

HORIZONS



From Bemidji to Beantown

**Lure of Big City Career
Pays Dividends**

BEMIDJII

Shaping Potential,



STATE

Shaping Worlds.



A flurry of camp activities occurs at BSU each summer as sports, music, and other academic areas offer kids the opportunity to strengthen their skills, expand their interests, and get a taste of campus life.



COVER STORY (Page 9)

Since his days at BSU, Michael Roberge aimed for a Wall Street career. After a stint in New York City, he moved to Boston where his finance career has skyrocketed.

CONTENTS

- 2 Campus Notes
- 5 Hanson Takes the Helm
- 6 Passionate Pursuits
- 9 From Bemidji to Beantown
- 12 Telling Stories
- 14 All In at BrokerBin.com
- 15 Seniors to Watch
- 18 Business Matters
- 22 Alumni Events
- 24 Class Notes
- 28 Homecoming - Back to the Future
- 30 Calendar

Vol. 25, No. 3, Fall 2010

HORIZONS

Horizons is produced by the Communications and Marketing 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. Direct comments to horizons@bemidjistate.edu or 1-888-234-7794.

Editor Rose Jones

Alumni Director Marla Patrias

University Advancement Executive Director Rob Bollinger

Designer Kathy Berglund

Photography Director John Swartz

Contributing Photographers

Beth Campus; Wayne Kryduba, Minnesota Twins; MFS Investment Management; Rochester Post Bulletin; Samantha Sorenson; The Johnson Group Marketing

Contributing Writers Andy Bartlett, Dee Goerge, Al Nohner, Sarah Asp Olson, Cindy Serratore

Editorial Assistance Valerie Mason, Al Nohner, Peggy Nohner, The Johnson Group Marketing

Production Assistance The Johnson Group Marketing

Editorial Board Andy Bartlett, Rob Bollinger, Nancy Erickson, Jeanine Gangeness, Rose Jones, John "Tom" Murphy, Marla Patrias



A member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, Bemidji State University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer and educator. This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 1-800-475-2001 or 218-755-3883. *BSU COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING 11-006*

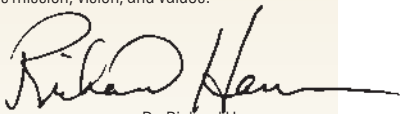


Certified Fiber Sourcing
www.sfiprogram.org

Spurring Economic Vitality

Since its 1919 start as a normal school, Bemidji State University has played a key role in spurring the economic vitality of the region. In the early years, the focus was primarily on preparing teachers for area schools. Today, programs and services have expanded to include everything from manufacturing and engineering camps for kids to marketing research, business plan development, and prototyping for regional businesses. This issue of *Horizons* introduces you to the array of business and industry assistance the University offers through its College of Business Technology and Communication. You'll also meet alumni whose business prowess, hard work, and BSU experiences have put them at the top of their games.

On a personal note, my wife, Dianne, and I are thrilled to be in Minnesota. We have unpacked most of our boxes and have settled nicely into our wonderful home amidst the tall pines of the north woods. I am proud and privileged to be the University's tenth president and look forward to working with faculty, staff, students, alumni, and others as we move forward Bemidji State University's mission, vision, and values.



Dr. Richard Hanson

CRI Rebrands as Optivation

In July, Bemidji State University-Northwest Technical College's Center for Research and Innovation Custom College rebranded itself as Optivation. The name change reflects the results of extensive market research as well as focused interviews with current and potential clients.

Optivation is derived from the words "optimizing" and "innovation," terms often used by customers to describe the organization's approach and values, says Anthony Schaffhauser, the unit's executive director. He notes that "optimizing" reflects the prudent use of a customer's resources, including budgets, time, and capital. "Innovation" represents the organization's commitment to agility, flexibility, and creativity in responding to a customer's unique needs.

Optivation provides a comprehensive suite of products and services designed to support economic vitality in northwest Minnesota. The organization's services include customized training in classroom, online, and hands-on environments; short-term, open enrollment courses for personal and professional development; creative design and technical production for websites and interactive learning tools; organizational development help and best practices training; leadership effectiveness training for personnel at all levels of an organization; and collaboration and partnerships to connect with a variety of organizations and opportunities.

Optivation
Shape Your Future

Former Student Leader Heads Statewide Group

Andrew Spaeth, co-student senate president at BSU during the 2009-2010 school year, has been elected president of the Minnesota State University Student Association for the 2010-11 academic year.

Elected to his new post in April, Spaeth also serves as a member of the association's board of directors. New officers began their terms on July 1.

BSU Wins Second Energy Challenge

In May, Bemidji State University won its second consecutive Minnesota Campus Energy Challenge. The event is a month-long, student-run competition among eight Minnesota colleges and universities to see which participating institution can make the largest reduction in energy consumption during the month of February.

The winner is determined by comparing each institution's percentage of reduced energy consumption to the school's baseline data collected in February for the past three years. This method allows institutions of different sizes and locations to compete equally by calculating the percentage of their own energy use rather than comparing the raw numbers of all the institutions.

Reducing its overall usage by 13 percent, Bemidji State won all three of the competition's categories by decreasing its energy, heating, and electrical use.



Eight Faculty Receive Emeritus Status

Eight faculty members with a combined 210 years of service to Bemidji State University were named professors emeritus during the University's 91st commencement exercises at the John Glas Fieldhouse. Faculty members retiring from the University with at least 15 years of service are eligible to receive emeriti status.

The 2010 emeriti were (left to right):

Dr. David Lund, professor emeritus of philosophy, 36.5 years.

Dr. Daniel Gartrell, professor emeritus of education, 34 years.

Dr. Louise Jackson, professor emerita of psychology, 27 years.

Dr. Susan Rosselet, professor emerita of computer science, 26.5 years.

Ivy Knoshaug, professor emerita of mathematics, 31 years.

Not pictured:

Cherry Brouwer, coordinator emerita of the Child Development Training Program, 20 years.

Dr. Nancy Michael, professor emerita of English and German, 20 years.

Susan Hauser, professor emerita of English, 15 years.

Whooping Cough Book Published

Dr. Patrick Guilfoile, interim associate vice president for academic affairs, has written the book *Whooping Cough*, published recently by Chelsea House Publishers. The book is part of the publisher's 48-volume Deadly Diseases and Epidemics series.



Whooping Cough explores both the historical and epidemiological aspects of the disease, also called pertussis, as well as its biology. Guilfoile traces the prevalence, treatment, and prevention of the disease, which is highly contagious and characterized by

the severe coughing fits it causes.

This is the fifth book Guilfoile has written in the Deadly Diseases and Epidemics series, joining books on antibiotic-resistant bacteria, tetanus, diphtheria, and chicken pox.

Guilfoile earned his doctorate in bacteriology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in medical microbiology at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, a non-profit research and educational institution in Cambridge, MA. At BSU, Guilfoile taught microbiology and medical microbiology for 13 years before serving in several University administrative roles.

Quistgaard Awarded MnSCU Emeritus Status

In July, former BSU President Jon Quistgaard was awarded president emeritus status by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) Board of Trustees. Quistgaard was one of four former presidents from system institutions to receive the honor.

The chancellor recommends emeritus status for a system president or former president who has provided exemplary service, completed at least five years as president of a state university or college, and is retiring from the MnSCU system.

360° Receives Federal Grant

The University's 360° Manufacturing and Applied Engineering Center of Excellence has won a three-year, \$871,951, Advanced Technological Education Grant to support a program called eTECH.

The grant enables Bemidji State to help close critical skills gaps in the manufacturing industry under the new program, which is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF).

The eTECH program will augment the center's seamless career pathway initiatives with new, mixed-delivery curricula in manufacturing and applied engineering that enables students to pursue two- or four-year degrees.

The center of excellence, a partnership between the University and nine Minnesota community and technical colleges, has been working for more than three years to address workforce needs in the manufacturing industry through its seamless career pathway efforts and an innovative redesign of higher education delivery.

Gangeness Serves on National Subcommittee

Dr. Jeanine Gangeness, BSU Department of Nursing chair, is serving on the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's Faculty Development Conference subcommittee for a two-year term through March 2012.

The subcommittee assists in planning the themes, topics, and speakers for a pair of annual conferences; the first is being held on Feb. 11-13 in Austin, TX.



Dr. P. Joan Poor is Bemidji State's new College of Arts and Sciences dean. She joins the University administration after nine years at St. Mary's College of Maryland, a public liberal arts college on the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay.

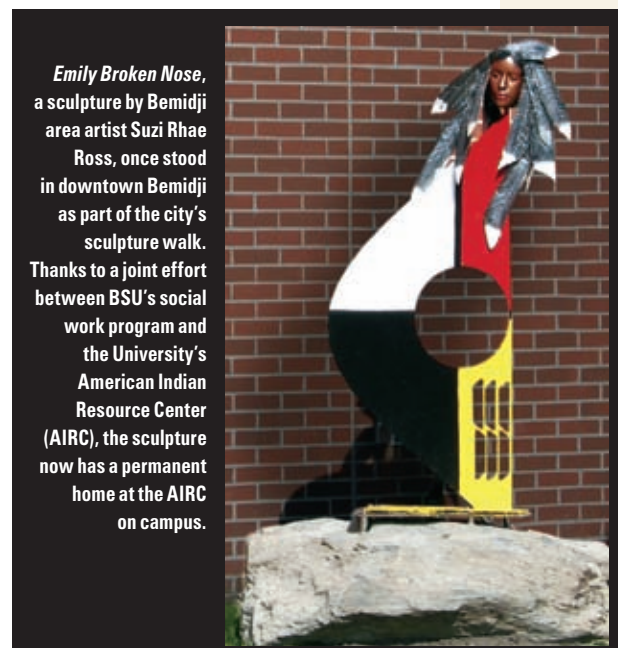
At the college, she was assistant to the president, environmental studies coordinator, and an economics professor.

Prior to her tenure at St. Mary's, Poor was a visiting professor of economics at Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY; a research assistant professor in resource economics and policy at the University of Maine, Orono, ME; and a post-doctoral research assistant and graduate research assistant at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE. She also served as a senior economic analyst for international agriculture at Wharton Econometric Forecasting Associates in Pennsylvania and

was manager of corporate affairs for WIK Associates, Inc., an environmental consultant firm.

Poor also worked as a land research analyst for Canada's Manitoba provincial government, as a grain inspection assistant for the Canadian Grain Commission, and a research assistant for the country's Department of Regional Development in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Beginning her appointment in July, she succeeds Dr. Elizabeth Dunn, interim dean of the college for two years before accepting a position as dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Indiana University, South Bend.

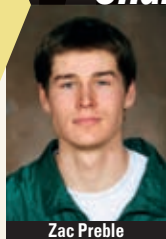


Emily Broken Nose, a sculpture by Bemidji area artist Suzi Rhae Ross, once stood in downtown Bemidji as part of the city's sculpture walk. Thanks to a joint effort between BSU's social work program and the University's American Indian Resource Center (AIRC), the sculpture now has a permanent home at the AIRC on campus.



FALL SPORTS

Champions On and Off the Field



Zac Preble



Courtney Bitter



Josh Dale



Brianna Duff



Kyle Hardwick



Kristi Buerkle

Seven Beavers Earn Academic Honors

Seven Bemidji State student-athletes earned Academic All-District honors from ESPN The Magazine/College Sports Information Directors of America during the 2009-2010 season. In addition, senior **Zac Preble**, track and field, was named Second-Team Academic All-America.

The all-district academic honors went to: **Courtney Bitter**, Second-Team Academic All-District V, volleyball, Bemidji; **Josh Dale**, Second Team All-District V, men's golf, Cross Lake; **Brianna Duff**, Third-Team Academic All-District V, soccer, Ramsey; **Kyle Hardwick**, First-Team Academic All-District V, At-Large, men's ice hockey, Warroad; **Kristi Buerkle**, Second-Team Academic All-District V, track and field, Stacy; **Zac Preble**, First-Team Academic All-District V, track and field, Coleraine; and **Josh Silvernagel**, Third-Team Academic All-District V, baseball, Bismarck, ND. Bemidji State has had at least one Academic All-District selection each of the last eight years.

Football Ranked in National Pre-season Poll Bemidji State's football program, which returns 11 starters on offense and eight on defense, was ranked No. 22 nationally in the *USA Today* pre-season Top 25 poll. This is BSU's first appearance in a national pre-season poll since 2007. That year, the Beavers were ranked as high as No. 13 entering the season.

Haake Earns Place on NABC Honors Court **Seth Haake**, a senior on the BSU men's basketball team, earned a spot on the National Association of Basketball Coaches Honor Court in July. The award is bestowed on college basketball players who excelled in the classroom during the 2009-10 school year. Honorees must be a varsity player with junior or senior status and earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.2 or higher at the end of the 2009-10 academic year. Haake, from Eden Prairie, also was a two-time member of the Academic All-NSIC team and a fixture on BSU's 3.0 Club during his career.

Men's Hockey Alums Sign Pro Deals Former BSU goaltender **Matt Climie** signed a free agent contract with the NHL's Phoenix Coyotes in July. Climie, who won 45 games for the Beavers from 2004-08, played in four NHL games with the Dallas Stars and posted a 21-17-3-3 record with the AHL's Texas Stars last season. In April, New Brighton native **Chris McKelvie**, a senior forward on last year's BSU squad, signed an amateur tryout agreement with the New York Rangers' AHL affiliate in Hartford.

Read Spends Week with the Wild Senior **Matt Read** spent a portion of his summer preparing for a future as a professional ice hockey player. In mid-July, Read spent a week in St. Paul with 36 other skaters at the Minnesota Wild Development Camp. The camp provided players with intense instruction from professional personnel, introducing them to the world of professional hockey without the worry of making a cut. Read also participated in a similar camp with the New York Rangers in June and July.

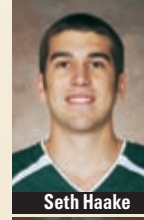
Alstrom Inducted into NSIC Hall of Fame In July, **Susan Alstrom**, a three-sport athlete at BSU from 1972-1976, was one of eight new members inducted into the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Hall of Fame. Alstrom was a two-time, all-conference selection in basketball, won eight state championships and a conference championship in various field events, and was a three-time, all-conference selection in field hockey. Alstrom is also a member of the Bemidji State Athletic Hall of Fame and the Minnesota Volleyball Coaches Hall of Fame. In 2000, she was honored as one of the top 30 female athletes in BSU history.

Vichorek Named to U.S. Women's Select Team Junior **Montana Vichorek**, a defenseman on the BSU women's hockey team and a Moose Lake native, has been named to the 2010 U.S. Women's Under-22 Select Team. In August, the team participated in the 2010 USA Hockey Women's National Festival in Lake Placid, NY, and at a three-game Under-22 series against Canada in Toronto. Vichorek is the second BSU women's player to earn a spot on the U-22 team; goaltender Emily Brookshaw was on the team in 2006.

Preble Finishes Second in NCAA Decathlon In May, **Zac Preble**, a senior from Coleraine, picked up his third career All-America honor by finishing second in the decathlon at the 2010 NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championships, held in Charlotte, NC. Preble, one of the most-decorated track and field athletes in BSU history, finished the event with a school-record 7,193 points, just 29 points behind the event's champion.



Josh Silvernagel



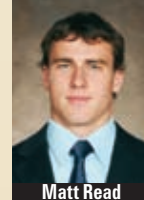
Seth Haake



Matt Climie



Chris McKelvie



Matt Read



Susan Alstrom



Montana Vichorek

Chadwick Selected Head Volleyball Coach In June, BSU Director of Athletics Dr. Rick Goeb announced the appointment of **Wayne Chadwick** as BSU's 13th head volleyball coach. Chadwick comes to the University after three years as an assistant coach at the University of Tulsa in Oklahoma. He also has served as head coach at Manchester (NC) College and possesses nearly 30 years of volleyball experience as a player and coach.



Men's Golf Coach Retires

In June, **Don Niskanen** retired after 17 years as head men's golf coach at Bemidji State. Niskanen was a four-time Northern Sun Intercollegiate (NSIC) Conference Coach of the Year and led the Beavers to four NSIC championships and seven runner-up finishes. During his tenure, he coached five NSIC individual champions and 35 different golfers who earned All-NSIC honors.

Event Center Rink Named for R. H. Peters

When the Bemidji Regional Event Center opens its doors in October, the facility's hockey rink will bear the name of Bemidji State's legendary hockey coach, **R.H. "Bob" Peters**, in recognition of his significant contributions to hockey. The rink's dedication honoring Peters was recommended by the event center's executive director and approved by the Bemidji City Council in May.



R.H. "Bob" Peters

Peters led the BSU men's hockey program to more than 700 victories and 13 national championships during an unparalleled dynasty that began in 1966 and ended with his retirement after the 1999-2000 season.

The 10th President

HANSON TAKES THE HELM

Dr. Richard Hanson thought he would retire once he completed his role as interim president of North Dakota State University (NDSU). Then a colleague suggested he check out a presidential opening at Bemidji State University (BSU). Soon, any thoughts of retirement evaporated.

"At first I said, 'Nah, I don't think so,'" recalls Hanson, who admits he knew very little about BSU at the time. However, his colleague insisted that BSU was "a special place." So, last spring in Minneapolis, candidate Hanson met with the presidential search committee.

"We had 26 people around the table, and I thought, 'I feel really comfortable with these people; they're like me,'" explains Hanson. "That was a good start."

Hanson grew even more impressed when he visited campus.

"What's most amazing is that this university is tucked right into the middle of one of the most beautiful places on earth," exclaims Hanson, Bemidji State's tenth president. "During a break on the campus interview, I went down and sat on a bench right next to the lakeshore. Now, where else can you do that?"

Hanson, 60, serves as president of both Bemidji State and Northwest Technical College. He assumed his post on July 12 from his predecessor, Dr. Jon Quistgaard, who retired.

"It's been like drinking from a fire hose," says Hanson of his first weeks in Minnesota. His immediate goals included unpacking his butterfly collection, an office display reminding him that people, like butterflies, are fragile, unique, and beautiful. He and his wife, Dianne, also focused on settling into their new home north of town where the tall pines are a welcome contrast to the open, often flat, Dakota landscapes they left behind.

As for work, Hanson began his presidency with the goal of meeting and learning from campus and community members to help define "what's next" for the University. Hanson notes programs and services may

need recalibrating to meet the needs of students while addressing the state's current economic challenges.

An enthusiastic sports fan, he looks forward to BSU hockey's move in October to its new home in the Bemidji Regional Event Center. Like Beaver fans everywhere, he's anticipating the first game the men's team plays as a WCHA member. The opening game pits the Beavers against the University of North Dakota. "How exciting is that?" says Hanson. "I can't wait."

When thinking about Bemidji State and its northern Minnesota location, Hanson sees opportunity. "This is a gem," says Hanson. "It's this wonderful, delightful combination of north woods with liberal education learning, and Scandinavian and Native American cultures. It's an amazing place."

Hanson comes to BSU with a rich administrative past, a passion for traditional liberal arts, and a fondness for guitars, classical music, and photography. He holds a bachelor's degree in sociology and a master's in child development and family relations, both from NDSU. He earned a doctorate in applied behavioral science from the University of California, Davis.

Graduating from high school in 1967, the Fargo, ND, native played football at NDSU as a 6'7" defensive tackle, the biggest player on the team. In 1971 and 1972, he played for the New York Giants before

returning to NDSU where he decided he wanted to become a college president.

Hanson launched his career at California State University, Chico, and then held a variety of positions at NDSU. He spent the last 15 years at private, Lutheran-affiliated institutions, first as vice president of academic affairs and dean of the college at Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD, and then as president of Waldorf College, Forest City, IA. In 2009, he stepped down at Waldorf when financial difficulties forced the college to be sold. Before arriving at BSU, he helped NDSU through a leadership transition.

As a university president, Hanson says his role is to listen, define reality, solve problems, and prepare the University for its next leader. He also plans to be involved in fundraising, a necessity for the future and an aspect of the job he enjoys.

"Bemidji State is a special place," says Hanson. "It's just the right size – just big enough to do lots of fun things, but small enough to still care."

Heading into his third presidency, Hanson figures BSU will be his most rewarding experience yet. **HORIZONS**



Dr. Richard Hanson

Passionate Pursuits

THRIVING ON BUSINESS, TRAVEL,

A high school teacher first introduced alumna Joanne Provo to Bemidji State. The teacher, Mary Jo Fischer, had recently graduated from BSU and was teaching English as well as advising the newspaper and yearbook clubs where Joanne was student editor. Fischer arranged for Provo to attend a journalism camp at BSU.

"I was the oldest of six kids, so I really wanted to get away to college," recalls Provo, who says that attending the journalism camp also influenced her decision. "I didn't know anything about reciprocity or outstate tuition or anything else, so I had to find a school in the state. I liked the idea of one the farthest from where I lived."

For the next four years, Provo stayed year round in Bemidji, studying business and psychology while working in town and on campus. "I just fell in love with the campus," she says. "I knew I'd be in a large metropolitan area for most of my life, so it was really nice to be up in the north woods for those four years."

Since graduating in 1982, her life has been filled with hard work and an insatiable international curiosity. The Maple Lake native has lived and traveled throughout the United States and abroad. She has earned two graduate degrees, advanced her career, and developed a passion for international travel as well as philanthropy. Despite the rapid pace of her life,

she returns to campus occasionally, most recently to visit her nephew who started at BSU in 2008.

Currently she is a vice president and managing director for the Midwest region of Personnel Decisions International (PDI) Ninth House, where she leads a team for the Minneapolis-based, global leadership solutions company. Consulting with clients worldwide, she helps develop corporate leaders through an array of services that range from helping assess a potential CEO to providing executive coaching and guiding senior leaders as they develop and execute business strategies. She's achieved success through a good head for business and a work ethic that developed early in life on a family farm.

"My dad never missed a day of school in all of his 12 years of school," she says. "It was a lesson on the importance of showing up. My mom was an avid reader, and, growing up, I read everything I could get my hands on." Those examples served her well at BSU and beyond.

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in business administration and a minor in psychology, Provo gained professional experience through various finance and human resources jobs. While working full time, she also completed an MBA from DePaul University and a doctorate in human resources development from the University

of Minnesota. She was teaching a course at the University of Minnesota in the late 1990s when a student recommended she check out PDI Ninth House because the company seemed to gel with what Provo was teaching.

"I kept talking about return on people – how you should invest in people the same way you invest in other assets," she says, noting she came to the Return On People® group at PDI 12 years ago.

Rising through the consulting ranks at PDI Ninth House, Provo led a number of groups over the years. Her background in finance, coupled with psychology and human resources development, has given her a unique window into the corporate world and opportunities to advance her career. She's found her extensive commercial and business experience invaluable in managing her team at PDI Ninth House and advising business leaders throughout the world.

"I am commercially curious, so I enjoy learning about companies, their products and business models, and then leveraging my understanding of business with the challenges of leading an organization or group of people," she says. "I get to work with fascinating people across a broad spectrum of industries in countries all over the world."

Besides fulfilling her leadership role at PDI Ninth House, Provo also enjoys teaching future leaders. For the past 20 years, she's served as a member of the Executive MBA faculty at the University of St. Thomas' Graduate School of Business in the Twin Cities. In 2000, the school honored her with their Excellence in Teaching Award in recognition of her teaching prowess.

In 2006, Provo married her passion for business with her love of international travel when she managed a major account for PDI Ninth House based in The Hague, Netherlands.

"I am commercially curious, so I enjoy learning about companies, their products and business models, and then leveraging my understanding of business with the challenges of leading an organization or group of people. I get to work with fascinating people across a broad spectrum of industries in countries all over the world."

Joanne Provo

AND GIVING BACK

"I was overseas for 31 months and in 44 different countries. And I don't mean going to London 20 times, because that counts for one," she explains. "I did go to London multiple times, but I was in every place, from Singapore to Indonesia, Nigeria, Caracas, Calgary, Moscow, and so many other places for business and pleasure."

Provo, who got her first taste of overseas travel as a student in BSU's Eurospring program, relishes each of her international experiences and the network of friends and business associates she's developed throughout the world. She likes to keep "off the grid" and values the experiences that come from working and playing alongside the locals in places others typically would not have at the top of their travel lists. In fact, Provo is more likely to be found building a Habitat for Humanity house in Kyrgyzstan than lounging by the pool at Club Med.

"I love the diverse perspectives and seeing America through the eyes of people from other parts of the world," she says. "I am at my best when I am out of my routines as I am forced to look at things through another lens and bring all my resources to bear to navigate in new surroundings. I also find myself being more open, accepting, and accommodating when traveling."

Although Provo's home has been stateside since 2008, she hasn't slowed when it comes to seeing the world nor has she relinquished her goal of traveling to 100 countries by age 65. "Which means I want to cover a lot of new ground," she says. "I take almost all my vacations overseas. Some people go up north to Brainerd, I go to Hanoi."

With a rewarding career and abundant travel, Provo lives a full and fascinating life. But for her, the biggest reward is in giving back. "Success is really thinking about the mark you want to make in the world," she notes. "Can you leave something behind that is bigger than yourself?"

(Continued on Page 8)



Passionate Pursuits

(Continued from Page 7)

Her philanthropic philosophy extends to a number of organizations. She has been generous to BSU over the years, including funding a study room in the library. Provo also has held volunteer leadership roles in several non-profit organizations in the Twin Cities. Her legacy includes building houses abroad with Habitat for Humanity, supporting international business women through Kiva micro-financing loans, and, closer to home, serving as chair of the Leadership Circle for the Midwest region of the White House Project (WHP). The WHP's goal is to involve more women in political leadership roles at the local, state, and national levels. The group is especially active in getting rural women involved in regional leadership, Provo notes.

"This is very grassroots politics, getting women involved in school boards and city councils," she says. "You really have to get women in the pipeline at those levels if you're going to have viable candidates for senate, governor, and president. If you can get more women involved in anything, it's bound to lead to change, so that's pretty important to me."

Looking to the future, Provo plans to continue using her personal resources to support causes important to her and is excited about accelerating her hands-on efforts after she retires. "I plan to spend much of my 60s living overseas and helping people

meet their fundamental needs of food, shelter, and education," she says. "I don't care if I'm teaching English, helping girls get school uniforms, or teaching women how to sell their beadwork, I want to do that in countries where spending a little bit of time or money can make an incredible difference."

Reflecting on her career and her personal endeavors, Provo defines success by measuring whether the action made a difference in building relationships, adding value to her company, or giving back to people in need. "We are very fortunate to be born in this country and afforded the education and opportunities we have," she says. "I hope that my educational pursuits and global travel set an example for my 18 nieces and nephews and others. It is so important that they see how fortunate they are and use those insights to make the world a better place."

HORIZONS

"I love the diverse perspectives and seeing America through the eyes of people from other parts of the world. I am at my best when I am out of my routines as I am forced to look at things through another lens and bring all my resources to bear to navigate in new surroundings. I also find myself being more open, accepting, and accommodating when traveling."

Joanne Provo

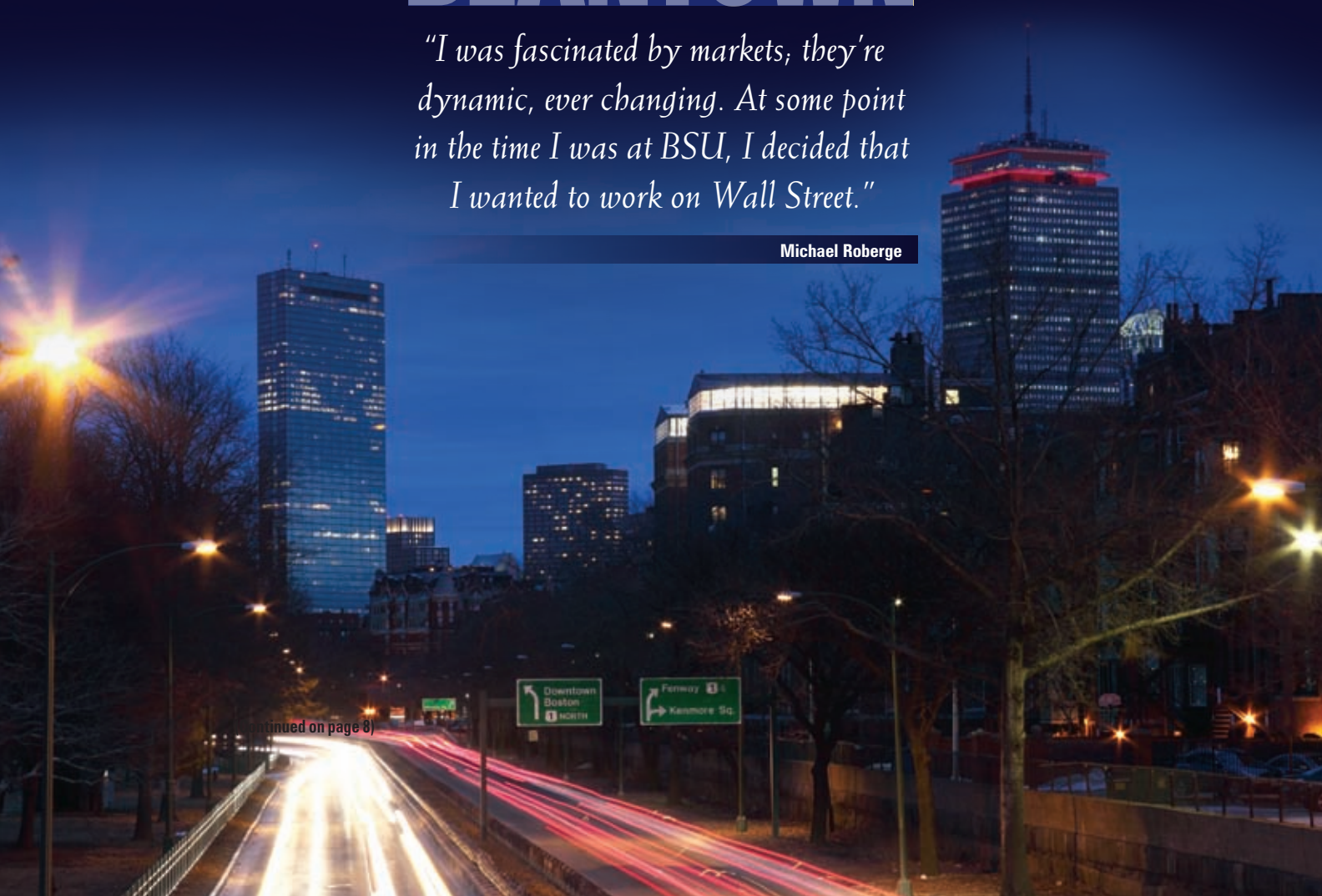


From
BEMIDJI
to
BEANTOWN

"I was fascinated by markets; they're dynamic, ever changing. At some point in the time I was at BSU, I decided that I wanted to work on Wall Street."

Michael Roberge

(continued on page 8)





LURE OF BIG CITY CAREER PAYS DIVIDENDS

As a student at Bemidji State, Michael Roberge decided that he would leave small-town Minnesota someday and seek a career in the fast-paced world of east coast finance.

"I was fascinated by markets; they're dynamic, ever changing," he recalls. "At some point in the time I was at BSU, I decided that I wanted to work on Wall Street."

After graduating with a double major in marketing and accounting in 1990, Roberge headed east, not for a job, but for an MBA program at New York's Hofstra University, a move that would take him one step closer to his big city dreams.

"I wanted to work on Wall Street. For me, the easiest way to do that, instead of moving out there and trying to find a job, was by going to grad school," he says. "What helped me the most was the educational foundation from BSU that I took into graduate school."

"I think my greatest success has been just building a strong team. You can't do it on your own, so the key is building good relationships and building confidence with others. If you do that well over time, you'll be more successful. BSU definitely prepared me for that."

Michael Roberge

A Rapid Rise

With an MBA in hand, Roberge lived his New York dream, working in investor services for the Manhattan-based rating agency, Moody's. Within two years, another job and another east coast town – Boston – beckoned.

While the job offer at Colonial Group in Boston was appealing, Roberge, originally from Waterville, was also looking for a city with a better lifestyle fit than New York.

"New York was a pretty crazy place," he says. "I enjoyed being there, but it certainly wasn't a place I wanted to live long term."

He accepted the position at Colonial Group and moved. A year later, Roberge was hired at Boston-based MFS Investment Management. He rapidly climbed the company's corporate ladder and now runs the firm's investment group.

As president and chief investment officer of U.S. investments, Roberge manages about \$200 billion of assets globally. In his role as co-director of global research, he also man-

ages offices in London, Singapore, Tokyo, Sidney, Mexico City, and Boston.

"I was fortunate enough to be successful managing money," recounts Roberge on his rapid rise at MFS. "The other part of it is just the ability to lead and manage people, to identify with people. The key to success in business is retaining and keeping talent in the organization, and I've been able to do that over my time here."

Challenging Times

In the finance world since 1992, Roberge has seen the market ebb and flow. He acknowledges that the current economic downturn has taken a toll on investments, and MFS has not been immune.

"Like a lot of firms in the business, 2008 was a particularly difficult year," says Roberge, who notes that MFS did downsize.

Roberge and his team have weathered the storm, however, by staying focused on long-term goals and keeping disciplined even in a volatile environment. "We remain pretty vigilant in trying to protect clients' money where we can and in whatever way we can."

With the economic crisis affecting the entire industry, Roberge believes college graduates may find it challenging to begin a finance career right now. "Given the crisis we've been through, I think it will be harder to break into the business because there will be fewer opportunities," he observes.



Despite his concerns, he does see opportunities and encourages young people with Wall Street dreams to pursue them.

"Early in your career, the thing that differentiates you is hard work," he says. "People come out of school, and they're not ready to make a big impact on an organization; they need to gain experience and work for people. The harder you work, the more recognized it is, and the more opportunity you'll be given. A good differentiator is the strength of your work ethic at that point."

Keys to Success

For Roberge, success is about more than his corporate accomplishments, his job title, or the portfolio he manages. Success is about a job well done.

"Someone is successful in business if they make a positive impact at their company and enjoy what they do," he says. "I enjoy being around people and being challenged. I enjoy the fast pace of what it is I do."

Roberge also has found success outside the office, spending time with his family away from the pressures of his job. For Roberge, his wife of 15 years, and their two daughters, that means enjoying everything Boston has to offer, especially when it comes to being outdoors.

"We are very active as a family," he says. "We downhill ski every weekend in the winter. During the summer, we are on the boat most days, and my kids enjoy swimming and tubing. Individually, I spend my free time cycling, and I participate in a two-day, 200-mile ride for cancer each summer."

While Roberge has learned valuable lessons about business and life throughout his impressive career, he attributes some of his success, especially in the areas of collaboration and team building, to his undergraduate education.

"I think my greatest success has been just building a strong team," he says. "You can't do it on your own, so the key is building good relationships and building confidence with others. If you do that well over time, you'll be more successful. BSU definitely prepared me for that."

HORIZONS





Russell at home among her tropical plants.

Telling Stories

ALUM FOCUSES ON THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE BUSINESS

"When I was a reporter, I really enjoyed feature writing – profiles of people. That absolutely translates. What I do now for companies and organizations is humanize and make them relevant to the market."

Carol Russell

People in bathrobes and shower caps rolled a bathtub down Minneapolis' trendy Nicollet Mall. The event made television news. So did Hennepin County Medical Center's "Save the Brain" message about preventing brain injuries. The creative force behind the two campaign tactics was advertising and public relations agency, Russell Herder, one of the region's oldest, independently owned firms of its kind.

At the company's helm are BSU alumna Carol Russell and her business partner, Brian Herder. Russell, a journalist and public relations expert, has been covering and strategically creating news for decades.

A 1974 graduate of Bemidji State, the mass communication major points to her curios-

ity, good listening skills, and love of telling people's stories as key strengths.

"When I was a reporter, I really enjoyed feature writing – profiles of people," she says. "That absolutely translates. What I do now for companies and organizations is humanize and make them relevant to the market."

Russell first honed her journalism skills as a reporter for BSU's student newspaper. After graduation, she held stints at the *Bemidji Pioneer* and in the communications office at Bemidji State, where she worked for seven years. The Russell Herder firm became a reality in 1984 when she and Herder formed the partnership in Brainerd. She now splits her time between offices in that city and Minneapolis.

Russell's Minneapolis office overlooks the downtown skyline and offers a vista of the Mississippi River. An eclectic combination of giant plants, framed ad campaigns, and family photos represent the varied, valued aspects of her life. Her calendar is crowded

and diverse: research conducted for the Minnesota Department of Health on how to effectively communicate messages about sexually transmitted diseases to high risk teens, an appointment with a trauma center to brand its health system, and strategic planning for a high profile Minnesota manufacturer.

Despite her clients' prominence and the worldwide attention she received recently from her social media research, Russell remains a small town girl at heart. She possesses a strong Minnesota work ethic, knows the value of a dollar, and recognizes the importance of staying within a budget.

After graduating from Cass Lake High School, Russell knew she wanted to be a newspaper reporter and headed to Bemidji State where she flourished. "The environment – not only the physical, but also the nurturing that goes on with students – is so incredible," she says.

Her connection to BSU remains strong. Many of her company's employees are BSU graduates. A son attended the University, and Russell serves on the University's foundation board. "They needed someone in marketing, and BSU is a special place to me. You need to make time for some things," she explains.

When she married and moved to Brainerd, Russell began a public relations consulting business. Within a few months, she formalized the partnership with Herder, the firm's creative director and artistic arm.

"In terms of personality, we are very compatible," Herder says. "Carol is very focused and detail-oriented and can kick out an enormous amount of work. I tend to be a big picture thinker. I take fractured things and find unified themes. Carol digs into research. I am more laid back."

Recognizing and respecting each other's personalities and talents have made their partnership and emphasis on teamwork successful, he says. In addition, they've adapted to industry changes and pursued opportunities.

No matter what changes come along, however, Russell notes that one thing will always remain the same: focusing on the human side of their clients. It's an emphasis that generates one of the most satisfying compliments she receives, "You get us."

Russell attributes such glowing client feedback to good listening skills and her curiosity about the reasons people make the

decisions they do. Also, the reporter in her loves learning about the array of businesses the firm advises, from marine and manufacturing companies to health organizations and destination resorts.

"We are like a sponge; we soak up everything we can through focus groups and other forms of market intelligence," says Russell, who advanced her research skills by earning a master's in communications management at St. Cloud State University and an MBA from the University of Minnesota's executive program at the Carlson School of Management.

Though the agency's most visible end product is often creative work, her personal strengths include strategic planning and crisis management. Both require simultaneous consideration of near- and long-term impact.

Russell loves such challenges both at work and at home. Take, for example, the six-foot banana tree she has managed to grow in Brainerd. Every spring she drags it out of the greenhouse along with other tropical plants occupying her front yard. The master gardener has plants everywhere – and not just typical Minnesota plants.

"Her offices tend to look like a science fiction movie because her plants get so big," laughs Herder.

Russell inherited her gardening passion from her mother, although she hated gardening while growing up. From her father, she learned endurance and commitment. He worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 50 years, retired, and then volunteered for the service.

Herder recognizes that same quality in Russell. "Carol takes things very seriously," he observes. "I've never seen anyone work

harder or take care of clients the way she does. She makes a commitment, and our clients benefit."

For example, during the March 2009 flooding in Fargo, Russell contacted client Innovis Health, asking how her staff could help with sandbagging. Hospital executives said they really needed assistance informing the public that they were still open and it was safe for employees and patients to get there. Within hours Russell Herder had messages out on social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and blogs. She and her team worked round the clock to take care of their client.

Recognizing the value of social media since its infancy, Russell Herder teamed up with David Baer of Ethos Business Law last year to study how businesses and organizations use these web-based communication avenues. The results showed that a majority of companies believe social media is important for brand building and networking, although only about one third of them have employee policies in place. Also, only 10 percent indicated they conduct employee training, even though approximately 50 percent expressed concerns about employees being less productive or hurting a company's reputation through social media.

The innovative study attracted the attention of the World Economic Forum, which requested permission to include the information at last year's annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland. Since the study's release, Russell also has been busy speaking and working with clients to develop social media policies and employee training.

Perhaps not as visible as her corporate activities, her own volunteer work also is impressive. She mentors through Amicus, a Minneapolis non-profit helping inmates and ex-offenders successfully transition from prison into the community. In addition, she serves on the board of CASA, an organization that recruits volunteer, court-appointed advocates for abused and neglected children.

While the agency's work has garnered much recognition and many awards, Russell measures true success as accomplishing clients' goals through the work of a talented team. She remains energized by her career and can't imagine any other job – except, perhaps, working in a greenhouse.

"It's as challenging and exciting as it's ever been," she says. "There are always new ways to communicate."



Russell at Minneapolis office.

HORIZONS



All In at BrokerBin.com

*"The best advice
I could give is,
if you are going
to be in, be all in."*

Keith Litke

Keith Litke was a year out of college when he came up with an idea for a website he describes as "cars.com" for computers. The 2000 Bemidji State grad was working as a Compaq sales representative in Spring Park when the inspiration struck.

At the time, his company was using a web-based service where people brokered computer equipment. When the company providing the service unexpectedly tripled its rates, Litke's entrepreneurial senses kicked into overdrive.

"I kind of scratched my head, did some quick math, and looked at the potential revenue a site like this could bring in. That night I went home, started making phone calls, and put together a game plan of duplicating what they do, except at a better price point and better futures."

With the help of his cousin, a web developer in Rochester, Litke set out to make his dot-com dreams come true. He launched BrokerBin.com just as the dot-com bubble was bursting.

Before jumping in with both feet and no income source, Litke developed an exit strategy. "I wanted to cover my butt, if you will," he admits as he explains that his backup plan was painting houses as he had done during his undergraduate days. With an exit strategy in place, Litke quit his job and devoted every moment to making BrokerBin.com a success.

"Back in the beginning, I was working out of my apartment in Spring Park and driving down to Rochester a couple of times a week, putting together a business plan," says Litke. "The fun part was going out and trying to raise some venture capital."

Litke recruited everyone he knew – family, friends, even his former dentist. He presented his business plan clearly and with brutal honesty. "The first thing I would say is: 'One in 10 small businesses make it, and one in 30 Internet companies make it,'" he recalls. "So actually, I need to advise against this, but if you are interested, here's what we're working on."

BSU IS LAUNCHING PAD FOR SUCCESS

In short order, Litke raised about \$60,000 in start-up capital and moved to Rochester to begin developing the site. In those first few months, he lived on Ramen noodles and little sleep.

"You are kind of used to subsistence living in college," he says. "A couple gray hairs popped up in my early 20s, which was a little stressing, but I believed that we had the cure for the common cold. That's what made the work worthwhile."

After months of planning, raising capital, and designing, BrokerBin.com went live in April 2002. "I was the only employee at that point in time," says Litke. "Eventually we got an intern, then a sales rep. It was kind of live-by-the-seat-of-my-pants. We just had to be prepared to turn on a dime, adjust, and weather the storm."

For Litke, now 33, starting a business just one year out of college and with limited professional experience, had its high and low points. "The inexperience probably helped and also hindered," he explains. "Had I had more experience, I would have said, 'The obstacles you have to overcome are too great. This is a bad idea to quit your nine-to-five.'"

At the same time, Litke found his inexperience created a steep learning curve when it came to navigating his way around the business world. "I was doing everything," he says. "I was hiring. I was firing. I was selling. I wore like 13 different hats at the same time. There was a lot of learning on the spot. One of the best things I learned from Bemidji State was learning how to learn."

Litke, who double majored in business management and computer information systems, still uses other lessons he learned on campus as well. "The wide variety of skills that I was exposed to at school really played a huge role in my ability to start and grow the business," he says. "I still pull out my accounting books from time to time, or pull out a business finance book."

Thanks to Litke's willingness to take a risk on BrokerBin.com, he hasn't had free time

for painting houses since launching the site. In fact, what started as a single website now has evolved into The Broker Exchange Network, employing 37 staff and operating in 63 countries. The exchange network supports the resale of computer hardware at BrokerBin.com and integrated circuits through ICBin.com. The network operates ResellerSolutions.com, a provider of advanced technology solutions, and offers an open discussion forum, MyResellerForum.com.

In all, the websites generate about \$5 million in revenue for the young company. "That doesn't sound like a whole lot with 37 employees, but we are pushing 40 percent margins," Litke notes, attributing his company's success to a sound product and hard work.

"If there is a cure out there, you want to tell everybody, and that's the way that I felt about this product," he says. "We have more features, our price point is a lot better, and it is something that people need on a regular basis. If you really believe in something, and it's good, it's easy to sell."

The future looks bright for The Broker Exchange Network and its founder. The company recently moved operations to a renovated 11,000 square-foot warehouse, complete with punching bags, big screen TVs, free soda and coffee machines, foosball, and a Nintendo Wii. Besides the horseshoe pits he hopes to install this year, Litke wants to add more websites to the network and about 30 jobs in the next two to three years. He is also looking forward to a change in his personal life.

"Personally, the biggest challenge has been finding a work-life balance," he says. "I've been married to my career. I'm looking forward to slowing down and relaxing."

Litke is quick to share what he's learned with aspiring entrepreneurs. "The best advice I could give is, if you are going to be in, be all in." **HORIZONS**



SENIORS TO Watch

Meet Mark, Candice,
and Matt.

With career goals in hand,
all three say they're
ready for what's next.



Mark Thode

Mark Thode grew up on a farm in Pipestone, a small town in southwestern Minnesota, where he took every art class available to him in high school. While the focus was primarily on painting and drawing, he also explored photography. It wasn't until he discovered design technology at Bemidji State University, however, that he felt he'd found his niche.

"I knew I didn't want to go into hand-rendered art, but I didn't want to stray from it completely," says Thode. "This program is advanced compared to others that I considered attending, and, in terms of technology, it's top-notch."

Thode will graduate in May with a degree in design technology and a burgeoning portfolio of his best work.

"I'm approached all the time to do projects, and I never say 'No,'" he explains. "I guess it's the farm work ethic that my family instilled in me. I have a hard time turning down design work."

Thode designed the program cover for the 2010 Student Scholarship and Creative Achievement Conference, an annual signature event at BSU showcasing research and creativity of the University's students. His cover design, completed under the supervision of Kathy Berglund, BSU graphic designer and publications coordinator, so impressed planners that they chose to print Thode's work in full color, a first for the event.

"He has such depth to his design for some-

one so early in his career," says Berglund, adding that his interest in fine arts is apparent in his work. "I could trust him with anything. His designs are so polished."

Thode's graphic design experience includes work for Bemidji State's Office of Communications and Marketing, the International Student Organization, the Department of Athletics, the Pipestone Calumet Players, and Pipestone Publishing. In addition, he is advertising sales representative, design manager, and layout designer for the BSU student newspaper, *Northern Student*, which he and the editor redesigned last year. This year, he is president of the BSU Design Guild, a campus organization that helps students network with design industry professionals.

Thode hopes to work as a designer with a graphics firm and eventually become a creative director before revisiting his interest in photography. Through a BSU photography class, he became fascinated with portraiture and views his photography as a hobby and a business.

"I enjoy photography, manipulating light, telling a story, or capturing emotion through a still-frame," says Thode. "I can't say if I like photography more than design or design more than photography. The two work hand-in-hand."

In launching his career, Thode envisions helping clients define and broaden their visual identities. Creating clarity through design or photography is a challenge that he finds hard to resist. **HORIZONS**

Even though art was Candice Billups' favorite subject in high school, she planned to pursue something "more practical" in college. By the end of her freshman year at Bemidji State, however, she realized she needed to follow her heart. Since taking an art course in her sophomore year at BSU, she has never considered any other major.

"It's satisfying to express yourself in the way that you're meant to," explains Billups, who aspires to become a professional artist.

She will graduate in May with a degree in art and four areas of emphases: painting, sculpture, printmaking, and drawing. Billups plans to feature all four genres in her senior exhibit, drawing inspiration from the outdoors and the curves of the female form. Her affinity for the outdoors comes from growing up on a farm in southeastern Minnesota, just outside of Cannon Falls. She chose the female form because of its many possibilities and the personal connections that can be made.

Those themes are apparent in her *Copper Tree*, a metal sculpture featured in the Bemidji Sculpture Walk, an exhibit of area artists dotting downtown Bemidji. With windswept branches, Billups' tree seems to dance. Her father inspired the piece when he asked her to create a tree out of discarded copper coil. "I try to focus on the



stuff people tend to overlook," observes Billups, citing materials such as mud and grass or seaweed. "I try to set the stage for the viewer to make a connection with something that is familiar and comfortable."

Billups has forged strong ties with Bemidji State and the area art community. She is vice president and past president of the BSU Art Association, which promotes student art and builds links with local artists. Her artwork has been exhibited on campus and in public galleries, including a self-portrait in the "Foot in the Door" exhibit at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Her encaustic wax paintings, a new medium for Billups, have been displayed at the Bemidji Community Arts Center and a downtown gallery.

She also is the student director of the BSU Touché Gallery and assistant set designer for the theater department, where Ellen Jones, assistant professor of theater, has come to appreciate Billups' artistic sensibilities.

"I've seen a lot of her artwork, and she has a great artistic vision," says Jones. "She's very talented, very smart, and incredibly nice."

Looking forward to graduating this year, Billups gets excited thinking about her senior exhibit and the chance to fill a gallery with her work. "I've been planning this since my freshman year," says Billups in anticipation of the spring exhibit. "It'll be an awesome experience." **HORIZONS**



Candice Billups



Matt Read

Hockey standout Matt Read once considered quitting the sport. Bemidji State University hockey fans are glad he didn't, and so is he.

A forward from Ilderton, ON, Canada, Read led the BSU men's hockey team to the Frozen Four in 2009. The next season, the nationally ranked team earned an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament. Read finished his junior year as Bemidji State's second Division I All-American and one of the nation's most highly sought players by NHL teams.

"When we finished in the NCAA tournament, my phone started ringing," says Read. "I talked with close to 15 NHL teams in a two-day span, and four of them offered me contracts to go right away. That was one of the hardest decisions of my life: to pursue my dream or come back and graduate."

Opting for the latter, he plans to graduate in May with a degree in exercise science and a coaching certificate. As captain, he'll lead the hockey team during its inaugural WCHA season in the team's new home at the Bemidji Regional Event Center.

"I can't wait," says Read with a grin. "I've never been on any team that I've fallen in love with like this. The chemistry we have, it's hard to describe."

Born the second of three boys, Read wanted to play hockey like his older brother. He excelled initially, but got cut from AAA teams two years in a row because he was small for his age. The summer he turned 17, he considered quitting. He eventually had a growth spurt and, with the help of a personal trainer, increased his weight by nearly 20 pounds. He's since been fascinated by strength and conditioning, especially as it relates to hockey.

"If I don't have the chance to succeed more as a hockey player, I'd like to help someone else succeed," says Read, who thinks about being a trainer or possibly a coach some day.

"Matt's an achiever," says Dr. Donna Palivec, BSU professor of physical education. "He just works at things, but you'd never know from his demeanor that he has so much potential. He has a quiet disposition, and he's humble."

Even though Read spent the past few summers at NHL training camps, he admits that last year's NHL attention was heady stuff.

"I try not to think about the future," says Read. "I just concentrate on today, on being a better student and a better athlete." **HORIZONS**



Business Matters

NEW INSTITUTE OPENS DOORS TO OPPORTUNITY

"We're meant to be the front door to business outreach for individuals who want to access resources within the College of Business, Technology and Communication. At any stage of a business idea or need, we can evaluate it and apply the best resources in the college or the University. It's about making sure clients have the opportunity to be successful."

Karen White

For years, business owners and entrepreneurs have tapped Bemidji State University's expertise and resources to improve their position in the marketplace or create new enterprises. Now the University is making its outreach efforts more visible and easier to access by establishing the Institute of Technology, Entrepreneurship and Innovation within its College of Business, Technology and Communication.

"Having an office on campus to coordinate these things really makes it easy and encourages more use of University resources," notes Larry Young, executive director of the Joint Economic Development Commission in Bemidji and a former BSU faculty member. "Bemidji State could be seen as a confusing place, especially to someone not familiar with campus. The institute has people who know faculty across the University, can make the call, and set up a meeting."

The institute aims to increase access by building relationships with external businesses, entrepreneurs, and organizations. Its design is the brainchild of Dr. James Maxwell, dean of the College of Business, Technology and Communication. Arriving on campus a year ago, Maxwell noted the need for a central structure within the college that would increase departmental cooperation, better coordinate activities, and eliminate duplicate services. He envisioned the institute as a way of providing a first stop for individuals looking for BSU help.

An initial step in creating the institute was bringing together three existing units – the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), 360° Manufacturing and Applied Engineering Center of Excellence, and Marketing Assistance and Research Solu-

tions (MARS). Surveying the BSU service region, Maxwell also identified a need for technical and engineering assistance and for entrepreneurial training. Based on the findings, he initiated the Technical Engineering Solutions (TES) Center.

"The institute is only as good as the students and faculty who are engaged with it," Maxwell says. "And that's the whole purpose – to use students and faculty as part of outreach. We work as a team, and everyone knows what the other parties are doing."

The institute's executive director, Karen White, leads a team that has members located at various on- and off-campus sites. With dispersed office locations, the institute serves as the college's umbrella organization, offering a variety of services while maintaining a central contact point for those outside the University.

"We're meant to be the front door to business outreach for individuals who want to access resources within the College of Business, Technology and Communication," White explains. "At any stage of a business idea or need, we can evaluate it and apply the best resources in the college or the University. It's about making sure clients have the opportunity to be successful."

Institute services are expansive, from prototyping and developing marketing strategies to addressing specific needs such as setting up new production lines. Each institute entity focuses on particular areas of expertise and services.

Small Business Development Center

A regional center within a state network, the Small Business Development Center serves a 12-county region across northwest

Minnesota. This nonprofit organization is funded by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, the Small Business Administration, and by local partners. The SBDC offers any number of confidential consultations for small businesses looking to maintain operations or to grow. The office also provides support to entrepreneurs looking at business start-ups.

Existing companies can access the center for advice on current business challenges, growth potential, debt restructuring, new loan packages, market plan development, management strategies, operations analysis, and training. Start-up enterprises can find help to create a new business, conduct feasibility analyses of new ideas, develop business plans, explore financial projections, and understand basic business legal requirements.

"Although the SBDC does a number of different things, the center is best known for one-on-one, private, and confidential professional and business consultation," says White. "The staff has a broad knowledge of numerous business issues and has access to all the consultants across the state SBDC system. Thanks to sponsors, the center is able to access all of that for clients free of charge."

(Continued on Page 20)

Upper left: Dr. James Maxwell, Karen White, and Larry Young explore ways the University can become more readily accessible to area businesses.

Right: Technology studies students Max Broman (middle), a junior from Lakeville, and Tanya Woyach (right), a senior from Grand Rapids, discuss Potlatch's machinery with an employee as they work on a project through the institute's TES group.





BUSINESS MATTERS

(Continued From Page 19)

Marketing Assistance and Research Solutions

An established student-directed organization, Marketing Assistance and Research Solutions offers customized market research to help businesses understand their market challenges, reach customers, and learn about existing or emerging markets. MARS conducts both primary and secondary research using phone, mail, or online surveys and focus groups.

Junior- and senior-level marketing students complete the projects for clients under the supervision of the faculty MARS director, who reviews projects to ensure clients are receiving comprehensive and valid research. The students are compensated for their work while gaining invaluable knowledge they can use in future careers.

"What we really do for the business is provide an objective view of their market question or project," says White. "On the flip side, it is excellent real-life project management experience for students."

Technical and Engineering Solutions

Technical and Engineering Solutions follows the MARS model by involving undergraduates in industrial technology, construction management, technology management, and applied engineering programs. Supervised by an on-campus project director and faculty experts, the students work with inventors, entrepreneurs, and businesses to address technology or engineering challenges.

Potential clients have contacted the newly formed TES for a variety of services, including the use of digital photos and video in company standard operating procedures so employee knowledge can be shared and transferred. Other inquiries have sought help with prototype construc-

tion and testing, model building, and the design of a manufacturing cell for an established business' new product line.

"The clients are looking at something new or different than they've done historically," White says of inquiries made for TES assistance. She notes that students typically explore how something can be done, what resources and people are needed to do it, and what it might cost.

360° Center of Excellence

Bemidji State is the lead institution in the 360° Center of Excellence, which was developed to spotlight manufacturing and engineering within the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) system. Working with nine community and technical college partners, the center serves the state and gives industry a voice regarding curriculum and labs in precision-based manufacturing, machining, welding, automation, robotics, engineering technology, and applied engineering programs.

The center also reaches into the state's school districts to provide a better understanding of the types of high-paying jobs available within Minnesota industries.



MARS students analyze research results.



The College of Business, Technology and Communication encourages early interest in manufacturing and engineering careers through hands-on events where grade school through high school students apply classroom lessons to real-life experiences.

360° reinforces the enhanced skill levels needed of employees in these jobs and develops an articulated curriculum that allows interested students to learn about manufacturing and engineering opportunities from the early grades through high school.

By following the guidance of industry leaders and experts, the center works with MnSCU campuses in adapting to shifts in labor force needs and ensuring that students enter the job market properly prepared.

Institute Connections

"We're the only one working on a connection between all of this," White says of the institute's outreach role. "If you have a technology idea, you may forget that you need a way to build it, a market for it, a business plan that's attractive to a lender, and well-trained employees. Even with great technology, you need other pieces to go with it.

"This is especially true in northern Minnesota, where businesses like Polaris, DigiKey, Marvin Windows, and Arctic Cat were grown by local people," Maxwell adds. "We want to make sure we have the next generation of those businesses. Having all these pieces under the college

gives us a focus, enabling the institute to thrive and be a force that supports businesses across the region."

Anticipating that the University's role in education and outreach will continue to grow and change, Maxwell has established an advisory council consisting of business and industry leaders to help shape the college's strategic plan for scholarships, professional development, programs, and leadership. The council also will help ensure that the college's goals and objectives are aligned with the University's strategic plan.

Besides launching the institute and forming the advising council, the college has a number of other initiatives underway. Maxwell notes that a proposed MBA will be presented for campus review this year; a FastTrac® program to help people pursue entrepreneurial dreams will be delivered as well as an Entrepreneurial Scholarship Pathways program to develop the economic and innovative intellect of high school students; and college support will continue for the IDEA competition, a project to grow the region's economy by assisting promising entrepreneurs in the local commercialization of innovative products.

"People may not understand how to forecast the future, how to budget, or how to keep pace with technology. They may not have the resources or time," Maxwell notes. "That's where the college and the University come in. We add considerable value to the larger community with scholarship, critical thinking, new ideas, and innovation."

HORIZONS

For more institute information, contact Karen White at 218-755-2208.

"People may not understand how to forecast the future, how to budget, or how to keep pace with technology. They may not have the resources or time. That's where the college and University come in. We add considerable value to the larger community with scholarship, critical thinking, new ideas, and innovation."

Dr. James Maxwell



Alumni

SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR 2012 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

The BSU Alumni Association and the Department of Athletics are seeking nominations of former BSU athletes, alumni coaches, and coaches or administrators who have made significant contributions to the development and success of BSU athletics.

The BSU Athletic Hall of Fame has three different awards for which an individual can be nominated: Athletic Hall of Fame, which focuses almost entirely on an alum's accomplishments while an athlete at Bemidji State; the Alumni Coaching Achievement Award for alumni athletes whose major accomplishments were as coaches after leaving BSU; and the Coaches Hall of Fame, which recognizes significant accomplishments achieved while coaching at BSU.

To be considered for the first two awards, former athletes must have earned an athletic letter at BSU, attended BSU for at least two years, and not have graduated from another university.

Nomination forms for each award are available on the Alumni Association's website at www.bsualumni.org. Please forward nominations no later than February 1, 2011, to the Bemidji State University Alumni Association, 1500 Birchmont Dr. NE, #17, Bemidji, MN 56601-2699.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS 2011 OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

Nominations are now being accepted for candidates to be considered for the Bemidji State University Outstanding Alumni Award. The honor recognizes alumni for exceptional service and contributions to Bemidji State University and to their community, state, and nation.

Presented annually during Homecoming, the Outstanding Alumni Award is the highest honor presented by the Bemidji State University Alumni Association. Individuals honored bring much recognition to their alma mater through distinguished and professional achievements.

All nominees must have graduated no less than 10 years ago from Bemidji State University. Nominations, accepted until February 1, 2011, can be made by anyone except an immediate family member. Current faculty, staff, and members of the Board of Directors of the Bemidji State University Alumni Association are not eligible for consideration. A nomination form can be obtained at www.bsualumni.org.

Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Attend

Athletic Hall of Fame February 18-19, 2011

Tentative Schedule of Events

Friday, February 18

Beaver Pride Lunch

Location to be determined, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Coaches update on the sports in season.
Recognition of Hall of Fame members and inductees.

Women's Hockey vs. Ohio State

Bemidji Regional Event Center, * 2:07 p.m.

Athletic Alumni Social

Location to be determined, 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
All BSU athletic alumni invited to attend.

Men's Hockey vs. Colorado College

Bemidji Regional Event Center, * 7:37 p.m.

Introduction of 2011 individual and team inductees prior to the game.

Saturday, February 19

Athletic Hall of Fame Brunch and Induction Ceremony

Location to be determined, 10:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs. Southwest MN State

BSU Gym, 4:00 p.m.

Introduction of 1985 and 1986 teams at halftime.

Women's Hockey vs. Ohio State

Bemidji Regional Event Center, * 2:07 p.m.

Men's Hockey vs. Colorado College

Bemidji Regional Event Center, * 7:07 p.m.

Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

Dale Baldwin '80, hockey; Billy Bryand '86, football; Lori Hutchins '79, volleyball, track, swimming; Peter Maus '79, baseball; Al Wolden '88, football

BSU Alumni Coaching Achievement Award

Jane Morgan '77, track and field

Team Hall of Fame

1985 and 1986 Women's Basketball Teams

John Glas Honorary Letterwinner Award

Vance Balstad '73

*The Bemidji Regional Event Center opens the weekend of October 15-16 and will house the BSU hockey program.

Alumni

BSU NIGHT WITH THE TWINS



BSU alumni helped fill Target Field seats on June 11 as *BSU Night with the Twins* was celebrated. Bucky threw out the first pitch, the alumni choir sang the "Star-Spangled Banner," and fans cheered on the Twins as they triumphed over the Atlanta Braves 2-1.



BSU Community Appreciation Day
Lakeside, just outside of Hobson Union, lower level
6:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 24
Free food, fireworks, and games for kids



Beaver Pride Walk for Women
Gillett Rec-Fitness Center, BSU
Saturday, September 25



Alumni Honors Banquet
John Glas Fieldhouse, BSU
6:30 p.m., Friday, October 1

Homecoming 2010
Back to the Future
Saturday, October 2



BSU Athletic Hall of Fame Weekend
Friday-Saturday,
February 18-19, 2011

Contact the Alumni Association office for information on each event

Phone: 877-278-2586 (toll free)

Email: alumni@bemidjistate.edu

Web: www.bsualumni.org

SAVE THE DATE
www.bsualumni.org

Class Notes

To have 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. Alumni names appear in bold.

2010 Krystle Lee Elsner and Tyler Glad were married last December during a ceremony in Jamaica. Krystle works at Range Center, Inc., which provides comprehensive services to adults and children with developmental disabilities. Tyler is a plumber employed by the school district in Hibbing, where the couple makes their home.

2009 Aron Bohnert of Glencoe has been hired as the new K-12 music teacher for the Littlefork-Big Falls school district. He is married to Samantha (Lemke) ... Amber Michalek married Cody Pitzen last winter in Grand Rapids. Amber is the office manager for the Max Mini Store in Squaw Lake, and Cody is an apprentice iron worker. They live in Squaw Lake ... Josh Tharaldson of Goodridge will be teaching science in grades 7 through 10 at Marshall County Central High School in Newfolden this fall.

2008 Jim Grimm was inducted into the Bemidji High School Athletic Hall of Fame. Grimm graduated in 1976 from BHS, where he competed in three sports. He later coached several Bemidji area youth and amateur teams as well as served for seven years as the head baseball coach at Bemidji State. He and his wife, Sue, live in Bemidji.

2007 Layne Sedevie has been named the head coach of the Bismarck (ND) Bobcats Junior A hockey team. Sedevie was an assistant coach working on the defense and goaltending units for the Bobcats last season when the team was the 2010 North American Hockey League playoff champions and winners of the Robertson Cup. Sedevie played for the Beaver hockey team from 2003-2007 and now lives in Bismarck, where he also attended high school ... Deidra Lies is serving a two-year Peace Corps assignment in Panama, where she will be working on environmental issues, reforestation, and education. She is from Fargo, ND ... Josh Harvey has joined the Hawkeye Insider staff for the University of Iowa athletic department and will provide content, mostly on recruiting, for the department's website. Hawkeye Insider is part of Scout.com, where Harvey oversaw the Texas Christian University and Southern Methodist University sites for over two years. He is also a sports producer and sports reporter

for WFAA-TV, the ABC affiliate in Dallas. He lives in Fort Worth, TX.

2006 Rodney Williams recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at the Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, IL. Williams studied and gained practical experience in naval customs, first aid, firefighting, and survival. He was also trained in shipboard, water, and aircraft safety during the eight-week program. Williams is from Inglewood, CA ... Patrick Lais is the new coordinator for the Heron Lake Watershed District. Lais had previously worked in health and fitness management programs with U.S. Air Force personnel in Alaska. At the watershed district, he helps seven counties with program collaboration, conducts outreach education, and writes grants. He lives in Slayton.

2004 Jake and Elyse (Cossais) Richman live in Wayzata near Lake Minnetonka. He owns 212 LLC, a jewelry distribution company based in Eden Prairie that has exclusive rights to distribute the Silverado Jewelry line to retailers in the United States. He was previously involved with high-end residential developments and investments in the metro area. Elyse is currently an upper management and customer relationship management software specialist with Klein Banks. She also has experience with branches of US Bank, Associated Banks, and other financial institutions ... Leslie Staker has joined Cass County Health, Human and Veteran Services as its Statewide Health Improvement Program grant coordinator. In this capacity, she leads a team working to reduce obesity and tobacco use in the county. She lives in Bemidji, where she implemented such health-focused events as Kids Day America, Creating Wellness, and the Bemidji Wellness Challenge ... Leslie Bauman has been named the Minnesota West Community and Technical College Teacher of the Year for 2009-2010. An accounting program instructor at the college's Granite Falls campus, Bauman has been teaching for 24 years and is the advisor of the Business Professionals of America, which recently won first place as a model chapter at the state leadership conference. Bauman is the past recipient of the Advisor of the Year Award for Minnesota. She and her husband, Mike, have seven children and live in Montevideo.

2003 Yilmaz Alimoglu had the book, *Deserts and Mountains*, published by iUniversity, Inc. The novel follows an expatriate Turk who embarks on a journey to settle a midlife crisis. Alimoglu grew up in Turkey but now lives in Mississauga, ON, Canada. He has a background in technology and business, and writes op-ed pieces for the *Toronto Star*.

2002 Brian Hill is the director of music ministries at Community Alliance Church in Perham. He taught orchestra at Bemidji High School following graduation and worked in youth ministry in Omaha, NE. Brian and his wife, Trudy, have four children ... Lisa (Simonet) Sjogren was crowned the senior women's 2010 National Long Track Speed Skating Champion (pack-style) and the senior women's 2010 National Speed Skating Marathon Champion last winter. She works for Osseo Area Schools as a technology integration specialist. She also manages the first district-wide, K-12 teacher development program that will receive the International Society for Technology in Education National Educational Technology Standards for Teachers Seal of Alignment. Currently only one university and two large corporations have earned this distinction. She lives in Albertville with her husband, Erik ... Dan and Barb (Lundberg, '01) Leritz live in Willmar with their daughter and newborn son. Dan teaches social studies at Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg High School, while Barb teaches English language learners for Willmar public schools ... Margaret Sharp has assumed the director's role at the Hubbard County Historical Museum. Prior to accepting the position, she taught in Duluth and coached speech in Park Rapids, where she resides with her husband Michael ... Stephanie Graham is now business manager for the Pelican Rapids school district where she oversees accounts payable, receiving, budgeting, and financial reporting. A resident of Frazee, she brings healthcare management experience to her new position, having worked at the Bagley Hospital, an Edina clinic, and St. Mary's Hospital in Detroit Lakes.

2001 Amy Jones, owner of Heritage Arts & Crafts, was named a 2010 Leech Lake Area Business Champion for her dedication to the Leech Lake Area Chamber of Commerce, Walker Rotary, community involvement, and volunteer efforts. She lives in Walker, where the business is located ... Andrea Horken has been hired to teach third grade within the Crookston school system. She brings three years of teaching experience in Bagley and six in McGregor to her new position.

2000 Ben Brovold of Walker will be serving as a scout for the Rochester Ice Hawks of the Minnesota Junior Hockey League. Brovold will be scouting players across northwest and north central Minnesota. He brings youth through high school coaching experience to the position. He is married to Jill (Lange, '03).

1998 Molly Aukes was selected by her peers as the Park Rapids Teacher of the Year. A veteran of 12 years in the Park Rapids school dis-

trict, Aukes teaches elementary physical education and also serves as the head volleyball coach for the high school. She and her husband, Cory ('92), live in Park Rapids with their two young children.

1997 Corby Koehler, recently promoted to major, is currently the supervisory instructor pilot for the Army Aviation Support Facility #1 with the Minnesota National Guard. He had served in the Minnetonka Police Department until 2003. He earned the Bronze Star Medal and Combat Action Badge during a deployment to Iraq, where he logged 300 hours of combat time in a UH-60 Blackhawk. His overseas assignments also included a tour in Kosovo. He has also flown support missions involving 23 wildfires, hurricanes Rita and Katrina, and the Red River floods of 2001, 2006, 2009, and 2010. He lives in Golden Valley with his wife, Angie, and two children.

1995 Heather (Flannery) Giese is a social worker for adults and children with developmental disabilities at Lac Qui Parle County Family Services in Madison. Her husband, Jason, is a job counselor with the Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council in Montevideo. The couple resides in Appleton with their three children ... **Liz Letson** is enrolled in the counseling psychology graduate program at BSU, where she works in the career services office as a graduate assistant. Her husband, Tom, is a pilot for Delta Airlines. They live in Bemidji with two teenage children ... **Steve Csargo** has joined Weichert Realtors-Tower Properties in Brainerd as a real estate agent. He brings to his new firm four years of residential sales experience in Staples, Motley, and the Brainerd Lakes area. He is from Browerville.

1994 Dean Esala of Tower has been awarded the Combat Action Badge and the Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster for his service in Afghanistan. The 22-year veteran of the Army National Guard has been serving as a transportation platoon sergeant and platoon leader in the country's Helmand Province since last summer, his third deployment in seven years ... **Jennifer (Bardal) Sanford** and her husband **Bill ('80)** live in Bemidji where she has worked part time for 13 years at United Way. He has worked at Lakeland Public Television for 25 years. Bill is active in the Bemidji Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, and Bemidji Leads. Two of their children remain at home, while one adult child is married and living in Tennessee.

1993 Julie Bjelland has published the book *Imagine Life with a Well-Behaved Dog: A 3-Step Positive Dog Training Program*. The book teaches basic training techniques, how to communi-

cate with a dog, and how to prevent as well as solve behavior problems. Bjelland has 15 years of experience as a dog trainer, including several at the renowned Guide Dogs for the Blind, an organization recognized worldwide for its quality dog training. She has two sons and lives in Fremont, CA.

1992 Chad and Laurie (Thorson) Schoeck are both teaching at the Little Falls Community Middle School. The couple resides in Little Falls with their two young children.

1991 Karen Busch will spend the 2010-11 academic year in Reykjavik, Iceland, as a writing specialist at the upper secondary school and university levels. Busch, who has visited Iceland with her mother, will be on sabbatical from her English teaching position at Lake Superior College. She lives in Duluth.

1990 Greg and Connie (Solberg, '87) Brickell both teach at schools in Newton County, GA. He teaches sixth-grade social studies, and she instructs a class of fifth graders. Greg also coaches middle school wrestling. They live in Conyers, GA, with their two children ... **Joan Bernatson** has joined the Oak Hills Christian College staff as the vice president for advancement. During her career, she has worked as a licensed child care provider, township board clerk, adjunct college instructor, business owner, and conference speaker. Her husband **Ron ('92)** is a high school chemistry and physics teacher in Fosston and also runs the family farm. They have four children and live in Bagley ... **Jeff Spry** has been hired as graphic design manager at Amsoil in Superior, WI, where he will guide the company's publications, advertising, website, packaging, and promotional materials. The former senior art director and team lead for the JPG Group, Spry lives in Duluth with his wife, Julie ... **Robert Enger** has been elected treasurer of the Minnesota State Bar Association. An attorney at the Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota office in Bemidji, he is on track to become the association's president during the 2012-13 year. He and his wife, Rebecca, live in Bemidji.

1988 Rick Mathwig is the new police chief for the city of Roseville, where he started working as a patrol officer in 1989. He advanced through the ranks as an investigator, use-of-force instructor, field training officer, sergeant, lieutenant, captain, and acting chief before being named chief. His training includes a master's degree in police leadership, administration, and education as well as training at the FBI National Academy. He and his wife, Kim, live in Woodbury and have two sons ... **Roy Booth**

and his wife, Cynthia, will be participating in the CONvergence Convention in Bloomington. Readings from his novellas *DAVI*, written with Brian Woods, and *Flesh of Fallen Angels*, authored with R. Thomas Riley, headline Booth's 13 events on the program. The couple lives in Hibbing.

1986 Wendy Meister is a stay-at-home mom for her two daughters and a frequent volunteer with the Girl Scouts. Her husband, Bryan, is vice president for information technology for LMS Intellibound, a third-party logistics company. The family calls Snellville, GA, their home ... **Polly (Puddicombe) Sheppard** teaches high school English at the same Deer River school she attended as a student. Her husband, **Mark ('85)**, is a physical education and health teacher in the Greenway school system. They have two daughters, including one attending Bemidji State. They reside in Grand Rapids.

1983 Janelle (Sing) Russell is teaching K-5 physical education and coaching middle school volleyball at the U.S. Army Base in Fort Riley, KS. She and her husband, Dan, have four children and live in Manhattan, KS ... **Heidi (Murray) Wenzel** still enjoys being a stay-at-home mom while volunteering at schools and leading a Bible study group. Her husband, Tom, is an engineer for the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. The couple has two teenagers and lives in Little Canada ... **Dan Ninham** has stepped down as head coach of the boys' basketball team at Cass Lake High School, where he compiled a 255-83 record in 14 years. The 2005 Class A Coach of the Year guided the Panthers to appearances in five of the last six Class A state tournaments, including two second-place finishes. Ninham teaches at the middle school in Bemidji, where he lives with his wife, **Susan ('00)** ... **Cassie (Gravel) Bornetun** teaches American history at the middle-school level and her husband, **Ron ('80)**, continues to work at Carter Day International, Inc. They have two grown children and live in Andover ... **Mark Houle** was honored as the Teacher of the Year by the Wadena County Soil and Water Conservation District in recognition of his long-term dedication to incorporating conservation education into his classroom and encouraging youth volunteer efforts. Houle has taught fifth grade in Sebeka for 24 years, and his classes have participated for 14 consecutive years in an educational program at the annual Conservation Day in Wadena. In addition to his classroom duties, he coaches the United North Central cross country and track teams. Houle lives in Menahga with his wife, Mary.

(Continued on Page 26)

Class Notes

To have 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. Alumni names appear in bold.

(Continued from Page 25)

1982 Steven and Bonnie Kay (Kowalski) Olmanson have two grown children and live in St. Cloud. Steve is an investigative sergeant for Sherburne County, while Bonnie is a technology integration specialist with the Onamia schools ... **Mark Storhaug** recorded his 200th career victory as the girls' head swim coach at Alexandria High School. Storhaug has coached the Cardinals for 26 years and guided the most recent team to a second-place finish in the state sectional meet. He and his wife, **Cynthia (Burggraf)**, live in Alexandria ... **Joy (Weston) Peters** teaches English for speakers of other languages in Prince George's County, MD. She has two children and lives in Bowie, MD ... **Lisa (Schmidt) Bodenheim** is serving as the acting pastor for the congregations of Peace United Church of Christ in Minnesota Lake and St. Paul's United Church of Christ in rural Minnesota Lake. After graduating from BSU, Bodenheim worked in social work settings before completing studies in 1996 at the United Church of Christ's United Theological Seminary. For 11 years, she was the pastor of two churches in Wisconsin and then served as a program worker for two years on Scotland's remote island of Iona, where facilities had been restored for worship renewal activities. Bodenheim, whose immediate family includes two adult children, has moved to the Peace Church's parsonage in Minnesota Lake.

1981 **Craig Stubbins** has spent the past 10 years as the principal engineer at QLogic Corporation in Shakopee. He and his wife, Jayne, have three children, including a son who graduated from Bemidji State in 2008. The family calls Eden Prairie their home ... **Matt Dahl** is currently employed by the Frito Lay division of Pepsico, USA. He also substitute teaches and coaches wrestling when he has time. Married to Jane, he has three children and lives in Cannon Falls.

1980 **Judy Comstock** retired this summer after a 33-year career in education, most recently as a counselor at Bemidji High School. She also worked at Elk River Junior High

School, Cass Lake High School, and Bemidji Middle School. She and her husband, Erling, live in Bemidji ... **Rohn Halvorson**, a sergeant with the Montevideo Police Department, has been chosen as the Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer for 2010 by the Minnesota Department of the American Legion. Halvorson plans to retire this year after a 30-year career on the Montevideo police force. Active in the community, he is a past commander of the city's American Legion, taught youth firearms for 28 years, and received an award for his involvement in constructing a community playground. He and his wife, Paula, call Montevideo home ... **Davy Nesmoe** has opened a chiropractic clinic in Hallock after previously operating a practice in Baudette, where he resides. Among other prior jobs, he served two years as a trainer for the Chicago Cubs.

1979 **Dave Randgaard** of Paynesville has retired from teaching in that city's elementary school but will remain active as a coach for the high school track team. He joined the district during the 1979-80 school year as a fourth-grade teacher and spent 31 years coaching track, including 24 as the girls' head coach. He also coached basketball for 25 years. In track, he guided his teams to the state true team tournament seven times and was named Section 5A Coach of the Year three times ... **Randy Fulton** worked at the NCAA Division I Men's Gymnastics Championships held last spring at West Point. Fulton is the owner of Vacation Sports, a premier sporting event management company specializing in triathlons, duathlons, and Twin Cities area running events. He and his wife, **Maureen McCall ('74)**, make their home in White Bear Lake.

1977 **Carla Marie Headlee** of Eden Prairie recently held a reading and signing for her book *Lifelines*, which examines the urge some women feel to create a family.

1976 **Barry Liimatainen** retired from teaching fifth grade in Thief River Falls at the end of the 2009-10 school year. Serving in the school district for his entire 35-year career, he had assignments at Knox, Northrop, and Challenger elementary schools. He also coached sixth-grade football and basketball as well as middle-school wrestling. He lives in Thief River Falls ... **Bruce Lund** received the Administrator of Excellence award by the Minnesota Association of School Administrators. The executive director and special education director for the Freshwater Education District, Lund was honored for his leadership, concern for students, and active involvement in professional

and community affairs. He has been with the district since 1995. He and his wife, **Evajoy**, reside in Staples ... **Val (Nadeau) Johnson** and her husband, Jon, were named Roseau County's 2010 Farm Family of the Year. The Johnsons ran a dairy business near Badger for 26 years before converting the homestead to a beef cattle operation in 2004. Val has taught in the Badger school system since 1976. The couple has three children and two grandchildren.

1975 **George Liapis** has retired after 29 years of teaching science at Marshall County Central High School in Newfolden. Before joining Marshall County Central in 1981, he taught in Ortonville. He lives in Thief River Falls but hopes to eventually return to his hometown of Bemidji.

1974 **Sue (Wright) and Vance ('73) Balstad** were recognized as Someone Special Volunteers in Bemidji, where they reside. The couple has been active for many years in the annual Fishing Has No Boundaries event for disabled individuals and as cooks for three fundraising golf tournaments benefitting BSU athletics. They are also involved with the Bemidji Car Show, the annual Kraus Anderson Fishing Tournament, and the Nymore Daze Celebration. The award is presented by Bemidji businesses ... **Norman and Karen (Murphy) Hilleren** have two grown children and live in Maiden Rock, WI. He teaches science at the high school in Spring Valley, WI, while she teaches physical education, health, and kindergarten for four-year-olds at an elementary school in Plum City, WI.

1973 **Laura Gaines** plans to continue traveling since retiring in 2008 after a 20-year career as an information technology manager at UPS. She has visited Europe twice with additional return trips on the calendar. She lives in Mahwan, NJ.

1971 **Nancy (Younggren) Skeim** is retiring after teaching 39 years in the Thief River Falls school district where her assignments included special education, fourth grade, and first grade. She and her husband, **Mitchell**, live in Thief River Falls ... **Tom Prosen** has retired as a math teacher and tennis coach in the Eveleth-Gilbert school system. Three of his boys' tennis squads made trips to the state tournament, with two earning fourth-place honors. At the school district for 29 years, he also spent a decade training teachers in the use of computers and led the development program of an educational computer software design company. He and his wife, **Diane**, live in Gilbert and have three grown sons ... **Oliver Perry** retired after serving

the Madison Metro School District for 33 years and serving 22 years in the U.S. Navy Reserve. He will make Madison, WI, his home base with travel and vacationing planned in the Caribbean ... **Mary Peterson** is retiring after working in the laboratory of First Care Medical Services in Fosston for 40 years. A widow living in Fosston, she has one daughter and one grandchild ...

Harry Carrell is chair of the mass communication department at Missouri Valley College. He also still enjoys playing music and restoring old cars. He lives in Marshall, MO, with his wife Laretta. They have one adult child.

1970 Maggie (Lynch) Corens enjoys traveling and staying in contact with many friends from BSU since her retirement in 2005 after 35 years in Wayzata public schools as an elementary teacher and media specialist. She and her husband, **Ken ('68)**, have two grown children and live in Wayzata ... **Bruce Lundsten** returned to live in his hometown of Williams in 2004 after teaching social studies for 30 years at Dakota Prairie High School in Petersburg, ND ... **Wayne Mortenson** of Carver has been selected for inclusion in the Waconia High School Hall of Fame. Starting with the district in 1970, he was a senior high English teacher, department chair, and head football coach. He became the district's first community education director in 1979 and served as the director of student activities from 1986 to 2001. He is celebrating 45 years of marriage with his wife, Katherine. The couple raised two children.

1969 Jan Anderson received the Northern Division Leadership Achievement Award from the Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association. The principal at Hughes Elementary in Red Lake Falls, Anderson was honored for her noteworthy contributions to the operation of effective school learning programs as well as improving education, communities, and the education profession. She lives in Thief River Falls with her husband, Bob. They have four children and two grandchildren.

1968 Arnie Nellis is retiring as an English and history teacher at Mesabi East High School in Aurora, where he resides with his wife, Jeani. His entire educational career was spent in the Aurora-Hoyt Lakes school district. Arnie and Jeani have three sons ... **Norman Malterud** is retired and living in Bemidji with periodic trips planned across the country.

1963 Elaine Naylor and her husband **David ('61)** recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They are both retired after lengthy careers in education that included stops in Little

Falls; Seattle, WA; and Borbliegen, West Germany. They moved to Rochester in 1970 where he taught in the middle and high schools, while she taught elementary education. The couple has three children and seven grandchildren. They plan to continue traveling internationally and add to the 90 countries they've already visited.

1962 Diane Hoselton Genova volunteers often in retirement to help with a fourth-grade reading program and at the local library. A widow living in Dundas, she has two children and as many grandchildren ... **Gwen Smith** has been selected by the *Grand Rapids Herald Review* as its 2010 Citizen of the Year. The first resident of Deer River to earn the honor, Smith has volunteered for more than 20 years at the Deer River HealthCare Center, including terms as president of its volunteers and vice chair of its board. She also served on the board of directors for Itasca County Hospice Partners, and was active in St. Mary's Catholic Church, the Council of Catholic Women, the Deer River Credit Union, and the Community Education Board. She and her late husband, Paul, raised three children.

1955 Luvern Eickhoff and his twin brother **Loran ('53)** celebrated their 80th birthdays in Branson, MO. Both have long since retired from teaching and coaching careers. Luvern lives in Bemidji with his wife, Avis, while Loran resides in Pequot Lakes with his spouse, **Joanne (Griggs, '53)**.

1952 Mary Fleener Anderson volunteers in retirement at a pre-school with four- and five-year-olds. She had taught in Grand Forks, ND, public schools for 30 years. She and her husband, Sidney, enjoy visiting their two adult children and three grandchildren.

1950 Doris Hazelton is now an octogenarian who lives on a farm near Lake Bronson. A widow, she travels to different parts of the United States and Canada with her sister and brother-in-law.

1940 LeRoy Maas and his wife Lillian recently celebrated 70 years of marriage. LeRoy, now 92, and Lillian married on June 7, 1940, in Cook. In 1943, the couple moved to Albert Lea where he had a long career in education and coaching. She was a homemaker and product researcher. They have four children, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. **HORIZONS**

IN MEMORIAM

John L. Alden '91, Hackensack, MN
 Thomas P. Baczewski '89, Parkville, MN
 Wesley J. Bakkum '87, Ada, MN
 Richard R. Bjornstad '67, Sierra Vista, AZ
 Elizabeth O. (Olsen) Bomgren '73, Fort Worth, TX
 Noma J. Burlingame '62, St. Paul Park, MN
 Robert Cline '56, Boise, ID
 Dr. Ronald F. Green '56, St. Peter, MN
 Avis B. Hadley '60, Bagley, MN
 Carole M. Hahn '70, Two Harbors, MN
 Laverne L. Harvey '49, Oil City, PA
 Esther F. (Carlson) Instebo '37, Seattle, WA
 Barbara K. Johnson '69, Newfolden, MN
 Betty J. (Van Middendorp) Kempe '73 & '80, Verndale, MN
 Eunice H. (Bergland) King '61, The Colony, TX
 Ronald L. Kristofferson '72, Brainerd, MN
 Lisa (Bailey) Laing '84, Red Wing, MN
 Frank J. Lamp '69, St. Paul, MN
 Harry J. Lillesve '51, Rochester, MN
 Gary W. Lutter '66, Cloquet, MN
 Bruce A. Makinen '85, Campbell, CA
 Nancy L. Millard '76 & '81, Walker, MN
 Darrel G. Naugle '73, Park Rapids, MN
 Florence M. (Raatikka) Nelson '66, Maple Grove, MN
 Frances Nikkari '63, Sebeka, MN
 Mary (Bonemeyer) Patton '84, Gallatin Gateway, MT
 Gladys S. (Gregerson) Paulson '59, Badger, MN
 Hazel (Mostoller) Rostivit '54, Grand Rapids, MN
 Richard J. Salmi '63, Bigfork, MN
 David A. Sampson '92, Chisholm, MN
 John J. Schmitz '74, Thief River Falls, MN
 James R. Sharp '59, Walker, MN
 Leonard J. Shearer '58, Park Rapids, MN
 Ken Sherman '50, Redlands, CA
 Verna (Penning) Smith '50, Murdock, MN
 Patricia (Ianni) Stanis '83, Northglenn, CO
 David Thireault '78, Sweet Home, OR
 Randy K. Wanek '77, Fergus Falls, MN
 Howard T. White Sr. '87, Cass Lake, MN
 Richard L. White '60, Thomasville, GA

Homecoming 2010 *October 1-3*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Beaver Pride Luncheon

New City Ballroom. \$8 per person.

Join other BSU athletic fans as they listen to coaches and student athletes talk about their upcoming season.

6:30 p.m.

BSU Alumni Association Honors Banquet

Beaux Arts Ballroom. \$25 per person.

Advanced registration required. Check the Alumni Association website for registration information at www.bsualumni.org.

Join alumni, faculty, and friends of Bemidji State University for the presentation of the 2010 BSU Outstanding Alumni awards.

2010 AWARD *Outstanding Alumni* RECIPIENTS

Dr. Gary Frazier '75

Associate Professor of Marketing
Marshall School of Business
University of Southern California
Rolling Hills, CA

Susan (Mattson) Halena '75

Managing Editor
St. Cloud Times
St. Cloud, MN

Ron Johnson '75

Design and Promotion Manager
Lakeland Public Television
Bemidji, MN

Scott Pearson '77

Sr. Marketing Representative
Federated Insurance Co.
Bemidji, MN

Dr. Tom Richard '66

Emeritus Professor of Math
Bemidji State University
Bemidji, MN

Captain David Schnell '83

Naval Commanding Officer
USS Peleliu
San Diego, CA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

9:00 a.m.

Homecoming 5K Run/Walk

8:00 a.m. Check In/Registration.

The \$10 registration includes t-shirt and beverages. Course includes a tour of campus.

For more information email rfulton@vacationsports.com.

9:00 a.m.

Class of 1970 40-Year Reunion

Reunion brunch for the 1970 class and the 1969 and 1971 wraparound classes.

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Homecoming Tailgate Party

Diamond Point Park, next to Chet Anderson Stadium. Co-sponsored by the BSU Alumni Association and Beaver Pride.

1:00 p.m.

2010 Homecoming Football Game

Chet Anderson Stadium. The BSU Beavers take on the Upper Iowa Peacocks.

3:00 p.m.

Lutheran Campus Center Open House

1221 Birchmont Drive. For all alumni, friends, and their families following the football game and continuing until 5:00 p.m. Join them for some munchies, reminiscing, tours of the building and good times. All are welcome!

5:00 p.m.

Football Alumni Reunion

Following the game. Elks Club, Bemidji. All football alumni are invited to attend.

8:30 p.m.

Beaver Block Party

On Beltrami Avenue between 3rd and 4th Streets in downtown Bemidji. Gather with friends for this fabulous street dance with live music. Major sponsors include Coca-Cola of Bemidji and Paul Bunyan Broadcasting.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

3:00 p.m.

Carl O. Thompson Memorial Concert

BSU Thompson Recital Hall, Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex. Tickets at the door.

For more information or to register for events, go to the Alumni Association website at www.bsualumni.org and click on Homecoming 2010 under "Coming Events."

BACK TO THE FUTURE



Hotel Room Blocks

Support these contributors to the BSU Foundation and take advantage of discounted room rates for alumni. When making your reservation at any of these hotels, ask for the BSU Homecoming rate (for double occupancy). Please make reservations no later than September 1, 2010.

AmericInn Lodge and Suites: (218-751-3000) \$90.00 + tax

Best Western: (218-751-0390) \$73.00 + tax

Hampton Inn: (218-751-3600) \$109.00 + tax

Holiday Inn Express: (218-751-2487) \$89.00 + tax

Super 8 Motel: (218-751-8481) \$74.98 + tax

University Bookstore Hours

Monday-Thursday, 7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Friday, 7:45 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Admissions' Campus Tours

Weekdays, 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.
First Saturday of each month, 11 a.m.

BSU Admissions Office

755-2040 (local calls) or
1-877-BEMIDJI (toll free)

Gillett Recreation & Fitness Center

Friday, 7:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Sunday, 1:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Come and enjoy a great workout with family and friends at the Gillett Recreation and Fitness Center during Homecoming weekend. By simply showing your BSU Alumni Association membership card at the door, you and your family will be admitted free of charge. Or, stop by the Alumni Office to pick up a pass.



BEMIDJI

STATE UNIVERSITY

1500 Birchmont Drive NE
Bemidji, MN 56601-2699



ADMISSIONS

Minnesota Educational Fair, BSU

Thursday, Sept. 23

Campus Preview Days

Fridays: Nov. 5, Nov. 19, Jan. 21, Jan. 28
Saturdays: Dec. 4, Apr. 2
Monday: Feb. 21

Academic Open House

Thursday, Oct. 21
Friday, Oct. 22

Spring Registration

Friday, Jan. 7

Admissions Tours

Monday-Friday
10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

First Saturday of each month
11:00 a.m.

For more Admissions info go to:
www.bemidjistate.edu/admissions/undergrad

CAMPUS CALENDAR

- Sept. 25 **Beaver Pride Walk for Women**
- Oct. 1-3 Homecoming
- Oct. 15 **BREC Opening Night**
BSU Hockey at the Bemidji Regional Event Center
- Nov. 5-6, 12-13 **The Butcher of Baraboo**, 7:30 p.m.
Main Theatre, Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex
- Nov. 14 **The Butcher of Baraboo**, 3 p.m.
Main Theatre, Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex
- Dec. 3-4, 10-11 **Madrigal Dinner**, 7 p.m.
Beaux Arts Ballroom, Hobson Memorial Union
- Dec. 5 **Madrigal Dinner**, 5 p.m.
Beaux Arts Ballroom, Hobson Memorial Union
- Jan. 10 **Spring Semester Begins**

For University events and news visit www.bemidjistate.edu

Secure Your Seat in History

Get Your Beaver Hockey Seasons Tickets – www.bsutickets.com