

HORIZONS



Fueling Up

BSU Alums at forefront of ethanol growth

Heavy Metal

Elements come to life in northern Minnesota

Hot Potato

BSU professor digs in



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Summer may have a laid-back reputation, but the Bemidji State campus is typically bustling with classes, special events, and activities. In addition to regular classes, workshops and short courses scheduled over two academic sessions, a sampling of activities include (clockwise, starting at lower left): a participant in the Visions of Sport Camp for the visually impaired; canoeists who participated in a Youth Recreation Camp through the Gillett Recreation-Fitness Center; the annual BSU MusiCamp for vocalists and instrumentalists; youngsters at Soccer Camp; sailors on Lake Bemidji who rented a sailboat from the Outdoor Program Center; Sharon Olds, visiting distinguished writer at the Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference; and a registrant at the Ancient Voices - Contemporary Contexts Forum for sharing Native American wisdom and perspectives. The background photograph shows golfers at the Wells Fargo/Gordy Skaar Memorial Golf Tournament, one of three summer links events held to raise funds for Beaver athletics.

Al Nohner ('70, '93)

THE LAKE,
THE LEARNING,

THE
Life...



BEMIDJI
STATE UNIVERSITY



COVER STORY:

Alumni Aaron (left) and Evan Fagen chart the future of ethanol production in the United States. Story on page 20.

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HORIZONS

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Campus Notes

Master's in Special Education Available Online

Individuals interested in pursuing a master of science degree in special education may now enroll in a 37-credit graduate program offered online by Bemidji State.

The master's includes the courses that provide a broad background in special education as well as the classes required for individuals to obtain a licensure to teach kindergarten through grade 12 students with emotional behavioral disorders (EBD) and learning disabilities (SLD). Individuals would need to successfully complete the state licensing exam.

There is a high need in the state for teachers trained in this field. In a study that led up to 2005, the Minnesota Department of Education reported that EBD would experience the most critical shortage of teachers in the state while teaching students with learning disabilities would be the fifth most critical.

Grant Supports Nursing Program Development

Bemidji State University has been awarded \$175,000 to continue its program development of a four-year, generic baccalaureate nursing program.

The support came from Legislative Initiative Funds dedicated for expanding nursing programs and allocated to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU).

The BSU proposal was one of only two funded statewide, and the money is earmarked for hiring a program director and purchasing learning materi-

2006 Outstanding Alumni

Seven individuals have been chosen as the 2006 Outstanding Alumni at BSU. Those being recognized during the Alumni Honors Banquet at Homecoming will be:

Kermit Bensen '60
Bemidji, MN

Lorraine Cecil '68
Bemidji, MN

David Czarnecki '69
Dubuque, IA

Bruce Falk '71
Salol, MN

Paul Godlewski '70
Ramsey, MN

Debra Kellerman '72
Oak Island, MN

Carol Russell '74
Brainerd, MN

For more information about the Alumni Honors Banquet, see Homecoming information on page 29.

als needed to meet the requirements of the Board of Nursing approval process.

If all goes as hoped, the program is expected to begin in the fall of 2007 and graduate the first new registered nurses in spring of 2011.

Kathleen Blatz Named Distinguished Minnesotan

Former Minnesota Supreme Court Chief Justice Kathleen Blatz received the 2006 Distinguished Minnesotan Award during commencement ceremonies this spring at Bemidji State.

First presented in 1981, the Distinguished Minnesotan Award recognizes the contributions of a current or former resident of the state who has performed exemplary service to the people of Minnesota or the United States.

Blatz was appointed an associate justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court in 1996 by Gov. Arne Carlson, who appointed her chief justice in 1998. In that role, Blatz championed many efforts to improve the court's handling of abused and neglected children. She stepped down as chief justice in January.

Among her many honors, Blatz was named the National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association Judge of the Year in 2005. In 2004 she received the Minnesota Council of Child Care Agencies Distinguished Service Award and, that same year, was named among the University of Minnesota School of Social Work Alumni of the Year.



Kathleen Blatz

Criminal Justice Offered in Brainerd

The Bemidji State University bachelor's degree in criminal justice is now available in Brainerd through a special arrangement with Central Lakes College (CLC).

For the convenience of working adults, the entire program can be completed during evening hours and through on-line instruction. CLC will provide 67 of the 128 credits in the program, including general education courses and some electives.

The expansion to Brainerd is in response to projected job growth. Demand for criminal justice graduates in Minnesota is expected to grow by 15 percent through 2010. Nationally, the demand for criminal justice graduates is expected to grow rapidly through the remainder of the decade, adding over 134,000 jobs.

The bachelor of science degree in criminal justice is a generalist degree, which prepares students for careers in law enforcement, corrections, and other public and private agencies concerned with the prevention and investigation of crime. Completion of the degree satisfies Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training Board academic requirements.

Initial courses required for the degree will be offered fall semester 2006.

Alumni Involvement Gives BSU Head Start

Nothing about reaching the highest ranks within an actuary society is easy, but help from alumni at Federated Insurance made it possible for Bemidji State students to get there with a little less hassle.



Dr. Eric Lund



ALUMNI NIGHT AT THE DOME

BSU's Bucky the Beaver and the Minnesota Twin's mascot, TC, became fast friends at the Alumni Night at the Dome on June 23. Over 150 BSU alumni attended the event, which included a pre-game reception and an appearance by the BSU Alumni Choir, which sang the National Anthem (above). Dr. Paul Brandvik, BSU professor emeritus, directed the choir.



Bucky and TC

In 2005, BSU became one of the first institutions in Minnesota to submit courses for approval through the Validation by Educational Experience (VEE) administration committee, which represents the Society of Actuaries, the Casualty Actuarial Society and the Canadian Institute of Actuaries.

Two courses in business and two in economics have received VEE approval, so students who take those courses receive credit toward the intensive exams and can advance more quickly in their profession.

Dr. Eric Lund, associate professor of mathematics, led the effort to get BSU courses validated after Erik Livingston, an actuary with

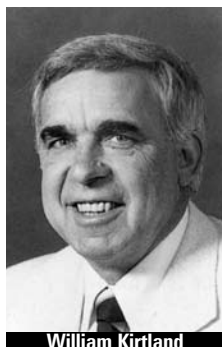
Federated Insurance in Owatonna and a 1992 BSU graduate, told him about recent changes in the actuary exam process that created VEE credit. Federated Insurance recruits BSU graduates and Livingston believes VEE validation at BSU will provide the company with stronger potential employees.

VEE also helps ease the process of earning associate or fellow rank in an actuary society. Livingston became a fellow in the Casualty Actuarial Society in 2005, an elite achievement that includes a series of competitive exams.

BSU may also receive partial VEE accreditation in the area of applied statistics. Adam Gerdes, an actuarial analyst at Federated Insurance and 2005 BSU grad, completed the paperwork for the VEE process in statistics and hopes that credit can be given, which will help him as he continues through the VEE exam process.

Endowed Scholarship Memorializes William Kirtland

Through the continued gifts of family, friends and professional colleagues, the William F. Kirtland Memorial Scholarship has been fully funded as an endowed award through the BSU Foundation.



William Kirtland

A 1953 graduate with a degree in education, Kirtland died in 2004. The scholarship was established to benefit a BSU student majoring in elementary education.

He had a long career in education, earning a doctorate in reading education and retiring as a professor at Boise State University. He authored a college reading skills text and numerous teaching guides; made more than 500 presentations to parent, adult study, and high school student groups; and delivered over 50 programs to public and private schools in Minnesota.

A longtime contributing member of the Alumni Association, he received the 1986 Outstanding Alumni Award.

Kirtland spent his early years in Bemidji, and wrote two books, *Billy* and *Billy Remembers*, that encompassed his childhood experiences.

Athletic Hall of Fame

The 2006 Athletic Hall of Fame will induct new members during events planned February 16-17, 2007.

Bob Peters, former men's hockey coach will be inducted into the Coaches Hall of Fame.

The athletes to be inducted include:

Ken Christianson '50
basketball/football
Bemidji, MN

Lori (Ehrhardt) Clark '76
swimming – Ellensburg, WA

Scott Currie '79
hockey – San Diego, CA

Mike Gibbons '82
hockey – St. Paul, MN

Jeanne (Larson) Glassmann '76
track and field/field hockey
Bemidji, MN

Rod Heisler '80
hockey/baseball –
Moose Jaw, Sask., Canada

Pam (Gildersleeve) Porter '85
field hockey – Bemidji, MN

Sue (Almleaf) Samuelson '73
field hockey/tennis
North St. Paul, MN

Bill Wagner '60
basketball/track and field/cross
country – Roseau, MN

Also being recognized in a new category created in 2004 are four women's field hockey teams who will go into the Team Hall of Fame. The teams from 1975, 1976, 1977 and 1979 all made it to the national tournament.



Ivy Knoshaug Receives Service Award

Ivy Knoshaug, professor of mathematics, was among six U.S. mathematicians who received a national meritorious service award from the Mathematical Association of America.

With 27,000 members and 29 regional sections, the association is the world's largest professional society that focuses on math at the undergraduate level. Knoshaug was nominated by the North Central Section, which covers Minnesota and parts of North Dakota, South Dakota and Canada.

Knoshaug has organized summer seminars and section meetings, and served as newsletter editor, president and member of the executive committee. In 2005, she received the regional Distinguished Teaching Award and in 2001, the Certificate of Meritorious Service.



Ivy Knoshaug



The Bemidji Concert Series coordinated by the BSU Music Department will present its fifth season of performances during the upcoming school year.

The series is designed to bring world-class musicians to the community and enable residents across the region to hear music that would not commonly be heard without traveling to the Twin Cities.

The 2006-2007 BCS includes the Patische Instrumental Group, September 29; pianist Jeremy Denk, October 29; the Cantus male vocal ensemble, December 12; the Harbison Jazz Quartet, March 3; and the Miro String Quartet, April 30.

Ticket information is available through the Music Department.

Certificate Offered in Online Teaching

Bemidji State University is now offering its first for-credit certificate program online to help prepare educators for teaching in online and hybrid environments.

The nine-credit, four-course graduate Certificate in Online Teaching Program was developed in response to the increasing demand for online access to education and accompanying expectation that educators become skilled in designing and delivering online courses.

The certificate in online teaching may be used as part of a cognate in a master of science or master of education degree program at Bemidji State University.

THE CLASS OF 1956 CELEBRATED THEIR 50-YEAR REUNION on May 11 as part of Commencement ceremonies. Also invited were members of the wrap around classes of 1954 and 1956. Attending the reunion were (left to right, front row): Alice Lalonde Michels '55, Don Michels '56, Lowell Vaughn '56, Ron Gladen '56, Elaine Bahr Wagner '56, Duane Qualey '56, John Grimley '56, Pru Pearson Lolich '55, and Luella Sedberg Gannarelli '55. Back row: Jan Gordon Kittleson '57, John 'Alden' Kittleson '55, Vernon Nolting '57, Lloyd Lee '56, Dick Green '56, Dick Haberer '56, Wayne Courneya '56, Bill Ahrens '56, Thomas Larson '55, Rohl Peterson '57, Shirley Brekke Lee '57, and Tim Bjella '57.



Gilman Presented Keller Award

Dr. Muriel Gilman, professor and chair of the Department of Physical Education, Health and Sport, received the 2005 Lou Keller Award from the Minnesota Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

The award, presented annually since 1961, recognizes the outstanding services and contributions given by a college or university professor in the field of health, physical education, recreation or dance.

In recognition of Gilman's contributions and service to the association, it also presented her with its Presidential Award in 2004.

Gilman began her career 31 years ago at BSU as its first women's athletic trainer. In 1992 she began teaching full-time and in 1999 was elected chair of the department.



Dr. Muriel Gilman



Dr. Drago Bilanovic

Spud Science... Eyeing the Potato

BSU SCIENTIST
THINKS OF
FUTURE WITH
DOWN-TO-EARTH
RESEARCH

"What they call 'waste' is a resource. As a scientist, I know that everything on the planet has some type of use."

Dr. Drago Bilanovic

It's like putting garbage under your living room rug and then asking, "Why is my living room stinky?"

That's how Dr. Drago Bilanovic, Bemidji State University professor of environmental science, sees environmental neglect – something he considers a universal concern. "Not taking care of the environment is pretty stupid," he says. "We are stupid as a humanity when we avoid our responsibilities."

Bilanovic is doing his part by working with garbage of another sort, and it's not small potatoes. As the principal investigator of some cutting-edge research at Bemidji State, the Bosnian native is leading a research project that converts potato waste into an environmentally friendly and useful product.

That product is xanthan gum, a thin, sticky gel that is used as a stabilizer and thickener in paint and chemical industries, as well as a "squeegee" of sorts in oil wells. Xanthan gum is also used as a thickening agent in various

sauces, dressings and dairy products. As a fat substitute, it adds the texture of fat without the calories. (And for you pet food patrons, it adds "cling" to Fido's giblets.)

You've probably also seen xanthan gum in its most basic form: that slime covering the "black-rot" bacterium on broccoli and cauliflower.

Xanthan gum is currently produced industrially by bacterial fermentation, but the method is expensive. That's where Minnesota's 400,000-or-so tons of po-

tato waste comes in – waste that is now often dumped in fields to rot.

"What they call 'waste' is a resource," Bilanovic says. "As a scientist, I know that everything on the planet has some type of use. Then comes the question of how. Can we convert it into something more useful?"

If so, Bilanovic is onto one hot potato – and not the kind you want to pass off. That's because xanthan gum currently sells for between \$4-8 a pound and, as one of the nation's biggest potato-producing states, Minnesota has a lot to gain from these spud scraps.

In fact, the annual global market for xanthan gum is estimated at \$500 million and growing.

But can potatoes really hash out this high-value product? While he's not at liberty to discuss the study's findings so far, Bilanovic's experience leads him to believe so.

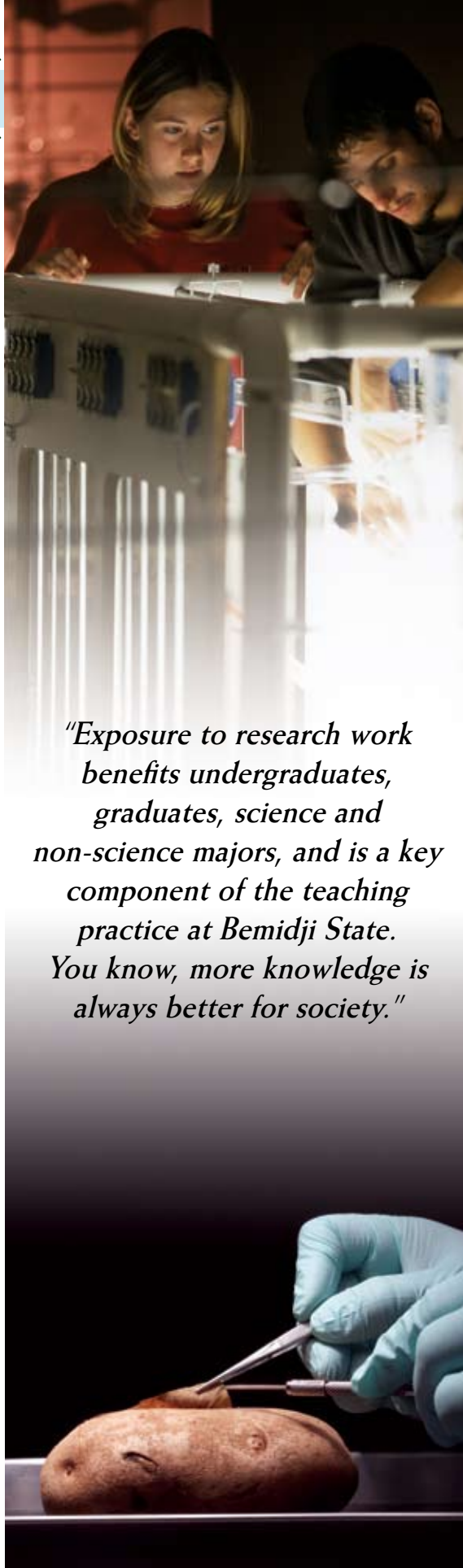
"We are very pleased with what we are getting," he says. "Things are rolling in the right direction."

And the “right direction” is familiar territory. “I did my Ph.D. in Israel converting citrus waste to xanthan,” he explains. In fact, he was the first to do so, and he expects similar results with potatoes. “Sometimes when you work you have that feeling – that gut feeling.”

With state funding, the project will likely continue to chip away at potato possibilities. The \$350,000 grant, given to BSU’s Center for Environmental, Earth and Space Studies by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources, funds Bilanovic’s research, as well as another potato-related study at BSU producing polylactic acid (used to produce biodegradable, non-petroleum based plastics) headed by Dr. Fu-Hsian Chang, an environmental studies professor who directs the BSU Center.

The grant was put to work last July and will cover two years of research. “This grant is really helpful. We are not a very large university and funds are pretty limited,” Bilanovic says.

What’s not limited is Bilanovic’s enjoyment of his work at Bemidji State. “I like it here and I like working with my colleagues at the Center for Environmental,



“Exposure to research work benefits undergraduates, graduates, science and non-science majors, and is a key component of the teaching practice at Bemidji State. You know, more knowledge is always better for society.”

Earth and Space Studies,” Bilanovic says. “They are nice fellows and enjoyable to work with, and that makes life more enjoyable.”

He is equally satisfied with Bemidji’s students. “I am really pleased with the kids here at BSU,” he says. “And I am pleased that as a student-centered university, students (whether or not interested in science) are being exposed to the things we’re doing.

“Exposure to research work benefits undergraduates, graduates, science and non-science majors, and is a key component of the teaching practice at Bemidji State. You know, more knowledge is always better for society.”

As for Bilanovic’s research, he hopes the future will hold continued work with potatoes, as well as other projects that will benefit students, northern Minnesota and beyond. And he hopes global trends will support additional environmentally friendly research and initiatives.

“It’s about time we change ourselves a little bit,” Bilanovic explains. “If we don’t take care of our house, nobody will.”

And no one wants a house whose carpet smells like garbage. **HORIZONS**



Seniors to Watch

Andrew Browsers is often recognized by some around town as Ellard, a slow-witted character he played two years ago in the Bemidji State University production of *The Foreigner*. But that's not surprising.

Browsers has a gift for getting inside of characters and being fully attentive to their idiosyncrasies, strengths and foibles, which is exactly what makes him so memorable with audiences.

"It would have been easy to turn Ellard into a foolish, dull, dolt," says Dr. Kay Robinson, BSU professor of theatre and communications arts, who particularly enjoyed watching Browsers develop the character. "Instead, Andy recognized him as a real person, slower, but with other gifts and strengths that some may have just overlooked. With Andy, you never have to explain a lot, he picks it up quickly and says – 'Got it.'"

Browsers, of Cloquet, graduated from BSU this spring with a degree in creative and professional writing, which is what attracted him to BSU in the first place, and a minor in theater, which he quickly found he could not resist.

"I think theater is one of the most important art forms because it is so intimate," Browsers says.

Having participated in theater in high school, Browsers anticipated that the small program might be limited. Instead, the smallness turned out to be a big advantage. He landed his first role as a freshman and found that small programs deliver big opportunities.

Over the last five years, Browsers has had a role in almost every major BSU production, playing everything from the mostly silent Irish bartender in *The Weir* to the leading roles as Macbeth in Shakespeare's tragedy and the conman Tartuffe in Moliere's French comedy.

He also has taken on roles in the student-managed Theatre Unlimited, which encourages students to write and produce their own material. Last year, one of his short pieces was produced; this fall, he directed *Greater Tuna*, a work produced by two friends; and he twice wrote scripts for the BSU Madrigal Dinners.

In addition, he has assisted with property design, which he said gave him a great appreciation for all the behind-the-scenes work that goes into a production. And his lesser role as the Irish bartender also turned out to be a pivotal experience for him.

"Up to that point, I was just sort of out there being a ham, stealing attention wherever I could take it," he remembers. "As the bartender, I observed what other actors were doing and I learned it's OK just to be there on stage, not always being the one going for the laughs or the tears."

As he leaves Bemidji State, Browsers hopes to concentrate on his writing.

"I have to thank theater a lot for teaching me about language," Browsers says. "Theater is 100 percent dialog and that's an important part of writing."

Robinson, who has had Browsers in her script writing classes, believes he will go far in his writing career, but that theater will always figure into the picture.



Andrew Browsers

"I have to thank theater a lot for teaching me about language. Theater is 100 percent dialog and that's an important part of writing."

"He may not know this, but I know he won't be able to stay away from theater," predicts Robinson. "It's in his blood." **HORIZONS**



Cody Charwood

Cody Charwood spent much of her childhood in the tiny, close-knit community of Squaw Lake, Minnesota, population 99, where she hung out with her cousins on the Leech Lake Indian Reservation, fishing, hunting and playing in the woods.

When she arrived at Bemidji State University, those childhood experiences became a dominant influence in choosing her major. Whatever she studied, she wanted a career that would get her back outdoors, not behind a desk.

That worked out for the 2006 BSU graduate, but the job will have to wait.

"I feel a sense of community here. It's small enough where I was able to learn about myself and not feel so lost in the masses."

Cody Charwood

Charwood has received a fellowship to pursue a graduate degree in biological and environmental engineering at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, one of the nation's most prestigious environmental engineering programs, where she also has been accepted into the doctoral program.

"We are very proud of her," says Dr. Fu-Hsian Chang, director of the BSU Center for Environmental, Earth and Space studies, and Charwood's adviser. "She's one of the top graduates from our program. Every school

where she applied offered her a full graduate scholarship."

At BSU, Charwood completed a degree in environmental studies with an emphasis in environmental chemistry and minors in chemistry and mathematics. She chose the latter two because she loves mathematics and all things analytical. She chose the first because an environmental studies degree seemed to offer the most outdoor job opportunities.

Charwood, an enrolled member of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians and a graduate of Spring Lake Park High School, is also a first-generation college graduate. Her mother, Maxine, plans to finish a BSU accounting degree in 2007.

Charwood hopes her positive experience at BSU will influence others in her family to consider a college education, too.

"I try to talk with my cousins and start them thinking about what they want to do," she explains. "I never did think about what I wanted to do. I chose one school to apply to and here I am, but I think I made a good choice. I feel a sense of community here. It's small enough where I was able to learn about myself and not feel so lost in the masses."

Her academic success earned her the Environmental Spry Scholarship for three years and this spring, the Center's Outstanding Senior Award. While at BSU, she was also named the American Indian Resource Center Outstanding Student of the Year.

"Just learning how to have confidence in myself has been an achievement," Charwood says of her BSU experience. "College has been a really good thing for me. I've learned a lot about myself, what I'm capable of and what others are capable of."

Dr. Drago Bilanovic has no doubts about her capabilities after having her in class and supervising her as a lab assistant in environmental studies.

"She's a keen observer and she has the ability to explain complex procedures to others," says Bilanovic. "She knows how to listen, learn and show what she's doing. I'm confident she'll make an excellent scientist. She's a very hard worker."

However her career unfolds, Charwood hopes her studies at Cornell will lead her home again.

"I'm just seeing where the road will take me, but I hope to come back to the area," she says. "I can't imagine being away from my family that long."

If Julie Gronquist had taken the path of least resistance, she would have missed the hugs of at least one St. Paul second grader who bounced between a homeless shelter and his grandmother's place before his mom got back on her feet.

"He was really a good kid and he grew so much in confidence in the 12 weeks I was there," says Gronquist, who recently completed her first inner-city teaching experience. "He could really read me, especially when I was tired or frustrated and he'd come up and ask if he could give me a hug."

It's kids like that who galvanized this Bemidji State University graduate into action.

Gronquist double majored at BSU, earning a political science degree last year and completing an early childhood education degree this spring after a year of student teaching.

While at BSU, she spent nearly four years honing her leadership skills on the Student Senate, two of them as president.

Her goal is to become an urban educator and eventually a policymaker focused on closing the education gap between the rich and the poor, and the ethnic divide.

She'll be facing that challenge head on before summer ends. AmeriCorps has accepted her into its Teach for America program, which is committed to bridging the education gap by training leaders to focus on education issues. In September, she'll be a special education teacher with her own classroom, most likely in Brooklyn or the Bronx. She'll spend most of her summer training at St. John's University in Queens before beginning her work.

Gronquist knows it will be a far cry from Alma, Kansas, population 800, where she grew up and graduated in a class of

"The low socioeconomic school is where I want to be. Those are the kids, if they don't have good teachers, who won't have the same opportunities that I had when I grew up." Julie Gronquist

31. But Kathleen Sonsteng, assistant professor of professional education and her BSU adviser, expects that she'll be up to the task.

"The first time I met her she said, 'I want to teach inner-city kids,' and she's never been put off by the challenge," Sonsteng remembers. "She's so passionate about her degree and working with kids. I expect to see her really make a difference in education."

Only two percent of Teach for America participants are educators. Instead, AmeriCorps recruits leaders who commit one to two years to teaching and then go onto a variety of jobs where they can influence education policy. Gronquist plans to do just that, but not before she spends more time in the classroom or perhaps as a school principal.

"I still think it's important to spend time in schools so that you understand the teachers, the administrators and the challenges," she says.

Her 24 St. Paul second-graders, some whose parents spoke no English provided eye-opening experiences for Gronquist. She contrasted her St. Paul children with those she taught in Bemidji, most of whom had involved parents and stable relationships with other adults.

"On the third or fourth day [in St. Paul], I called my mom crying that I just couldn't do it," Gronquist says. "In the end, I was glad I did. The low socioeconomic school is where I want to be. Those are the kids, if they don't have good teachers, who won't have the same opportunities that I had when I grew up."

Besides, Gronquist figures she'd get restless in a school that didn't give her a challenge and a chance to test the skills she developed at Bemidji State.

HORIZONS



Julie Gronquist



Al Nohner

Turning the Page

A LOOK AT HOW
HORIZONS CHANGE,
AND REMAIN THE SAME

"Horizons has evolved and grown and changed, and it reinforces the work the university does in preparing students and making a difference in a student's life. That is Bemidji State's mission, and the magazine connects traditions with the present and the future."

Over two decades ago, a discussion took place on campus about the name of the new alumni publication. A quarterly newspaper had replaced a periodic mailing called *Alumnews* that was reproduced without illustrations or photographs. The University wanted a new name for the piece that would be the primary communication link with alumni.

"We had a list of possibilities, and everyone had a favorite," says Al Nohner, Bemidji State University director of communications and marketing. "Dr. Ted Gillett was the BSU president at that time and said something like, 'When students leave, their future is on the horizon. Alumni will always have horizons to pursue because of their education here.' It cemented the choice of *Horizons* as the name."

Over the years, *Horizons* has kept its meaningful name as well as its three-fold commitment to keep graduates better informed of what their classmates were doing, provide interesting, timely and compelling stories on alumni accomplishments, and update the readers on campus activities.

"Those goals have stayed the same," says Nohner, a 1970 BSU alumnus whose career in writing brought him back to campus in 1974. Nohner has served as editor of the publication ever since it was first published in 1986. What has changed is the format.

It began as a theme-based tabloid, focusing on issues relevant to alumni, higher education and Bemidji State. Ranging in size from eight to 12 pages, it evolved into a broader publication, offering more variety with the eventual addition of four-color photography on higher quality paper.

"The most obvious and significant change was this past year when the

university switched to the magazine format," Nohner says. "The tabloid limited the length of the stories, and generally didn't have space for visual support with more exciting pictures and graphics.

"The 32-page magazine enables us to expand the breadth and treatment of the stories. We have a lot of good stories. Our alumni do interesting things, and that makes for interesting reading."

The new *Horizons* is a collaboration between the BSU Foundation, Alumni Association, and the Office of Communications and Marketing. It is distributed to almost 32,000 alumni and other friends of the university. The Admissions Office is also using it as part of its communication plan by mailing it to accepted students so they can become more familiar with the campus and its people.

"We've come to realize good stories that speak about alumni, friends of Bemidji State, and the campus will resonate with foundation members, alumni, current students, individuals in the community, faculty, staff and prospective students," Nohner explains. "*Horizons* has evolved and grown and changed, and it reinforces the work the university does in preparing students and making a difference in a student's life. That is Bemidji State's mission, and the magazine

connects traditions with the present and the future."

Alumni have certainly embraced how the new format accomplishes this. Nohner purposely placed his office's toll-free number in the first issue, encouraging alumni to call. And they did. Responses came from across the country, all echoing excitement about the magazine.

For Nohner, who is phasing into retirement this summer and stepping down as editor, working with the *Horizons* creative staff at BSU, including designer Kathy Berglund and photographer John Swartz, has always been enjoyable. But writing about alumni is the most rewarding part of his job.

"The stories alumni tell are relevant, heart-warming, fun, emotionally charged, and interesting," he says. "They speak to the essence of what Bemidji State means.

"Once I interviewed a 100-year-old alumna who was a former teacher. While we were sitting in her front room, she reached into a drawer and pulled out a textbook from her studies at Bemidji State Teachers College in 1922. It was a bird guide, and she talked about how it was used in the nature study class 80 years earlier as well as how she, her children and grandchildren still referred to it to identify birds in the yard.

"There just isn't a better way to show the value Bemidji State brings to life than stories like this."

HORIZONS

COMMUNICATIONS STUDENT WORKERS

The Communications and Marketing Office is planning a student worker reunion in the summer of 2007. The reunion would be for student workers in any of the offices associated with Information Services, the News Bureau, News and Publications, Photographic Services, or Sports Information. If you are interested in the reunion or want to receive information, contact the Communications and Marketing Office at 1-888-234-7794 or email news@bemidjistate.edu.

*BSU Alumna Uses Permanent Elements to Craft
Northern Life, History, Art*

*Metal
for the Soul*



Wanda Reise Odegard

Wanda Reise Odegard knows what it's like to lose a piece of her soul. Make that 27 pieces. The Bemidji-based artist, who graduated from Bemidji State University in 1963 with a degree in education and in 1988 with a degree in fine art, lost 27 paintings when a fire engulfed the restaurant where they were on display. "It was like my paintings cried," she says. But from the ashes rose Odegard's discovery of metals, the medium in which she loves to work today. "After the fire, I found metals were fine," she explains. "I wanted something more permanent."

W

ith this enduring medium, Odegard has made a meaningful mark around northern Minnesota. Odegard Studios, established in 1984, includes monumental sculptures, such as the 12-foot Niimii, an Ojibwe pow wow dancer which stands at the edge of Lake Bemidji in downtown Bemidji; the 9-foot Mr. Hockey, who makes a striking pose in Bemidji State's John Glas Fieldhouse; and the 7-foot bronze globe that greets visitors at the Mississippi's headwaters in Itasca State Park.

The Studio also features furniture, railings, sculptures, and paintings.

"I hope that my work expresses what is happening in our community," Odegard explains. "I'd like it to give some knowledge in years to come of what went on here, because times will change."

Odegard's fond regard for northern Minnesota stems from her Bemidji childhood. The self-described hometown girl loved the woods and never wanted to leave. "It never entered my mind," she says.

With encouragement from her parents to attend college, Odegard went to Bemidji State, then taught in area schools before becoming a mother and freelance painter.



When her daughter Kristi graduated high school and went to BSU, Odegard decided to tag along, intending to finish the two classes she had left in completing an art degree. "I got so enthused, I ended up doing 83 more quarter hours in the art field," she says.

Part of that education involved a nine-month internship with Bemidji blacksmith Keith Johnson, who helped Odegard cut her teeth on various metals.

But Johnson wasn't Odegard's only influence. "I had some teachers that understood me very well and encouraged me to create my own style of work – be my own artist," Odegard says. "That's so important. That's the thing you get from teachers – all that background experience, so

when it's time for your own career you take from that. I definitely got that from my college classes."

She also got something else, "I think college gives you the confidence that your ideas are good ones. My college

education gave me the confidence to create," she says. "I think you also learn not to be afraid of a challenge or the work that's ahead of you."

The work that's ahead of Odegard includes finishing a bronze eagle with a 16-foot wingspan that she's spent three



Above: Niimii.
Right: Mr. Hockey.

"I hope that my work expresses what is happening in our community. I'd like it to give some knowledge in years to come of what went on here, because times will change."

Wanda Reise Odegard

summers creating. The eagle will be posed catching a fish, and Odegard is considering incorporating running water into the design.

"There's a lot of research," Odegard says when explaining her process. "There's a lot more than just welding when you do these pieces. A lot of work is also in the design. You might work as long on that as you do making it."

Of course, "making it" is no small feat either, as one can imagine when gaz-



ing up at one of Odegard's super-sized works.

"Working with metals takes a lot of time," she explains. "With metals, usually weeks and months are involved. It's about the most difficult way to create a sculpture. But I enjoy the problem solving. It's a really different kind of thought process."

Regardless of the sculpture,

Odegard's thought process always involves the viewer. "I like to have it be interactive with people – touchable, put your arms around it," she explains. "The Itasca globe was made so a blind person could feel the continents, the latitude lines. When I create a piece it's with the public in mind: what they'll enjoy and what they'll understand."

One of the things Odegard hopes others will understand and appreciate about Bemidji, both the university and community, is the north woods way of life. "The pace is slower up here," she says. "What that gives you is time to think, to enjoy what's around you."

For Odegard, the result is a nurtured soul and an abundance of creativity. "If you feed your soul good things, it definitely comes out in your artwork." **HORIZONS**

Note: Additional photos of Wanda Reise Odegard's work can be seen at www.odegardstudios.com.





Connecting Cultures

AMERICAN INDIAN ALUMNI
CHAPTER BECOMES INVOLVED

For the American Indian Alumni Chapter, it has always been a concern that Bemidji State students might pass their entire campus career without first-hand experiences in the culture, traditions and concerns inherent in American Indian life today.

That would minimally constitute a missed learning opportunity for students at BSU, which is centrally located between three Native American reservations.

More ominously, this cultural divide could lead to a lifetime where different people find it acceptable to maintain narrow views and not benefit from understanding other traditions or backgrounds.

"Because BSU is located within the region of Minnesota's three largest Indian tribes, our primary goal was for all students, Indian and non-Indian, to become informed of the key American Indian issues that affect our region, state and nation."

Roger Aitken

So the American Indian Alumni Chapter (AIAC) decided to act, organizing several activities during Indian Week last spring in conjunction with the

American Indian Resource Center, the Council of Indian Students, and the Indian Studies Program. In addition to the annual pow wow and Indian Art Expo, individuals were scheduled to speak during classes and a forum of tribal leaders was held on campus.

"Because BSU is located within the region of Minnesota's three largest Indian tribes, our primary goal was for all students, Indian and non-Indian, to become informed of the key American Indian issues that affect our region, state and nation," says Roger Aitken, AIAC member. "The speakers presented on important issues in Indian Country, such as Indian education, Indian cultural history, at-risk children edu-

The Learning - *Focused on Student-Centered Experiences*



cation, the Indian Child Welfare Act, tribal government, tribal courts, legal and political issues of tribes, media and the Indian mascot subject."

The forum, which was open to the public, featured a discussion on tribal sovereignty, trust lands, tribal enroll-

ment, constitutional issues, and the impact of gaming. Panelists were Floyd "Buck" Jourdain, chairman of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians; Dr. Erma J. Vizenor, chairwoman of

the White Earth Nation; and Kevin Leecy, chairman of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa.

"Listening and hearing first-hand from the local tribal leadership is an important and unique educational experience for students and the community," Aitken notes. "Following the presentation, we had a very enthusiastic question and answer session that complemented the forum well."

The activities fit nicely into the mission of the AIAC, which was formed in 1987 to maintain connections for American Indian graduates and Indian communities to Bemidji State as well as to create opportunities for access to resources and success at the University.

"We want to establish a positive, informative and credible Indian presence on campus that will attract, retain and graduate Indian students, provide the general student body a meaningful and unique educational





Roger Aitken

"We want to establish a positive, informative and credible Indian presence on campus that will attract, retain and graduate Indian students, provide the general student body a meaningful and unique educational experience regarding tribal issues, and contribute toward a goal of making BSU the 'hub of Indian education and tribal issues' in the nation."

experience regarding tribal issues, and contribute toward a goal of making BSU the 'hub of Indian education and tribal issues' in the nation," says Aitken of the AIAC.

One of the most tangible examples of American Indian alumni support over time is the American Indian Resource Center (AIRC). Chapter members played key roles in making that facility a reality.

"They played a vital role in opening doors that had been previously closed, creating plans, helping secure funding, providing insight in pro-

gram development, and generally energizing the whole process," says Dr. Jon Quistgaard, Bemidji State University president, of the effort leading to the fall 2003 opening of the building.

The AIRC, located in the heart of campus at the west end of the Chet Anderson Football Stadium, was built to create a space where American Indian students could gather for learning

and socializing. It develops programming that advances the educational goals of Native Americans, enhances cultural understanding, cultivates leadership, and supports scholarly work.

"The American Indian Alumni Chapter helped the Center make great strides in addressing these needs during their organization and support of Indian Week activities," Quistgaard says. "We are grateful for their dedication, and for creating opportunities where the Bemidji State community and general public can broaden their cultural experiences." **HORIZONS**



Dr. Don Day (above) speaks at a professional education class as part of the AIAC's involvement with Indian Week. At left, young students view works at the Ojibwe Art Expo. Floyd "Buck" Jourdain (photograph, top left) speaks at the forum on tribal issues with panelists Kevin Leecy and Dr. Erma J. Vizenor.



Fueling Futures

ALUMNI BROTHERS FORWARD ETHANOL INDUSTRY, CAREERS FOR FELLOW GRADUATES

For many college graduates, the opportunity to work in a cutting-edge industry with a family atmosphere in small-town Minnesota is nothing but a pipe dream.

But at Fagen, Incorporated, a Granite Falls-based heavy industrial design-build firm specializing in ethanol plant construction, they are building such a reality for a number of Bemidji State University graduates – thanks to fellow BSU alumni Aaron and Evan Fagen.

"We know that the program matches what we're looking for," says Aaron, the company's chief operating officer, about the interest in BSU students.

That program is Bemidji State's industrial technology program, now known as the Department of Technological Studies. Aaron graduated in 1998 with a dual emphasis in construction and manufacturing management and Evan earned a degree in 2001 with an emphasis in construction management.

After considering other schools, the Fagen brothers both chose BSU due to the quality of the technology program. "It's the well roundedness you get," Aaron explains. "You do a little bit of CAD, machine, electrical, industrial safety. You get a well-rounded background."

And when they're looking for new employees, specifically project engineers, "We want the industrial technology graduate," he says. Students also gain practical know-how from the program's hands-on approach. "They have real-world knowledge that can be applied." In addition to these characteristics

found in graduates of the program, the Fagen brothers cite drive and work ethic as two qualities typical of Bemidji State graduates. "Their desire is pretty high when they come out of school," says Evan, who serves as executive vice president.

"They have a make-it-happen attitude," Aaron adds when noting this brings value to Fagen's 1,500-employee workforce. "They get the job done. And they do a good job."

That kind of performance is more important than ever

at Fagen, Inc., as the company is experiencing a boom in light of the nation's growing interest in ethanol. Although Fagen, Inc. does a wide variety of projects - including working with power generation/utilities, wind turbines, pulp and paper, metals, and mining - its current focus is on ethanol plant construction.

"We have 23 design-build ethanol projects under construction and will max out at 36 this year," Aaron says. Their calendar is full, and the firm has refused other business projects.

Needless to say, the family-owned company is keeping busy, plotting ethanol plants across the country and contributing significantly to the nation's changing approach to fuels.

"I put a lot of time into studying because the classes are tough. I really applied myself. It taught me that if you're going to do anything that's worthwhile, give it 110 percent." **Aaron Fagen**

Evan (left) and Aaron Fagen



Evan and Aaron review a project with Jeremy Corner, a 2004 BSU graduate.



"We've built 64 percent of the ethanol capacity in the last six years in the United States," Aaron says. What's more, the company is the largest merit shop contractor headquartered in the Midwest, and ranked in *Engineering News-Record* as number 118 among the top 400 contractors and number 16 in the top 20 industrial process/petro rankings.

That's quite a change considering the company had "a few projects" when Aaron started and "some projects" when Evan began working full-time for their parents Ron and Diane. Both began right after college and worked their way up from "the field."

Also impressive are the brothers' responsibilities, which include equally managing the field operation and handling additional duties: Aaron dealing with the company's policies and procedures, and Evan the company's hiring and training.

Both brothers feel they were well equipped for their current responsibilities through their experiences at Bemidji State. "By going to BSU, my work ethic is very strong," Evan says.

"I put a lot of time into studying because the classes are tough," Aaron agrees. "I really applied myself. It taught me that if you're going to do anything that's worthwhile, give it 110 percent."

When it comes to creating satisfying careers for other BSU graduates, the Fagens take a similar devoted approach. By providing job security and a friendly, supportive work environment, Fagen, Inc. aims to give BSU graduates a strong sense of community.

"We tell them we're looking at them long-term," Aaron says. "They know their job is not going to last one project and then be gone. And another thing: We have a one-on-one family environment versus numbers. Here

you're not a number, you're an individual."

Being treated as an individual is something both Fagens have carried forward into their lives after appreciating that quality at Bemidji State. "BSU has a real homey feel – you aren't in a big city," Evan explains. "You walk across campus and recognize people."

In fact, the Fagens say the sense of community and social elements gained at smaller institutions translate to better employees. They prefer to work with smaller schools because, as Evan says, "The graduates tend to have better people skills."

Those skills pay off. In fact, the company strives to pro-

mote employees who've got what it takes. Of the 14 Bemidji State graduates it has hired as project engineers, nearly a third have been promoted to project managers.

"That's a high-end position," Aaron says. "A project manager is responsible for about 100 to 250 employees plus a multi-million dollar construction budget. That's a big responsibility."

And it's a responsibility that's rewarded with an impressive salary, again adding to the appeal of a Fagen, Inc. gig – which a good handful of recent BSU grads will soon enjoy as the company hired seven project engineers from the spring 2006 graduating class.

As for the Fagen brothers, the two young executives find themselves satisfied with their education and careers.

"I'm happy where I'm at," Aaron says. "Our main goal is to maintain and have controlled growth of the company." Evan mirrors his brother's sentiment. "Overall, I like what I'm doing," he says.

And if the company's standing as the nation's leader in ethanol plant construction is any indication, they're doing it well, thanks in part to keen ambition and a commitment to excellence they say was instilled at Bemidji State.

"If someone gives us something to do, we give it our best," Evan says. "After leaving BSU, if we have something to do, we do it right." **HORIZONS**



Note: Additional information about Fagen, Inc. can be found at www.fageninc.com.

Class Notes

If you want your information included in **Horizons**, contact the Alumni Association Office (email: alumni@bemidjistate.edu; toll free: 1-877-BSU-ALUM).

PLEASE NOTE:

Towns are located in Minnesota unless otherwise noted.

2006 Mark Nordell and Ross Roetman were among several graduates from BSU's Technological Studies Department who volunteered to build a model of the Faith's Lodge, a center planned for Webster, WI, providing services for families with ailing children ... Tyler Chambers and Samantha Foth ('05) were married in Bemidji. Tyler is employed at the Green Mill restaurant and Samantha is employed as a sales and marketing associate by the Hampton Inn & Suites, Bemidji.

2005 Brad Jellis, Fresno Falcons athletic trainer in Fresno, CA, was selected by his peers to represent the Falcons at the 2006 Bud Light ECHL Star Game and Skills Competition ... Nicole Joy was chosen last fall to represent Beltrami County in the Miss Minnesota International Pageant. She is currently a long-term substitute teacher at the Ponemah Elementary School ... Jason Groth is employed as a sports editor with the Grand Rapids *Herald Review* newspaper ... Ashley Seado curls with the Gary Allen rink of Bemidji. Her team won the title of the American Legion Mixed Bonselpiel this spring ... Benjamin Caron is the new owner of Country Insurance and Financial Services, Bemidji ... Mike Gutz is employed with North Star Red Cross in Bemidji ... Rob Jarrett began working as an officer with the Fridley Police Department in January ... Tena Johnson and Preston Pettis were married in Nisswa and now live in St. Louis Park. Tena is a manager at Ruby Tuesday and Preston is a personal trainer at Northwest Athletic Club ... Shauna Lundgren and Adam Paulson were married in Thief River Falls, where the couple now lives. Shauna is employed as a registered nurse at the Northwest Medical Center in Thief River Falls and Adam is an English instructor at Northland Community College ... Amy Donarski and John Danielson were married in Thief River Falls ... Travis Haskell is manager of the new Hertz rental business located inside the Bemidji Regional Airport ... Angie Mohn is a kindergarten teacher at Northern Elementary in Bemidji and is planning a summer wedding ... John Horgeshimer of McIntosh is teaching K-12 music, choir and band at Oklee and Plummer schools ... Lindsey Bromenshenkel was promoted at Federated Insurance, Owatonna, from associate programmer to IS-programmer ... Samantha Foth and Tyler Chambers ('06) were married in Bemidji. Samantha is employed as a sales and marketing associate by the Hampton Inn & Suites, Bemidji, and Tyler is employed at the Green Mill restaurant ... John Angeli was one of several graduates from BSU's Technological Studies Department who volunteered to build a model of the Faith's Lodge, a center planned for Webster, WI, providing services for families with ailing children.

2004 Jennifer Roth recently completed the certified public accountant examination and is employed with Kummet, Larson, Bluth & Co. in Brainerd ... Stephanie Frisch was recently hired by the American National Bank of Minnesota's Alexandria office as a customer service representative ... Sara (McIntyre) Rogalla was hired to teach art at Marshall County Central ... April (Robb) Drietz is teaching K-6 music at Homecroft Elementary in St. Paul and lives in Burnsville ... Becky Litzau lives in Mankato and recently accepted a second elementary music teaching position there ... Talia DeBenedet of Cass Lake teaches performing arts at Trek North High School, gives voice lessons at Headwaters School of Music and Arts and conducts the adult choir at St. Philip's Church, all located in Bemidji ... Jennifer Schickert and Derrick Moen ('02) an-

nounce the August 2005 birth of a son, Gavin ... Alicia Beech and Adam Bertram were married in Breckenridge and now live near Melrose. She is employed with Apprize Property Management, St. Cloud, and Adam is employed by Melrose Electric ... Katie Zeiher and Joshua Bromley were married in Myrtle Beach, SC. Katie teaches first grade in Charlotte, NC, and Joshua teaches high school math in Lincolnton, NC, where the couple resides ... Amanda (Goligowski) Sherwood will be a coach with the summer swim program being offered at Bemidji High School ... Andrea Tveit is currently on her second one-year tour of duty with Americorps. She has provided disaster relief in areas devastated by Hurricane Katrina and is currently working in southern Mississippi for Coastal Plains Resource Conservation and Development.

2003 Amanda (Drummond) Spires is living in Golden Valley ... Carol Cunningham, a graduate assistant at BSU, traveled to Ankara, Turkey last winter to work with faculty from Ankara University and Cankiri Technical College in developing distance learning delivery capacities ... Kari Kelly performed in a play entitled "Tallgrass Gothic" at the Ballet of the Dolls Warehouse in Minneapolis. She is employed fulltime at Norcostco, a costume rental and theater supplies shop ... Alison Goligowski is employed as a guest experience manager with Target, Bemidji ... Heather Kelley is employed as a fifth-grade teacher at Broadview Elementary School, Broadview, MT ... Paige Ross married Jeff Fromm in October and the couple lives in Mankato. Paige is employed as a graphic designer for The Occasions Group (Taylor Corp.) ... Andrew Bronczyk has been hired as a design engineer for Emerson Process Management in Chanhassen.

2002 Shawn Sirotiak and Lisa Kalar were married in International Falls. Shawn is a customs and border protection officer on the U.S. border at International Falls and Lisa is employed as a registered nurse at Falls Memorial Hospital ... Jacen Gondringer and Valine Thesing were married in Brainerd. He is employed as an accountant at B. Johnson and Associates and

she is a registered nurse at Bethany Good Samaritan Village. They live in Baxter ... Sarah Maki and Benjamin Johnson were married in Rochester. She's employed with the Mayo Clinic and he is employed by Yaggy Coleby Associates, Rochester ... Erich Knapp and his wife, Robin Allebach Knapp ('83), live in Menahga ... Randy Sweet works at the new Grand Itasca Hospital ICU/ER and also teaches part-time in the nursing program at Itasca Community College. He was recently accepted as a member of the Manchester Who's Who Executive and Professional Registry. He and his wife, Diane, have a grown son and live in Bovey ... Kathy Macomber is a senior treasury analyst with Leggett & Platt, Inc. in Carl Junction, MO, where she lives with her husband, Jeff. She received a master's degree from Missouri State University in 2005 ... Chris Lehman participated in the 11th annual First National Bank Bemidji Lumberjack Bonselpiel this spring ... Meghan (Wilson) Wulff will be a coach with the summer swim program being offered at Bemidji High School ... Michelle Ruckdaschel is a reporter with the *Bemidji Pioneer* newspaper, which won the Minnesota Newspaper Association Sweepstakes Award and received First Place in continuing news coverage for its reporting of the 2005 Red Lake school shootings.

2001 Amber Richgels married Joshua Severson. Amber is enrolled in a math education doctorate program at the University of Minnesota. Joshua is a sergeant in the U.S. Army and is currently stationed in Iraq, serving his second tour of duty ... John Broda is employed by Carbon County School District in Elk Mountain, WY, as an elementary teacher and high school wrestling coach. He's an Elk Mountain city councilor and recently returned from Japan, where he toured schools, businesses and spoke with government officials on the state of Japanese and American schools ... Kristopher Price lives in Alexandria and has three children, Jennifer, 21, Laura, 19, and Megan, 17 ... Elise Souders and James Durbin were married. The couple lives in Shakopee ... Abby Goodman-Larson participated in the 11th annual First National Bank Bemidji Lumberjack Bonselpiel this spring ... Jodi Glidden teaches fifth grade at Cass Lake-Bena Middle School ... Brad Folkestad, assistant BSU sports information director, was selected to assist with media relations at the NCAA Division I Midwest Regional Finals, working at the scorer's table during the event and staffing post game interviews ... Alex Knutson, a programmer analyst with Federated Insurance, Owatonna, has earned his Associate in Insurance Services designation.

2000 Matthew Dahl recently completed the certified public accountant examination and is employed with Kummet, Larson, Bluth & Co. in Brainerd ... Kris Williams, industrial training coordinator at BSU's Center for Research and Innovation, traveled to Ankara, Turkey last winter to work with faculty from Ankara University and Cankiri Technical College in developing distance learning delivery capacities ... Tim Wurdock teaches high school math in Menahga where he's been employed as a teacher and coach for 12 years. He's married and has four sons.

1999 Stephanie (Charlton) and Mike Dailey ('98) live in Mahanomen and have three children, Owen, 4, Dawson, 3, and Jenna, 9-months ... Anne Miller lives in Buffalo ... Susan McCabe, a senior programmer analyst with Federated Insurance, Owatonna, has earned her Associate in Insurance Services designation.

1998 Amy (Engler) and Ted Halbur ('95) live in Circle Pines and have a son, William, 4, and a set of one-year-old twins, Lucas and Maxwell. Ted is a senior art director for Target Corporation and Amy teaches fifth grade in the Centennial School District ... **Mark and Jenn (Schmidtke) Ulven** ('97) live in Big Lake where their family is building the Victory Sports Grille & Bar. Jenn is a middle school and church choir director ... **Mike and Stephanie (Charlton) Dailey** ('99) live in Mahanomen and have three children, Owen, 4, Dawson, 3, and Jenna, 9-months ... **Jana (Cooper) and Chris LeClaire** live in Rockford. Jana teaches 6-8 grade choir at Vandenberg Middle School in Elk River ... **Harriet (VanCampen) Evans** lives in Deer River and serves as the licenser for adult foster care for Itasca County ... **Penny (Youngerberg) and Jason Koets** recently moved to Maple Lake where Jason had accepted a high school teaching position. They have two children, Cole, 2, and Kiersten, 5-months ... **John Thompson**, a general accounting manager with Federated Insurance, Owatonna, has earned his Chartered Life Underwriter, Chartered Financial Consultant and Associate in Insurance Services designations ... **Jeff Ostrom** and Darla Hoie were married in Clearbrook. Jeff is a teacher at Clearbrook-Gonvick School and Darla is employed with North Country Regional Hospital ... **Kamrin Macki** of Grand Forks, ND, completed a master's degree at UND and works as a nurse practitioner in gastroenterology at Altru Clinic in Grand Forks. She and her husband, William, have a son, Nolan, 1.

1997 Dawn Rossbach teaches art in the Menahga School District ... **Jenn (Schmidtke) and Mark Ulven** ('98) live in Big Lake where their family is building the Victory Sports Grille & Bar. Jenn is a middle school and church choir director ... **Caari (Schmidt) Dueffert** and her husband, Chris, live in Prior Lake and have two children, Ryan, 5, and Eric, 2 ... **Scott Kramer** is the new Nevis High boys basketball coach. He'd previously coached the Nevis girls quintet for nine years, posting a 160-78 record.

1996 Kari (Bowman) Wood, associate professor of business administration at BSU, presented at the Beyond Boundaries Conference in Grand Forks, ND, and also conducted a distance learning training session at the ITEACH conference in Brooklyn Park ... **Kerri Bilben** and her husband, Andrew, have three children, Jacob, 5, Ryan, 3, and Nathan, 1 ... **Tim Engrav** is employed as an assistant ranger with the USDA Forest Service in Cook ... **Carrie Collyard-Glinsek**, a chiropractor who specializes in women's and children's care with her own practice in Elk River, recently teamed up with a Monticello chiropractor to see patients in that town ... **Amy (Calhoun) Hand** and her husband, Brett, live in Marshalltown with their children, Aidan, 3, and Brenna, 18-months. She works as a webmaster of the Iowa Grandparents website and also sells gourmet candies ... **Aaron Clusiau** and his wife, Christy, live in Nashwauk and have two children, Jacie, 3, and Daniel, 14-months. He is vice president of American Bank, Hibbing.

1995 Lisa (Falk) Moses is employed as a teacher in Nevis. She and her husband, Aron, live in Park Rapids and have two sons, Keegan, 3, and Jack, 8-months ... **Ted and Amy (Engler) Halbur** ('98) live in Circle Pines and have a son, William, 4, and a set of one-year-old twins, Lucas and Maxwell. Ted is a senior art director for Target Corporation and Amy teaches fifth grade in the Centennial School District ... **Troy**

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Hanestad is the new women's tennis coach at Concordia College in Moorhead. He and his wife, Jenny, have three children, Christian, Annika and Noah ... **Jason Furuseth** is co-owner of Wilderness View Landscaping, Warroad, serving clients in Lake of the Woods and Roseau counties ... **Scott Fadness** was commissioned to paint a mural featuring wolves above the new rock climbing wall installed this spring at Northern Elementary School, Bemidji ... **Renae Tenold** and **Richard Cipala** were married in St. Paul ... **Shannon Westrum** is manager for retail and e-commerce at Concordia Language Villages, Bemidji.

1994 **Jennifer (Bardal) and Bill Sanford** ('80) live in Bemidji and have three children, Marcy, 20, Katie, 8, and Becca, 5. Bill is general manager of Lakeland Public Television and Jennifer works as an office administrator for the United Way ... **Karen (Johnson) and Scott Stish** ('93) live in Solway and have two children, Samuel, 3, and Anna, 4-months. Scott has been working for Norbord MN for four years and Karen works in the admissions department at Oak Hills Christian College ... **Alisa Franklin** and **Todd Meyer** were married. Both are employed with Northhomes, Inc. ... **Linda (Spors) Barber** is a band instructor at the Bemidji Middle School ... **Cory Chupka** is the new boys hockey coach at East Grand Forks ... **Becky Dean** serves as a leader for Cass Lake Girl Scout Troop 774, which made fleece blankets to give new mothers and their babies at a local hospital ... **Audra (Ferdig) Allen** and her husband, Tom, are the new owners of the Tutto Bene Italian restaurant in downtown Bemidji ... **Wendy Haavisto** is a legislative assistant to Minnesota Sen. Dennis Frederickson in St. Paul ... **Jim Paulsen**, a Becida artist, sculpted the bronze statue that forms the centerpiece of the new Freedom Defenders Veterans Memorial that was installed adjacent to the Beltrami County History Center in May. The statue is of Cpl. Chuck Lindberg, the last survivor of the Marines who hoisted the first flag over Iwo Jima ... **Jean Parkin** designed the new Paddle, Ride or Fly exhibit on display at the Beltrami County History Center ... **Lyle Meulebroeck**, industrial model making instructor from Northwest Technical College-Bemidji, joined several graduates from BSU's Technological Studies Department in volunteering to build a model of the Faith's Lodge, a center planned for Webster, WI, providing services for families with ailing children ...

John Loney, WHA girls softball coach, has been named the Upper Mississippi Conference Coach of the Year for the second consecutive season.

1993 **Sue Flicek**, a special education teacher with the Bemidji School District, collaborated in presenting a workshop to the Kittson Central and Stephen-Argyle Central School Districts on understanding the key warning signs of early-onset mental illness in children and adolescents ... **Todd Dahl**, a sergeant with the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Department, has announced he will run for sheriff in November's election. He's worked for the sheriff's department since 1987. He and his wife, Sue, have two children, Eryn, 10, and Peter, 9 ... **Marlyce Rieck** lives in Willmar ... **Gretchen (Peterson) Halverson** and her husband, Chris, announce the birth of twin daughters, Maren and Johanna. In June 2005, Gretchen was awarded the Paul and Sheila Wellstone Social Justice Award by the Minnesota Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers in recognition of her work on the annual Social Work Lobby Day at the Capitol ... **Tom and Melanie (Neil) Rietveld** have been married for 13 years and live in Bemidji. Tom owns Northern Veterinary Service, providing services to cattle, horses and small animals. The Rietvelds have three children, Delaney, 9, Paul, 7, and Amy Kate, 4 ... **Rochelle (Senogles) Johnson** is the new elementary principal at Bug-O-Nav-Ge-Shig School in Bena ... **Scott and Karen (Johnson) Stish** ('94) live in Solway and have two children, Samuel, 3, and Anna, 4-months. Scott has been working for Norbord MN for four years and Karen works in the admissions department at Oak Hills Christian College ... **Marcia Schwanke** has been a teacher and coach in Menahga schools since 1982 ... **Robin Kallroos** and **Hal Mystic** were married in Bemidji.

1992 **Jodi and Brad Schultz** ('90), have two daughters and live in Park Rapids where she runs her own daycare, Imagination Station ... **Dana McCabe** and her husband, Larry, live in Sartell ... **Deb Steinbar** and **Bill Peterson** hosted a gourmet meal as part of a fund-raising event for the Bemidji Boys & Girls Club ... **Pete and Roxi (Matter) Fenson** ('91) were featured chefs at this year's Going Gourmet for the Boys & Girls Club, a benefit event for the Bemidji area club ... **Jolene (Leppala) and Devin Davidson** live in Annandale and have two children, Hale, 19-months, and Elora, 2-months. Jolene has completed her masters of arts in education degree ... **Erik Livingston**, an actuary with Federated Insurance, Owatonna, has earned his Fellow of the Casualty Actuary Society designation ... **Chad and LeAnne (Palmer) Schmidt** ('90) live in South St. Paul and have three children, Ian, 10, Patrick, 6, and Molly, 2. Chad was recently named a faculty member in the BSU Department of Professional Education, teaching and supervising student teachers in DLiTE and FasTrack programs based in the Twin Cities.

1991 **Brad Schultz** was selected as Menahga's Teacher of the Year. He and his wife, **Jodi** ('92), have two daughters and live in Park Rapids where she runs her own daycare, Imagination Station ... **Roxi (Matter) and Pete Fenson** ('92) were featured chefs at this year's Going Gourmet for the Boys & Girls Club, a benefit event for the Bemidji area club ... **Renee (LeRue) Frethem** was recently named branch manager of the Wadena City Library. She and her husband, **Mark Fretthem** ('90), have three sons ... **Carl Langner** and his wife, **Nancy**, live in Alexandria and have three children, Nate, 10, Katelyn, 7, and Nicholas, 4 ... **Raymond Wattenhofer Jr.** exhibited his oil paintings and watercolors in May at Gallery

North, Bemidji. In addition to creating art at his studio near Dorset, he is a resident artist at Custer State Game Lodge near Custer, SD, each summer. He also participates in the Stony Creek Art Exhibit and Sale in Park Rapids each summer ... **Dan McNulty** is assistant principal at Lakeville North High School. He and his wife, Deborah, live in Lakeville and have two children, Bailey, 8, and Taylor, 6.

1990 Mark and Renee (LeRue) Frethem ('91), have three sons. Renee was recently named branch manager of the Wadena City Library ... **LeAnne (Palmer) and Chad Schmidt** ('92) live in South St. Paul and have three children, Ian, 10, Patrick, 6, and Molly, 2. Chad was recently named a faculty member in the BSU Department of Professional Education, teaching and supervising student teachers in DLITE and FasTrack programs based in the Twin Cities ... **Louise Mengelkoch**, associate professor of journalism and chair of mass communication at BSU, had an article published in the current issue of *Columbia Journalism Review*. She was also recognized with the 2006 Faculty Leader Award from the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars ... **Jodi Mutnansky** has joined the Northwest Medical Center, Thief River Falls, accepting a public relations and marketing position. She'd moved back to Minnesota from New York, NY, following the birth of her son, Jacob, last summer ... **Paul and Caroline Swanson** live in Chaska ... **Marilyn Foss** of Max joined the U.S. Peace Corp and will be assigned with the Chinese Education Association for International Exchange in Beijing to teach English in China ... **Paul and Debbie Grovum** ('82) hosted a gourmet meal as part of a fund-raising event for the Bemidji Boys & Girls Club ... **Tia (Filipovich) Halvorson** recently opened a pre-school and daycare center in Eveleth. She and her husband, Jeff, have three children, Katja, 9, Guilia, 6, and Kiira, 1.

1989 Bob and Mim Bjelkengren ('71) have three grown children. Bob is a potter, Mim has taught grades 4-6 in Menahga for 18 years ... **Brett and Marcia (Moline) Bahr** ('87) live in Mankato and have two children, Isaac, 13, and Anna, 9. Marcia is the vice president of marketing and communications at Midwest Wireless and Brett is the accounting manager at Taylor Development ... **David Dahlen** is the financial aid director/registrar with the Student Financial Aid Office at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine in Rochester ... **Vivienne Morgan**, adjunct professor of visual arts at BSU, had a digital print accepted into the San Diego Digital International Exhibition at the San Diego Art Institute in California ... **Frank Hermann** is the new principal of Spring Lake Park High School. He has led the district's Learning Alternatives Community School for the past five years and in 2004 the program was named Minnesota's Alternative Program of the Year ... **Jerry Johnson**, a detective/sergeant with the Bemidji Police Department, is serving as interim public safety director for the city ... **Roy Booth** and his wife, Cynthia, of Hibbing anticipate the publishing of their original comedy *Two Wives and a Dead Guy* by Samuel French of New York, the world's oldest and largest play publisher. The play will become Roy's 38th play to be published and Cynthia's sixth. Roy saw the premier of his adaptation of D. H. Lawrence's famous short story, *The Rocking Horse Winner*, performed at Pillager High School and has also seen the recent release by Heuer Publishing of *The Glover's Mangle Cure Capter*, written with Louise Bottrell. Roy directed the play *Love Letters* at the Hibbing Memorial Building Little Theater.

1988 Tim ('86) and **Laura (Haugan) Graham** live in Nokesville, VA, and have two children, Ben, 16, and Abby, 8. Tim recently finished his second book, *Whitewash: How the News Media Are Paving Hillary Clinton's Path to the Presidency*, due for release in September. Laura is employed with The Mason Companies ... **Susan (Stai) Eichstadt** teaches eighth grade at Cass Lake-Bena Middle School.

1987 Judy Olson, associate professor of education at BSU, collaborated in presenting a workshop to the Kittson Central and Stephen-Argyle Central School Districts on understanding the key warning signs of early-onset mental illness in children and adolescents. She was also included in the 2006 edition of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* ... **Jeff Hall** of Wrenshall was recently awarded a Certificate of Recognition by the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Veteran Affairs in recognition of his service as a social worker at the Twin Ports Outpatient Clinic in Superior, WI. He is a licensed clinical social worker. He and his wife, Ellie, have two children ... **Janet (Lovell) Weaver** was recently initiated into the Delta Kappa Gamma International Society during a ceremony in Bemidji ... **Marcia (Moline) and Brett Bahr** ('89) live in Mankato and have two children, Isaac, 13, and Anna, 9. Marcia is the vice president of marketing and communications at Midwest Wireless and Brett is the accounting manager at Taylor Development ... **Tom Moe** lives in Champlin and has three children, Lauren, 10, Madeline, 8, and Jacob, 5 ... **Jeff Wade** teaches fifth grade at Northern Elementary School in Bemidji.

1986 Stephen Berg and his wife, Erin, live in Champlin ... **Tim Sauer**, professor of education at BSU, attended a Mathematics and Science Partnerships Program Regional Conference in Orlando, FL, this spring ... **Lora Bertelsen** has been hired as a counselor/psychologist for the BSU Counseling Center ... **Corine Knodel** was recently initiated into the Delta Kappa Gamma International Society during a ceremony in Bemidji ... **Tim and Laura (Haugan) Graham** ('88) live in Nokesville, VA, and have two children, Ben, 16, and Abby, 8. Tim recently finished his second book, *Whitewash: How the News Media Are Paving Hillary Clinton's Path to the Presidency*, due for release in September. Laura is employed with The Mason Companies ... **Kerry (Christensen) White** teaches first grade in Menahga where she's been employed since 1986. She and her husband, Bob, live in Park Rapids and have two children, Alex, 16, and Lindsey, 13

... **Robert Bangtson** of Goodhue is the superintendent for the Goodhue School District and was recently selected as a finalist in the search for a new Pequot Lakes Schools superintendent. He's been working in the education field for nearly 30 years ... **Karl Greniger** and his wife, Lori, live in Alexandria and have a daughter, Johanna, 8. In April he accepted a new position with RESCO at the company's division office in Moorhead ... **Gary Wiersma** is employed with Federated Insurance, Owatonna.

1985 Yvonne Wilson of Deer River, a teacher at North Elementary School in Deer River, was named as one of ten finalists for this year's Teacher of the Year Award.

1984 Tony Kukich was a lecturer and demonstrated his pottery techniques at BSU's seventh annual Student Scholarship and Creative Achievement Day ... **Kari (Norling) Stadem** and her husband, Peter, live in Blomkest and have seven children between the ages of five and 18. They raise turkeys and Kari is also the organist and music director for her church in addition to home schooling her children ... **Joel Otto** was selected as one of the 25 all-time great hockey players for the Calgary Flames ... **Julie Harris** serves as the Beltrami County Veterans Service Officer.

1983 Pam (Witikko) and Rick Peterson ('81) live in Red Wing and have two children, Dan, 10, and Jacob, 3 ... **Mike Geffre**, who's coached the Crookston girls tennis team for 17 years, has taken a one year leave of absence. His teams have won eight section titles and were runner-ups seven times ... **Rich Sprouse**, public information officer for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Division of Enforcement, received the DNR's Meritorious Service Award. He has worked for the DNR since 1998 and has more than 30 years of news and public relations experience ... **Mary (Dye) and Del Moen** ('82), live in Wadena and have a daughter, Britta, 12 ... **Charles Powell** is a trial lawyer with the Powell Law Firm in Bemidji. He's rated AV, or pre-eminent as judged by his peer review, in his legal ability by the *Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*. He and his wife, Debbie, have been married since 2005 ... **Robert Dahlen** is the preacher at the Goodridge Lutheran Parish in Goodridge ... **Dan Ninham** was honored as Coach of the Year when he took his Cass Lake-Bena basketball team to the Class 1A-Section 6-East Tournaments ... **Gary Heide** has been hired as Hayfield's new football coach and physical education teacher. He's coached football, track and field and basketball and comes to Hayfield from a teaching position in Colorado ... **Lon and Denise (Welle) Jones** live in Becker and have three children, Ben, 17, Danielle, 15, and Jack, 4. Lon is a laboratory director with Eniva Corp., which develops and manufactures liquid supplements, and Denise is employed with Stearns County as a human resources representative ... **Debra Morgan** and her husband, Dennis Gittinger, live in Fair Oaks Ranch, TX, and have a 10-year-old daughter, Katie. Debra is a dean at Northwest Vista College and earned a Ph.D. in education administration in 2005 ... **Mark Korte** is the senior project manager for Nor-Son, Brainerd, and has been named this year's Mid-Minnesota Builders Association Builder Member of the Year. He and his wife, Pam, have three children, Megan, 24, Lindsey, 21 and Alex, 16 ... **Martha (Aberson) and Mike Mason** ('82) live in Mound and have three children, John, 16, Becca, 14, and Elizabeth, 9. Martha works at Caribou Coffee and Mike owns his own company, RCRA Advantage.

1982 Del and Mary (Dye) ('83) Moen, live in Wadena and have a daughter, Britta, 12 ... **Debbie and Paul Grovum** ('90) hosted a gourmet meal as part of a fund-raising event for the Bemidji Boys & Girls Club ... **Phil Muir** has stepped down as boys hockey coach at Kittson County Central in Hallock ... **Jim Scanlan** resigned as East Grand Forks' boys hockey coach but continues in his position as athletic director ... **Roberta (Olson) Tucker** and her husband, Terrance, live in Houston, TX, and have one child, Mikela, 10. Roberta recently accepted a position as senior vice president with Compass Bank in Houston ... **Doug and Julie (Boettcher) Ryant** of Mahanomen have three children, Jessica, 20, Nicole, 18, and Krysta, 16. Doug teaches industrial technology in Mahanomen and Julie teaches industrial technology in Waubun .. **Mike and Martha (Aber-son) Mason** ('81) live in Mound and have three children, John, 16, Becca, 14, and Elizabeth, 9. Martha works at Caribou Coffee and Mike owns his own company, RCRA Advantage.

1981 Rodney and Jane (Linde) Capistran ('79) live in Fargo, ND, and have two children, Madeline, 19, and Stuart, 15 ... **Tammy (Harju) Ryan** was recently awarded the Governor's Award for Excellence by the state of Montana. She has been the circulation and advertising manager of *Montana The Magazine of Western History* since 1988 ... **Rick and Pam (Witikko) Peterson** ('83), live in Red Wing and have two children, Dan, 10, and Jacob, 3 ... **Jon and Laurie (Anderson) Gelschus** live in Hutchinson and have three children, Amy, 20, Brad, 19, and Tami, 17 ... **Scott Berry** lives in La Mesa, CA, and has two children, Jenny, 24, and Joel, 21 ... **Jean (Fulton) Weyer** and her husband, Gary, live in Menahga where she has taught second grade for the past seven years. They have three children, Brielle, 21, Seth, 19, and Delanie, 12.

1980 Kent Bahr played on the winning team at the 11th annual First National Bank Bemidji Lumberjack Bonspiel this spring ... **Monte Draper** is a photographer with the *Bemidji Pioneer* newspaper, which won the Minnesota Newspaper Association Sweepstakes Award and received First Place in continuing news coverage for its reporting of the 2005 Red Lake school shootings. ... **Bill and Jennifer (Bardal) Sanford** ('94) live in Bemidji and have three children, Marcy, 20, Katie, 8, and Becca, 5. Bill is general manager of Lakeland Public Television and Jennifer works as an office administrator for the United Way ... **Susan (Nowlan) Shelquist** and her husband, Kyle, live in Bemidji and have two children, Ryan, 20, and Ian, 16 ... **Nellie (Hendrickx) Wegscheid** and her husband, Jerry, live in Wadena and have four grown children, Tim, Vick, Sally and Scott. She taught elementary grades for 29 years and since her retirement in 1998 has run a quilting business ... **Marcella (Wingate) Hallan** has retired from a career with Itasca County Human Services. She and her husband, George, live in Keewatin ... **Karen Bradley** has served as an artist-in-residence at Central Elementary in Bemidji and is the recipient of the Bemidji Community Arts Council's 18th annual Friend of the Arts Award.

1979 Jane (Linde) and Rodney Capistran ('81), live in Fargo, ND, and have two children, Madeline, 19, and Stuart, 15 ... **Joan (Norr) McKinnon** was recently initiated into the Delta Kappa Gamma International Society during a ceremony in Bemidji ... **Steven Besser** is an attorney with the Dolan & Bessler law offices in Litchfield ... **Colette (Graves) Dahlke** is an ad-

PLEASE NOTE:

Towns are located in Minnesota unless otherwise noted.

missions representative in the BSU admissions office ... **Jim Orazem**, a mathematics teacher and golf coach in the Mora school district for 27 years, was among three recipients of Leadership in Education Excellence Awards honored in St. Cloud. He and his wife, Carol, have been married for 26 years and have two children, Rachel, 19, and Logan, 15 ... **Brian Miller**, Bemidji native, guitarist and singer, performed at Brigid's Cross Irish Pub in Bemidji ... **John Moon** and his wife, Ruth, live in DeSoto, KS, and have two children, Sarah, 23, and Ben, 19. He is a human resources officer with the Veterans Administration ... **Patty (Finn) and Gary Allman** ('78) live in Cottage Grove and have two children, Kellie, 21, and Kasey, 19. Patty teaches third grade in South Washington County and Gary is in his 27th year of employment with UPS.

1978 Faith Rudnitski was selected by her peers at Herman-Norcross School as its Teacher of the Year. She is a counselor and also teaches college psychology via ITV to Herman-Norcross students and Underwood high school students ... **Tom Ritchie** is a long-time high school wrestling coach in Fairbanks, AK. He has an adult son, Tom Jr., who is also a coach ... **Shelley (Raymond) and Jeff Galle** live in Warroad and have three children, JJ, 24, Kyle, 22, and Bryce, 16 ... **Bill Brockberg** lives in Plymouth ... **Timothy Shears** and his wife, Sandy, live in Brooklyn Park and have a son, Dustin. Tim started TBS Consulting and works with the Minnesota Twins and University of Minnesota Athletic Department in sales and marketing and sales training. Sandy is a flight attendant with Northwest Airlines ... **Gary and Patty (Finn) Allman** ('79) live in Cottage Grove and have two children, Kellie, 21, and Kasey, 19. Patty teaches third grade in South Washington County and Gary is in his 27th year of employment with UPS ... **Sue (Mattson) Helena** is the new managing editor of the *St. Cloud Times* after serving the paper in a variety of capacities since 1984.

1977 Al Curb and his wife, Sue, hosted a gourmet meal as part of a fund-raising event for the Bemidji Boys & Girls Club ... **Ric Dressen** has been named superintendent of schools in Edina beginning this summer.

1976 Carol (Johnson) Bruns has retired after teaching 31 years in the Wadena-Deer Creek schools.

She and her husband, Edward ('73), have two children, Jessica and Jason ... **Mary Ann Gesell** hosted a gourmet meal as part of a fund-raising event for the Bemidji Boys & Girls Club ... **Deb Jacobson**, athletic director for Northland Community and Technical College, was chosen by the Minnesota Coalition of Women in Athletic Leadership to receive a special merit award for her contributions to promoting sports for girls and women. She joined the faculty at Northland College in 1973 as the first women's athletic director and in 2000 was named athletic director for both men and women ... **Nancy Powell** and her husband, Bill, live in San Diego, CA, and have a son, Robert, 10 ... **Linda (Momb-Livingston) Wiedewitsch** has retired from her position as an investigator for the Detroit Lakes Police Department, concluding a law enforcement career that dates back to 1977. She has trained eight dogs for Leader Dogs for the Blind and intends to continue training and boarding dogs. She and her husband, Archie, also board horses at their rural Detroit Lakes stable ... **Nancy (Hagen) Staiger** and her husband, Doug, live in Moorhead and have three grown children, Greta, Marissa and Tony. She is working as a leasing agent for a property management company ... **Jeannette (Baumgartner) Swenson** has been a teacher for 25 years and has taught in Blackduck for the past 22 years. She has two children, Aaron and Alanna ... **Nan and Mark Carlson** ('75) live in Minneapolis and have three grown children, Cory, Britt and Charles.

1975 Richard Anderson is employed with the Bemidji High School ... **Janice (Hoganson) Sargent** is a teacher with the Cass Lake-Bena School District ... **Mike Ellingsen** and his wife, Sue, live in Blue Earth and have two children, Andrew, 24, and Kate, 20 ... **Mark and Nan Carlson** ('76) live in Minneapolis and have three grown children, Cory, Britt and Charles ... **Thomas Beck** is a program assessment and marketing coordinator in the TRIO office at BSU ... **Deb Allison** is employed with Beltrami County Human Services ... **Terry Bradley** scored an ace at Maple Ridge Golf Course in Bemidji this year, using a 4-iron to hole out on the 152-yard seventh hole ... **Sue Bruns** is the assistant principal at Bemidji High School.

1974 Mary (Orton) and William Robertson ('68) live in British Columbia, Canada, and have a daughter, Jennifer, 26. William served as chief umpire at the 2006 World Mens Curling Championships, an umpire for 2006 Olympic Curling and chief umpire at the 2005 World Mens Curling Championships ... **Joe Vene** performed as an invited soloist for a recognition ceremony for master's students at the University of Minnesota School of Social Work. He also presented the keynote address at the dedication ceremonies for the Freedom Defenders Veterans Memorial installed adjacent to the Beltrami County History Center ... **Bob Gospeter** and his wife, Cindy, live in Eagle Lake and have three children, Cassie, 25, Carrie, 24, and Callie 22 ... **Mike Kerrigan** and his wife, Julie Ann, live in Walker and have three children, Brent, 20, Dan, 18, and Jill, 15 ... **Deb (Kolp) Stanley** was selected as Teacher of the Year for the Goodridge school district. She's been teaching elementary classes in Goodridge for 18 years. She and her husband, Todd, moved to Grygla in 1974 and raised two children, Bill and Kathryn ... **Dennis Fermoye** has retired as coach of the Warroad Boys Hockey Program. He and his wife of 33 years, Susan, have three grown sons. He's been a hockey coach for 32 consecutive years ... **Sharon (Woidylla) Chapman** of Bemidji writes that she received a successful kidney transplant in December and her health continues

to improve ... **Gregory and Kathleen (Jenkins) Nadeau** ('72) live in Lake Elmo and have two grown children ... **Karen (Murphy) and Norman Hilleren** live in Maiden Rock, WI, and have two daughters, Jennifer, 29, and Kristina, 26. Karen teaches health and PE in the Plum City School District and Norman teaches science and chemistry in the Spring Valley School District ... **Glen Hasselberg**, veteran Staples-Motley golf coach, was inducted into the Golf Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

1973 John Reff and his wife, Gail, hosted a gourmet meal as part of a fund-raising event for the Bemidji Boys & Girls Club ... **Marie (Chandler) Kovar** was recently initiated into the Delta Kappa Gamma International Society during a ceremony in Bemidji ... **Jeanne (Hart) Mattfield** of Grand Rapids is a retired teacher who taught for years in the Greenway School District. She has four grown children, 14 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren ... **Linda Wagner** is a soprano with the Bemidji Baroque Ensemble ... **Jeff Boucher** and his wife, Denise, live in Mammoth Lakes, CA, where Jeff is retired from 28 years of ski patrolling ... **Cecelia Stoltman** of Thief River Falls is a volunteer teacher of three home schooled children and also volunteers at the high school ALC program, correcting math papers ... **Linda Swenson** recently completed training as a Master Gardener intern in Bemidji ... **Michael and Pamela Kelsey** ('71), owners of Kelsey's jewelry store in Bemidji, are participating in the Paws for Patriots program with Southeastern Guide Dogs, Inc. The program provides guide dogs for American soldiers blinded fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan ... **Tom King** has retired from the Warroad School District, ending a 33-year teaching career. He and his wife, Carol, have four children and six grandchildren ... **Edward and Carol (Johnson) Bruns** ('76) have two children, Jessica and Jason. Carol has retired after teaching 31 years in the Wadena-Deer Creek schools.

1972 Kathleen (Jenkins) and Gregory Nadeau ('74) live in Lake Elmo and have two grown children ... **Dan Gartrell**, professor of education at BSU, co-presented a seminar at the annual conference of the National Association for the Education of Young Children in Washington, DC. He also recently completed revisions for the fourth edition of his textbook, *A Guidance Approach for the Encouraging Classroom* ... **Ron Berry** of Walker announced in January that he'd seek DFL endorsement to represent the party in the race for the Minnesota House of Representatives District 4B. He is a teacher with Walker Public Schools. He and his wife, Renay, have three children ... **Marilyn Stone** of Isanti has retired from a 34-year teaching career at Centennial School District in Circle Pines ... **Ron Kristofferson** has served as mayor of Baxter and was recently featured in a profile appearing in the April 17 *Brainerd Dispatch* entitled "Life After Vietnam" ... **Beryl (Paul) Wernberg** recently completed training as a Master Gardener intern in Bemidji ... **Nance (Kohel) Brandborg** has retired after spending 34 years teaching in Wadena-Deer Creek schools. She and her husband, James, have four children, Sandy, Michael, Amy and Kelly and three grandchildren.

1971 Pamela and Michael Kelsey ('73), owners of Kelsey's jewelry store in Bemidji, are participating in the Paws for Patriots program with Southeastern Guide Dogs, Inc. The program

provides guide dogs for American soldiers blinded fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan ... **Jim Sutton** and his wife, Sue, hosted a gourmet meal as part of a fund-raising event for the Bemidji Boys & Girls Club ... **Nordy Nelson** of Sartell served this winter as interim school superintendent with the St. James School District. His wife, Bettye, works with special education students in St. Cloud and the couple has two grown sons, Ryan and Troy ... **Marg and Glen Trembath** both retired from teaching in East Grand Forks this year, having logged a combined career total of 62 years. Marg taught third grade at South Point and Glen was a seventh grade social science teacher at Central Middle School. They have two grown sons, Corey and Eric ... **J. Scott Anderson** and his wife, Mary Lea, of Blackduck recently retired from teaching after spending 34 years in education. They have two children, Lance, 27, and Jay, 26 ... **Mim Bjelkengren** has taught grades 4-6 in Menahga for 18 years. She and her husband, **Bob** ('89), a potter, have three grown children ... **Alyce (Falconer) Gibson** is a classroom volunteer at Riverside Elementary School, Brainerd, four days a week.

1970 Maggie (Lynch) and Ken Corens ('68) are retired and living in Wayzata. They have two children, Kristin, 27, and Tracy 25 ... **Jerry Madson** is the wire editor with the *Bemidji Pioneer* newspaper, which won the Minnesota Newspaper Association Sweepstakes Award and received First Place in continuing news coverage for its reporting of the 2005 Red Lake school shootings ... **Rich Glas** has been named as an assistant coach at the University of Northern Iowa. He guided the University of North Dakota men's basketball program for 18 seasons and won more games, 335, than any coach in UND history ... **Richard Lundeen** has retired from a 29-year career as business manager for the Detroit Lakes School District. He was recognized by the Minnesota Association of School Business Officials in 2005 as the School Business Official of the Year. He and his wife, Kathie, plan to remain in Detroit Lakes. They have two grown sons, Brian and Michael ... **Tamia Moe**, a teacher and artist from Ely, exhibited her paintings this spring at Lisa's Second Floor Bookstore. She teaches elementary and high school art ... **Bill Jacoby** and his wife Lupe live in San Diego, CA ... **Dave Hallan** of Bagley retired in January from a 33-year career of teaching and coaching ... **Elaine (Willis) Hazard** and her husband, Evan, have three grown children, Brian, Stuart, and Kathryn, and still live in Bemidji.

1969 Robert Dalley, Western Carolina University's occupational safety program director, retired after 37 years in industrial education. He has worked as an expert witness and commentator for FOX, ABC, NBC and Radio Canada. His publications include an internationally distributed book, *Are You Burning Money? A Handbook of Energy-Saving Devices*. He has two grown children, Russell and Tina ... **Rodney Kekkonen** has been promoted to director of industrial engineering by Hormel Foods Corporation. He started his career with Hormel in 1969 and was named general manager of the company's Shanghai Hormel Foods joint venture in 1996. He returned to the United States in 1999 as corporate manager of industrial engineering at the corporate office ... **Ron Rude** of Plains, MT, is the author of *Waiting for Otto*, available at the on-line bookstore of PublishAmerica.com. The novel is set in North Dakota from the early to late 1900s. Ron is a retired English teacher and school superintendent ... **Roger Paskvan** is associate professor of mass communication and director of broadcasting at BSU ... **Jane (Hirvela) Marconett** retired in January from a 26-year teaching career at the Cook School ... **Ed Gmoch** of Berlin, NJ, retired in June after teaching U.S. history in New Jersey schools for 37 years ... **Charlie Cornell** has been a teacher and coach in Thief River Falls since 1969 and was recently awarded the Butch Nash Outstanding Assistant Coach Award by the Minnesota High School Coaches Association. In May, he was also inducted into the TRF Prowler Hall of Fame. He and his wife, Kittie, have two children, Gary and Kelly ... **John Hendrickson** of Rock Lake, ND, has been teaching in North Dakota for 36 years and plans to retire next year ... **Carolyn (Hoppes) Hegland** is coordinator of the Bemidji Community Food Shelf.

1968 Blace and Myrna (Pearson) Schmidt of Pelican Rapids have two grown children, Paul and Pam, and four grandchildren. Blace recently retired after more than 33 years in education. For most of the 18 years he spent in the Pelican Rapids district he served as Viking Elementary principal ... **Sharon (Cullen) Geisen** is a member of the Friends of Bemidji Public Library ... **Ken and Maggie (Lynch) Corens** ('70) are retired and living in Wayzata. They have two children, Kristin, 27, and Tracy 25 ... **William and Mary (Orton) Robertson** ('74) live in British Columbia, Canada, and have a daughter, Jennifer, 26. William served as chief umpire at the 2006 World Mens Curling Championships, an umpire for 2006 Olympic Curling and chief umpire at the 2005 World Mens Curling Championships ... **Carol (Gilbertson) and James Demgen** ('67) live in East Gull Lake and have two children, Leslie and Shannon. Carol retired from Pillager Public Schools and now teaches drivers education for the school district. James is a sales representative for Hillyard, Inc., and currently serves as a Cass County commissioner ... **Bonnie Holt** has retired from teaching and lives in Lindstrom. She and her husband, Chester Kukuk, have a daughter, Elisa, 23 ... **Ed Olson** of Bemidji shared his recipe for fish soup with *Bemidji Pioneer* Food Page readers in honor of the fishing opener ... **Al Kendall** volunteered as a guide at the 20th annual Take A Kid Fishing event in Bemidji.

1967 James and Carol (Gilbertson) Demgen ('68) live in East Gull Lake and have two children, Leslie and Shannon. Carol retired from Pillager Public Schools and now teaches drivers education for the school district. James is a sales repre-

Class Notes

sentative for Hillyard, Inc., and currently serves as a Cass County commissioner ... **Reuben Brooks** retired from the Tennessee State University in Nashville where he served as a professor of geography. A widower, he has three grown children and 10 grandchildren and plans to remain in Nashville.

1966 **Jim Gorman** is an officer in the Bemidji Lions Club, zone chair for Region 2, Zone 1 ... **Andy Wells**, president of Wells Technology in Bemidji, was awarded this year's American Indian Business of the Year Award. The award is presented by the United Indian Development Association, part of the National Center for American Indian Enterprise.

1965 **Linda (Wallstrand) Schaefer** and her husband, **Ron**, have owned and operated Blackduck Floral and Gifts since 1981. They have two grown sons, **Brian** and **Paul**, and have been married 35 years ... **John Rude** of Victorville, CA, was recently selected to serve as Victor Valley College's dean of instruction (humanities and social sciences). Also, this year he served as the Circuit 1 Coordinator for the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. He has two grown daughters.

1964 **Faith Wick**, a doll maker, had 200 of her classic fairytale dolls included in an exhibit entitled *Miniature Fairyland* that opened at the Children's Discovery Museum, Grand Rapids, in March ... **Carol (Hensel) Aenne** is the new superintendent at Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School in Bena. She has a grown daughter, **Kerri**, and two grandchildren ... **Bruce Melin** is an assistant coach at Sartell and was honored by the Minnesota Track and Field Coaches Association as the 2005 Class AA Coach of the Year ... **Bonnie (Bement) Anderson** and her husband, **Stephen**, live in Ely and have two grown children, **Ben** and **Lindsay** ... **Elton and Marion (Seedorf) Cunningham** ('62) live in Stillwater and have a daughter, **Sara**.

1963 **Lucille (Rydeen) Aasland** is a retired elementary teacher. She lives in Thief River Falls and has four children, 16 grandchildren and one great-grandson ... **Bill Hansen** was recently inducted into the Minnesota High School Athletic Directors Hall of Fame and the Prior Lake High School Hall of Fame. He and his wife, **Sharon**, live in Prior Lake and have two grown children, **Michelle** and **Tracy** ... **Steve Malterud** of Laguna Beach, CA, retired from teaching 10 years ago and is enjoying traveling.

1962 **Marion (Seedorf) and Elton Cunningham** ('64) live in Stillwater and have a daughter, **Sara** ... **Clarice (Gustafson) Smith** lives in Walnut Creek, CA ... **Richard and Pat (Lindberg) Wagner** have retired from careers teaching in city suburbs and now live by a lake in the Longville-Hackensack area. They have two grown children, **Ryan** and **Amy** ... **Carol (Tappero) Anderson** and her husband, **George**, are retired and have taken cruises to Hawaii and many Caribbean islands during the past six years. They live in Wrenshall and have two grown children, **George** and **Heather**, and three grandchildren.

1960 **Kerm Bensen** of Bemidji shared his recipe for walleye on the grill with readers of the *Bemidji Pioneer* food page.

PLEASE NOTE:

Towns are located in Minnesota unless otherwise noted.

1950s Eight couples get together each winter in Mesa, AZ. Most went to school together at Bemidji State in the early 1950s. They have all been married to the same person for over 50 years. These couples include: **Tom and Noreene (Mihelich)** '52 **Mee; Benny** '55 and **Joan (Whalen)** '52 **Trochlil; Luvern** '55 and **Avis Eickhoff; Irv** '54 and **Pat (Moore)** '54 **St. John; Loran** '53 and **Joanne (Griggs)** '53 **Eickhoff; Dick and Mary (Randall)** '52 **Norgart; Noel and Carole (Remick)** '52 **Triden; and Robert** '58 and **Phyllis (Carpenter)** '51 **Snustad.**

1959 **John Buckanaga** announced that he'd file as a candidate for the office of Secretary-Treasurer of the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council ... **Kermit Anderson**, a member of the Paul Bunyan Vintage Auto Club, loaned a 1917 Model T from his collection to be included in the new Paddle, Ride or Fly exhibit at the Beltrami County History Center.

1954 **Jim and Bette Henkes** ('53) live in Fergus Falls and have five daughters. He coached varsity football at Wheaton from 1961 to 1974 and in 1987 was inducted into the Fergus Falls Chamber of Commerce Sports Hall of Fame.

1953 **Richard Starr** and his wife, **Alta**, live in Wickenburg, AZ, and have five grown children, **Craig, Lynn, Patti, Scott** and **Vicki**. He retired in 1990 and moved to Arizona in 2001. He's currently commander of American Legion Post 12 ... **Bette and Jim Henkes** ('54) live in Fergus Falls and have five daughters. He coached varsity football at Wheaton from 1961 to 1974 and in 1987 was inducted into the Fergus Falls Chamber of Commerce Sports Hall of Fame.

1952 **Mary (Fleener) Anderson** and her husband, **Sidney**, live in Grand Forks, ND, and have two grown children, **Jennifer** and **Karen**. Mary works at a pre-school in Grand Forks and Sidney has retired from the North Dakota Geological Survey.

1950 **Bruce Atwater** of Bemidji serves on the Beltrami County Sheriff's Office Community Guard, having joined the guard in 2002 soon after it was organized.

1949 **Eva (Vidas) Young** lives in Chula Vista, CA, and is a professor at the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

In Memoriam

Edythe (Thorsen) Andersen '36 Everett, WA

Susan (Ohlin) Berdick '70 Aurora, MN

Charles Brown '66 Cass Lake, MN

David Czarnecki '69 Dubuque, IA

Clarence Dobmeier '74 Little Falls, MN

Arthur Fradenburgh '85 Bemidji, MN

Robert Fragnito '80 Nashwauk, MN

Vincent Garlough '61 Cohasset, MN

Richard Gordon '71 Bemidji, MN

Dennis Holm '65 Leonard, MN

Gladys (Koski) Holmes '55 Angora, MN

William Jarpey '90 Ham Lake, MN

Bernita (Snakenberg) Jasmer '70 Monticello, MN

John Larson '36 Pine River, MN

June (Hoehne) Latvala '86 Bemidji, MN

Ida Barstad Lofgren '33 Littlefork, MN

Thea (Gunderson) Lundrigan '42 Pine River, MN

Jean (Woodring) Myer '73 Lake City, MN

Hilma Nelson '39 Alexandria, MN

Valborg Nesseth '33 & '73 Bagley, MN

Lenore (Harvey) Ouradnik '81 Gonvick, MN

Monrad Peterson '50 Cohasset, MN

Audrey (Zakrzewski) Randorf '55 Crookston, MN

Jill (Meacham) Reierson '81 Bemidji, MN

Stanley Ricke '60 Bagley, MN

David Savard '86 Bemidji, MN

Joe Servon '59 Ocean Grove, NJ

William Squires '47 Wolf Point, MT

Joyce (Bordwell) Stillwell '61 Laporte, MN

Grace (Lyseng) Stordahl '60 Roseau, MN

Katherine (Filla) Swanberg '30 St. Cloud, MN

Bradley Swearingen '91 Cass Lake, MN

Ruth (Forseen) Swedberg '37 Blackduck, MN

Scott E. Thorson '76 Bemidji, MN

Allen Undem '94 Park Rapids, MN

Beaver Fever... It's Contagious!

2006 HOMECOMING OCTOBER 6-8

Alumni and University Events

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Beaver Pride Luncheon, Walnut Hall, \$6/person. Join other BSU athletic fans as they listen to coaches and student athletes talk about their upcoming games.

5-6:30 p.m. Outstanding Alumni Member Reception, American Indian Resource Center. For Bemidji State University Outstanding Alumni and their families.

6:30 p.m. BSU Alumni Association Honors Banquet, Beaux Arts Ballroom. Join alumni, faculty, friends of Bemidji State University for the presentation of the 2006 BSU Outstanding Alumni awards. Tickets \$22/person. Advance registration required. Register online at www.bsualumni.org, choose 'Event Registration' or call the BSU Alumni Office at 755-3989 or 1-877-278-2586 (toll free).

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

8-10 a.m. Lutheran Campus Center Open House and Continental Breakfast, 1221 Birchmont Drive NE. All alumni and friends of the ministry are welcome.

9 a.m. Homecoming 5K Run/Walk, Chet Anderson Football Stadium, Diamond Point Park entrance. Registration 8 a.m. Registration fee of \$10/person includes t-shirt and beverages. For more information email rfulton@vacationsports.com.

9 a.m. 40-Year Reunion of the Class of 1966, Hobson Memorial Union, Crying Wolf Room. Reunion brunch for members of the class of 1966 and the wrap around classes of 1965 and 1967.



11 a.m.-1 p.m. Bemidji State University Homecoming Tailgate Party and Carnival, Diamond Point Park. Fun for the Whole Family: carnival booths, music, entertainment, food and beverages and FUN!

Co-sponsored by the BSU Alumni Association, Beaver Pride and KBUN/KB101/KZY/Z99-FM Radio.

12-4 p.m. - Open House for Theater Alumni - Bangsberg Main Theater.

1 p.m. BSU Women's Soccer vs. Northern State, BSU Soccer Field.

1:00 p.m. 2006 Homecoming Football Game, Chet Anderson Stadium. The BSU Beavers will be taking on the University of Mary Marauders.

4 p.m. - Retirement Celebration for Kay Robinson - Brigid's Cross Irish Pub, Bemidji. All theater alumni welcome.

5-7 p.m. - Football alumni gathering - Bemidji Elks Club. Food and drink provided. All football alumni welcome.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

11 a.m. Holy Spirit Newman Center Mass and Brunch, Newman Center. All are welcome. RSVP: 444-4762 or

via email at ncenter@paulbunyan.net.

1 p.m. BSU Women's Soccer vs. University of Mary, BSU Soccer Field.

3 p.m. Carl O. Thompson Memorial Concert, Beaux Arts Ballroom. Tickets available at the door.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS/ACTIVITIES:

University Bookstore Hours:

Mon.-Thursday: 7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Friday: 7:45 a.m.-4 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Campus Tours:

Weekdays, 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.; BSU Admissions Office. 755-2040 (local calls) or 1-877-BEMIDJI (toll free).

Gillett Recreation & Fitness Center:

Open Friday 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Homecoming Special: Simply show your BSU Alumni Association membership card at the door and you and your family will be admitted free of charge.





BEMIDJI
STATE UNIVERSITY

1500 Birchmont Drive NE
Bemidji, MN 56601-2699

Bemidji State University

August 25, 2006: Registration for Fall Semester, classes begin August 28

October 6, 2006: Alumni Honors Banquet, Beaux Arts Ballroom

October 7, 2006: 2006 Homecoming

December 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9, 2006: Madrigal Dinners, Beaux Arts Ballroom, Advance Tickets Sales Only, 218-755-2918

January 22, 2007: Registration for Spring Semester, classes begin January 23

February 16-17, 2007: Athletic Hall of Fame Weekend

Check www.bsualumni.org for a more details on each event listed and for complete calendar of events taking place on the BSU campus.

2006 New Student Academic Advisement and Registration

August 11

2006 Campus Preview Days in Admissions

September 15	October 27	November 10
November 17	December 1	December 8

2006 Fall Visit Day Programs

October 19	October 20
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CAMPUS
Calendar

