For the first time, Bemidji State University will have a student competing in the prestigious National Trumpet Competition, the world’s largest competition for trumpet players.

Alexandra Kruse, a sophomore music major from Pipestone, Minn., is one of only 47 trumpeters from across the nation selected to compete in the semifinal rounds of the Undergraduate Division of the National Trumpet Competition, to be held March 17-20 on the campus of George Mason University in Arlington, Va.

Kruse was selected from a pool of hundreds of applicants who submitted digital recordings of performances to be screened by a competition committee. The committee then narrowed the competition down to the 47 semifinalists in the Undergraduate Division, limited to students under the age of 25 who are enrolled full-time in an undergraduate music program in the United States.

The competitors will have eight minutes of stage time for their semifinal performance, which includes setup and tuning. From the 47 semifinalists, the top eight will advance to the finals.

“I’ve never had a student make it before,” said Del Lyren, professor of music, “And I’ve had some good ones.”

“Lexie is extremely talented,” Lyren added. “I met her when she was a junior in high school and was just taken with the ability she had at her age. She came here because we could offer her a full-tuition music scholarship. She works hard, she’s dedicated and she’s also very charismatic and personable.”

Kruse entered the competition at Lyren’s behest, recording her entry around Thanksgiving of last year. She experimented with several different potential pieces to record for her entry before settling on Telemann’s “Concerto for Trumpet.”

“It’s really pretty piece,” Kruse said. “It’s very melodic and pretty, and I just really like the style. It is hard and taxing and requires a lot of breath control, but it’s a beautiful piece.

It’s meant to sound easy. That’s its trick.”

“I’ve been teaching here for 19 years and I’ve never had a student who’s been able to play it,” Lyren said of Kruse’s selection. “Students from here have gone onto almost any major graduate program you can think of, but none of them have been able to play this piece. It’s extremely difficult; easily a professional-level piece. It goes incredibly high and there is no rest, so it’s an endurance test as well as a range test.”

In total, the 2011 trumpet competition features 115 soloists in junior, high school, undergraduate, graduate and jazz divisions, plus 30 ensembles in an ensemble division.

“I’m excited to hear the other players,” Kruse said. “I want to hear how they sound, what they’re playing, where they’re from. I’m just excited to meet them. There will be professional players there, and I’m excited to meet them. I just think it’s going to be really, really fun.”

The National Trumpet Competition began in 1992 and has provided performing opportunities, master classes, exhibition concerts, historic and commercial exhibits and a supportive educational environment for nearly 3,000 competitors from more than 40 states and six countries.

Local media coverage:
• Lakeland Public Television: http://bit.ly/f38uWz
Annual tax assistance program underway

Accounting student assistance available weekly through Thursday, April 14

BSU students who have completed the Tax I course and passed Internal Revenue Service certification tests are donating their time to the community for the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program.

Beginning in February, the free workshop is open from 4-7 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays and running through Thursday, April 14. The workshops will be held in Decker Hall 14.

The program will not be available during spring break, from March 7-11.

The student volunteers will use their tax knowledge to provide assistance to other students, including international students with special requirements, low-income and elderly individuals in the area who may be uncomfortable or unfamiliar with tax law and filing requirements.

The program not only offers free preparation, but also free e-filing for those who qualify. With e-filing and direct deposit, those who qualify typically receive their refund in eight to 10 days. In the preparation process persons who qualify for Earned Income Tax Credit are able to receive a larger refund than just the taxes that have been withheld from their paychecks over the tax year.

Miller to discuss ethics of human/robot interactions

McDonald Philosophy Lecture coming Wednesday, Feb. 9

For decades, science fiction has speculated on the nature of life and death interactions between humans and sophisticated non-humans. Now, that fiction is increasingly becoming a part of our daily reality.

How will human beings manage these developments? As machines become increasingly more sophisticated and autonomous, how will humans establish what is right and what is wrong for robots? And how long will it be before advances in artificial intelligence allow robots to begin making some of these decisions for themselves?

Noted computer ethicist Dr. Keith Miller, professor of computer science at the University of Illinois-Springfield, will explore the need to explore ethical relationships between humans and increasingly more-complex robotic organisms in a lecture entitled “Kiss, Kiss, Kill, Kill: The Ethics of Robots, Love, Sex and War,” sponsored by the philosophy program.

The lecture, the seventh annual Don and Gladys McDonald Philosophy Lecture Series in Applied Ethics, will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 9, in Hagg-Sauer 107.

BSU student gives up cigarettes, wins $3,000

Threasa Braker won $3,000 gift card in "Quit and Win" research project

For 33 and a half years, cigarettes were a part of Threasa Braker’s life. Like many smokers, she made frequent attempts to quit, including one-year breaks during pregnancy for each of her three children. But her efforts to quit were ultimately nothing more than breaks from an addiction that extended its hold on her into a fourth decade.

Last fall, Braker, a senior in nursing, saw an advertisement for a contest called “Quit and Win” while on D2L and decided to see what it had to offer. It turned out to be just what she needed to help her give up cigarettes.

Braker became eligible to win the $3,000 prize by completing the first phase of the research project and by remaining smoke-free from Nov. 1- Dec. 1. She’s also eligible for the contest’s $4,000 drawing for staying smoke-free through Jan. 31, and will be eligible for a third $5,000 drawing if she remains smoke-free through the end of March.

The Quit and Win program is part of a research study being undertaken by the University of Minnesota Medical School and funded by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.
Updates on the activities and achievements of our friends in the campus community

College of Arts and Sciences

• Dr. Anton Treuer, professor of languages and ethnic studies, has received a great deal of acclaim of late for two of the five books he authored that were released this past fall.

  Last fall, Treuer’s book "Ojibwe in Minnesota," named "Minnesota’s Great Read for 2010" by The Center for the Book at the Library of Congress. It was featured at the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C., in September.

  Each year at the festival, the Center for the Book, in cooperation with state affiliates, salutes the literary traditions of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories. The Minnesota Center for the Book at the Minnesota Humanities Center selected "Ojibwe in Minnesota" and "Night Driving" by John Coy for the 2010 list.

  In January, Treuer’s book, "The Assassination of Hole in the Day," was selected as one of four finalists for the 23rd Annual Minnesota Book Awards in the general-nonfiction category. The book awards are judged by a panel of 24 judges from around the state of Minnesota. Winners will be announced later this spring.

• Dr. Patrick Welle, professor of economics and environmental studies, and James Hodgson, a 2009 master’s graduate in environmental studies who currently works for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, won the Most Innovative Paper Award at the 11th annual meeting of the National Business and Economics Society, held in Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii last March.

  The paper, "Property Owners' Willingness to Pay for Water Quality Improvements: Contingent Valuation Estimates in Two Central Minnesota Watersheds," was based on the findings of a technical report Welle and Hodgson submitted to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The study was funded to help the State of Minnesota determine the level of support among property owners for restoring impaired lakes in the Upper Mississippi Basin. The paper will be published in "The Journal of Applied Business and Economics."

College of Business, Technology and Communication

• Dr. Jim McCracken, professor of technological studies, presented "Career and Technical Education, Teacher License Portfolio Review Process" at the Minnesota Technology and Engineering Education Association Fall Conference, held Sept. 24 in St. Cloud, Minn.

• Dr. Tim Brockman, associate professor of technological studies, and Dr. Bud Nestel, professor of technological studies, also attended the conference.

• Dr. Valerie Wallingford, assistant professor of business administration, has had a manuscript entitled "Leadership Driving Organizational Change in a Health Care Setting" accepted for publication in the "Journal of Business Leadership."

  Wallingford also co-wrote a paper with Dr. Dean Frost, associate professor of business administration, "On-the-Job Management and Development: A Proposed Model and Self-Evaluation Assessment." The paper will be read at the North American Management Society Conference in Chicago next month, and printed in the proceedings later.

College of Health Sciences and Human Ecology

• Dr. Marsha Driscoll, associate professor of psychology, conducted a week-long workshop, "Reacting to the Past," for the faculty of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Indiana University-South Bend from Sept. 30-Oct. 2. The retreat and workshop focused on active and collaborative pedagogy using the game "Reacting to the Past" co-written by Driscoll, Elizabeth Dunn, Dann Siems and Kamran Swanson.

  The game, "Charles Darwin, the Copley Medal and the Rise of Naturalism" is being used in several campuses across the country as part of their first-year liberal education course; the workshop is part of Indiana University-South Bend’s exploration of adding a Reacting to the Past component to its first-year course.

• Dr. Eric Forsyth, professor of physical education, health and sport, has contributed three articles to a pair of textbooks. He co-authored chapter 8, "Interscholastic Sports" in the fourth edition of "Contemporary Sport Management" and wrote chapter 5, "Mossy Oak," and co-wrote chapter 29, "Bass Pro Shops," in "Branded: Branding in Sport Business."

  In addition, Forsyth has had three articles on bear hunting published in two magazines. He had two articles published in "Bear Hunting", "Learning from Mistakes" in the March/April 2010 issue and "What Are the Chances" the November/December 2010 issue. His article "Adventures of an Amateur Bear Hunter" appeared in the Spring 2010 issue of "Whitetails."

• Dr. Mur Gilman, professor of physical education, health and sport and Dr. Jim White, professor of physical education, health and sport, hosted the 35th Annual Northland Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine Meeting at Bemidji State in October. The conference, "Moving for Health: Scientific Data to Community Action," drew over 200 registrants from throughout the upper Midwest.

• Dr. Rikki Scheela, professor of nursing, was awarded the 2010 Dissemination of Theory Award by the International Society for the Advancement of Modeling and Role-Modeling, held last spring in San Antonio, Texas.

  Scheela was also elected as chair of the nominating committee and co-chair of the organization’s 2012 international biannual conference, to be held in Minneapolis.

Entries for campus notes are compiled by reporters in each college, school or administrative area and submitted to the Office of Communications and Marketing for inclusion in BSU Insider. Photos used in Campus Notes are submitted. Photos for use in Campus Notes can be e-mailed in high-resolution (300-dpi) JPEG format to jbartlett@bemidjistate.edu.
Personnel News

New faces and old friends in new places

- **Diane Backer** relocated to Academic Affairs as an office and administrative specialist, principal, effective Nov. 24, 2010.

- **Emily Guest** joined business services as an account clerk, effective Oct. 13, 2010.

- **Amanda Hunt** joined the Campus Child Care Center as a child care assistant, effective Sept. 17, 2010.

- **Kelly Knapp** joined the Office of Student Development and Enrollment as an office and administrative specialist-senior, effective Oct. 20, 2010.

- **Janelle Lundeen** has been promoted into the position of Management Analyst 2 in the Office of Financial Aide.

- **Lynn Maltais**, assistant professor, joined the Department of Nursing, effective Jan. 15, 2011.

- **Lincoln Morris** joined the Office of Admissions as Director of Admissions, effective Oct. 10, 2010.

- **Andrea Nichols** joined the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics as athletic equipment manager for women’s hockey, effective Sept. 21, 2010.

- **Laura Nord** joined the College of Business, Technology and Communication as an office and administrative specialist, effective Sept. 13, 2010.

- **Pam Papp** relocated to Financial Aid as a customer service specialist, senior, effective Nov. 24, 2010.


Recalibration update

President Hanson’s message to the campus on advancing the University’s recalibration plan

Since presenting the recalibration plan on January 20, I have received much feedback from the BSU-NTC campus communities, alumni, and friends. The feedback has been varied with some indicating support for the plan, which addresses a projected $5 million shortfall for the next two years, and others indicating their displeasure with that plan.

The decisions within the plan were not easy ones nor were they arrived at casually. We carefully considered a full range of data while paying close attention to the elements of sustainability, distinctiveness, and innovativeness. We also considered the economic pressures facing our state and the demographic shifts affecting our region. We remained keenly mindful of the impact decisions would have on our students, faculty, and staff.

Simply lopping 10 percent from each and every area at Bemidji State and Northwest Tech would have made the decision-making process easy. However, we took a more measured approach, ultimately providing Bemidji State and Northwest Tech with a pathway into the future that will be strong, attractive to students, and transformative in its capabilities.

The faculty and their deans must go through a substantial planning process now as they assess the situation, make decisions about reshaping the programs, and create class schedules for Fall 2011 and later. The reductions in positions are final, but those adjustments need not predict the demise of the programs themselves. That’s up to the colleges and faculty involved.

I urge the faculty and the colleges to assess the situation, re-think the assigned-time resources, make decisions about the form and function of the academic programs, and begin to create teaching schedules. Our students need to know soon how they can fulfill their educational goals at Bemidji State and Northwest Tech.

Please accept my thanks for your care, commitment, and capacity in making these decisions and moving our institutions forward.

For the latest information on Bemidji State’s 2011 recalibration plan, visit

http://www.bemidjistate.edu/offices/president/budget/