

FALL 2010

# *connections*

Minot State University Alumni Association & Development Foundation

Passion for business  
propels graduates



# WELCOME



‘Through the tapestry of messages delivered to us by ... successful alumni, a similar thread runs: a business foundation from MSU can propel a graduate to the heights of her or his dreams.’

In making their generous contribution to the College of Business to initiate the Severson Entrepreneurship Academy, Clinton Severson (MSU class of 1973 and Forbes’ 2007 Entrepreneur of the Year) and his wife Conni Ahart expressed their desire to “light a spark” for the student passionate about entrepreneurship. We are extremely happy to tell you, in this issue of *Connections*, about that game-changing gift and the ways in which we hope to ignite sparks in students who may well become the luminaries of future entrepreneurship practice. It is truly an exciting time for the College of Business!

We celebrate the stellar contributions made by some of our alumni to their organizations and communities: Amy Leonard-Emery at Levi Strauss, Tim Mihalick at IRET, Lisa Feldner at Information Technology for the State of North Dakota, and Jerry Helgeson at American Eagle Distributing, leaders all. Through the tapestry of messages delivered to us by these and other successful alumni, a similar thread runs: a business foundation from MSU can propel a graduate to the heights of her or his dreams.

Over the years, the College of Business has embodied a rich legacy of caring, dedication and attention to what matters. Pearl Stusrud, Doris Slaaten and J. B. Busse are names frequently mentioned by alumni as some of those

whose extra efforts have made significant differences in their students’ lives. You’ll read here about some of our current faculty continuing that tradition of service to students: Dr. Andy Bertsch and Dr. Frank Moseley, director of our new Energy Economics and Finance program. We appreciate the continuing assistance of emeriti faculty and former administrators in helping us stay connected with you.

Again this year, College of Business students have shown themselves to be apt kindling: selected for Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges were Whitney Loftesnes, Megan Perdue, Brody Pinkerton and Lexi Swallers; taking Top 10 rankings at the international competition of MSU DECA were Jordan Lakoduk, first place, Trey Welstad and Ben Berg. Chris Barney placed in the top 10 in two events in the national PBL leadership conference. We will enjoy watching these and other outstanding students, such as Alyssa Neubauer, featured in this issue, as they grow — and glow — in their careers.

We welcome your questions and comments, and encourage you to participate with us as we fan the flames of entrepreneurship!

— JoANN LINRUD, Ph.D.  
Dean, College of Business



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**ON THE COVER:** Andrew Evanoff '09, business development associate, Abaxis, Inc., and Clinton Severson '73, chairman, president and CEO of Abaxis, Inc. See story on page 4.

*(Cover and article photos by Mandi Carroll.)*

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**MINOT STATE ALUMNUS** Clint Severson and his wife Conni Ahart have donated \$1 million to sponsor an entrepreneurship academy within MSU's College of Business.

Severson is CEO and president of Abaxis, a medical devices firm located in Union City, Calif. The 1973 Minot State grad rescued a cash-strapped company and boosted its earnings to record levels. Forbes magazine named him entrepreneur of the year for 2007.

# SUCCESSFUL alumnus aims to inspire student ENTREPRENEURS

Reflecting his Midwestern background, Severson believes the new academy will grow entrepreneurs, the seed corn of American capitalism.

“Entrepreneurs create most of the jobs, pay most of the taxes, create great value and are responsible for most of the innovation,” he said. “Their value is so high that Minot State ought to participate in developing them.”

Shawn Carraher will be the academy’s first director. He is the former director of entrepreneurial studies at Cameron University in Lawton, Okla.

Carraher will work closely with JoAnn Linrud, dean of MSU’s College of Business. Severson will contribute his expertise, honed to a sharp edge by three decades in corporate boardrooms. He stresses that the academy will provide students with the skills to run a business.

“Starting a business or coming up with an idea that makes something happen is how we’re going to evaluate this,” he said.

As Severson contemplated the proposed academy, he looked for an indication that Minot State was serious about housing it. He tracked the construction of a new campus monument sign to see if the school would hit its target date.

“I thought this was a good way to measure whether these people could get anything done or not,” he said. “Sure enough, the sign got up.”

In addition to the academy, Severson has given back to Minot State by offering Abaxis internships to qualified candidates.

“Unless you have some real-world experience, it’s difficult to succeed in your first job,” he said of internships.

One student who received an Abaxis internship was Andrew Evanoff. While still at MSU, Linrud helped him negotiate the shifting currents of the business world.

“She shared with me stories about her career,” he said, recalling the personal attention he received. “She took time to get to know me. That’s pretty cool. Not many people get to hang out with the dean like that.”

‘Entrepreneurs create most of the jobs, pay most of the taxes, create great value and are responsible for most of the innovation ... Their value is so high that Minot State ought to participate in developing them.’

When the Minot native arrived in California in the summer of 2009, he enjoyed the hometown hospitality of the Seversons until he got settled.

“They were willing to open up their home and do everything they could for me,” he said.

One month into his internship, an ebullient Evanoff informed an Abaxis vice president that he hoped to stay with the firm. The company accommodated him with a position in product management and marketing research.

“The company is growing fast; there’s a lot of opportunity here,” he said.

In May, Evanoff married a Minot girl. The couple is making its home in Palo Alto, Calif.

Michael O’Dwyer hopes to follow in Evanoff’s footsteps. After graduating from MSU’s College of Business this spring, he too received an Abaxis internship.

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The Innisfail, Alberta, native came to MSU to play baseball. The 6-foot-4-inch first baseman boasted a career batting average of .340. The competing demands of academics and athletics honed his time-management skills, a prime requisite for business success.

“Spring semester got pretty busy with playing games and trying to keep up with studies,” he said.

After his summer internship, O’Dwyer will be returning to MSU to complete a Master of Science in Management degree.

“MSU did everything it could to help me succeed,” he said.

Matt Witwer, another recent Minot State graduate, is also interning at Abaxis this summer.

— FRANK McCAHILL



*Abaxis intern Michael O’Dwyer receives his degree from Dr. David Fuller.*

## Linrud is enthusiastic about Academy

MSU’s College of Business is approaching an inflection point with its new entrepreneurship academy.

“This will have significant benefits for our students,” said JoAnn Linrud, the school’s dean. “It should draw our students closer to entrepreneurs and entrepreneurs closer to our campus, enabling them to connect with students.”

The academy will play a role in growing the state’s energy, technology, health care and agriculture sectors, the dean said.

The academy will not offer a major or minor at present, since entrepreneurs usually burn with single-minded ambition.

“They’re going to be focused on building their businesses,” she said. “A formal degree may or may not appeal to them.”

Clint Severson learned business fundamentals at MSU in the early 1970s and then weathered the crosscurrents of the business world on his own. He provided funding to create the academy to smooth the way for MSU students.

“He believes that instead of learning by trial and error students should learn purposefully,” Linrud said. “We appreciate the guidance he can give us.”

The academy will feature an entrepreneurship club open to students from all disciplines. They’ll analyze good and bad business start-ups, create business plans of their own and tap into a seed money fund.

“Some lucky students are going to be starting their own businesses and getting some financial help,” she said.

Shawn Carraher, the academy’s new director, built a successful entrepreneurship program at Cameron University in Oklahoma. Severson’s \$1 million gift to the College of Business enticed him to come north.

“What attracted him was our ability to do something he’s passionate about,” Linrud said.

The College of Business dean invites former MSU students to have a front-row seat at the launch.

“We encourage alumni to offer their skills and services,” she said. “We’d welcome their participation.”



### The Severson Entrepreneurship Academy will include the following:

- New faculty position
- New courses focused on start-up businesses
- Entrepreneurship club
- Advisory board
- Seed money fund
- Finance club
- Resource room
- Program assistant
- Speaker series and campus events



# Traveling the world for Levi Strauss & Co.

*Note: We asked Amy Leonard Emery, '86, if she would be willing to give Connections an interview, and we sent her a few preliminary questions. Her replies to those questions were so eloquent and detailed that we decided to use what she wrote and let her tell her story in her own words. — Cathy Jelsing*

**M**y job takes me all over the world. Each day is a lesson in geography, history, politics, commodity futures — oil and cotton — and supply and demand.

As senior vice president of product management for Levi Strauss Americas, I oversee a group of about 120 people who globally develop and source raw materials and finished product. The finished goods we deliver for Levi's® are sold in North, Central and South America.

I think I have the best job in the company, which is funny because there are a lot of people you couldn't pay enough to come anywhere near supply chain.

Supply chain is about transforming raw materials into a finished product and delivering that product to an end

consumer. It's about problem solving, working up to 18 months ahead and strategizing with key business partners.

As a company, Levi's® sources its product from about 45 countries. My team works with designers, merchandisers, mills and contractors to determine things like fit, fabrics and washes. And we're responsible for delivering the end product to distribution centers that serve Levi's® stores and wholesale accounts like JCPenney, Kohl's, J. Crew and Macy's.

## *It started at Minot State*

I had never heard of supply chain until I was working in it. As a student at Minot State University, our Business Administration Club made road trips to visit businesses in Denver and

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Minneapolis. The wheels in my head really started turning on those trips. Clearly, there was more to business than keeping ledgers and filling orders, and it made me curious about what I could do with a business degree.

After graduating in 1986, I moved to the East Coast and began work on a master's in business administration. I was afraid I wouldn't be able to keep up with my fellow students who had attended much bigger and more prestigious schools, but it wasn't a problem at all. I held my own in economics and management classes. In my business ethics class, however, I realized I was a little too fresh off the turnip truck to know what went on

in the real world, so I finished my first year of graduate school and moved to New York City to see what that real world was all about. From there, hard work and curiosity took over. I've been off and running ever since.

I spent two years as marketing services manager for Revlon, Inc. and the next 14 working for Gap, Inc. I was vice president of sourcing services in 2004, when I took a similar position with J. Jill Group. In August 2006, I went to work for Levi Strauss.

It's fun being part of a company that has its roots in San Francisco. Levi's® has a long, deep history — more than 150 years — and working side by side with fifth- and sixth-

generation descendants of Levi Strauss is kind of amazing.

### *Doing business abroad*

I've seen a lot of change in my 20 years of travel to places like Hong Kong, China, Turkey and Vietnam. With trade agreements, globalization, and global increases in consumer spending, the world has changed dramatically. In the '90s, when I worked for Gap, Inc., we made product in countries like Italy, Greece, Malta, Portugal, Scotland and Madeira. Two of the countries I've been working with more recently are Haiti and Nicaragua.

No matter where I am, the best part of the job remains the same: getting to work with people from all over the world from all walks of life — from those who sweep the factory floors to the owners of large mills and multinational operations. India is probably my favorite country. The food, colors, warmth of the people and music are something I look forward to every time I go.

Typically, when I'm traveling for work, I don't take time to see the sites. I'm usually either too tired, or I'm too eager to get home to my husband, Michael, and our kids, Robert, 13, and Edward and Estelle, 11. Although I've seen some great things, like the Taj Mahal and the Great Wall of China, what I enjoy most is spending time in small local shops and restaurants and learning a few words of the local language.

### *Worldwide altruism*

Giving back to the community is a big part of the LS&Co. culture. I have





the honor of serving on the board of directors of the Levi Strauss Foundation, which strives to create positive change in communities around the world where our employees and contractors live and work. In my travels, I've seen firsthand the impact of our HIV/AIDS education programs, asset building and workers' rights initiatives.

Levi's® recently celebrated the 10th anniversary of its annual Community Day. Inspired by Levi's® 501, Community Day usually takes place May 1. Levi's® employees in more than 40 countries spend the day volunteering in their communities. This year, I did some gardening at a site in San Francisco that provides services to abused and neglected children and teens.

I also belong to one of Levi's® ongoing Community Initiative Teams. Our CIT focuses on women and children in San Francisco. Each spring, our team makes a Mother's Day meal for the moms and their kids at a family shelter. We create the menu and do all the shopping and prep. It feels great!

Most of my personal volunteer efforts, since our children were born, have been through their school. They attend San Francisco Friends School, which combines academics with Quaker values. From the time they enter kindergarten, students are expected to do volunteer work and community outreach. It's given our family many opportunities to help others, from picking up trash in the neighborhood to collecting school supplies for teachers in Afghanistan. It's an important reminder for all of us that we are fortunate to have a family, to have a home and to know where our next meal is coming from.

### *Looking toward the future*

My job description also includes finding ways to build sustainability in all we do. Our company controls only about 5 percent of the total carbon footprint a pair of jeans leaves on the environment. The balance of the impact is either in the growing of cotton or in consumers' use and care of the product.

We're partnering with other major cotton users — like British retailer Marks & Spencer and international home products retailer IKEA — on the Better Cotton Initiative. Through the initiative, we're helping farmers in less-developed countries understand how better farming techniques can result in higher yields and healthier crops and how improved working conditions can make farming operations more socially and economically sustainable.

To address sustainability from a consumer perspective, we've changed the care labels in all our garments. It's sounds simple,

**' No matter where I am,  
the best part of the job  
remains the same:  
getting to work with people  
from all over the world  
from all walks of life —  
from those who sweep  
the factory floors  
to the owners of large mills  
and multinational operations.'**

but telling people to wash in cold water, tumble dry low or use a clothesline can have a significant impact on the environment. We're also asking consumers to donate their used jeans to Goodwill® instead of throwing them in the landfill. The average person throws out 68 pounds of clothing each year. Simply donating to Goodwill® creates jobs, and what can't be sold as secondhand is recycled into rags and used for insulation and other products.

### *Back to the harvest*

Right now, the most difficult challenge I'm managing is the global cotton shortage. Increased demand in China and India, a decrease in production as farmers worldwide plant more food crops and the impact of global warming have reduced the availability of cotton. The short supply is driving up prices. To insure Levi's® has all the fabric it needs, we're leveraging key relationships to secure our position with the mills. There's a lot of uncertainty. I won't be resting easy until late fall, when we know how the harvest comes out.



# *From high seas to high finance*



## *Former cruise ship dancer launches accounting career*

*S*he's danced in scuba flippers. She's made a grand entrance from a clamshell. And she's flown on aerial wires over a cruise ship stage. Alyssa Neubauer spent five years as the darling of Carnival Cruise Line shows, until a back injury forced her from the limelight.

A Miami surgeon repaired Neubauer's spine, but her professional dancing days were over. Next stop — Minot State University— to begin her college career a little sooner than planned.

In May, just three-and-a-half years after starting classes at MSU, Neubauer graduated with a 4.0 GPA in accounting. This fall, she begins work in Anchorage, Alaska, for KPMG, one of the nation's largest accounting firms. Not every dancer's dream, to be sure, but for Neubauer it's the perfect fit.

Perched on the edge of a colorful sofa in MSU's Student Center, Neubauer appears happy, energetic and poised. Her red hair frames flashing eyes and an engaging smile. Petite and lithe, one can see why she was the dancer "guys were always picking up and throwing around." Such effervescence doesn't fit the stereotype of the serious accountant, but it's evident Neubauer will be as stellar in business as she was on stage.

Neubauer distinguished herself academically, earning MSU's Ove Jorgensen and Eide Bailly LLP scholarships, serving as president of the Accounting Club, interning with KPMG in Anchorage and completing a rigorous degree in less than four years. This summer, she'll study hundreds of hours and take the CPA exam.

### *Calculated career moves*

A Minot native, Neubauer always knew she'd go to college, but first she wanted to dance. In the fall of 2001, the Neubauer family planned a vacation to New York City to coincide with Carnival Cruise Line's auditions. Hundreds tried out, but only 20 were chosen. Eighteen-year-old Neubauer was one of them.

Over the next five years, Neubauer danced on ships with ports of call in the Caribbean, Hawaii, Gulf of Mexico, Mexico's Pacific Coast, Alaska and eastern Canada. The casts included performers from England, Australia, Russia, South Africa and a sprinkling from the United States.

"I loved every day of it," she said. "It was such an adventure, and the shows were so much fun to do."

Neubauer averaged six Las Vegas/Broadway-style shows a week and even danced behind passengers' karaoke performances.

"Sometimes when the guys lifted me up, the ship would roll, and when they set me back down, I'd hit hard in my high heels," she said.

**'Dancers are dedicated, persistent, have a show-must-go-on work ethic, are attentive to detail, know how to work together and have stamina ... Accountants need to have those same qualities.'**

She thinks that's how she ruptured discs in her back. Like many dancers, she kept working through pain and numbness until one day her back seized up. A physician in Saint Thomas, U. S. Virgin Islands, prescribed surgery.

### *Finding the right fit*

As soon as she was on the mend, Neubauer began researching careers. She bought a book on in-demand professions and took a test to identify a good fit for her personality. The answer she came up with was accounting.

"I was so happy when I took my first class and I liked it," she said.

She enrolled at Minot State because it was convenient and she could save on expenses by living with her parents. She didn't realize then how "fantastic" the Accounting Department would be or how much she would enjoy "taking complicated, important financial information and compiling it into easy-to-follow reports."

The detail-oriented, highly organized Neubauer became even more passionate about her chosen profession after interviewing for a competitive internship with KPMG auditing teams in Alaska. Not only did she enjoy the work, but she also

got to do some in-state travel. Auditors typically spend about 70 percent of their time on the road — one more reason for Neubauer to love the job. Still, she's happy her sister Jenna is moving with her to Anchorage.

"It will be nice to have someone else there with me," she said.

In pursuit of her accounting degree, Neubauer has discovered that the qualities that made her a good dancer also make her a good accountant.

"Dancers are dedicated, persistent, have a show-must-go-on work ethic, are attentive to detail, know how to work together and have stamina," she said. "Accountants need to have those same qualities."

And once in a while, accountants need to kick back, relax and have a little fun. To celebrate her college graduation, Neubauer, her sister and their mom are going on — what else? — a cruise.

"We're sailing to all my favorite cities — Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan and Cabo — on the newest Carnival ship, the Splendor," she said.

She's taken a few cruises since she stopped dancing and says she watches the shipboard shows without regret "because I feel so fortunate I was able to dance as long as I did."

— CATHY JELSING



## *Mihalick leads \$1.6 billion IRET*

**T**im Mihalick recently sent his employees a memo that said something like this: If it looks like I'm just sitting in my office thinking. You're right. I am thinking, because that's what I'm supposed to be doing.

As president and CEO of a \$1.6 billion company, Mihalick's work ethic is obviously solid. So why does he feel the need to explain his actions (or seeming lack thereof) to his staff? No doubt, it's because Mihalick wants them to see him not as the boss but as a team player, working alongside them to insure the success of Investors Real Estate Trust.

Mihalick joined Odell & Associates, the advisory company to IRET, in 1981. At the time, there were just two employees, and IRET had \$17 million in assets.

"Roger Odell slid a Wall Street Journal article on limited partnerships across the table and asked me if I was interested in working along those lines. I had no idea what the article said," Mihalick confessed, "but I wanted to go to work, so I said yes."

## New digs, same mission

IRET's mission is the same now as it was then — to create value for its shareholders. The company creates that value by owning and managing commercial and medical office buildings, senior housing facilities, retail centers, industrial properties and 9,700 apartment units.

On average, IRET acquires between \$100 and \$200 million in real estate assets each year. The company owns property in 14 states, primarily in the Upper Midwest; employs 285 people; and has offices in Minot, Minneapolis and Omaha, Neb.

Mihalick's think tank is IRET's new Minot headquarters. Located just south of Dakota Square Mall, the three-story IRET Corporate Plaza blends office, retail and residential spaces. In addition to IRET's handsome 22,000-square-foot suite, the complex houses 71 apartments and a Big Apple Bagels shop. Trinity Regional Eyecare is scheduled to open there in late summer.

IRET moved into its state-of-the-art facility about 14 months ago. Mihalick's office is at the heart of the space. He's proud to say his wife, Laura, created the warm, masculine décor in his office, with its blend of African objects, animal prints and sports memorabilia.

## Ohio roots

It was an athletic scholarship that brought Mihalick to Minot State University from Youngstown, Ohio.

"Most of us didn't know it at the time," Mihalick said, "but Youngstown was not the greatest part of the world (economically). We were just hanging in there hoping for a break. There was a man, whose name escapes me, who coached for a rival school. He was always looking for ways to get kids an opportunity to go to college."

That's how MSU football coaches Bert Leidholt and Ken Becker came to the Steel Capital of the World. That year, they recruited Mihalick and five or six other kids from Youngstown; four became MSU grads.

"Actually, I didn't think I'd make it through the first quarter due to homesickness," Mihalick said. "When I went back home for Thanksgiving, I was intent on never coming back. But I realized all my old friends had moved on, and all my new friends were in Minot, so it was an easy decision to stay put and see what I could make of it."

Mihalick played football for four years, ran track for two and earned a degree in business administration. And he met Laura Varty, the love of his life, his best listener and the mother of their two children. Elijah, 23, an all-conference baseball player, graduated from MSU in May and works in IRET's marketing department. Nora, 18, graduated from Minot High School this spring and plans to study nursing in the fall.

## Simply successful

"We (IRET) like to think of ourselves as pretty simple; we just operate in a complicated world," Mihalick said.

It's an approach he learned from his bosses/mentors, Roger Odell and Tom Wentz Sr. They taught him how to deal with people in a low-key type of atmosphere. They worked hard. They dealt fairly. And together they did things, like registering

'Roger Odell slid a Wall Street Journal article on limited partnerships across the table and asked me if I was interested in working along those lines. I had no idea what the article said but I wanted to go to work, so I said yes.'

IRET with the NASDAQ stock market on their own, a feat Wall Street executives observed with amazement.

"It speaks to the nature of North Dakota and what people in the Midwest are all about," Mihalick said. "We're not afraid to work, and we're all about our shareholders. It's really pretty simple."

That philosophy carries into the office culture. Mihalick, who describes himself as big on technology, still prefers face-to-face communication over e-mail. And every morning he winds his way through a sea of cubicles, sharing pleasantries with employees — many of them fellow MSU grads — before settling into his office, where the door is almost always left open.

"It's been a perfect fit," Mihalick said, a mix of modesty and pride in his quiet voice. "If they'll have me, I'd like to be here another 20 years."

— CATHY JELSING

# SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE

*Meet our faculty*

## **ANDY BERTSCH**

### **ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

It would be an understatement to say that Andy Bertsch didn't take the traditional route to teaching at Minot State. But it would be fair to say he is not likely to leave the classroom any time soon.

The Magic City native first started working at Minot State in 2002 but took the road less traveled as he moved from electronic technology in the late '80s to a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics, economics and computer science in 1992, to a master's in management in 2002 (both from Minot State). He then wrapped up this past spring with a doctorate in business administration from Henley Management College, Oxfordshire, England.

Not the typical path to a terminal degree and a teaching career by any stretch of the imagination.

Toss in his professional endeavors as an entrepreneur and business owner in the '90s, time spent as an elected alderman in Minot from 1992-2001, work in the medical field on the executive team of UniMed Medical Center throughout the '90s and as a consultant for Eide Bailly at the turn of the century, and you have an extremely varied background.

Yet, as Bertsch is quick to point out, all those experiences and opportunities aren't what keep him going every day.

"What keeps me going is great colleagues, great research opportunities and great student relationships at Minot State," he said.

This past year, Bertsch initiated a new way of connecting students with their future careers. In conjunction with other business faculty on the Minot State campus, he is tying in his connections with the community to real-life applications for students who are "thirsty for knowledge."

He's accomplishing this goal by working student competitions into class projects, which are judged by professionals from the region with whom he has close ties.

The community's response?

"The typical response is, 'Wow! That is amazing that this is happening in the classroom right here at MSU,'" Bertsch said.

This form of civic engagement and student learning is one that Bertsch hopes will catch on across campus.

Bertsch sees his work as a faculty member at Minot State to connect today's undergraduate student more closely with the community as an answer to the question often asked by faculty — "What can I do to better prepare the student for the real world?"

A question Bertsch and other faculty members have, in part, helped to answer with the new student competitions in the College of Business.

— MARK LYMAN  
Public Information  
Director



## **FRANK MOSELEY**

### **ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, FINANCE, COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

Minot State University stands alone in the state and is one of only a handful of universities in the country with an energy economics and finance major. And the right person for the job



in leading the charge for this exciting new program, is Associate Professor of Finance Frank Moseley.

“Take my background and put the Bakken shale in there, mix it together and you wind up with this new program we have,” he said.

The background that Moseley speaks of includes a bachelor’s degree in engineering and an MBA in business management,

before heading to the Gulf of Mexico to be a “roughneck” on an offshore drilling rig. Yes, you read that right. Moseley was a boots-on-the-ground worker in the thick of things, with a master’s degree in his back pocket.

A year later, he moved to Houston and was assigned project management responsibilities over equipment and construction for rigs in Southeast Asia, the North Sea and Iran.

The fun didn’t stop there, as he moved next to London, where he was project manager in building drilling modules for the first gravity platform in the world made of concrete, to be located in the North Sea. Shortly after this success, he was asked to join that company’s board of directors, at the ripe old age of 31.

He has started his own energy company with drilling/work-over rigs in North Africa and Australia, led the reverse takeover of an Australian public company and worked as a petroleum-service consultant for a member of the royal family of Saudi Arabia. All in less than 25 years.

Then the teaching side of him kicked in, as Moseley became very interested in passing on his love for learning to students at Minot State. Before his full-time position in the College of Business, he earned his doctorate from the Colorado School of Mines in mineral economics.

This set him up to give energy-field businesses in North Dakota exactly what they want — educated employees who understand both the geology behind drilling and the business economics background to make sound boardroom-type decisions related to the bottom line.

“As we enter the 21st century, the energy business is constantly on the lips of newscasters. I think students hear the buzz word and want to get into energy,” Moseley explained.

As he pitches the major to potential students, he asks if they want to have a high-paying job, challenges, excitement and a great professional future.

“In the energy business, you’re dealing with people, technology and a new problem every day,” he said.

And the new major at Minot State gives students and the energy companies in the Bakken exactly what they need.

— MARK LYMAN  
Public Information Director



# ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

## ARIZONA 2010



Walter Piehl was the special guest at the Alumni Events in Arizona. Here he is doing a presentation at the Cattle Track Arts Compound in Scottsdale.



Walter Piehl with Susan '98 and John '99 Faser from Surprise, Ariz.



Jane Ormiston '69, Dwight Ormiston '69, Steve Taggart, Marcia and Gary Imdieke '70 celebrating at the Barley Pop Southwest Social.



Barb Kemble '70, Marlene Jundt, LaDonna Elhardt, Joan Blesener and Bill Blesener at the gathering in Sun City West, Ariz.



## SUMMER GOLF TOUR 2010



First Summer Golf Tour stop in Velva.



Second-place team in Stanley.



Area scholarship recipients being recognized in Rugby. L-R: Mitch Grochow, Bryce Berginski, Tara Kuntz, Christy Mattern.



Make plans to join us as we celebrate MSU's 82nd Homecoming ...

# September 19 - 25



# GALA 2010



MSU students helping out at the 27th-Annual GALA.



Becky Brodell '89, with her daughters Kris Schwan and Tina Merck '93.



Jessica Kelly '10 and Ashley Bernsdorf '09 were in full costume while selling tickets for the travel package that was raffled off.



Arlene Saugstad was the high bidder on this Chuck and Jan Repnow original created out of McFarland Auditorium fabric.



Prudential Preferred Properties representatives enjoying the GALA.



Buckshot made a special appearance at the 2nd-Annual Progressive Dinner donated to the GALA by the Alumni Association.

**Next year's GALA  
April 29, 2011, at the  
Grand International.**

# HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY

## The Story of the B-17 Bomber Crash

*(Editor's note: Ralph Rees was enrolled in the V-12 program at Minot State Teachers College when the crash occurred. He has provided the following account based on personal experience, eyewitness interviews and extensive research.)*

What prompted me to write this account of this tragic 1944 B-17 bomber crash was a story in the fall 2009 issue of Connections titled "The First Wartime Sacrifice." That was the account of two Minot Normal School men who were killed in France during World War I.

That story got this writer to thinking about five U.S. Army Air Force men who were killed the night of Dec. 12, 1944, in a farmer's field just three miles north of Minot State. The crash is still rated as North Dakota's worst air disaster.

I was attending Minot State Teachers College at that time as one of several hundred Navy youth. About 25 of us at a time were bused to the crash site to stand two-hour shifts guarding the wreckage. The sights and smell of that crash scene have never been forgotten, nor has the loss of those five young airmen. They were just a tiny fraction of millions of men, women and children who were killed in that worldwide conflagration known as World War II. Those five young men were deprived of a life in that wheat field just outside Minot, just as heroically as if they were shot down over Europe.

The accompanying picture could have been taken under the right wing just before takeoff on that final flight. During combat flights, the B-17 usually carried one more gunner.

The official Army Air Force report covers 36 pages, but to spare you the hours of study trying to figure out what happened that fateful evening here are the basic facts.



**Charles Atkinson**  
Navigator  
Jersey City, N.J.  
(survivor)  
**Rudolph Eckstrom**  
Gunner  
Middleton, Conn.  
(survivor)

**Chester Teich**  
Bombadier  
Chaska, Minn.  
(survivor)  
**Ivor Everts, Jr.**  
Radio Operator  
E. St. Louis, Ill.

**Koester Johnson**  
Co-Pilot  
Sioux Falls, S.D.  
**Philip Simonetti**  
Gunner  
Brooklyn, N.Y.

**Clifford Higgins**  
Pilot  
Auburn, Neb.  
**Jesse Stubblefield**  
Gunner  
Springfield, Mass.  
(survivor)

**Jack Campbell**  
Flight Engineer  
Chula Vista, Calif.

The B-17 Flying Fortress left the Sioux City, Iowa, air base at 3:06 p.m., heading west on a navigational training flight with nine crewmen on board. The first leg of the flight took them to Ainsworth, Neb., where they turned due north toward Minot, 350 miles away.

At 6:42 p.m., the plane radioed Miss Lavonne Bond, the Minot Civil Aeronautics Administration radio operator, that its No. 3 engine, right inboard, was out and that it needed to make an emergency landing at Minot Airport. Bond told the crew that the landing strip was still under construction and the field had no lights. The B-17 pilot decided to turn around and make for the Bismarck airport, which had lights.

At 7 p.m., the pilot thought the No. 2 engine, left inboard, was on fire, so he turned the plane back toward Minot. During this 18-minute period, the bombardier, navigator and two gunners, who were up in front of the

plane, went back to the rear in case of trouble during the emergency landing.

At 7:02 p.m., Bond told the pilot he was at the east side of Minot Airport, heading northwest.

At approximately 7:03 p.m., Al Erb, a farmer living two miles north of the main Minot runway, heard a large plane flying very low just south of his house. He ran out his back door and watched the plane as it came toward his house in a very steep bank. He saw the right wing slide down into the ground, causing the plane to cartwheel, explode and burn in his wheat field.

Fortunately, the rear third of the fuselage broke free and was thrown clear. The front section was consumed by fire, killing the five crewmen in it. The four men in the tail section survived the crash with minor injuries and burns. Bombardier Chester Teich and gunner Rudolph Eckstrom were taken to St. Joseph's Hospital, while navigator Charles

Atkinson and gunner Jesse Stubblefield were taken to Trinity Hospital by two motorists passing by the crash site. The four men were hospitalized for 10 days before being returned to their base in Sioux City.

This was the second crash Teich had survived in four months. He had to parachute to safety when his B-17 collided with another plane while practicing formation flying over Iowa. All 10 crewmen on the other plane perished, while Teich's entire crew survived.

What makes the Minot crash especially tragic was the series of errors involved. The air pressure gauge for the No. 3 engine failed, causing the pilot to think that the engine had conked out. This was proven false during the post-crash

investigation. The absence of lights on the Minot runway was another contributing factor to the crash.

In June 2005, a plaque was dedicated at the Dakota Territory Air Museum in Minot, honoring the five airmen killed in that B-17 crash and all other airmen killed in World War II. The museum commissioned Grady Valgren of Minot to design an 8-foot replica of a B-17 tail to house the plaque. The replica stands in front of the museum, located one mile north of Minot International Airport. More than 15,500 Army Air Force airmen and ground personnel were killed in stateside training during World War II. More than 53,000 airmen were killed in action overseas.

— RALPH REES  
Fillmore, Calif.



The B-17 tail monument honoring AAF airmen killed in World War II at the Dakota Territory Air Museum near the Minot International Airport.

## V-5 and V-12 Programs during World War II

### V-5 Program

The U.S. Navy's V-5 program provided recruits with instruction in navigation, Morse code and aerology. Each recruit received 240 hours of instruction in the three-month program.

Minot State Teachers College became a V-5 training site in September 1942.

Each student took 35 hours of flight instruction at Minot Airport under Charles Westlie, owner of Minot Flying Service. Fifteen civilian flight instructors taught cadets in 22 Piper Cub airplanes. A total of 479 cadets took elementary flight training in Minot.

The Navy ended the V-5 program in August 1944.

### V-12 Program

The Navy's V-12 program sought to supplement the force of commissioned officers needed to command ships and planes.

The Navy authorized Minot State as a training location in 1943.

The program consisted of three 16-week semesters over a period of a year. The curriculum concentrated on math and science.

More than 800 officer candidates were trained in Minot. They came from 23 states, with most coming from North Dakota, Minnesota and Washington.

The V-12 program ended in November 1945.

## Have you received copies of these issues of Connections?

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

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



## Division II progress

*Good news as Minot State nears second year*

Minot State University received two important pieces of good news, as the university continued its move to NCAA Division II status.

First, the presidents from the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference voted in June to make a campus visit to MSU as part of the conference's expansion plan.

Second, the NCAA notified MSU in July that the university had moved into Year Two of the NCAA's candidacy process.

"These are both big days for Minot State athletics," said MSU Athletic Director Rick Hedberg. "I've always felt that if we can get the presidents of the NSIC on campus and into our great community, we can sell them on what a great thing we have going here."

The NSIC presidents will visit Minot State and the University of Sioux Falls (S.D.) on or before Dec. 1, 2010. The Northern Sun will likely accept two schools to bring its total to 16.

Minot State's move to Year Two is a pivotal step in the process, as MSU looks to be a full member of the NCAA in two years. While the NCAA noted that the university needs to improve in some areas, the organization was generally pleased with Minot State's improvement.

"The NCAA seemed happy with our progress," Hedberg said. "There certainly are some things we have to work on, but we are on the right track. Last year, we were building the car; this year we have to test drive and fine tune it; and next year we will need to be ready to go full bore."

## Peter Stewart picked to lead men's basketball

Minot State University named Peter Stewart as its 14th head men's basketball



coach during a press conference in April.

Stewart has been the head coach at Peninsula College in Port Angeles, Wash., for the past eight seasons. He led

his team to the North Division Conference Championship three times, the most recent in 2007-08. Stewart's overall record at Peninsula College was 127-101 with an 82-46 record in the conference. During a span of five seasons from 2003-04, he was 62-18 in conference play, including a 36-4 record at home. Stewart was named the conference coach of the year twice, first in 2003-04 and the latest in 2007-08.

Stewart has coached at all levels of basketball, including stints at MSU-Bottineau (now Dakota College at Bottineau, 1987-88), Adams State (1992-93), Minot State (1993-94), the Malaysian Professional Basketball league (1995) and the Australian Professional Basketball League (1989-1996).

A 1989 graduate of the University of North Dakota, Stewart played four seasons for the Sioux, being named team captain.

In just over a month at Minot State, Stewart has landed two top high school prospects in 2010 Mr. Basketball award winner Adam Randall from Kidder County and All-State Matt Yale of Lewis & Clark-Berthold. The Beavers have also added former Des Lacs-Burlington and Dakota College at Bottineau standout Shawn Storseth and Tacoma Community College star Anthony Enriquez for the 2010-11 season.

### Reunion time for MSU's women's athletes

Minot State University is hosting a reunion of women's athletic teams. Teams include basketball, volleyball, softball, cross country, track and field, golf and gymnastics.

It will be held in conjunction with Homecoming 2010, which is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 24, and Saturday, Sept. 25.

Hall of Fame coaches Kathy McCann and Gary Leslie will be back for this special weekend. We are very excited to get them and their teams back on campus. Their success laid the foundation for the MSU women's athletic traditions.

A complete Homecoming schedule can be found at [www.msubeavers.com](http://www.msubeavers.com).



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

The Beaver Booster Club enthusiastically assists the Minot State University Athletics Department in promoting and maintaining the highest level of excellence. The club provides funds to support athletic scholarships for students who have distinguished themselves in competition and in the classroom. It also provides funds for special needs of the Athletics Department. **Contact Chad McNally at 701-858-4451, 1-800-777-0750, ext. 4451 or [chad.mcnally@minotstateu.edu](mailto:mcnally@minotstateu.edu) and become a member today!**

# New era for soccer and wrestling

## *Soccer, wrestling working toward first season*

Minot State University will usher in a new era in women's sports in August as the MSU women's soccer team will take the field in its inaugural season. MSU is also resurrecting its wrestling program after nearly 20 years as the Beavers will hit the mats in November.

While the two programs officially begin play later in the year, they are both busy preparing for the upcoming seasons.

Head soccer coach Jason Spain has nearly completed his roster and has



finalized a daunting schedule for 2010. Spain has signed 28 athletes with a mix of incoming freshmen, junior college

transfers and transfers from four-year institutions. In all, the Beavers currently have 16 freshmen, three sophomores, six juniors and three seniors on its 2010 roster.

"I'm excited about the leadership we will have on this new team," Spain said. "I'm also excited about the solid freshman class, our athleticism and the group of former players we have to start the foundation of this new program."

Soccer also has 18 dates, including six home games. The season opener is under the new lights and on the state-of-the-art Field Turf at Herb Parker Stadium Aug. 27 (7 p.m.) against Bemidji State.

Wrestling won't begin matches until November, but head coach Robin Ersland has been busy both with recruiting and finalizing equipment for a sport that hasn't been on campus since 1989-90.

"I think we are on track (with recruiting)," Ersland said. "When you are starting a program from scratch you have to have a kid take a chance — a leap of

faith — because we don't have anything here to show them, no room, no mats, no uniforms yet. We have no immediate history to show them."

The Beavers have nine signees, including its first student-athlete to sign in 20 years in Matt Ruby. Ruby, a standout at Des Lacs-Burlington, is one of three North Dakota wrestlers currently on the roster and one of eight incoming freshmen.

"When I first got here, Matt's name came up," Ersland said. "He is a state champion, a local kid, and several guys recommended him. There are a lot of positives: good grades, good family background, he's a good kid and he has a good work ethic."

Minot State wrestling opens at the South Dakota State Open in Brookings, S.D., Nov. 6, and begins its home dual schedule with the University of Mary on Nov. 11 at 7 p.m. at the MSU Dome.

## Update on Herb Parker

### *New turf highlights Herb Parker Stadium project*

The Herb Parker Stadium field project enters its fourth and final month of work, as workers put the finishing touches on the state-of-the-art FieldTurf playing surface.

The stadium is readying for its debut Aug. 26, as Minot State plays host to Bemidji State in football at 7:30 p.m. The women's soccer program will begin its inaugural season a day later with a match against Bemidji State at 7 p.m.

Crews installed the first piece of the giant turf puzzle with a bright red strip in the west end zone. From there, each five-yard increment was sown together, creating the football surface. Workers then added coaches' boxes and sideline pieces along the outside of the football field, finishing the soccer surface.

The turf is the fifth of five major steps in the project. First, the old field was removed; second, workers bermed the west and south sides of the field, giving Herb Parker a bowl effect; third, state-of-the-art lighting was installed on four huge lighting standards; fourth, a drainage system was constructed under the new field; and finally FieldTurf was installed.

The university will continue to use cameras in the press box to allow viewers to

follow progress on the field. They can be accessed by logging on to [www.minotstateu.edu](http://www.minotstateu.edu).

Both the football game and women's soccer match will include community activities and traditional tailgating,



# ALUMNI FEATURES

## Lisa Feldner

A Minot State alumna leaped on the technology elevator on the ground floor and rode it to the executive suite.

Lisa Feldner is the chief information officer for North Dakota's Information Technology Department. The Kenmare



native oversees the technology affecting K-12 education, higher education, state agencies, and state and local governments. She manages more than 330 employees.

As she moves from meeting to meeting on her daily schedule, she sounds more like a NASCAR driver than an executive.

"It's shifting gears to a new topic each hour, making sure I'm up to speed," she said.

Eerily similar to the human world, the tech universe often falls victim to communication breakdowns. Feldner says her greatest challenge is coaxing systems to talk to one another.

Computers were a novelty when Feldner came to Minot State in the early '80s. She began college as a math and business education major. But when she took an accounting course that used computers, she became enthralled by the glimmering electrons on the screen.

She graduated from MSU with a double major in computer science and business education. She then taught math and computer science in Minnesota and Montana schools for several years.

Feldner later served as assistant technology director with the Minot Public School system for two years. She then became the first technology coordinator for the Bismarck Public School system, where she served for 18 years.

Over that period, she earned a master's degree in math education from MSU and a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of North Dakota.

Gov. John Hoeven appointed her to the top IT position in 2006. Having reached this professional pinnacle, Feldner still looks back with kind eyes to MSU's main-street friendliness.

"I'm always recruiting people to go there," she said. "The teaching staffs are very supportive."

She lists Selmer Moen and Robert Holmen as caring professors who fostered her professional advancement.

Feldner's husband Tom, also a Minot State grad, is a financial planner. The couple has two sons. Clay is a college sophomore, and Grant is a high school sophomore.

— FRANK McCAHILL

## Jerry Helgeson

Failure often contains the seeds of future success. Minot State graduate Jerry Helgeson knows that firsthand.

Helgeson of Windsor, Colo., is the president of American Eagle Distributing, a \$60 million beverage conglomerate that spans 18,000 square miles.

But a successful business career didn't appear in the cards when Helgeson arrived on the Minot State campus in the mid '60s.



His Powers Lake graduation class consisted of 32 students, while his first college class featured an intimidating 200 students. In addition, he was an unremarkable high school student who was challenged by college-level courses.

"I was overwhelmed; I flunked that class," he said. "I took that class over and got a good grade in it. I'm going, 'I can do this.'"

That failure proved to be a formative event. He eventually mastered academic life, played wide receiver on the football team and pledged Sigma Tau Gamma.

"The fraternity was huge for me," he said. "I really felt part of the university."

After graduating with a business administration degree in 1969, he and wife Sandy headed to Virginia, where he planned to attend flight school. But a ski trip to Colorado enticed the couple to settle in the Rockies.

Helgeson attended flight school but discovered that former Vietnam pilots were taking available airline jobs. He accepted a job with a beverage distributor and inadvertently found his niche. Over his career, he has bought and sold nine companies and consolidated them into American Eagle Distributing.

"I've done more in 34 years than I could ever imagine," he said. "It all started back at Minot State."

His firm is currently developing an MBA in brewing operations and distribution management at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. It will be the only program of its kind in the world.

A staunch Republican, Helgeson stepped out of character to play the Easter Bunny at Michelle Obama's Easter Egg Roll on the White House lawn in 2009. At 6 feet 5 inches, he may have been the tallest Easter Bunny in history.

Helgeson and his wife have two grown daughters. The couple has five grandchildren.

— FRANK McCAHILL

*“When I look at all the many possible organizations that I would consider worthwhile investments, Minot State University rises to the top.”*

CLINTON SEVERSON

February 2010

Clinton Severson made this comment at the press conference announcing the \$1 million gift he and his wife Conni donated to Minot State University’s College of Business to establish the new



Severson Entrepreneurship Academy. The academy will train young entrepreneurs and offer real-world experience in establishing and building businesses by MSU students. Only the future will tell what corporation, invention or grand and beneficial idea will result from this new educational opportunity for MSU students.

Minot State students have been fortunate in the past due to thoughtful donors and now are taking advantage of new opportunities provided by the growing number of donors who have recognized that Minot State is a “worthwhile investment.”

While cash or property gifts to the university have an immediate impact, some donors are choosing to add Minot State as a beneficiary in their estate plans. Others choose to do gift annuities that provide income for their lifetimes, a possible tax deduction and eventual financial support for students or programs at the university.

If you would like more information on giving opportunities to support this great institution, please contact the Advancement Office at 1-800-777-0750 ext. 3890.

— MARV SEMRAU  
Executive Director,  
Minot State University Development Foundation

# Class notes...

## 60s.....

**Michael Saba, Ph.D., '65**, Sioux Falls, S.D., is the new executive director of the Sanford Children's Clinics Development. He will be responsible for identifying and developing relationships with organizations and communities nationally and internationally to establish sites for Sanford Children's Clinics.

## 70s.....

**Barb (Steinberger) Witteman '73**, Fargo, is employed with the Kennedy Elementary School in Fargo. She was one of two teachers recognized as Newspapers in Education (NIE) Teachers of the Year at their annual convention in Fargo in May.

**Vivian (Nicks) Kalmik '77**, Williston, was chosen as the first Williston Herald Volunteer of the Year in January. She has volunteered for over 30 years for numerous local organizations in the Williston area.

**Kathy (Ross) Feist '78**, Minot, was named the Minot Education Association Teacher of the Year in August. She is a Title I reading and math teacher at Lewis & Clark Elementary School. She has been teaching at Lewis & Clark since she graduated from Minot State University.

**Jim Sweizer '78**, Charles Town, W.Va., is the vice president of military programs, joining the staff of American Military University in 2005 after serving over 33 years in the Air Force as an active duty member and civil servant. He currently oversees all military outreach activities and serves as the main liaison between the university and Department of Defense agencies. He assumed the role of President of the Council of Colleges and Military Educators (CCME) at their annual symposium in Honolulu, Hawaii.

## 80s.....

**Kerry Clark '80**, Minot, was promoted to vice president of compliance and audit at First Western Bank and Trust in Minot. She has been with First Western since 1991.

**Sue Ulness '81**, Williston, retired in May after 28 years of service to the Williston School District. She has been the speech-language pathologist for Williston School District 1.

**Lonnie Berg '82**, Surrey, received the Salesperson of the Year award for 2009 from Midwest Business Systems.

**Cathy (Ludwig) Anderson '83**, Minot, has returned to the campus of Minot State as administrative assistant at the Student Health and Development Center. She worked at the MSU Library from 1987 to 1991, taking a 19-year break to raise five children. Two of her children are currently enrolled at MSU.

**Mary Lou (Schmidt) Holliday '83**, Minot, was named a February recipient of the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award. She is employed with North Central Human Service Center — Developmental Disabilities. The Eagle program is sponsored by the Chamber to recognize workers in Minot who exhibit superior customer service.

**Suzanne (Schriefer) Neufang '85**, Southlake, Texas, has been promoted to general manager of GetThere, the world's leading travel and collaboration management solution. She previously served as its chief marketing officer.

**Dan Roggenbuck '85**, Dulles, Va., retired in May after a career that spanned more than three decades in law enforcement, the last 25 with the FBI.

**Kevin S. Long '87**, Missoula, Mont., is centers manager at Costco for the past eight years after working for Target Corp., for 16 years. He has three children: Erika (attending MSU fall 2010), Lexi 16, and Austin 14.

**DeLynn Weishaar '88**, Minot, received awards for being a top-producing broker. He is employed with Brokers 12 Inc. in Minot.

**Rod Helming '89**, Fargo, is the executive consultant for Midwest Teleservices International, Inc., and has been recognized by Cambridge Who's Who for demonstrating dedication, leadership and excellence in sales and marketing. He has been employed with the firm for 20 years.

**Lee Weisgarber '89**, Underwood, has been selected as the high school principal for Underwood School. He has taught elementary school for 18 years in Underwood. He has been the technology coordinator at the school for the past eight years and also teaches science and health to fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders.

## 90s.....

**Adrienne Blocker '90**, Greensboro, N.C., joined the law office of James Scott Farrin as a litigation attorney in the personal injury department. She worked as a legal secretary and a certified legal assistant for 12 years

before receiving her J.D. from Campbell University's Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law in 1998.

**Michael Pellenwessel '90**, Minot, has been elected as the new sales manager/managing broker for Signal Inc., Realtors. He joined Signal in 1995.

**Mark Schmidt '90**, Minot, is the owner of Harley's Automotive Center in Minot. He was named the recipient of 2009 ACDelco TSS Outstanding Achiever Award in March. The annual award rewards the highest performing total service support accounts for their accomplishments in sales, training and customer satisfaction.

**Sheila (Dearybury) Walcoff '90**, Rockville, Md., is a lawyer, entrepreneur and health policy expert who speaks/consults on a broad range of healthcare policy and communications issues. She was the health policy team leader for the Fred Thompson campaign for U.S. President and the former counselor to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service (HHS). She previously served as associate commissioner for external relations at FDA.

**Brenda (Goertzen) Manteufel '93**, Loveland, Colo., is the admission case manager and denial specialist at McKee Medical Center in Loveland and has been instrumental in the development of this role. Prior to assuming the position in 2004, she was a telephone triage nurse for McKesson Corporation in Broomfield, Colo. She was diagnosed with a latex allergy within a year of leaving Trinity Hospital in 2000, which required her to leave the role of a floor nurse. Brenda and her husband, Ed, have lived in Loveland since 2000.

**Scott Louser '94/'01**, Minot, was named the recipient of the Claus Lembke Political Involvement award by the ND Association of Realtors in May. The award recognizes realtors who significantly advance the association's legislative agenda through political involvement in the public arena.

**Doug Wagner '94**, Des Lacs, has been a teacher/coach with the Des Lacs/Burlington school system for 30 years. In February, he earned his 500th victory as a head basketball coach.

**Dr. Mike Schmit '95**, Bismarck, has joined the medical staff at Sakakawea Medical Center in Hazen. He is providing his general surgical talents at Coal Country Community Health



Center's Beulah Clinic, the Sakakawea Hazen Clinic and the Sakakawea Medical Center.

**Jason Rohrer '97**, Minot, is an agency owner with the Horace Mann Companies in Minot. He earned the Inner Circle award for 2009. The award recognizes the company's top 10 sales producers from its national sales force.

**Clyde Thorne '97**, Minot, is a realtor with Coldwell Banker 1st Minot Realty. He earned top sales volume, top total sales and Service Excellence Agent of the Year at the annual awards banquet of Coldwell Banker 1st Minot Realty held in January. He has been awarded the Certified Residential Specialist designation by the Council of Residential Specialists. Realtors who received the CRS designation have completed advanced courses and have demonstrated professional expertise in the field of residential real estate.

**Linda (Mull) Zeltinger '97**, Minot, has joined Job Service of North Dakota as a customer service representative. She has more than 30 years of professional customer service experience and has recently returned from Tanzania, where she and her husband served in the Peace Corps.

**Adriana (Fast) Harris '99**, Minot, was named a recipient of the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award in May. She is employed at Menards.

**Trevor Huber '99**, Minot, was promoted to captain in the Minot Police Department. He will serve as support commander with the department.

**Rod Torgerson '99**, Minot, was named Minot Optimist Club Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. He has served for six years as a ND Highway Patrol Trooper. He is one of two motor carrier officers in the Minot area.

**Carol Yantzer '99**, Bismarck, has been promoted to senior consultant at the Bismarck Job Service office. She will supervise the Job Getting Unit and oversee the resource room activities. She has worked for Job Service North Dakota for 29 years.

## 00s.....

**Charles Colby '00**, Minot, has been promoted to the rank of technical sergeant (E-6) with the North Dakota Air National Guard. He serves as a quality control NCO with the 219th Security Forces Squadron at Minot Air Force Base.

**Carl Lade '00**, Minot, has joined Prudential Preferred Properties as a licensed agent.

He immediately earned Prudential e-Certified 2.0, proving expertise in the online transacting of business. He is a Velva native and is also a licensed contractor.

**Tricia (Hoff) Meidinger '00**, Bismarck, was promoted to vice president retail banking manager for Bismarck in 2005 at American Bank Center. Recently, her role changed to lead the Retail Banking Department for all of American Bank Center's markets in Bismarck, Dickinson, Killdeer, New England and Minot. She is married to Greg Meidinger '00.

**Nathan Conway '01**, Bloomfield Hills, Mich., has been named chief operating officer of the Ward Williston Oil Company, a mid-sized oil company with extensive operations in North Dakota. Conway has worked with the company since 2001, moving up from assistant to the president to business development analyst and corporate development manager before his most recent promotion. Ward Williston is a pioneer in North Dakota's oil industry, looking to expand exploration and production in the Williston Basin.

**Dustin Ketterling '01**, Bismarck, has been promoted to lead auditor with the MDU Resources Group Inc. He joined the department in 2004 after more than three years at the North Dakota Auditor's office. He is a certified internal auditor and certified information systems auditor.

**Jason Jensen '03**, Norwich, was named president of Western State Bank in Towner. He will oversee employees and day-to-day management of the Towner location.

**Troy Ruggles '04**, Mandan, is a support specialist in the telecom solutions division of National Information Solutions Cooperative in Mandan.

**Sarah Arnott '05**, Minot, was named a recipient of the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award in May. She is employed by the Minot Daily News.



**Julia (Richard) Koble '87, Nolan Spooner '97, David Norton '78**, biology teachers at Minot High School – Central Campus were three of four Minot teachers chosen to attend the National Teacher Leadership Academy by the National Geographic Society. The first phase of the project was a weeklong residential institute in La Jolla, Calif., in July 2010.

*Photo L-R: Julia Koble, Nolan Spooner, David Norton, Joe Super.*

**Brandyn Hendrickson '05**, Minot, has been appointed financial representative by Northwestern Mutual in Minot. He will be associated with Northwestern Mutual Financial Network Minnkota Agency of Fargo.

**Jason Merck '05**, Minot, is a financial representative with Northwestern Mutual Financial Network. He has been appointed college unit director in the Minot area. He has been associated with Northwestern Mutual since 2007.



**Heidi Richter '05**, Champaign, Ill., is a certified medical illustrator working for Precision Graphics. She recently did the illustrations for an article on adenosine tri phosphate (ATP) in the December issues of Scientific American magazine.

**Felicia (Cruz) Pryor '06**, San Diego, is enrolled in the clinical Ph.D. program at California Professional School of Psychology in San Diego. She is working toward a doctorate emphasizing child and family psychology. Her research projects include Center for Autism research and education services.

**David Klein '07**, Jamestown, has joined the Stutsman County Housing Authority as the executive director. He spent the past seven years as the safety officer and facilities office manager at Valley City State University.

# CLASS NOTES

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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



Mitch and I met during the fall of 2007 in a geology class at MSU. He sat behind me in lab and asked me for my notes one day after he had missed lecture. I was very reluctant to give them to him, since I made it a point to make it to class everyday, and he had gone hunting instead. I finally gave in and after a few more instances of asking me for my notes and helping me out with some lab assignments, he asked to study with me for the final. After the class ended, we didn't see each other again until February of the next semester while working out at the Minot YMCA. He asked for my number, and we went on our first date about a week later. In March of 2009, Mitch proposed to me. He was working as a lab assistant in Dr. Chris Keller's office, so he had keys to the science building at MSU. One night, he took me out to dinner and surprised me by taking me to the science building where we watched our favorite movie, "The Notebook," inside the lecture hall where we had our geology class together. After the movie finished, Mitch got down on one knee and asked me to marry him. It was perfect! After months of planning, we were married June 12, 2010.

Mitch and I are moving to Eagan, Minn., where he is seeking a teaching position for high school biology, and I am beginning to pursue my doctorate degree in clinical psychology at Argosy University. — **Kelli Steffan Meyer**

**Neal Presser '07**, Bismarck, was promoted to deposit operations supervisor at BNC National Bank's Century Avenue branch in north Bismarck. He joined BNC in 2007 and has more than five years of banking experience.

**Troy Roness '08**, Minot, is an education administrator for ND Health Education. He has written for a variety of national outlets regarding eating disorders. He has participated in both a documentary and DVD series and is partnered with the National Eating Disorders Association in numerous advocacy projects in the United States. He is currently pursuing a master's of education degree with an emphasis on human performance/child development.

**Mallori (McLees) Aschenbrenner '09**, Orange, Calif., is attending optometry school in Southern California College of Optometry in Fullerton, Calif., until May 2013.

**Cody Bechtold '09**, Newburg, has joined Thrivent Financial for Lutherans as a financial representative in the Minot office.

**Morgan Greaves**, Crosby, is a third-grade teacher for Burke Central in Lignite.

**Robert Hauptman '09**, Bismarck, finished his rad tech internship at Mayo Clinic and is employed at St. Alexius Medical Center, where he does CAT scans. He and his wife, Tanya, had a daughter in March 2009.

**James Jackson '09**, Livingston, Mont., is employed as the technical support manager by a local Internet service provider.

**Evan Meiers '09**, Berthold, is a music teacher at Burke Central School in Lignite.

**Ashley Schwab '09**, Minot, was hired as a staff member of the Guardianship Division

of Catholic Charities of North Dakota. Schwab is a part-time guardianship worker in the Minot office of Catholic Charities, which provides guardianship service for persons with developmental disabilities in the Devils Lake region.

## Attended.....

**Dr. Jason Burckhard** has joined the orthodontic practice of Dr. Jeffrey Harvey at the Moorhead and Detroit Lakes, Minn., locations. He received his doctor of dental surgery degree from the University Of Minnesota School of Dentistry.

**Lisa Harris**, Fargo, is a mortgage consultant with First Class Mortgage in Fargo.



**Michael Lalum**, Los Angeles, was a music major and prominent trumpet player at MSU from 1962-67. He has been inducted into his 26th hall of fame for his running prowess and numerous world

records in long-distance events. In April, after winning the Orange, Calif., marathon, he was inducted to the Orange Athletic Hall of Fame. He and his wife, Marianne, coach young track athletes.

**Charles Payne**, New York, is the chief executive officer and principal analyst of Wall Street Strategies, an independent stock market research firm he founded in 1991. He is a regular contributor to the Fox Business and Fox News networks.

# In memoriam...

*It is with honor we dedicate this section to recognize alumni and friends who have passed away from approximately January 15 to June 30, 2010, or as submitted.*

- '30 George (Jertson), Beulah; Spokane, Wash.  
'32 Lodoen (Nermyr), Alice; Bottineau  
'34 Hofland (Carlson), Gladys M.; Bismarck  
'37 Huber (Delk), Violet M.; South Hutchinson, Kan.  
'37 Reslock (Retzer), Millette; Bandon, Ore.  
'38 Giovannoni (Carman), Vivian C.; Menoken  
'38 Guthrie (Olson), Burnette; Polson, Mont.  
'38 Miles (Erickson), Thelma; Milwaukee, Wis.  
'38 Rossow (Engeland), Ruth P.; Minot  
'38 Thompson (Bussman), Violet; Glens Ferry, Idaho  
'40 Lawrence (Johnson), Hazel S.; Sauk Rapids, Minn.  
'41 Olson, Ralph C.; Etna, Calif.  
'41 Polimeni (Wasson), Amy Jean; Jacksonville, Fla.  
'41 Seda (Damstrom), Irene G.; Lincoln, Neb.  
'41 Tibbs (Bohn), Betty M.; Hayden, Idaho  
'42 Seehafer (Armstrong), Olive L.; Rolette  
'42/'59/'65 Pedersen (Sletten), Mildred T.; Sun City, Ariz.  
'43 Gohrick, John H.; Las Cruces, N.M.  
'43 VanEckhout (Lindstrom), Hope I.; Minot  
'44 Geiszler (Dravland), Ann A.; Fargo  
'46 Gibbs (Disette), Delphine D.; Minot  
'48 Biberdorf, Alwyn; Bottineau  
'48 Kouba, Archie J.; Watford City  
'49 Hjelm (Hafner), Eunice V.; Plentywood, Mont.  
'52 Blake (Knudtson), Elaine; Bismarck  
'52 Luehe (Anderson), Lorna J.; Minot  
'52/'54 Bitz, Erwin H.; Bismarck  
'54 Freborg, John A.; Tioga  
'54 Fujiwara, Karlo D.; Billings, Mont.  
  
'55 Fraser (Brown), Mary Ellen; Westhope  
'55 Kohoutek, Ermond L.; Oelwein, Iowa  
'57 Kjonaas, Glen W.; Orlando, Fla.  
'60 Kombeitz, David A.; Boulder, Colo.

- '60 McIlroy, Robert; Wilsonville, Ore.  
'60 Nelson, Wayne G.; Minot  
'61 Axtmann, Anthony; Vista, Calif.  
'61 Bruns, Gerald A.; Fargo  
'66 Morey (Anderson), Clara L.; Minot  
'66 Volk (Hegge), Ellen; Devils Lake  
'67 Baker (Bolyard), Mary Lois; Minot  
'67 Keith (Hansen), Elaine J.; Mohall  
'69 Ledahl (Joraanstad), Gina J.; Williston  
'71 Nelson (Elefson), Harriet M.; Detroit Lakes, Minn.  
'71 Seeger (Haas), Viola; Turtle Lake  
'72 Pritchard (Johnson), Mary Lynn; Abilene, Texas  
'73 Ruland, Linda; Minot  
'74 Stuart Jr., David M.; Beulah  
'76 Kjerstad (Bernhardt), Linda J.; Dickinson  
'79 Solie, Thomas H.; Battlefield, Mo.  
'86 Hartley (Docker), Cleo J.; Colorado Springs, Colo.  
'88 Brown, Leo D. Sr.; Minot  
'89 Guenther, Dewey J.; Kelso, Wash.;  
'92 Lien, Bonita "Bonnie" R.; Minot  
'93 Ellis (Woods), Barbara J.; East Grand Forks, Minn.  
'94 Albertson, Jan; Box, Elder, S.D.  
'05 Dobson Jr., Robert; Minot

## ATTENDED .....

- Anfinson (Holmly), Lucile E.; Towner  
Bacon, Arthur; Medford, Ore.  
Bly (Wade), Claudia R.; Lignite  
Bye (Christianson), Helen A.; Bottineau  
Dunbar (Martin), Helen; Bottineau  
Erickson (Lunde), Laura J.; Upham  
Gregory, Henry C.; Grand Forks  
Gronbeck (Oslie), Corine; Moorhead, Minn.  
Haugen (Fines), Anna; Garrison  
Haugen, Robert "Bob" M.; Minot  
Hoffer (Joachim), Genevieve J.; Bismarck  
Iverson (Haakenson), Esther; Williston  
Jones (Jensen), Bertha R.; Bowman  
Kittleson (Peterson), Bertha I.; Bottineau  
Kouba (Nodland), Thelma; Dickinson  
Lervick (Christianson), Bertha; Minneapolis, Minn.

- Liptak, Karen E.; New Hartford, N.Y.  
Lumley (Soljeld), Alma; Stanley  
Mickelson (Coleman), Hazelle; Upham  
Neuman (Richards), Melba L.; Fergus Falls, Minn.  
O'Clair (Vooge), Sophie; Kenmare  
Olson, Blair M.; Faribault, Minn.  
Osman, Richard E.; Battle Lake, Minn.  
Petron (Lenihan), Laurena B.; St. Cloud, Minn.  
Sankovic (Meyers), Beverly A.; Kalispell, Mont.  
Sonnenberg, Paul M.; Minot  
Streifel, Henry "Hank"; Grand Forks  
Swenson, Winton G.; New Town & Carlson  
Wood, Marjorie; Minot

## FRIENDS .....

- Bauman (Garaas), Olga R.; Minot; wife of Frank, retired MSU professor  
Flickinger, Dr. Dale; Minot  
Hoffman (Hannah), Ruth H.; Bartlesville, Okla.; recipient of MSU's first honorary degree; wife of Charles Hoffman, long time science professor  
Janz (Johnson), Harriet P.; Minot  
Larson, Ardis; Minot  
Maragos, Samuel G.; Las Vegas, Nev.  
Voeller, Douglas "Doug" M.; Minot

## FACULTY & STAFF .....

- Belinsky, Carol; Minot; chemistry professor, retired 1981  
Burckhard, Mary; cook in Student Center for 17 years  
Fontaine, Charles D. "Chuck"; Minot; former instructor in the Social Work department for four years.  
Linnertz (Lee), Marget A.; worked in library (1934-41)  
Pross, Dr. Elizabeth "Beth"; Boca Raton, Fla.; nursing faculty, former department chair  
Treider, Larry M.; Grand Junction, Colo.; faculty and coach  
Walsh, Dr. Robert G.; Minot; geology and science instructor; retired in 1985

## MSU license plates available online



MSU license plates can now be ordered online through the North Dakota Department of Transportation. The link to the site is <https://secure.apps.state.nd.us/dot/mv/mvrenewal/plate.htm>.

For questions, contact 701-858-3373 or [tawnya.bernsdorf@minotstateu.edu](mailto:tawnya.bernsdorf@minotstateu.edu).



Have you had an addition to your family within the last 12-18 months? We want to know! Contact Kate at [kate.neuhalfen@minotstateu.edu](mailto:kate.neuhalfen@minotstateu.edu) to receive a free T-shirt for your new little Beaver! Please be sure to tell us the name, birth date, place, weight and length. Also, please provide your graduation year, spouse's name and contact information.

After you have received your baby beaver T-shirt, send us your baby's photos! E-mail your photo to [kate.neuhalfen@minotstateu.edu](mailto:kate.neuhalfen@minotstateu.edu).



**Kooper Fortune** was born Feb. 9, 2009, in Minot to **Kevin and Kristen '03 (Berube) Allard**. He was 8 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20.25 inches long.



**Rhilyn Kharn** was born on Nov. 17, 2009, in Canby, Minn., to proud parents **Jason and Lindsey '06 (Wangler) Anderson**. Rhilyn weighed

7 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20 inches long.



**Reiss Barnett '97 and Keylee (Hertz) Barnett** welcomed **Keller Gray**, born in Bismarck on May 26, 2009, weighing in at 10 pounds and measuring 22 inches. He joins big sister Savannah Erica, born June 7, 2007.



**Kash Remington Robert** was born Jan. 22, 2010, to **Brad '00 and Sarah '02 (Lee) Beckedahl** of Minot.

Kash weighed 9 pounds, 5 ounces and was 21 inches long. He joins his three older brothers — Devin (16), Aydan (5) and Connor (4).



**MaKella Gwyn** was born Jan. 11, 2010, to proud parents **Paul and Candace '01 (Olson) Brekke**. Makella weighed 5 pounds, 11 ounces and was 18 inches long.



**Grace Harper** was born to proud parents **Zach '07 and Lindsey '07 (Iverson) Burdick** on Dec. 3, 2009. She weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and measured 21 inches long.



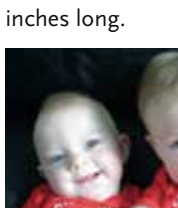
**Cooper Riley** was born in Minot on April 7, 2009, to **Cody and Kaley '07 (Schumaker) Chick**.

He weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces and was 19



**Gary Edward** was born on March 4, 2009, to **Brent '04 and Carol '93 (Satterthwaite) Danks**.

Gary weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 21.5



inches long.

Proud parents **Jon and Daphne '98 (Whitman) Davis** welcomed twins

**Noah James and Montana Elaine** on Nov. 2, 2009. Son Noah (pictured right) weighed 5 pounds, 13 ounces and was 19.75 inches long. Daughter Montana weighed in at 4 pounds, 3 ounces and was 17.75 inches long.



**Allen '88 and Janine '02 (Hinsz) Focke** are proud parents of **Beth Lynn**, born Nov. 26, 2008, and **Aiden James**, born Jan. 12, 2010.

Beth weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces and was 20.5 inches. Little Aiden weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and was 21.5 inches long.



**Craig '94 and Jessica '07 (Hackett) Fricke** welcomed daughter

**Vreelyn** on April 26, 2009. Vreelyn weighed

in at 7 pounds, 6 ounces. She joins big sister Magdelana, who is 2 years old.



**Grace Marie** was born in Minot to **Mitch (attended 1989/90) and Donna '94 (McGinnity) Hegstad**

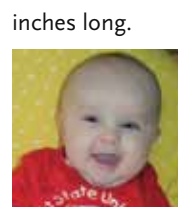
on July 10, 2009. Grace weighed 7 pounds, 13

ounces and was 20.5 inches long. She joins 3 older siblings — Gabe (10), Faith (8) and Josh (5).



**Jeremy and Lacey '05 (Slagle) Hendrickson** welcomed son **Taeson Lee** on Nov. 9, 2008.

Taeson weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces and was 21.5



inches long.

**Bretten '03 and Jessica (Hanel) Henne** welcomed **Kaitlyn Rae** to the family on Nov. 18, 2009 at 7:20 p.m.

Kaitlyn weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces and

was 18 inches long.



**Emma Jean** was born May 24, 2009, in Springfield, Mo., to **Lance and Kimberly '07 (Trocheck) Huffman**.

Emma weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces and

was 21 inches long.



**Grace Marie** was born June 11, 2009, in Williston to proud parents **Robert and Priscilla '06 (Monson) Keck**.

Grace weighed 8 pounds, 13

ounces and was 20.5 inches long.





**Kendall and Allison '04 (Montgomery)** Kirk welcomed **Brody Walker**

to the world on July 12, 2009. Brody weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and was 19 inches long. He joins big brother Kaden, who is 2 years old.



**Luke (attended early '90s) and Nicholette '08 (Thompson) Lahtinen,** along with their son Lander, welcomed their newest addition, **Lucy Marie**, on August 31, 2009, in Minot. Lucy weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces and was 19.5 inches long.



**Rob Smidt and Natalie '91 Lowe** welcomed daughter **Eva Delaney Lowe-Smidt**

on Dec. 10, 2008, in Regina, Saskatchewan. Eva weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and was 19.75 inches long.



**Max '07 and Josie (Shaw) Milne** are proud parents of **Elizabeth Rose**, born March 2, 2009, in Williston. Elizabeth weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 23 inches long.



**Travis '03 and Lisa '99 (Everson) Nelson** welcomed daughter **Ella Ann** to the world on Feb. 18, 2009. She was 8 pounds, 10 ounces and 21.25

inches long.



**Bryant and Maria '07 (Luisa) Rodriguez** welcomed to the family daughter **Anyssa Inez** on Feb. 18, 2008, and son **Gavin Anthony** on March 6, 2009. Anyssa weighed in at 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 inches long. Gavin was 7 pounds, 7 ounces and 20 inches long.



**Shawn '03 and Andrea '05 (Sundsbak) Roedocker,** Burlington, are proud parents of son **Cale Tyler**, born Jan. 9, 2010. Cale weighed 7 pounds, 13

ounces and was 20 inches long.



**Joel Michael** was born Sept. 11, 2009, in Estevan, Saskatchewan. He weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces and was 21 inches long. He was

proudly welcomed by **Mike and Robin '06 (Keeley) Sinclair** and big brother Owen.



**Josh '05 and Regan '05 (Eidsness) Slind** welcomed their first child on Dec. 17, 2009. **Landin Joshua** was 7 pounds, 2 ounces and 20.25 inches long.



**Mike '95 Sorenson and Kimberly Sorenson** welcomed their second

set of twins, **Henry James** (pictured left) and **Jozey Dawn**, on Dec. 21, 2009, in Minot. Henry weighed 5 pounds, 11 ounces and was 19 inches long. Jozey weighed 4 pounds, 13 ounces and was 18.25 inches long. They join sisters Halle and KyAnn and brother TJ.



**Keagen Gram** was born in Minot to proud parents **Nolan '97 and Dionne '97 (Larson) Spooner**. He arrived on March 1, 2009, weighing

7 pounds, 6 ounces and measuring 19.75 inches. He joins big sister Hope and older brother Coy.



**Grayson Parker** was born Oct. 27, 2009, to **Jason '07 and Alison (attended 2004/05) (Uscensky) Steele** in Minot. Grayson weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20.25 inches long.



**Anthony and Kristi '04 (Vandal) Swearingen** welcomed the birth of their daughter **Dakota Ann** on March 19, 2009 in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Dakota weighed 6 pounds, 13.7 ounces and was 20.25 inches long.



**Colin and Allison '02 (Hodge) Tchir** welcomed son **Hudson Davis** on Dec. 2, 2009 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Hudson weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces and was 19.25 inches long.



**Mark '01 and Beth '01 (Jones) Thompson** welcomed their third child on April 2, 2009, a son **Elliot James** born in Sidney, Mont. He

weighed 9 pounds, 2 ounces and was 22.5 inches long. Elliot joins big brothers Jacob and Landen.



**Reagan Lynnette** was born to **Darrik '03 and Betsy '06 (Vig) Trudell** in Wilmington, Del., Sept. 9, 2009. Reagan weighed 7 pounds, 3.25 ounces and was 19 inches long.



**Weylin '01 and Shila '01 (Weigel) Wahlstrom** are proud parents to a daughter, **Daya Ashley**, born Jan. 13, 2009. She weighed 7 pounds, 8

ounces and was 19.5 inches long. The Walstroms also have two other "Future Beavers" — sons Zane (6) and Cale (4).

**MOVING OR HAVE A TEMPORARY ADDRESS?**

**SEND YOUR NEW ADDRESS TO:**

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500 University Avenue West,  
Minot, ND 58707**

**or e-mail us at:**

**alumni@minotstateu.edu**

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Briarwood w/double mat (pictured)  
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*High-quality frame plus unique mat with the MSU logo and "Michigan State University" in gold foil lettering. Custom designed to display your MSU diploma at a fraction of the cost of custom framing. Not available anywhere else! Comes in choice of polished brass or solid wood. Proceeds help support ongoing activities and projects of the Alumni Association. Display your achievement with pride!*

# Commencement 2010





# PAINT THE TOWN

# MSUURED!

## HOME COMING 2010

### September 19 - 25



#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Golf Scramble — Apple Grove Golf Course.....12:30 p.m.  
To register, contact Lyndsi Johnson at [ljhealthyandwell@gmail.com](mailto:ljhealthyandwell@gmail.com) or <http://minotstatedeca.com>.

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Traditional Bonfire — North of the Dome.....8 p.m.  
Support your football, volleyball, golf, soccer and cross country teams by cheering and showing school spirit!

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Women's soccer vs. Jamestown — Herb Parker Stadium ..7 p.m.  
King and Queen Coronation — Ann Nicole Nelson Hall .....7 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

MSU Community Block Party — MSU Old Main lawn..... 5-8 p.m.  
Free food, games, music, prizes and lots of fun! Bring the entire family.  
Co-Sponsored by Minot Young Professional Network and Augustana Lutheran Church.

Beaver 5K Fun Run/Walk — MSU Old Main lawn.....5 p.m.  
(registration) 6 p.m. (race) Call Stu Melby at 858-3268, 800-777-0750 to register

Volleyball vs. Briercree College — Dome ..... 7 p.m.

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Alumni Association's Golden Awards Banquet Student Center Conference Center .....6 p.m.  
A night of tribute to the university's most honored alums and friends.  
2010 Recipients: Jon Backes, Ted Brinkman and Wes Luther.  
Young Alumni Achievement Award: Scott Louser.

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Beaver Booster Luncheon — Grand International .....Noon  
Volleyball vs. Black Hills State University — Dome .....7 p.m.  
Alumni Reunion — Grand International.....7 p.m. – 12 a.m.  
All MSU alumni and friends of the university are invited to this event! Special reunion groups this year include the Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Vagabonds, and all women's athletic teams.

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Homecoming Parade — Downtown-Broadway-MSU ....10:30 a.m.  
Tailgating — East Dome parking lot 11:30 a.m. (Free lunch)  
Football game vs. Valley City State  
Herb Parker Stadium .....1:30 p.m.  
Post game get together — Barley Pop ..... 5-8 p.m.  
\$10/ person (all proceeds go to the Souris Valley United Way)  
Sponsored by Minot Young Professional Network.  
Volleyball vs. South Dakota Mines — Dome.....7 p.m.  
Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet — Grand International .....7 p.m.  
2010 Recipients: Kayla Blom Dascher, Larry Muratore and the 1987 Women's Track and Field team.

### Schedule of Events

[www.minotstateu.edu/homecoming](http://www.minotstateu.edu/homecoming)



Questions? Call Alumni Office —  
858.3234 or 800.777.0750.



**Minot State**  
**UNIVERSITY**

**Alumni Association**

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## GREEKS ARE BACK!

The Mu Sigma Tau fraternity is the first Greek organization on the MSU campus since the late '80s. Galvanized by a reunion at Homecoming 2009, the fraternity's alumni association began reactivating the organization. By March 2010, it had an initial group of seven actives, with Chase Lee as president.

"It's truly a special feeling to be part of the return of Greek life to Minot State's campus, especially as part of Mu Sigma Tau. We're honored to be carrying on such a rich tradition," Lee said.

The fraternity traces its roots back to 1926, with its Greek letters representing the initials of the school's name then — Minot State Teachers College. The fraternity added a second class of four actives in May and is already looking for a third group to start the fall of 2010.



Five of the first seven pledges initiated into the Mu Sigma Tau fraternity in March 2010. L-R: Chase Lee, Max Buchholz, Luke Artz, Ethan Fritel and Jon Powell.