

A magazine for alumni and friends
SPRING/SUMMER 2018





PRESIDENT FAITH C. HENSRUD

Consider this edition of Bemidji State University magazine your official invitation to share in the celebration of BSU's 100th anniversary. Our alumni and friends are all members of the extended — and growing — Bemidji State family, and we hope you share our joy in this special milestone in the university's journey of learning, achievement and service.

Having launched our Centennial observance in April with an enthusiastic Kickoff Celebration, we will continue with events and activities into the fall of 2019. That will be 100 years after the students of Bemidji Normal School began their first fall semester amid the pines on the shore of Lake Bemidji. All of us who share Beaver Pride can be thankful for the accomplishments of our predecessors, confident that the university's mission remains focused on student success and optimistic about all that BSU can accomplish in the decades to come.

I believe you will find our university's many enduring strengths represented in these pages. For example, a story of intergenerational mentorship reflects the generosity of those who open doors for our graduates as they start their careers. Another article includes alums' recollections of their favorite professors, which underscore the absolutely essential role of our superb and dedicated faculty.

Included in news about the BSU Alumni & Foundation is an announcement of our new executive director for university advancement, Josh Christianson. He replaces the retiring Marla Patrias, whose knowledge and talents have made such a difference over the past 20 years. I am excited for you to meet and work with Josh and the advancement staff as they enlist the support needed to carry BSU into the future.

Please join with us, whether in person or in spirit, as we celebrate a Bemidji State Century. Your involvement and investment will help ensure that our founders' vision persists as we educate students to lead inspired lives.

Go Beavers!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Faith C. Hensrud". The script is fluid and cursive.

Dr. Faith C. Hensrud

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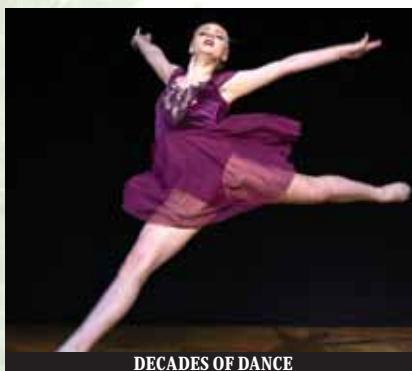
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CENTENNIAL KICKOFF



PAYING IT FORWARD



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BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY Magazine is produced by the Office of Communications & Marketing and the BSU Alumni & Foundation. It is published twice per year and distributed free to BSU alumni and friends. Direct comments to scott.faust@bemidjistate.edu or (888) 234-7794.



A member of the colleges and universities of Minnesota State, Bemidji State University is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity educator and employer.

**VOLUME 35, NO. 1
SPRING/SUMMER 2018**

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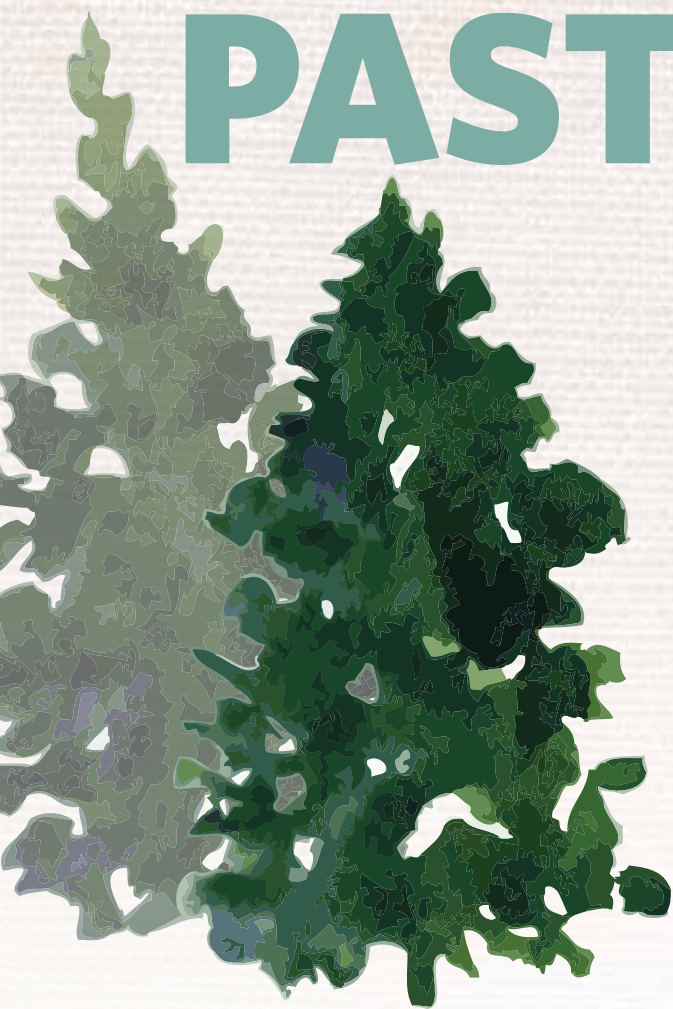
COVER ILLUSTRATION: "A Bemidji State Century," by Hope Wahl '17,
(See p.10 for information on how to purchase a poster with this illustration.)

A kickoff on April 12



Funtastic Dance Follies students perform a 1930s-era rumba to "Sway," with music by BSU's Blue Ice Jazz Band.

HOMAGE TO THE PAST *with an eye on the* FUTURE



History is not "some faraway land or parallel universe," President Dr. Faith Hensrud said at Bemidji State University's Centennial Kickoff Celebration on April 12. "In fact," she said, "every day, as we go about our business on this remarkable campus, we are walking in the very footsteps of the generations who came before us."

Bemidji State's past was quite present throughout that day, as the university formally launched an 18-month observance. It began its 100th anniversary that began a century after the school's groundbreaking and will conclude in October 2019.

Events started at 10 a.m. with a "History Walk" reception outside the Main Stage theater in the Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex. Students, employees and alumni viewed a display of decade-by-decade historical banners, as well as a table full of artifacts ranging from one of those notorious freshman beanies to the first edition of the Northern Student newspaper, from 1929.





President Faith Hensrud shares thoughts on the meaning of the Bemidji State Centennial.

The celebration opened at 11 with brief remarks by Hensrud, a student leader and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Trustee Roger Moe, followed by a multimedia extravaganza that alternated a historical video with music and dance performances.

Students in the Blue Ice Jazz Band, the Bemidji Choir and Funtastic Dance Follies troupe took the audience on a tour through time — from the Charles-



Dr. Jim Barta, dean of the College of Arts, Education & Humanities, and scholarship donors Geri and Darby Nelson inspect artifacts from the A.C. Clark Library archives at the "History Walk" on April 12.

ton of the 1920s to the hip-hop of the '90s. The choir, standing at the rear of the theater, concluded the hourlong event by leading the crowd in the school's Alma Mater, "On the Shores of Lake Bemidji," and "The BSU Fight Song."

The BSU Alumni & Foundation hosted a luncheon at the American Indian Resource Center that included a video interview with Dr. Art Lee, professor emeritus of history, and presentation of Golden Beaver medallions to alums of 50 years or more. BSU presidents emeriti Dr. Jon Quistgaard and Dr. Jim Bensen were also recognized.

Culminating the kickoff was a ribbon-cutting for Centennial Plaza, the newly renamed expanse between the upper and lower Hobson Memorial Union. Banners on light poles commemorate milestones in university history, including Bemidji's successful bid as the site of Minnesota's sixth school for teacher education.

"Without the determination of its proud citizens, Bemidji would not be home to this university," Hensrud said at the dedication, "because Bemidji Normal School would not have been founded in 1919."

President Faith Hensrud, center, prepares to cut the ribbon for dedication of the newly renamed Centennial Plaza on April 12. She is joined by, from left, President Emeritus Jim Bensen, Associate Vice President for Student Life & Success Jesse Grant, outgoing Student Senate President Ash Ullah, Hobson Memorial Union Director Nina Johnson, Executive Director of Communications & Marketing Scott Faust and President Emeritus Jon Quistgaard.



BSU presidential medallions through the years were among items on display.

A "History Walk" reception before a Kickoff Celebration event on April 12 in the Main Stage theater featured banners with key events from each decade.



Nancy Bensen, foreground at left, wife of President Emeritus Jim Bensen, was among guests at an April 12 "History Walk" reception in the lobby of the Main Stage theater at the Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex.



A century of Bemidji State students

UNITED BY **OPPORTUNITY**

Class photo,
May 1920.





Move-in Day, 2016.



Freshman move-in, 1960s.

OUTLOOK AND VALUES ENDURE

By Scott Faust

In the archives of Bemidji State's A.C. Clark Library is a 1941 doctoral dissertation by A.C. Clark that analyzes students at Minnesota's six state teachers' colleges.

Dr. Clark, who twice served as acting president of Bemidji State, compiled a statistical composite of students at his own college in 1935 that has distinct modern-day echoes:

- 87 percent of students on the Bemidji campus were born in Minnesota, Iowa or North Dakota. Twenty-one percent said both their parents were foreign-born — nearly all in England, Germany and Scandinavia.
- 62 percent came either from farms (a quarter of which were 80 acres or smaller), or from towns of fewer than 1,000 population. Sixty-four percent had ventured fewer than 50 miles from home to earn their degrees.
- 45 percent had at least four siblings, and 51 percent reported that neither parent had gone to school beyond eighth grade.

Though the past 83 years have softened those edges, Bemidji State students remain markedly homogenous in ethnicity, geography and socioeconomics. For that and other reasons, increased diversity is a leading goal in the university's new five-year strategic plan.

{ continued on next page }

“The wider community has the same value set. When you need something, the whole neighborhood comes running. Everybody knows each other here.”

— DR. RANDY LUDEMAN '85,
DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND RESIDENTIAL LIFE

But faculty and administrators say the identity of a “typical” BSU student goes deeper than their surname and the size of their high school class — or, for that matter, their ranking in it.

The educators’ admittedly unscientific consensus is that the modest background of a great many students – rural and suburban — helps them thrive on an egalitarian campus in Minnesota’s north woods, one large enough to offer what they want but not so large that they get lost in the crowd.

Regardless of whether they were academic or extracurricular stars in high school, many are in awe of what they are able to achieve, both at the university and after they graduate.

“They need something from us that students out of the Cities don’t need,” said Dr. Randy Ludeman ‘85, director of housing and residential life and a BSU employee for his entire career. “The wider community has the same value set. When you need something, the whole neighborhood comes running. Everybody knows each other here.”

Students’ work ethic, refreshing open-mindedness and self-motivation also were noted by Dr. Art Lee, Bemidji State historian and professor emeritus of history, in his book “The University in the Pines,” published in 1994 to mark BSU’s 75th anniversary.

Lee describes a relationship of respect between students and teachers that “has made Bemidji State a wonderful place to teach — and to learn.”

Calling them “scramblers,” he says students contribute to “a campus culture marked by a no-nonsense emphasis on materialism, promoting self-success measured by good jobs and dollars.”

“But not that many dollars,” Lee continues, “not that foolish notion of super-big-bucks dreams. ... Verily, life’s a struggle, school’s a struggle, but it’s worth it because there is a better life out there with a degree.”

Demography is the through-line from one era to the next, so it’s worth

pointing out that in Fall 2017, just under 12 percent of BSU students reported a non-white race or ethnicity, and a little more than 2 percent came from outside the United States.

In addition to being predominantly white, 45 percent still hail from communities north of U.S. Highway 10 in 2017 — in other words, from the northern half of Minnesota. But Twin Cities students make up a steadily increasing share. Back in 1999, a full 65 percent of students came from northern Minnesota.

Even more striking is the fact that among students who reported their parents’ educational attainment last fall, 53 percent said neither parent has a bachelor’s degree, and 14 percent said they are in the first generation of their families to even attend college. That latter number has barely changed since 1999, when it was 16 percent.

A.C. Clark Library, 2018.



Library in what is now Deputy Hall, 1920s.





Hobson Memorial Forest, 1949.



Hobson Memorial Forest, 2014.

The average ACT score of BSU's incoming students in Fall 2017 was 22, compared with 28 at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. BSU accepted approximately 89 percent of students who applied.

Dr. Jesse Grant, associate vice president of student life and success, said the university's employees share a genuine commitment to students' well-being.

"A large number of people who work here are first-generation," Grant said. "Their own experiences when they were students really resonate, so there's an easy connection there."

Added Dr. Tony Peffer, provost and vice president of academic and student affairs, "Our students by and large are oriented toward community, so that makes BSU's sense of community sort of doubly appealing to them. At least at some level, we give them more of a feeling of home — another hometown, maybe."

Several BSU educators said students' origins — whether from small towns or families with small-town roots, and whether first- or second-generation college students — foster a level of personal accountability to parents, other relatives and even their hunting buddies back home.

"Most of our parents are making a sacrifice to send their children here," Peffer said. "They've got a good job, but they didn't get to go to college, or they didn't get to finish, and they're not rich.

"So I think maybe there's some sense of — I hear it from some students I talk to — a sense of obligation. They're not privileged, and they're conscious of the fact that a lot of people, or at least one or two people, are really investing in them. It's money they could use for something else."

Peffer, who has only been at Bemidji State for a year but who himself grew up on a small town in Kentucky and is a historian by training, said perhaps because of students' backgrounds, or having experienced the region on vacation, they are willing to get involved on campus and in the wider community.

"I think it might be because of where they come from, at least partly, but it's pretty easy to give them opportunities to make a difference in the community," he said. "They value the communities around here in large part because they come from the communities around here."

Nina Johnson, director of the Hobson Memorial Union, said students' personal humility means they sometimes need a nudge to step into leadership roles they wind up embracing.

"It's almost a little hard to get them to define themselves as leaders," she said, "because I think they don't want to take

that crown in some ways. Humility is definitely a huge part of our culture on this campus compared to other places I've worked."

BSU President Emeritus Jon Quistgaard said that over his 30 years at BSU, ending in 2010, he watched thousands of graduates depart with a "competitive toolkit for success in the 21st century."

"They were comfortable with a world of continuing 'change' and prepared to make a difference," Quistgaard said.

"We will continue to value our students' wonderful attributes, even as we also work to better include and reflect our region's American Indian communities, the growing diversity of Minnesota and the mosaic of humankind."

— PRESIDENT FAITH HENSRUD

Staying true to that promise will demand that Bemidji State move beyond reliance on a particular cultural pathway for its students and their success, without losing touch with its historic benefits, said current President Faith Hensrud.

"We will continue to value our students' wonderful attributes," she said, "even as we also work to better include and reflect our region's American Indian communities, the growing diversity of Minnesota and the mosaic of humankind."

CENTENNIAL POSTERS FOR PURCHASE



An original illustration that presents a fanciful version of Bemidji State's journey across the decades is available for purchase by alumni and others. It is featured on the cover of this edition of Bemidji State University magazine.

The work by design graduate Hope Wall '17 is printed on high-quality, 18-by-24-inch felt paper that is suitable for framing and ideal for home or office display.

Each unframed poster comes protected by a cellophane sleeve and packaged in a mailing tube. The purchase price is \$15, including postage.

To order one or more posters, send a check to BSU Poster, 1500 Birchmont Drive NE, Bemidji, MN 56601-2699 or visit www.bsualumni.org/posters to order by credit card online. Email scott.faust@bemidjistate.edu or call (218) 755-2986 for questions.

SHARE YOUR BSU STORY

Observance of the BSU Centennial will continue throughout the coming year, including several activities during Homecoming 2018, Oct. 5-7 (see pp. 38-39 for more information).

As plans develop, information will be shared with alumni through the Alumni & Foundation e-newsletter and the BSU magazine.

Bemidji State invites you to share your own memories and those of your family members. We welcome photographs, video, texts and keepsakes that bring the university's history to life. We promise to take extra care to preserve and return them as requested.

Send information and materials to BSU Centennial, Bemidji State University, 1500 Birchmont Dr. NE #17, Bemidji, MN 56601-2699; email to centennial@bemidjistate.edu or call Brett Bahr at (218) 755-2599.



Turtle River Nightclub, 1955, shared by Lucy (Rydeen) Aasland '57 of Thief River Falls.

ONLINE RESOURCES



- **Centennial website:** The site www.bemidjistate.edu/100 features highlights from university history as well as scores of photographs, recollections and stories from BSU's distinctive past and present.
- **Video:** A 10-minute video slideshow titled "A Bemidji State Century" is available on Vimeo at <https://vimeo.com/264438143>. Also, the entire Kickoff Celebration program can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/273734583>
- **Social media:** Watch the BSU and BSU Alumni & Foundation Facebook pages and other social media channels for near-daily Centennial tidbits, including facts, photographs, stories and event information.





50th anniversary of women's athletics

HONORING THE **PIONEERS** KICKOFF SOCIAL SET FOR OCT. 6

The barrier-breaking history of women's intercollegiate athletics at Bemidji State University is coming into focus as former athletes and coaches prepare to celebrate the program's 50th anniversary during the coming year.

A kickoff social with a short program to honor the founders is scheduled for 5 p.m. Oct. 6 at the American Indian Resource Center, after the Homecoming football game. Registration details will be announced later this summer.

Organizers plan to chronicle the story throughout the 2018-19 athletic seasons and at the Athletics Hall of Fame event on Feb. 16, then culminate with three days of festivities on Aug. 23-25, 2019.

In collaboration with women athletic alumni, the BSU Alumni & Foundation is also inviting gifts and pledges toward a five-year fundraising goal of \$500,000 to support female student-athletes and their sports.

"We are starting to contact women who participated in BSU athletics," said Dr. Donna Palivec, professor emerita of human performance, sport & health and BSU head volleyball coach from 1994 to 2001.

"We want all our former women athletes to have the opportunity to help with planning and join us in celebrating this milestone."

Although intramural and extramural women's sports date back to the early years of the university, women did not compete at the varsity level until 1969.

Not coincidentally, 1969 also was the year when women's physical education faculty at Bemidji State College joined with seven schools in North Dakota and Minnesota to establish the Minn-Kota Conference, one of the first of its kind across the country.

Title IX, the federal law that revolutionized athletics opportunities for young women and girls, was not adopted until 1972.

Bemidji State started with four women's sports: basketball, field hockey, volleyball and swimming. Golf, gymnastics and tennis were added soon after. Today, BSU women compete in eight sports in the NCAA's Division I and a ninth, hockey, at the Division I level.

CELEBRATION AND SUPPORT

Alumni and others interested in supporting women's athletics at Bemidji State University are encouraged to give or pledge to a fundraising drive in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the program's founding in 1969. The effort will continue into 2022, the 50-year anniversary of Title IX, a federal law that mandated equal competitive opportunities for women and girls.

Organizers also invite former BSU athletes to join in planning a yearlong observance that will culminate with a three-day celebration on Aug. 23-25, 2019.

For information about giving and getting involved in other ways, contact Brett Bahr, director of alumni relations for the BSU Alumni & Foundation. Call (218) 755-2599 or email brett.bahr@bemidjistate.edu.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY



WOMEN'S ATHLETICS

1969-2019

Paying it forward

OPENING DOORS *Alums reach back to help promising grads*

By Cindy Serratore

Peter Hills graduated from Bemidji State University in 2017 with a double major in business administration and accounting, and aspirations of becoming a public accountant. His goal: joining a mid-size company within a day's drive from his hometown of Grafton, N.D.

Hills wasn't intent on starting out with a large, prestigious firm. But two successful BSU alums had already blazed that trail and wanted to help pave the way for others like them.

David Odegaard '66, a retired partner at Deloitte, a global giant in financial consulting, and Xihao Hu '97, an executive vice president at TD Bank, one of North America's largest banks, believe in paying it forward.

But that gets ahead of this story, which began with the generosity of others more than five decades ago.

Odegaard was the first beneficiary.

A standout athlete, he came from a small-town farm family and attended Bemidji State on an athletic scholarship. He played football and basketball and graduated with a degree in accounting and economics. He never met the people who contributed to his scholarship but has been forever grateful.

Midway through his highly successful career, Odegaard funded several BSU scholarships, including one in accounting, so he could help others find a foothold to begin their careers. In 1996, Hu, an accounting student and native of Shanghai, China, received one of those scholarships. Odegaard, who spent most of his career with Deloitte in Seattle, happened to be based in Minneapolis at the time.

"One day, I got this letter from this young Chinese student," he recalled. "He had received a scholarship, and he wanted to meet me. I got his transcript and there wasn't a B on it. And his CPA score was the highest in the state. Everyone could see his potential."

While Hu earned a position with Deloitte on his own merits, Odegaard helped him make a successful transition by introducing him to colleagues. Odegaard and his wife, Brenda, also hosted Hu and his

parents for dinner at their Minneapolis home shortly after he joined Deloitte.

Hu well remembers that dinner — and the unlikely journey that brought him to the table.

An only child from a family of modest means, he came to Minnesota in 1994 after reading a newspaper advertisement about Bemidji State. Tuition seemed affordable, so Hu decided to come in pursuit of a quality American education.

"I did not realize how small Bemidji was compared to Shanghai," said Hu, who recalls reluctantly boarding a small turboprop in Minneapolis. "I didn't know what I was getting myself into, and winter came a lot sooner than I expected."

At the time, Hu's English was "passable" but such courses as philosophy, creative writing and Dr. Art Lee's history courses were challenging.



Xihao Hu '97, left, and Peter Hills '17 are pictured at TD Bank's U.S. headquarters in Cherry Hill, N.J.

"I didn't really know what I was getting into, but it has opened my eyes. It makes me feel like the sky is the limit."

— PETER HILLS '17

"I read a lot of books for his classes: 'Catch 22,' 'Grapes of Wrath' and Dr. Lee's 'The Lutfisk Ghetto,'" he said, "all great books that gave me a lot of perspective."

What especially impressed Odegaard was how well Hu did in spite of the language barrier.

And he continued to excel. In 2000, Hu transferred to Deloitte's Chicago office and in 2007 he became a partner in Washington, D.C., with the firm's financial accounting and reporter services, all by the age of 33.

Hu joined TD Bank Group (formerly Toronto-Dominion) in 2010 as senior vice president and chief accountant in Toronto, a position he held until he was transferred to the bank's U.S. subsidiary in 2015. He was honored in 2012 with the BSU Young Alumni Award.

In 2016, he returned to Bemidji for Homecoming and participated in an Alumni Leaders in the Classroom session, which is where Hills entered the unfolding story.

Hills met Hu in a small-group session that followed the leadership panel and expressed his interest in an internship. Hu forwarded his name for an interview at TD Bank.

"I just let the process play out, but afterward, I heard Peter was the best in the interview," Hu said. "His grades speak for themselves, but more important than grades is how he carries himself."

Hills completed an internship with TD Bank last summer, and with the endorsement of the bank's U.S. chief financial officer, he started in October as a financial analyst at the U.S. headquarters in Cherry Hills, N.J., just outside Philadelphia.

"Had I not met Xihao, I never would have looked at TD Bank," Hills said. "I didn't really know what I was getting into, but it has opened my eyes. It makes me feel like the sky is the limit."

Although Hu has sentimental ties to Bemidji State, that's not the only reason he was interested in BSU graduates.

"Bemidji has a very rigorous program in accounting," he said. "I want those kids to have every opportunity to compete at the big firms."

Hu, who happens to work out of the same building as Hills, is pleased to be joined by a new BSU graduate.

"I like to keep the bank here with good talent," he said.

Hills never imagined a career so far from home but is happy that Hu gave him a chance.

"At TD, the learning potential is unlimited, pretty much all thanks to Xihao," he said. "He took me and my boss to lunch when I got to TD and gave me a tour of the executive floor. I am grateful that he can take the time to make me feel important, even with his crazy, busy schedule."

Although Hills has never met Odegaard, he shares in the spirit that his fellow alum set in motion — of helping future graduates make successful starts to their careers.

And he hopes to pay it forward himself.

"I see how important networking is and how connections can really get you far when you're just starting out," Hills said. "I want to give back all that's been given to me."

Odegaard would like to see this tale of kindness and connections at Bemidji State continue to come full circle.

"You give someone a hand and they turn around and give someone else a hand," he said. "It's the way it should be."




David Odegaard '66

Xihao Hu began his financial career at Deloitte in 1997, soon after his graduation from Bemidji State.

Decades of dance

FUN KEEPS THE FOLLIES *Fantastic*



Students and alumni perform during the 2018 Funtastic Dance Follies on April 27-29 in the BSU Gym.

By Maryhelen Chadwick

Acherished 74-year Bemidji State University tradition began inauspiciously as a student dance performance assigned to a new physical education instructor.

In 1945, despite having little dance experience and even less guidance, Dr. Myrtie Hunt collaborated with choir director Carl O. Thompson to present a version of "The Nutcracker Suite."

One of the eight brave students in that show was Marion Fenson, who became Marion Christianson. "Mrs. C.," as she was known by dancers, took over as show director in 1978. In 1995, she was succeeded by her daughter, Suzy (Christianson) Langhout '93, who continues as co-director with her husband, Jon Langhout '91.

Along the way, what is now known as "Funtastic Dance Follies" has made indelible memories for generations of Bemidji State students.

"It shaped my life in ways that are hard to explain, but it was an important part of all the great things that happened in Bemidji for me," said Dave Thomas '79, a BSU swimmer and assistant swimming coach.

"It taught me about poise and kindness and how to step out of the box and do something I was not comfortable with, and be successful at it. I figured if I could be the dance teacher's partner and perform in front of an audience, I could do just about anything."

In its early decades, the show's music and choreography were tailored to a predominance of women dancers.

Christianson said in a 2011 interview that the bond of a favorite teacher and favorite student she had with Hunt helped get the program off the ground.

"She always called me her 'kid,'" Christianson recalled. "Between the two of us, we got everything going. My sister and mother made the costumes. We worked with what we had. That was a fun production, and it was very well received."

When she became director, Christianson decided the Dance Follies needed to be "Funtastic." She hoped to attract more dancers, especially men. She moved from having a different theme every year to encouraging dancers' creativity under the "fun" umbrella.

"My purpose in changing the name was that it should be fun for the dancers to do and a lot of fun for the audience to watch, kind of a funtastic experience for everybody," she said.

The name change, along with square dance and social dance numbers that Hunt had introduced, helped the program grow. It also helped that football coach Chet Anderson taught square dancing and encouraged his players to participate.

Male and female athletes from hockey, swimming, diving and other sports trained with Christianson to learn new physical skills.

Groups across campus also took part, and students from individual residence halls teamed up to prepare dance numbers.

Suzy Langhout remembers one year when all the resident assistants were in the show. They raced back and forth between numbers so someone would always be on duty, but it didn't quite work out.

"One group didn't get back in time for the other group to get there," she said. "Oh, they were mad. They missed their beach number."

Miscues and mishaps are part of Dance Follies lore — from theft of a reel-to-reel recorder that contained music for an entire show during the Hunt years, to electrical overload in Memorial Hall that almost kept one of Christianson's shows in the dark, to a dancer getting stuck in an Elmo costume under Langhout's watch. But always, the show has gone on.

Routines have celebrated popular culture and cultural heritage. Through the decades, audiences were exposed to dances from Ukraine to Tonga. They reflected such trends as disco in the 1970s, country line dancing in the '80s and hip-hop in the '90s.

In recent years, one fashion that's new again is swing dancing. Members of BSU's Swing Dance Team provide a strong

foundation for the Follies through their group and audience participation numbers, with help from the Ballroom Club and BSU Dance and Cheer teams.

Langhout and her husband, who goes by the nickname "Hondo," provide professional guidance to these groups outside the two-week window when the Follies come to life.

"We have been able to add some more technical dances," Suzy said. "We're doing tougher stuff than we've ever done."

The couple, who operate the Suzy & Hondo School of Dance in Bemidji, say the students' range of experience strengthens the program: Beginners learn and more skilled dancers have a place to perform.

Though some productions have showcased highly trained dancers, the Langhouts said Funtastic Dance Follies have always been about community.

As Christianson said, "Anybody can be in it. There are no restrictions — even if they haven't had a single dance class and they just become a part of it because it looks like fun. Come to the practices, we'll work with you."

Suzy (Christianson) Langhout, left, and her mother, Marion Christianson, right, join Dr. Myrtie Hunt at an event in her honor.



Key dates in the history of Funtastic Dance Follies at Bemidji State University:

1945

Professor Myrtie Hunt directs the first Modern Dance Recital, held in the Bemidji High School Auditorium.

1977

Pat Schneider directed the dance show, assisted by Marlene Techau.

1978

Marion Christianson becomes director and renames the production "The Funtastic Dance Follies"

1981

Dance Follies move from Memorial Hall to the BSU Gymnasium to accommodate multiple performances with audiences up to 1,000.

1980-92

Follies "Road Show" takes dancers to schools throughout Minnesota and Canada to demonstrate the value of dance.

1995

Christianson's daughter, Suzy Langhout, takes over as Follies director.

Centennial Performance

To celebrate the history of the Funtastic Dance Follies, alumni performers are invited to participate in a 2019 event on April 25-27. Contact Suzy Langhout at suzy.langhout@bemidjistate.edu

Co-directors Jon "Hondo" '91 and Suzy Langhout '93 perform during the 2018 Funtastic Dance Follies, April 27-29.



Students perform "Singing in the Rain" during a late-1970s Funtastic Dance Follies performance, joined by director Marion Christianson, center.



Making an impact

THANKS FOR THE **MEMORIES** *Alumni recall favorite faculty and staff*

Bemidji State University magazine invited several alumni to share memories of a BSU faculty or staff member who made an especially big impression on them during their years on campus. Here are some of the responses:

PHILIP DAHL

Professor emeritus of TRIO/
Student Support Services, 1985-2011

"When I came to Bemidji State, I was a first-generation college student in the TRIO program. As a result, I was assigned to TRIO adviser Phil Dahl. Phil was nearing the end of his career at BSU, but you never would have guessed it, because he treated me like I was the first and only advisee he ever had. I always looked forward to our meetings because he took the time to get to know me personally and keep me on track.



"Our conversations about my career path would often intertwine with a discussion about fishing on the Rainy River or spending time in the woods. As northern Minnesota natives, Phil and I would talk as if we were sitting on the front porch of a cabin after the morning hunt. This was a much needed escape for me during my time as a new college student. I think Phil knew that and found a way to weave those topics into conversations about my school work and academic goals. He reinforced many lessons that my parents had

taught me, 'Work hard, be true and believe in yourself.'"

— **Brett Bahr '09, '11**, BSU director of alumni relations, Bemidji

DONNA WALICZEK

Adjunct faculty, human,
performance, sport &
health, 2015-present



"A professor at BSU who impacted me a great deal throughout my four years ('09-12) was Donna Waliczek. Donna and I had a lot in common from the get-go. She was a volleyball player and coach, and I played volleyball and wanted to be a successful coach someday. We both had a love of sports, teaching and exercise, so right away I knew she'd be a great mentor as I pursued my degree in physical and health education with a specialty in coaching. I had her as a professor every year I was in school.

"It was nice as the years went on and we got closer to becoming teachers, the class sizes got smaller and more personal — more time to learn and ask and share experiences with Donna. She was always willing to make time to chat about anything and everything with her open-door policy. She guided me through all of the courses and student teaching, making the process less intimidating and more enjoyable. I truly believe she wanted to help everyone to be the best teacher they could be when they were out in the real world — and I believe she helped make me a great teacher."

— **Bethany (Thompson) Larson '12**, physical education/
coaching major, Berwyn, Ill.



DR. DON CLOUTMAN

Professor emeritus of biology, 1998-2012

"I came to BSU from Grafton, N.D., because I wanted to be able to hunt and fish while I went to school. Don Cloutman came to BSU when I was a junior. He came in with instant credibility because he had been a working biologist who decided he wanted to be a professor. Everyone believed in him immediately because he had real-world experience.

"He focused on how things we were learning would help us in our careers. We weren't learning to get a grade. We were learning how to deal with the real world — how to deal with work and how to deal with others. In addition to teaching us about aquatic biology, he offered a lot of fatherly lessons. In a small-world turn, I recently had a chance to catch up with Professor Cloutman, who now lives in Kansas, at a hockey tournament in East Grand Forks, N.D. Turns out his grandson is one of the players on my son's hockey team that I coach."

— **Brent Rud '00**, Bemidji, divisional director, Beltrami County Environmental Services, Bemidji



CRAIG HOUGEN

Professor emeritus of human performance, sport & health, 1989-2015

"Coach Hougen always made me feel welcome, as if I were one of his own kids. He was that way to all of his athletes. Looking back on my undergrad years, I miss running for Coach Hougen and being a part of a team. It was a rewarding experience that I will always be proud of, knowing I represented not only my family, but my communities of Standing Rock and White Earth.

I loved the small class size at BSU. I always felt comfortable asking questions during class and was able to connect with my classmates. I made friends at BSU in track and field and from my courses in what was called Indian Studies back then. It was actually from those courses that I developed strong writing skills because of the technical language used in tribal laws, codes and regulations we had to understand. I know it's from those courses that I have had the wonderful experiences that led me to my current career in public health."

— **Pearl Walker-Swaney '11**, birth doula, Fargo, N.D.

SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

We invite you to share your recollection of a Bemidji State faculty or staff member whom you found especially memorable — one who you believe made an especially important difference in your experience as a student, your life after graduation or both. We will share it in social media, on the Centennial webpages or in an upcoming edition of this magazine. Email your recollection to centennial@bemidjistate.edu or mail it to **Bemidji State University, 1500 Birchmont Drive NE #17, Bemidji, MN 56601**. Please include your year, major, occupation and city of residence.

Dr. Annie Henry, professor emerita of professional education, 1987-2007.

Making an impact

PROFESSOR LEE BELOVED FOR BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE

"He was my favorite professor. Everyone showed up for class because he made it fun to learn. He always told us what a great job he had." — Cheryl Koplin, '86



Dr. Art Lee is interviewed on Feb. 28 at the David Park House on the BSU campus. Watch a video of this interview at: <https://vimeo.com/264514679>

Dr. Art Lee, professor emeritus of history, came to Bemidji State University in 1959 after teaching high school for six years in Osseo, Wis. His lively lectures attracted students from all majors until he retired in 1995. In a Feb. 28 interview, Lee explained his unique approach to teaching: "Don't use notes. Don't stand behind a lectern. Tell jokes. Laugh. Do dumb things."

In addition to captivating students in the classroom, Lee wrote "University in the Pines," a definitive history of Bemidji State that was published for the university's 75th anniversary in 1994. He also authored "Lutefisk Ghetto: Life in a Norwegian American Town," published in 1978. Many students recall reading his humorous take on life in an ethnically specific Wisconsin town at the end of World War II.

When the BSU Alumni & Foundation posted Lee's photo on its Facebook page, many alumni and former colleagues took the opportunity to share their memories and appreciation of him. Here is a sampling of those:

"I'll always remember the story he told about the WPA workers building Memorial Hall and not being able to get the big cement mixer out after the doors were put in place." — Philip Dahl, '75

"In his large survey classes, somehow he knew everybody's name and where they were from. Even the little towns." — Michael Frickstad, '76

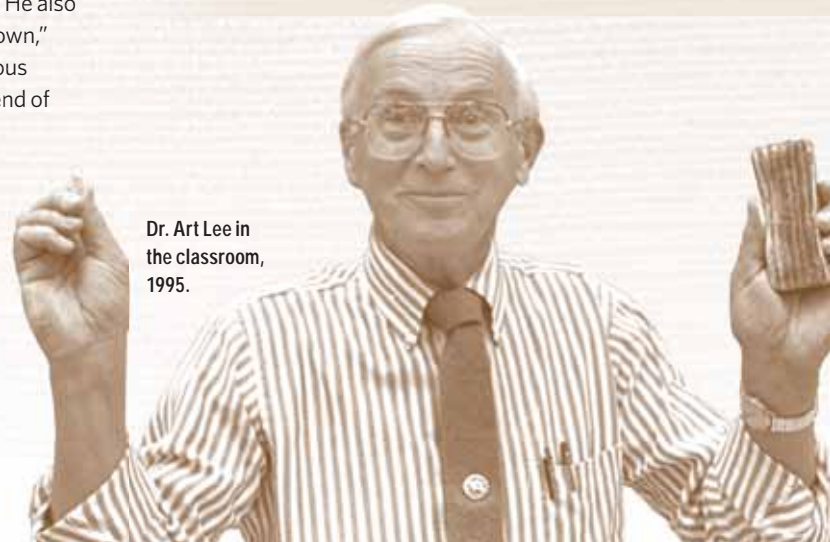
"One of the best profs ever! I loved his 11 o'clock history class. I just walked past that room with my son on his freshman orientation and registration!" — Pamela Miller Raden '86

"Great professor. Loved his music, props, outfits, stories and enthusiasm for learning. I looked forward to his class!" — Stacy Bahr '97

"Returned from the service in September '70; enrolled in his WWI class, as well as one on big bands. Certainly helped in the transition from military to civilian life. Nam grad '69-70." — Michael Liapis '74

"It was rare at BSU, or any college I'm sure, to look around the room and see nearly every student either smiling or intensely focused on what they were hearing. But you could always observe this in Art's lectures." — Eric Brugman, '97

"He was an outstanding professor. I enjoyed his lectures, and he brought the subjects into perspective and humility. Being in his class was totally uffda in the best sense of the word." — Todd Palm '95



Dr. Art Lee in the classroom, 1995.

BSU FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT



Dr. Valica Boudry, associate professor of integrated media, received a top paper award in the Communication Ethics, Activism and Social Justice Interest Group. She presented her research paper, "The Inside Out: The Need for Different Journalism Ethics in Ethnojournalism," at the Central States Communication Association conference April 5 in Milwaukee.

Dr. Stephen Carlson, professor of music, performed April 22 as a guest pianist with True Concord Voices & Orchestra musicians at the final concert of the 2017-18 classical music series at Dove of Peace Lutheran Church in Tucson, Ariz. The series is part of a fundraiser that supports Tucson-area nonprofit organizations.



Dr. John Ellis, assistant professor of history, gave a presentation titled "Feminism and American Religion in the Revolution's Wake, 1780-1840s" on March 26 as part of a Bemidji Public Library lecture series

celebrating Women's History Month. The lecture explored the relationship between American religious ideals and the roots of the feminist movement in the early 19th century.

Dr. Eric Forsyth, professor of human performance, sport & health, published three chapters in sport management-related textbooks. They are: "Interscholastic Athletics" with two co-authors in the sixth edition of "Contemporary Sport Management," published in April; and "Mossy Oak" and "Bass Pro Shops" in the second edition of "Branded: Branding in Sport Business."



Dr. Angela Fournier, professor of psychology, and graduate student Emma Pasiuk published "Human-Animal Interaction and Metaphor in Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy: Empirical Support

for the EAGALA Model," which examined variables in equine-assisted psychotherapy and learning, in the Human-Animal Interaction Bulletin with two co-authors.

Dr. Debbie Gueda, professor of biology, **Dr. Donna Pawlowski**, professor of English, and **Dr. Colleen Greer**, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, delivered two presentations at the Campus Compact annual conference, held March 25-28 in Indianapolis. They gave an oral presentation, "Creating Community and Civic Engagement Begins with Institutional Infrastructure: Working From the Inside Out," and a poster presentation, "Uncovering Salient Issues Through the Eyes of Campus and Community Members."

Dr. Kathryn Klement,

assistant professor of psychology, presented three papers at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, April 12-14 in Chicago. They were:

"Expectations of Resistance to Sexual Assault: Female vs. Male Victims," "Playing the Game: How Sexual Narcissism Relates to Pick-up Techniques," and "The Fault in Our Agency: Ambivalent Sexism and Abortion Stereotypes."



Dr. Elizabeth Kujava, associate professor of criminal justice, presented the initial results of a pilot program being used to evaluate pretrial risk to the Cass County board in April. Cass is one of five Minnesota counties participating in the pilot instead of using a state program for evaluating which inmates to release while waiting for courts to process their cases. In the pilot, high-risk offenders are kept in jail, while most low- and moderate-risk offenders are released. All defendants on pretrial supervision have the option to seek services for mental health, chemical dependency, education, transportation, housing and other support.

Dr. Kelly La Venture, assistant professor of business administration, received a \$200 scholarship and Best Paper, Second Place, for the refereed study "Cultural Property Value as Antecedents of Tourist Consumption Value and Visit Intention," which she presented April 21 to the Korea America Hospitality & Tourism Educators Association with two co-authors. In March, La Venture traveled to Finland to present her studies on destination promotion at the JAMK University of Applied Sciences in Jyväskylä and her book, "The Human Factor of Profitability," in classes at Tampere University of Applied Sciences in Tampere.

Dr. William "Bill" Scheela, professor emeritus of business, published "Business Angel Investing in Vietnam: An Exploratory Study," with two co-authors in the Journal of Private Equity. Scheela also received a grant from the China Europe International Business School in Shanghai to study investment strategies of foreign venture-capital funds in China. His research will include field studies in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen and Hong Kong. He also presented in November at two conferences in Hanoi, Vietnam: "Business Angel Investing in Vietnam: An Exploratory Study" at the Business and Management: Framing Compliance and Dynamics international conference; and "Formal and Informal Venture Capital in Emerging Economies in Southeast Asia" at the Attracting Angel Investment for Start-up Development: International and Vietnam Experience conference.



Debra Sea, assistant professor of integrated media, received awards for Best Practices: Innovating Teaching & Pedagogy and the Dr. Paul Dunn Emerging Scholar Award at the 2018 Small Business Institute Annual Academic Conference, held Feb. 14-17 in Corpus Christi, Texas. She also was elected to the institute's Board of Directors as vice president for membership.



Ryan Webber, adjunct instructor of music, and **Dr. Miriam Webber**, assistant professor of music, along with BSU student Noah Harstad, performed with the Brainerd-based Heartland Symphony April 6-8. The ensemble played music by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov and Gabriel Fauré along with a new piece by Minnesota composer Flannery Cunningham. Ryan Webber also delivered lectures on Gustav Mahler and Kurt Weill prior to the Minnesota Orchestra's March 15-17 performances of Gustav Mahler's Titan Symphony.



CARLEE WASCHEK

Carlee Waschek came to Bemidji State University because she wanted to do something different with her art — something she had never considered before. Bemidji State's exhibit design program fit the bill.

"I had no idea what it was," Waschek said. "I just knew it involved 3-D modeling and no one else was doing it and I wanted to learn."

The Pequot Lakes native transferred from Alexandria Technical and Community College to pursue a BSU degree in graphic design with an exhibit design emphasis in the School of Technology, Art & Design (TAD). She received a Rich and Marcella Sherman Scholarship for the upcoming year.

"When I started designing with 3-D modeling, it became a new passion," Waschek said. "I just like learning how to create a trade-show experience, how every room you walk into should create an experience, make people feel a certain way from the lighting to the furniture. It should all lead back to the design style."

Now a senior with plans to graduate in 2019, Waschek is spending her summer in New Jersey as an intern with Impact XM, a leading exhibit design firm. On campus, she works as a student designer with Michael Lee, BSU coordinator of design and publications. She was the lead designer for BSU's 2018 Student Achievement Day in April.

"Carlee is a very deliberate designer, meticulous and thoughtful," Lee said. "When she came from Alexandria, she had all the technical skills to be a good designer and a portfolio that could have gotten her a job in the real world."

Waschek said she appreciates her professors and BSU mentors.

"They really support us," she said. "I talk with them all the time about what I should do and where I want to go with my career."

Last year, she joined the BSU Design Guild and helped coordinate TAD Talks, a TED Talk-like event at BSU that features presentations by design professionals. Next fall, she and a group of TAD students will lead the guild together. On her own, she has created a series of YouTube videos about fashion and makeup.

Her dream job: combine graphic design, video editing and exhibit design and work for a big cosmetic company so she can explore makeup as art. For now, she plans to soak up all the knowledge she can and do good work.

"What I want others to feel about my work is my passion and happiness," she said. "I like trying new things. And I don't want anything to be dull or plain Jane about what I do."

Shawn Campbell is grateful to Bemidji State University, where he found the kind of hands-on learning that first got him interested in a media career as a student at Bemidji High School. He expects to pursue a career covering professional sports or producing other live coverage.

"You kind of get a rush doing live production because you know people are watching, and you want it to look good and sound good," said Campbell, who will graduate in December with a degree in mass communication. This summer, he started a part-time radio position as a news director with Paul Bunyan Broadcasting in Bemidji and is doing a variety of work for Lakeland Public Television.

After taking a break from his studies at St. Cloud State University, Campbell transferred to Bemidji State, where the breadth of opportunities reenergized his career aspirations. He covers Beaver football, basketball and hockey. He has also been sports director and station manager at KBSU-TV, a student-run station.

Last year, he hosted a series of KBSU roundtable discussions featuring community guests. He also provided live coverage of the BSU Student Senate debate and a fall gubernatorial candidate forum. Before he graduates in December, he hopes to host a cultural program featuring some of his BSU international friends who share his passion for cooking.



SHAWN

"I've gotten comfortable behind the camera or in front of it," Campbell said. "I like everything about mass communication — the live stuff, the writing, the editing and just seeing the final product."

For one of his classes, he produced a documentary on Bemidji Brewing Company and in January won a Minnesota Newspaper Association award for his writing in the Northern Student Magazine. He credits professors like Dr. Valica Boudry for pushing him out of his comfort zone and Roger Paskvan for helping him hone his technical skills.

In Campbell's biggest assignment yet, he put all those skills to the test. He stepped up and coordinated the entire live video production for the BSU Commencement ceremony when a staff member was unavailable at the last minute. Campbell had just one day to prepare.

"It was kind of crazy," he said.

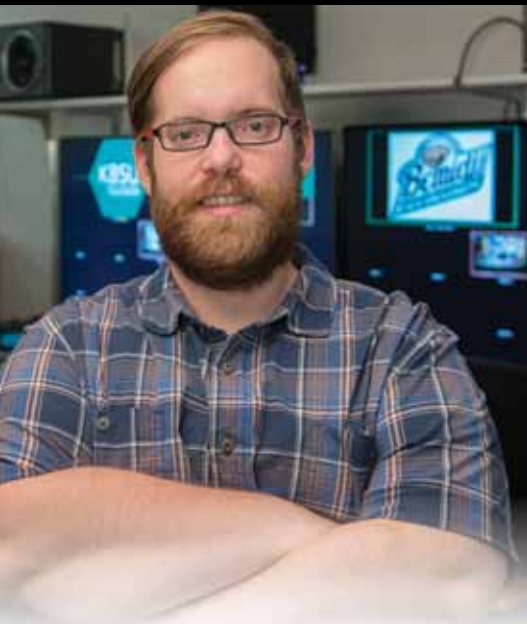
"For a student to be in charge of such an important event ... and to figure it all out in one day, is a big deal," Boudry said.

"Shawn is pretty unflappable, a great quality to have in our line of work. He is a true professional."

Campbell enjoys being immersed in the community and collaborating with his professors.

"You can tell they really care about you," he said.

SHAWN CAMPBELL



KATTI RENIK

Katti Renik was a dance major at the University of Wyoming when she decided to give up her pointe shoes for a pair of fishing waders.

Renik, who grew up on a trout farm in western Nebraska, graduated from Wyoming in 2012 with a Bachelor of Science in fisheries. She spent a year helping her dad raise trout and then a summer at an Alaskan salmon hatchery where she met Evan, her husband and kindred angler.

Last year, the couple moved to Minnesota — he for a forestry job, she to pursue a graduate degree in aquatic biology at Bemidji State University. She will graduate in 2019 and plans to continue her work improving fisheries habitat.

Renik and Dr. Andy Hafs, associate professor of biology, are conducting a two-year study along the North Shore of Lake Superior on the relationship between beavers and brook trout. Hafs works as the primary investigator, while Renik leads the field work.

"The public is really pushing for some data on brook trout," Renik said. "A lot of literature says beaver dams warm temperatures too much for brook trout, which like cooler water. But it seems to be regional. Out West, the beavers are good for trout. I'm really excited that we will have some beneficial data about what's going on along the North Shore."

Renik's work was featured on public television's "Prairie Sportsman" program in March. She also wrote an article for a women's fly-fishing magazine, presented at a January wildlife conference in Milwaukee and co-authored a paper to be published in the North American Journal of Fisheries Management.

"For her to have a paper accepted in a quality fisheries journal is impressive," Hafs said. "She has a lot of important data on the North Shore region. For her thesis, one chapter is required. She has five, and the writing is amazing. She has really good ideas, and her data analysis is really good. She teaches me things."

Renik is looking forward to another summer of field work. "I'm sure people wonder what that crazy girl is doing floating around a beaver pond," she said. "But I love what I do."

At Bemidji State, Renik prefers warm boots over dance shoes. She learned to ice fish and cross-country ski and appreciates the beautiful campus and opportunities she has found there.

"One of the greatest things about Bemidji State is its community," she said. "Dr. Hafs, my professors, fellow graduate students and so many wonderful and great people from different departments who have helped me and set me up for success."



This architect's rendering shows the new Hagg-Sauer Hall, scheduled for completion by Fall 2020.

State approves \$22.5M for a new Hagg-Sauer Hall

When Gov. Mark Dayton signed Minnesota's 2018 state bonding bill into law on May 29, Bemidji State University took a major step toward completion of a brand new Hagg-Sauer Hall and renovation of four other academic buildings by Fall 2020.

After more than five years of planning and delay, the \$825 million bonding bill adopted by the Minnesota Legislature included \$22.5 million to demolish the existing 48-year-old Hagg-Sauer Hall and replace it with a new, smaller and state-of-the-art learning center on the same lakeshore site. The project also will fund significant upgrades in the A.C. Clark Library, Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex and Bensen and Sattgast halls that include study spaces adjacent to faculty offices.

Classrooms in the original 82,000-square-foot

Hagg-Sauer building, completed in 1970, have poor wheelchair access, lack flexibility for group study and are not outfitted with modern interactive learning technology. The lakeshore building has also been plagued by basement water seepage, contributing to more than \$9 million in deferred maintenance.

The new building, just 27,700 square feet, will have a variety of flexible learning spaces and state-of-the-art technology. Its energy-efficient design features extensive windows overlooking Lake Bemidji and native plant landscaping that will connect with the expanse of Lakeside Lawn.

Plans call for Hagg-Sauer to be demolished as soon as July 2019, with the goal of having the new building open for classes in Fall 2020.

Malhotra named permanent chancellor of Minnesota State

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees voted March 2 to name Dr. Devinder Malhotra as chancellor of the Minnesota State system through 2021. Malhotra, who had served as interim chancellor since August 2017, was permanently appointed after the board turned down three finalists.

Before becoming interim chancellor, Malhotra held leadership positions at other Minnesota State universities, including from 2014-16 as interim president of Metropolitan State University and from 2009-14 as provost and vice president for academic affairs at St. Cloud State University. He also served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern Maine, associate dean of the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Akron and a tenured professor of economics the University of Southern Maine and the University of Akron.



Dr. Devinder Malhotra



President Faith Hensrud congratulates an American Indian graduate at commencement on May 4.

Class of 2018 sets record for American Indian graduates

Fifty-six American Indians were among nearly 1,100 graduates invited to Bemidji State's 99th Commencement, held May 4 in the Sanford Center arena. Previously, the most native graduates in a single year was 43, in 2016.

BSU Professor Emeritus of English Will Weaver delivered the Commencement address as the recipient of BSU's 36th Distinguished Minnesotan award. He challenged the Class of 2018 to be open to surprise and chance and remain aware of people around them. Also addressing the Class of 2018 were Daniela Maltais, a graduating psychology major from Bemidji, President Faith Hensrud, Minnesota State Trustee Roger Moe and BSU Alumni & Foundation Board President Peggy Ingison.

Commencement has grown so large since moving to the Sanford Center in 2010 that, for the first time, BSU required tickets for admission. Each graduating senior was allocated four tickets, and the Records Office was able to accommodate students who required additional seating for their families. According to the Sanford Center, 3,354 people attended this year's ceremony.



Bemidji Choir members visit St. Peter's Church in Riga, one of the stops on their performance tour of the Baltic States.

Bemidji State choirs perform in Baltic States on May 12-15

The Bemidji State choirs began their summer with a six-day European tour, performing in the Baltic states of Latvia and Estonia under the guidance of Dr. Dwight Jilek, assistant professor of music and director of choral activities.

The BSU tour, which was part of the American Celebration of Music concert series, opened May 12 with a performance at St. Peter's Church in Riga, a building that dates to the 13th century. On May 13, the choir performed at St. Anna's Lutheran Cathedral in Jelgava, Latvia. The tour concluded May 15 with a performance at the Tallin Dome Church, completed in 1240.

The choirs chose the Baltics as a destination partly thanks to a BSU residency in March by internationally renowned Latvian composer Ēriks Ešenvalds.

Center for diversity and equity opens in upper Hobson Union

Faculty, staff and students celebrated the opening of Bemidji State's Center for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Jan. 11.

The center was established to encourage support and respect for all aspects of campus diversity in keeping with the university's Shared Fundamental Values of civic engagement and leadership and international and multicultural understanding.

Located in the upper Hobson Memorial Union, it provides a safe and welcoming space for diverse students and student organizations, while encouraging activities and programs that raise awareness of and celebrate difference within the campus and wider communities.



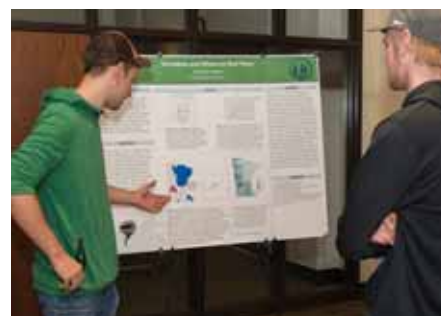
Student Senator Kale Hennek, who helped lead support for a Center for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, speaks Jan. 11 at the center's opening, joined by Dr. Jesse Grant, left, and center coordinator Dr. Brian Xiong.

Student Achievement Day sets new standard for participation

A record number of Bemidji State students presented academic research and creative talents on April 4 during the 19th annual Student Achievement Day.

Nearly 300 participating students from a wide variety of academic majors gave nearly 150 presentations, poster displays, art exhibits and musical performances.

Students shared research on such subjects as U.S. income polarization, live-cell imaging of a protein called TCL, fish house rentals at the BSU Outdoor Program Center, training for bystander intervention in sexual assault cases, and the relationship between student employment and academic success.



A student shares his research poster during Student Achievement Day on April 4.

Northern Student wins five Minnesota publication awards

The Northern Student, Bemidji State's monthly student magazine, received five awards in the Minnesota Newspaper Association's Minnesota College Better Newspaper Contest, announced at its January convention in St. Paul.

The magazine was recognized for general excellence, and four individuals won awards in the competitive categories of Use of Information Graphics and Graphic Illustrations; Arts & Entertainment Story; and Feature Photo.

Hope Wall, a 2017 graduate who created an illustration used to celebrate the BSU Centennial, won first place in the Graphic Illustration category, and Tony Grobove, a senior in marketing communication from Burnsville, won first place in the Feature Photo category.



Hope Wall '17 won first place for this cover illustration on the April 2017 edition of Northern Student magazine.

Recent appointments

These individuals have been appointed to permanent administrative positions over the past six months:



Jesse Grant

Dr. Jesse Grant **Associate Vice President** **for Student Life & Success**

Dr. Jesse Grant was named associate vice president for student life & success in April. He had served as interim dean of students since January 2017. Grant will lead student affairs functions that include the Gillett Wellness Center, Hobson Memorial Union, Housing & Residential Life and the Student Center for Health & Counseling. He also chairs Bemidji State's Student Success Council, a pilot program aimed at increasing student retention. Grant has 23 years of experience in higher education administration. He has a doctorate in higher education leadership from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, a master's degree in student development in postsecondary education from the University of Iowa and a bachelor's degree in sociology from Kent State University.



Joseph Ritter

Dr. Joseph Ritter **Dean, College of Individual** **& Community Health**

Dr. Joseph Ritter in May was named dean of the College of Individual & Community Health. He previously was provost, dean of academics and the Edith and Lewis White Distinguished Professor of chemistry at Principia College in Elsah, Ill., where in 1995 he began 23 years in academic and administrative roles. Ritter earlier worked in artificial intelligence for Amoco Oil's research and development department and as a process control engineer and an operations engineer for Whiting Refinery. He has a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the University of Illinois and a master's degree in computer and information science and a doctorate in chemical engineering, both from the University of Delaware.



Ann Humphrey

Ann Humphrey **Assistant Director, American Indian** **Resource Center**

Ann Humphrey became the American Indian Resource Center's first assistant director in March. A member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Humphrey came to BSU after three years as admission and outreach coordinator at Leech Lake Tribal College in Cass Lake. She oversaw student recruitment, admissions and outreach, while also working to help students complete their degrees. Humphrey has a bachelor's degree in vocal music education from the University of Minnesota.



Cornelia Santos

Dr. Cornelia Santos **Lead Faculty, Niizhoo-gwayakochigewin**

Dr. Cornelia "Corrie" Santos was hired in January as lead faculty member for Niizhoo-gwayakochigewin, a unique academic program that brings indigenous perspectives into environmental sustainability initiatives. She came to Bemidji State from the University of Colorado, where she was a postdoctoral fellow at the Centers for American Indian & Alaskan Native Health. Santos has a bachelor's degree in biology & chemistry from Metropolitan State University of Denver, as well as a master's degree in environmental science and a doctorate in education, educational leadership and innovation, both from the University of Colorado at Denver.



Brian Xiong

Dr. Brian Xiong **Coordinator, Center for** **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**

Dr. Brian V. Xiong was named coordinator of the new Center for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in December. He previously served as chief diversity officer at Minnesota State Community and Technical College in Moorhead. He has a bachelor's degree in justice administration and sociology from Southwest Minnesota State University, as well as a master's degree in multicultural and ethnic studies and a doctorate in counselor education and supervision and student affairs in higher education, both from Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Awards recognize employees' excellence in service and spirit

Bemidji State recognized 61 employees with 690 combined years of service, nine faculty members who received emeriti status, 14 retiring staff members and winners of the university's Awards of Excellence at a campus-wide breakfast on April 26. Award recipients were:



Distinguished Service

- Carol Nielsen, professor of business administration
- John Swartz, university photographer

Outstanding Contribution

- Sandra Beck, facilities services supervisor, Physical Plant
- Dr. Thomas Beech, professor of political science
- Dr. Shannon Norman, assistant professor of human performance, sport & health

Excellence in Teaching

- Dr. Andrew Hafs, associate professor of biology

Spirit of BSU

- Angie Gora, summer program director
- Grounds and facilities crew, for 2018-19 snow removal



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BSU SPORTS

"Hit King" Litchy recognized for team-leading performance

Scott Litchy capped his collegiate baseball career as Bemidji State's all-time leader with 216 hits, 153 RBIs, 135 runs, 45 doubles, 35 stolen bases, 30 home runs and nine triples in 629 at-bats. Following a 2018 season in which he led the Beavers with a .331 batting average, .589 slugging percentage, .423 on-base percentage, 50 hits, 36 runs, 33 RBI, 21 walks, 11 stolen bases, 10 doubles and nine homers, Litchy was selected First Team All-NSIC by league coaches.



Scott Litchy

McAllister makes All-NSIC with 36 starts and 35 hits



Kelsey McAllister

Junior **Kelsey McAllister** started in 36 games for Bemidji State Softball, all but three as first baseman, and finished fourth on the team with a .313 batting average. McAllister was fifth at the plate with a .429

slugging percentage that yielded 35 hits, including seven doubles and two home runs. Such efforts earned her Second Team All-NSIC honors.

Track and field athletes dash and throw for program records

Bemidji State Track and Field had its best outdoor season since 2011 under the direction of second-year coach Kevin Kean. Not only did nearly 20 BSU student-athletes compete in the NSIC Outdoor Championships, they claimed four top-eight finishes, including a school record in the 4x100-meter relay by **Cheri'a Adams, Kelsey Hurley, Jada Barker** and **Venice Stewart**. The sprinters trimmed .20 off the program mark with a fourth-place time of 47.17. The season's other program records were: **Gena Baklund**, 165 feet, 3 inches in the hammer throw; **Stewart**, with 12.10 and 7.71 marks in the outdoor 100- and indoor 60-meter dashes, respectively;

Aneesa Tucker at 2:18.11 in the 800 meter; **Adams** with 36-9.75 in the triple jump; and the team of **Christa Benson, Hurley, Tucker** and **Stewart** at 3:59.18 in the 4x400-meter relay.



Members of a school-record 4x100-meter relay team are, from left, Cheri'a Adams, Kelsey Hurley, Venice Stewart and Jada Barker.

Whitecloud makes NHL debut

On April 5, Bemidji State defenseman **Zach Whitecloud** became the ninth Beaver to skate in the NHL when he competed with the Las Vegas Golden Knights. He debuted with 16:42 of ice time, posting a team-best +3 plus/minus rating as the playoff-bound Knights beat Edmonton 4-3. Whitecloud signed a three-year, entry-level contract with Vegas after helping lead the Beavers to a 16-14-8 overall record and fourth-place WCHA finish in 2017-18. He follows in the BSU footsteps of **Jim McElmury** (1967-71), **Dale Smedsmo** (1969-72), **Gary Sargent** (1972-73), **Joel Otto** (1980-84), **Andrew Murray** (2001-05), **Matt Climie** (2004-08), **Matt Read** (2007-11) and **Brad Hunt** (2008-12).



Former Bemidji State defenseman Zach Whitecloud skates for the Las Vegas Golden Knights on April 5 in his NHL debut against the Edmonton Oilers.

Krause and Famestad named BSU's 17-18 Athletes of the year

Soccer's **Miranda Famestad** and football's **Jake Krause** were named 2017-18 Athletes of the Year at the annual Beaver Nation Celebration. Famestad, a D2CCA First Team All-American, First-Team All-NSIC selection and NSIC Defensive Player of the Year, captained Bemidji State to a 15-1-4 record and its first NCAA Tournament. Krause, a D2Football.com All-American Honorable Mention and All-NSIC First Team pick on the offensive line, helped lead a 2017 offense that ranked third in the NSIC in points (35.3) and rushing yards per game (202.5). Also at the April 16 banquet, soccer forward **Allyson Smith** and football running back **Andrew Lackowski** were selected as Newcomers of the Year, while **Lauren Bench, Anna Fobbe** and **Ben Skaar** took Scholar Athlete of the Year honors.



Miranda Famestad



Jake Krause

BSU Tennis wins 10 and makes semifinals at NSIC tournament

Bemidji State Tennis capped a third straight 10-win season beating Minnesota State University, Mankato for the first time since 2004. The team's 7-4 NSIC record was its best since the league expanded in 2009. BSU tied for fourth in final standings and earned its fourth consecutive NSIC tournament berth. BSU was defeated in the semifinals by eventual champion Augustana University. In the postseason, **Zoë Lindgren** was selected Second Team All-NSIC and **Hannah Alme** and **Ariadna Lopez-Simo** both earned Honorable Mention — all for singles play.



Offensive tackle Brandon Schindler '18, left, participates in a May 11-13 mini-camp with the Indianapolis Colts.

Photo courtesy of the Indianapolis Colts.

Three Beavers join NFL minicamps and vie for place on fall rosters

2018 Bemidji State graduates **Jake Krause, Blake Holder** and **Brandon Schindler** were all invited to NFL off-season rookie minicamps in May. Draft picks, undrafted free agents and other invitees vie for a training camp invite. Krause was at the Kansas City Chiefs' rookie camp May 5-7 and the Chicago Bears' on May 11-13. Holder was with the San Francisco 49ers May 4-6, and Schindler joined the Indianapolis Colts May 11-13.



CAMPUS





HAPPENINGS

❶ First-Year Faculty Appreciation Luncheon on April 27. ❷ "Pirates of Penzance" opera dress rehearsal in Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex on Feb. 28. ❸ Beaver Freeze ice-fishing tournament weigh-in on Jan. 27. ❹ Alumni Arch on Dec. 27. ❺ Mindfulness Meditation on April 10 in the Crying Wolf Room. ❻ Native Nursing Lounge on Jan. 30 in Bensen Hall. ❼ Academic Advising & Registration on April 6 in the Beaux Arts Ballroom. ❽ Carol Struve exhibit opening on April 3 in the Talley Gallery. ❾ International Student Organization Lunar New Year Celebration on Feb. 16 in the American Indian Resource Center. ❿ Stride Into Spring 5K/10K on April 21 on Birch Lane. ⓫ Festival of Nations on April 13 in the Beaux Arts Ballroom. ⓬ TAD Talks on April 26 in Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex. ⓭ Nursing pinning ceremony on May 3 in the Beaux Arts Ballroom. ⓮ Book sale at A.C. Clark Library on Jan. 24. ⓯ SunSplash on April 25 on the Lakeside Lawn. ⓰ Student Leadership Awards Celebration on April 17 in the Beaux Arts Ballroom. ⓱ Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service on Jan. 15 at the Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area.



ALUMNI NEWS

2018 Distinguished Alumni to be honored at Honors Gala

Bemidji State University will present the 2018 Distinguished Alumni awards at the Honors Gala on Oct. 5 in the Sanford Center.

The two Outstanding Alumni are:

- **Thomas J. Heaviland '80** of Carlsbad, Calif., owner and president of Heaviland Landscape Management in the San Diego area.
- **Patrick Pelstring '76** of Mound, president and CEO of National Renewable Solutions LLC, a wind and solar energy developer that works with landowners and businesses to develop renewable energy projects.

The Young Alumni Award recipient is **Dr. Nicholas Phelps '05** of Blaine, director of the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species

Research Center and assistant professor in the University of Minnesota's Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology.

New this year, the 2018 Professional Education Hall of Fame will be held during the Honors Gala. This year's honoree is **Dr. Brenda Child '81** of St. Paul, associate professor and chair of the Department of American Studies at the University of Minnesota.



2017 Galen Nagle golf tournament at Bemidji Town & Country Club

Beaver Pride golf events are just getting started

With the June 15 Gordy Skaar tournament already in the books, five more dates are still ahead on the 2018 Beaver Pride Golf Tour. Not only do these events offer a great summer of Minnesota golf, but participation also increases support for Bemidji State Athletics.

- **July 13** — 21st Annual Galen Nagle Memorial Golf Tournament, Bemidji Town & Country Club; register by July 3.
- **July 21** — 7th Annual Jeff "Bird" McBride Memorial Golf Tournament, Oak Marsh Golf Course, Oakdale; register by July 11.
- **Aug. 3** — 10th Annual Men's Basketball Alumni & Friends Golf Outing, Headwaters Country Club, Park Rapids; register by July 24.
- **Aug. 25** — 11th Annual Ed Sauer Tournament, Tianna Country Club, Walker; register by Aug. 15.
- **Sept. 8** — Third Annual Baseball Golf Tournament, Castle Highlands Golf Course, Bemidji; register by Aug. 29.

To register, visit:
www.bsualumni.org/2018-beaver-pride-golf-tour. For more information, call (218) 755-3989.

Twin Cities-area chapter again welcomes new students

For a second year, the Twin Cities Area Alumni Chapter will host incoming Bemidji State students, their parents and even a friend at two send-off picnics in August.

The events, both from 6-8 p.m., will be on Aug. 2 at Elm Creek Park (Deer Picnic Site) in Maple Grove and Aug. 9 at Lebanon Hills Park in Eagan.

Participants will be able to chat with both incoming and current BSU students and admissions staff to learn more about life on campus and get answers to any last-minute questions. Students should RSVP by July 27 to the Alumni Office at (218) 755-2762 or alumni@bemidjistate.edu.

Foundation awards \$45,000 in alumni relative scholarships

The BSU Alumni & Foundation has awarded 45 scholarships of \$1,000 each for 2018-19 to Bemidji State students who are relatives of contributing alumni.

The program annually provides \$1,000 scholarships to a limited number of students attending who are relatives of alumni that have contributed \$50 or more to the university by Feb. 1.

For information on how to apply for an Alumni Relative Scholarship, visit <https://www.bsualumni.org/alumni-relative-scholarship-application> or call the Alumni Office at (218) 755-2762.

Alumni & Foundation board trims minimum membership

The BSU Alumni & Foundation Board of Directors voted May 18 to approve a bylaw change that reduces the minimum allowable size of the board from 33 members to 21, up to three of whom may be appointed by the president of Bemidji State.

The change, intended to ensure the board is of a manageable size, does not affect any current members because total membership now stands at 19.

MAKE SURE THE BSU ALUMNI OFFICE HAS YOUR LATEST CONTACT INFORMATION

Alumni who have changed jobs, gotten married and those who have multiple or seasonal addresses are asked to share their contact information with the Alumni Office so you can stay up to date on news and events. Go to bsualumni.org or call (218) 755-3989.



Joyce (Thompson) Siegert '68 (left), Mary Lou (Stark) Marchand '66 and Janice (Hamerlik) Langan '68 were inducted into the Golden Beaver Society for alumni of 50 or more years at the Centennial Kickoff Luncheon on April 12 in the American Indian Resource Center.

New employees join team at the David Park House

Three new staff members joined the BSU Alumni & Foundation staff over the past year, including Kari Kantack Miller, who was hired in June as director of annual giving for athletics.



Kari Kantack Miller

Kantack Miller has held a variety of teaching, admissions and advising roles at Bemidji State and Northwest Technical College since 2004. She received a master's degree in sports studies from BSU in 2008.



Angela Schmidt

Schmidt, who has a bachelor's degree in mass communications and a master's degree in education, became office manager in August. She has worked at the university since 2010, first in residential life and most recently for Career Services.



Eric Sorenson

Sorenson, who has a bachelor's degree in business administration, was hired as communications coordinator in March. His work in print and online supports alumni programs and donor relations. Sorenson most recently worked at Pinnacle Marketing Group in Bemidji.

Students at the Lakeside Food Court on Feb. 6 sign thank you cards that were collected and mailed to donors as a project of the Student Alumni Association.



Christianson named ED of Alumni & Foundation

Josh Christianson, formerly of the University of North Dakota, in May became Bemidji State University's new executive director of university advancement, replacing Marla Patrias, who has retired after 20 years at BSU.

Josh Christianson

President Faith Hensrud selected Christianson after a national search. She described him as "a respected professional with a deep understanding of what is needed to cultivate relationships with friends, donors and alumni."

"Josh values collaboration and strategic planning, and he has experience with all aspects of development and alumni relations," Dr. Hensrud said.

Since 2005, Christianson has been director of development and alumni relations at the School of Aerospace Sciences, working to strengthen the major gifts program and leading overall development and alumni activities.

He previously worked four years as a development officer for the UND Alumni Association and Foundation, and before that spent two years as executive director of the Northland Community & Technical College Foundation in Thief River Falls. He has a bachelor's degree in communication and public relations from the University of North Dakota.

Christianson said he was struck by the energy and commitment of the staff and administrators he met during the interview process.

"I look forward to working with Dr. Hensrud and her team, and the BSU Alumni & Foundation staff and Board of Directors," he said.

Patrias, who was honored with a May 25 retirement party at the David Park House, served in several important roles for the BSU Alumni & Foundation. She was named executive director in 2016 and previously held positions as chief administrative officer, chief development officer, director of alumni relations and director of major gifts & planned giving.

"I am most grateful for the commitment to BSU and the Alumni & Foundation that Marla has shown over the years, but most recently for her exceptional service in the position of executive director," Hensrud said.

THE GREEN & WHITE

The third Green & White Dinner & Auction for BSU Athletics, held April 14 in the Sanford Center, continued the biennial event's record of success, raising \$113,000 for athletic scholarships and team support. Live auction items included use of a catered Sanford Center suite for a Brad Paisley concert, and participants gave between \$20 and \$6,000 to support athletics with no item in return.



President Faith Hensrud plays Heads and Tails.



Women's Basketball guard Brooklyn Bachmann.



Director of Athletics Tracy Dill and Bucky.



Kayla Winkler (far left), Kelli Carlson '08, Jean Baer and Jennifer Belisle '00.



Women's Hockey teammates sell paddles for Heads and Tails.



Dinner & Auction for BSU Athletics

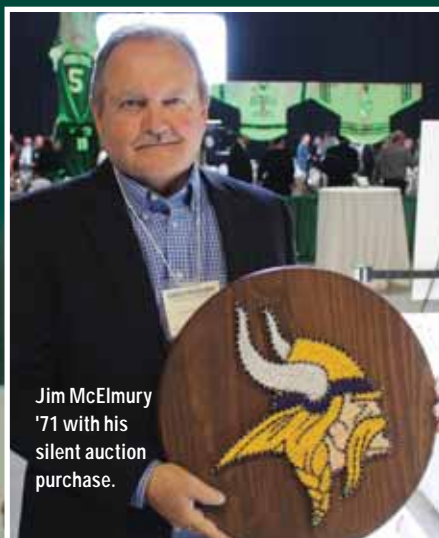
Terri Thomas pledges in support of athletic scholarships during the live auction.



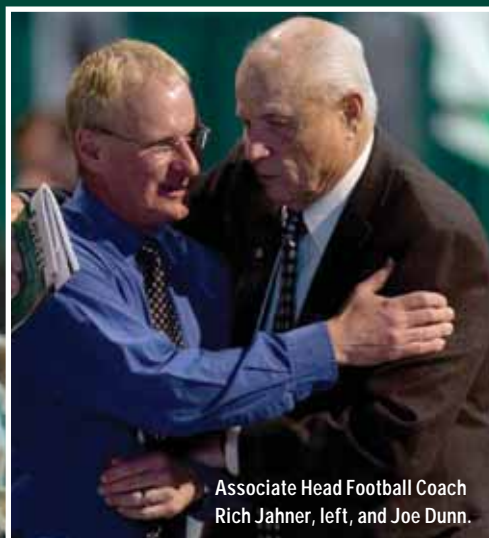
President Faith Hensrud presents a Beaver Hockey jersey to Marla Patrias for her 20 years of service with the BSU Alumni & Foundation.



Vince Huerd poses with a commemorative print of his former coach, Bob Peters.



Jim McElmury '71 with his silent auction purchase.



Associate Head Football Coach Rich Jahner, left, and Joe Dunn.



Athletics broadcast announcers Kelly and Brian Schultz.



CLASS NOTES

Towns are in Minnesota unless noted.
Alumni names appear in bold. Send
information to alumni@bemidjistate.edu
or call toll free: (877)278-2586.

'17 Tyler Smith was promoted from teller to credit analyst at Security Bank USA in Bemidji, where he has worked since April 2017. He lives in Bemidji.



Tyler Smith

Danny Tuckett is an environmental technician for Big Stone County's Environmental Service Department, where he oversees a committee tasked with public education about aquatic invasive species. He also works for the county as a feedlot officer and licensed boat inspector. Tuckett lives in Ortonville with his wife, Brenna, and their infant child.



Danny Tuckett

Sarah Anderson works for the city of Willmar as an urban planner after completing a GIS internship with Cass County's Environmental Services Department and a research project on political geography in Kenya. She lives in Kandiyohi.



Sarah Anderson

Taylor Sabol became an accounting associate with CliftonLarsonAllen in Brainerd. Sabol previously interned with the firm, where she provides tax and consulting services. She lives in Brainerd.



Taylor Sabol

Lynnea Iverson sings and plays with the Iverson Family, a multi-generational band that includes her sister Jenessa and their mother, Kathy. They perform traditional hymns and original songs at church functions and community events. Iverson lives in Grand Rapids, where she is a vocal music teacher at Robert J. Elkington Middle School.



Lynnea Iverson

'16 Anna Rausch began working for Westberg Eischens PLLP in Willmar and earned her CPA designation from the Minnesota Board of Accountancy. Her primary duties are auditing, compilation and review services. Rausch lives in Willmar.



Anna Rausch

Emma Guthrie was accepted into the rhetoric and writing doctoral program at Bowling Green State University, where she will be responsible for teaching two writing courses as part of a teaching assistantship. Guthrie received her master's degree in English from Bemidji State in 2018. She lives in Menahga.



Emma Guthrie

'15 Joe Stusynski was hired as a residence hall coordinator at Lake Superior State University. He oversees Brady Hall, a 196-student residence hall, and its 11 student staff members. Stusynski lives in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.



Joe Stusynski

Kelsey Sutton has published four young adult novels. Her works have received numerous awards, including the Best Teen Book of 2013 award from Kirkus Reviews for her story "Some Quiet Place." She lives in Minneapolis.



Kelsey Sutton

'14 Ashley Millner of Cottage Grove has been a registered nurse at DeVita Dialysis Center in St. Paul since 2016. She previously worked as a nurse at Sanford Health in Bemidji. Millner is engaged to **Ryan Pierre ('12)**, a police officer with the Cottage Grove Police Department.



Ashley Millner & Ryan Pierre

Heather Rogosheske is coordinator of the Working Together Coalition, a volunteer-based organization dedicated to drug and alcohol abuse prevention that places volunteer community members with teens in the with teens in Northland High School in Remer and the Pine River-Backus and Walker-Akeley Hackensack school districts. She lives near Hackensack with her husband, Dan, and their two children.



Heather Rogosheske

Kristie Harmon has been a victim's advocate for Headwaters Intervention Center and Family Crisis Center in Bagley since 2015. She assists victims of domestic violence. She has three daughters and lives in Bagley.



Kristie Harmon

Tanner Emery opened Tonka Insurance Agency in Spring Park. He previously was an agent for State Farm. Emery lives in Watertown.



Tanner Emery

'13 Kari (Balduc) Kennepohl is a registered nurse at Providence Alaska Medical Center in Anchorage, Alaska. Working in the Progressive Care Unit, she often works with patients needing close observation of heart rhythms following open heart surgery or treatment of other cardiac conditions. She and her husband, Richard, live in Anchorage and have one child.

Alexa Schillinger works as a physician's assistant at Sanford Health in Bemidji in the orthopedics and sports medicine department. Prior to earning her physician's assistant title, she worked at Sanford in various areas including orthopedics, emergency medicine and women's health. She lives in Bemidji.



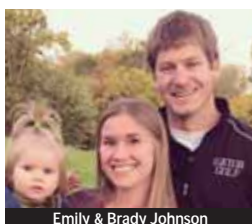
Alexa Schillinger

'12 Bryce Tesdahl is in his second year as head boys basketball coach at East Ridge High School in Woodbury. In his first year, Tesdahl led the Raptors to a 23-6 season — tied for the most single-season wins in school history, as well as a first-ever postseason appearance and their highest conference ranking in program history. Prior to accepting the position at East Ridge, Tesdahl coached boys basketball at New Prague High School and was the men's basketball graduate assistant coach at the University of Minnesota Duluth. He and his wife, Becky, live in Woodbury.



Bryce Tesdahl

Emily (Beito) Johnson is an accountant at Marvin Windows and Doors in Warroad. She is married to **Brady Johnson ('11)**, who teaches middle and high school social studies in Badger. The couple have two children and live in Roseau.



Emily & Brady Johnson

Emily (Wendland) Krueger is a graphic artist whose illustrations and designs appear in a variety of children's books, magazines, greeting cards and retail stores. One of her most recent projects, a children's book titled "Goodnight Server Room," helps children understand the inner workings of a computer server room. Krueger and her husband, Steven ('11), have one child and live in Esko.



Emily Krueger

'11 Mark Thode owns and manages Mark Thode Photography. Although his work consists of mostly weddings, family and graduation portraits and natural landscapes, he recently produced portraits of World War II and Korean War veterans in tribute to their service. Thode also works full-time as a graphic artist at Pipestone Publishing. He lives in Pipestone.



Mark Thode



Carissa Mitchell

Carissa (Meech) Mitchell co-owns and operates AIM Chiropractic in Perham with her husband, Nick. After graduating from Bemidji State with a degree in biology and a minor in chemistry, Mitchell attended Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa, where she earned her Doctor of Chiropractic degree. The couple lives in Perham.

'10 Marinda Balcer has taught fifth grade since 2011 at Clearbrook-Gonvick Elementary School, where she began as a substitute. She lives in Clearbrook and has two children.



Marinda Balcer

Chris McKelvie became head men's hockey coach at Bethel University in St. Paul. McKelvie, who helped lead Bemidji State to the 2009 NCAA Frozen Four tournament, spent seven seasons playing professional hockey in the American Hockey League before joining Army West Point as an assistant coach in 2016. He and his wife, Courtney, live in New Brighton with their two children.



Chris McKelvie

Brett Nelson is now a large lake specialist for Lake of the Woods with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. He will oversee annual lake assessments and research. For the past four years, Nelson was a fisheries specialist in the DNR's Baudette office. He lives in Baudette.

'07 Amanda (Rezac) Allen is creative design manager at Compass Group, a food service company, where she has worked since 2011 in a variety of graphic design roles. She and her husband, Nathan, live in Huntersville, N.C. They have one child.



Amanda Allen

'06 Jeremy Nordick will begin working this fall as activities director for Park Rapids Area Schools. He also will coach football at Park Rapids High School. Nordick previously spent 12 years teaching physical education and health in addition to coaching football and basketball at Menahga High School. He and his wife, Andria, live in Menahga with their two children.



Jeremy Nordick

Mychal Stittsworth is one of three Bemidji-area entrepreneurs who participated in an April 3 panel discussion for Minnesota Public Radio's "Conversations on the Creative Economy" series. He and his wife, **Danielle (Dahle '09)**, in 2010 bought the business that was established in 1993 by Stittsworth's father and uncle. They live in Bemidji with their two children.

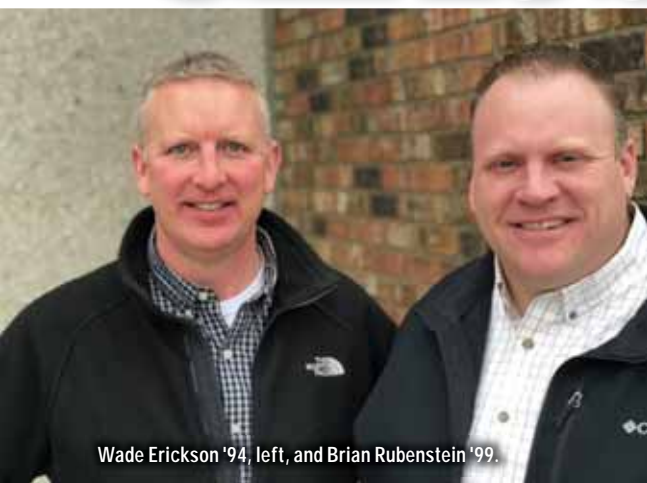


Mychal Stittsworth

Jesse Frost teaches automotive, manufacturing, computer science, and robotics courses and drivers education at Cass Lake-Bena High School. He lives in Bemidji.

'05 Jaime Rowlette has been promoted to assistant vice president — mortgage lending at RiverWood Bank in Baxter. He joined RiverWood as a mortgage lender in 2011. Rowlette is a past Sertoma Club president and a member of Greater Lakes Area Realtors and the Mid-Minnesota Builders Association. He and his wife, Shana, live in Lake Shore. They have two children and are expecting a third in August.

CLASS NOTES



Wade Erickson '94, left, and Brian Rubenstein '99.

PAIR TURN PROFIT FROM CUSTOMIZED DUCK CALLS

Two Bemidji State grads who both work in probation and parole for the Minnesota Department of Corrections have found success selling custom-turned acrylic duck and geese calls.

Brian Rubenstein of Detroit Lakes, a 1999 graduate in criminal justice, and Wade Erickson of Fergus Falls, a 1994 graduate in applied psychology, teamed up last year to form Deadshot Custom Call.

Rubenstein, a DOC district supervisor, turns the calls on a lathe in his home shop. Erickson, a parole agent for Ottertail County, manages sales and customer service. Thanks to media attention, a website (deadshotcustomcalls.com) and a Facebook page, they've found buyers as far away as Oregon, Florida and Washington, D.C.

Business has boomed since they received a wave of publicity in late winter for a patented model, the Man's Best Friend, in which cremation ashes from a beloved hunting dog are embedded in the call's collar. Those start at \$160.

"With this, you're holding your dog, holding that memory next to your heart," Rubenstein said.

One customer asked to have one of his late grandfather's fishing lures embedded in the barrel. Deadshot also sell the Cope-n-Call, which incorporates the lid of a Copenhagen dipping tobacco can into its design.

Although the business partners have so far only sold calls with a choice of quality premade inserts to make the sound, they are about to offer their own inserts, Rubenstein said.

The two are prepared to scale up their business with more staff as needed to meet growing demand, he said. Finished calls are delivered about one to two months after orders are received.

Rubenstein said he found his passion for duck hunting while at BSU, both at Hart Lake southeast of Bemidji and with special permission at Oak Hills Christian College.

"That's where I learned it all," he said.

'04 Nate Haskell

has been promoted to bank market president of Bank Forward's Bemidji office. He joined Bank Forward in 2012 as a commercial loan officer and has 13 years of banking and finance experience. His wife, **Jamie (Johnson '04)**, was a member of the 2006 U.S. Women's Olympic Curling Team and works as a loan report processor at First National Bank - Bemidji. The couple lives in Bemidji.



Nate Haskell

'03 Aaron Kallhoff

is an assistant women's basketball coach for the Louisiana State University Tigers. He previously coached at Texas Christian University, where he helped the Horned Frogs reach the postseason during the 2015-16 season, winning two postseason games for the first time since 2008. Kallhoff and his wife, Josie, live in Baton Rouge, La., with their three children.



Aaron Kallhoff

Melanie (Hoheisel) DeBay is community education director for the Itasca area schools. She lives in Grand Rapids with her husband, **Ryan ('04)**, who is assistant principal at Robert J. Elkington Middle School. They have three children.



Melanie & Ryan DeBay

Willow (Goldsmith)

Christen has worked as a kindergarten teacher at Clearbrook-Gonvick for the past nine years after a previous position in school readiness. She and her husband, Scott, live in Fosston with their two children.



Willow Christen

'02 Eric Austin

has been appointed as a labor representative for the Southwest Minnesota Workforce Development Board, where he serves bargaining units in both the public and private sectors. He formerly taught middle and high school at Becker High School for 14 years before serving as a labor representative for AFCSME Council 65, a position he still holds. Austin and his wife, Amanda, live in Becker with their four children.



Eric Austin

'01 Yoong Shan

(Shaniz) Chan is corporate communications manager at Sunway Medical Center in southwest Malaysia. She supervises public relations, advertising, digital marketing, graphic design and event planning efforts for the hospital. Chan lives with her husband and two children in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



Yoong Shan Chan

'00 Miranda (Clausen) Anderson

has joined RiverWood Bank as vice president/marketing manager. Based in Baxter, she is responsible for overseeing marketing strategies for RiverWood's 10 northern and central Minnesota branches. Anderson most recently worked as director of communications for Essentia Health. Her husband, **Chuck (2001)**, teaches fourth grade at Baxter Elementary School. They live in Merrifield and have three children.



Miranda Anderson

'99 Jeremy Rychlock was inducted into the Northland Athletic Hall of Fame in February. He earned all-conference and all-region honors in football at Northland Community College in Thief River Falls before transferring to Bemidji State. He is a parole officer for the Minnesota Department of Corrections. Rychlock and his wife, Elaine, live in Grygla with their two children.



Jeremy Rychlock

'98 Joey Anderson owns and operates Moon Maker Designs, a provider of rings, necklaces, pendants and other custom jewelry. He also works as an aquatic invasive species inspector for the Minneapolis Parks Board. Anderson lives in St. Paul.



Joey Anderson

'96 Linda Brown has joined Clearbrook-Gonvick High School as an art teacher. For 11 previous years, she was an assistant professor of visual arts Bemidji State and also taught at Trek North High School in Bemidji and Dunwoody College of Technology in Minneapolis. She lives in Bagley.

Christine Anderson is a small business specialist and consultant for the Small Business Development Center at University of Minnesota Crookston. She provides assistance and training for business strategy development. Previously, Anderson was economic development director for Pennington County. She lives in Thief River Falls.



Christine Anderson

Nicole (Olson) Beitz was hired by Moore Engineering, Inc. as an accounting assistant in the company's West Fargo office after a career as an accounting specialist for the city of Fosston. She lives in West Fargo with her husband, Jim.



Nicole Beitz

'95 Mindi (Steinbrink) Brill was nominated for Teacher of the Year in the Pequot Lakes school district by Education Minnesota Pequot Lakes. She has taught first grade in the Pequot Lakes school district for 21 years and was girls head tennis coach from 1997-2003. Brill and her husband, Wade, live in Breezy Point. They have three children.



Mindi Brill

'94 Lisa (Kavanaugh) Barnett is chief operating officer for software developer GrowthZone. The company sells its products to chambers of commerce and other member-based organizations. Barnett and her husband, Ryan, have one daughter, who will be attending BSU in the fall. The couple lives in East Gull Lake.



Lisa Barnett

'92 Steve Erickson retired after 23 years as the building and zoning official for the city of Chisholm. He lives in Side Lake with his wife, Joette. They have two grown children.

Jeremy Bauer was hired as chief information officer of Code42, a Minneapolis-based information technology and data security company with additional offices in Denver, London and Munich. He has more than 15 years of industry experience, including executive roles with several information technology companies. Bauer and his wife, Jennifer, have two daughters and live in Apple Valley.



Jeremy Bauer

'91 Brenda Beckwith received the Maine Association of Basketball Coaches' Bob Brown Contributor Award for her prior service as executive secretary of the organization. She also will be inducted into the Maine Basketball Hall of Fame in August. An accomplished high school and college basketball player, Beckwith coaches boys basketball and teaches physical education at Winslow High School. She and her partner, Terry, live in Winslow, Maine. They have four children.



DAHLSTROM'S LONG WAIT PAYS OFF IN MOVIE MAGIC

Kathryn (Shetler) Dahlstrom's journey to her first screenwriting credit can be summed up in a word: patience.

The 1981 Bemidji State graduate helped write "Magic Max," an upcoming family comedy co-starring actor Barry Corbin, best known for "No Country for Old Men."

But first, Dahlstrom put her degree in vocal music education to use teaching pre-kindergarten in Missouri for seven years. Gradually, she felt drawn toward a different career – and also returned to Minnesota, settling in Hector.

"I felt writing starting to build inside me," she said. "I've always loved writing, so I began to write books, articles and screenplays."

Finally, nine published books and many a rejected screenplay over nearly three decades, Dahlstrom received a call in September from a colleague who wanted her co-write the "Magic Max" script. In April, she traveled to Simi Valley, Calif., for a day of filming on location.

"I've been asking myself if this is really happening," she said. "I've been an author for 28 years and a screenwriter for 12. This is the career break I've been waiting for."

Dahlstrom said being on set was an experience she will never forget.

"Moviemaking is a major team effort," she said. "It was fascinating to see the entire process of filming a scene from lighting, to filming, to acting."

Although no release date has been set, "Magic Max" is expected to open in 600 theatres, followed by wider distribution if it's a hit with initial audiences.

Her big break is pushing Dahlstrom toward new projects. She is developing another screenplay and has a novel in the works.

Dahlstrom is grateful for her husband, Tim, a software developer who suggests helpful revisions to her work.

"I consider myself so lucky to have such a supportive partner at this point in my career," she said.

CLASS NOTES



GLAS' COACHING CAREER SPARKED ON BSU CAMPUS

Since retiring in 2016 as head basketball coach at Concordia College in Moorhead, Rich Glas has had time to reflect on a life that sprung from the Bemidji State campus.

The 1970 graduate is a son of the late John Glas, who in 1939 became business manager at Bemidji State Teachers College and retired as acting BSU president in 1968. The John Glas Fieldhouse, opened in 1967, is named for him.

The younger Glas attended the Laboratory School, played with neighbors in the David Park House and had a front-row seat to campus life.

The family of three boys lived just south of the Gillett Wellness Center in a house they donated to the university in 2012. It has been converted for use by visiting scholars.

Glas played football, baseball and basketball at Bemidji High and continued with basketball at BSU, for which he was inducted into the university's Athletic Hall of Fame.

He said his love of athletics was nurtured by his dad, a passionate fan and staunch supporter of Beaver Athletics.

"In his eyes, athletic competition served as the 'front porch' of the college and helped students, community members and fans become part of the university," Glas said from his lake home near Nevis, which he enjoys with wife Sandy.

After earning a degree in physical education, Glas became head basketball coach at the University of Minnesota, Morris. He went on to coach at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, and at the University of Hawaii in Hilo. Next came the University of North Dakota, where he became its most successful basketball coach with a 335-194 record from 1998 to 2006. While at Concordia, he notched his 600th career win.

Glas' definition of success has evolved since those years of court-side intensity.

"For me, it's not the wins and losses that my teams had over the years," he said, "but the joy of feeling that I impacted my players' lives in a positive way."

Cindy (Smith) Swenson trains and mentors teachers as an education consultant for the National Joint Powers Alliance. She worked 24 years as an elementary and middle school teacher with the Staples-Motley School District. Her husband, **Greg ('92)**, teaches social studies at Forestview Middle School in Brainerd. They live in Baxter and have two children.



Cindy Swenson

Karen Busch owns Paws Hoofs Claws, providing on-site care for pets and livestock. She taught English at Lake Superior College for 25 years before moving to Fertile in 2016 to start her business and be closer to family.



Karen Busch

'87 Art "Lee" Nash is an associate professor of energy at the University of Alaska – Fairbanks School of Natural Resources and Extension. He also has served the past four years as service area commissioner for a local public works organization, a position he plans to retire from this summer. Nash and his wife, Carrie, live in Fairbanks. They have three children.



Art "Lee" Nash

'86 Todd Waletzki was promoted to president of the payroll division at BenefitMall, a provider of employee benefits and payroll services. He joined the company in 2015 as chief operating officer after executive roles with CapitalOne, CompuPay and AOL. Waletzki and his wife, Michelle, live in Plano, Texas. They have two children and one grandchild.



Todd Waletzki

Tammy (Radtko) Phelps retired from the Cass Lake-Bena school district after 31 years teaching kindergarten, first grade, third grade and, most recently, working as an instructional coach. She lives in Bemidji with her husband, **Richard ('80)**, who is a realtor. They have three children.

'83 Jane Latimer showcased her watercolor paintings as a featured artist at the MacRostie Art Center gallery in Grand Rapids during the month of May as part of the Little Big Show exhibit. She lives in Grand Rapids.



Jane Latimer

Dave Looby of Maple Grove is the president/CEO of Minneapolis Northwest Tourism, a nonprofit organization that promotes the cities of Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park and Maple Grove. He and his wife, JoAnn, have one daughter.



Dave Looby

'82 Fred Bach is a regional sales manager at Stanley Healthcare, where he leads a team that develops safety and efficiency solutions for the health care industry. He has worked in health care sales for more than 25 years. Bach and his wife, **Kathy (Wilson '82)**, live in Naperville, Ill. They have two grown children.



Fred Bach



IN MEMORIAM *in order of class year*

Sutton, Letha E. '40, Blackduck
 Larson (Hedmen), Viola H. '41, Grand Forks
 McFarland, Mary Ellen '41, Boone, Iowa
 Ness, Fay '41, Thief River Falls
 Roberts, Jewell '41, Eau Claire, Wis.
 Larson, Phyllis A. '42, Saint Paul
 Skold, Edna '42, Milton-Freewater, Ore.
 Mendenhall (Anderson), Jewell '43, Walker
 Toffle (Wickstrand), Ida '47, Bemidji
 Higgins, Allen '48, Mesa, Ariz.
 Olson, Roy D. '53, '69, Miller Beach, Ind.
 Erickson, James P. '55, Cloquet
 Orde (Guthrie), Gail A. '58, Wailuku, Hawaii
 Hecimovich, Norman '60, '63, Austin
 Currier (Pederson), Virginia '62, Hamburg, N.Y.
 Galland, Rev. Leslie '62, Shakopee
 Ebnet, Chrystal '63, Litchfield
 Wittwer, Dennis '63, Joshua Tree, Calif.
 Wright, Dale E. '64, New London
 Wihela, Jack E. '65, Cloquet
 Falk, Joseph '68, Pensacola, Fla.
 Pfeffer, David '68, Battle Lake
 Iverson, Darold M. '69, Bagley
 Sellon, Roberta "Bobbi" '69, Bemidji
 De Lano, Janet '71, Rio Rancho, N.M.
 Willey (Quam), Michelle '72, Glenwood Springs, Colo.
 Drakenberg, Douglas '73, Laporte
 Runningen, Thomas '73, Bemidji
 Sura, Rev. Jerome '73, Grand Rapids
 Buchmeier, Bonita '74, Inver Grove Heights
 Keppers, Kenneth '74, Turtle Lake, Wis.
 Madzey, Mary '75, Hibbing
 Spehar-Isaacson, Rose '75, Lake Vermilion
 Berg, Trudie Ann '76, Duluth
 Knandel, Charles '76, Brainerd
 Thelen, Jon R. '78, Walker
 Keenaghan, Kevin '78, Brookings, S.D.
 Anderson, Robert "Whitey" D. '79, North Liberty, Iowa
 Higgins, Elaine '79, Harlingen, Texas
 Schmidtbauer, Kenneth '79, Goodland
 Thorson, James P. "JT" '81, Deerwood
 Woods, Richard '84, Kent, Wash.
 Demery, Edwin J. '88, Billings, Mont.
 Meuers (Olson), Barbara '88, Bemidji
 Kilen, Kathleen '93, Hibbing
 Tolman, Pauline Jo '93, Santa Cruz, Calif.
 Sindelir, Steven '94, Baudette
 Norby (Winans), Trudy D. '95, Eagan
 Ste. Marie, Jeannette '97, Red Lake Falls
 Gebro, Lee '97, Nashua, N.H.
 Heald, Jason D. '97, Woodbury
 Paulson, Mary Ellen '01, Bagley
 Krummel, Dr. Richard – Emeritus, Edina

'77 Sue McElmury is a sales development leader for Honeywell International Inc., a position she has held for 15 of her 37 years with the company. She prepares teams to sell building technology solutions. McElmury lives in Stillwater and has one child.

'74 Army Lt. Col. Lee Norman, MD, returned in March from the Middle East, where he oversaw the medical care and health of 11,000 soldiers spread over 11 countries as the 35th Infantry Division Surgeon. He is senior vice president and chief medical officer at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Norman lives in Kansas City, Mo.



Lee Norman

'71 Scott Carlson returned from a two-week exploration of Antarctica in March. No stranger to the cold, he has explored both the Arctic Circle and Antarctica. Carlson is retired after a long career with Genuine Parts Company (parent company of NAPA). He and his wife, Marilyn, live in Thornton, Colo., and have one child.



Scott Carlson

'70 Alice (Gummert) Hofstad was one of three women named Women of Honor by Thief River Falls' American Association of University Women. She retired in 2006 after a 35-year career as an educator and librarian, primarily in northwest Minnesota. Hofstad and her husband, **Les ('70)**, live in Plummer and have two children.

'67 Roger Wilson was inducted into the 2018 Minnesota Wrestling Coaches Association's David Bartelma Wrestling Hall of Fame. A four-year starter on the Bemidji State wrestling team, Wilson went on to spend 35 years teaching business and physical education at schools in Holdingford, Granite Falls and St. Cloud. He spent 11 years as a high school wrestling coach and 52 years as a wrestling official. Wilson lives in Sauk Rapids with his wife, Dorothy. They have four children.



Roger Wilson

Bill Stimac is a play-by-play radio announcer for high school athletics in the Mille Lacs area. After retiring from a 35-year career teaching language arts at Northland High School near Remer and 10 years as a corrections officer for the Aitken County Sheriff's Office, he has covered volleyball, football, basketball, softball and baseball games for KKIN FM in Aitken since 2005. Stimac, who lives in Garrison, has two children.



Bill Stimac

'66 Richard Weis presented an exhibit of his contemporary art, titled "Of Time and Place," at the Slate Valley Museum in Grantville, N.Y. From 1989 to 2010, Weis was member of the art faculty at Green Mountain College in Poultney, Vt., and he also served in the Vietnam War as an Army illustrator. He and his wife, Nancy, live in Castleton, Vt.

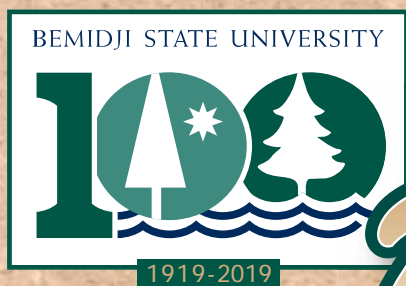


Richard Weis



JOHN MADSEN '81 will be inducted into the Minnesota High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame this fall. The Lake Crystal-Wellcome-Memorial baseball coach and middle school teacher ranks 25th on the state's all-time wins list with a record of 389-228. He and his wife, Jeanne, live in Lake Crystal. They have two grown children.

Towns are in Minnesota unless noted. Alumni names appear in bold. Send CLASS NOTES information and photos to alumni@bemidjistate.edu or call toll free: 1-877-BSU-ALUM.



A BEMIDJI
STATE

Century

HOMECOMING 2018

Freshman
Bonfire,
1962.



FRIDAY, OCT. 5

Start the weekend off right

Friday night's **Honors Gala** at the Sanford Center is always fun and inspiring, and this year it will be even more special, thanks to the Bemidji State Centennial. Help us recognize the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients and hear their stories of achievement and service. This year's gala will include induction of an outstanding alumni educator into BSU's Professional Education Hall of Fame. You'll also share in honoring the university's most generous donors and hear from President Faith Hensrud. **Social hour will start at 5:30 p.m.**, with dinner and the program beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50.

Bemidji State Teachers
College football team, 1945.



Also Friday:

- **Alumni Leaders in the Classroom:** Distinguished Alumni award recipients and other alumni share their professional experience with students, various times and campus locations TBD.



U.S. Sen. Walter Mondale and
Homecoming Queen in 1968.



SATURDAY, OCT. 6

Parade in downtown Bemidji

People of all ages will gather and cheer from storefront sidewalks for the traditional **11 a.m. parade** north through the heart of downtown on Beltrami Avenue. Parade participants are invited to theme their entries to one of the decades of Bemidji State's first century. The parade will feature distinguished alumni, President Faith Hensrud, BSU Athletics teams, the Pep Band, student organizations and community groups and a grand marshal, plus candy for the kids.

Football, reunions and hockey

The day's schedule is one of the busiest in memory. After the parade, head to Diamond Point Park for the **Beaver Bash Pre-Game Tailgating**, which will begin at **noon**. Bring your favorite food and beverages or enjoy what is provide with a free-will offering. (Must be 21 to consume alcohol.) Meet at the Alumni Arch at **12:30 p.m.** for a one-hour guided **Campus History Tour**. After the Beavers' **2 p.m. football game** against the University of Sioux Falls in Chet Anderson Stadium, attend a **5 p.m. Kickoff Celebration for the 50th Anniversary of Women's Athletics** in the American Indian Resource Center. Or, you may want to opt for the post-game **Football Reunion** at The Tavern on South Shore or the **Greek Reunion** at **7 p.m.** in the Sanford Center Ballroom. A bonus event this year is a **men's hockey exhibition game** vs. Lakehead University at **6 p.m.** in the Sanford Center.

Street Dance with The Front Fenders

Wind up your day at the **Beaver Block Party & Street Dance** from **8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.** between Third and Fourth streets on Beltrami Avenue. The Bemidji Area Alumni Chapter will once again present the Front Fenders. (Must be 21 or older to attend.)

2018 CALENDAR

JULY

- 13 21st Annual Galen Nagle Memorial Golf Tournament**
7 a.m. registration, 7:35 a.m. tee time; 11:30 a.m. registration, 12:30 p.m. tee time, Bemidji Town & Country Club. Register with Beaver Pride.
- 21 7th Annual Jeff "Bird" McBride Memorial Golf Tournament**
12 p.m. start, Oak Marsh Golf Course, Oakdale. Register at www.wpgolf.com/oakmarsh/mcbride_memorial.aspx
- 29 Alumni, Friends & Family Night at the St. Paul Saints**
3:30 p.m. pregame, Ox Cart Ale House; 5:05 p.m. first pitch, CHS Field. Purchase tickets at www.bsualumni.org

AUGUST

- 2 "BSU Bound" new student send-off event**
6 p.m., Elm Creek Park, Deer Picnic Site, Maple Grove. RSVP to the BSU Alumni Office by July 27.
- 3 10th Annual Men's Basketball Alumni & Friends Golf Outing**
12 p.m. check-in, 1 p.m. tee time
Headwaters County Club, Park Rapids
- 9 "BSU Bound" new student send-off**
6 p.m., Lebanon Hills Regional Park, Eagan. RSVP to the BSU Alumni Office by July 27.
- 24 BSU Student Move-in Day**
9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Oak Hall. Volunteers needed to provide directions and information to parents and new students. Call the BSU Alumni Office to volunteer.
- 25 11th Annual Ed Sauer Golf Tournament**
10 a.m. check-in, 11:00 a.m. tee time; Tianna Country Club, Walker. Register with Beaver Pride.
- 30 BSU Community Appreciation Day**
4:30 p.m.; Lakeside Lawn, BSU campus.

SEPTEMBER

- 2 3rd Annual BSU Baseball Alumni Golf Tournament**
9 a.m. check-in, 10 a.m. tee time; Castle Highlands Golf Course, Bemidji. Register with Beaver Pride.
- 15 Scholarship Appreciation Breakfast**
8:30 a.m., Sanford Center Arena

ALUMNI EVENT INFORMATION

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

SUNDAY, OCT. 7

Carl O. Thompson Memorial Concert

This **3 p.m. concert** in the Thompson Recital Hall at the Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex will feature the university's performing ensembles, as well as the instrumental and vocal Carl O. Thompson Scholarship recipients. Come early and check out the fabulous **History Walk banners** in the theater lobby, highlighting events from every decade of the Bemidji State Century.

HOMECOMING 2018 INFORMATION

More Homecoming information, including discounted Bemidji-area lodging, will be shared over the summer by mail and in the Alumni & Foundation e-newsletter.

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alumni@bemidjistate.edu

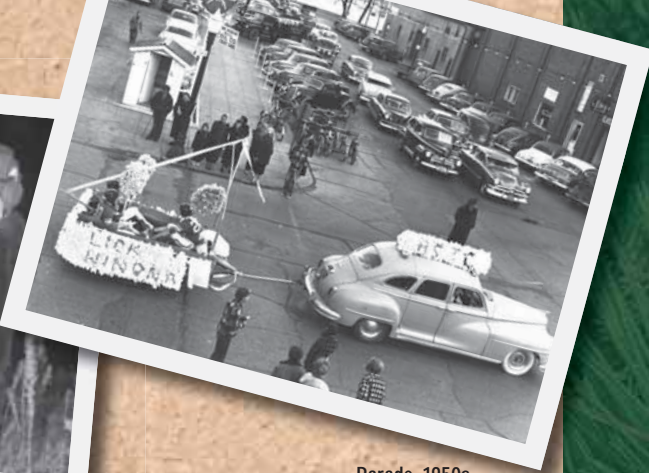
www.bsualumni.org



Volleyball,
1980s.



Parade, 1950s.





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MINNESOTA STATE

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