

BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

FALL 2011

HORIZONS

A PUBLICATION FOR
BSU ALUMNI AND FRIENDS



A **Commanding** PRESENCE

*Troops inspire
Lieutenant General Waldhauser*

HORIZONS

BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

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COVER STORY

Lieutenant General Thomas Waldhauser, a Bemidji State alumnus, commands the 57,000-troop I Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton, CA. His leadership style was honed by emulating the positive qualities of the leaders he's experienced, including BSU's venerable coach, Bob Peters.



LAWYER OF THE LAND ROBERT ANDERSON



MAKING COLLEGE POSSIBLE KATHI HAGEN

2 CAMPUS NOTES

features

5 A COMMANDING PRESENCE
Troops inspire Lieutenant General Waldhauser.

8 LAWYER OF THE LAND
An advocate for American Indian rights.

10 BRIGHT FUTURES
BSU students to watch.

12 MAKING COLLEGE POSSIBLE
BSU coordinator champions students with disabilities.

14 BREAKING THE SILENCE
Future teachers aim to help deaf students flourish.

16 ON AIR
Growing up with public radio.

18 WE THE PEOPLE
The link between citizens and their government.

20 THE RIDE OF A LIFETIME
When passion and profession meet.

23 IN MEMORIAM AND ALUMNI EVENTS

24 CLASS NOTES

29 HOMECOMING

30 CALENDAR



BREAKING THE SILENCE JACKIE HALEY AND MOLLY SCHEDEL



ON AIR JON McTAGGART



WE THE PEOPLE ROGER HELLOQUIST, RITA ALBRECHT, AND RON JOHNSON



THE RIDE OF A LIFETIME DR. HILDY McCARTHY



FROM

PRESIDENT R. HANSON

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A few years ago, an economic research study indicated that Bemidji State University adds approximately \$150 million to the area economy each year. The July opening of AmeriPride's national accounting headquarters in Bemidji is a recent example of the University's potential for local impact.

AmeriPride, a North American supplier of linen and uniform rental services, selected the city as the site for its newly consolidated accounts receivable offices. The availability of high-tech offices and a pool of skilled people, including several Bemidji State accounting graduates whom they hired, drew them to our region.

Working together with several community organizations and businesses, Bemidji State was able to help sway the company into moving its accounting operations to northern Minnesota. These types of partnerships are a win-win for all involved. The company obtains the facilities and resources it needs to flourish. The city of Bemidji adds a new business to its rolls. Bemidji State and its sister institution, Northwest Technical College, have a new employment connection for their graduates. The results are exhilarating and have the potential to transform the region's economic landscape.

Another area of BSU impact emanates from its transformational learning environment, which this issue of *Horizons* reflects. From getting second chances and critical support services to capitalizing on faculty encouragement and leadership opportunities, those featured in this issue point to BSU as the foundation of their success. These inspiring individuals serve as great role models for the newest members of the Bemidji State family – the Class of 2015 – which we formally welcomed to campus during convocation on August 21.

I encourage you to visit campus, especially during Homecoming, Oct. 7-9. We've maintained the traditions while adding some new and exciting activities.

Sincerely,

CAMPUS NOTES»

» 1 Interim vice presidents named

Bemidji State announced recently the appointment of two interim vice presidents. Dr. **Mary Ward** was named interim vice president of student development and enrollment in July. Ward has been the director of BSU's Advising Success Center since 2008. She fills a position vacated by Dr. Lisa Erwin, who is now vice chancellor at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. Erwin had been at BSU since 2007. In June, **Bob Griggs** was named interim vice president for academic affairs. He fills an interim position vacated by Dr. Nancy Erickson, who served in that role since 2008. Erickson is taking a planned sabbatical for a year before returning to the faculty. Griggs has served BSU in a variety of administrative roles since 2000. National searches to fill both positions on a permanent basis are scheduled to begin this fall.

» 2 New chancellor visits Bemidji

Dr. Steve Rosenstone, who officially took office as chancellor of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) system on Aug. 1, visited Bemidji in early July as part of a statewide tour of the system's campuses. While in Bemidji, Rosenstone and President Richard Hanson toured Northwest Technical College and Bemidji State. At BSU, they toured the newly renovated Sattgast



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Hall and stopped by Chet Anderson Stadium and the American Indian Resource Center. After meeting with faculty and staff for an open forum in Bridgeman Hall, he lunched with community leaders who have ties to Bemidji State.

» 3 RN-to-bachelor's nursing programs full

Bemidji State's nursing program continues to be a hot commodity, with its RN-to-bachelor's program at three different locations already at capacity for 2011-12. BSU serves 40 students at each of its sites – on campus, Lake Superior College in Duluth, and Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Cambridge campus. Debuting this fall, the Lake Superior site reached capacity just two weeks after initial information sessions were held in May. The Cambridge location opened in 2009.

» 4 Annual faculty art show opens

Bemidji State's visual arts faculty opened their annual show in the University's Talley Gallery in May. The show features work from **Butch Holden**, **Natalia Himmirska**, **Jason Clark**, **Dennis Peterson**, and **Steve Sundahl**. Their art media includes ceramics, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and silverpoint drawing. The show runs through September.

» 5 Fourteen earn BSU emeriti status

Fourteen faculty members with a combined 377.5 years of service to Bemidji State were named professors emeriti during the University's 92nd commencement exercises at Bemidji's Sanford Center in May. Faculty who retire from the University with at least 15 years of service are eligible to receive emeritus status. The 2011 emeriti were: **Dr. William Brauer**, professor emeritus of technological studies, 17 years; **James Brouwer**, professor emeritus of professional education, 24 years; **David Carlson**, registrar emeritus, 31 years; **Philip Dahl**, professor emeritus of TRIO/Student Support Services, 37 years; **Dr. Elaine Hoffman**, professor emerita of technological studies, 15 years; **Dr. Stevens Johnson**, professor emeritus of physics, 26 years; **Dr. Steven Konecne**, professor emeritus of music, 30.5 years; **Dr. Robert Ley**, professor emeritus of economics, 31 years; **Dr. Kathleen Meyer**, professor emerita of German and French, 21 years; **Mary Ann Reitmeir**, professor emerita of social work, 29 years; **LaMae Ritchie**, director emerita of the International Program Center, 32 years; **Dr. Patrick Riley**, professor emeritus of music, 38 years; **Stuart Rosselet**, professor emeritus of library and library services, 28 years; and **Dr. Rochelle Scheela**, professor emerita of nursing, 28 years.

AIRC receives state award for diversity efforts

In May, BSU was one of seven colleges and universities in the MnSCU system honored for outstanding achievements in diversity



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leadership, programming, and services. BSU took second place in the system's "Best Practices in Diversity" category for the American Indian Resource Center and its programs. The system's awards recognize programs and services that support access and success in higher education for all Minnesotans, especially those from groups traditionally under-represented in higher education.

» 6 BSU co-hosts International Trumpet Guild

In May, dozens of the world's finest trumpet players descended on downtown Minneapolis for the 36th annual conference of the International Trumpet Guild. The conference was hosted by **Del Lyren**, professor of music at BSU, and **Steve Wright**, associate professor of music at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter. The conference drew hundreds of trumpet enthusiasts from all over the world for competitions, clinics, and concerts during the five-day event. The conference kicked off with a 140-trumpet rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner" at a Minnesota Twins game and closed with a two-hour, grand finale concert in downtown Minneapolis' Wesleyan United Methodist Church.

BSU goes tobacco free

Bemidji State has joined a growing number of college campuses nationwide that have gone tobacco free. In April, President Hanson signed a policy preventing the use, distribution, or sale of tobacco, including any smoking device or lit smoking instrument, anywhere on campus or in University-owned vehicles. American Indian spiritual or cultural ceremonies on campus are exempt from the regulations. Implementation began with an awareness phase this spring and is being followed by full enforcement this fall. The Student Senate proposed the tobacco-free policy in 2010, crafting a draft proposal in January 2011.

Guilfoile publishes book on HIV/AIDS

Dr. Patrick Guilfoile, interim associate vice president for academic affairs, has written *HIV/AIDS*, published recently by Chelsea House Publishers. The book is part of the publisher's 54-volume *Deadly Diseases and Epidemics* series.

More than one million Americans are infected with HIV/AIDS, and the Centers for Disease Control estimate that 21 percent of them are unaware they have it. Although no known cure for HIV/AIDS ex-

ists, the disease can be managed through proper medication and a healthy lifestyle. Guilfoile's book describes the symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of HIV/AIDS. He also explores the latest research about the disease and future prospects for controlling it.

HIV/AIDS is the sixth book Guilfoile has written in the *Deadly Diseases and*

Epidemics series. His other volumes are *Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria*, *Tetanus*, *Diphtheria*, *Chicken Pox*, and *Whooping Cough*.

» 7 BSU team competes in Dragon Boat races

BSU's Grim Beavers won the 2011 Education Cup at Bemidji's Dragon Boat Festival in August. **Chinwuba Okafor**, assistant director of student life, captained the team.



BSU RECOGNIZED NATIONALLY AS A

GREEN SCHOOL

In April, Bemidji State was named one of the nation's 311 most eco-friendly campuses by the U.S. Green Building Council and *The Princeton Review*. A guide of those 311 institutions provides information for students looking to attend a college or university that demonstrates a strong commitment to creating and maintaining a sustainable campus. BSU has had a student-implemented green fee of \$5 per semester in place since 2008. The fee funds environmental stewardship, education, and awareness activities on campus. Under the guidance of a full-time sustainability officer since 2008, BSU has participated in a variety of energy-savings competitions, including Minnesota's Campus Energy Challenge competition among schools in the state. BSU has won the challenge twice.



ERIKA BAILEY-JOHNSON, SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR, TALKS ABOUT BSU'S "GREEN" EFFORTS DURING A SPRING TOUR OF PROJECTS.

REGIONAL & ALL-AMERICA AWARDS



Spring Sports Recaps

BASEBALL completed its season with an 18-29 record, the program's most wins in a season since 2002, and finished ninth in the NSIC with a 12-21 conference mark ... **SOFTBALL** ended its spring season 5-23 overall and 1-16 in NSIC play ... **MEN'S GOLF** garnered seventh at the NSIC Championships in April, with sophomore **Chris Curb** of Bemidji earning 14th among individuals. BSU later ranked 12th at the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Championships ... **WOMEN'S GOLF** placed eighth at the NSIC Championships, behind a 29th-place individual finish from **Kathryn Stoffels**, a sophomore from Maple Grove ... **TENNIS** ended the season 3-12 overall and 2-9 in the NSIC under first-year head coach **Beth Campus** ... **TRACK & FIELD** **Kristi Buerkle**, a senior from Stacy, earned her sixth career All-America honor with a fourth-place finish in the 400-meter race at the 2011 NCAA Outdoor Championships. **Tandy Juell**, a sophomore from Redwood Falls, placed seventh in the decathlon to earn All-America honors on the men's side. Buerkle, Juell, and **Raphael Gelo**, a sophomore from Kabetogama, captured All-Region honors from the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.



Buerkle earns her sixth All-America honor

Kristi Buerkle, a senior sprinter from Stacy, finished her collegiate career as one of BSU's most decorated female athletes of all time. This spring, she won NSIC Championships in the 200- and 400-meter races and earned her sixth career All-America honor with a fourth-place finish in the 400-meter event at the 2011 NCAA Outdoor Championships. In May, she was named the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country

Coaches Association's Central Region Female Athlete of the Year. Holder of two BSU outdoor records and six indoor records, she was also a member of two school-record relay teams.

In June, she became the fourth Bemidji State track and field athlete and 15th BSU student-athlete overall to earn Academic All-America honors. Majoring in elementary education, she carried a 3.86 grade point average into her final semester at BSU.

Twenty-seven Beavers earn NSIC all-academic honors

Twenty-seven BSU student-athletes earned a spot on the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) spring All-Academic Team. Baseball, men's track and field, and women's track and field led the way with six honorees each. The All-Academic Team recognizes student-athletes on varsity traveling teams with cumulative GPAs of 3.20 or higher.



NSIC COMMISSIONER BUTCH RAYMONDS; BSU ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, DR. RICK GOEB

BSU wins NSIC Sportsmanship Award

For the second time in three years, BSU has won the NSIC Sportsmanship Award. First awarded in 2008, the NSIC Sportsmanship Award is given to the school exhibiting the best sportsmanship of its players, coaches, fans, and staff, as voted upon by NSIC head coaches and a Student-Athlete Advisory Committee member from each school.

Trip Hedrick gets NSIC Hall of Fame nod

Trip Hedrick, a BSU swimmer from 1973-77, was inducted into the NSIC Hall of Fame in July. Hedrick was a three-time All-NSIC selection from 1975-77, and he won the NSIC 100-meter freestyle title in 1977. He was a two-time, First-Team All-NAIA honoree and nine-time, All-America honoree during his career. A BSU Student-Athlete of the Year in 1977, he was inducted into the University's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1998.

NSIC expands with two new teams

The Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference, Bemidji State's home in NCAA Division II, is expanding to 16 teams. The league announced in January that Minot State University (ND) and the University of Sioux Falls (SD) will join the conference in the 2013-14 season.

WCHA prepares for 2013-14 changes

Although the NCAA Division I college hockey landscape will undergo a significant transition in 2013-14, the Bemidji State men's hockey program will remain a committed member of the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA). Seven teams have announced they will leave the WCHA, including the University of Minnesota and the University of Wisconsin, which will head to a new Big Ten conference. In the meantime, the University of Denver, Colorado College, the University of Minnesota Duluth, the University of Nebraska Omaha, and the University of North Dakota will join the newly formed National Collegiate Hockey Conference along with the Central Collegiate Hockey Association's University of Miami (Ohio). Despite the change in conference affiliations, BSU is working diligently to retain regional rivalries that have developed over the history of the program, aiming to provide BSU hockey fans a schedule featuring the best competition college hockey has to offer.



TANDY JUELL



CHRIS CURB KATHRYN STOFFELS KRISTI BUERKLE RAPHAEL GELO



A COMMANDING PRESENCE

TROOPS INSPIRE
LIEUTENANT
GENERAL
WALDHAUSER

In the weeks following the terrorist attacks on 9/11, BSU alumnus Tom Waldhauser was more focused on national security than most Americans. A U.S. Marine Corps officer, he was tapped to command the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit Special Operations Capable, the first conventional unit to deploy into Afghanistan after the attack on the Twin Towers. A few years later, that same unit – also commanded by Waldhauser – was among the first to cross into Iraq at the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

{ story on next page } ▶



Waldhauser sits in the copilot seat of a KC-130J Harvest Hawk aircraft during a surveillance mission in Afghanistan.

COMMANDING PRESENCE

Today, Lieutenant General Thomas Waldhauser commands the 57,000-troop I Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton in California. President Barack Obama nominated him for the position in 2010. In his role, he oversees the training, organizing, and equipping of Marines and sailors in California and Arizona. Serving also as commanding general of Marine Forces Central Command, he is responsible for employing, deploying, and sustaining forces engaged in the Central Command region of the Middle East.

The 2010 promotion prompted a strong endorsement from the commander of the U.S. Central Command, General James Mattis, who called Waldhauser one of the most operationally experienced and tactically savvy officers in the military today. He said Waldhauser's leadership style made him the perfect choice for the assignment.

No matter the task, Waldhauser makes it his mission to learn from those he admires and to develop a leadership style that works for him.

"A leader is one who needs to ask the right questions, does not take no for an answer, and demonstrates the competency required to be in charge of large and complex organizations," the South St. Paul native observes. "There are many long days, many grueling requirements, and

you've got to be able to power your way through. A good leader is one who can do that."

The Making of an Officer

Waldhauser started on the road to leadership while at BSU, where he pursued a psychology degree and skated for Beaver hockey as a forward. The four-year letter winner played on the 1973 NAIA championship team.

"Looking back, I had a very wonderful college experience," he says. "Coach Bob Peters is the main reason I ended up going to BSU. The ability to watch him as a leader and a coach – how he organized, how he motivated – was very beneficial."

Although he wasn't certain about pursuing a military career, Waldhauser participated in the Platoon Leaders Class, where college students train for two summers at the Marines' Officer Candidates School in Quantico, VA. Program participants, under no obligation to join the military, are offered a commission as a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps when they complete the class.

Waldhauser attended the training after his freshman and junior years at BSU. The physically intensive experience, coupled with the emphasis on leadership and responsibility, struck a chord with him. After completing the program, he signed on for a three-year commitment.

"To be truthful, I really didn't have any intention of staying beyond that initial three-year requirement, but I had some very positive experiences as a young lieutenant," he recalls. "I had the opportunity to work for some very inspiring leaders. Being around very engaging young Marines was something that was a good fit for me."

Learning from Others

For Waldhauser, the fit has led to military decorations as well as promotions. Over the course of his career, he has earned the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with combat "V," Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with three gold stars, Navy Achievement Medal with one gold star, and the Combat Action Ribbon.

The lieutenant general, however, is humble about the recognition he's received, preferring to focus on the job at hand and the people who serve alongside him every day. "Personal decorations are all well and good, but they don't define you as a leader, and they really don't define who you are," he says. "It's all about getting the job done. It's all about making sure the Marines have what they need. It's all about providing an environment that allows everyone to do their part and let them do their jobs."

Even with his stellar accomplishments, Waldhauser says he continues to learn from those around him – no matter their rank – and strives to lead by example. He also reflects fondly on his time at BSU and the lessons he learned from those around him.

"The guys I played hockey with were some truly great individuals and great human beings. You learn a lot from your friends and peers," he says. "I've been fortunate, since I've been in the Marine Corps, to work for a large number of really tremendous men and women who have demonstrated a commitment and competence that was very impressive."

"As you move up the ranks, you always are trying to emulate those who have gone before you, and you're always trying to duplicate all the positive things they were able to show you." ■

{ continued from page 5 } ▶ "Those two combat tours certainly had to be a couple of highlights in my career overall," he notes. "The more I'm around these young Marines, the more amazed I am every day of the initiative, the drive, and the competence these individuals demonstrate on a daily basis. What we expect of them, and how they deliver in some very difficult and stressful settings, is really amazing."

"A leader is one who needs to ask the right questions, does not take no for an answer, and demonstrates the competency required to be in charge of large and complex organizations."

THOMAS WALDHAUSER



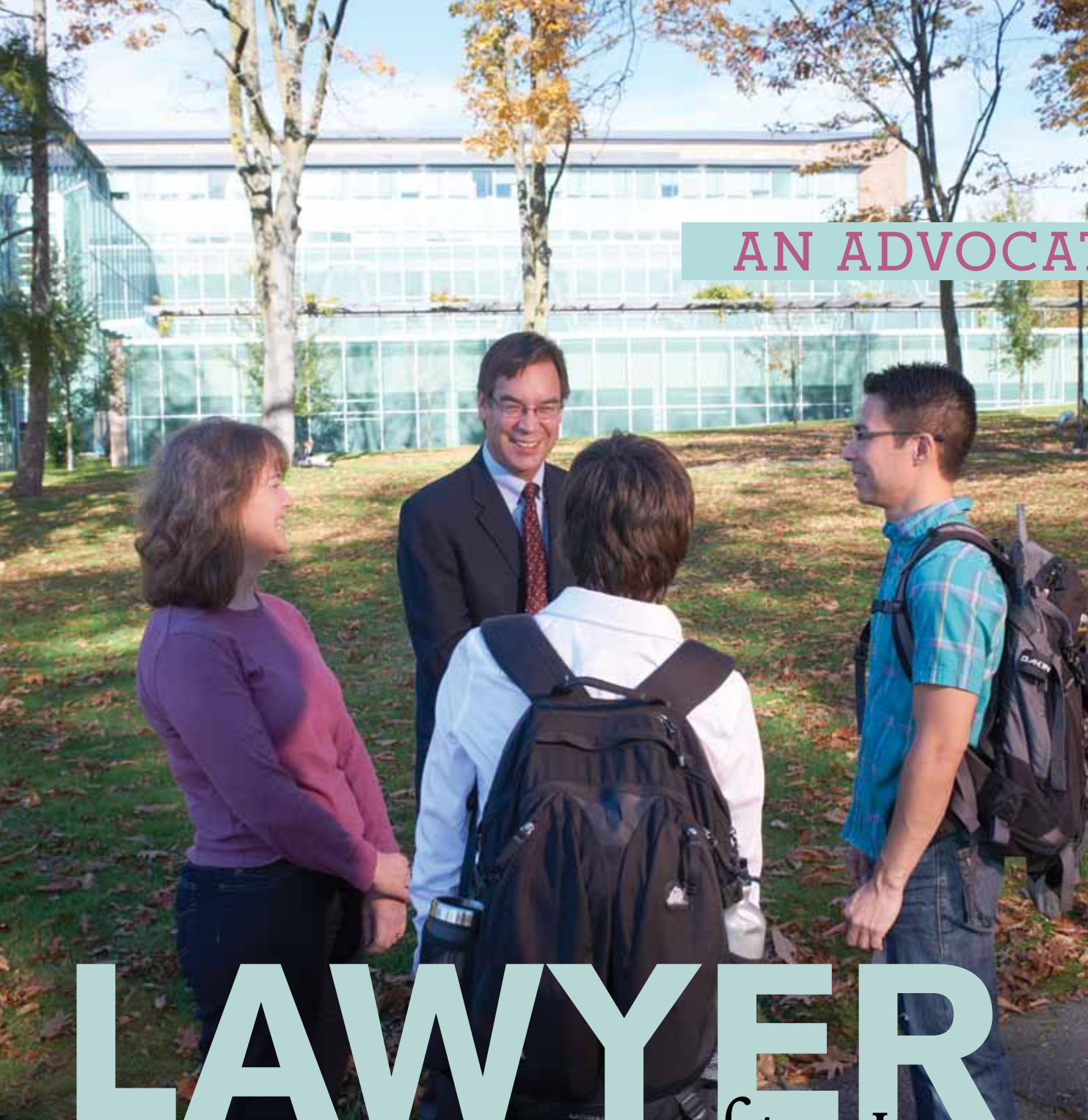
Waldhauser attaches battle streamers to the 1st Marine Division's colors during the unit's battle colors rededication ceremony at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, CA, in 2008. The Marines were commemorating the division's 67th anniversary.

DEFINING MOMENTS



Experiences as a Beaver hockey player and as a Marine Corps officer have influenced his leadership style.





AN ADVOCATE FOR AMERICAN INDIAN RIGHTS

LAWYER of the Land

ROBERT ANDERSON CHATS WITH STUDENTS OUTSIDE WILLIAM H. GATES HALL, HOME OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL OF LAW.

“It’s nice to provide a public service, to use your education, not just to make money or try to obtain prestige for yourself, but to wade into the public sector and try to help make things better through serving in the government.”

ROBERT ANDERSON

Over the course of his legal career, Robert Anderson has advocated for the rights of American Indians as a public-sector attorney, an advisor to two presidential administrations, and a professor at two well-known universities. While his nearly 30-year career has been filled with personal and professional success, the Ely native and member of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa still views his time at Bemidji State as paving the way for a varied and fulfilling career.

“I really learned how to write pretty well in college, and that has been a big key to any success that I have had in my career as a lawyer and now as a law professor,” says Anderson, a 1980 BSU graduate who studied English and history. “Maybe even more important was the fact that my professors were really enthusiastic about the material I was being taught, and they motivated me to work really hard. That gave me a work ethic that has served me incredibly well throughout my career.”

Anderson’s diligence as an undergraduate paid off. He was accepted to the University of Minnesota Law School and then offered a job at the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) in Boulder, CO, one of the country’s foremost Indian law offices. During his 12-year tenure at NARF, Anderson helped settle disputes between federal and state governments and American Indian tribes in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. From the experience, he learned firsthand about the complex legal issues facing American Indians. He also discovered the rewards of making a difference in the lives of others.

“One of my proudest moments was when I was in Alaska representing a woman named Katie John, whose right to fish had been taken away by the state of Alaska in the early 1960s,” he recounts. “We sued the state in federal court, and we won the case. The court forced the state to reopen the fishery.”

Since that victory, the state has continually challenged the ruling, and Anderson has remained abreast of the issue, making sure John’s current lawyers have up-to-date information and access to the facts of the case.

“These things go on for so long, and you really have to be persistent,” he says. “It’s taught me the importance of writing about these things in articles and in books so folks who come later to carry on will not only understand what happened and rely on those facts, but also learn from them to try to craft new solutions.”

Through his work fighting for land and water rights, Anderson met Bruce Babbitt, secretary of the interior in the Clinton administration. That connection led him to a political appointment as associate solicitor for Indian Affairs in the U.S. Department of the Interior. Later he served as a counselor to Babbitt, advising him directly on matters involving Indian law, endangered species, water rights, national parks, and other issues.

“It’s nice to provide a public service, to use your education, not just to make money or try to obtain prestige for yourself, but to wade into the public sector and try to help make things better through serving in the government.”

When Clinton’s term ended, Anderson headed to the University of Washington in Seattle to teach. However, in 2008 he returned to the nation’s capital to co-lead President Obama’s transition team for the Department of the Interior’s agency review.

“That was a highlight for me,” says Anderson, who wasn’t interested in moving back to DC to be part of the administration. “But I wanted to help out. I was asked to make recommendations about issues that would need to be dealt with promptly by the new administration.”

Anderson currently works full time as a tenured professor at the University of Washington (UW) and directs the law school’s Native American Law Center. He also serves as the Oneida Nation Visiting Professor of Law at Harvard Law School, a five-year appointment where he teaches Native American Law one term each academic year.

During his 11 years at UW, he has drawn from his Bemidji State experiences to guide his teaching approach.

“They were all very enthusiastic about their subject matter, and they were all obviously great scholars and had worked hard to acquire all this knowledge,” he says of his BSU professors. “They made class fun because I could tell they enjoyed teaching the material, and they were also very supportive. That’s the kind of teacher I want to be — someone who is enthusiastic, has an open door, and wants to work with the students.”

In his role at the university, Anderson promotes the development of Indian law by nurturing student interest in the legal profession; serving as a resource for tribes, governments, and individuals; and building a network among scholars and practitioners. He has written numerous academic articles, teaches American Indian law from a casebook he co-authored, and serves as author and editorial board member of the leading reference book on federal Indian law, *Cohen’s Handbook of Federal Indian Law*. The book is an information source relied upon by the U.S. Supreme Court and small-town practitioners alike.

“It’s been a wonderful career, and I’m looking forward to continuing on,” he notes. “My time at Bemidji State really positioned me well for what’s been, I’d have to say, an extremely rewarding career.” ■

BRIGHT FUTURES

Bemidji State is helping stellar individuals prepare for the future – here are three destined to do great things.

In **Pearl Walker's** mind, the letters B-S-U spell opportunity. The Bemidji senior chose her hometown University for convenience, planning to transfer later to a school offering gymnastics. Now she's more than happy she stayed.

"Every experience I've had has shaped me," says Walker, who graduated this spring with degrees in pre-med and Indian Studies. "Just being involved brought me opportunities I didn't think I'd ever come across."

Those opportunities came her first semester when track coach Craig Hougen invited the former Bemidji High athlete to join the Beavers' squad. She did and quickly gravitated to the heptathlon and pentathlon where her wide-ranging talents were useful in the multiple-event competitions.

"Being part of the track team really built me up and made me feel like I really belonged at BSU."

So the student with Lakota and Ojibwe heritages stayed, and her opportunities grew. As co-chair of the Council of Indian Students, she received the 2011 Outstanding American Indian Student Award. Accepted into Minnesota's Future Doctors Program, she attended an American Indian Science and Engineering Society national conference, where her dream to become a physician was reinforced. She served on the President's Commission, a student group that addressed ways to improve the University. She learned Ojibwe while working with an elder fluent in the language as they collaborated on a story about healthy eating. She co-captained the track squad, improving every year at conference meets while earning nine NSIC All-Academic Team and three Division II All-Academic Team awards. Her friendships, networking systems, and understanding of issues grew with time spent at the American Indian Resource Center.

Dr. Anton Treuer, faculty member who teaches Ojibwe, noted her growth from an unsure first-year student to a self-confident graduate. He feels her academic preparation in medicine and understanding of cultures, as well as languages, will make her a leader among those she serves.

"I believe that health includes emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual elements," says Walker, whose internship this fall focuses on women's reproductive rights and justice at the Yankton Sioux Reservation in South Dakota. "As a future physician wanting to serve in an American Indian community, I would like to incorporate the culture and language of our people in my practice."

Albert Schmitz graduated in May with a bachelor of science degree in physics and a bachelor of fine arts in creative and technical writing. Unfazed that the two disciplines represent opposite sides of the academic coin, he sees only the richness of this currency.

"The two majors complement each other," he explains. "I've heard from practicing physicists and engineers that writing is such a big component, and they failed to learn those skills in college."

"Physics made me more critical and added an intellectual depth to my writing," he observes. "I look at the logic of the sentence to make sure it makes sense. What good is an idea that only you understand?"

The first BSU graduate with this degree combination, he is accustomed to doing things

differently. He took an 18-month hiatus from his education after graduating from Hawley High School. As a teenager, he wanted to be an engineer, but an interest in fantasy fiction compelled him to study writing at BSU.

Focusing on creative rather than technical writing, he's had a short story and poetry published in the *Rivers Meeting Project*, the University's annual anthology of student writing.

His curiosity and prior interests drove him to take BSU's introductory physics class. Exposure to modern physics with its elegant mathematical formulae and modeling of physical behavior prompted him to add the major.

Dr. Dave Bahr, professor of physics, feels this combination gives Schmitz a Renaissance-man perspective defined by mathematical acumen, exceptional insight, creative analytical interpretation, and linguistic precision. "It brings both lobes of his brain into the arena," Bahr says. "It defines a real thinker, as contrasted with a mere calculator."

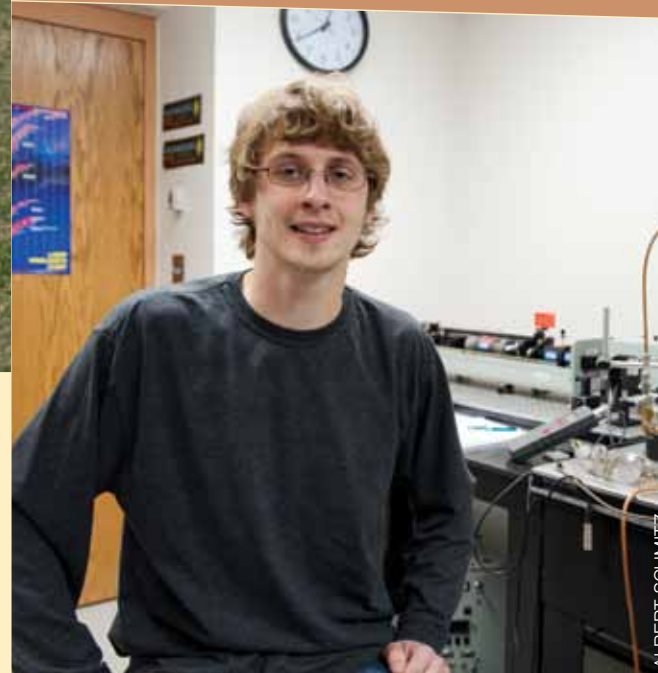


PEARL WALKER



MICHAEL MEEHLHOUSE

BSU STUDENTS TO WATCH



ALBERT SCHMITZ

Michael Meehlhouse

came to Bemidji State University because a computer indicated it would be a good idea. From that impersonal start, he found a home.

As a senior at Irondale High School, all he knew about BSU came from an online college site, which matched his search parameters with a university in northern Minnesota he never knew existed. Intrigued, he took a closer look and liked what he saw.

"I think Bemidji State does have the feel of a private school without the cost," Meehlhouse surmises while echoing the words of his campus tour guide. "It's a small institution."

You will see someone you know every day walking across campus. It's a great place to think outside the box and expand boundaries."

A social studies major from Moundsview, Meehlhouse used that insight to his advantage by getting involved. After trying different organizations, he joined Student Senate, where he was co-president for 2010-2011. He also was a member of Students Today, Leaders Forever and worked in the Hobson Union's Excellence in Leadership Center.

Through campus activities, he noticed how engaged students felt at BSU. "I was taken aback when I first got here by how much of a voice students really have in this University," he remembers. "Students are empowered because the administration takes our opinions seriously."

During his four years, students instituted a green fee, adopted a tobacco-free campus policy, offered advice for restructuring BSU, and supported the construction of the Sanford Center, the regional events facility now housing BSU hockey.

Along the way, Meehlhouse realized Bemidji, the city, was more than a place where he stayed. He joined area leaders several times in promoting the city's agenda to the Minnesota State Legislature, became involved with the local cross country ski club, and loved being on the lake and outdoors.

"Michael regularly attended City Council meetings," says Mary Tosch, interim director of the Hobson Union. "This relationship provided an avenue for communication and fostered joint initiatives that will benefit students and the community."

Meehlhouse, who student teaches this September, created a video for YouTube to describe the school and area he first discovered online. "I made it as a tribute to Bemidji, to show people this is something special with a lot of things to do." ■

To see Meehlhouse's video go to <http://bit.ly/qAslCS> or scan the QR code.



MAKING COLLEGE Possible

BSU COORDINATOR CHAMPIONS STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES



KATHI HAGEN, DISABILITY SERVICES COORDINATOR, TALKS OVER PLANS WITH JACOB GUNWALSON, A PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR FROM GONVICK, WHO ATTENDED THREE SUMMER PREP PROGRAMS PRIOR TO ENROLLING AT BSU.

When Kathi Hagen's mother lost her vision, many once effortless tasks became nearly impossible for her to accomplish, including knitting. Encouraging her to keep trying, Hagen replaced the yarn her mother was using with a sturdier cotton thread, which made it much easier to feel. The switch worked.

"She knit dishcloths, a pastime that brought her a lot of joy even though she could hardly see," Hagen recalls. "It just shows that whatever you want to do, it doesn't have to be done a certain way."

Hagen brings that spirit to her job every day as the coordinator of the Disability Services Office at Bemidji State. Instead of looking at the students' disabilities and saying, "You can't," she sees students' abilities and finds ways to say, "You can."

Colleges have provided services for students with disabilities since the 1970s, but the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), effective in 1992, more clearly defined what services were expected and who would qualify. Hagen, with an undergraduate degree in English and a master's in behavioral science from BSU, stepped into her job in 1993, just as the ADA opened the doors to allow more academic opportunities for students with disabilities.

"Prior to 1990, students with disabilities weren't really expected to go on to college. They were seen as less than capable of doing the work, of not being a good fit," says Hagen, noting that nothing could be further from the truth. Her students have graduated and become successful professionals in numerous fields, including a graduate who has been a Minnesota legislator for more than a decade.

"These students have the potential to do anything they want," Hagen says. "Most of them are highly motivated. They're used to really working hard. Often they challenge other students to keep up because they're so focused."

Last year, Hagen's office served 333 BSU students with documented disabilities including physical or psychological impairments, learning disabilities, autism, blindness, deafness, emotional behavior disorders, and systemic disorders such as epilepsy, cancer, and diabetes. The number of students receiving services has more than doubled since 1995.

Typical accommodations for students with disabilities include note takers, sign language interpreters, priority registration for courses, extended test time, preferential seating in classrooms, books on tape, and scribes for dictation. Each student has unique challenges. "Two people can come in with the same diagnosis, but they have night-and-day differences in what they need," Hagen explains.

When Hagen first started, she provided a lot of the services herself, doing whatever it took to keep academics accessible for all. "Thinking out of the box," she says, "is essential." Today, student workers help with many of the services.

Hagen and Dr. Marsha Driscoll, associate professor of psychology, developed Prep School, an innovative program that helps high school students with disabilities acclimate to college life through a weeklong, on-campus experience. Unfortunately, the program fell victim to the Minnesota government shutdown this summer when agency funds used to support participating students became inaccessible.

"It's heartbreaking," says Hagen of the lost opportunity. "One of the things that we had not anticipated is how the students would bond and how much that would help them make a healthier transition to college."

Besides fears of the summer program never resuming, Hagen is also concerned about funding cuts that could reduce the number of students eligible for the services her office typically provides during the academic year.

Vickie Kepler of Cohasset shares her concerns. "I face my dyslexia every day, but not on the scale that I do at school," she says. Kepler, 48, is an environmental studies major and a professional landscaper. She uses books on tape, note takers, and dedicated quiet rooms for testing where she can read and think out loud, a technique that helps her succeed. She appreciates the work Hagen does, especially with younger students, who often lack the know-how to advocate for themselves. "What Kathi does is amazing. Without people like her, we'd close a lot of doors for capable students."

Jeff Jones, a 2004 sports management graduate who has dyslexia, says he valued the encouragement he found at BSU, the smaller classes, accessible professors, and

"These students have the potential to do anything they want. Most of them are highly motivated. They're used to really working hard. Often they challenge other students to keep up because they're so focused." KATHI HAGEN

especially Hagen's support. He saw Hagen daily for notes, test dictation, and other services. "Kathi helped me get through the whole college experience," says Jones, who works for the Roseville Area School District during the academic year and the Minnesota Twins during the summer. "She would always take the extra step to make each student feel appreciated."

Hagen's devotion to students permeates her daily life, influencing even her choice of artwork. A framed print above her desk reads, "Service is the lifeblood of any organization." She is acutely aware that, for the students her office serves, the dream of a college education is precarious without proper support.

"Every day I come to work, I make a difference in someone's life," she says of her role in helping students with disabilities reach their aspirations. "There's nothing else I'd rather do." ■

BREAKING THE SILENCE



JACKIE HALEY AND MOLLY SCHENDEL

FUTURE TEACHERS AIM TO HELP DEAF STUDENTS FLOURISH

Born hard of hearing, Jackie Haley struggled not only to learn, but also to fit in. Those around her, from family to classmates, could hear but did not sign. By fourth grade, she fell behind academically and felt lonely, isolated, and frustrated as her hearing slipped away. Although she could lip-read, she found it easier to learn by reading her textbooks than by relying on her teachers.

"It was really tough," Haley recalls. "I had to depend on others; I had to struggle so much because I didn't have the accommodations that I needed."

The school eventually provided an interpreter to aid her learning. However, the isolation continued until, at 14, she enrolled in a residential high school for the deaf and met others who were culturally fluent in American Sign Language (ASL).

Today, Haley is studying to become an educator so she can help deaf children learn to their fullest potential and access the services they need to be successful.

Like Haley, Molly Schendel wants to teach deaf children, although she draws her inspiration from the positive experiences she had growing up deaf. She and her younger brother were born deaf, but had hearing parents who learned to sign. In third grade, Schendel moved with her family to Faribault where she enrolled in the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf, a residential school for the deaf and hard of hearing. She describes the school as a place where she felt happy, connected, and independent.

Today, Schendel hopes to teach third or fourth grade at the academy. "It just seems like the perfect time to be involved in a child's life," she explains. "It's just that age when you start learning fast, reading stories, and developing strong friendships."

Both Haley and Schendel will graduate from Bemidji State University in 2012 with elementary education degrees. Haley wants to teach in northern Minnesota, preferably in a combined classroom of deaf third, fourth, and fifth graders who otherwise would be placed in hearing classrooms. She and Schendel say that it's important for deaf children to learn ASL, interact with deaf peers, and learn from deaf teachers whenever possible.

"I learned so much more from the deaf teachers," Haley notes. "Their way of teaching was just easier to understand. They were more expressive, and I just felt like I connected better with them."

Schendel agrees, noting that when deaf teachers are not available, deaf children need accommodations to learn. She and Haley saw this first-hand when they recently observed a deaf child in a classroom of hearing kindergartners.

"I thought, 'Oh, great, they'll have services to meet all of his needs,'" Schendel recalls. "Then we went into the classroom, and I couldn't tell which boy was deaf. He didn't have an interpreter. It hit me hard. The teacher was talking. The boy didn't know what was being said. The boy would sign something, and nobody would voice for him." Schendel also witnessed a social interaction in which the child was excluded and misunderstood. "It just broke my heart," Schendel says.

Haley, too, was disheartened. "I thought things had changed," she says. Their BSU instructor shared their observations with school officials who, according to Schendel, offered to explore improved services for the child. Haley and Schendel say there is no reason for deaf children to be left behind in the classroom.

Although it's sometimes challenging, Schendel and Haley navigate in the hearing world and share their lives with their hearing children, who sign. Haley's husband is also deaf, but Schendel's husband hears and learned to sign after meeting her. At Bemidji State, Schendel and Haley depend on professional interpreters and sometimes note takers to help them excel alongside hearing students. A few of their hearing classmates also know how to sign.

When considering what makes BSU a good place for them, Schendel says, "The teachers, without a doubt. They've changed the person that I am. They believe in me, communicate with me, and respect me."

"Same," Haley adds. "The very same."

The two moms balance school, family, and separate 160-mile roundtrip commutes to get to their BSU classes – Haley north from Big Fork and Schendel east from Marble. Despite competing responsibilities, they remain passionate about teaching.

"I really love kids," says Haley, whose oldest is 16. "I have four of them, and they really inspire me. I also care about how deaf children learn." Schendel, who has three children, ages 2-5, adds that she, too, loves kids and education. "I want to make a difference for deaf kids," Schendel explains. "I want to be a good role model for my community and put myself out there."

By becoming teachers, Haley and Schendel hope to help deaf children realize their potential even in a hearing world. ■

Jackie Haley and Molly Schendel shared their stories with *Horizons* using sign language, which was translated by interpreter Kathleen Youngbloom, one of two interpreters working with them at BSU.

WHAT MAKES BSU A GOOD PLACE?

"The teachers, without a doubt. They've changed the person that I am. They believe in me, communicate with me, and respect me." MOLLY SCHENDEL



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JACKIE HALEY DURING HER *HORIZONS* INTERVIEW.

ON AIR

GROWING UP WITH PUBLIC RADIO

When Jon McTaggart transferred to Bemidji State University as a sophomore, he had his sights set on studying history and political science with designs on law school. Fortunately for public radio listeners, his experiences on campus rekindled a connection with the airwaves and launched a career devoted primarily to Minnesota Public Radio and its parent company, American Public Media Group, where McTaggart now serves as chief executive officer.

His career interests shifted unexpectedly after signing up for an elective course in mass communication. During the class, the professor noticed he had a knack for words and recruited him to write a column for the campus newspaper. "I kind of backed into it that way, starting as a history major who was writing a column for the *Northern Student*," he recalls.

McTaggart credits faculty such as Bob Treuer, Roger Paskvan, and Dr. Roy Blackwood for taking an active interest in his success and persuading him to pursue the mass communication field. "People in our lives, whether they're faculty members or mentors, those who truly make an individual investment, can change your life," observes the 1983 graduate from the western Minnesota community of Campbell. "There have been people in my life who have certainly done that for me."

Radio Ready

As a kid, McTaggart watched his dad strap an AM radio on the John Deere tractor and listen to it while doing farm chores. "Radio

has been my love for a long, long time," he says. "From the earliest time I can remember, radio has been magical and important to me, so I've always come back to radio."

Even before arriving on campus, McTaggart already had worked as a classical music announcer in Nebraska. Returning to Minnesota, he was soon hired at Paul Bunyan Broadcasting in Bemidji, where he worked as everything from deejay to news writer. By the time he decided to become a mass communication student, he was radio ready.

Besides his early radio experiences, it was the opportunities presented to him by BSU faculty that made a lasting imprint on his career path.

"It was an interesting time for the mass communication department; it was deep and rich in faculty that were energetic and constantly recruiting and filling their classes. They would challenge me and present me with some kind of unexpected opportunity, and I would take it. Those weren't opportunities I was creating for myself."

It wasn't long before McTaggart was putting his prior radio experience to good use as news director for BSU's campus station. His radio savvy was also gaining outside attention. At the behest of his professors, he entered a competition held by the International Radio and Television Society, which named him among the nation's top 25 communication graduates.

McTaggart's first leap into Minnesota public radio also came courtesy of a BSU faculty member.

"Fulton Gallagher, from the music department, heard there was a classical music station possibly coming to town," he recalls. "He stopped me in the hall and said, 'Why haven't you applied for that Minnesota Public Radio job?' I had to admit that I hadn't given it much thought."

At 23, McTaggart applied for the station manager position at KCRB in Bemidji. The role entailed creating a new station from the ground up, hiring staff, and building a local audience. Much to his surprise, he was offered the job. "Truthfully, I'm still not sure why they decided to hire me," he admits. "It certainly didn't make sense on paper."

That early move was the beginning of McTaggart's long-term relationship with

public radio, where he's held increasingly more responsible positions over the years, from general manager of MPR's multi-station group in Collegeville to senior vice president and chief operating officer to his current position as chief executive officer.

"When KCRB was built, MPR offered one radio station in each of eight Minnesota communities, and that one radio station broadcast a mixed format of news and information, and classical music programming," he says. "MPR now has more than 115,000 members; 900,000 people across the state and into surrounding states listen to our three radio services each week; and MPR's digital audience is more than one million each month."

Through it all, McTaggart has helped guide MPR's growth into more areas while expanding its audiences and use of new technologies. He's also focused on maintaining its commitment to the station's mission of providing fact-based, non-partisan news as well as arts and cultural programming that informs and entertains its listeners.

Lessons Learned

While the bulk of his career has been spent in public radio, McTaggart took two forays away from the airwaves, first as executive director for the Reading Rehabilitation Hospital in Reading, PA, and later as vice president for advancement and university relations at La Sierra University in Riverside, CA. Both experiences offered McTaggart new challenges, new lessons to learn, and a new perspective on leadership.

"I learned the importance of leadership and being very intentional about developing who you are in your effectiveness as a leader," he notes. "It's part of being informed, being curious, and being awake in the world."

Now, as McTaggart looks forward to his role as CEO, he can reflect on a career rich with opportunities.

"I've had the good fortune of great mentors, great teachers, who have challenged me and created opportunities for me that I certainly didn't create for myself. By taking advantage of those opportunities, or at least pursuing them, good things have happened to me. I've really been fortunate and blessed." ■

"From the earliest time I can remember, radio has been magical and important to me, so I've always come back to radio."



JON McTAGGART



L-R: ROGER HELLOQUIST, RITA ALBRECHT AND RON JOHNSON

THE LINK BETWEEN CITIZENS AND THEIR GOVERNMENT

“The system creates a need for friends, neighbors, family members, or ourselves to step up and become elected officials.”

DR. PAT DONNAY

Each year, hundreds of Bemidji State University alumni exercise their civic duty by serving as commissioners, sheriffs, mayors, councilors, and school board members throughout the country. While statewide and national races grab major headlines, the democratic process is frequently felt most acutely when voters are asked to choose among local-election candidates whom they know personally as neighbors and friends.

“While this multi-layered and fragmented system is not always the most efficient, it does create a process that intimately links citizens with their government,” says Dr. Pat Donnay, Bemidji State University professor of political science, as he talks about the country’s 85,000 local governments. “The system creates a need for friends, neighbors, family members, or ourselves to step up and become elected officials.”

Donnay holds locally elected officials in high esteem, especially in today’s environment

where personal lives are closely scrutinized, instant communication can divert attention from real issues, and the political process is often viewed cynically. “One has to be willing to accept considerable responsibility for making decisions regarding public concerns where, in many cases, you get little in return,” he notes of the job that pays little and demands much. “The motivation to serve has to come from a strong civic commitment. Fortunately, in most locales, those people still emerge as leaders.”

In Bemidji, three BSU graduates comprise half of the town’s city council. These councilors – Ron Johnson, Roger Hellquist, and Rita Albrecht – share more than degrees from the University. Besides throwing their hats into local campaigns, all are actively involved in area organizations, and each was encouraged to run for office by others in the community.

Ron Johnson, Ward 3

From Bemidji, Johnson earned his visual arts degree in 1975 and worked in graphic design and marketing before returning home in 1979 to join the staff of Lakeland Public

Television, where he is now design and promotion manager. For 15 years, he also independently produced concerts featuring nationally known entertainers.

In 1996, the city’s mayor at the time asked Johnson to serve on an ad hoc committee to explore the potential of an events center. After hundreds of meetings, numerous votes, and a very public debate, the Bemidji Regional Event Center opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony in 2010. Renamed the Sanford Center, the regional facility is now home to Beaver hockey as well as a venue for concerts, trade shows, conferences, and special events such as commencement exercises.

“The event center was a big reason,” Johnson remembers of his 2000 run for city council. “I felt the city needed to grow. The council needs to be visionary and partner with businesses, the school district, the county, and the University.”

By tracking attendance at the concerts he promoted, Johnson knew that over 75 percent of ticket holders came from outside the Bemidji area, fortifying his belief that a facility could improve the region’s hospitality industry. Yet, Johnson served a decade on the city council before other elected city officials were also convinced of an event center’s potential.

Johnson currently serves as the council’s representative on the Sanford Center’s advisory committee as well as the Airport Authority, the public affairs committee, the Greater Bemidji Area Joint Planning Board, and the Headwaters Regional Development Commission (HRDC). He also represents Bemidji on the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities, a statewide lobbying group for which he is secretary.

“Sometimes you have activists who are on the far left and right, so you don’t have any way of coming together,” says Johnson, who is the longest sitting member of the current council. “I think 80 percent of people are in the middle. My theme is collaboration. You have to see a lot of give-and-take.”

Roger Hellquist, Ward 2

The direction of Hellquist’s future changed dramatically in 1981 when he was hit by a car while cycling. Originally from Thief River Falls, he grew up in Hibbing and moved to Bemidji in 1977 to work as an electrician. Injuries from the accident forced him to pursue a different career, which started when he earned an industrial technology degree from Bemidji State in 1985. After several years in manufacturing management and industry development, he returned to Bemidji in 1997 as the general manager of Search Resources, a full-service staffing business that specializes in securing, training, and supervising employees for clients.

Hellquist was a member of the planning and zoning commission for 10 years when the inclination to run for public office fully blossomed. In 2002, he earned a seat on the city council and is second only to Johnson in length of service among the current councilors.

“I always felt you needed to be part of something if you’re going to help in progress,” Hellquist explains of his reasons to seek a council seat. “You want to be a productive member of society, and this was a place where I could apply my skills and not be into politics full time.”

As a councilor, he applies his skills in several areas, including exploring downtown development, resolving rental issues as part of the Quality Neighborhood Initiative, working with the Jaycees, and sitting on the revolving loan committee, which provides short-term financing for economic development. He cites the council’s work in promoting public safety and the region’s ambiance as top priorities for a healthy community.

“People have to feel safe and comfortable in the city, and I want to make sure we have an adequate number of well-trained police and firefighters,” Hellquist notes.

Rita Albrecht, Ward 4

Albrecht’s first attempt at a BSU degree was diverted in 1979 when she decided to concentrate on raising a family and

operating the Bemidji A&W with her husband. When the business sold in 1998, the Big Falls native returned to campus, earning both social studies and geography degrees in 2001.

Although she taught for a while, Albrecht found her future emanating from the geography major, where she had focused on planning. She switched career paths in 2005, working for the city of Bemidji and then the Headwaters Regional Development Commission (HRDC) in planning, grant writing, and development capacities. In 2011, she began performing similar tasks as a planner and developer for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

Like Johnson and Hellquist, Albrecht was encouraged to run for public office by people she knew through her involvement in local organizations and nonprofits. After a successful 2010 fall campaign, she was one of two new council members seated last January.

“I found that the customer service and organizational skills I had from running a restaurant added value to my planning and development work,” Albrecht says of her impetus to run. “Having experience on boards, I felt I was ‘boots on the street,’ had a feel for what was going on, and could be a more informed voice on the council.”

She uses that voice by representing the council in regional library affairs, tourism promotion, and economic development. She remains active in other organizations, including the BSU alumni board.

One of her priorities is sustainable development on two fronts. “It’s important to show leadership on community development and economic development,” she observes. “The first is the stuff that makes a community a great place to live, whether that’s schools, parks, good shopping, nice roads, or housing. Economic development encompasses the jobs and drivers that make community development possible. They go hand in glove.” ■



WHEN PASSION
AND PROFESSION
MEET

DR. HILDY MCCARTHY

the **RIDE** of a Lifetime

LIFETIME

Born and raised in Manhattan, NY, where her family had lived for three generations, Dr. Hildy McCarthy was a carefree teenager in the 1960s who nearly flunked out of Vassar College after two years. At 24, she married an Episcopal minister and followed him to a mission church on the Leech Lake Indian Reservation. Although her career path had been unclear, she began to sense a need for direction and discovered that Bemidji State University could be the steppingstone to fulfilling her aspirations – if, with her prior academic record, the college would admit her.

Today, McCarthy works as a colon and rectal surgeon in New Orleans, LA, where she’s practiced for nearly 30 years. She also pursues a passion for horses on her 300-acre equestrian farm outside of the city.

“Bemidji brought me back a sense of myself,” she reflects. “When I was finishing high school and my first years at Vassar, I was very directionless and really my greatest interest was friends and parties and having fun.”

A Direction Emerges

While living in Minnesota’s north woods, McCarthy began to plot a course to what seemed almost unattainable at the time – medical school – and interviewed at Bemidji State, the only university within commuting distance of the reservation.

“Here I was, a young woman who had flunked out of Vassar, hoping to reapply myself and get accepted at medical school,” she reflects. “I didn’t even breathe the ‘surgeon’ word as it sounded too much like hubris.”

BSU’s dean of admissions was skeptical of her lofty goal to take pre-med classes, especially after perusing her dismal Vassar records. She was finally admitted provisionally with a stern warning that poor academic performance would lead to a quick exit. “So I started mapping out what I would have to



DR. HILDY MCCARTHY ON A FOX HUNT

do, and I just proceeded to do it,” she says of her newly chosen path. “And I loved it.”

With new direction, motivation, and the support of the faculty, McCarthy thrived at Bemidji. She spent most of her non-class

time studying in the library and found that the school’s resources exceeded her expectations.

“My family was very provincial about schools,” she notes. “They hadn’t heard of the city of Bemidji much less the college. I learned if you have a good college library, and you have good professors who care about learning, you can attend a small, local college and get a fine education.”

The Thrill of the Hunt

Her hard work paid off. She was accepted into the University of Minnesota Medical School after graduating from Bemidji State in 1974. After a residency in Minneapolis and a colon-rectal fellowship in Dallas, TX, McCarthy landed in private practice in New Orleans, a region of the country where she has flourished. Since beginning her practice, she has been named among the city’s outstanding physicians by *New Orleans Magazine*.

She has also rekindled her childhood passion for horseback riding and fox hunting – skills learned from her grandmother and great aunt who owned a farm in Massachusetts where she vacationed as a child. “I grew up with horses, loving them and enjoying them. I was horse crazy before I became boy crazy,” she says.

“Fox hunting was always the sport that I loved because it takes you outside,” she adds. “You’re on a horse; you’re working with dogs and understanding how wild animals function. It is not competitive, but exhilarating and enthralling and exhausting.”

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“Fox hunting was always the sport that I loved because it takes you outside. You’re on a horse; you’re working with dogs and understanding how wild animals function. It is not competitive, but exhilarating and enthralling and exhausting.” DR. HILDY MCCARTHY



{ continued from page 21 }

the RIDE of a Lifetime

▶ McCarthy and her current husband began hunting in Jackson, MS, with the Chula Homa Hunt, the nearest pack of foxhounds to New Orleans. The couple now makes the three-hour drive with their horses nearly every weekend to the hunt, where she serves as master of foxhounds.

In 1989, McCarthy turned her passion into a business and a tangible way to give back to the community she's come to love. She and her husband purchased Lagniappe Equestrian Center north of Folsom, LA. The farm boards horses, offers riding lessons, and hosts events. The farm's biggest show, Jumpin' into June, is a three-day, charity event showcasing more than 150 equestrians and their horses in hunter-jumper competitions. The weekend also features a silent auction with profits going to support local causes.

McCarthy sees her farm as a place where the community can come to experience the sport she has loved since childhood. "There are so many people in the last 20 years that I've been able to help expose to the sport," she says. "That's not what most people think of as community service, but in a sense it is. It's sharing the things you love with others and hoping they enjoy it as much as you do."

Striking a Balance

Now 64, McCarthy has reduced her practice, which gives her more time with the horses. She splits her residence between a home in New Orleans and a house the couple built on the farm four years ago. "I can look out the window and see the horses grazing, and there's a pond right below the house where the horses go and splash around," she describes.

Although she's found more time to be on her farm and to make return trips to the family farm in Massachusetts, the active surgeon is not looking to leave the operating room completely, at least for now. "I've cut back at this point to what is very comfortable," she says. "If my health stays with me, and my mental health as well, I would like to continue working the way I am until I'm 72."

Until that time, McCarthy continues enjoying success professionally and personally, striking a perfect balance between her two primary passions. "I think they complement each other because they're so different," she says. "I wouldn't want to do just one of them."

McCarthy continues to reflect on her short time at Bemidji with gratitude. "Bemidji had everything I needed," says McCarthy, acknowledging that the school set her on a path to success. ■

"There are so many people in the last 20 years that I've been able to help expose to the sport. That's not what most people think of as community service, but in a sense it is. It's sharing the things you love with others and hoping they enjoy it as much as you do."

DR. HILDY MCCARTHY



POST A COMMENT
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SAVE THE DATE

UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

- Bemidji Area Alumni Golf Outing** Maple Ridge Golf Course, Bemidji Sunday, September 18
- Homecoming 2011** Friday-Sunday, October 7-9
- Alumni Leaders in the Classroom** Thursday-Friday, October 6-7
- Alumni & Foundation Honors Gala** Sanford Center Ballroom, Bemidji Friday, October 7
- Football Alumni Weekend** Friday-Saturday, October 14-15
- Men's Hockey Alumni Weekend** Friday-Saturday, December 9-10
- Athletic Hall of Fame Weekend** Friday-Saturday, February 10-11
- MMEA BSU Alumni Reception**, Minneapolis, Friday, February 17

Contact the Alumni Office to register for events or for more information:

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

- Elaine M. Baldrice '79, Excelsior, MN
- Beverly A. (Burai) Balowe '57, Sacramento, CA
- John M. Bilyard '70, Eagan, MN
- Mary K. Bissell '68, Eau Claire, WI
- Merle Blank '57, Oak Ridge, TN
- Terence M. Boben '72, Walker, MN
- Elizabeth A. (Bender) Boquist '66, Northome, MN
- Maurine V. (Van Winkle) Boyd '49, Kingwood, TX
- Lowell V. Braaten '64, Aurora, MN
- Donald D. Dorn '50, Bemidji, MN
- Dan W. Dorsey '66, Minneapolis, MN
- Deloris (Mackie) Engevik '71, Gatzke, MN
- Dale A. Ewanchuk '74, Rimbey, AB
- Erma V. (Hamren) Feriancek '61, Nisswa, MN
- Marc T. Fuller '77, Minneapolis, MN
- Dennis J. Gravelle '69, Remer, MN
- Bernice A. (Brekke) Hanson '81, Erskine, MN
- Loretta Heim '50, San Diego, CA
- Chester O. Hodgson '32, Chatsworth, CA
- Howard Hoganson '70, Winter, WI
- Donald E. Holycross '48, Waite Park, MN
- Lois (Razee) Ittner '50, Bemidji, MN
- Joan G. Jaakkola '74, St. Cloud, MN
- Lydia (Sirotiak) Jackson '65, Grand Rapids, MN
- Christine E. Janda, Wilber, NE
- Vesta Q. Kerns '46, Bemidji, MN
- Caroline E. (West) Knutson '33, Sterling Heights, MI
- Lee R. Kofstad '97, East Grand Forks, MN
- Dee J. (Rose) Koskela '69, Cloquet, MN
- Thomas R. Lapp '59, Bemidji, MN
- Philip E. Larson '65, Cloquet, MN
- Scott R. Lindholm '78, Prior Lake, MN
- Ralph W. Lovering '70, Minnetonka, MN
- Gary A. Luoma '66, Grand Rapids, MN
- Julie E. (Raisch) Lyga '88, Clear Lake, WI
- Iona B. (Way) McDonald '70, Scottsdale, AZ
- Elaine J. (Peterson) McMartin '52, Winona, MN
- Donald W. Meacham '59, Bemidji, MN
- Glenda T. (Tuck) Mechtel '94, Bemidji, MN
- Mavis L. (Gates) Mower '38, Monroe, WA
- Donna J. (Nelson) Nathe '69, Mesa, AZ
- Arnold D. Nellis '68, Aurora, MN
- Cindy L. (Buckingham) Nelson '93, Grand Rapids, MN
- Olga A. (Hulteen) Peterson '60, Clearbrook, MN
- Brian D. Phelps, Brainerd, MN
- Wallace E. Rutkowski '55, St. Paul, MN
- Terence W. Salo '67, Hastings, MN
- Cynthia Sandstedt '72, Virginia, MN
- Larry C. Schaar '66, Deer River, MN
- Howard Schuett '82, Grand Forks, ND
- Ione O. (Bjorge) Seastrand '34, St. Paul, MN
- David A. Smith '72, Bemidji, MN
- Geraldine R. Smith '89, Bemidji, MN
- Donna M. Sorheim '62, Bemidji, MN
- Douglas L. Stern '80, Bemidji, MN
- Kathleen E. (Geving) Sturre '78, St. Paul, MN
- Barbara R. Swentkofske '80, Grand Rapids, MN

IN MEMORIAM



FALL 2011

CLASS NOTES

Note: Towns are located in Minnesota unless otherwise noted. Alumni names appear in bold.

Send your information to alumni@bemidjistate.edu or call toll free: 1-877-BSU-ALUM.

‘11 Chad Gunderson has been hired by the Leech Lake Brewing Company, a new brewery that opened last fall in Walker. The company produces seven British-style ales with distribution in local bottle shops and taverns. Gunderson lives in Bemidji ... **Justin Roue** is the newest addition to the Fosston Police Department. Roue is from Fosston.

‘10 Deborah Heltzer married Howard Walstein last January in Bemidji. The bride works three days a week at Teaching Temps, a substitute teaching service in the Twin Cities, and drives to Bemidji two days each week to teach special education online through Edvisions, based out of Henderson. The groom owns a DJ business in St. Louis Park, where the couple resides ... **Josh Zaborowski** of St. Cloud has been hired as a TRIO Upward Bound advisor at Central Lakes College, which has campuses in Brainerd and Staples. Zaborowski worked with the BSU Upward Bound Program for three years as a tutor-mentor.

‘09 Greg Moon married KeriAnne Mauch last December in Puerto Rico. The bride and groom are employed at Northern Pines Mental Health Center in Brainerd, where the couple resides ... **Sarah Kluge** returned home to Machesney Park, IL, to pursue a degree in massage therapy. After graduating in June, she intends to return to Minnesota to begin her professional career ... **Dieter Kurzweg** has moved to Germany to become a certified brewer. Since arriving in Europe, he has completed a one-year internship at a brewpub and soon will be starting a two-year apprenticeship with a regional brewer and a short internship with a malting company. He lives in Fulda, Germany.

‘08 Andrew Burford has joined the Bemidji Police Department. Originally from Bagley, Burford was a policeman in Pike Bay Township near Cass Lake for two years before joining the Bemidji force ... **Christian Feichtinger** of Burnsville is a diamond and custom design specialist with the Jay F. Jeweler Company in Apple Valley. Feichtinger, who completed additional studies at the Gemological Institute of America, works at the business with his father and brother.

‘07 Carly Melin was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in February. A Democrat, Melin won the House 5B seat during a special election to fill a vacancy created when the incumbent was named commissioner of the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board. Melin, who once worked as a staff member at the Minnesota State Legislature, is a Hibbing lawyer employed by the Minnesota State Judiciary to conduct research for judges in the northeast region of the state ... **Patrick Schuett**

has been hired by Western Plains Consulting (WPC) to work in the areas of natural resources, wetlands, and related projects. He previously worked with the Natural Resource Conservation Service of the US Department of Agriculture and with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. WPC is an environmental, natural resources, and regulatory services consulting firm headquartered in Bismarck, ND, where Schuett now resides ... **Josh Harvey** is the new publisher of *BigRedReport.com*, a website and magazine covering University of Nebraska athletics. *BigRedReport* is produced by Scout.com and FoxSports, where Harvey has worked for three years. His previous assignments included covering athletics at Texas Christian University, Southern Methodist University, the University of Texas, and the University of Iowa. Harvey lives in Fort Worth, TX.

‘06 Andy Browers of Minneapolis was a cast member for the production of Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* at the Guthrie Theater last fall. As an actor, he has also appeared onstage professionally at the Paul Bunyan Playhouse in Bemidji and the Long Lake Theater in Hubbard. This summer, he directed and acted in the classic farce *Arsenic and Old Lace* at the Long Lake Theater, where he also performed in the musical *The Last Resort* and Neil Simon's *Brighton Beach Memoirs* ... **Jill Tollefson** is an event planner for Holland America, where she specializes in entertainment on cruise ships. Her job entails coordinating and supervising singers, dancers, musicians, guest entertainers, stage technicians, and broadcasters in a troupe of 50-70 people on each cruise. In 2006, while on a BSU internship in Australia, she started down her career path as an entertainment staff member with a Norwegian cruise line. A year later, she joined Holland America, which has 15 ships in its fleet. Her assignments have taken her to Alaska, Mexico, the Bahamas, the Caribbean, Central America, along the US eastern seaboard, Canada, and the Baltic. While her permanent address is Springfield, she thinks of her current ship as home.

‘05 Josh Smith is a business officer at Border State Bank in Thief River Falls. Previously a business account underwriter for Federated Insurance, he will be relocating from Dodge Center to the Thief River Falls area ... **Nicole Candace (Joy) Eck** is a special education teacher at Red Lake Elementary School. She and her husband, Michael, live in Bemidji and are expecting their first child this fall.

‘04 Heather (Hoffman) and Marty Humentnik (‘03) continue to live in Owatonna with their three children. Heather teaches sixth- through twelfth-grade English in Faribault, while Marty is an agency management specialist at Selective Insurance.

‘03 Paige (Ross) Fromm is the creative director at Walter's Publishing in North Mankato. She has been heavily involved with creating and releasing a new, browser-based, yearbook design program called Pictavo. The program includes templates, advanced page layout options, project management, organizational tools, and other features for users to employ when producing yearbooks or other publications. She lives in Waterville with her husband, Jeff ... **Aaron Larson** purchased the Westwood Building Center in Bagley, becoming the third generation of his family to own and operate the lumberyard and home store. After graduating from BSU, he began working in the field with Tiaga Construction in Bemidji and worked at Westwood for four years before buying the business. He and his wife, **Heidi (‘01)**, have three children and live in Bagley.

‘02 Teresa Strong of Orr is the superintendent for St. Louis County Schools, which is geographically the largest school district in Minnesota with campuses in Saginaw, Babbitt, Iron, Cook, Cotton, Orr, and Tower. She previously was the superintendent and principal of Nett Lake Elementary School and has experience in Early Childhood Family Education as well as special education. Strong's new school district serves 1,900 students ... **Joshua Parks** of Minneapolis is employed as a senior design model maker by WhiteBoard Product Solutions in Eden Prairie. The 20-year-old firm provides industrial design, engineering, prototyping, new venture solutions, and graphic design to clients ranging from Target to 20th Century Fox.

‘01 Lani (Krueger) Grafelman has been named Minnesota's Big Sister of the Year. A paraprofessional at Big Lake Middle School, she began volunteering as a Big Sister in 1998 while a BSU student and has continued to affect the lives of young girls since that time. After graduation, Grafelman worked for the Big Brother/Big Sister Program and moved to Big Lake two years ago with her husband, Paul ... **Jennifer (Shaner) Graber** and her husband, Chris, celebrated the arrival of their second child. The family lives in Dayton ... **Jay Ross** has been promoted to principal with the accounting and financial advising firm LarsonAllen. Ross has more than nine years experience in public accounting, specializing in health care. He focuses on tax, audit, and consulting services to physicians and medical groups. His office is in Brainerd, where he lives with his wife, Jessi ... **Becky (Zimmer) Larson** and her husband Tony announced the March birth of their third daughter. Becky is a stay-at-home mom, while Tony is a territory manager for Otis Elevator. The family's home is in Grand Rapids.

‘00 Miranda (Clausen) Anderson has been named the marketing and public relations director for Essentia Health Central Region, which includes St. Joseph's Medical Center in Brainerd as well as eight clinics and

specialty areas. Anderson previously worked for Lyngblomsten Care Facilities, the Russell Herder marketing firm, Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union, and, most recently, the Brainerd Lakes Chamber of Commerce. She and her husband, Charles, reside in Merrifield.

‘99 Nick Hudson of White Bear Lake was recently on the season finale and reunion show of the MTV program, "I Used to be Fat." A personal trainer, Hudson was paired with a Faribault teen on the prime-time show that followed them through a summer of fitness training. His student lost 30 pounds over the summer and an additional 20 after she started college. Hudson moved back to Minnesota after exploring modeling, acting, and television opportunities in California. He and two colleagues recently opened Success Boot Camp, a program that features high-intensity circuit classes combined with cardio and weight training. He now calls St. Paul home ... **Norm Gallant** took over as activities director at Wadena-Deer Creek High School just two days before a tornado demolished the facility in 2010. All sports and activities still started on time and the Wolverines volleyball team won the Minnesota Class AA title in the fall. He and his wife, **Mandy (Johnson, ‘99)** live in Wadena.

‘98 Jonathan Olson has joined LarsonAllen as a manager in construction and real estate tax services, where he has 11 years of experience. He currently works between the company's offices in Alexandria, St. Cloud, and Hudson, WI. He and his wife, Katy, are planning to relocate their family to the Alexandria area ... **Torrey Westrom** presided over a session of the Minnesota House of Representatives and became the first blind person ever to serve as Speaker Pro Tempore in the state's history. Westrom, a Republican, was elected in District 2A and is serving his eighth term in the Minnesota House. From Elbow Lake, he is a lawyer and small business owner.

‘97 Gus Booth was a guest speaker at the River of Life Church in Cambridge. Booth presented a faith-based message in a humorous and non-traditional format during the service. Pastor of the Warroad Community Church for over 10 years, he lives in Warroad with his wife, Winter, and their four children ... **Tandy Bowman** is founding director of Servant Hearts, a nonprofit organization that sponsors programs and projects for marginalized and at-risk youth and adults. Founded in 2004, the organization helps individuals embrace their own diversity while providing education, support programs, and spiritual encouragement for others to grow in their understanding and support of diversity throughout greater Minnesota. After graduating from BSU, she was the booking and touring manager for Zambian a Cappella in Texas before returning to Minnesota, where she owned and operated an adult foster care home.

She then facilitated reflective music programming at a long-term care facility. A pianist, vocalist, and guitarist who recorded her first CD in 2007, Bowman lives in Bemidji with her partner, Cathy Perry.

‘96 Dr. Anita Grace has been hired as the superintendent for the Cass Lake-Bena school district. Grace brings varied experience to her new position. She previously served as a business administrative assistant in two corporations, a teacher for special needs students in both Wisconsin and Washington, and superintendent and principal for the Goodman-Armstrong Creek school district in Wisconsin.

‘95 Corey Barke and his wife, Bethany, opened a store called Max Muscle Sports Nutrition in Brooklyn Park, where they live. The store specializes in nutrition, vitamins, and supplements. In addition to operating the business, Corey is a certified fitness coach ... **Ryan Voz** and his wife, Melissa, recently celebrated their 10th anniversary with their two young children in Avon, where they live. Ryan is co-owner of the Willmar Stingers, a baseball franchise competing in the Northwoods League. Melissa is a registered nurse at St. Cloud Surgical Center.

‘94 Andy Oman has taken over the State Farm Insurance agency from his father, who ran the Crookston office for 35 years. Oman worked as a business development manager for Eastman Kodak and a manager at Pakon, Inc., before becoming the third generation of his family to join State Farm as an agent. He and his wife, Lynnea, live in Crookston with their three children.

‘93 Chris Kujava added the directorship of the Marshall County Social Services to his current position of director of Norman County Social Services. In what the counties are calling an experiment in the redesign of public service governance, the job sharing will continue for at least one year before being evaluated for possible extension and restructuring. Kujava has more than 11 years experience in Norman County after starting there in 1999 as a social worker. He also has three years experience with the Northwest Mental Health Center in Crookston. He and his wife, Kari, make their home with two children in Ada.

‘92 Charles Schlaepfer has taught in Tennessee, Minnesota, Texas, and Arkansas. Most recently, he has been a direct care specialist on the Iron Range for youth with disabilities. He has added the piano and creative writing to his list of interests. He and his wife, Cindy, have five adult children and live in Virginia.

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CLASS NOTES

{ continued from page 26 }

'91 Peg Van Buren has retired after working 19 years at the Women's Center of Mid-Minnesota in Brainerd. A Merrifield resident, she plans to spend retirement visiting her six children and 12 grandchildren.

'90 Leslie Grisanti was a producer for the "Oprah Winfrey Show." She previously worked for the personal finance show "Right on the Money" and Cable News Network (CNN), including assignments on the international desk, for business news, and as a field producer. She lives in Chicago ... **Greg Jackson** is the special agent in charge of law enforcement for the U.S. and Wildlife Service Great Lakes/Big Rivers Midwest Region. Jackson oversees the special agents, wildlife inspectors, and administrative personnel of the eight-state region. The regional office is based in Fort Snelling ... **Robert Enger** is president-elect of the Minnesota State Bar Association, a post he assumed on July 1. He is slated to become the organization's president next year. An attorney in the Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota, Enger serves low income and elderly individuals in five of the state's northwestern counties. He helps his clients understand their legal rights, gain access to the court system and other legal agencies, and secure the assistance they're legally entitled to. Robert and his wife, Rebecca (Norha), reside in Bemidji.

'89 Mary (Weis) Nordeen presented at a program in Grand Rapids entitled Re-Connecting to Our Fabulous Forests. Nordeen, the environmental education specialist for the Chippewa National Forest in Walker, discussed wildflowers and spring phenology. Nordeen introduces the forest to people through school programs, presentations at visitors centers, and family days at the Chippewa National Forest. She resides in Walker ... **Buck Kochevar** is recuperating from a skull fracture following a fall on the ice during practice for the Lakeville North girls' hockey team. A teacher in Crystal Lake Elementary School, Kochevar is head coach of the Lakeville team and was injured on February 14. He was released from inpatient therapy on February 28. He and his wife, Lynn, live in Lakeville ... **Jill Torgerson** received a certificate of affiliation with theological education for emerging ministries from the Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. Torgerson, who lives in Bagley with her husband, Jerald, currently serves in the

Gonvick Lutheran Parish ... **Sheila (Sand) Ely** has been a stay-at-home mom and is now preparing to enter the workforce. She lives in Monticello with her five children.

'88 Karen Michelson has retired after teaching English for 23 years at the Minnesota State Community and Technical College, which has campuses in Detroit Lakes, Fergus Falls, Moorhead, and Wadena. During her tenure at the college, the Fergus Falls resident started a writing center to offer students one-on-one tutoring and also initiated study abroad programs.

'87 Michael Hedlund has served for three years as the chief of police in East Grand Forks, where he oversees a staff of 24 officers. He previously had worked 22 years in Grand Forks, ND. He now lives in East Grand Forks ... **Debbie (Cote) Anderson** has served as a district supervisor for the Minnesota Department of Corrections since 2008. She is president-elect of the Minnesota Corrections Association and will serve as the organization's president in 2012. Anderson and her husband, Tom, live in Sauk Centre.

'85 Randy Tabatt of Little Falls has been named Assistant Coach of the Year by the Minnesota Basketball Coaches Association. The honor was presented in recognition of his coaching longevity, participation in successful programs, and contributions to athletics, sports, arts, and the community. Tabatt has taught at Little Falls High School for 26 years and has coached various sports since 1985. He has served as the assistant varsity coach for the boys' team at the school for the last 14 years.

'84 Sue (Herling) Bakken has retired after teaching for 25 years at schools in Middle River. Her classroom assignments have included kindergarten, fourth grade, and fifth grade. She and her husband, Torris, live in Roseau. She has five children and an equal number of grandchildren.

'83 Jacqueline Newman was one of 16 individuals selected nationwide as a science ambassador for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Held in Atlanta, GA, the program is a five-day, professional development workshop for middle and high school science educators where lesson plans are developed on public health topics. Newman, who lives in Guymon, OK, teaches high school chemistry and forensic science. She has one grown son.

'82 Sandra (Henderson) Trenda has been promoted to chief legal officer for Great Clips, the world's largest salon brand and Minneapolis-based franchise company. In her new position, she plays a key role in brand protection and provides a greater focus on

franchisee coaching. Trenda, from Bloomington, previously served the firm as vice president and general counsel. Great Clips was established in 1982 and now has nearly 3,000 salons throughout North America ... **Jim Scanlan** is the athletic director and head girls' varsity hockey coach in the East Grand Forks school district. He and his wife, **Cynthia (Woods, '81)**, have three children and reside in East Grand Forks ... **Mike Olson** was named director of the Sauk Centre Area Chamber of Commerce. Olson, who most recently worked with Catholic Charities, will guide the organization of over 130 members. He and his wife, **Maurine (Moody, '81)**, reside in Sauk Centre ... **Jon and Laurie (Anderson) Gelschus** welcomed their first grandchild into the family last January. Jon is the general manager for Sci Tech Premixes in Stewart, while Laurie is a loan officer assistant for Cornerstone Mortgage Company in Hutchinson, where the couple lives. They have three children, all of whom were married within a year of each other ... **Mary (Koeber) Perrine** was named the 2010-11 Eastern Carver County School Teacher of the Year. She teaches sixth grade at Chaska Middle School East. Her husband, **Mitch ('81)**, is the principal at Red Oak Elementary School in Shakopee. The couple lives in Carver and has two children.

'81 Sandy (Johnson) Baker is the director of the choral program for Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg (KMS) schools and teaches fourth- through sixth-grade music in the district's elementary school. As director, she leads the junior high and senior high choirs as well as coaches students preparing for solo and ensemble contests. She is the vocal coach for KMS musical productions. She and her husband, **David**, live in Sunburg.

'80 Barb (Witt) Kavan recently published the children's book *Trainman: Gaining Acceptance ... and Friends ... Through Special Interests* printed by the Autism Asperger Publishing Company. Based on a true story about her son, *Trainman* was an honorable mention selection at the New England Book Festival. Kavan is the special education coordinator for Prior Lake schools. She and her husband, Jerry, reside in LeCenter ... **Joe Wildman** was selected Teacher of the Year in the Milaca school district, where he has instructed health, physical education, and developmental adapted physical education since 1980. He also coached boys' and girls' swimming until 2007, when he became the head cross country coach. A multiple recipient of Coach of the Year honors in swimming, Joe and his wife, Sue, have four children and live in Milaca.

'78 Dick Lafean will retire in January after serving the Coon Rapids Police Department for 32 years. For 19 of those years, he was a teacher in the DARE program at Sand Creek Elementary. He also taught at Mississippi Elementary School and Jacob Elementary School. His wife, **Nancy (Davenport)**, has worked in hu-

man resources at Hiawatha Rubber Company in Minneapolis for 33 years. The couple makes their home in Coon Rapids, where they raised two children who attended BSU ... **Matt Richeson** has been a senior accountant at Physicians Mutual Insurance in Omaha, NE, for six years. Prior to that, he worked at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska for 19 years. He lives with his wife, Rhonda, and one teenager in Omaha.

'77 Jim Baratto is the co-founder of Baratto Brothers Construction in Crosslake. Serving clients in the Brainerd area, the award-winning firm is known to take on any sized project in building or remodeling. Baratto brought 25 years of teaching experience in architectural drafting, electronics, and the building trades to the company he started with his brother in 2002. He and his wife, Deanna, live in Breezy Point.

'76 Keith Michalke has published *Coaching Kids: If Fun is #1, What are Numbers 2, 3, ...?* which explores the purposes of organized sports programs based on the wants, needs, and values of kids, parents, and administrators. A retired teacher who lives in Truman, Michalke has coached basketball on the high school, junior college, and NCAA Division III levels. He is currently working on three more books.

'75 Kris Brenna Lyons retired from teaching last year after a 35-year career as a language arts educator, including 33 years at Moose Lake, where she lives. During her tenure, she coached two girls' softball teams to state titles, boys' hockey for six years, and boys' baseball for three years. Over that span, she directed 120 full-length plays and many one-act plays. She also served one year as a Fulbright exchange teacher.

'74 Jack Almos retired this spring after serving the Hinckley-Finlayson school district for 30 years: 11 as a high school principal, one as curriculum director, and 18 as superintendent. Almos also received an Administrator of Excellence Award from the Minnesota Association of School Administrators for his contributions to public education. His wife, Pat, retired last spring after teaching at the elementary level for 29 years. The couple resides in Hinckley ... **Mike Newman** and his wife, Deb, will become empty-nesters in September when the youngest son leaves their Eagan home. Mike is a vice president with the Travelers Foundation, which primarily supports education initiatives in the cities of St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Hartford, CT, as well as in other select cities nationally.

'73 Jim Dauwalter received the 2011 George C. Klein Service Above Self Award presented by the Chaska Rotary Club. Dauwalter has been active in the Chaska Chamber of Commerce, his church, and the St. Francis Foundation. He is also a founding board

member of both Christmas in May and Love INC. A Chaska High School Hall of Fame inductee, he was the recipient of the Spirit of Chaska Award from the chamber. Dauwalter served in leadership positions, including president, CEO, and COO at Entegris, a firm providing advanced solutions in technically demanding manufacturing environments. He and his wife, **Judy (Kolar, '74)**, have three children and live in Chaska ... **Pete Saxe** has been inducted into the David Barelma Wrestling Hall of Fame. Saxe was a former state champion wrestler at Forest Lake High School and won three NAIA All-America honors while competing at BSU. A former teacher and coach, he has spent 21 years working in the public works department for the city of Arden Hills. He and his wife, Julie, live in Stacy and have five children as well as seven grandchildren ... **Linda Wagner** has retired as music director of Cass Lake-Bena schools. Wagner started teaching music at the district in 1988. In retirement, she plans to explore new opportunities in music, drama, travel, and family activities. Wagner and husband, Bob, have three children and two grandchildren. The couple makes their home in Bemidji ... **Dennis Setniker** recently retired from the Canadian National Railway after 36 years. He and his wife, Bonnie, reside in Biwabik ... **Debra (Rhodes) Thurman** has taught for 36 years at St. Brendan Catholic School in Mexico, MO. She lives there with her husband, Howard, who works for the Caterpillar Company. The couple has two children as well as one grandchild. They enjoy visiting the Minnesota city of Crosby.

'72 Debra Kellerman and her husband, Tony Wandersee, had their resort, Angle Inn Lodge, featured in the book *Resorts of Minnesota*, a 234-page publication highlighting 36 resorts and the families who run them. Angle Inn Lodge is a full-service, year-round vacation spot on Oak Island on Lake of the Woods at the northernmost tip of Minnesota. Debra and Tony live on Oak Island with their two children ... **Linda (Moellner) Swalve** will be retiring after a long career in education, which included stops in Staples and Alexandria before she became the specific learning disability educator on the elementary level at Spring Grove in 1990. She lives in Mabel with her husband, Lloyd, who plans to semi-retire in January.

'71 Robert "Skip" Drake is retiring after 33 years in the historic sites program of the Minnesota Historical Society. Drake came to the society in 1978 after serving as the site manager of the Gibbs Farm Museum for the Ramsey County Historical Society. His first task with the state society was at the Forest History Center, where he was site manager. In 2004, he was appointed the northern district manager with responsibility for overseeing the Forest History Center, Split Rock Lighthouse, the Mille Lacs Indian Museum, the Charles A. Lindbergh House, the Oliver H. Kelley Farm, and the North

West Company Fur Post. In 2008 the Alexander Ramsey House, Jeffers Petroglyphs, Historic Forestville, and the James J. Hill House were added to his sites. Last year, he received the Excellence in Peer Review Service Award from the American Association of Museums. He and his wife, **Bonnie (Klukken, '72)**, live in Grand Rapids ... **Glennis (Hovelson) Olson** retired in 2007 from teaching fifth grade at Frazee Elementary School. She is now working as an administrative assistant at Grace Lutheran Church in Detroit Lakes, where she lives. She also spends time with her four children and seven grandchildren ... **Dr. Robert Weber** retired in August after completing 40 years of teaching, coaching, and administrative work, 11 in public school systems and the remaining at colleges in Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Utah, Texas, North Carolina, North Dakota, and South Dakota. During his tenure in academia, he also served as division chair, recreation director, and athletic director on the collegiate level. His coaching resume' includes many sports for men and women. Weber has received 39 awards for teaching and professional accomplishments, including the International Man of the Year Award for his contributions to rehabilitation and the adapted physical education program he developed at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, where he has been a faculty member since 2002. He lives in Fond du Lac, WI, with his wife, Nancy.

'70 Roy Sutherland was presented the Ben Stenberg Award for outstanding community contributions by the Rochester Quarterback Club. Sutherland was a physical education teacher in the Rochester school district from 1970 to 1974 and a Rochester park and recreation department employee from 1974 to 2007, serving as its director from 1990 until retiring in 2007. He also was manager of the Graham Arena, Plummer House, and the Mayo Civic Center. He coached youth hockey for 19 years. He lives in Rochester ... **Peggy and Roger ('69) Jones** retired as teachers from the Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop (GFW) school district last spring. Peggy began her teaching career in the kindergarten classroom at Winthrop in 1970 but quit to be an at-home mom after their first child was born. She returned to education in the 1980s by starting an Early Childhood Family Education program serving four communities. She finished her career teaching at the GFW elementary and middle schools. A chemistry and math teacher, Roger retired in 2003 but came back part time to teach chemistry. The couple lives in Winthrop and, in retirement, plans to enjoy family, which includes six grandchildren.

'69 Sally (Bock) Erickson continues teaching high school English at the Brainerd Area Education Center. She has two grown children and lives in Brainerd.

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BSU Homecoming

CLASS NOTES

{ continued from page 27 }

'66 Regina (Toscano) Scott retired in June 2010 after 23 years of teaching, the last 10 in Des Moines, IA, public and Catholic schools. Her husband, Pat, retired from a position at the Iowa Job Service. The couple is relocating from Des Moines to Clear Lake, IA.

'65 John and Pam (Ruhnke, '70) Arneson have been named the 2011 Valley Farmer and Homemaker for Clearwater County. The Arnesons live on a 530-acre farm between Bagley and Bemidji that was part of his original 1914 family farm. In addition to operating the farm, John served a variety of administrative roles at Bemidji State University, and Pam taught in the Bagley school district for 33 years. Both retired in 2005.

'64 Tolly Vollen spent two weeks last winter as a volunteer supporting the Iditarod dogsled race in Alaska. He is a retired teacher who lives in St. Cloud with his wife, Karen.

'62 Karen (Clementson) Wingate and her husband, Ed, live in Grand Canyon, AZ, but spend summers in Northfield. Retired, she taught first grade for 32 years ... **Will Marwitz** published *Turning the Cup*, a book of poetry focusing on Minnesota's state parks and rural areas. Marwitz retired in 2000 after teaching in Pipestone for 33 years. He since has been serving as an adjunct instructor at the College of St. Benedict and St. John's University. He and his wife, Mylla, live in St. Joseph.

'60 Katherine and Keith ('58) Cariveau are enjoying retirement. They stay busy volunteering with local organizations, traveling, golfing, reading, gardening, and being active in their church. The couple also spends time with the 10 grandchildren who live near their home in Livermore, CA.

'58 Norm Reopelle is now fully retired after teaching 52 years, the last 44 at Rochester Community and Technical College. He and his wife, Karen, reside in Rochester.

'56 Dick Green was inducted into the J.F. Kennedy High School Fine Arts

and Activities Hall of Fame. An art teacher at Kennedy, Green continued teaching watercolor classes throughout the Twin Cities area after his retirement in 1993. His paintings have been accepted into many local and national juried exhibitions and have been published in seven books and magazines, including the cover of the 2006 *Cross Country Skier* magazine.

'55 Dr. Jim Logsdon continues working in Santa Cruz, CA, city schools and promoting bilingual education. He resides in that community.

'53 Corinne Mase has relocated to Rochester, where she had eye surgery at the Mayo Clinic.

'52 Richard Petersen co-authored the book *The Early Days of Clarkfield with Stops Along the Right-of-Way*, a photo history of the Minnesota prairie town. The work tells the story of the early settlers, businesses, banks, churches, schools, and entertainment venues that emerged after the railroad built a depot and siding in the community. Petersen retired 18 years ago after a 38-year career teaching in Clarkfield. He and his wife, Elaine, have three adult children and live in Clarkfield.

'48 Dr. Perry Patterson and his wife, Mary Alice, live with one of their two sons in Sioux City, IA. Patterson, who earned his doctorate in theater many decades ago, still remembers performing in plays at BSU and the students, directors, faculty, and staff who were at the University during his undergraduate years. He celebrated his 85th birthday in August.

'41 Harold Shellum retired from the National Weather Service in 1979 after 33 years. His wife of 63 years, Ruth, recently passed away. He lives in Monrovia, CA.

'40 LeRoy Maas donated four mementos to the Freeborn County History Museum: an old water pump presented to Maas as a symbol of the lives he primed during his years as a teacher and coach; a sculpture of him from Albert Lea High School; a framed proclamation declaring September 26, 2003, as LeRoy and Lillian Maas Day in Minnesota; and a newspaper cartoon of Maas as a coach. He lives in Albert Lea.

Other Alumni

Josh Peterson received an Army Achievement Medal for his efforts in aiding stranded travelers in the Fargo, ND, area last January. Peterson is a member of the North Dakota National Guard 188th Army Band. ■



Friday October 7

11:30 A.M. Beaver Pride Luncheon
Walnut Hall, BSU Campus. \$8 per person. Join other BSU athletic fans as they listen to coaches and student athletes talk about their upcoming season.

5:30 P.M. BSU Honors Gala
Sanford Center Ballroom, Bemidji. A joint Alumni and Foundation event honoring BSU's Outstanding Alumni and President's Society level donors. Black tie optional. Open to the public. \$35 per person. Register online at www.bsualumni.org or call 1-877-278-2586.

Alumni Award Recipients

OUTSTANDING ALUMNI AWARD
Trent Baalke '87
William "Bill" Hawkins '74
Michael Roberge '90

ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD
Austin Wallestad '70

YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD
Nathan Sannes '05

HONORS GALA SPONSORS
Lueken's Village Foods, Sanford Health, Nezter's Bemidji Floral, NLFX, Paul Bunyan Broadcasting, Paul Bunyan Communications, and RP Broadcasting.

Saturday October 8

9:00 A.M. Homecoming 5K Run/Walk
Chet Anderson Stadium. \$10 per person, includes T-shirt and beverages. The course tours campus. 8:00 a.m. check in. For more information email rftulton@vacationsports.com

9:00 A.M. Unveiling of the Outstanding Alumni Recognition Wall; Alumni Association and Foundation annual meetings
Hobson Memorial Union. Everyone is welcome!

11:00 A.M. Homecoming Tailgate Party
Diamond Point Park, next to the Chet Anderson Stadium. Cost is \$5. All are welcome!

1:00 P.M. Homecoming Football Game
Chet Anderson Stadium. The BSU Beavers take on the Concordia St. Paul Golden Bears.

3:00 P.M. Lutheran Campus Center Open House
1221 Birchmont Drive. For all alumni and friends, and their families following the football game and continuing until 5:00 p.m. Join them for some munchies, reminiscing, tours of the building, and good times. Plan to stop by!

5:00 P.M. Football Alumni Reunion
Following the game, Elks Club Bemidji. All football alumni are invited to attend.

8:30 P.M. Beaver Block Party
Beltrami Avenue between 3rd and 4th streets in downtown Bemidji. Gather with friends for this fabulous street dance with live music by the Front Fenders from Fargo, ND.

STREET DANCE SPONSORS
Coca Cola of Bemidji, Paul Bunyan Broadcasting, Paul Bunyan Communications, and RP Broadcasting

Sunday October 9

3:00 P.M. Carl O. Thompson Memorial Concert
BSU Thompson Recital Hall, Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex. Tickets at the door.

For more information or to register for events, go to the Alumni Association website at www.bsualumni.org and click on Homecoming 2011 under Coming Events.

HOTEL ROOMS

Patronize these supporters of the BSU Foundation and take advantage of discounted room rates for BSU alumni. Ask for the BSU Homecoming rate. Please make your reservations no later than September 7.

AmericInn
218-751-3000

Best Western
218-751-0390

Hampton Inn
218-751-3600

Holiday Inn Express
218-751-2487

Super 8 Motel
218-751-8481

Up North with Paul, Babe & Bucky!





BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

1500 Birchmont Drive NE
Bemidji, MN 56601-2699



ADMISSIONS

Campus Previews Days

Saturday: October 8
Fridays: Nov. 4, Nov. 18, Jan. 20, Feb. 10
Mondays: Feb. 20, March 12

Saturday Samplers

Sept. 10, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, Feb. 4, March 3, April 21, May 5

Fall Visit Days Thurs.-Fri., Oct. 20-21

National College Fair Tues.-Wed., Oct. 4-5

Contact Admissions

www.bemidjistate.edu/admissions/undergrad
218-755-2040 or 1-877-236-4354

CAMPUS CALENDAR

Oct. 7-9 **Homecoming Weekend**
Dec 2-3, 9-10 **Madrigal Dinners**, 7 p.m.
Dec. 4 **Madrigal Dinner**, 5 p.m.
Jan. 9 **Spring Semester Begins**

For University events and news
visit www.bemidjistate.edu

Also follow BSU on

