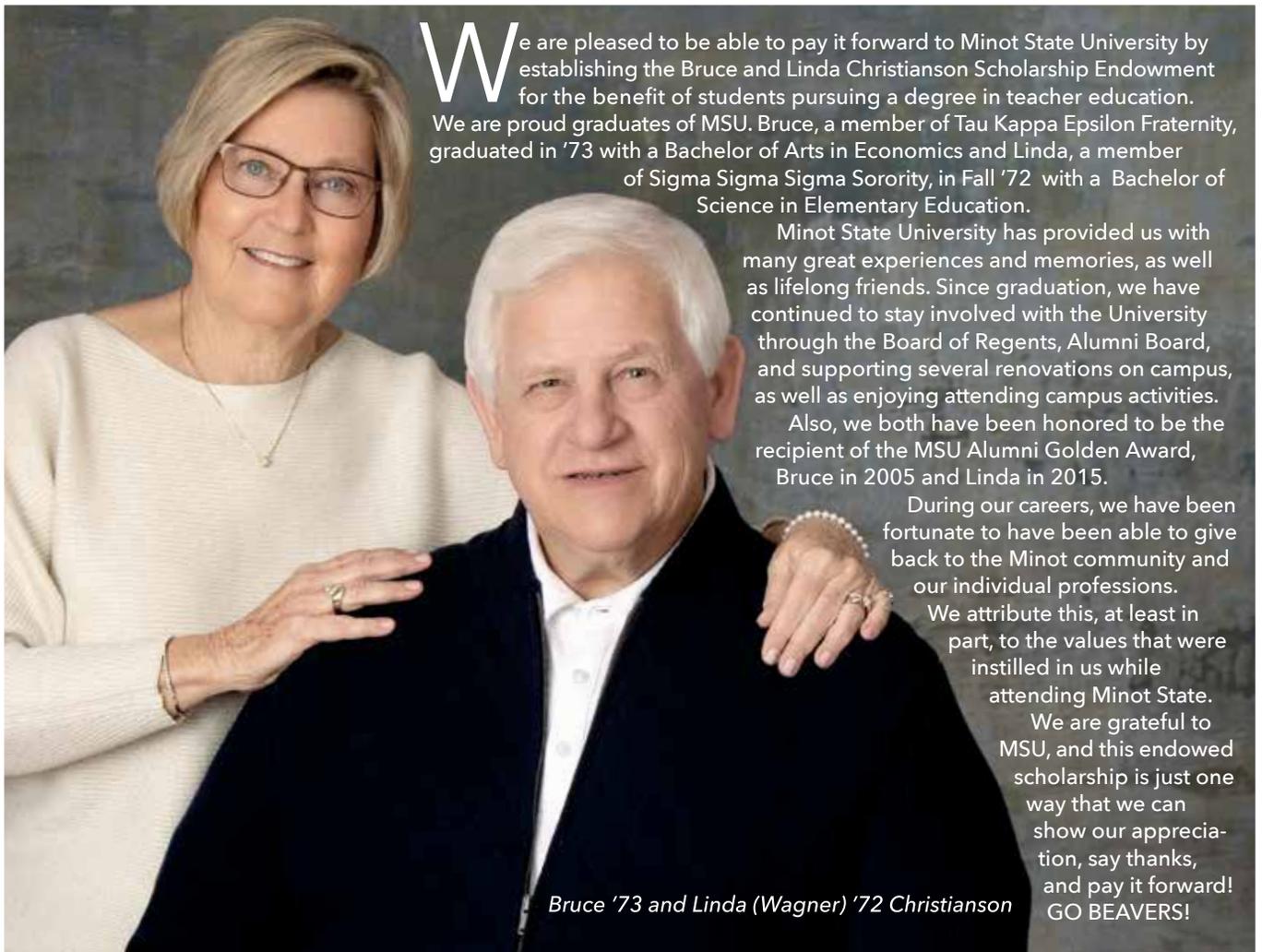
Jemma Janine entered the world Aug. 3, 2022 and was welcomed by **Kasey (Rademacher) Rabe '16** and her husband, Jordan.



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**W**e are pleased to be able to pay it forward to Minot State University by establishing the Bruce and Linda Christianson Scholarship Endowment for the benefit of students pursuing a degree in teacher education. We are proud graduates of MSU. Bruce, a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity, graduated in '73 with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Linda, a member of Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority, in Fall '72 with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education.

Minot State University has provided us with many great experiences and memories, as well as lifelong friends. Since graduation, we have continued to stay involved with the University through the Board of Regents, Alumni Board, and supporting several renovations on campus, as well as enjoying attending campus activities.

Also, we both have been honored to be the recipient of the MSU Alumni Golden Award, Bruce in 2005 and Linda in 2015.

During our careers, we have been fortunate to have been able to give back to the Minot community and our individual professions.

We attribute this, at least in part, to the values that were instilled in us while attending Minot State.

We are grateful to MSU, and this endowed scholarship is just one way that we can show our appreciation, say thanks, and pay it forward! GO BEAVERS!

*Bruce '73 and Linda (Wagner) '72 Christianson*