

BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

A magazine for alumni and friends
SPRING/SUMMER 2014

Star
engage.connect.convert.

Our Mission

To provide an environment that nurtures the creativity and growth of the individuals associated with the company.

This leads to empowered clients that create exceptional solutions that enable clients to engage, connect and convert their business.

engage
engaging your business

connect
connecting them to your brand

convert
converting them into your customers

20
YEARS

Star
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Strength in
EMPLOYERS FIND PAYOFF IN
HIRING BSU GRADUATES **NUMBERS**



PRESIDENT R. HANSON

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The BSU Magazine does not typically have a theme, though last fall's focus on our Imagine Tomorrow fundraising campaign was an exception. I do see a theme emerging from content in this edition – unintentionally perhaps, but in a way that reflects several fundamental strengths of our university, our students and our alumni. Those strengths can be summarized as success, gratitude and generosity.

First of all, the cover story highlights employers with a track record of hiring Bemidji State University graduates in large numbers relative to their total workforce. When you dig into that phenomenon, you discover that our talented students have earned a reputation as hard workers who are ready to contribute from day one. You also find alums who both appreciate the quality of BSU graduates and are eager to help current students begin their careers.

The story of alums Royal and Diane Orser recounts their lives of impressive achievement as educators in rural Nevada and their appreciation for the preparation they received at Bemidji State. Now they are paying it forward. This is no less true of alums Jack and Delphine Jacobsen, whose scholarship investment has enabled an older student like Thomas Jones to complete his education and help others through a career as a drug and alcohol counselor. A similar pattern is evident in the determination of graduates Tom Hill and Justin Kaney to establish the Bemidji Brewing Company and join with others in helping Bemidji thrive and grow.

This cycle of accomplishment and support is the engine of our continued success as a university. Our alums understand that BSU has given them a transformative educational experience. They are happy to share the benefits with current and future students while serving their communities. Not only does this make me very proud, it also gives me great confidence in the future of Bemidji State. As always, thanks for reading and for caring about BSU. Your support means a great deal to me and to our students.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Hanson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Richard Hanson

Features

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12-13 Opportunity brought Royal and Diane Orser to Elko, Nev., in the early 1960s. Now retired from successful careers as educators, they want to thank Bemidji State and help future students.

14-15 Memorial Hall, a 74-year-old Bemidji State landmark, will be renovated into a state-of-the-art home for BSU's business and accounting programs.

24-25 The sign downtown says Bemidji Brewing Company, not Bemidji State, but a pair of craft brewers who came together at BSU are off to a successful and fulfilling start.

COVER PHOTO BSU alums who are employees of the Star design firm are pictured in the lobby of their Minneapolis office: (back, left to right) Kelsey Lefto '11, graphic designer; Phoebe Malthius '14, creative intern; Kent Vanderport '13, business development coordinator; Harry Hoselton '97, project engineering manager; (front, left to right) Amanda Klein '01, director of strategy and marketing; Justin Dworak '07, creative director; Clarissa Lin '07, designer; and Joey Wyszynski '98, graphic project manager.



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A TRACK RECORD FOR TALENT

By Scott Faust

Skill, work ethic attract recruiters

When it comes to finding a job, especially a first job, they say it's who you know that can matter most.

But for Bemidji State University graduates, where you got your degree continues to be key across many academic majors, especially with employers in Minnesota and beyond who've learned they can count on BSU talent.

"We have companies that line up to hire our graduates in many disciplines," President Richard Hanson said.

Enterprises with strong track records of hiring from Bemidji State range from Federated Insurance, with 40 BSU graduates among a nationwide workforce of 2,290, to mid-sized firms such as Baxter-based CliftonLarsonAllen Accountants, which has 21 BSU grads among 850 employees in their Minnesota offices, to Paul Bunyan Broadcasting in Bemidji, where 10 on a workforce of 27 have a BSU diploma.

The reasons why certain employers literally and figuratively keep coming back to Bemidji State are complex and not cookie-cutter. They range from appreciation for graduates' hands-on experience to active networking with faculty, coaches, academic clubs and BSU Career Services staff, not to mention regional affinity and alumni loyalty.

One common theme expressed by hiring managers is the sense that Bemidji State graduates are confident and have the determination to work hard on day one.

"They were raised in families where they saw parents who went to work and worked hard," said Nate Sannes '05, regional marketing manager for Federated Insurance in the northeastern United States.

At the Star design firm in Minneapolis, Phoebe Malthius '14, creative intern (left), and Kelsey Lefto '11, graphic designer, review a project with Justin Dworak '97, creative director.





"It's not a two-year training process. We can put them to work right away. Their work ethic is just phenomenal. They're trained, ready and excited about the opportunity to work."

– Mark Johnson, founder and CEO of Star

A former BSU quarterback who majored in business administration, Sannes was recruited by the company right out of school. He was promoted to his current role in November from previous work as district marketing manager in Minnesota and eastern North Dakota.

Federated, based in Owatonna, maintains an active recruiting relationship with Bemidji State. That includes outreach and networking by such alums as Becky Dawley '77, first vice president and director of information services, and Dave Ramsey '78, first vice president and director of agency operations. Each has been with the company for their entire careers, and both have been named Outstanding Alumni by the BSU Alumni Association.

Closely related to work ethic is strong preparation in a particular discipline. Employers in nursing, criminal justice, business, accounting, computer science, biology, education and design, among others, continue to look to BSU for that reason.

The field of exhibit design, which involves creating three-dimensional, branded displays for a variety of special events, is a classic example. Several leading firms in this specialized field have become highly engaged with BSU's Department of Technology, Art & Design, whose graduates have made Bemidji State a valued brand name in the industry.

One of those firms is Star, a commercial 3-D and 2-D design company in Minneapolis, which now has 10 BSU graduates on its 90-person workforce and continues an active internship program that has proven to be a key pipeline in the past.

"The kids have real-world experience with the educational program they've gone through," said Mark Johnson, who founded Star in 1993 and maintains close contact with Bemidji State as CEO. "It's not a two-year training process. We can put them to work right away. Their work ethic is just phenomenal. They're trained,



Joey Wyszynski '98 is graphic project manager at Star in Minneapolis.

ready and excited about the opportunity to work."

One of several BSU graduates who has worked his way up into a senior role at Star is Justin Dworak '97, the firm's creative director, who in 2012 was recognized as Designer of the Year by the Exhibit Designers and Producers Association.

Dworak, who has recently been supervising BSU intern Phoebe Mathius, an international student from Malaysia, himself started at Star as an intern. That internship rolled into a full-time job, and the rest is history.

{ continued on next page }



Becky Dawley '77, first vice president and director of information services for Federated Insurance, explains opportunities at the company to students during a BSU career fair.

A TRACK RECORD FOR TALENT

{ continued from page 5 }

As a Bemidji State student, he said, "You're getting full exposure into the industry. You're able to network and form mentors, intern in the industry, and it's just a much richer experience for the students – and the employers benefit from that."

Networking and relationships with academic programs have also been vital at Bigfork Valley Hospital in Bigfork, said the hospital's human resources manager, Jennifer Drotts '96.

"We really do make an effort to make sure they get as much practical, clinical experience as they can. It gives us a very clear picture of what kind of nurse they will be."

– Nancy Probst, chief nursing officer, Big Valley Hospital

Drotts is a Deer River native who double majored in business administration and accounting and began working at Bigfork Valley almost eight years ago. Previously, she had worked in accounting for Johanneson Inc. in Bemidji, in addition to earlier accounting work in Duluth and Iowa.

The hospital's staff has at least 11 BSU alumni out of 230 total employees, including chief nursing officer, long-term care administrator, finance manager and assistant surgical services manager.

Bigfork Valley also frequently hires nursing interns from Bemidji State, including most recently Bigfork native Ashley Wendt, a candidate for a full-time position.

"I think the program for nursing has evolved in such a way that we are very appreciative of the quality of the BSU graduates," Drotts said. "With Bemidji State, it's a no-brainer when they recommend a student because we know down the road we're going to get a full-time nurse out of this, or we could."

Echoing that is Chief Nursing Officer Nancy Probst '02, who completed her bachelor's degree in nursing at BSU after previous training at St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth. She said the hospital does its best to challenge nursing interns in a variety of real-life circumstances, including emergency room and patient care.

"We really do make an effort to make sure they get as much practical, clinical experience as they can," Probst said. "It gives us a very clear picture of what kind of nurse they will be."

Drotts also mentioned the value of hiring people who know, understand and



Among BSU alumni working at Bigfork Valley Hospital are (from left) Nancy Probst '02, chief nursing officer; nurse Karla Pula '11; nurse Jacob Carpenter '12 and Dr. Lisa Harmon '87.

appreciate the lifestyle and culture of northern Minnesota. That was echoed by people at several companies with large numbers of BSU graduates, including Pinnacle, a Bemidji-based printing and publishing firm where alumnae Shelly Geerdes '93 has been CEO since 2000. A third of its 77 employees are BSU graduates, many in leadership roles, and the BSU Beavers flag flies outside their headquarters on U.S. 71.

"A lot of BSU grads like to stay local," said Rosie Berg '01, Pinnacle's marketing manager and national accounts supervisor whose degree is in business administration. "They come to college here, see what the area has to offer and decide to look for jobs here."

MANY REASONS FOR GOOD FIT

The Bemidji State connection creates an immediate relationship with job prospects, she said.

"You get an idea of what they've been doing the past four or five years, the professors they've been exposed to, the elements they've endured," Berg said.

Not every BSU graduate necessarily wants to live in the Twin Cities or some other major metropolitan area, and that has been a hiring advantage for Digi-Key in Thief River Falls, an electronic component manufacturer that over the years has hired 28 computer science and computer information service graduates from Bemidji State.

"We're a big company but in a small, rural-type atmosphere," said Digi-Key software engineer Curt Huot, who frequently recruits at BSU. "You have a lot of students who have come from towns Bemidji-sized or smaller and may prefer that type of lifestyle."

"To me it is almost like a family. You've got a really deep alumni base from various years who are constantly willing to mentor and support students and the curriculum on an ongoing basis."

– Justin Dworak, Star

Ramsey of Federated agreed, noting that Owatonna is not unlike Bemidji in size and lifestyle.

"A lot of people who have either grown up in or migrated into that environment seem to like living in a small town," he said, "versus someone who's grown up in Chicago and can't wait to get to New York."

Dworak of Star underscored a larger point that also comes up frequently as managers explain why they continue to look to Bemidji State when filling entry-level positions. He emphasized how he and others in the exhibit design industry have stayed connected with the university, traveling to campus to critique student work, presenting to students in class via Skype and keeping their eye on up-and-coming talent. "

To me it's almost like a family," Dworak said. "You've got a really deep alumni base from various years who are constantly willing to mentor and support students and the curriculum on an ongoing basis."

BSU Career Services helps turn graduates into employees

Successful hiring is all about a good fit between job and job candidate, and that's where BSU Career Services comes in.

By helping students understand their personal strengths and connecting them with the right opportunities, the university provides a critical link in turning graduates into employees.



Margie Giaouque

"We're right in the middle of that – the conduit, I guess," said Margie Giaouque, director of Career Services.

The office posts job opportunities, holds resume workshops, interview practice sessions and career fairs, and schedules on-campus interviews with qualified businesses and nonprofit organizations.

"We want to make sure that employers coming to campus are bona fide," Giaouque said. "We make sure they have legitimate positions for entry-level students."

Bringing recruiters together with students in the Career Services interview room provides a less threatening environment for an initial conversation, she said, setting the stage for a second interview at the employer site.

Faculty also play a key role, by identifying students who show special promise and encouraging them to take advantage of opportunities to interview, Giaouque said.

Internships are an important part of how students prepare to excel in the workforce, and Career Services also serves as a clearinghouse for those – working both with students and employers.

The office maintains listings of available internships, assists employers with legal requirements associated with internships, and seeks and distributes grant funding to help fund internships or partial living expenses to help more students gain hands-on experience.

TO LEARN MORE

Contact BSU Career Services at (218) 755-2038 or career@bemidjistate.edu.



IMAGINE TOMORROW

THE CAMPAIGN FOR BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

CAMPAIGN MOMENTUM CONTINUES

By Scott Faust

Campus, community join with alumni



Graduating senior Samantha Fairbanks of Bemidji, president of the BSU Council of Indian Students, spoke at the Lakeside Luncheon on March 20 about her experiences and plans as a social work major, with a minor in Indian studies.

The champagne toasts that greeted the public launch of Bemidji State University's Imagine Tomorrow campaign are over, for now.

Excitement continues about the early momentum that has taken BSU's first-ever comprehensive campaign three-fourths of the way toward its \$35 million goal with two years to go. But hard work by volunteers and staff – and quiet consideration by prospective donors – are more the order of the day than celebration.

“Since the launch, we’ve seen a change of direction and the establishment of a different kind of momentum toward the campaign,” said President Richard Hanson. “We’re moving beyond the focus on major gifts to a concentration on the Annual Fund and greater community involvement. From what I’ve seen it’s been a pretty positive transition.”

This new phase involves conversation with alumni and friends around the world, across the country and on campus about how their gifts and pledges will allow them to further the success of the university and its students while building toward the campaign’s ambitious objective.

Special events help engender those conversations while building awareness

of Imagine Tomorrow’s capacity to quadruple the scholarship dollars flowing to deserving students, grow academic programs and strengthen resources for learning.

The Scholarship Appreciation Breakfast on Oct. 7, the B-Club Athletic Hall of Fame on Feb. 15, the Lakeside Luncheon on March 20, alumni events in Arizona and Minneapolis, a BSU-hosted Bemidji Area Chamber of Commerce mixer on April 8, the successful Green & White Dinner and Auction for BSU Athletics on April 12, and departmental meetings with BSU employees: all have heightened awareness of the campaign’s importance and the opportunity for individuals to get involved at every level.



BREAKDOWN OF GIVING

Designations by category for \$25.4 million received or pledged to the Imagine Tomorrow campaign as of Dec. 31, 2013:

- Academic support – 13%
- Gifts awaiting designation – 16%
- Lakeside Fund and all other – 25%
- Scholarships – 46%



Lisa Hofstad, director of annual giving, makes a presentation to employees from the Bemidji State business office on the importance of the Imagine Tomorrow campaign and the opportunity to get involved.

Likewise, establishment of the B-Club Challenge for alumni athletes will provide them a chance to support a particular sport while increasing their impact through a matching gift that supports BSU Athletics as a whole.

“Everyone I’ve spoken with has been very enthusiastic,” Hanson said. “There’s a sense that ‘it’s about time’ that BSU embarked on this kind of effort.”

Progress so far continues to be very encouraging. As of April 15, Imagine Tomorrow had received \$27.5 million in commitments, taking Bemidji State 78 percent of the way towards its goal with just over half of the five-year campaign still ahead. Of that support, \$10.7 million has been received as cash, \$180,000 as in-kind gifts, \$7.7 million as pledges and \$8.9 million as planned gifts.

The university’s faculty and staff are joining with alumni and other supporters in contributing to the campaign, including many who have not given to the university in the past, said Lisa Hofstad, the foundation’s director of annual giving. They have pledged more than \$315,000 over five years, many through payroll deduction, with the opportunity to designate how their money will be used. Hofstad has conducted 29

meetings with individual departments to introduce Imagine Tomorrow, show a campaign video and distribute pledge forms.

Among those who have responded since the campaign’s public launch is Terri Traudt ‘80 of Edina. She made a five-year pledge to support Access and Opportunity scholarships, as well as funding international experiences and the university’s forthcoming Leadership Academy.

“Based on my northern Minnesota heritage, I felt giving to BSU’s Imagine Tomorrow campaign was an apt way to honor the memory of my loving and supportive parents who taught their children the value of education, hard work, responsibility and generosity,” said Traudt, who is project manager for the Twin Cities Medical Society.

Already, Imagine Tomorrow has led to a near doubling of scholarship money distributed through the BSU Foundation, from \$699,000 in fiscal year 2011 to \$1.26 million for the coming fiscal year.

“This is the right time,” Hanson told guests at the Bemidji chamber mixer. “This is going to happen. Bemidji State is going to operate at the next level.”

How you can get involved

Everyone connects with Bemidji State in a unique way, as a student, professor, staff member, intellectual, art lover, music aficionado, sports fan and on and on. Not surprisingly, every contribution – whether it is a financial gift, bequest or volunteer effort – reflects a donor’s perspective, financial situation and time.

From a practical standpoint, here is background to inform your decision to be a part of the Imagine Tomorrow campaign:

CASH: Cash gifts are an easy way to give. Gifts of any size make an immediate impact on the Imagine Tomorrow priority area of your choice.

SECURITIES: Gifts of stocks, bonds, treasuries and mutual funds that have increased in value are a win-win opportunity for you under current tax laws. They provide an immediate benefit to the university and a current income tax savings for you.

PROPERTY: Property and real estate includes homes, cabins, commercial buildings, farmland and other property, such as works of art and other items of value.

PLANNED GIFTS: These involve giving to the university in the future. Typical types of planned gifts would be a bequest, life income gift, charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder trust, life insurance or a gift of residence with a life interest. **The Bemidji State University Legacy Society** is a unique organization whose members have provided for Bemidji State University through a planned gift. Members receive special invitations and other benefits.

VOLUNTEER: One of the most important gifts you can give to BSU is to tell others why the university is vital to you and the community. Attend campus events. Volunteer for committees and events that interest you. You make a difference!

Potential benefits of giving

- Make an immediate or future impact on Bemidji State.
- Help the department, college or area of your choice.
- Potentially increase the impact of your gift with a matching gift.
- Make a large gift with a small cash investment.
- Save on income tax.
- Reduce estate tax.
- Avoid capital gains tax.
- Generate lifetime income.

CONTACT the BSU Foundation at (218) 755-2762, email to foundation@bemidjistate.edu or visit www.bsualumni.org.



IMAGINE TOMORROW

THE CAMPAIGN FOR BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

THANKS for a LIFETIME

By Cindy Serratore

When Bemidji native Royal Orser graduated from Bemidji State University in 1962, he wanted a job near his soon-to-be fiancé, Diane Abrahamson, also from Bemidji.

She graduated from BSU two years earlier, taught in Baudette and Bagley and then accepted a position in Merced, Calif. Orser, an aspiring art teacher, hoped to follow.

"I applied all over the West," Orser said. "Elko, Nev., was the only one that was interested. They wanted me to come for an interview. I told them, 'I don't have a car.'"

They hired him over the phone, and his parents drove 1,400 miles from Bemidji to drop him off.

Orser started as the art teacher at Elko High School and drew on his BSU education to create an art program from scratch. When he and Diane married in 1963, the district hired her, too. She had a degree in foreign languages with a minor in English; he, a degree in art education with minors in psychology and social studies.

In 1967, the couple left for California, where Orser completed a master's degree in school administration. A year later, he received a telegram from the Elko school district saying: "Your art job is open." The following year, at age 28, he was

appointed principal of the K-12 school in nearby Wells. He retired in 1994 as associate superintendent.

"We were lucky. We hope to give another kid a chance — the same chance we had."

Royal and Diane Orser are pictured on the porch of the Elko, Nev., Chamber of Commerce in the historic Sherman Station.

BSU put couple on the road to success in Nevada

Today Royal and Diane remain grateful for that first job offer, their Bemidji State educations and the rewarding careers that followed. Last fall, inspired by the Imagine Tomorrow fund-raising campaign, they established a scholarship fund for Bemidji State students and included the university in their estate plans.

"Bemidji State gave me a second chance," said Royal Orser, who had left the University of Minnesota to join the Army Reserve before applying to BSU. He and Diane credit BSU for "giving us our careers."

They drew inspiration, they said, from late professors such as Dr. Eugene Dalzotto in art history, Dr. Donald DeKrey in psychology, Dr. Philip Sauer in English and other passionate educators.

"Dr. Dalzotto had the most fantastic art history classes," said Diane, who to this day thinks of him whenever she visits an art museum. "At the end of the hour, you wanted more."

Orser soaked up that enthusiasm and unleashed it in Elko. From 1978-1983, he was principal of Elko High School. Linda Trontel, colleague and lifelong friend, said Orser was driven to excel.

"Whatever you people taught him back there, he wanted you to do your best," she said. "You had to be on your toes."

Trontel described Orser as a champion of students and teachers. He was a steady presence at student events and announced at track and field meets for 20 years. "Diane and Royal were always good to people," Trontel said.

"I had the philosophy that those students could do more than they thought they could do," Orser said. "I told them, 'We're going to push you.' And we did."



Royal Orser stands in front of a Hall of Fame display at Elko High School.

From that, he and Diane have had many proud moments.

One of those was in 1983, when Elko High received the Excellence in Education Award from the U.S. Department of Education. Subsequently, he and his colleagues presented a workshop on school excellence at a symposium for educators held in San Francisco.

In his 31-plus years with the school district, Orser was principal of five schools and led the effort to open one of them. He oversaw construction of a high school football field and track and field complexes in three communities. And in 2007, was inducted into the Elko High School Hall of Fame for his achievements.

He also helped found the Triple E award to recognize students for all-around contributions at Elko High School. Since its inception in 1975, more than 800 students – and a few faculty members, including Orser – have received the award.

When Nevada's gold mines boomed in the late '80s, Elko's school enrollment doubled. Orser and two other administrators hired

96 teachers from 1990-91. "That was a fun time in my career," said Orser, who recognized the impact top-notch teachers would have on several generations of students.

He also served on the Nevada State Council on the Arts for six years, two as chair. Celebrated for his political cartoons, he enjoys retirement as a "reborn artist."

While he excelled in the public arena, Diane excelled in the classroom. She taught 32 years – French, Spanish and English. She also traveled to 25 countries so she could open the world to her students. "It was a great career, a perfect one," she said. "I got to spend a lot of time talking about what I loved and what was interesting in the world."

Diane and Royal spent most of their childhood within walking distance of Bemidji State. In establishing a scholarship fund, he said: "We were lucky. We hope to give another student a chance – the same chance we had."

Cindy Serratore is a Bemidji-based freelance writer.

GRATITUDE *and* DETERMINATION

By Scott Faust

Thomas Jones is exactly the kind of person Jack and Delphine Jacobsen had in mind when they endowed a scholarship fund: an older student who was academically successful but needed a helping hand. And the Jacobsens' generosity is of exactly the sort that enabled Jones to complete a psychology degree at Bemidji State University this May and prepare to work as a drug and alcohol therapist and counselor.

At age 46, the Cass Lake resident is himself in recovery from drug and alcohol dependency. He hopes to pursue his career in case management at the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe's alcohol and drug treatment center.

That's where he turned his life around six years ago, on June 29, 2008.

Fifteen months after his decision to stay sober, Jones was a student at Bemidji State. He earned money as a member of the BSU grounds crew, kept up his grades and put in long hours applying for the grants and scholarships that enabled him to avoid major student loan debt.

Jones, an enrolled member of the Leech Lake Band, was named Outstanding Native American Student of the Year in 2013.

"What they did for me is not done in vain," he said of all who helped him succeed, "because I'm going to be helping others. Those dollars not only touched my life but the lives of everybody I've come in contact with."

The inspiration for the Jacobsens' endowment in 2012 came from Jack's 26-year career on the financial aid staff at BSU, which ended with his retirement in 1999. Delphine, also now retired, was a teacher who also worked as a student teaching supervisor at BSU. The Bemidji couple graduated in 1964.

Jack recalled how hard it was for many older students to get a degree because of the competing demands of work and family.

"I was always amazed at what it took for a 25- to 40-year-old person to get a college degree," he said. "A lot of things can go wrong in four years. ... I'll tell you when someone like that would come in on graduation day and say thank you, it made you feel pretty good."

Jones' own story is a tale of how much can go wrong in a life afflicted by substance abuse, both for him and among his family members.

He attended 15 different schools between kindergarten and grade 12. His father was a drug addict and alcoholic who died at age 23, he said, and his mother was a drug addict who died while Jones was a sophomore at BSU.



Thomas Jones

Scholarship helped graduate prepare to serve others

Earlier, he attended technical college and worked as an auto mechanic for about 17 years until he lost his driver's license to a DUI. He also worked in road construction.

But his trouble with drinking and drugs continued to plague him, costing him two long-term relationships, including one in which he'd been a de facto stepfather.

"I basically drove my life right into the ditch, literally and proverbially," said Jones, who said his addiction nearly killed him.

During treatment in Cass Lake, he decided to give religious faith a try. "I turned my life over to the care of God as I understand him," he said. "In so doing, love entered me, and in order to keep it I had to give it away."

As he completed his course and program requirements in psychology, Jones spent much of the past year working with outpatient clients at the Upper Mississippi Mental Health Center in Bemidji. He will soon be taking a state licensure test for drug and alcohol counseling.

During his journey to regain control of his life and obtain a degree at Bemidji State, Jones has amazed many of the people whose help he most appreciates. Among them is Gwen Bailey, the university's assistant director of financial aid. She describes Jones as "one of the most dedicated, hard-working students I have met."

"He was there in the student union at 7 o'clock in the morning working on his papers or whatever he needed to get done," Bailey said. "He is someone who completely turned his life around, and I



Delphine and Jack Jacobsen

respect that and look up to him because of that."

Jones returns the admiration to her, to the Jacobsens and to many others who have given him hope for a rewarding future.

"Those who helped me save my life were doing the Lord's work," he said. "I owe my life to that. I make it a point to say how grateful I am that I have had these opportunities. It's because of these generous people out there."

He also has a plan to one day contribute scholarship dollars to BSU to help someone like himself.

"I want to pay it forward," Jones said.



IMAGINE TOMORROW

THE CAMPAIGN FOR **BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY**



Memorial Hall

By Andy Bartlett

One of the oldest and most recognizable buildings on the Bemidji State University campus is about to be renovated into a state-of-the-art home for BSU's business and accounting programs.

The Memorial Hall renovation, scheduled to begin this spring, is the keystone in a broader construction project that will radically alter the heart of campus over the next two years.

As part of a strategic effort to centralize academic offerings and move student services into a part of campus that better suits the university's resident students, nearly \$14 million has been requested from the Minnesota Legislature to completely renovate Memorial and Decker halls and demolish Sanford Hall.

BSU's plans are contingent upon the project being supported by the Legislature as part of the state's bonding bill during the 2014 session. The project is third on a priority list

for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, and Gov. Mark Dayton requested full funding for the project in his January bonding proposal.

Built in 1940, Memorial Hall is the fifth-oldest permanent building on the BSU campus and has never received major renovation. Its historic front lobby will be retained, but the center of the building that is now a basketball court with built-in bleachers on two sides will be converted into classroom space.

The lower floor of Memorial Hall will be used for faculty offices. Offices for the dean of the College of Business, Technology and Communication will be on the top floor.

"Business and accounting are two of our larger programs, and they're currently located inside an old food service building," said Bill Maki, Bemidji State's vice president of finance and administration. "The classrooms are oddly shaped, they don't have much flexibility with their space, and it certainly doesn't have

the image you would want to portray for a modern school of business."

New quarters, new learning styles

The project will bring a business and corporate feel to the facilities for those programs, said Dr. Shawn Strong, dean of BSU's College of Business, Technology and Communication.

"We really don't have facilities that we can recruit to," Strong said of the current home for the two programs in Decker Hall. "This should greatly assist our efforts to recruit high-quality students to our residential campus."

Strong said the newly refurbished building would help move the program beyond its current focus on traditional lecture courses and emphasize group work and intensive use of technology by students in an active-learning environment.

"Active learning is where higher ed is headed," Strong said. "The small-group

Work consolidates programs and services for students

This is the expected schedule of work on Bensen Hall, Memorial Hall and Decker Hall on the Bemidji State University campus, contingent on approval of bonding funds by the Minnesota Legislature:

Spring and summer 2014:

- Construction begins on the first two floors of Bensen Hall to create a new home for the Bemidji School of Nursing. The nursing lab now located in the lower level of Memorial Hall will be relocated to Bensen Hall, filling the space that used to be the Talley Gallery of fine art. The eLearning Support office will move from its current home in Memorial Hall into the A.C. Clark Library.
- Construction on the first and third floors of Bridgeman Hall to create space for a relocated Talley Gallery.

- Sanford Hall demolition, opening a view of Lake Bemidji from Birchmont Avenue.
- Memorial Hall renovation begins, with completion of initial phases expected by July.
- The Advising Success Center, Career Services and TRiO/Upward Bound staff and faculty will move from Sanford Hall to the second and third floors of Sattgast Hall, and Disability Services and Veterans Services will move to the first floor of Bangsberg Hall.

- The university print shop, offices for the BSU Faculty Association and AFSCME bargaining unit, and other offices now located in Memorial Hall will move to other campus locations yet to be determined.

2014-15 academic year:

- The tunnels between Deputy Hall and the A.C. Clark Library and Memorial Hall will be temporarily closed.
- Pedestrian traffic flow will be changed in front of Memorial Hall to accommodate construction staging areas.



A keystone for campus development

settings will support problem solving in the classroom. The ultimate goal of active learning is to build students' critical thinking skills, and these small-group settings will support problem solving in our classrooms."

Maki said the accompanying demolition of Sanford Hall, built in 1920, will provide greater emphasis on the Memorial Hall entrance and make that building a more striking front door to the campus when approaching on 15th Street.

Consolidating student services

Decker Hall, which lies between the Birch and Linden residence halls, was renovated from its previous role as a dining hall in order to house the BSU business and accounting programs. After those programs move to their new home in Memorial Hall, a reinvigorated Decker Hall will become the new central hub for Career Services, the Academic Success

Center, the TRIO outreach programs and other related student service programs, many of which have been in Sanford. The Decker renovation will take place after the academic programs moving into Memorial Hall have relocated during the Spring 2016 semester.

"Health services and residential life are already on that end of campus," Maki said. "From a long-term planning perspective, it centralizes these services instead of having them located in various buildings on campus."

In a separate project, renovation is now underway on the first two floors of Bensen Hall to create a consolidated new home for the Bemidji School of Nursing. Faculty from the nursing programs at both BSU and Northwest Technical College will be coming together in one location, and the nursing lab that has been located in the basement of Memorial Hall will move into what is now the Talley Gallery. The gallery will be relocated to Bridgeman Hall.

Maki said this multi-stage project helps fulfill goals from BSU's Master Facilities Plan to ensure programs have a strong physical identity.

"We are lacking that with some programs because they are scattered across various spots on campus or are in locations where they are not as visible as they could be," Maki said. "Adding this component will make sure nursing has that strong physical identity."

The Memorial/Sanford/Decker project also provides funding to design and plan a future demolition of Hagg-Sauer Hall. BSU hopes to pursue capital funding to replace Hagg-Sauer Hall beginning in 2016.

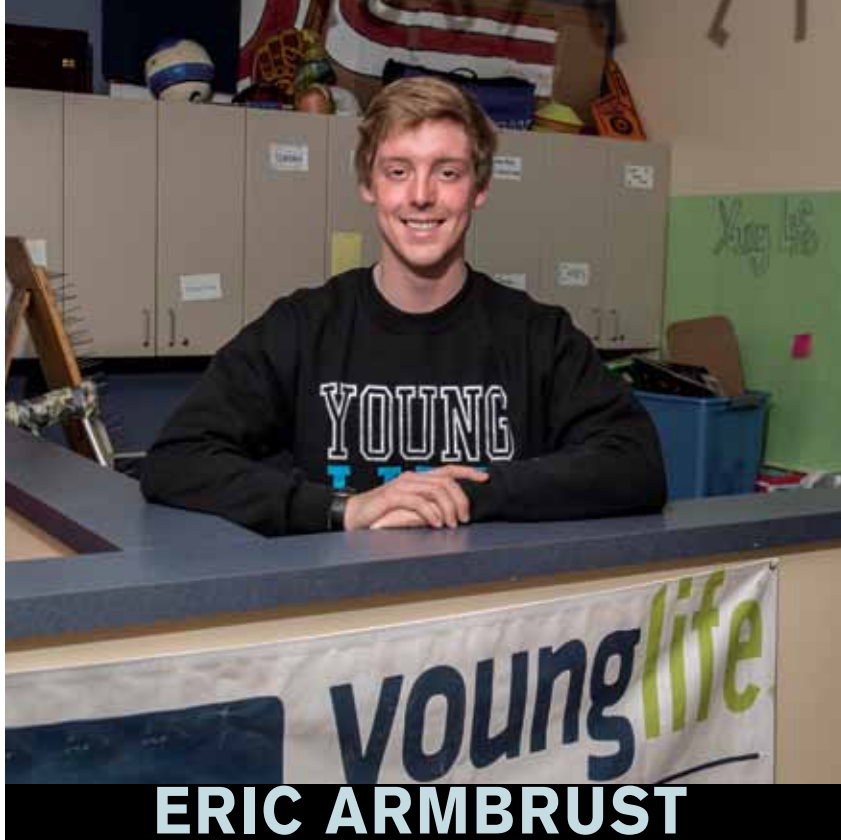
- Most large university events that had been taking place in Memorial Hall will move to the BSU Gymnasium.
- Design work will begin for a demolition and rebuild of Hagg-Sauer Hall. Capital funding for that project will be pursued beginning in 2016.
- Memorial Hall renovation is scheduled to be completed by the start of the Fall 2015 semester. The dean of the College of Business, Technology and Communication and faculty for the accounting and business programs will move from Decker to Memorial Hall.

- Renovation of Decker Hall into a new home for student services will begin.

Spring 2016:

- Decker Hall renovations to be completed. Services that were temporarily relocated to Sattgast and Bangsberg halls will be moved into their new homes in Decker.





ERIC ARMBRUST

ERIC ARMBRUST is an inspired guy. Among his favorite quotes: “There’s no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing.” He is always ready for adventure, especially if it involves the outdoors and helping humanity.

The Eagan native will graduate from Bemidji State University in December with a degree in business administration. His interests are quite broad, however. Armbrust has been winter camping in the Boundary Waters, kayaking in Montana and hiking on the Superior Hiking Trail. At BSU, he has volunteered with Bemidji’s homeless, sung with the Bemidji Choir and worked with the BSU Foundation.

One of his dreams is to build a program that brings inner city and suburban youth together to explore the outdoors and their relationship with God. “I’d like to help students and young adults realize that there’s a lot more to life than what you’re born into,” he said.

A natural at sales and fundraising, Armbrust gravitated to business. In elementary school, he once gathered nearly 200 marathon pledges to raise \$900. In high school, he raised funds so friends who otherwise couldn’t afford camps could still attend. Then in college, he spent two summers selling books door-to-door, once finishing 23rd in sales out of 3,000 interns.

Chris Hoffman of BSU student services first met Armbrust at a high school wilderness canoe camp on Lake of the Woods. Armbrust stood out as a leader.

“He modeled enthusiasm ... brought everybody’s enthusiasm up,” said Hoffman, who suggested he explore BSU. Armbrust did.

“The first time I came here, I fell in love with it,” Armbrust said. “It was the combination of the small community and the outdoors. It was the kind of place that could impact me and I could impact it.”

In high school, Armbrust joined Young Life, a national faith-based youth organization that sparked his passion for community service. In 2011, he started a BSU chapter of Young Life, the first student-led college chapter in the nation. Club gatherings sometimes draw nearly 50 students. In the fall, he plans to raise funds for a paid director position.

This summer, Armbrust will volunteer at a Young Life camp in Colorado and then on an organic farm in Alaska through another organization, World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms. “I’ve never worked on an organic farm, and I love gaining world perspective,” he said of his next adventure.

His life motto: Make a difference every day. “I just never want to lose that spark,” he said.

JARED ZEDEL had traveled widely even before heading to Sochi, Russia, as a 2014 Olympic curler. Curling has taken him to Scotland, Germany, Switzerland and all over Canada. Google his name, and dozens of stories pull up.

Still, Zezel prefers smaller places like Bemidji State University, where people know him by name.

He will graduate from Bemidji State in December with a degree in exercise science and a minor in psychology. He started at a bigger university, returned home to Hibbing Community College and then tried the bigger school again.

“I still didn’t like it,” said Zezel, who felt lost in the crowd. “I was looking around when I saw that Bemidji had an exercise science program and a curling rink. I never took a tour; I just came here, and I love it.”

He started curling in 2003 as a sixth-grader. Now a member of the John Shuster rink, he finished third in the U.S. Nationals in 2012 and 2013, won the Olympic Trials in November, and advanced to Sochi from the Olympic Qualification Event in Germany.

To accommodate his travel schedule – 11 tournaments since September – Zezel took a year off from college. After he finishes



JARED ZEDEL

this fall, he plans to apply for athletic training school. Eventually, he'd like to become a trainer, possibly helping other Olympic athletes achieve their dreams.

For now, though, Zezel has dreams of his own. His team finished a disappointing ninth at the Olympics, and he hopes for another shot at gold. "The next four years, I'm going to be working extra hard to get back," he said.

He said his favorite Olympic moment was walking out of a tunnel into the arena for opening ceremonies. "I don't think anything will ever top that," Zezel said. "You couldn't see anything until you actually stepped out. I had chills. It was super cool."

Two days back from Sochi, Zezel stopped by campus, expressing thanks to teachers who helped him pursue his Olympic goal. One of his professors, Dr. Donna Palivec, had an article about Zezel posted on her office door. Another, Dr. Christel Kippenhan, stopped him for a quick visit.

"Jared is a very outgoing person; you can see that on TV," she said. "And he's a good student."

For Zezel, it's good to be back where people know his name and wish him well.



ALYSSA HALE

ALYSSA HALE of North Minneapolis will graduate from Bemidji State University in May with a degree in elementary education and a minor in Indian studies. She spent the spring teaching in a fourth-grade classroom in Rosemount, where students start the day with 15 minutes of sharing.

"The classroom is a place where students learn about each other and themselves," Hale said. "For me, one of the biggest things I want to bring into the classroom is a sense of community."

She witnessed the power of community last fall when she worked at the American Indian Resource Center as a peer adviser for students making the transition to college.

"Sometimes you just need to know that you belong and someone believes in you," Hale said, adding that once students have that confidence they're ready "to do great things."

While at Bemidji State, Hale realized that she, too, can do great things. Last spring, she received the David and Kathryn Sorensen Leadership Endowment Scholarship, a full-tuition award for her senior year.

"I had to write an essay for it, and I remember thinking, 'Oh, I'm not going to get this,'" said Hale, who was stunned to receive a letter of congratulations. "I felt so blessed, so grateful." A keynote speaker at

BSU's second Scholarship Appreciation Breakfast in October, she told the audience that receiving the scholarship "made me believe in myself in a way I never had before."

Hale's adviser, Dr. Janine Wahl, is not surprised by Hale's success. "She has excellent communication skills, she's determined and energetic – all necessary to be an effective teacher," Wahl said.

Although Hale says she has to work at being a leader, she's been brave in her pursuit. As a member of the President's Student Commission, she organized an art exhibit to give voice to victims of sexual assault. She also writes poetry and won a competition on KAXE public radio. Impressed, the station invited her to record more of her poems.

Hale also advocates for culturally relevant curriculum and greater awareness of Native American history, noting that she appreciated the Indian studies program at BSU.

"A lot of people are ignorant about that part of history," she said, "and it's important to have an understanding."

Now that Hale has found her own voice, she intends to keep using it in the classroom and beyond. "Being a leader is about understanding that we're all connected," she said.





BSU SPORTS



WINTER SPORT RECAPS

The Bemidji State **MEN'S BASKETBALL** team finished the season 18-9 overall and 15-7 in NSIC play. They earned a share of the NSIC North Championship, their second league title in three years, before bowing out of the NSIC Tournament in the first round. BSU's 18-win season was its sixth in the program's 92-year history. The Beavers have now won 18 or more games in each of the past three seasons, their longest streak ever. Zach Noreen (Sr., F, Avon) joined Brock Lutes (Jr., G/F, Portland, Ore.) on the All-NSIC First Team, while Maxie Rosenbloom (Sr., F, St. Paul) was honored as All-NSIC Second Team... **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** seniors Morgan Lee (G, Hayward, Wis.) and Kate Warmack (C, East Grand Forks) were selected to the All-NSIC Second Team, while Hanna Zerr (Fr., G, Shakopee) was recognized as an All-NSIC Freshman Team member to conclude their season. Under Mike Curfman, the Beavers were 9-18 overall and 5-17 in NSIC play... The Bemidji State **TRACK AND FIELD** team completed its eight-event indoor season by hosting and placing 13th at the 2014 NSIC Championships... The Bemidji State **WOMEN'S HOCKEY** team finished the 2013-14 season with an overall record of 11-21-4, while it finished the WCHA season with an 8-17-3 record to land the sixth seed in the WCHA Playoffs. Freshman goaltender Brittini Mowat (Fr., Glenboro, Man.) was named to the All-WCHA Rookie Team to conclude the season... The Bemidji State **MEN'S HOCKEY** team had Matt Prapavessis (Jr., D, Oakville, Ont.) named All-WCHA Third Team and Ruslan Pedan (Fr., D, Moscow, Russia) selected to the league's All-Rookie Team. BSU earned its fourth consecutive berth into the WCHA Playoffs and completed the season 10-21-7 overall and 10-14-3 in league play... Under second-year head coach Mark Fodness, the BSU **TENNIS** team got off to its best start since 2009. The Beavers won four of their first seven matches, which included a 2-3 mark in NSIC play. Newcomer Shaylin Prout (So., Thunder Bay, Ont.) opened the season 5-1 in play at No. 1 singles, and combined with Deanie Hatch (So., Brea, Calif.) for a 4-2 record at No. 1 doubles.

Sertich steps away from women's hockey post

After eight seasons as head coach of the Bemidji State women's hockey team, **Steve Sertich** announced his retirement on March 17. Under his leadership, the Beavers compiled eight WCHA Playoff appearances and one WCHA Final-Face-Off berth. They also appeared in the national polls for the first time in program history. Ten of Sertich's players were named All-WCHA, 97 earned Academic All-WCHA honors, and 61 garnered the coveted WCHA Scholar Athlete award. With 81 victories, the 2009-10 WCHA Coach of the Year leaves Bemidji State women's hockey as its all-time wins leader.

14 Beavers make NSIC academic list

Bemidji State University landed 14 student-athletes on the 2013-14 Winter Academic All-Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Team. To be eligible for the Academic All-NSIC Team, student-athletes must maintain a grade point average of 3.20 or better and be at least a sophomore member of a varsity traveling team. BSU's contingent was led by its women's basketball and women's track and field teams, which each had six members recognized. BSU also had two members from its men's basketball team selected for the honor.

22 receive WCHA Academic honors

Eleven members each of the Bemidji State women's and men's hockey teams were recognized as part of the 2013-14 Academic All-WCHA Team. To be recognized for the honor, member team student-athletes must meet the following criteria: have completed one year of residency at their present institution, prior to the current academic year, and have a grade point average of at least 3.00 for the previous two semesters or three quarters.

Pulkinen earns All-America honor

Football senior **Zach Pulkinen** (K/P, Minot, N.D.) became the first punter in the history of Bemidji State football to be named All-American, as he was selected to the Don Hansen NCAA Division II All-America Honorable Mention Team and earned a spot on the American Football Coaches' Association All-America Team. Pulkinen was named First Team All-NSIC and concluded his senior season with an average of 42.5

yards per punt, a BSU record, and was ranked 14th in the nation. He totaled 2,802 yards on 66 punts to rank second on BSU's all-time punt yardage list. His 66 punts, 16 of which went for 50 yards or more, stands tied for seventh at BSU on the single-season list.

Myles Brand honorees named

Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Commissioner Butch Raymond named Bemidji State's **Miles Campbell** (baseball, Eden Prairie), **Jessica Voeller** (soccer, White Bear Lake) and **Tiffany VanHaften** (soccer, Chaska) as recipients of the fifth annual NSIC Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award for excellence in the classroom. The award, named in honor of the late NCAA President Dr. Myles Brand, is bestowed to senior NSIC student-athletes who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.75 or higher, are exhausting their eligibility and are on track to graduate.

Lutes tapped for All-Region men's basketball

Junior **Brock Lutes** (G, Portland, Ore.) was named to the Daktronics All-Central Region Second Team, becoming the fourth player in program history to earn all-region status from the organization. Lutes, who was also Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Newcomer of the Year and NSIC Scoring Champion, averaged 22.2 points per game and shot 50.1 percent from the field (207-of-413) to rank among the national leaders in field goals attempted and made. He added 3.6 rebounds, 2.3 assists and 0.9 steals per game, while shooting 38.4 percent from 3-point land and 85.3 percent from the charity stripe.



Zach Pulkinen

Butch Raymond

Jessica Voeller

Tiffany VanHaften

Brock Lutes



THE GREEN & WHITE

A generous crowd of 400 guests and supportive sponsors helped raise \$105,000 for BSU Athletics at the inaugural Green & White Dinner and Auction on April 12 in the Sanford Center arena.

- 1 Kevin Waldhausen signals a bid during the live auction.
- 2 Athletic Director Tracy Dill addresses the crowd.
- 3 Student-athlete speakers Maxie Rosenbloom and Tiffany VanHaften pose with Bucky.
- 4 Deb Grabrian '84 checks in on the silent auction via smartphone.
- 5 Russ Moen celebrates his win in the Bucky Heads-n-Tails competition.





Dr. Sanjeev Phukan calls on a questioner during a Feb. 17 campus information session about BSU's new online MBA program.

BEMIDJI STATE LAUNCHES ONLINE MBA TO SERVE STUDENTS IN AND OUT OF STATE

Beginning this fall, Bemidji State University is offering a new master of business administration program that can be completed in two years, entirely online.

BSU began assembling the first cohort for the Fall 2014 semester over the spring and is still accepting applications. The 36-credit program includes a choice of three specific concentrations: management, marketing or finance. The total tuition is \$19,500.

The MBA is the most common graduate degree in the United States, held by 38 percent of top chief executive officers in Fortune 500 companies. By the late 1990s, MBAs accounted for nearly 25 percent of all master's degrees granted by American colleges and universities.

"This program builds on our existing online bachelor's degree in business, which has been enormously successful," said Dr. Sanjeev Phukan, a professor of business administration who is directing the program and developed its curriculum.

More information on the MBA program is available from the School of Graduate Studies, (888) 386-8464 or grad@bemidjistate.edu.

New telecommunications network will connect with tribal colleges

A Bemidji State-led consortium of higher education institutions has won a \$500,000 grant from the U. S. Department of Agriculture to expand distance learning and telemedicine opportunities for rural northern Minnesota residents.

The grant, announced in February, will allow schools in the Aazhoogan (The Bridge) Consortium, which includes Northwest Technical College, Leech Lake Tribal College, Red Lake Nation College and White Earth Tribal and Community College, to build a network of high-definition video connections linking the five institutions. The tribal colleges now have no existing or functioning interactive distance learning equipment. The network will give students on those campuses access to industry-driven certification training, bachelor's degrees and specialized associate's degrees not available at their home colleges.

Dr. Anton Treuer, executive director of Bemidji State's American Indian Resource Center, said the grant is part of a strategic initiative to increase collaboration on course delivery, improve sharing of data and improve students' ability to transfer to Bemidji State or NTC.

Nice Ride program will expand availability of bicycles on campus

Faculty, students and visitors to BSU will soon have around 100 high-quality bicycles available for short-term rental on campus, thanks to a bicycle rental program coming to Bemidji this spring.

The Nice Ride program, which rents more than 1,550 bikes at 170 stations in Minneapolis and St. Paul, is expanding to Bemidji with approximately 200 bikes to pilot further expansion into greater Minnesota.

"Nice Ride representatives toured around to different cities to find out where this might work," said Mark Morrissey, director of Bemidji State's Outdoor Program Center. "They wanted to test this someplace where there isn't an existing public transportation infrastructure or a large population."





Alumna Trudy Rautio honored as BSU's Distinguished Minnesotan

Trudy Rautio '75, CEO of the Minneapolis-based Carlson Companies, was recognized at Bemidji State's 95th Commencement on May 9 as the 32nd recipient of the university's Distinguished Minnesotan award.

The award acknowledges the contributions of current or former residents of the state who have performed exemplary service to the people of Minnesota or the United States.

Rautio, a member of the National Campaign Committee for the Imagine Tomorrow fund-raising campaign, has been a senior executive with the Minnetonka-based hospitality corporation since 1997 and was named president and CEO in 2012.

BSU, Winona State partner to prepare international students

Beginning as soon as this summer, international students who need to improve their English skills will be able to study at Bemidji State, thanks to a unique partnership between BSU and Winona State University. The two MnSCU institutions entered into an agreement this spring that will bring a branch of Winona State's English Language Center to the Bemidji campus.

The center in Bridgeman Hall will provide intensive language training to students who speak first languages other than English and are required to meet certain proficiency levels before enrolling at BSU or another American college or university.

BSU is recognized for support of student military veterans

Victory Media has again named Bemidji State as one of America's colleges and universities that are doing the most to support the country's military veterans as students. BSU has been ranked on the list, which honors the top 20 percent of colleges and universities across the country doing the most to support vets, for five consecutive years.

"Our faculty, staff and students are even more proud of the dedicated military personnel when they walk across the stage at graduation," said Dr. James Parker, vice president for student development and enrollment. "We strive to thank the veterans for their commitment to our freedom."

Exhibit design graduate Danika Stelton won a competition to design this booth for the Euroshop trade show in Dusseldorf, Germany.

Art and Design student's excellence recognized and rewarded

A trio of Bemidji State art and design students have been recognized for outstanding academic performance and design talent:

Danika Stelton, a design technology major who graduated in December, won a competition to design a booth to be used at Euroshop, Europe's largest exhibit and retail design trade show. The International Falls native traveled to Dusseldorf to attend the show in February. While at the trade show, she visited a BSU exhibit design class via Skype, providing a virtual tour of the show and discussing European design trends she saw being used there.

Breanne Allen, a senior from Bemidji, won an exhibit design challenge sponsored by a pair of professional design houses. Allen traveled to Las Vegas to see her winning booth design constructed at the EXHIBITOR2014 trade show and has won a five-week internship series that features two weeks in St. Louis followed by three weeks at a design house in France.

Trevor Beniak, a junior from Mazeppa, was named this year's winner of the EXHIBITOR Media Group Student Achievement Award. The award earned him a free pass to attend the EXHIBITOR2014 trade show in Las Vegas, along with a stipend for travel expenses.

Danika Stelton (center) is joined in Dusseldorf, Germany, by Dr. Bonnie Higgins (left) professor of art and Design, and Sachel Josefsen, assistant professor of art and design.



{ continued from page 21 }

Staples-Graves among 20 students chosen for World Citizen Award

Vincent Staples-Graves, a junior from Bemidji majoring in social studies education and Indian studies, was one of 20 students to receive a \$500 Mark Welter World Citizen Award from the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.



Through the generosity of Dr. Mark Welter, the World Citizens Award provides an annual tribute to MnSCU students who most exemplify the thoughts, words and actions demanded by a 21st-century world citizen that all people are of a common species who share a common adventure in a common home. Recipients are nominated by faculty and staff at their institutions.

Nielson Foundation renewal keeps internships strong for coming year

Businesses in the Bemidji area that wish to offer paid internships for Bemidji State students are again receiving a helping hand from the George W. Neilson Foundation.

The foundation is funding 15 internships this summer, including one specifically for health and nursing and 14 for any other private business pertaining to any major or program offered by BSU or Northwest Technical College.

Funding will be split equally with 50 percent of the hourly compensation for the intern being paid by the foundation, up to a maximum of \$2,500, and the other 50 percent paid by the participating business.

Sheriffs' Association scholarships go to BSU criminal justice students

Three BSU criminal justice majors were among a group of 13 winners of Minnesota Sheriffs' Association scholarships.

Each year, the association awards scholarships to Minnesota students who plan to remain in the state and become peace officers after graduation. BSU's recipients were Tyler Carraway, a senior from Pine River; Wilford "Willie" Dellwo, a senior from Shakopee; and Danielle Walbridge, a senior from Milaca.

"The qualifications and academic excellence of these recipients reflect the dedication and pride of the young people in the state of Minnesota who will enter the difficult but rewarding profession of law enforcement and public service", the association said in announcing the recipients.

Online education at BSU recognized for quality, affordability

Bemidji State's online courses and degree programs have received a number of honors throughout the year. BSU ranked sixth in a survey of 27 Minnesota schools for most-affordable online programs, and U.S. News and World Report tabbed BSU as having one of the 200 best online programs for undergraduates in the nation. BSU was one of only three public universities in Minnesota to make the list.

In addition, two BSU courses received Quality Matters certification, which certifies online courses for best practices in course design. Production Planning and Control, taught by Dr.

Mahmoud Al-Odeh, and Data Modeling and Design, taught by Dr. Kari Wood, were both certified this year.

360° grants will strengthen center's ability to develop manufacturing talent

BSU's 360° Manufacturing and Applied Engineering ATE Regional Center of Excellence will extend manufacturing education to high school students and establish a training program to develop tomorrow's manufacturing supervisors, thanks to a pair of grants from the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system.

The center has received \$94,000 from the system, which will be used to extend its 360° eTECH certificate program to high school students and train future manufacturing supervisors through its First-Line Supervisor Pilot Program.

The center is a consortium of 13 institutions led by Bemidji State, including Northwest Technical College and 11 other technical and community colleges in Minnesota.



Blue Ice performs during JazzFest 2014 on Feb. 8.

Students from across Minnesota mix with headliners at JazzFest

Three-time Grammy Award winner Jeff Coffin and eight-time Jazz Journalists Association Trombonist of the Year Wycliffe Gordon spent two days at Bemidji State as lead clinicians for JazzFest 2014.

BSU hosted around 350 jazz musicians from 20 bands, primarily from Minnesota high schools, for the two-day clinic on Feb. 7-8. Bands performed for 20 minutes, then had a 20-minute constructive critique and feedback session with the guest clinicians.

The festival culminated with an alumni band concert, featuring more than 20 BSU music alumni, a jam session with Gordon and Coffin, and a performance by BSU's Blue Ice combo.

BSU FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

BSU NEWS

Dr. Eric Forsyth, professor of human performance, sport and health, edited "NIAAA's Guide to Interscholastic Athletic Administration," with several others. It was published in July by Human Kinetics. Forsyth authored two chapters: "Challenges in Today's Interscholastic Sport Administration" and "The Future of Sports in Schools."

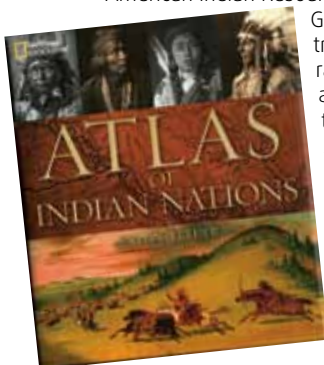
Dr. Del Lyren, professor of music, presented a September recital and lecture at the Nemeth Art Center in Park Rapids. The performance was part of Lyren's final project for the Region 2 Arts Council/McKnight Career Development Fellowship Award. The presentation included Lyren's lessons with Jeff Coffin, saxophone player with the Dave Matthews Band, and pictures and stories from his tour with the band.

Dr. Donna Palivec, professor of human performance, sport and health, was recognized for her role in founding varsity women's basketball at the University of Indiana in a series of special ceremonies held in Bloomington, Ind., this January. Palivec was a member of Indiana's first varsity intercollegiate women's basketball team in 1971 and helped guide the Hoosiers to the 1973 AIAW Final Four.



Dr. William "Bill" Scheela, professor emeritus of business administration, had a book, "Venture Capital in Asia: Investing in Emerging Countries," published in April by Business Expert Press. The book focuses on major emerging Asian economies, including China, Thailand, the Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia.

Dr. Anton Treuer, executive director of the American Indian Resource Center, and Anna Gibbs, Red Lake tribal elder, recorded radio public service announcements for the Affordable Care Act in the Ojibwe language for broadcast in Ojibwe-speaking regions across the United States. Treuer



is the author of a new book published by National Geographic, "Atlas of Indian Nations," an illustrated resource on Native American history and culture.

Dr. Nancy Hall, assistant professor of nursing, co-authored papers on the role of nurses in advanced care planning that were published in the April and May editions of the Journal of Hospice and Palliative Nursing.

Dr. Marty Wolf, professor of computer science, coauthored a paper on developing automated deceptions and the impact of trust that was published in the February 2014 issue of the journal Philosophy and Technology.



Sarah Young, associate professor of TRiO/Student Support Services, and **Crystal Cleven**, instructor in TRiO, co-presented "Bridging the Gap to the Sophomore Year" at the 39th Annual Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel conference in November in Columbus, Ohio.

Dr. Marsha Driscoll, professor of psychology, and **Christopher Brown**, assistant professor of computer science, will travel in June to Weifang University in Weifang, China, to collaborate with faculty there. They will be joined later in the month by **Dr. Judy Olson**, professor of professional education, who will begin work to set up student teaching experiences at a new American Academy and adjoining international school.

Dr. Tiffany Hommes, assistant professor of nursing, published a paper on the use of simulation training to improve nurse education in the March/April edition of the Journal for Staff Education.

Dr. Bonnie Higgins, professor of technology, art and design, is the 2014-15 president of the Upper Midwest Chapter of the Exhibit Designers and Producers Association.

Dr. Mahmoud Al-Odeh, assistant professor of technology, art, and design, has been named president of the Association of Technology Management and Applied Engineering's Distance Learning Division. He will serve until 2015.

Bemidji Brewers FOUND PASSION AT BSU

By Cindy Serratore

Mondays and Wednesdays are brew days at the Bemidji Brewing Company. So a Thursday morning finds owners Tom Hill '06 and Justin "Bud" Kaney '08 straightening up the taproom in preparation for the weekend release of an English mild, a ruby red beer, malty with hints of toffee and caramel.

Hill, head brewer, keeps six brews on tap and introduces a new flavor every couple of weeks at the downtown brewery. Among their favorites is an Indian Pale Ale, best swirled before swigging to intensify its tropical fruit and citrus hop aroma.

For the owners, one of the most rewarding things about owning a brewery is being able to share the craft with others.

"It opens up an entirely different world previously relegated to wine and other culinary experiences," Kaney said. "Yet it doesn't have quite the pomp, so it's exciting a lot of people."

He and Hill – together with Hill's wife, Megan Betters-Hill, and Kaney's fiancé, Tina Hanke – founded Bemidji Brewing Company in 2011.

They opened last July at 401 Beltrami Ave. This spring, they were one of 10 Minnesota breweries – along with 20 national breweries – invited to participate in the inaugural Rare Beer Fest at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul.

Enjoying one of their creations are Bemidji Brewing Company owners (from left) Tom Hill, Megan Betters-Hill, Tina Hanke and Justin "Bud" Kaney.



"We're not just another Twin Cities brewery," said Hill, noting that building community and educating people about different kinds of beer is part of their mission. "We're distinctly our own. We have a taproom right downtown where folks can gather and identify with Bemidji."

Kaney of Wittenberg, Wis., and Hill of Hibbing discovered their passion for craft beer while attending Bemidji State University. Hill, a sophomore in 2004, started brewing with his college roommates. He met Kaney four years later when Kaney was a senior and Hill was back on campus for graduate studies.

Both graduated with a degree in design technology, and Kaney ended up in one of Hill's machining classes. Hill invited Kaney to see his brewing operation, and Kaney admits that from the first brew, the thought of starting a brewery took hold. "Brewing beer can be pretty empowering," Hill said.

Still, it was just an idea. Hill moved to the Twin Cities so he could be closer to the state's then-fledgling microbrew culture. Kaney took a job with Hasbro Toys in Rhode Island but soon realized something was missing. "It was work primarily in a cubicle – there were toys everywhere, which was cool – but it was still a cubicle," he said. "That's when I called Tom."

Starting a new business is always risky, but Hill and Kaney are glad they took the risks. "If Bemidji Brewing failed tomorrow, I would absolutely start something new," Kaney said. "I've never had such creative challenges – the opportunity to mop floors and talk strategic partnerships. It's fundamentally more human than clocking in and clocking out."

And the business continues to evolve. Bemidji Brewing produces about 186 gallons of beer a week, most of which is

sold over its own counter. In the coming year, the owners plan to invest in a 30-barrel brewing system capable of initially producing 1,860 gallons a week at an off-site location. The goal is to distribute their label throughout the region as a full-fledged distributing microbrewery.

Their BSU education in design technology has also proven valuable. "Beer is a manufactured product that has a lot of similarities to hard goods in terms of consistency, accuracy and repeatability," Hill said. "A lot of that certainly translates into beer production."

For Hill and Kaney, landing back in Bemidji has been a stroke of good fortune. They love the outdoors. "Bemidji has that in spades," Kaney said. But they considered a variety of markets before choosing Bemidji. Kaney and Hanke spent a year exploring the craft beer culture in Montana, which has more than three times the number of breweries per capita than Minnesota.

"You can see how craft beer has penetrated really small markets in Montana, and you know it can be done," Kaney said. "Rural America is starting to take up craft beer."

Matthew Hale, bar manager at Brigid's Pub in downtown Bemidji, agrees. Brigid's Pub was Bemidji Brewing's first customer. "There was that missing niche," said Hale, noting that his patrons have long been asking for local brews. "Now they ask first, 'What do you have from Bemidji Brewing?' It's been nothing but great to have them here. Their beer is really clean, crisp – textbook to the style they represent."

Kaney and Hill appreciate the community support and plan to stay engaged in promoting Bemidji and good beer. The last Bemidji Brewing Company closed in 1918, just before prohibition. Kaney and Hill are excited to restore the name of a local company.

"We want to be part of the economic engine, part of a change for community good," Kaney said.

Cindy Serratore is a Bemidji-based freelance writer.

BEMIDJI BREWING COMPANY

401 Beltrami Ave. NW, Bemidji

(218) 444-7011

Taproom hours: 4-9 p.m., Thursday-Saturday

bemidjibeer.com

[Facebook.com/BemidjiBeer](https://www.facebook.com/BemidjiBeer)



Tom Hill adds hops to a boil kettle at the Bemidji Brewing Company



The American Indian Alumni Chapter presented these 2014 graduates with stolls honoring their accomplishment and celebrating their heritage at the American Indian Awards Banquet on April 15 at the American Indian Resource Center. The students are pictured with keynote speaker Billy Mills, 1964 Olympic gold medalist in the 10,000 meters.

Alumni Association and Chapters award students annual scholarships

The Alumni Association has awarded 48 Alumni Relative Scholarships worth more than \$40,000 to give BSU students access to education. More than 77 applications were received for the annual scholarship program. Incoming freshmen receive \$1,000, and upper-class students are awarded \$750. The program is sponsored and administered by the Alumni Association. Students attending BSU who are relatives of active alumni are eligible. Scholarships are made possible by the alumni of BSU who contribute to the Lakeside Fund.

Other alumni-sponsored scholarships include the fund created by the Bemidji Area Alumni Chapter to provide two \$1,000 scholarships each year. Proceeds from the annual Homecoming Street dance help fund this scholarship.

In addition, the American Indian Alumni Chapter's annual Golf Outing raises funds to enable the group to award a \$500 scholarship each year. This year's outing is scheduled for Aug. 1 at Castle Highlands Golf Course.



Dan Schmidt '03 of Knife River Corp. was among several alums representing their employers at BSU's Career Connections fair on March 26 in the Beaux Arts Ballroom.

Survey reveals opinions, perceptions

Input from more than 1,156 people who responded to a January survey from the BSU Foundation and Alumni Association will help guide strategic efforts to connect with and engage various audiences.

The survey asked alumni, current and former employees, businesses, organizations and donors to share thoughts about the university, their preferred methods of communication and more.

Every age group was represented, with a majority of male respondents (57 percent). The data show location and affordable costs as BSU's greatest strengths. Almost everyone (98 percent) said they are satisfied with their experience as a student. Survey participants expressed an interest in staying current on the university's programs and vision for the future.

"We know our alumni had a very rewarding experience while they were students on campus, and now it's our responsibility to help them maintain that connection with the BSU of today," said Rob Bollinger, executive director for university advancement.

Add Twin Cities events to your calendar

BSU alumni and friends have several chances to plan outings together and include families. You can purchase tickets for all events at www.bsualumni.org or by calling (218) 755-3989 or toll-free (877) 278-2586.

Join us July 25 for BSU at Target Field as the Twins take on the White Sox at 7:10 p.m. Skyline Deck (\$45), Grandstand (\$30) and Field View (\$25). Prior to the game, all BSU ticket holders are invited to a pre-game social from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Brothers Bar & Grill, 430 First Ave. (\$5 per person).

BSU Day at Minnesota Zoo is July 26, however you may order discount admission and parking tickets to use any day the zoo is open this summer. Ticket information: free for children 2 and under; \$10.50 for children 3-12 and seniors 65-plus; and \$16 for ages 13-64. Parking is \$4.50. The deadline to order zoo tickets is May 29.

BSU at the Orpheum at 1 p.m. on Sept. 7 for "Book of Mormon." Tickets for the Tony-Award-winning play are available on the main floor for \$112 and the balcony for \$102. The ticket deadline is Aug. 15. A monthly payment option is available.

A Young Alumni Networking Social is a new activity. Recent grads and experienced professionals can talk business or BSU news at Haskell's Port of Excelsior. The social takes place from Sept. 20, 4:45- 5:45 p.m. prior to a three-hour **Lake Minnetonka cruise on the Lady of the Lake paddlewheel.** Enjoy an Oktoberfest buffet and cash bar on the cruise (\$25). The deadline to order tickets is Sept. 12.



HOMECOMING

October 2014

WEEKEND

Downtown parade returns to festivities

Reconnecting with friends, celebrating annual traditions and revisiting old customs are perfect activities for Homecoming weekend.

This year's festivities will welcome back a downtown parade with floats and units from student, campus and community groups. Sports fans will be able to take in more contests with home games for women's soccer, football and volleyball. Alumni from mass communication and football will have reunions to catch up with former classmates.

Alumni Leaders in the Classroom is a Homecoming Week tradition that continues to grow. Alumni from a variety of professional field share their experiences with students and answer questions as panel discussion participants. This year's panels will include mass communication, economics/business, accounting and more.

"Our alumni have valuable insight and information to share," said University Advancement Executive Director Rob Bollinger. "This program allows students and alumni to interact directly with one another."

Everyone is invited to the annual Honors Gala. The Friday evening event celebrates alumni honorees and donors. A special treat for the weekend will be performances by the Alumni Choir at the Honors Gala and various other events.

Pre- and post-game activities will abound, and music lovers can revel in the Carl O. Thompson Memorial Concert on Sunday afternoon.

Hotel rooms are booking quickly. Stay connected to www.bsualumni.org, and our alumni Facebook page and Twitter feeds.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

OCT. 16-19, 2014

- Thursday, Oct. **16** **Alumni Leaders in the Classroom**, BSU campus
- Friday, Oct. **17** **Alumni Leaders in the Classroom**, BSU campus
Beaver Pride Luncheon, noon, Walnut Hall, BSU campus
Honors Gala, 5:30 p.m., Sanford Center, Bemidji
American Indian Alumni Social, 5:30 p.m., David Park House
- Saturday, Oct. **18** **Homecoming Parade**, 10 a.m., downtown Bemidji
Women's Soccer vs. Northern State University, 11 a.m., Chet Anderson Stadium
Beaver Bash, 11:30 a.m., post-game party in Diamond Point Park
Homecoming Football vs. Minot State University, 2:30 p.m., Chet Anderson Stadium
Football Alumni Reunion, post-game, American Indian Resource Center
Women's Volleyball vs. Northern State University, 5 p.m., BSU Gymnasium
Beaver Block Party, 9 p.m., downtown Bemidji
- Sunday, Oct. **19** **Carl O. Thompson Memorial Concert**, Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex





CAMPUS HA

Students made the most of a chilly fall and winter at Bemidji State University. **1** Snowshoe races in the first BSU Olympics on Feb. 12. **2** Trombonist Wycliffe Gordon performed with students at JazzFest on Feb. 7-8. **3** A phenomenon known as a sun dog appeared over Lake Bemidji on Dec. 5. **4** Students were among those competing in the 2014 Knife River Materials Hard Water Classic ice-fishing contest



3



4



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8



7



6

APPENINGS

on Feb. 15. **5** De-Stress with Pets was held Dec. 10, on the eve of final exams. **6** The Council of Indian Students held BSU's annual Pow-Wow on March 28-30. **7** International students performed at the Festival of Nations on April 5. **8** Students provided assistance to future freshmen at Academic Advising and Registration events. **9** BSU held an information session on its new online MBA program on Feb. 17.

ATHLETIC HALL of FAME



Steve Boss



Jayne Dusich



Mary Gergen



Patti (Fitzgerald) Zwiers

Dr. Steve Boss '81, a four-time letter winner for the men's swimming team, earned All-NIC accolades as well as NAIA and American College Coaches Association All-America honors in each of his four seasons for the Beavers. He captured the 1981 NAIA title in the 200-meter individual medley. Boss was also a member of three consecutive NIC championship teams and participated in the national meet to conclude each of his four collegiate seasons, which included a pair of fourth-place finishes. He left Bemidji State as the owner of four individual records: 200-meter individual medley (1:57.5), 400-meter individual medley (4:12.2), 100-meter backstroke (54.6) and 200-meter backstroke (2:00.5), in addition to BSU pool records in the 200-meter individual medley (2:00.6) and 200-meter butterfly (1:59.7). A 1981 graduate of BSU, Boss earned a master's degree from Utah State University and a doctorate from University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. He is director of the environmental dynamics program and co-director of sustainability curricula in the Department of Geosciences at the University of Arkansas.

Jayne Dusich '91, after transferring from Vermilion Community College, became a six-time letter winner for the Bemidji State cross country and track and field teams. She earned an individual Northern Sun Conference championship and first place at the District 13 meet en route to leading the BSU cross country team to an NSC championship and a District 13 title in 1989. She went on to place 30th at the NAIA national championships. That same year she was selected District 13 Most Valuable Athlete and earned BSU's Most Valuable Female Athlete award. She became the first female to win back-to-back NSC cross country championships in 1990 before again being named NSC Most Valuable Athlete, earning all-district laurels by placing first at the District 13 meet and becoming the first BSU runner to be selected NAIA All-American, placing 18th. While at BSU she set school track and field records in eight events. She established indoor marks at the 1,000-meter (3:04.24), 1,500-meter (4:42.09) and 3,000 meter (10:27.85) distances, while posting records at 1,500 meters (4:46.80), 3,000-meters (10:31.90) and 5,000 meters (18:19.44) outdoors that still stand today. In addition, Dusich competed in NAIA Nationals both years for indoor and outdoor track, was named NAIA All-American, garnered an NAIA Track and Field Scholar Athlete Award and was a two-time Academic All-American (1989 and 1990).

Mary Gergen '91, a walk-on setter for the Bemidji State volleyball team from 1986-89, earned four varsity letters, was named captain during each of her final three seasons and was selected as the team's Most Valuable Player in 1987, 1988 and 1989. She helped lead the Beavers to an overall record of 109-73 during her collegiate career, which included a 35-11 overall mark and a Northern Sun Conference Championship in 1988. In addition, the Beavers posted back-to-back NAIA District 13 Tournament titles in 1988 and 1989. Gergen led BSU in assists during each of her four seasons, and her totals of 1,383 in 1989 and 1,366 in 1987 remain as the top two single-season assist marks in BSU volleyball history. In addition, she posted the team's top dig totals in 1988 (346) and 1989 (404) and led the team in service aces and hitting percentage. She left BSU owning the program's career records for assists (4,629), service aces (314), hitting percentage (.331) and digs (1,385). She remains atop the program's assist and service aces lists more than 25 years later. In addition to BSU's single-season assists mark, she still owns single-season records for games played (155) and service aces (102). Gergen was a four-time All-NSC performer and earned All-District 13 honors in each of her four seasons at BSU, while pulling down the District's MVP honors three times (1987-89). She was named to the NAIA All-America Third Team as a senior.

Patti (Fitzgerald) Zwiers '90, a four-year letter winner for the Bemidji State women's track and field team, was All-NSC eight times and a seven-time All-American in the shot put. Zwiers qualified for the NAIA National Championships six times, earned the 1988 indoor shot put national championship, and finished among the top four five times. She was named an NAIA Scholar-Athlete in 1989 and earned Academic All-America accolades in 1988, 1989 and 1990. A three-time team captain (1988-90), Zwiers was selected as BSU's MVP in 1988 and was tabbed NSC Field Athlete of the Year in 1989.



John S. Glas Honorary Letter Winner



Sue Engel

Sue Engel

Currently serving as sales and marketing director at First National Bank in Bemidji, Engel is a well-respected member of the community and has

been very active with Bemidji State. A member of Beaver Pride from its inception, she also was the chair of the Gift Procurement Committee for The Green & White Dinner and Auction for BSU Athletics. She also served on the First National Bank Women's Golf Tournament committee for many years. Engel is an avid fan and supporter of all BSU athletic programs, which leads to her and her husband, Steve, attending not only many BSU home events, but also traveling to cheer on the Beavers at many road destinations.

Alumni Coaching Achievement Award



Duane Sorenson

Duane Sorenson '77

A 1976 and 1977 All-American as a member of Lee Ahlbrecht's Bemidji State swimming and diving team (1973-77) and 1979 graduate assistant coach under the legendary head coach, Duane

Sorenson transitioned from success in the pool to success as a coach during the past 37 years. Now in his 17th season as head coach of the NCAA Division I Iowa State University swimming and diving program, Sorenson's student-athletes have earned All-Big 12 honors 37 times, and all of ISU's current swimming records have come during his tenure. He has a 83-70-1 (.542) dual meet record at ISU has had 12 Cyclone athletes compete in 23 different events at the NCAA Championships. ISU consistently leads the league in Academic All-Big XII selections. Prior to joining the college ranks, Sorenson coached club swimming and high school programs for 20 years. He began his career as head coach of the South East Metro Sharks Swim Club. He was named American Swim Coaches Association Minnesota Coach of the Year in 1987 and ASCA Senior Coach of the Year in 1989, '90, '95 and '97. In the 20 years he spent coaching the club, his swimmers set three national USA Swimming relay records, and the club won five team state championships. He also coached at Tartan High School (1977-78), before stints at Park Senior High School (1979-81) and Park/Woodbury High School (1982-85). The bulk of his prep coaching career was spent coaching the WHS girls team. While at WHS, Sorenson's teams captured four conference titles, four sectional championships, a state runner-up finish and a state title. He was named 1991 Minnesota State Coach of the Year.



1983-84 MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM

31-0-0 overall record
NCHA Champions
1984 NCAA Division I National Champion

Under the direction of legendary head coach R.H. Peters, the 1983-84 Bemidji State men's hockey team posted a perfect 31-0-0 season and an NCHA title (18-0-0), en route to the program's eighth national championship and first at the NCAA Division II level. Led in scoring by All-American Joel Otto, who registered 75 points (32g-45a), the Beavers set a record for most wins in an undefeated season—a feat only six teams in men's college hockey history have accomplished—in the midst of a men's college hockey record 42 consecutive victories. Bemidji State outscored its opponents 210-71 during a season in which its opponents came within two goals only eight times. The Beavers had eight student-athletes, including: Otto, Scott Monsrud, Dennis Gibbons, Eric Gager, Mike Alexander and Todd Lescarbeau named All-America at the conclusion of the season. In addition, goaltender Galen Nagle was named Most Valuable Player of the NCAA Championship.



1974 WOMEN'S TRACK TEAM

Eight first-place meet finishes
Seven school record performances

The Bemidji State 1974 women's track and field team posted an unblemished season, earning first place at each of its eight meets, which included a Minkota outdoor championship and a Minnesota State title. During the course of the season, a total of seven school records were set by: Deb Limond (long jump and high jump), Rose Spehar (shot put, javelin and 880-yard run) and Jeanne Larson (440-yard run and 100-yard hurdles) as well as a mile relay mark. Spehar (880) and Larson (440) qualified for the national meet. The 1974 Bemidji State track and field team was coached by 2008 BSU Coaches' Hall of Fame inductee Dr. Patricia Rosenbrock.

CLASS NOTES

Note: Towns are in Minnesota unless noted. Alumni names appear in bold. Send information to alumni@bemidjistate.edu or call toll free: 1-877-BSU-ALUM.

'13



Amos Bessler

Amos Bessler is the new shop class teacher at Win-E-Mac school in McIntosh ... **Sara Churness** teaches seventh- and eighth-grade physical education as well as health and developmental adaptive physical education at Long Prairie-Grey Eagle schools. A resident of Long Prairie, she also coaches junior varsity volleyball and seventh-grade basketball ... **Kristina Larson** is a sixth-grade teacher at Norman County West Elementary in Hendrum

... **Brittany Trettel** joined RiverWood Bank in Baxter as a personal banker ... **Alexandra "Lexie" Kruse** was selected as one of three finalists in the Solo Competition of the International Trumpet Guild to be held in May 20-24 in King of Prussia, Pa. ... **Sabin Adams** of Clarissa has been hired as the farm bill biologist serving Todd County, where he will educate and assist landowners as well as farmers in conservation programs. He will work out of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Office in Long Prairie ... **Marcia Ranft** is a long-term kindergarten substitute teacher for the Lake City public school system. She lives in Wabasha with her husband and two daughters ... **Jill Ollmann** has been hired as a kindergarten teacher in Menahga ... **Jeremiah Freye** is a claim representative and local area network coordinator at the Social Security Administration office in Bemidji. As LAN coordinator, he deals with all computer, switch, telephone and server issues while addressing applications, changes and records as a claim representative. He and his wife, Andrea, have two young children.



Marcia Ranft



Kristina Larson

'12

Kelsey Lealos is a new high school English teacher in Frazee, where she now lives ... **Nathan Chesney** is the new director of the Southwest Minnesota Men's Chorus, whose members come from 10 communities and rehearse in Walnut Grove. Chesney is vocal music director at the high school in Wabasso, where he resides ... **Marty Moran** and **Kimberly Eddy ('11)** were married last summer. Marty is a manufacturing engineer at Ashley Furniture, and Kimberly is a fourth-grade teacher at Goodview Elementary in Winona, where the newlyweds now reside ...



Kelsey Lealos



Aurora Emmons

Aurora Emmons is a mental health practitioner for the Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services on the Iron Range. From Chisholm, she is based in Virginia ... **Cory Immerman** teaches math at Tri-City High School in Montgomery ... **Brady Olson** teaches K-12 physical education and health in Grygla schools. He lives near Grygla ... **Ann Thier** is a new sixth-grade science and reading teacher for ISD 518 in Worthington. She is from Rushmore ...



Brady Olson

Amy Malikowski has been hired as a Title I teacher in Menahga ... **Aleshia Hartman** married Justin Meinzer last summer. The bride is a registered nurse at Coon Rapids Hospital, and the groom is a machinist at Ultra Machining Corporation in Monticello, where they reside.

'11

Nicole Borwege has earned resident insurance producer licenses for a variety of annuity categories. Borwege is a financial advisor and marketing coordinator at United Investment Group in Faribault, where she lives ... **Bruce Rengo** is the new kindergarten teacher and junior high football coach in the McGregor school system. He lives in Aitkin and has a teenaged son ... **Zeb Norenberg** married **Carly Melin ('07)** last summer in



Nicole Borwege

Hibbing, where the couple now lives. Melin is a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives and a lawyer in the Prebich Law Office in Hibbing. Norenberg recently accepted a position as residential program supervisor at Mapleview Group Home, which is part of Range Center, Inc., a nonprofit serving adults with developmental disabilities ... **Danielle Lembcke** of Norwood Young America is teaching second grade at Sibley East Elementary in Gaylord.

'10

Kenna Grater of Brainerd is the new biology teacher at Aitkin High School ... **Emily Carlson** is teaching fourth grade in Mora ... **Phoebe Mathius** is the recipient of the 2013 Exhibitor Media Group Exhibit Design Scholarship. Mathius is a 2010 graduate who returned to Bemidji State to earn another degree ... **Crystal Orazem** of Calumet



Kenna Grater



Crystal Orazem

teaches elementary special education in McGregor ... **Joe Gould** married Gwennia Fiskevold early last fall. The couple lives in St. Paul. Both work at the state capitol, where he serves as a house education finance committee assistant and she as a senate legislative assistant ... **Andy Cresap** of Dallas is performing trumpet as a member of the University of North Texas One O'Clock Lab Band, considered one of the world's top jazz bands. He was featured soloist with the group at the Jazz Education Network Conference in January in Dallas.... **Sara Hoffman** married Isaac Dorn last fall. Sara is a claim representative for the Social Security Administration. She processes all of the Bemidji-area Internet applications and works out of the agency's Alexandria office. Isaac is a product specialist at Quick Attach Attachments in Alexandria, where the couple lives ... **Dan Foster** is a credit analyst at Grand Rapids State Bank. His wife, Amy, is a fourth-grade teacher at Cohasset Elementary. The couple lives in Grand Rapids with a young daughter ... **Kyle Hardwick** has been hired



Dan Foster

by the Best & Flanagan law firm in Minneapolis to work in litigation and real estate areas. Hardwick is a recent graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School.



Kyle Hardwick

'09 **Tara Hougum** is teaching mathematics at the high school in Greenbush, where she lives ... **Sandra Holmgren** is a nurse practitioner in the Elder Care Department of Essentia Health in Duluth.

'08 **Hanna (Gunvalson) Marsh** and her husband, Steve, were chosen for the 2014 Emerging Leaders Program in Clearwater County. The couple lives in rural Shevlin with a young daughter. Hanna teaches kindergarten in the Bemidji school system, and Steve works for Gunvalson Farms near Gully. They also own a farm where they raise corn, soybeans and hay for their herd of beef cattle ... **Kjell Johnsrud** has been hired as a patrol officer in the city of Thief River Falls. A former deputy sheriff in Red Lake County, Johnsrud is from Goodridge ... **Kristine Sellner** is the visual arts and digital media teacher for Comfrey Public School, where she also advises the yearbook and manages the website. Her husband, Marty, works at Royal Tire in New Ulm. The couple has two adult children and one kindergarten-aged child. They reside on a family farm in rural Sleepy Eye ... **Dr. Jamie Kueber** joined Bruhn Optical in Park Rapids as an optometrist. Kueber graduated from the Indiana University School of Optometry. She lives in Park Rapids with her husband, **Thomas**, and two young children. Thomas is a CPA with the firm Abdo, Eick and Meyer ... **Matthew Anderson** is the new social studies teacher at the Oak Land Area Learning Center and will be teaching at the Bridge Street Learning Community site in St. Francis.



Hanna Marsh

'07 **JacyRea (Desotell) Almquist** is teaching first grade at Bertha-Hewitt schools. She lives in Bertha with her husband,



JacyRae Almquist

Dan ... **Kevin Kleindl** is the new band teacher at Hutchinson High School ... **Mark Morrison**



Mark Morrison

is principal at Chisholm Elementary School and activities director for the school district. He lives in Deer River with his wife, Brandi Worrath, and three young children. Worrath is a therapist at Northland

Counseling in Grand Rapids ... **Jenna Pulkrabek**

has joined the Rum River South school staff as a social worker. Rum River South is a special education school in Cambridge serving students in grades 1-12 ... **Dr. Blake Smith**



Blake Smith

recently started practicing at the Bemidji Dental Clinic. A recent graduate of the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry, he lives in Bemidji with his wife, **Stacy**, who is a family practice physician's assistant at Sanford Clinic.



Stacy Smith

'06 **Ben Mettling** is teaching first grade in the Ellsworth school system as well as coaching the junior varsity volleyball and girls' basketball teams ... **Joe Krause** is the new Title I teacher at West End Elementary School in International Falls, where his wife, **April ('09)**, is coordinator of adult corporate foster care for Northland Counseling Center. The couple is raising twin toddlers at their home in International Falls.

'05 **Brice Vollbrecht** is a conservation officer with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. A resident of Tenstrike, he is assigned to the Bemidji area.



Brice Vollbrecht

'04 **Kelly Hallberg** is the new school counselor at Ogilvie schools serving students in grades 7-12 ... **Christina Klimp** of Rochester is the first woman patrol deputy hired by the Freeborn County Sheriff's Office. She previously served as a community service officer in



BENSON STAYS IN TUNE WITH HIS LOVE OF MUSIC

Dennis Benson experiences the joy his work brings to children, famous musicians and audiences every time he listens to the tink, tink, tink a single piano string makes when struck by a key's hammer. A professional piano tuner, he doesn't actually relish the monotonous striking sound on 235 individual strings, but he basks in satisfaction when the music actually starts in homes or concert halls.

A 1970 graduate of Bemidji State, Benson has tuned for such well-known pianists as Lorie Line and jazz composer George Shearing. Past clients included Loretta Lynn, Crystal Gayle, the Oak Ridge Boys, Wayne Newton and other national stars. His customer base covers friends and families across southern Minnesota.

While he enjoys hearing customers say their child likes practicing on an awesome-sounding piano, Benson is just as gratified when a concert audience hears the first notes. "I sit on the edge of my seat for about the first number and listen through the notes, and 'did anything slip?'" he said. "But when I'm fairly satisfied everything is cool, I sit back and enjoy the rest of the concert. If the piano sounds awesome, it makes the player sound really good."

After leaving Bemidji State, Benson became the band director and music teacher at Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg school. He left to begin tuning full-time after seeing colleagues become burned out or phased out as music electives were thinned from curricula.

The freedom of choosing his jobs and schedule gave him time to continue playing trombone with local ensembles, conducting a local summer band concert and directing musicians for community theater. He still tunes around 20 pianos a week.

He lives in Willmar with his wife, Darlene, who works in the office of Rice Hospital. They have three adult children.

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Note: Towns are in Minnesota unless noted. Alumni names appear in bold. Send information to alumni@bemidjistate.edu or call toll free: 1-877-BSU-ALUM.

Burnsville ... **Jared Larson** is teaching band on the fifth-grade through high school levels for the Waterville-Elysian-Morristown school system.

'03 **Beth Hajek** married Derek Nelson last summer. Hajek is a guidance counselor in the Wabasha-Kellogg school district, and Nelson works for AAA as a regional life insurance sales manager servicing four states. The newlyweds live in Winona ... **John Heltunen** is the buildings and grounds director for Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose schools. He resides in Minneapolis ... **Steve Leuer** is teaching math and social studies at the Minnesota Center, an optional year-round middle school program in the Cambridge-Isanti school district. He and his wife, **Sara (Hopko) ('02)**, have two children and live in Big Lake ... **Carri Jones** attended the State of the Union address delivered by President Barack Obama in January as a guest of U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan, D-Minn. From Cass Lake, Jones is chairwoman of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe ... **Hilary Horn** was recently promoted to a technical expert position at the Social Security Administration office in Bemidji. Horn deals with the most complex claims and does public outreach work for the agency. She and her husband, Jeff, live in Guthrie with their three children. Jeff is currently taking classes at BSU.

'02 **Jason Henke** had a role in "Getting Sara Married," a play staged by the Aitkin Community Theater last fall. Henke teaches English and writing at Aitkin High School, where he also coached the junior varsity baseball team. His wife, Jennifer, works as a paraprofessional at Aitkin High School and also serves clients as a hair stylist in the community. They live in Aitkin and have three young sons.



Jason Henke

'00 **Stacey (Stratton) Fougner** is a kindergarten teacher at Red Lake County Central Elementary School in Plummer, where she lives with her husband, **Andy**, who is the principal

of the school. They live in Plummer and have three children, ranging in age from 7 to 17 ... **Nicole (Reichmann) Manecke** is a certified derma-



Jeremy Peterson

tology physician assistant and serves patients in the Aitkin facility of Riverwood Healthcare Center. She and her husband, **Paul ('01)**, live in East Gull Lake and have three children ... **Jeremy Peterson** was recently promoted to brokerage director at Partners Advantage Insurance Services. He brings 12 years of experience in helping financial professionals and insurance agents to his new position. His wife, Chris, is a paraprofessional at Ada-Borup Elementary School. The couple is raising three children in their Ada home ... **John Babineau** is a new spe-



Bekki and John Babineau with their daughters

cial education teacher at Floodwood High School. **Bekki (Vodden) ('02)**, his wife, is a development associate at the University of Minnesota Duluth. The couple lives in Cloquet with their two daughters ... **Jarod Pink** is vice president for business banking at the Pokegama office of Grand Rapids State Bank. Pink and his wife, Nicole, have two children and live in Grand Rapids.

'99 **Chad Pierson** was awarded the 2013 Swenson College of Science and Engineering Young Teacher Award. A math instructor at the University of Minnesota Duluth, Pierson was recognized for his teaching, creative use of



Chad and Michelle Pierson

technology, course development and dedication to students outside of the classroom. His wife, **Michelle (Lyman)**, works at the Duluth Children's Museum. They have three daughters and make their home in Duluth ... **Bryan Wormley** was chosen as the 2012-13 Teacher of the Year in the Nevis school district. Wormley taught physical education and coached both boys' and girls' basketball before assuming his current post as activities director. His wife, Heidi, is a school social worker in Nevis, where the couple resides.

'98 **Arnold Dahl** has partnered with Matthew Wooley to purchase and run the Big Winnie Store in Bena. Dahl is the fifth-generation owner of the store, which is a red, white and blue landmark on Highway 2 ... **Cheryl Hess** is teaching first grade at Rippleside Elementary in



Cheryl Hess

the Aitkin school system. She lives in Hill City with her husband, Rodney. The couple has three grown sons ... **Dominic Krump** of Bemidji is a new kindergarten teacher at Cass Lake-Bena schools.

'97 **Ranae (Shefland) Seykora** has returned to the Bemidji school district as an assistant principal in the high school. She served as a principal in the Grand Rapids school system before returning to Bemidji. She lives in Cass Lake with her husband, Will.

'96 **Aaron Skogen** was recently hired by Toro Company to direct operations at its Windom manufacturing facility. He lives in Waseca with his wife, Kelly. They have three children ...



Aaron Skogen

Jaimie Snowdon was named the Outstanding American Indian Teacher of the Year by the Minnesota Indian Education Association. Snowdon teaches a variety of Native American and study skills classes in the Warroad school district. A resident of Warroad,



Jaimie Snowdon

he also coaches volleyball and works as a reporter and photographer for the Warroad Pioneer newspaper.

'95 **Blanca De Marco** of Pine City is the new Spanish teacher at East Central High School located between Sandstone and Askov ... **Meg (Boutain) Kolden** is the community education director in the Thief River Falls school district. Her husband, Jarod, works for Edward Jones. The couple lives in Thief River Falls and has two children ... **Jess (Clarke) Kramer** is a special education teacher in the Proctor public school system. She and her husband, Steve, live in Proctor ...



Diane Schultz

Diane (Donnell) Schultz is teaching first grade at Cambridge Primary School. Her husband, Richard, is production manager for Ampport Foods in Minneapolis. She has two young adult children, two stepchildren and two grade-school-aged children. The family makes Cambridge their home ... **Joe Silko** of Grand Rapids has been named the first executive director of Education Innovation Partners, a regional consortium of 20 school districts and five community colleges collaborating to provide a 21st-century education for youth and adult learners. A former superintendent of Grand Rapids schools, Silko is charged with creating a Teaching, Learning and Leadership Academy; developing and implementing a regional technology plan; and focusing education on personalized learning ...

Blane Klemek has been appointed as assistant wildlife manager of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Northwest Region, based in Bemidji. He lives in Solway with his wife JoEllen.

'93 **John Klinke** is the new K-12 curriculum instruction specialist for schools in Onamia. He is married to **Krista ('94)**.



John Klinke

'92 **Marion (Daniels) O'Neill** was a guest speaker at a meeting of the McLeod County Republican Women, where she outlined her work as a Minnesota state representative and encouraged women to take more active roles



Marion O'Neill

in politics and run for office. She and her husband, **Thomas**, own a small construction company, Irish Settlers Tile & Glass Block. Their two children are in their late teens, and the family has their home in Buffalo.

'91 **KC (Knoll) Douglas** narrated the Warroad Summer Theatre production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." A part-time music teacher at Roseau Elementary School, Douglas lives on a farm near Roseau with her husband, **Eric ('92)**, an engineer at Polaris. The couple has four children.



KC Douglas

'90 **Kevin Abrahamson** has joined the Duluth school district staff as coordinator of curriculum and instruction ... **Carol Ann Cleveland** was selected as VFW State Teacher of the Year for her promotion of civic responsibility and patriotism in the classroom. She is a Title 1 teacher in Menahga with her husband, **Allan ('87)**. The couple has raised three children.



Kevin Abrahamson



Carol Cleveland

'88 **Melanie Benjamin** of Onamia attended the State of the Union address delivered by President Barack Obama in January as a guest of U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan, D-Minn. Benjamin is chief executive of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

'87 **Kelly Langton-Antin** is the new media generalist and librarian for Independent School District 361 in International Falls, where she resides ... **David Bruce Toivola** of Hibbing is busy working as a seasonal employee on bike trails

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DEMARS MAKES A MARK WITH CAREER IN BANKING

Unlike many freshmen arriving on campus, **Kirsten Demars** knew exactly what she would study at Bemidji State University, and she graduated in 1986 with a degree in business finance and minors in accounting and economics. After all, her focus since eighth grade was becoming a banker, and those degrees fit her master plan.

Today, Demars is president of Pine River State Bank, with assets over \$100 million and offices in Pine River, Breezy Point, Emily, Pillager and Nowthen. As president, her role encompasses charting the direction and goals of the institution.

"Talk around our dinner table concentrated on the bank," Demars said of growing up in the '70s with a father who owned a bank in Backus. "I grew up with banking in my blood."

After her BSU graduation, she accepted a position at Midwest Federal Savings & Loan in Minneapolis and later moved to Lakes State Bank in Pequot Lakes. She joined Pine River State Bank in 2001. During her career, she has served as a cashier, loan officer, vice president and senior vice president.

Recent hard times in the financial sector of the economy haven't thinned her blood. "The recession made it hard," Demars said. "However, when you can help shape the future and financial dreams of your community and customers in a positive way, it makes it all worthwhile."

She now lives in Crosslake and is engaged to marry Todd Eggena. After the wedding, their blended family will have five young adult children, including two at Bemidji State: Devon, a senior majoring in economics, and Morgan, a freshman pursuing a degree in accounting.

It's a household where banking will likely continue to be a hot dinnertime topic.

CLASS NOTES

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and at a skating rink after retiring early from an educational career as a teacher, coach and school administrator in the Virginia, Proctor and Eveleth-Gilbert school systems.

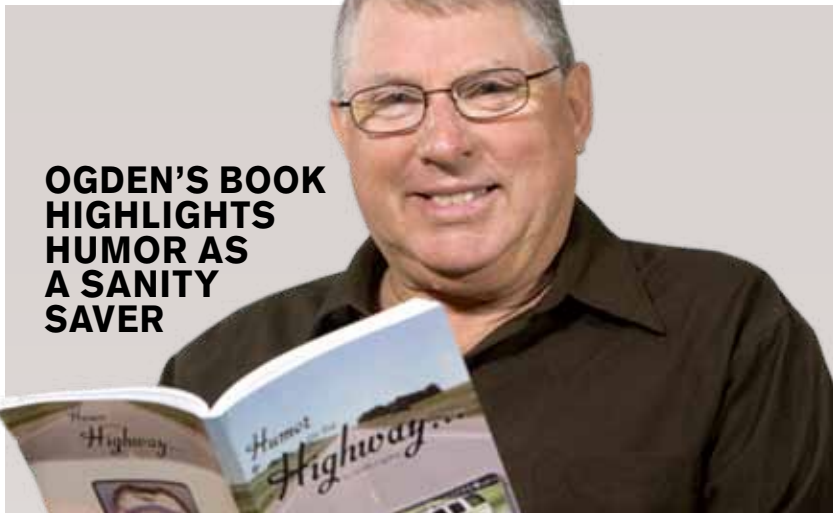
'86 **Todd Sorensen** of Brainerd has joined Unity Bank as a vice president serving customers needing busi-

ness, real estate, consumer and agricultural loans. He brings 26 years of experience to Unity Bank, which operates offices in nine locations across the state ...

Thomas Martin retired from teaching math in 2001 at Buena High School in Sierra Vista, Ariz., but stays active working with soldiers part-time in military intelligence at Ft. Huachuca. His wife, Janet Wilcox, retired as a school administrator in 2009. The couple has two adult children and lives in Sierra Vista, Ariz.



Thomas Martin and family



OGDEN'S BOOK HIGHLIGHTS HUMOR AS A SANITY SAVER

During his 28 years patrolling North Dakota highways as a state trooper, **Keith Ogden** found sanity from drivers whose antics, excuses and sometimes-dumb misdeeds balanced the sadness brought by accidents, death and destruction. A 1975 Bemidji State grad, Ogden shares the pleasant and ugly stories in his book "Humor on the Highway."

"This was written to show the public what a great personality study being a traffic law enforcer can be," Ogden said. "The humorous side of the job is a sanity saver."

He recounts his and other troopers' stories in the 153-page volume that features 50 chapters with such titles as "Follow the Beer Cans," "My New Squad Car Can't Swim" and "I'll Get Even with the Law." It also recounts the job's darker moments, including North Dakota's most horrific traffic accident, a multiple car crash that killed two and injured 28. The first officer on the scene, Ogden saved more lives by driving through smoke and fire to block oncoming traffic and direct the rescue.

That effort provided the foundation for a class on investigating catastrophic accidents at the state's Highway Patrol Academy, where Ogden also taught an annual course on officer and violator relations. During his career, he was named the North Dakota Outstanding Peace Officer and later received the Trooper of the Year Award.

Ogden lives in Cavalier, N.D., with his wife, Leslie (Taylor), a 1976 BSU grad who retired from teaching after 30 years in the classroom. The couple raised one daughter, Katie, who also graduated from BSU with a degree in criminal justice and is now a park ranger in North Dakota.

'85 **Scott Bergman** is among the inaugural inductees into the Frazee Athletic Hall of Fame. While in high school, Bergman earned 11 letters in five sports. He teaches math and coaches the girls' basketball team at Sauk Centre High School. He lives in Sauk Centre with his wife, Roxanne ... **Frank Bibeau** and his wife, Vickie, are the new owners of Action Title, with its main office in Walker and branches in Longville and Remer. The title company works with title searches, transfers and insurance. The couple lives in Deer River ... **Jeff Sebenaler** is the new police chief in Minnetonka. Sebenaler has served the Minnetonka department since 1990, first as an officer and eventually as a captain. He and his wife, Andrea, live in Chanhassen and have two sons.

'83 **Brett Joyce** was named superintendent of the Triton school system that serves the former Claremont, Dodge Center and West Concord school districts. Previously principal at Triton High School, he lives in Byron with his wife, Renae. The couple raised three adult children ... **Dr. Susan (Matzdorf) Tesch** is an optometrist with Bruhn Optical in Park Rapids. She earned her doctorate from the Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago. She resides in Bemidji with her husband, BSU head football coach Jeff, and two children.



Brett Joyce

'82 **Mark Roy** has been named general manager of the Grand Rapids Herald Review after serving as the Minnesota advertising director for American Consolidated Media, the newspaper's parent company. He is a resident of Grand Rapids.

'81 Lori (Olson) Crowder has joined the Hibbing Daily Tribune and Hibbing Manny's Shopper staff as an account executive. A resident of Bovey, Crowder is a veteran of nearly 20 years in print media advertising sales.



Lori Crowder

'78 Lee and Nancy Aimers ('71) have retired after long careers in the Pine River-Backus school district. Lee taught on the ele-



Lee and Nancy Aimers

mentary level since 1979, while Nancy started in 1971 and was the high school's advanced-placement English teacher. Married in 2003, both earned Teacher of the Year Awards during their tenures in the district.

'77 Trip Hedrick has been inducted into the Winona Senior High School Athletic Hall of Fame. As a teacher and coach at the school, he guided swimming teams to nine conference championships and two section titles before he moved on to serve as head coach at Iowa State University for 12 seasons. He and his wife, L'Louise, live in Ames, Iowa, where he serves



Pete Sullivan

as the coaching education director for Championship Productions, a producer of sports instructional videos ... **Pete Sullivan (MS in '88)** has been named the Teacher of the Year for 2013 in the Bemidji school system. He teaches sixth grade at Bemidji Middle School. His wife, **Nancy ('83)**, is a kindergarten teacher in Bemidji, where the couple lives. They have three adult children.



Nancy Sullivan

'75 Chuck Scanlon is retiring at the end of the academic year after a long tenure as a physical education teacher and coach at Apple Valley schools. Scanlon is the most successful boys' soccer coach in the state, with nine Minnesota championships under his tutelage and a record of 573-102-53 over 36 years. He also spent 18 seasons guiding the girls' hockey program to a 217-167-28 record with two state championships. He and his wife, **Barbara ('74)**, live in St. Paul.

'74 Dave Barnum was inducted last fall into the Minnesota State High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Barnum coached girls' track and field at Crookston High School for 35 years and guided the squad to nine sectional championships and numerous appearances in the state tournament. Barnum and his wife, **Mary Lou (Spurlin)**, now live in Nevis, where he is a property manager for Summerfield Place Apartments of Park Rapids and she works remotely as an insurance specialist with the Crookston Eye Clinic.



Dave Barnum

'72 Curt Olson is serving as an adjunct instrumental music professor at Bemidji State University and performed on campus as part of the Trombone Choir concert last fall. A professor and associate dean emeritus at Michigan State University, Olson and his wife, **Judy (Norden)**, have moved permanently to Bemidji after retiring from their positions in East Lansing, Mich. They have two grown children.

'71 Leif Nelson has been named a Top Rated Lawyer in the publication Legal Leaders. He practices out of his firm, Leif Nelson Law, in Grand Rapids, in such areas as insurance, personal injury, litigation, probate, trusts and estates. He is a past president of the Itasca County and 15th District bar associations.

'70 Leslie (Brink) Honebrink is the new principal at St. Mary's Catholic School in Morris. During her career in education, she served as

{ continued on next page }



MUNSTERMAN RETIRED BUT KEPT ON TEACHING

After **Adele Munsterman '74** retired in 2009 from teaching world languages for 32 years in the Fridley school district, she didn't know what would happen next. A former Teacher of the Year in the district and statewide Spanish Teacher of the Year Award recipient, she had built a reputation for helping students learn Spanish and could also handle French, German or Ojibwe classrooms.

A different school contacted her about an opening they had for one class. Munsterman answered the call and started an annual mission to teach new students in new places. A free agent stepping in where needed, she has since taught in Blaine, Monticello, Wayzata, Stillwater and Robbinsdale, as well as supervising student teachers at Bethel University.

The Minnesota Council on the Teaching of Languages and Cultures recognized her professional work by presenting her the organization's top accolade, the Emma Birkmaier Award, honoring an educator who has significantly impacted the teaching of world languages in the state.

"Coming from my peers, many of whom have been friends and colleagues, the Emma Birkmaier Award means the world to me," Munsterman said. "It is the culmination of a long teaching career."

She previously had been recognized as an outstanding alumna at both Bemidji State and the University of Minnesota and had served on the alumni boards of both institutions.

Munsterman doesn't see her classroom time ending. Now at Armstrong High School in Plymouth, she enjoys the flexibility as well as the excitement a new experience brings.

"Being around children of any age helps to keep you young in many ways," she said. "It helps you grow as a person."

IN MEMORIAM

Listed in order of class year

Alma M. (Aleshire) Randall '29, Little Falls
Everal H. Vermilyea '38, Richland Center, Wis.
Dorothy (Halmekangas) Manthey '44, Burnsville
Henry W. Stish '48, Dillon, Mont.
Rosemarie (Wiese) Mercier '51, Fort Wayne, Ind.
Kenneth J. Kraft '52, Chassell, Mich.
Thelma L. (Alajoki) Ojalahto '52, Rogers
Harold D. Wilcox '53, Fargo, N.D.
Melvin J. Loidolt '55, Indianapolis, Ind.
Ardelle Y. Nystrom '59, New Brighton
Louis W. Segal '59, Duluth
Gerald "Jerry" Slough '59, Fosston
Matthew A. Bergan Jr. '60 & '69, Hibbing
Oscar R. Evenson '60, Salem, Ore.
Ruth A. (Johnson) Kummer '60, Bemidji
Richard G. Morlan '61, Bemidji
Alfred J. Boggs, '62, Park Rapids
Carolyn R. (Sugawara) Martell '63, Kekaha, Hawaii
John W. Reif '63, Grand Rapids
Kenneth J. Zakrajsek '63, Hibbing
Karen S. (McLeod) Lindberg '64, Cannon Falls
William L. Sweeney '64, Burnsville
Terry Sexton '65, Moorhead
Grace U. (Johnson) Hodik '67, Mott, N.D.
Frank J. LaPatka '67, Cook
Virginia "Ginny" (Moore) Twetten '67, Scottsdale, Ariz.
Glen D. Adkins '68, Waubun
Antoinette "Toni" A. Mattson '68, Bemidji
Rosie M. (Mayer) Olson '68, Parkers Prairie
John A. Pietila '68, Lake Park
Barbara B. (Urtel) Sather '68, Lewiston, Mont.
Michael J. Holm '69, Burnsville
Richard F. Chopp '70, Virginia
Michael M. Hakala '70, Cloquet
Roberta (Little) Janaway '70, Winnipeg, Man.
Michael R. Gentile '71, Gilbert
Josephine E. Muckala '71, Alexandria
Mary E. (Ihrke) Peterson '71, Fosston
Robert E. Montesano '72, Hopkins
Kari (Kirch) Nelson '72, Bemidji
Donald L. Pritchard '72, Stillwater
Cynthia (Satre) Rounds '72, Champaign, Ill.
Fred L. Ballou '73, Park Rapids
Florence C. Stoddard '73, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.
Duaine W. Greenhagen '74, Howard Lake
Marlan Johnson '74, Henning
Lucile Joyce (Gregersen) Schue, '74, Northome
Thomas Beck '75, Akeley
Julia C. (Lundmark) Hedin '75, Northfield
Betty L. Mason '75, Baudette
Malika F. Starr (Lila Veenker) '75, San Carlos, Calif.
John C. Cox '76, McGregor
Theresa L. Haney '76, Rochert
William "Bill" F. McBride '76, Grand Rapids
Robert Miller '76, Bagley
June E. Shields '77, Brainerd
William C. Olson '79, Brainerd
David L. Yungner '79, Duluth
Kim M. Amundson '80, Hendricks
Kelly "Rob" R. Campbell '80, Saginaw
Patrick F. Anzelc '81, St. Paul
Mary Jane (Jacobson) Schroth '82, Deer River
Randy M. Mahonen '82, Virginia
J. Bruce Preece '83, Flagler Beach, Fla.
William E. Warren '83, St. Paul
Jane F. Galloway '86, Merrifield
Joseph M. Neumann '87, Bemidji
Lawrence G. Novotney '89, Seneca, Ill.
Lynda A. Meirick '91, St. Cloud
Thomas P. Langan '94, Bemidji
Ronald A. Markovich '02, Virginia
Mushel Vernon 51, Yuba City, Calif.

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CLASS NOTES

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Leslie Honebrink

a principal at three Catholic elementary schools before accepting the assignment in Morris. She has four adult children and lives in Benson ... **Gloria Swanson** retired this past summer after a career as a gerontologist and minister. She spent the past 16 years providing vital aging ministries at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Burnsville. She remains active in the ministry by teaching aging, religion and spirituality as well as training chaplaincy students on a part-time basis. She is married to Don Knudson, a chaplain for Fairview-Ebeneser Health Care. The couple lives in Rosemount and raised two daughters.

'69 Louis Ferreri has written and published a book titled "So Long, Betty and Veronica," a fictionalized memoir that covers a five-day sequence of events in the Catskill Mountains. Ferreri lives in St. Paul and teaches fine art at White Bear Lake High School. He and his wife, Kathleen Weflen, have one grown daughter.

'64 **John Colosimo** celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Colosimo



John Colosimo

Patchin Kearney & Brunfelt law firm last fall. The firm started in Eveleth in 1974 and later added offices in Virginia and Aurora. Still active, Colosimo handles some litigation and represents a number of school districts in the region. His wife, Sheila, also continues to work in the firm's probate and real estate section. They live in Virginia and have two children.

'63 **Howie Schultz** was recognized as a Someone Special Volunteer for his contributions to the community. Schultz was nominated for the award by



Howie Schultz

Sanford Bemidji Hospice, where he is involved with patients and families during difficult times in their lives. He lives in Bemidji with his wife, **Darlene (Lindseth, '62)**. Both are retired educators.

'60 **Ozzie Tollefson** completed a three-year writing project when the novel "Mr. Teacher," the fictional story of a young teacher at a one-room country school in northern Minnesota during the last year of World War II, was recently published. From Hegins, Pa., Tollefson retired after a 48-year career in education, 15 as a teacher and 33 as an educational assembly presenter. In his later career, he gave programs on such topics as colonial life, dinosaurs and diversity to more than 6,500 schools in 17 states, Bermuda and Norway.

'50 **Bruce Atwater** presented a program in Bemidji on the Pearl Harbor bombing that led the United States into World War II. He was stationed in Pearl Harbor as a member of the Coast Guard and spent most of the attack tending to wounded soldiers and sailors. Now a Bemidji resident, Atwater retired in 1980 after teaching 22 years in Warroad. He is a widower and has five adult children.

'49 **John Emkovik** came out of retirement to teach Russian to a pair of students, his grandsons, who are receiving school credit for completing the coursework. Emkovik had retired in 1987 from teaching Russian, physics and other courses in South St. Paul schools. He lives in Inver Grove Heights with his wife, Catherine. Together they raised three children to adulthood.

CREDITS

Photographs for Class Notes were provided by individual alumni and by the following media: Aitkin Independent Age, Bagley Farmer's Independent, Bemidji Pioneer, Clarissa Independent News Herald, Cook News Herald, Dodge Center Star Herald, Frazee Forum, Grand Forks Herald, Halstad Valley Journal, Hibbing Daily Tribune, Lake City Graphic, Mille Lacs Messenger, Morris Sun Tribune, Richards Publishing Company, Warroad Pioneer and Windom News.

2014 CALENDAR

MAY

- 20 Bemidji Area Alumni Chapter Social**
5 p.m., Bemidji Town and Country Club

JUNE

- 10 Brainerd Alumni & Friends Reception**
5:30 p.m., Madden's on Gull Lake, Brainerd
- 20 37th Annual Gordy Skaar Memorial Golf Tournament**
Presented by Wells Fargo
7 a.m., Bemidji Town and Country Club

JULY

- 18 17th Annual Galen Nagle Memorial Golf Tournament**
7 a.m., Bemidji Town and Country Club
- 19 3rd Annual Jeff "Bird" McBride Memorial Golf Tournament**
7 a.m., Oak Marsh Golf Course, Oakdale
- 20 Bemidji Area Alumni Chapter Pontoon Social**
4 p.m., Lake Bemidji
- 25 BSU at Target Field**
4:30 p.m., Pre-game social at Brother's Bar & Grill, Minneapolis
7:10 p.m., Minnesota Twins vs. Chicago White Sox, Target Field, Minneapolis
- 25 6th Annual Men's Basketball Alumni & Friends Golf Outing**
10 a.m., Blueberry Pines Golf Course, Menahga
- 26 BSU at the Minnesota Zoo**
9 a.m., Minnesota Zoo, Apple Valley

AUGUST

- 1 American Indian Alumni Chapter Scholarship Golf Tournament**
8:45 a.m., Castle Highlands Golf Course, Bemidji
- 23 6th Annual Ed Sauer Memorial Golf Tournament**
9:30 a.m., Tianna Country Club, Walker

SEPTEMBER

- 4 Community Appreciation Day**
4:30 p.m., BSU Campus/Lakeside Lawn/Bridgeman Pergola
- 7 BSU at the Orpheum Theatre "Book of Mormon"**
1 p.m., Orpheum Theatre, Minneapolis
- 20 BSU Alumni Networking Social**
4:30 p.m., Haskell's Port of Excelsior Restaurant & Bar, Excelsior
- 20 BSU Alumni & Friends Lake Minnetonka Cruise**
6 p.m., Lady of the Lake paddlewheel cruise, Excelsior




SAVE THE DATE

OCT. 16-19

BSU HOMECOMING 2014

(Details on Page 27)

ALUMNI EVENT INFORMATION

-  218-755-3989 or 1-877-278-2586 (toll free)
-  alumni@bemidjistate.edu
-  www.bsualumni.org/alumni

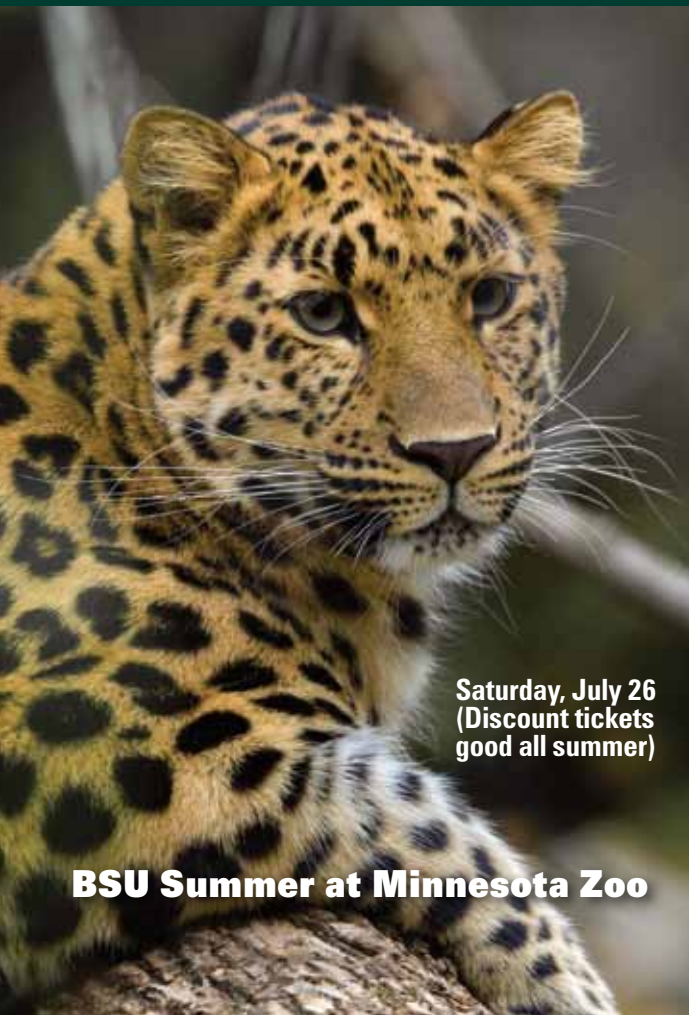


BEMIDJI
STATE UNIVERSITY

1500 Birchmont Drive NE
Bemidji, MN 56601-2699

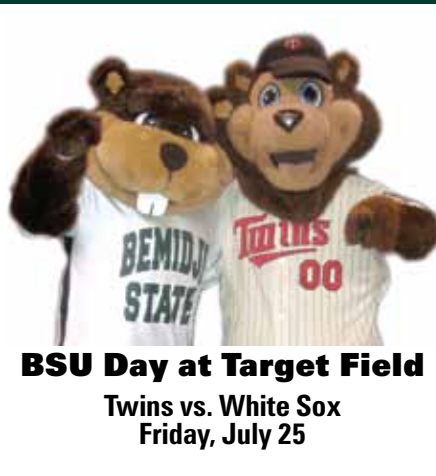
BEMIDJI STATE ALUMNI SUMMER EVENTS

Sponsored by Liberty Mutual Insurance



Saturday, July 26
(Discount tickets
good all summer)

BSU Summer at Minnesota Zoo



BSU Day at Target Field
Twins vs. White Sox
Friday, July 25



BSU Day at Orpheum Theatre
Sunday, Sept. 7



**BSU Alumni Networking Social and
Lake Minnetonka Cruise**
Saturday, Sept. 20

BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

DETAILS: 888-278-2586, WWW.BSUALUMNI.ORG OR  ALUMNI@BEMIDJISTATE.EDU