

HORIZONS



On The Stick

*Hockey program
celebrates 50th season*

The Tele-Healing Touch

*Physician uses technology to
provide Arctic with care*

All Wet

*Alumnus explores hydroponics,
reaps flood of rewards*

THE LAKE,
THE LEARNING,

THE
Life...



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BEMIDJI
STATE UNIVERSITY

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the new **Horizons**. This issue marks a significant commitment from the University, the Alumni Association and the BSU Foundation to provide you with information in a more interesting format. **Horizons** still contains the sections you told us are most important, particularly the class notes and campus updates. The alumni and donor features will be more extensive, and this format will allow us to use more graphics and color to tell these stories. We've also added two regular sections. Each issue will contain stories that focus on the Lake, the Learning, and the Life as they relate to Bemidji State. The editions will also highlight three current seniors who were singled out by faculty for their accomplishments and contributions to the University.

As an alumnus, I'm always looking for feedback on **Horizons** from other BSU graduates. Once you've had a chance to look over the publication, take a moment to contact the University with your comments. You can contact me by calling 1-888-234-7794 or via email at news@bemidjistate.edu.

Al Nohner ('70, '93)



COVER STORY:

John Skarie's natural wet thumb picks refreshing approach to agriculture. Page 12.

Contents

- 2 Message from the President
- 3 Campus Notes
- 6 Creating a Brimming Future
- 8 Journey to Success
- 10 Seniors to Watch
- 12 Abundance by the Gallon
- 16 Front and Center
- 18 Opens Lines to Medical Care
- 21 Hockey Celebrating 50 Years
- 24 Building Re-Marketable Benefits
- 26 Class Notes

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HORIZONS

HORIZONS is produced by the Communications Office, Alumni Association, and BSU Foundation at Bemidji State University. It is published three times per year and distributed free to BSU alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends of the University.

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Message

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Your perspective of Bemidji State University is shaped by memories of your days as an undergraduate or graduate student. Some of you refresh that perspective by returning to campus, perhaps for an event like Homecoming or to stroll along the lakeshore one more time.

And whether you've been able to visit or haven't been back since your graduation, one University publication, **Horizons**, has likely served as your primary source for Bemidji State news. Since the first issue in winter 1986, this quarterly publication has brought BSU happenings to life for you. **Horizons** let you know where your classmates were living and what they were doing. You became informed of faculty and staff activities by reading its pages. You learned about the accomplishments, trials and triumphs of the institution's alumni.

It was the link with your alma mater.

But as anyone who recently visited campus knows, change doesn't stop for memories on its unyielding march through time. Those 2005 graduates walking from the fireplace by Sattgast Hall to Diamond Point have a different set of sights, landscapes and sounds imbedded in their minds than those of 1948, 1970, 1991 or 2003. The forces that shaped the memories have changed.

Today Bemidji State serves a much broader region, and is the University of and for northern Minnesota. Its reach is national as well as global, with students from more than 30 states and 40 countries taking classes on campus or online courses delivered wherever a student can access a computer. Important values like environmental stewardship and civic engagement are no longer implied opportunities for students; they are requirements built into curriculum and student programming. The pace and demands of learning within the higher education environment has quickened in every discipline.

And it is time for **Horizons** to change. The publication has switched to a magazine-style format so stories and features can be brought to you in clearer and more lively formats. The pages have expanded significantly so more news can be incorporated into every issue. A new audience is welcomed, as members of the BSU Foundation will now receive copies of the publication that was primarily distributed to alumni. This audience will bring stories that move in new directions.

While change has swirled around the institution and affected **Horizons**, one thing has remained constant: the quality of the people who teach here, work here, study here, and graduate from here. Our students have always focused on their goals, and been driven to succeed in the classroom. The faculty is a partner in this equation, serving as mentors and guides to success. The staff willingly participates as well, providing leadership, development and support.

The result is the one Bemidji State tradition that families, employers and communities count on: great students involved with great faculty and staff become great alumni. We look forward to continuing this tradition in the future, where together we can shape new memories of Bemidji State University. **HORIZONS**

President Jon E. Quistgaard



Call for Nominations 2006 BSU Outstanding Alumni

Nominations are now being accepted for candidates to be considered for the Bemidji State University Outstanding Alumni Award.

The Outstanding Alumni Award is presented annually during Homecoming. It is the highest honor presented by the Bemidji State University Alumni Association. The recipients of the award bring recognition to their alma mater through distinguished and professional achievements. They are honored for exceptional service and contributions to the University and to their community, state and nation.

All nominees must have graduated from BSU no less than 10 years ago. Nominations will be accepted until January 31, 2006, and can be made by anyone except an immediate family member. Current faculty, staff and members of the board of directors of the Alumni Association are not eligible for consideration. A nomination form can be obtained by calling the Alumni Office at 1-877-278-2586 (toll free), 218-755-3989 (local), via email at alumni@bemidjistate.edu or by going to our website at <http://www.bsualumni.org/awardprograms/outstanding.html>.

Fall 2005 Enrollment Shows Continued Growth

The fall 2005 headcount at Bemidji State University increased nearly 3.5 percent over 2004. Figures show 4,993 students were enrolled by the end of October, compared to 4,825 at the same time last year. The number will continue to grow, and likely exceed 5,000, as students sign up for distance learning options throughout the semester. The headcount reflects an unduplicated number of students enrolled in credit-bearing courses on campus and through external studies. This is the



Campus Notes

Calendar of Events

March 11-13, 2006,
BSU Winter Rendezvous,
Flamingo Laughlin Hotel



May 11, 2006,
50 Year Reunion,
Class of 1956

May 12, 2006,
Fifth Annual Golden
Beaver Society Luncheon,
American Indian Resource
Center, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

May 12, 2006,
BSU Commencement,
John Glas Fieldhouse,
2 p.m.

**Check
www.bsualumni.org
for more details on the
events listed and for a
complete calendar of
events at BSU.**

sixth year of growth in seven years. The increase follows the 2005 summer school that also saw headcount go up 4.5 percent compared to the previous summer. Bemidji State was the only Minnesota state university to experience growth during this period.

Alumni Access to Online Community

The BSU Alumni Association will soon be launching a new web site, which includes more news than ever about alumni and the university. Alumni can check it out at www.bsualumni.org and while there, register in the Alumni Online Community, which includes an electronic alumni directory, personal profile pages, personal pals lists and more. Also located on the front page of the alumni web site is a link to a calendar of events, listing all events taking place on campus or through the Alumni Association.

CRI Shares National Award for Community, Economic Work

The BSU Center for Research and Innovation (CRI) and Iron Range Resources of Eveleth received a 2005 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations for work on the Northern Tier High Technology Corridor. The Northern Tier is an online business resource for northern Minnesota, providing economic development tools and information. It strives to build partnerships, providing a place to set up a virtual community that includes the following abilities: to conduct online discussions; create team rooms; implement online chats; develop collaborative project calendars; and view research documents, presentations or other communications. The CRI is an off-campus facility developed by BSU to serve as a conduit for businesses, industries, non-profits and the general public.

Show your Beaver Pride with the new BSU Alumni Visa® Card!

Bemidji State University Alumni Association recently began working with U.S. Bank to offer an exclusive credit card for alumni and friends of BSU. Those who use the new BSU alumni credit card are supporting scholarships, athletics and other vital programs with the card's use. If you currently carry a BSU Alumni credit card, please check for the U.S. Bank logo on the back because purchases made with any other BSU alumni card no longer support the University.

Marla Huss Patrias, director of BSU Alumni Relations, believes that the new program offers superior products and service to cardholders at the same time it helps BSU students and alumni. "We are very pleased to work with U.S. Bank in our effort to provide convenient, high-quality opportunities for alumni to use a product that supports the BSU Alumni Association," she says.

To find out how you can support the BSU Alumni Association through our credit card program, visit www.bsualumni.org, or call 1-800-853-5576 ext. 8618 today.



The creditor and issuer of the BSU Alumni Visa card is U.S. Bank National Association, ND.

In Memoriam

Joseph R. Angelo ('65) -
Zimmerman, Minnesota

Viola F. (Sollom) Gordon ('55 & '61) - Flagstaff, Arizona

William J. Hayden ('70) -
Pitman, New Jersey

John A. Helley, Sr. ('79 & '83) -
Grand Forks, North Dakota

Rodney S. Imsande ('88) -
New York Mills, Minnesota

Steven F. Martin ('69) -
Maple Grove, Minnesota

George Murray, Jr. ('49) -
Bemidji, Minnesota

Sherman O. Oftedahl ('54) -
Grand Rapids, Minnesota

Wanda L. (Forsland) Petersen ('68) - Turtle River, Minnesota

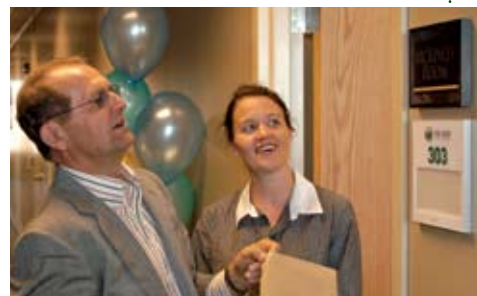
Hilda R. Rachuy ('70) -
Issaquah, Washington

Roberta (Moore) Reese ('62) -
Daly City, California

Janice (Laske) Thalacker ('66) -
Heartland, Wisconsin

Paul R. Wrolstad ('67) -
Bemidji, Minnesota

Deborah A. Zywiec ('72) -
Cottage Grove, Minnesota



Mike McKinley and daughter Mary in the Center for Advanced and Emerging Technologies.

Room Name Honors Alumnus

A third-floor room of the Center for Advanced and Emerging Technologies (CAET) bears Mike McKinley's name in appreciation of his financial contributions to BSU. A 1965 graduate, McKinley is the president of McKinley Companies, Inc. He has more than 20 years of professional speaking experience and earned the designation of Certified Speaking Professional. McKinley is a strong supporter of Bemidji State, donating \$100,000 to various projects in the past year.

Seeking Nominations for the Athletic Hall of Fame

The Alumni Association and the Athletic Department are seeking nominations for the 2006 Athletic Hall of Fame. Up to eight former athletes and BSU coaches are inducted every other year into this prestigious group. Nominations must be in writing and will be accepted until January 1, 2006. Nomination forms are available on the alumni website at www.bsualumni.org. Select the link for award programs.

Nominees must have earned an athletic letter at BSU, must have attended BSU for at least two years and not have graduated from another University. They also must have attended BSU at least 20 years ago. Previous coaches and / or administrators who made significant contributions to the development and success of BSU athletics may also be considered. Selections will be based on merit in four categories: athletic accomplishments while at BSU; post-collegiate professional accomplishments; service and

contributions to community, state and nation; and service to BSU. Further information is available by contacting the BSU Alumni Office via email at alumni@bemidjistate.edu or call 1-877-BSU-ALUM (278-2586 - toll free) or 218-755-3989.

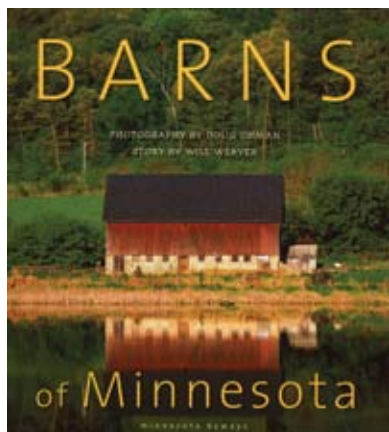
English Professor Writes Minnesota Barns Book

When the Minnesota Historical Society approached novelist Will Weaver, BSU English professor, about writing a book about Minnesota barns, Weaver was doubtful. He writes fiction, not fact, he told them.

Nevertheless, Weaver, whose stories often reflect his farm upbringing, listened. Then one day, he says he had an epiphany. "What if I wrote about the life of one barn?" he recalls. "The editor and I got very excited."

However, it was the Historical Society's turn to be doubtful because Weaver wanted to write about an imaginary barn, not a real one. "I had to sort of negotiate my creative territory," he says. "This was new territory for them."

They eventually agreed, and the resulting *Barns of Minnesota* is an unusual blend of a novella and coffee table book. It combines the story of the Anderson family's barn with full-page color photos of barns across Minnesota taken by New Hope photographer Doug Ohman. The story weaves in details about a barn's structure and purpose, as well as its place in the community and in a changing economy.



The 1985-86 NCAA Division III National Champion hockey team celebrated a 20-year reunion October 14-15 when 24 players and two coaches returned to the John Glas Fieldhouse. Participants were (left to right): (front row) Greg Biskup, Tim Guyer, Ian Resch, Assistant Coach Scott Monsrud, Co-Captain Mike Alexander, Co-Captain Steve Lundeen, Tom Serratore, Jim Martin, and Steve O'Shea; (back row) Coach Bob Peters, Jude Gilbertson, Todd Donaldson, Jim Tyler, Dan Kimball, Todd Warner, Bruce Watkins, Co-Captain Buck Lescarbeau, Todd Lescarbeau, Jeff Strandell, Dave Jungwirth, Tom Shinabargar, Dan Richards, and Del Michie. Attending, but not pictured, was Marco Hunt who was refereeing the game that evening between BSU and MSU, Mankato.

BSU Launches Master of Science in Counseling Psychology

In an effort to help meet increasing demands for professional counselors in rural Minnesota, Bemidji State University has developed the master of science in counseling psychology program. While counselor training is the main focus, this graduate degree also provides additional training for professionals and further education for students preparing to enter a doctoral program. Licensure requirements include completing a 48-credit-minimum master's program with specific course requirements, a 700-hour internship, and 12 credits post-graduate work within two years of licensure.



Donations Support Purchase of New Machining Equipment

The recent acquisition of a new Haas Mini Mill Vertical Machining Center, valued at more than \$30,000, for the Center for Advanced and Emerging Technology was made possible by contributions from Productivity, Inc. and private donors to the College of Professional Studies. Greg Buck, president of Connecticut-based Productivity, believes students need experience working on state-of-the-art equipment in the learning environment so they are prepared to perform well in the industrial workplace. The machine will be used in the advanced materials and processes class.

The Life - *A Promise to Transform the Future*

Ambition AND Experience



PHOTO: JIM BOLT, KENNESAW STATE

*"I hope current students get as many experiences as I did.
It's very fulfilling, a confidence builder, and it fluffs your resume."*

Alicia (Sadler) Vondehaar

CREATE A BRIMMING FUTURE

For a young northern Minnesota woman who's lived around lakes all her life, moving cross-country where lakes are few, and man-made, is quite a departure -- particularly after spending the past two years just steps away from Lake Bemidji.

"I miss the lake," says Alicia (Sadler) Vondehaar, 20, a 2005 Bemidji State University graduate. But a lack of lakes hasn't stopped Vondehaar from diving into life.

While some recent grads are contemplating their next strokes, Vondehaar is swimming with the big fish. After graduating summa cum laude last spring from the creative and professional writing program, she is now a student at Kennesaw State University (KSU) near Atlanta, Georgia, where she's working on a graduate degree in professional writing.

With three classes and two jobs -- one as a copy editor for KSU's *Talon* magazine, and another for *Site Selection*, the number one trade magazine for corporate real estate -- Vondehaar rarely comes up for air. "It's a heavy load," Vondehaar says. "But I work best when I have a lot to do."

And a lot, she's done. With a two-year degree from Lake Superior College in Duluth, which she achieved before graduating as valedictorian from Wrenshall High School, Vondehaar came to BSU on a Full-Tuition Scholarship, wanting to get her feet wet with the writing program. "Everybody and their brother has an English degree. I wanted something more specific," she says.

With the idea of becoming a book acquisitions editor floating around in her head, Vondehaar got involved with the

English Department's *The Rivers Meeting Project*, an annual literary magazine featuring student creative writing and art. A twist of fate threw Vondehaar immediately into the role of managing editor, and the next year she was paddling along as its editor in chief. "It was a lot of work," she says. "There was a lot of PR, calling, writing -- a lot of writing -- but I enjoyed it so much."

The Rivers Meeting Project is one of four anthologies students help produce at BSU. The others are *New Voices*, featuring exemplary writing from Minnesota high school students; *Dust and Fire*, comprised of writing and art by women; and *Fire Ring Voices*, showcasing men's writing and photography. After her experience with *The Rivers Meeting Project*, Vondehaar got involved with the other anthologies, acting as *New Voices* editor and contributing her "Solitude Among Many" poem to *Dust and Fire*.

For Vondehaar, the anthologies served much more than an extracurricular activity. She credits them with helping define her dreams. "My experiences taught me I wanted to be an editor -- period," she says. "Holding *The Rivers Meeting Project* in my

hand at the final meeting was an amazing feeling. I can't even describe it."

As a whole, BSU fortified her for the future, Vondehaar says. "I hope current students get as many experiences as I did," she says. "It's very fulfilling, a confidence builder, and it fluffs your resume. Lots of people get their degrees, but don't have anything on their resumes. Schools and employers like people with diverse backgrounds. I'm well-rounded."

It's an environment that allows for something special, according to Vondehaar's fellow grad students. "They're always telling me how lucky I was," she says. "I always felt fortunate with the small class sizes and the programs being book- and class-workshop based, but I'm realizing more and more how wonderful BSU was."

She also feels equipped with practical skills. "I work well with deadlines now. I have the ability to multitask and keep cool under pressure -- I roll with the punches."

Perhaps most importantly, Vondehaar now is ready to take any plunge. "I'm much more confident in my talents, skills and abilities. I would never have had the confidence to go after the *Site Selection* job if I hadn't had *Rivers*," she says. "It's a confidence thing. I may not know everything, but I know I have the ability."

It's upon this sense of knowing, this confidence, that Vondehaar's dreams -- born at Lake Bemidji -- will stay afloat long after drifting from its shore.

HORIZONS

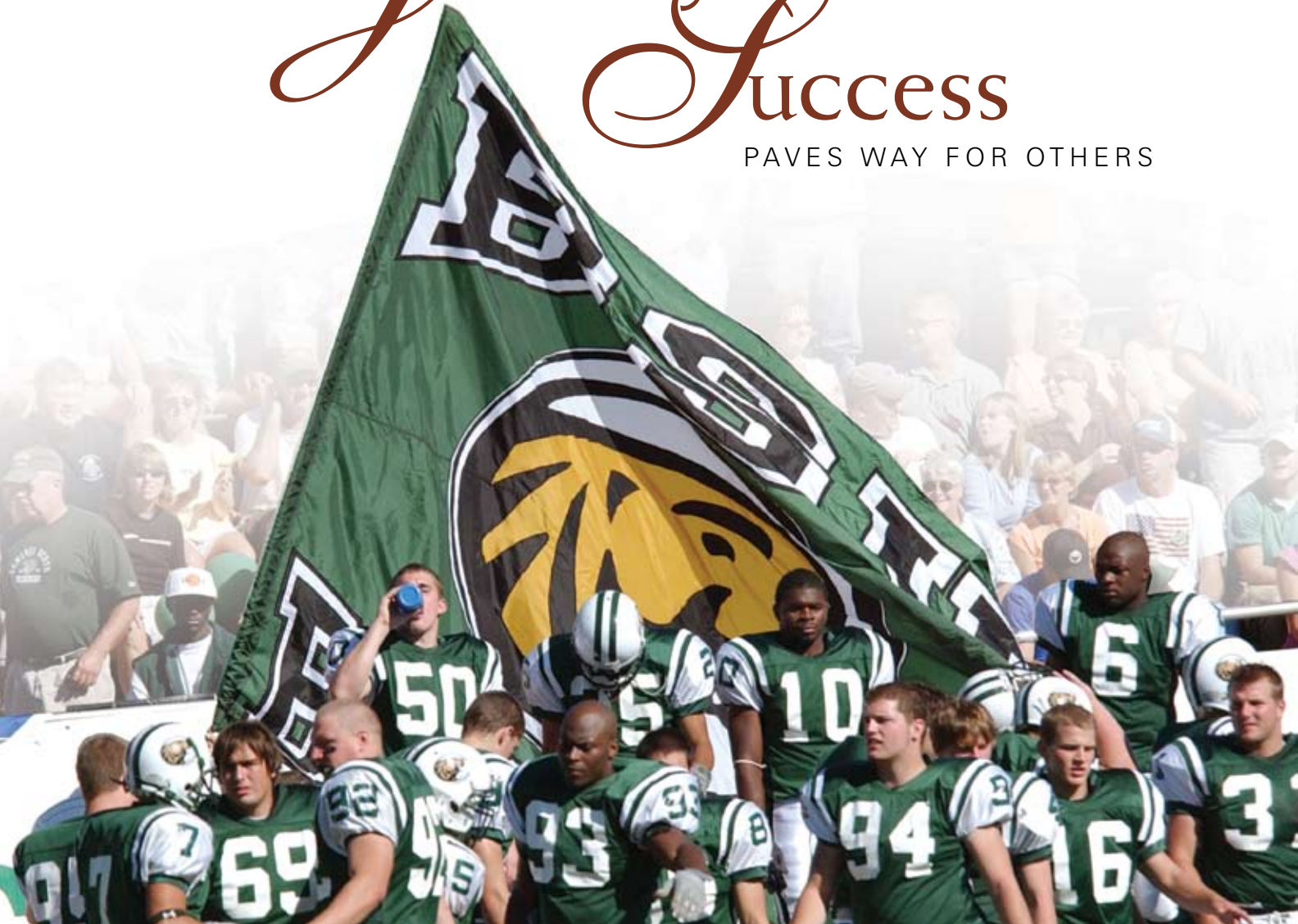


PHOTO: DAVID M. DEUTSCH

Tony Gramer

Journey to Success

PAVES WAY FOR OTHERS



It's 1967, a balmy 85 degrees in February, and a light breeze crosses the white-sand beaches of Ascension Island just south of the Equator in the Atlantic Ocean where 25-year-old Tony Gramer is working on NASA's tracking, telemetry and security operations.

Gramer, hoping to navigate his life toward college, decides to visit a place called Bemidji State University as a football recruit. He arrives. It's 40 below.

"There was snow so high you just walked off the airplane into the snow," Gramer recalls. "Everybody moved around underground within a system of tunnels. I thought, 'What am I doing here?'"

But "here" he stayed, fortunately for everyone.

Bemidji State launched Gramer on a thriving career in business. He excelled in public accounting and mortgage banking. He owned a commercial real estate development and management company, which he put on the New York Stock Exchange in 1994. He currently owns and operates Michigan-based Gramer Company LLC, a private investment company; he also created and serves as a managing partner of MGM Grand Detroit Casino.

"I couldn't have opened these doors without BSU," he says. "I was a 25-year-old guy trying to decide how to make it through life when BSU accepted me for enrollment. It's one of

"I couldn't have opened these doors without BSU. I was a 25-year-old guy trying to decide how to make it through life when BSU accepted me for enrollment. It's one of those things along the way that you look back on and appreciate."

those things along the way that you look back on and appreciate."

Today Gramer is more appreciative of his BSU experience than ever. "As you go through life, raise a family, and create a career, you start at the bottom and try to move up. It's very time consuming. The time from BSU to the last few years has been a blur. Then one day, you say 'Gee, there's somebody I haven't paid enough attention to.'"

Gramer's attention is appreciated by current students all across campus.

His contributions have supported BSU baseball and football as well as Beaver Pride, a group of boosters promoting athletics on campus. And he has plans for more.

"I've just started," he says. Gramer hopes to contribute to a number of potential projects, ranging from student housing to the stadium and to a new campus entrance.

He does it because he hopes BSU students get the same positive experience he had.

"I got out of it what I did because of the environment there," he says. "It was very comfortable." In particular, Gramer credits the campus community's closeness, the faculty's accessibility, and the sense of self he was allowed to develop.

"Had I gone to a larger institution, I don't think I would've flourished the way I did at BSU."

A tropical island hopper and a northwoods university may seem like an unlikely combination, but this relationship was made to go the distance. All Gramer has done "couldn't have happened unless there was that link," he says. "The two of us came together for a very, very beneficial reason."

And thanks to Gramer, many more links to success are being formed at BSU today. **HORIZONS**

Seniors to Watch



Caralyn Flack

Physics major Caralyn Flack came to Bemidji State University with her eyes on the stars, but will leave hoping to conduct research on the minutest workings of the human cell.

"I've decided that by working in biology I can make more of an impact on people's lives," says the senior who intends to become a research scientist in biophysics or molecular biology. "I had planned on going into astrophysics but decided I didn't want my research to end up as another paragraph in a study."

The decision comes to the Faribault High School graduate after receiving a NASA Space Grant and being selected twice by the American Astronomical Society to participate in its Research Experience for Undergraduates Program, resulting in research projects at two separate universities on two different topics.

This summer Flack spent 10 weeks as an astrophysics fellow at the University of California, Davis. Her study dealt with mapping gravitational lens systems in the radio spectrum, generating the same type of data that's used in determining the expansion rate of the universe.

The previous summer, Flack studied astronomy at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Her work at Madison dealt with evaluating clouds of neutral hydrogen found at the galaxy's edge. She was invited to present her findings at the American Astronomical Society's Conference last winter.

"Caralyn is one of a very few gifted students I've worked with whom I'd honestly call brilliant, yet practical," says Dr. David Bahr, Department of Physics chair and Flack's advisor. "She's demonstrated such superior mastery of a diverse combination of very challenging sciences that it's difficult for her to choose just one.

"She's not satisfied simply to achieve herself; she's determined to make a positive impact on those around her."

"All of my professors and advisors have been extremely open minded and helpful to me, and I really appreciate that," Flack says, noting an example of being encouraged to participate in a biology project even though it was outside her area of major study. "I doubt that would happen at a much larger institution, but here I've always felt I had all options available to me."



Andrew Miller understands that his musical talents are a gift, one that he plans to share throughout his life.

This Bemidji State University senior, majoring in vocal music education, has aspirations of directing choirs at the collegiate or professional level. While at BSU he's ambitiously honed his skills as both a director and composer and isn't waiting to share his love of music with the community at large.

"I direct music at First Lutheran Church and sing at nursing homes, funerals, weddings, and other formal events," says Miller, a Brainerd High School graduate. "I love touching others with my gifts of music."

This year he is the student director of the BSU Chamber Singers, a group in which he's participated - along with the Bemidji Choir - for five years. This is his third year as co-director of Musikanten, BSU's men's chorus. Miller serves as a tutor to fellow students for music theory, sight singing and vocal study. He has been a BSU's summer MusiCamp staff member for three years, teaching advanced music theory.



Andrew Miller

An emerging composer, Miller's choral music for both mixed and men's choruses has been performed in a variety of venues and recorded by Musikanten.

"Andy is an exceptionally astute musician and an effective motivator of his musical peers," says Dr. Brad Logan, BSU choral director. "He has a love for service to both his church and his fellow students. For example, each year he has incorporated men from Varsity Singers into a variety of men's ensembles to give these younger students the opportunity to sing an exciting style of music. In addition, he has formed mixed and men's ensembles to perform at area churches. I believe he possesses the tools necessary to become an exceptional music educator and choral music composer."

Miller feels the leadership roles he's experienced at BSU have contributed to his becoming "much more responsible" and further describes himself as exuberant, selfless and as a powerful leader.

After graduating he anticipates becoming a high school choir director and then pursuing the advanced degrees needed to reach his goals.

Senioritis isn't a condition likely to strike Mike Nohner. There just isn't enough time.

This year, while finishing double majors in business finance and accounting, Nohner added to his workload supervision of the Bemidji State University Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

"When Mike was approached to coordinate our VITA program this coming spring while (faculty member) Sandy Bland is on sabbatical leave, he readily agreed," says Dr. Madalyn Wick, Department of Accounting professor and chair. "Such unselfishness with his time is really a standout quality."

This is the first time a student has been asked to take the place of a faculty member in managing the program that offers free tax help to low- and moderate-income individuals who need assistance preparing and filing their tax returns.

Nohner, a Bemidji High School graduate, will supervise 20 student volunteers and is responsible for seeing that tax returns are properly completed and filed. At the same time, he will be completing his final classes and preparing for the national CPA exam.

"It seemed like a great way to help out the University and give back to the community that's given me so much," he says about taking on the added work. "Plus it's a good way to gain some knowledge about the tax code."

It is not the first time Nohner has given back. A recipient of a Presidential Scholarship, he has participated for three years in the annual community drive to raise scholarship funds. He



Mike Nohner

has chaired the Student Activity and Fee Allocation Committee, served two stints with the Student Senate, helped start the Dodge Ball Club on campus, held a variety of offices with the Theta Tau Epsilon fraternity, and been active in several other organizations.

Academically, he had the highest GPA of his junior classmates and was the male representative as the Junior Usher during commencement.

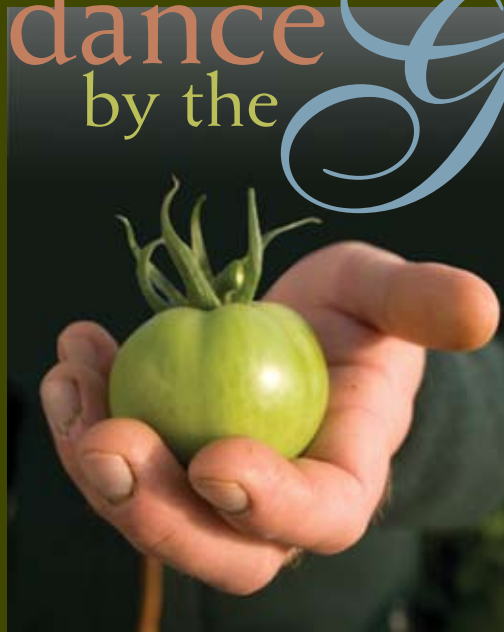
Nohner, who describes himself as hard working, adventurous and light-hearted, feels his experiences at BSU have helped him develop a more extroverted, sociable personality.

"This is just such a great place to go to school," Nohner says. "It's so easy to meet new people because everyone tends to be so approachable and very open and caring."

Nohner doesn't have to battle one symptom of senioritis, employment anxiety. After graduating, he will begin work as a fund accountant with Black River Asset Management in Minnetonka, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cargill, Inc.

*Natural Wet Thumb
Picks Refreshing Approach
to Agriculture*

Abundance
by the Gallon



There was something in the water for Bemidji State University aquatic biology graduate John Skarie that led him not to fish, but to tomatoes - hydroponic (grown with water) tomatoes. After graduating in 1993, Skarie went to work with the Department of Natural Resources, his sights set on a career in fisheries. But today, nearly five years into hydroponic angling, Skarie is hooked on a different kind of catch.





Lured by the independent nature of the business and the intriguing growing process, John Skarie and his father explored hydroponics as a way to diversify their third-generation turkey farm on Big Floyd Lake near Detroit Lakes.

"This is an agricultural big idea," Skarie says. "You're in complete control from start to finish - no middle man, no broker. It's very different, and a better situation to be in. That really piqued our interest, plus just how it works is interesting in itself."

It works like this: Hydroponics is an approach for growing plants in nutrient solutions of water and fertilizers with or without a form of structural support from peat or sand for the roots. Skarie's Lakeview Greenhouses uses perlite, a traditional aggregate medium Skarie describes as rock that's like little pieces of popcorn.

"It's a sterile soil," he says, noting that feeding plants through water gives growers ultimate control over the process. "There are no nutrients in that pot except for what we put in it."

Dewy Idea -- Dripping with Success

In 2001 after visiting a hydroponic farm and attending related conferences, the Skaries were ripe for testing the industry's water. They chose tomatoes for their premiere crop, citing marketability as a key aspect.

"Tomatoes are considered the starting stone for the hydroponic biz," Skarie says. They selected a variety called Match tomatoes for its climate suitability.

"It's a geographic thing," Skarie explains. "Match does better in low light with Minnesota's short days." And with that, the Skaries started growing, and growing fast as their first customer was waiting before the greenhouse was even built.

Today, Lakeview Greenhouses produces 100,000 pounds of tomatoes, bringing a burst of color and flavor to restaurant dinner plates and grocers' produce aisles from northern Minnesota to North Dakota. Their Fargo market developed from consumer requests - tourists who'd sampled Skarie's vine-ripened rubies while visiting northern Minnesota.

"We've increased every year in both production and the amount sold," Skarie says. "Now if we can grow it, we can sell it."

That fact might have something to do with the difference between Lakeview Greenhouses' and other hydroponic tomatoes.

"Not all hydroponic tomatoes are the same," Skarie says. "We make sure they start to turn red before we pick. Many commercial hydroponic tomatoes are picked green and then gassed to turn red, so they haven't reached maturity. They never taste very good, or are nearly as healthy -- they haven't developed all the nutrients. The kicker is the vine-ripened part."

One Nice Tomato -- All the Way Around

In addition to good taste and nutrition, customers can feel good about the environmental aspects of Lakeview Greenhouses' hydroponic tomatoes. In general, hydroponics offers a variety of environmental benefits including water conservation, minimal land use, efficient fertilizer use, and disease and pest control.

Skarie sees the chemical aspect as his operation's best environmental and associated consumer benefit. "We don't have to use herbicides or pesticides because plants are indoors and controlled by a closed environment," he says. "If we don't have to use chemicals, they don't have to be sprayed into the environment at all and you don't have to eat them."

Even if pests do find their way into the greenhouse, Skarie puts other pests to work as an environmentally friendly solution. "You can combat insects with insects," Skarie explains. "There are predators you can buy. If you have aphids, you buy wasps."

This low-tech solution has farmers like Skarie buying boxes of bugs - delivered by mail - and letting them go in their greenhouses. So far Skarie hasn't had a problem with pests. But he does buy bees for pollination purposes.

As far as fertilizers are concerned, it can be a "you say tomato, and I say *tomabto*" debate. Skarie, however, is confident that hydroponics is the way to go. "It's an erroneous assumption that we feed chemicals to the plants," he says. "They're not getting anything they wouldn't get from the soil in nature."

Skarie's plants are nourished with phosphorus, potassium, magnesium, iron, nitrogen and other natural micro-nutrients. "These are natural elements you'd find in the ground anyway," Skarie notes. "And because we



"My education steered me toward that type of lifestyle and awareness. I went to school and came out thinking. It obviously changed me for the better - being aware of your surroundings, the world around you, how to absorb it and make something of it."

John Skarie

can monitor what is fed, it is the most efficient way to go; we never use too much."

Once again, that control factor lets Skarie feel assured that his plants are getting what they need to be healthy and his customers are receiving a healthful product.

Energy consumption is the next key environmental aspect of Skarie's hydroponic tomato-ery. Skarie uses less fuel than southern farmers to transport his product, but uses more fuel to operate his business. Not a big surprise to anyone heating 11,000-square feet over a Minnesota winter - much less a greenhouse.

But this year, Skarie is installing a geothermal heating system that should reduce the greenhouse's heat consumption by 70 percent. "It's a considerable amount we go through each year," he says. "Our

greenhouse is going to be much more environmentally friendly after this new heating system."

Even with a 70-percent reduction on tap, Skarie continues to look for ways to improve energy use. "We'd really like to utilize wind power."

Other areas where hydroponics benefits the environment include land use and water consumption. Hydroponic farming takes less land area to operate. "We have 2,800 plants in a quarter-acre greenhouse," Skarie says. As for water, there are some advantages with tomatoes. "When you're growing outdoors, most of the water evaporates."

A Natural Progression -- Awareness Grows Appreciation

Hydroponic farming is just one way Skarie lives out his interest in and respect for the environment. As an outdoor enthusiast, he's active in Trout Unlimited and Muskies Incorporated. He was also part of BSU's Ducks Unlimited Varsity Chapter. "Whenever I can I like to fish, go camping, do anything outdoors," Skarie says.

He feels grateful for the University's overall influence on his environmental appreciation. "My education steered me toward that type of lifestyle and awareness. I went to school and came out thinking. It obviously changed me for the better - being aware of your surroundings, the world around you, how to absorb it and make something of it."

As for hydroponics, Skarie plans on expanding. "When and how is up in the air," he says. "We may do more tomatoes or diversify."

One thing is certain: Whether he's breeding fish or watering tomatoes, Skarie is growing his environmentalist roots into a fluid success - making Skarie and H₂O, a definite match.

HORIZONS

The Lake - *A Commitment to the Natural World*

STUDENT'S PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE
FINDS THE ENVIRONMENT

Front AND Center



Tessa Haagenon

Tessa Haagenson knows firsthand how money and environmental stewardship work together.

She's the typical college student in at least one way: Money isn't exactly overflowing her pockets. The 22-year-old Bemidji State University senior would like to live an organic lifestyle, but finances constrain her. For example, she would like to buy naturally grown produce, but is sometimes forced to buy less expensive goods.

So Haagenson does what she can to save money and the environment. She flips off unused lights, makes sure faucets don't run unnecessarily, tries to take short showers and, when possible, travels by bike instead of by car.

She also provides a strong voice for environmental stewardship at BSU as a 2005 National Wildlife Federation (NWF) Campus Ecology Fellow.

Haagenson is one of 14 students the NWF selected nationally to serve as role models for other students and to advocate the use of sustainable resources. She has already worked with the Student Senate to implement a fee supporting wind energy use on campus through the Otter Tail Tailwinds program.

It's a perspective that Haagenson lives as much as she preaches.

"In the wintertime my roommates don't like it because I turn the thermostat down," she says.

Haagenson grew to love the environment during her childhood on a farm near Leeds, North Dakota. "I was outside all the time," she says. "My grandmother taught me the different trees. I made a leaf collection and learned about all the plants."

At the same time, she couldn't help noticing how agricultural chemicals sprayed on croplands damaged other plant life and how excessive fertilizer ran off into streams. Saplings in her yard suffered after the crop dusters passed overhead.

Her father, who grew flax, barley, wheat and other crops, used conservative farming practices passed on by his father, such as limiting fertilizing. However, he needed to use other environmentally stressful methods to survive economically.

Haagenson chose Bemidji State because of its envi-

ronmental studies program and its setting on Lake Bemidji's shore. She was pleased to find like-minded people on campus.

Since her arrival at the University, she's helped revive Students for the Environment and is the Student Senate's vice president. She could graduate this spring but may take additional classes or spend some time studying abroad.

"I'm very glad I went to school here because of how receptive people are," she says, referring to the administration. "They're willing to listen to students' opinions and make changes related to environmental management."

Gradually, her career plans have come into focus, to the point where she knows she doesn't want to be a scientist. What seems most natural to her is continuing on to graduate school to examine how economics and environmental policies relate.

Meanwhile she kayaks, runs and plays intramural sports, including dodgeball and broomball. When she has time, she reads satirical novels by writers George Orwell and Kurt Vonnegut. She also spends time with friends, and turns down the thermostat whenever she can.

HORIZONS



Lee Norman

ALUMNUS OPENS LINES TO ADVANCE

Arctic Alaska's Medical Care

"My goal is to not be necessary anymore, to develop competencies in people. More than anything, I want to stress the importance of equipping local people."



"It's a very personal way they handle their dead," says Dr. Lee Norman, thinking about the Inupiat Eskimo culture he's come to know while working in Alaska. "They take their dead home and wrap them up, put them on the back porch."

He gazes at the Eskimo cemetery outside his window, moved by his experiences in Kotzebue, Alaska, a coastal town of 3,000 located 33 miles north of the Arctic Circle.

The cemetery could serve as a symbol of the very different culture he's come to know and appreciate, as well as a reminder of the life-altering difference Norman is making there during his two-year medical expedition.

Norman, a 1974 Bemidji State University graduate in sociology, has a diverse background in medical practice, education and administration. He currently is a Seattle-based independent consultant working with the Maniilaq Association, a non-profit health organization in northwest Alaska. His task is to evaluate the health system - which includes 11 villages throughout the Northwest Arctic Borough and one village in the North Slope Borough -- and train providers to be competent in responding to the region's communities' health needs.

"The weather is drastic, there are no roads," Norman says. "The connections are through waterways when they're not frozen, otherwise it's by snowmobile or bush plane. You can easily get stuck with a sick patient, so the people here have to have a broad range of capabilities."

To enable providers, Norman employs telemedicine, the use of telecommunications to execute medical care over long distances. It gives patients access to care where none is available and is a vital tool in the Maniilaq Association's health care practice and success.

"Essentially a technician in an Eskimo village can examine a patient and have a doctor anywhere watch," Norman explains. "The system can transmit real-time images and data. You can read it as it's being taken thousands of miles away."

In Kotzebue, the Northwest Arctic Borough's commercial hub, the town clinic and hospital act as both providers and recipients of telemedicine benefits. As providers they relay general care to Borough villages; as recipients they access specialty care.

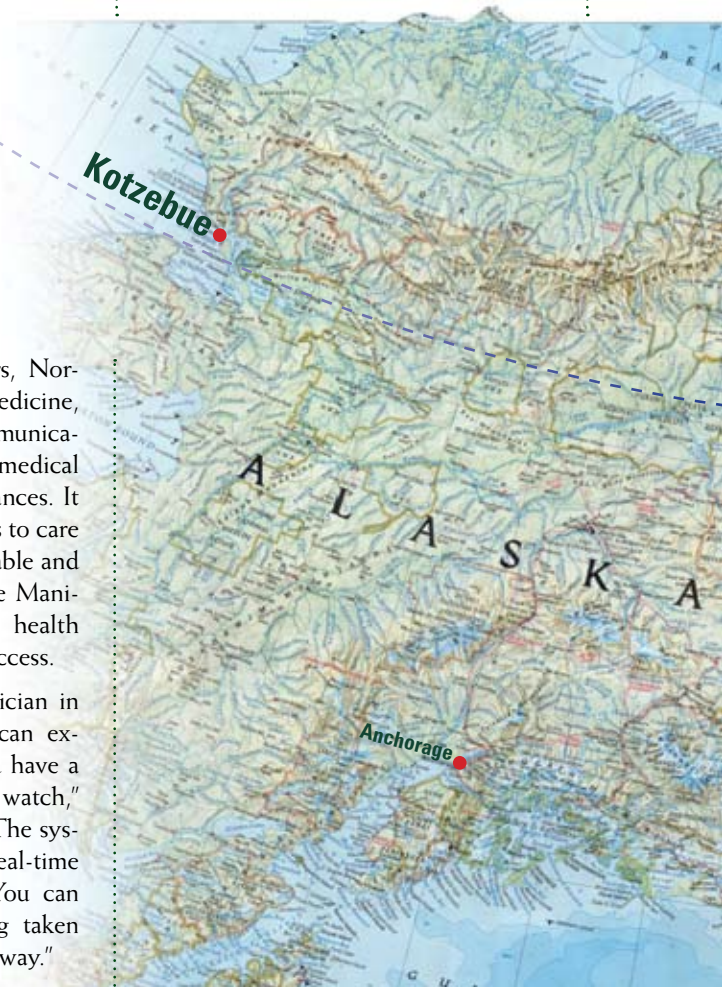
"Whether it's a doctor here walking someone through a procedure in a remote village, or a specialist in Anchorage walking someone here through something unusual - it's a life-saving outcome," Norman says.

As an example, Norman cited a case involving a tubal pregnancy, a potentially fatal situation. "The patient was getting sicker

by the minute," he says. "The physician up here thought, 'She's gonna die.' So he put on a head camera like a coal miner, called an OB/GYN in Anchorage and said 'walk me through this.' The OB/GYN did. She lived happily ever after."

The high-tech world of telemedicine aside, "happily ever after" in the Northwest Arctic Borough might mean hunting caribou and moose, kayaking in the ocean, drying seal meat, rendering seal blubber into oil, and eating raw whale meat called "muktuq."

"It's kind of like long salted strips of fat attached to a piece of tire," Norman says. It's an example of the adjustments Norman has faced. "There are cultural differences clinicians have to get used to," Norman says. Those differences run the gamut covering social, environmental, language and education aspects.





"The weather is drastic, there are no roads. The connections are through waterways when they're not frozen, otherwise it's by snowmobile or bush plane. You can easily get stuck with a sick patient."

Socially, Norman has had to adopt a laid-back approach. "It's very comfortable and relaxed here - even though the work is as serious as anywhere," Norman says. "There's a different pace; everything moves more slowly.

"It took me a while to adjust because I have a lot of energy. I like to move quickly. Then I figured, these people have been here for thousands of years. Whatever I get done in December or January doesn't matter."

Norman also had to adjust his interpersonal communication approach. "They are very quiet people - very economical," Norman says. "They don't use extra words or motions. You have to watch their facial features, they're very understated. It took me a while to understand that sometimes my best tool is to shut up."

Shutting up - in the dumbfounded form -- was probably easy when Norman first arrived in Kotzebue, greeted with a 28-below temp and complete darkness. "It was black," Norman recalls. "I said, 'I'm not in Kansas anymore.'" Then came the summer, when midnight is as bright as noon and the light is blinding.

After employing the help of a pair of glacier glasses and many books, Norman feels at home with the social and environmental aspects, but lingering challenges remain.

"The language is so hard," Norman says. "They have very long words." In addition to language barriers, education issues create challenges. "The average education is not high, and the medical language can be really challenging," Norman says. "I have to adjust my communication accordingly."

As Norman aims to make providers self-sufficient, he strives to stress the importance of education. "I'm trying to create an environment for natives where educational success is stressed, so eventually they can depend less on imported talent."

Norman constantly keeps that objective in mind as he pursues his Arctic work.

"My goal is to not be necessary anymore, to develop competencies in people," Norman says. "More than anything, I want to stress the importance of equipping local people."

Now, with that accomplishment just a few months ahead, Norman tastes the bittersweet result of his work. "Sometimes I can't wait to see a client in my review mirror...other times, it's like losing a good friend," Norman says. "This is one of those." Chats with Kotzebue locals ("It takes me two hours to walk two blocks," Norman says), key-free living, and peaceful sleep are some of the things Norman will miss from this unique setting. But he looks forward to the future.

"What I find most interesting is helping people in diverse settings," Norman says. He plans to apply his telemedicine know-how to other areas, using Alaska as a good example.

"It's a global thing," he says. While he's not set on his next project, Norman's outlook is positive. "I've said 'yes' so many times to things I was uncertain about, I've learned to trust my instincts," he says. "I also have organized an approach to the 'whatever' formulation for success."

It's an approach that goes back to his days at BSU where he experienced "a microcosm of what a person eventually faces in the world," Norman says. "My college experience was pivotal. I learned how to learn - organize my thinking, my approach, my focus. And I credit the professors. I liked that I wasn't taught by grad students and assistants. I was taught by the professors themselves; their commitment and enthusiasm were contagious."

It's Norman's infectious dedication to helping people in an increasingly interdependent world that may make others want to get out and do something meaningful, in Alaska and beyond. **HORIZONS**



Shortly after the snowplow broke through the lake while clearing the rink in 1949, hockey was shelved for almost a decade at BSU.

Celebrating 50 Years

HOCKEY PROGRAM GLIDES THROUGH EARLY STRUGGLES TO BECOME A *Cool* Contender

"First the roof falls in, then the bottom falls out."

This statement by an anonymous 1949 Beaver men's hockey squad member summed up the BSU hockey program's early years.

In 1948 the Beavers played their first season indoors at a city facility until the roof collapsed under the heavy snow of 1949. The team moved outdoors, where they skated until the snowplow used to clear the playing ice on Lake Bemidji broke through into four feet of water.

Jinxed, the team was shelved after the 1950 season, waiting for almost a decade before the next player strapped

on skates for Bemidji State.

If trials build character, the Bemidji State hockey team was destined for greatness. And that's where the Beaver program now stands as it embarks on the 50th season of competition.

The Beaver program was resurrected in 1959, playing outdoors this time on solid ground at various venues. In 1960, the skaters moved into a college rink just south of BSU's current Physical Education Complex.

A turning point for the BSU program came in 1966, when North Dakota head coach R.H. "Bob" Peters was hired to serve as the program's fifth head coach. Peters, who had played goaltender at North Dakota and had helped lead the Fighting Sioux to the 1965 national semifinals, was lured to Bemidji primarily by the indoor arena being constructed on campus: the John Glas Fieldhouse.

Peters led BSU to a 13-5-1 record during his debut 1966-67 campaign, and the team moved into "the Glas" for the 1967-68 season. Success came immediately, as the Beavers won their final eight games of the 1967-68 season



As a student, Ed Johnson (the blonde skater in the photo at left) proposed to the administration that Bemidji State start a hockey program. John Glas, vice president for finance, approved a \$100 budget for sticks in January of 1947 to get the program started, although the team used football jerseys and goalie equipment donated by people from International Falls (Johnson's hometown). When the Beaver program was resurrected in the 1960s, the Beavers played most of their games on a rink behind the PE Complex that enabled the fans to really become involved in the action (right). The Beavers moved into the John Glas Fieldhouse for the 1967-68 season. "The Glas" has been home to 13 BSU national titles for the Beaver men on the NAIA, NCAA II and NCAA III levels, including the 1983-84 unbeaten season (lower right). Tradition permeates the team room where each locker bears a plaque highlighting past skaters wearing the BSU colors.

en route to the program's first national championship in just Peter's second year at the helm.

The 1968 national championship was simply the foundation for what would become one of the true dynasties in the history of collegiate athletics. Under Peters' guidance, BSU captured national titles in each of the next three years, and four times in the next five seasons, to establish itself as the premier small-college men's ice hockey program in the nation.

Those five national titles out of the gate were part of 13 national championships won by Bemidji State during the coach's tenure, and Peters would go on to lead the Beavers to 702 victories. He became the first college hockey head coach to win 700 games with one school, and his 744 career victories are the second most by one coach in the history of the sport.

If one can find a highlight in a 35-year career littered with national championships and All-America honors, one would look to Bemidji State's 1983-84 season. That campaign saw the Beavers not only bring home their eighth national championship - and first at the



Division II level - but BSU also set a collegiate hockey record for the most victories in an unbeaten season (31-0-0). The record remains the standard for all hockey programs today.

The perfect campaign helped BSU assemble a 42-game winning streak, also a collegiate hockey record. Team captain Joel Otto won the college divi-

sion Hobey Baker Award, given annually to the national player of the year, and in 2003 would become the first Beaver to have his jersey number retired.

"The skaters who built the history at BSU owe a lot to those skaters from the early years," says Peters, who retired from BSU but remains active as the

commissioner of College Hockey America. "They persevered through some tough seasons, and laid the foundation for champions to follow.

"Those championship BSU teams will walk together forever. And tradition is lasting victory because tradition never graduates. The players develop intense loyalty to each other, the team, the University, and the colors."

The tradition and history is reflected in the current team room, Peters notes, where a plaque on each locker bears the name of the players to wear that specific number for the Green and White.

A new era for the BSU men's hockey program dawned in the late 1990s, when the University decided to move the program to NCAA Division I. Peters stepped aside as the program's





head coach in 2001, handing the reigns to assistant coach Tom Serratore who would oversee BSU's growth at the major-college level.

As quickly as Peters helped build BSU's program into a national contender in the mid-1960s, Serratore has been able to develop the Beavers' Division I edition. In just four years, Serratore led the Beavers to two College Hockey America conference championships, its first NCAA Tournament at the Division I level, and to a nationally-ranked team early in the 2005-06 season.

It is this Division I era that will carry Bemidji State through the next 50 years. The Beavers of today look dutifully to the past, mindful of the tradi-

tion they are asked to carry forward. It is a tradition of winning, of champions, and of pride.

The 2005-06 season pays special tribute to all the men who have helped establish the BSU program over the previous 49 seasons of competition. To celebrate this historic anniversary, Bemidji State will

announce a lineup of the 50 greatest players in the program's history and recognize those men at a special ceremony during the Robert Morris series, February 17-18, 2006.

Additionally, All-Era teams will be announced to honor the finest players from each era of Bemidji State's hockey history. Those teams, as well as the 50 Greats for 50 Years team, will be announced throughout the course of the 2005-06 season. **HORIZONS**

"The skaters who built the history at BSU owe a lot to those skaters from the early years. They persevered through some tough seasons, and laid the foundation for champions to follow."



Building Re-Marketable



Lacie Noehring

Benefits

STUDENT CONSTRUCTS FUTURE THROUGH MARKETING SERVICE

Oh, no! was Lacie Noehring's reaction to getting her first client at Marketing Assistance and Research Services (MARS), a student-run program under the College of Professional Studies at Bemidji State University.

It was mid-August, a few weeks after the service began and she'd just written two other client proposals with Dave Smith, business professor and MARS director, when builder Homark Homes accepted a proposal, putting the hammer down and putting Noehring smack-dab into real-world work.

Noehring, 22, a senior graduating after the fall semester from the business administration marketing program, is one of seven students who make up the MARS core group of talent. The program, partially funded by a Northwest Minnesota Foundation grant, provides a competitively priced option for businesses as well as an ideal opportunity for students to gain nuts-and-bolts experience while serving their community and receiving some extra pay.

"MARS is a great opportunity," Noehring says. "I hope it will show potential employers I have experience - and give me the edge that I need to obtain a job."

So far, MARS is a success. At three months old, it has four clients providing student employees with a variety of work. These projects include viability research for an area entrepreneur, data input and analysis for a local business, and expansion feasibility research for

both a BSU campus facility and Homark Homes. MARS recently hired seven additional students to help with telephone surveys.

The MARS folks are a savvy bunch, which is no surprise with the agency's high GPA and upper class employment requirements. And while they focus on client needs, Smith has his advertising management classes working on ideas for the agency's branding.

It's another example of MARS' service-learning possibilities and Smith making the most of what the agency was established to do, exercising BSU's commitment to service learning and civic engagement.

For Noehring there's been plenty of service and learning, as she's been involved with three of MARS' four projects. As a result, she says she is more aware of what's going on in the community.

As the Homark Homes student lead, Noehring is responsible for overseeing the research that will determine the feasibility of Homark Homes' potential multi-million dollar expansion. Before building

a new plant, Homark Homes' primary question is, "Is there a need for our products out there?"

Noehring says that the company wanted to make sure they had potential revenue to back up their plans. With that in mind, Noehring and her team have developed methods to explore and survey key issues and populations, input data into appropriate models, analyze the data, and report results to Homark Homes.

"I'm in charge of getting things to the right people, honoring confidentiality aspects, and conducting the final presentation with Dave," Noehring explains. "It's exciting for me as a student because it affects so many people. It's real life."

Noehring feels real-life experiences will help her find fulfillment beyond BSU when she enters the job market this winter. "I'm really unclear of where I'm going in December. I know I enjoy this type of work, so I know my career will be rewarding. Also, I'm not going to be fresh out of college with classes only; I've worked with a business and was successful."

Any way you frame it, the MARS concept benefits all the partners - in a number of ways, both now and in the future. When sizing up MARS, perhaps Noehring puts it best: "This is going to make an impact."

And with her career tool belt well stocked, it's likely Noehring will, too.

HORIZONS

1941 Ed Nordheim and his wife, Betty, celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on June 17.

1951 Mildred Lembke and her husband, Fred, live in Pembina, North Dakota, and have two grown children, Mark and Lori. She retired from a teaching career in 1990 and Fred retired from farming this year.

1957 Donald Swedmark lives with his wife in Tallahassee, Florida. He taught accounting and management at Western Washington University, the University of Iowa and Florida State University, retiring in 1994 ... Willard Torgerson is retired and lives with his wife in Minneapolis. He operated a furniture store in Minneapolis until 2004.

1958 Keith Cariveau retired from a career as a high school principal and lives in Livermore, California, with his wife, Katherine ('60). They have three grown children and eight grandchildren.

1959 Gladys Paulson is retired and living in Badger. She taught for 46 years, spending 20 of them in Thief River Falls ... Don Meacham and his wife, Ardie, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

1960 Grace Olson lives at Olson's Lodge in Park Rapids ... Katherine Cariveau retired from a career as an elementary teacher and lives in Livermore, California, with her husband, Keith ('58). They have three grown children and eight grandchildren.

1962 Gerald Gingles of Canby was inducted in May into the Minnesota State High School League Hall of Fame. During his 33-year teaching career he also coached wrestling, football, track, basketball and golf ... Eileen Willcox Lang of Osakis was recently honored for initiating the Miles for Meals program 10 years ago. She has five children ... Edith Kramer Dalleska exhibited her photos in Luck, Wisconsin, as a fundraiser for the Indianhead Chapter of the Ice Age Trail in Wisconsin.

1963 Gretchen Heath of Plymouth was inducted in May into the Minnesota State High School League Hall of Fame. A fine arts advisor and judge, Heath taught English, speech and theatre throughout her career at several schools before retiring from Armstrong High School ... Darrel Lillquist and his wife, Jean, recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary aboard a cruise ship in the Western Caribbean.



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.

1965 Linnea Mostad, a kindergarten teacher at Lincoln Elementary School, retired from a 19-year career with the Bemidji School District. She and her husband Milo Mostad ('67) celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in June.

1966 John Rubash and Bonnie Rubash celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in September ... Genevieve Helgeson of Little Falls recently attended the 50th Birthday Celebration of J.W. Smith Elementary in Bemidji. She taught fourth grade when it opened in 1954 ... Richard Belpedio of Coon Rapids is substitute teaching elementary grades, having been retired for nearly five years from the Anoka Hennepin School District. He and his wife, Nancy, have two children: Erin, 15 and Emilie, 13 ... Regina (Toscano) Scott of Des Moines, Iowa, is teaching in Des Moines schools. She and her husband, Patrick, have two grown children, Tara and Nathan.

1967 Rich Siegert received the Entrepreneur of the Year award from the Bemidji Area Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, Joyce, own the Hampton Inn & Suites on the shores of Lake Bemidji ... Milo Mostad and Linnea Mostad ('65) celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary June 12 ... David Peterson and Nancy Peterson retired and live in Hayfield. David taught business for 33 years and Nancy taught first grade. They have two grown children and two granddaughters.

1969 Roger Paskvan received the Mark Trail National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio Award in recognition of his efforts to establish a weather warning system in Bemidji. He is the owner of Roger's Two Way Radio and RP Broadcasting, and an associate professor of broadcasting at BSU.

1970 Carter Pettersen retired from a career with Itasca County Health and Human Services. He and his wife, Doris, live in Grand Rapids and have four children: Sharon, 32, Ryan, 22, Casey, 16 and Emily, 13 ... Dennis Ranta of Plainview was inducted into the Minnesota State High School League Hall of Fame. He holds Minnesota State Coach of the Year honors in four different sports ... Paul Godlewski, shareholder with the Minneapolis law firm of Schwebel, Goetz & Sieben, P.A., has been elected by his peers as one of Minnesota's Top 40 Personal Injury Lawyers.

1972 Robert M. Wagner, community education coordinator, has retired from a 27-year career with the Bemidji School District ... Lenore Paschke has been named as the new prioress of the Mount St. Benedict community. She was a campus minister at BSU from 1968 to 1974 ... Kathleen Nadeau and Gregory Nadeau ('74) live in Lake Elmo and have two grown children: Robert, 28 and Rebecca, 24. Kathleen is principal of Eagle Point Elementary at Oakdale ... Robert Aalberts, a finance professor at the University of Nevada Las Vegas, received a UNLV Foundation Distinguished Teaching Award ... Leon Nelson, professor of technology for 26 years, was honored with emeriti status during 2005 BSU Commencement Ceremonies ... Marlene Dahl was recognized as a United Way Someone Special Volunteer, having been nominated for the honor by the North Country Regional Hospital Gift Shop in Bemidji.

1973 Michael Kelsey makes custom jewelry and with his wife, Pamela, has owned Kelsey's As You Like It in downtown Bemidji for 31 years. The couple has two grown children: Margot and Max.

Class Notes

1974 Gregory Nadeau and Kathleen Nadeau ('72) live in Lake Elmo and have two grown children: Robert, 28 and Rebecca, 24. Kathleen is principal of Eagle Point Elementary at Oakdale ... **John Bajda** of McGregor is teaching community education classes on how to make rustic furniture. He and his wife, Majda, have two grown children: Paul, 33 and Andy, 30 ... **Pam Madson** and **Peggy Moller** ('77) are part of the Title I Team at J.W. Smith Elementary in Bemidji that was chosen as Paraprofessional/Teacher Team of the Year by the Minnesota Paraprofessional Consortium.

1975 Steve Adolfsen and his wife, Denise, live in Center City and have a son, Alec, 10 ... **Susan Amos Palmer** of Arden Hills was recently awarded the Saint Anne Medal, recognizing her service to Catholic youth in Girl Scouting. She is publications/news services director and commencement coordinator for Metropolitan State University in St. Paul ... **John Keston**, former BSU voice professor and long-time Bemidji resident, broke the world record in the 80-84 age group while competing at the St. Cloud Earth Day Half Marathon, finishing in 1:39:27. He lives in McMinnville, Oregon.

1976 Mark Neurauter, a science teacher at Bemidji High School, retired from a 34-year career with the Bemidji School District ... **Debra (Jameson) Chow** of Hawthorne, California, is working in food service for Wiseburn School District. She and her husband, Al, have two children: Kevin, 17 and Justin, 15 ... **Doug Knoer** served as a guide for Gov. Tim Pawlenty at the Governor's Fishing Opener on Lake Vermillion. He is an agent with Culbert Realty in Cook and is also a licensed assessor. He has two children: Joyce, a college freshman and Paul, 15 ... **Bob Hurd** and his family had lunch in New York City with the Duchess of York when his wife, Pat, won French's GourMayo Flavored Light Mayonnaise Brown Bag Lunch with The Duchess Contest.

1977 Diane Sharpe and her husband Guy Sharpe ('81) live in Laporte. They have two grown children (Sara, 32 and Andrew, 27) and a one-year-old grandson ... **Patricia Schneider**, a physical education teacher at the Bemidji Middle School, retired from a 27-year career with the Bemidji school District ... **Ione Johnson**, a kindergarten teacher at Horace May Elementary, has retired from a 27-year career with the Bemidji School District ... **Doug Thomas** of Henderson is an educator who's been active in rural school and charter school development efforts for the past several years. ... **Peggy Moller** and **Pam Madson** ('74) are part of the Title I Team at J.W. Smith Elementary in Bemidji that was chosen as Paraprofessional/Teacher Team of the Year by the Minnesota Paraprofessional Consortium through a statewide nomination process.

1978 Timothy Shears was a speaker at a media forum in Grand Rapids. Shears is general manager of the Minnesota News Network and a board member of the Radio Advertising Bureau.

1979 Beth Fleahman is a teacher of developmental disabilities at the Bemidji Middle School ... **Maureen Holmstrom** was hired this fall to teach Title I at Central Elementary School in Bemidji.

1980 Galen Knotts, an English teacher at the Bemidji Middle School, retired from a 34-year career with the Bemidji School District.

1981 Guy Sharpe and his wife, Diane ('77), live in Laporte. They have two grown children, Sara, 32, and Andrew, 27, and a one-year-old grandson ... **Ron Kraft** is serving as the interim president of Hennepin Technical College.

1982 Rita Rabe, a teacher at Lincoln Elementary School, has retired from an 18-year career with the Bemidji School District ... **Lydell Husmann** and his family recently moved to Kearney, Nebraska, after accepting a position with Baldwin Filters, Inc. as a costing manager. He and his wife, Karen, have five children: Hannah, 13; Noelle, 12; Brian, 10; Erin, 8; and John, 6.

1983 Sherry Hill, an enhanced sex offender supervision agent in Bemidji, was awarded with the state Department of Corrections' 2005 Corrections Agent of the Year Award ... **Thomas Stinar** recently moved to West Windsor, New Jersey, and started his own company, Stinar Communications, after working for 19 years at CNN and living for 22 years in Atlanta, Georgia. He and his wife, Lisa, have two children, Ben, 7 and Rachel, 4 ... **Mary Moen** is director of the Central Minnesota Boy's Choir and teaches at Staples Elementary.

1984 Dan Malinowski has been hired by the Minnesota DNR as a conservation officer serving the counties of Mahanomen and the

eastern portion of Polk. He has 21 years of law enforcement experience in the Beltrami County and Polk County sheriff departments.

1985 Bonnie Ekstrom and Dave Ekstrom ('88) returned to Bemidji, bringing with them Dave's aircraft kit business, Ultralight Soaring Aviation LLC, which markets the Cumulus, an ultralight motorglider. The Ekstroms have two sons, Brent, 6 and Ian, 1 ... **Susanna Jackson** is a clinical pharmacist for St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Paul. She lives in Minneapolis.

1986 Tim Van De Velde works for Express Scripts Inc. in Bloomington as a senior information engineer. He and his wife, Pam, live in St. Bonifacius and have two children, Jared, 9 and Jenna, 8.

1987 Wesley Jones and his wife, Lorie, live in Esko and have two children, Justin, 5 and Landin, 2 ... **Karen (Baumann) Bernsdorf** is a five-year quality analyst at United Health Care in Duluth. She and her husband, Chris, live in Meadowlands and have three children: Kari, 16; Ryan, 15; and Jake, 12.

1988 Eric Graff ('88) was named Teacher of the Year for Port St. Lucie County in Florida. He has two daughters, Danielle, 9 and Kaitlyn, 11. He works with at-risk fourth-graders ... **Peggy Eggert**, a kindergarten teacher at Blackduck Elementary School, was selected as the Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year for the Bemidji Wal-Mart store ... **Dave Ekstrom** and **Bonnie Ekstrom** ('85) returned to Bemidji, bringing Dave's aircraft kit business, Ultralight Soaring Aviation LLC, which markets the Cumulus, an ultralight motorglider. The Ekstroms have two sons, Brent, 6 and Ian, 1.

1989 John Deden and Kristin Deden ('95) live in Bemidji. Kristin teaches third grade at Cass-Lake-Bena Elementary and John teaches social studies at Bemidji High School ... **Roy Booth** and his wife, Cynthia, of Hibbing announce the August 23 birth of a son, their second child. The couple recently appeared as extras in Warner Brothers' movie *North Country*. Roy also published his 32nd play, a one-act entitled *The Glover's Mange Cure Caper*. He and **J. Mollard** ('97) have optioned the story for their film script, *Two Floors are Better Than One*, to the Haze Agency of Burbank, California ... **Rebecca Hill-Imnsand** lives in New York Mills and has three children, Spencer, Jacquelyn and Sidney. She was widowed in April when her husband, Rodney, died after being diagnosed with ALS.

Class Notes

1990 Ann McCann of Brighton, Colorado, is an 11-year business analyst for Ball Aerospace. She and her husband, Joseph, have a daughter, Samantha, 4 ... **Scott Mattfield** is employed as a Minnesota State Patrol trooper.

1991 Steve Page is a sergeant with the Beltrami County Sheriff's Department ... **Bob Kittleson** lives in Bemidji and is employed by Wal-Mart.

1992 Greg Bernard of Bemidji has had his novel for young adults, *Alpha Summer*, published by Loonfeather Press. It will soon be available in regional bookstores and on the Barnes & Noble web site ... **Brian Guest** is manager of the new Target store in Weatherford, Texas, and lives in Arlington, Texas ... **Alan Neurer** of Bemidji has been honored as an outstanding agent of Farmers Union Insurance ... **Pauline Winge**, a school social worker at Bemidji Middle School, was named 2005 School Social Worker of the Year by the Minnesota School Social Workers Association.

1993 Myra Lindahl is a teacher of the emotionally/behaviorally disordered at Bemidji High School ... **Kirsten (Ask) Mickelsen** and her brother, David Ask, performed a concert at Central Square in Alexandria. They recorded their first album in 1997. Kirsten and her husband, Victor, moved to Nashville, Tennessee, in 1994 and she sings with The New Speers, a southern gospel group ... **Todd Dahl**, a sergeant with the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Department, graduated from the FBI National Academy. He and his wife, Susan, have two children: daughter Eryn, 10 and son Peter, 8 ... **Kaye Wessels**, a special education teacher with Northern Minnesota Juvenile Training Center, has retired from a 16-year career with the Bemidji School District ... **John Naastad** returned home to Bemidji after serving nine months in Iraq in the U.S. Army Reserves. He also served in Bosnia and Afghanistan. His civilian career is in software development.

1994 Becky Wallerick and Jon Wallerick ('95) live in Cottage Grove and have two children, Jackson, 5, and Claire, 3. Becky is a school counselor in the South Washington County School District and Jon is an attorney with the Regis Corporation ... **Randy Morehard** is employed with Arrow Printing in Bemidji ... **Anita Spangler** is a National Head Start Association Lifetime Achievement Award winner. She was employed as Bi-County Head Start director from 1986 to 2003 and served in several other positions prior to 1986. Following retirement, she has continued part-time employment as a youth mentoring coordinator at Bi-CAP ... **Karson Otness** is an officer with the Bemidji Police Department.

Towns are located in Minnesota unless otherwise noted.



Carolyn Andrican



Pat Donahue



Lynn Dorn



David Gandrud



Todd Haugen

1995 Jon Wallerick and Becky Wallerick ('94) live in Cottage Grove and have two children, Jackson, 5, and Claire, 3. Becky is a school counselor in the South Washington County School District and Jon is an attorney with the Regis Corporation ... **Kristin Deden** and **John Deden** ('89) live in Bemidji. Kristin teaches third grade at Cass-Lake-Bena Elementary and John teaches social studies at Bemidji High School ... **Kelly Nipp** and his wife, Rena, renewed their wedding vows in June at Tenstrike Community Church. They were married March 12, 2005 ... **Jennifer Wingren** was recently appointed assistant professor for the Metropolitan State University School of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice in St. Paul.

1996 Wanda Hoyum, director of the Beltrami County Historical Society, has been selected to be included in the 2005-2006 edition of *The Heritage Registry of Who's Who*.

1997 Jennifer (Perry) Beyer and her husband, Paul, of Fargo, North Dakota, announce the May 26 birth of their first child, McKenna. Jennifer teaches English at Minnesota State Community and Technical College ... **J. Mollard** of Virginia and **Roy Booth** ('89) have optioned the story for their film script, *Two Floors are Better Than One*, to the Haze Agency of Burbank, California.

1998 Shane Zutz, assistant principal at Franklin Middle School in Thief River Falls, has been named the Northern Division Assistant Principal of the Year by the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals ... **Elizabeth (Kokett) Nordin** and **Thomas Nordin** ('99) announce the April 4 birth of a daughter. Their family also includes a three-year-old son, Brady, and they live in Andover. Elizabeth teaches sixth grade at Oakville Middle School and Thomas is a counselor for Anoka-Ramsey Community College.

1999 Tyler Kondos is the assistant football coach at Red Lake High School ... **Thomas Nordin** and **Elizabeth (Kokett) Nordin** ('98) announce the April 4 birth of a daughter. Their family also includes a three-year-old son, Brady, and they live in Andover. Elizabeth teaches sixth grade at Oakville Middle School

Outstanding Alumni Honored

Ten graduates of Bemidji State University received Outstanding Alumni Awards at this year's Homecoming activities. The recipients were Carolyn Andrican ('53, '62) of Hibbing, Minnesota, retired elementary teacher; Pat Donahue ('72) of Arlington, Tennessee, deputy commander of the Navy Recruiting Command in Tennessee; Lynn Dorn ('72) of Fargo, North Dakota, women's athletic director at North Dakota State University; David Gandrud ('69) of Sunnyvale, California, NASA associate program director; Todd Haugen ('79) of Bemidji, Minnesota, operations

Class Notes

and Thomas is a counselor for Anoka-Ramsey Community College.

2000 Nikki Holderbecker and Pete Stinar were married in September in Bemidji. Nikki is employed as a computer specialist at Northland Fishing Tackle and Pete is director of operations with Enterpoint, a wireless Internet provider ... **Cindy Holthusen** is working toward a master's degree in vocational rehabilitation counseling at St. Cloud State University ... **Ben Baird** of Bemidji is a collegiate cross-country skier who keeps in shape by roller skiing during the snowless months of the year ... **Staci Stebe** and Steve Lundberg were married July 16 in Bemidji. Staci is a kindergarten teacher at St. Philip's School in Bemidji, and Steve is a network administrator at First National Bank ... **Michelle Leffelman**, a Bemidji police officer, received an award from Unicef as part of its annual Hometown Hero Program ... **Mike Mastin**, a Bemidji police officer, received an award from Unicef as part of its annual Hometown Hero Program ... **Pam Skon** and Bob Anderson were married at Itasca State Park and live in St. Paul. She is a volunteer coordinator for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Bob is a teacher at Watershed High School.

2001 Katie Furlong was recently promoted from graphic artist to art director at H.T. Klatzky & Associates, an advertising and public relations agency in Duluth ... **Rita Albrecht** was recently hired as the assistant city planner in Bemidji. She and her husband, Mike, have two grown children, Julie and Anton ... **Karen Tan** and **Bryan Hanson** ('02) were married in Las Vegas, Nevada. They live in East Grand Forks, North Dakota, where Karen is a training specialist and Bryan is a supervisor ... **Tiffany Berglund** and **Ben Berg** were married in July and live in Bagley. Tiffany teaches second grade in Bemidji and Ben is employed with Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance ... **Margot Kelsey Hendricks** received a Sue Zelicson Award from Women Who Really Cook, a Twin Cities networking organization for women in the food profession ... **Michael Enerson** and Alexis Anderson were married in September 17. Michael teaches social studies at Dassel-Cokato Middle School and Alexis is a massage therapist ... **Valerie Paskvan**

manager for KB101 and KZY radio stations; Bill Jacoby ('70, '74) of San Diego, California, water resources manager for San Diego County Water Authority; Dr. Jim Kraby ('62) of Goodyear, Arizona, retired community college president; Robin Mechelke ('80) of Maple Plain, Minnesota, business owner of a firm providing management and information technology leadership; Mark Paulson ('61, '66) of Bemidji, Minnesota, BSU director emeritus of alumni relations; and Tom Saterdalen of Bloomington, Minnesota, retired high school teacher and hockey coach.



Bill Jacoby



Dr. Jim Kraby



Robin Mechelke



Mark Paulson



Tom Saterdalen

and Jeffery Johnson were married in October 7 in Mexico. Valeri is the manager of Roger's Two Way Cellular in Bemidji and Jeffery owns Johnson Painting and Drywall.

2002 Bryan Hanson and Karen Tan ('01) were married in Las Vegas, Nevada. They live in East Grand Forks and both are employed at SEI in Grand Forks, North Dakota, where Karen is a training specialist and Bryan is a supervisor ... **Patrick Purrington** is teaching second grade at Horace May Elementary in Bemidji ... **Casey Norden** is employed at Beltrami Electric Cooperative as a computer systems analyst and recently married Sarah Oelrich.

2003 Krystal Leonhardt and Jesse Story ('05) were married September 17 in Bemidji. Krystal is working for the USDA-NRCS as a soil conservationist technician ... **Jeff Anderson** and Kimberly Schoonover were married recently in Bemidji. Jeff is employed in the Duluth school district and Kimberly is a medical student at UMD ... **Kristine Clark** and Jeff Andersen were married August 27 in Bemidji. Kristine is a seventh-grade science teacher at Bemidji Middle School and Jeff is a deputy with the Beltrami County Sheriff's Department ... **Alison Blessing** and James Conely were married in July in Bemidji. They live in Hutchinson ... **Kenny Newby** is teaching third grade at J.W. Smith Elementary in Bemidji ... **Shawn Stimmel** and his wife, Jessica, live in Bristol, Virginia, where Shawn was recently named King College's head women's basketball and golf coach ... **Tom Wahlstrom** is a Minnesota DNR conservation officer serving western Roseau and eastern Lake of the Woods counties.

2004 Lucas Joyce has joined Arizona Entertainment Weekly as a co-anchor with the television show ... **Paul Nelson**, an instructor at Northwest Technical College in Bemidji, recently teamed up with a Dale Earnhardt Inc. builder to assemble a Ford engine in 37 minutes as part of the Clevite Engine Build Challenge held in Las Vegas. He also received a Clevite award for outstanding service in promoting education in the automotive machinist industry ... **John Martin** and Rachael Bessler were married July 16 at Kabakona Community Church and live in Pine City. He's employed by Edward Jones Investments ... **Cindy Bronczyk** and her husband, Jim, of Bemidji celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on June 28 ... **Meggen Lund** and Jerry Solheim were married in August at Greenbush. Meggen is employed at Paul Bunyan Telephone Cooperative and Jerry works at Beltrami Electric Cooperative in Bemidji.

2005 Jesse Story and Krystal Leonhardt ('03) were married September 17 in Bemidji. Krystal is working for the USDA-NRCS as a soil conservationist technician.

HORIZONS



BEMIDJI
STATE UNIVERSITY

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Address Service Requested

Bemidji State University



January 1, 2006: Tentative Summer Session Class Schedule Online
January 10, 2006: Spring Semester 2006 Registration
February 10, 2006: Summer Session Class Schedules Available in Print
March 13-17, 2006: Spring Break
March 15-17, 2006: Early Childhood Mega Conference
April 12, 2006: Student Academic and Creative Achievement Conference
May 12, 2006: Commencement

2006 Campus Preview Days in Admissions

January 20 January 23 January 27
February 13 February 20 February 24
March 10 April 21 (*for Juniors Only*)

2006 SOAR: Academic Advisement and Registration

March 20 April 6 April 7 May 15
June 16 July 14 August 11

Campus

Calendar