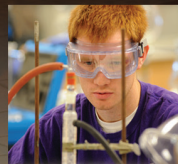
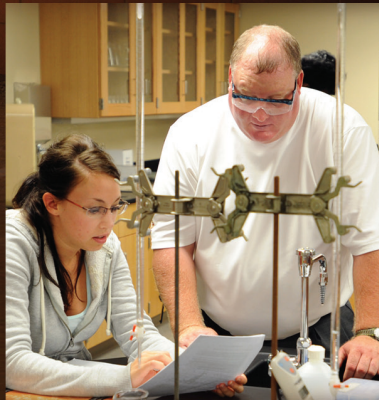


HORIZONS

Born to be a Cop

***Bemidji State Grad
Leads War on Drugs***

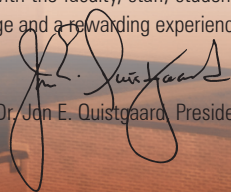




Sattgast Hall



Milestones The kick-off to fall semester marked new milestones for Bemidji State. In August, the campus welcomed 808 new freshmen, our largest entering class in decades. Fireworks capped the end of a perfect fourth annual Community Appreciation Day and the annual Beaver Bash football game, which BSU won en route to an 8-3 season. Both events had record-breaking attendance. Homecoming commemorated the University's 90th anniversary as we once again recognized the talents and achievements of a special group of alumni and gleaned their insights through the Alumni in the Classroom program. ■ The University also celebrated the \$9 million renovation and expansion of Sattgast Hall, a 26,000 square-foot facility with high-tech science classrooms, state-of-the-art laboratories, and a new Harold T. Peters Aquatic Biology wing. In the past few years, new and updated facilities have not only transformed our campus landscape, but also our teaching and learning environment. Expanded gathering spaces, smart classrooms, and collaborative research areas enable the University to continue building its reputation as a place where students' potential is shaped through challenging, guided experiences in and out of the classroom. ■ This fall also marked the beginning of a new stage in Bemidji State's history with the announcement of my mid-summer 2010 retirement. While a decision like this is never easy, the timing of it comes at a good juncture. The University is on an upward trajectory with strong enrollments and sound financial planning. With its commitment to excellence and focus on students, Bemidji State is also expanding its reputation, not only in the state, but also beyond. I am honored to have served as Bemidji State's ninth president. Working with the faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends truly has been a privilege and a rewarding experience.



Dr. Jon E. Quistgaard, President



Pursuing a childhood dream, Michele Leonhart became a beat cop after graduating from Bemidji State. She never imagined, however, that one day she would be the nation's top drug enforcer.

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HORIZONS

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Editor Rose Jones

Alumni Director Marla Patrias

University Advancement Executive Director Rob Bollinger

Designer Kathy Berglund

Photography Director John Swartz

Contributing Photographers
Jon Heller, The Johnson Group Marketing,
Samantha Sorenson

Contributing Writers Andy Bartlett,
Carrie Cramer, Al Nohner, Cindy Serratore

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

Production Assistance The Johnson
Group Marketing

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



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New Institute Launched

The College of Business, Technology, and Communication has launched a new institute, combining the resources of several existing campus units with new initiatives to create the Institute of Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation.

The institute brings together the 360° Manufacturing and Applied Engineering Center of Excellence, the Northwest Regional Small Business Development Center, and Marketing Assistance and Research Solutions with three new undertakings: the Entrepreneurial Scholarship Pathways, Technology Assistance and Research Solutions, and FastTrack™ Entrepreneurship programs.

Karen White, executive director of 360°, has been named the institute's executive director.

"The new institute will be a front door for businesses, entrepreneurs, and technology innovators in Minnesota and across the region as well as high school students," said Dr. James Maxwell, dean of the college. "This endeavor will make it easier for our constituents to access the college's resources and expertise by offering one-stop shopping to the community."



Fall Enrollment Up Six Percent

Reflecting a trend of higher enrollment across its 32-school system, the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system reported a six percent enrollment increase for Bemidji State.

The University's 30th-day headcount was 5,171, an increase of 6.1 percent over the fall 2008 tally when the University recorded 4,876 students. Bemidji State's increase was the highest among the system's seven four-year universities, while its headcount increase of 295 students ranked fourth.

Overall, headcount enrollment in the system's seven universities on the 30th day of classes was up 3.3 percent to 68,076 students.



"Crucible" alums of the 1960 BSU production met the cast and crew of this fall's production of the play.

"Crucible" Alums Return for Fall Play

Eleven Bemidji State University students and faculty members who participated in the University's theater production of *The Crucible* 40 years ago, returned to campus for a fall performance of the play. The group helped stage a version of the play in March 1960.

The seven returning cast members were Ozzie Tollefson, who played John Proctor; Jim Rude, who played Danforth; Mark Paulson, who played Giles Corey; Paul Rynders, who played Reverend Parris; Ev Marshall, who played Reverend Hale; Gretchen Heath, who played Mary Warren; and Francis Schramm, who played Thomas Putnam.

They were joined by director Bill Marchand; technical director Louie Marchand and his wife, Mary Lou; and lighting chief Will Marwitz.

360° Adds Online Programs

Manufacturing and applied engineering workers and students will have four more certificate choices available from the 360° Manufacturing and Applied Engineering Center of Excellence beginning in 2010. The four new online certificate programs are in production, machine, automation, and welding technologies.

These online programs allow 360° to optimize the teaching expertise and capacity across all of its eight partner institutions. With a focus on advanced manufacturing, these certificate programs teach marketable skills and knowledge to entry-level employees and provide a way for individuals to distinguish themselves from colleagues while advancing their careers.

Antell Keynotes Indian Education Summit



For more than 40 years, Bemidji State University graduate Dr. Will Antell has been on the front lines as an advocate of higher education opportunities for American Indians. In September, he returned to his alma mater to discuss his lifetime of work as part of a day-long American Indian Summit sponsored by Bemidji State's American Indian Resource Center (AIRC).

In his keynote address, Antell traced the development of American Indian education, beginning in the 1950s, when few higher education opportunities existed for Indian people, through its evolution on today's college campuses, which have resource centers and support programs dedicated to Indian students.

Antell has spent more than four decades in public education, including 20 years with the Minnesota Department of Education. While at the department, he served nine years as the assistant commissioner of education. He also has helped establish educational policy for American Indian education at the state and national levels.

A former Bush Fellow and faculty member at the University of Minnesota and Harvard University, Antell served six years as a trustee in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system from 2000-2006. In 2005, he received a Life Achievement Award from the National Indian Education Association. Antell was a signatory on the incorporation papers that founded the association in 1970.



Dr. Myrtie Hunt, 98, of Bemidji, died on Nov. 23. Hunt retired from BSU in 1976, after 32 years of teaching and coaching. She continued contributing to the University as a guest instructor and by supporting projects of interest to her. She developed the BSU Myrtie Hunt Scholarship, which is awarded to a female junior or senior who majors or minors in physical education, demonstrates professional leadership and creative talents, and participates in athletic competition. A member of the BSU Legacy Society, Hunt was elected to the BSU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1984 and named the Woman of Achievement in 1989 by her Delta Kappa Gamma-MU chapter.

Talley Gallery Features International Artist

In November, Bemidji State's Talley Gallery hosted "Color and Contrast," an exhibition of paintings by Cypriot Angel Mihaylov. The exhibit marked the artist's first showing in the United States. Professor of Visual Arts Natalia Himmirska saw his work during a visit to Cyprus and worked for two years to bring his art to the Talley Gallery.

Mihaylov was educated at the Nikolai Pavlovich National Arts Academy, a prestigious Bulgarian art school. A realist painter influenced by the works of Velazquez, Caravaggio, and Vermeer, Mihaylov strives to push the viewer of his work "beyond the boundaries of the object and feel the pulse of life in it," he notes. He has paintings on display in Bulgaria, Greece, Germany, Scotland, Monaco, France, and Cyprus, where he resides.

Higher Learning Commission Seeks Public Views of BSU

Bemidji State University will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit on March 22-24, 2010, by a team representing The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The University has been accredited by the commission since 1943. Its accreditation is at the master's degree level and includes BSU program sites at various locations within Minnesota, outside of the state, and online.

The Higher Learning Commission is one of six accrediting agencies in the United States providing institutional accreditation on a regional basis. Institutional accreditation evaluates an entire institution and accredits it as a whole. Other agencies provide accreditation for specific programs.

For two years, Bemidji State University has been engaged in a self-study process, addressing the commission's accreditation requirements and criteria. The evaluation team will visit the University to gather evidence to confirm the self-study findings. The team will recommend to the commission a continuing status for Bemidji State. Following a review process, the commission will take final action.

As part of the review process, the public is invited to submit comments regarding the University to:

Public Comment on
Bemidji State University
The Higher Learning Commission
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Written, signed comments must be received by February 20, 2010. The commission cannot guarantee that comments received after the due date will be considered.

Comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person providing the comments. Comments will not be treated as confidential.

Individuals seeking a specific dispute or grievance with an institution should request the separate "Policy on Complaints" document from the commission office. The Higher Learning Commission cannot settle disputes between institutions and individuals. Complaints will not be considered third-party comments.

Please send comments directly to The Higher Learning Commission. Do not send them to Bemidji State University.



Bucky Caricature Unveiled

Bemidji State has a new image added to its official university marks – a caricature of Bucky the Beaver.

The trademarked Bucky caricature represents the determination and drive associated with Bemidji State University and its faculty, staff, and students. A secondary graphic, the Bucky caricature may be used for commercial and noncommercial uses, although it cannot be used for official University business or on academic materials. All uses of the Bucky caricature require advanced permission by BSU's Office of Communication and Marketing.

"With the launch of Go Green! last year and the increasing involvement of Bucky the mascot at events across campus and within the community, it was time to introduce a Bucky caricature that could be used for those unofficial, more casual situations," said Dr. Rose Jones, director of communications and marketing. "Birthday cakes, flyers, T-shirts and sweatshirts, and other such products lend themselves well to the use of the caricature, as long as permission to use it has been granted."

The caricature was created last year by alumnus Jon Seykora while he was still a student at BSU and working for the communications and marketing office. Current student Matt Ewert added the finishing touches and prepared the caricature for reproduction.





Fall Sports Recaps

Cross Country

Junior **Kristi Buerkle** of Stacy led BSU to a 20th-place finish at the NCAA Central Regional in November and also paced the team to a 10th-place finish at the NSIC Championships held in late October in Bemidji.

Football

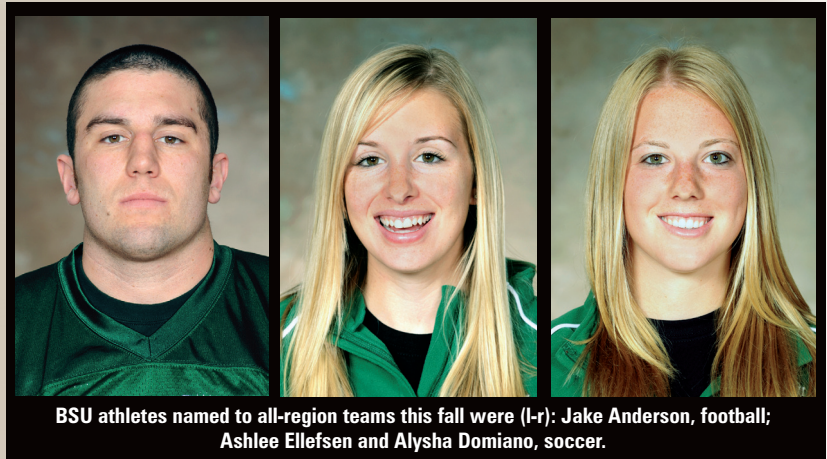
Bemidji State finished its 2009 season with an 8-3 overall record and tied for third in the NSIC at 7-3 in conference play. It was the fifth eight-win season in 14 years for BSU under head coach Jeff Tesch. BSU won eight games in a season just once in 70 years prior to his arrival.

Soccer

The Beavers finished 11-6-2, tying for the third-most wins during a single season in school history and marking the fifth 10-win season in eight years under head coach Jim Stone. BSU finished 10th in the NCAA's Central Regional poll, which is used to select participants for the NCAA Championships.

Volleyball

Bemidji State finished 11-20 overall and 8-12 in NSIC play under third-year head coach Laurie Bitter, making it the most wins in a season since 2001 and the most conference wins since 2002. BSU opened 3-1 for the second consecutive year and opened NSIC play 3-3, its best start in conference play since 2003.



BSU athletes named to all-region teams this fall were (l-r): Jake Anderson, football; Ashlee Ellefsen and Alysha Domiano, soccer.

Fall Honors

Football: Senior linebacker **Jake Anderson** of Karlstad named Second Team All-America and First Team All-Super Region 3 by Daktronics Inc ... Anderson also named First Team All-NSIC North, along with quarterback **Derek Edholm** of Anoka; cornerback **Tiger Ellison** of Columbus, OH; defensive end **Jordan Lardinois** of New Franken, WI; and defensive tackle **Bryan Wick** of Duluth ... Center **Cory Immerman** of Becker; offensive tackle **Davis Mickelson** of Elbow Lake; wide receiver **Andrew Schultz** of Grand Forks, ND; punter **Jesse Sundby** of Argyle; and linebacker **Andrew Eagan** of Sauk Village, IL, named Second Team All-NSIC North ... Running back **Dustin Kroepflin** of Withee, WI; tight end **Brian Leonhardt** of Blaine; and strong safety **Brody Scheff** of Waconia named Honorable Mention All-NSIC North ... Soccer: Juniors **Ashlee Ellefsen** of Hugo and **Alysha Domiano** of Dayton named Second Team All-Region by Daktronics ... Ellefsen named First Team All-NSIC; Domiano named to second team; senior defender **Linsey Olesiak** of Hermantown named honorable mention ... **Brianna Duff** of Ramsey named Third Team Academic All-District by the College Sports Information Directors of America ... Volleyball: **Nicole Olson** of Baudette named Honorable Mention All-NSIC.

Hockey Teams Start Strong

Bemidji State's men's and women's ice hockey teams both recorded wins over teams ranked No. 1 in the nation at the time of the contest. The women achieved the feat first, defeating Wisconsin 1-0 in their WCHA opener on Oct. 10. The men followed with a 3-2 win over Miami (Ohio) on Nov. 27 in a rematch of last year's Frozen Four national semifinals. The men's win over Miami helped propel the program into the top five in both major national polls, the team's highest ranking since moving to Division I in 1999.

Twenty-Six Athletes Make Academic All-NSIC Team

Bemidji State had 26 student-athletes selected to the 2009 Fall Academic All-Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) Team.

The fall contingent was paced by BSU's football and soccer teams, which each had nine players recognized. The conference also recognized five members of BSU's volleyball team and three members from its women's cross country program.

To be eligible for the Academic All-NSIC Team, student-athletes must maintain a grade-point average of 3.20 or higher, be a member of a varsity traveling team, and have reached sophomore academic standing at his or her institution with one full year completed at the campus.

HORIZONS



Changing Times

QUISTGAARD ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

When Dr. Jon Quistgaard arrived at Bemidji State University as an admissions officer in 1979, the A.C. Clark Library still had a card catalog and students called home on landlines. The card catalog disappeared in the mid-1980s, and today's students send text messages or Twitter to stay in touch with friends and family.

Preparing to retire as president of the University and Northwest Technical College this summer, Quistgaard concludes his 30-year career at Bemidji State during a time when technology is rapidly transforming the world.

"I've seen a lot of change," reflects Quistgaard. "But in the end, we're still about people. Hearing stories about how the University has touched people's lives brings a tremendous sense of pride and satisfaction in knowing that the institution is doing its job."

He started his career at the University of Arizona, where he earned his doctorate in political science before returning to his Bemidji roots. At BSU, he has held a variety of administrative positions, including dean of graduate studies, associate vice president for academic affairs, and vice president for academic and student affairs. He became Bemidji State's ninth president in August 2001 and was named president of the technical college two years later.

Always an advocate for students, Quistgaard has engaged them in some of the University's most central activities, including the strategic planning process. "I'm more than optimistic

about the future in terms of what I see occurring on this campus, what students value, and how talented they are," notes Quistgaard.

He is also proud of Bemidji State's many accomplishments during the last decade, including its continued advancement in academic excellence; aggressive legislative advocacy for building projects; stabilized enrollment that shows growth; financial stability despite fewer state dollars; new programs; enhanced technology applications; diversified faculty and staff; continued commitment as a northern Minnesota resource; and clarified institutional vision.

"The University continues to expand its sphere of influence, not because of me, but through the creative efforts of a lot of talented people who care about the University," reflects Quistgaard.

As he looks to the future, he is confident in the University's direction. Two years into its five-year strategic planning cycle, the campus community has clarified its vision as an institution that helps students shape their potential so they, in turn, can shape their personal and professional worlds. The plan also sharpens Bemidji State's identity by focusing on the signature themes

of environmental stewardship, civic engagement, and international and multicultural understanding.

Quistgaard challenges students to embrace these themes and pursue their dreams as an opportunity to give back to humankind in whatever manner their talents, skills, and situations allow.

"In the United States, nearly everyone can access higher education," observes Quistgaard. "But in many countries this is not the case. Along with the privilege of such access comes more responsibility, including being an active, engaged citizen."

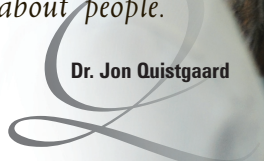
Quistgaard's own commitment to action is reflected in one of his favorite quotes from 20th century journalist Henry Louis Mencken: "If you want peace, work for justice." As he leaves Bemidji State, he expects to speak and write more broadly on public policies that matter to him. He believes he still has much to give back to a society that has afforded him many opportunities.

"I don't look at this as closing a door," says Quistgaard of his retirement. "I look at it as opening a new door."

HORIZONS

*"I've seen a lot of change.
But in the end, we're
still about people."*

Dr. Jon Quistgaard





Born to be a Cop

*"I always had this thing about law and order,
doing what's right and helping people."*

Michele Leonhart

Grad Leads the War on Drugs

As an elementary student in the early 1960s, Michele Leonhart began noticing that career choices for girls were quite narrow. At her school, St. Mark's in St. Paul, girls grew up to become teachers, nurses, or nuns – or so it seemed to her. By the fourth grade, however, Leonhart had other plans. She thought about being an architect, shoe designer, or cop. Mostly she wanted to be a cop.

She found her earliest inspiration in the Nancy Drew mystery series and later in *The Cross and the Switchblade*, Rev. David Wilkerson's accounting of his gang outreach work in New York. "The Untouchables" and "The Man from U.N.C.L.E." were her favorite TV crime dramas, even though men held the lead roles.

"I always had this thing about law and order, doing what's right and helping people," recalls Leonhart, a 1978 Bemidji State graduate with a criminal justice degree.

Her passions have propelled her to stunning career achievements. In 2004, President Bush appointed her deputy administrator of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). When her supervisor resigned in November 2007, Leonhart took command as the acting administrator, and she now reports directly to the U.S. attorney general. In this capacity, she oversees a \$2.6 billion budget as well as 10,000 agents and employees in the U.S. and 63 foreign countries.

In October, with Leonhart at the helm, the DEA completed its largest single drug sting of Mexican drug cartels in U.S. history. Later in the month, the



Leonhart pays tribute to three special agents killed while on duty in Afghanistan.

DEA tragically lost three special agents in a helicopter crash that followed a successful drug mission and firefight with suspected Taliban drug traffickers in Afghanistan. The agents' remains and those of 15 other Americans killed in action that week were flown to Dover Air Force Base, where President Obama and several other dignitaries, including Leonhart, met the aircraft and stood solemnly at attention as the flag-draped coffins were transferred.

A Non-Stop Duty

Leonhart's job is non-stop. She frequently receives 3 a.m. calls about her DEA agents in Afghanistan. She consults with dignitaries from around the world and attends meetings with the nation's cabinet-level leaders. She's been in meetings with the likes of Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, former Attorney General Janet Reno, and former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

Although Leonhart's life is fast paced, she did find time in early October to return to Bemidji State to receive a 2009 Outstanding Alumni Award. She met with students and reunited with criminal justice professor Dr. Don Bradel, a former Chicago cop, who had encouraged Leonhart to pursue her dreams.

"He knew how bad I wanted to be a cop," says Leonhart. "He believed in me, and I followed his advice."

Bradel had encouraged Leonhart, who had her heart set on being a Minneapolis or St. Paul police officer, to apply for jobs outside of Minnesota. Some agencies turned her down for being too short at 5'4" or not strong enough. Shortly after graduating from BSU, however, she landed a job as a Baltimore beat cop in one of the city's toughest precincts.

(Continued on page 8)

BORN TO BE A COP

(continued from page 13)

Leonhart approached the new position with wide-eyed innocence, earning her the name “Alice in Wonderland” among her colleagues. The Baltimore beat turned out to be the perfect start for an aspiring police officer.

“I bet I could have gone my whole career and not have seen what I saw in a month in Baltimore,” muses Leonhart. “I was exposed to all those things that Minnesota isn’t. And all those crimes – abuse to children, rape, theft, assault – somehow they were all connected to drugs.”

Building a Career

Intrigued by the prospect of narcotics investigations, Leonhart joined the DEA and graduated at the top of her class in 1980. She spent five years as an undercover agent in Minneapolis and St. Louis, bringing down minor street dealers as well as some notorious drug traffickers. With feigned naiveté, she worked her way into some of the toughest drug circles without anyone suspecting her as a DEA agent. Her success led to supervisory positions in San Diego, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and at DEA headquarters in Washing-

ton, DC. From 1998 to 2003, she was special agent in charge of DEA’s Los Angeles Field Division, where she was responsible for all enforcement and administrative operations in the area, as well as those in Nevada, Hawaii, Guam, and Saipan. In her 29-year DEA career, Leonhart has garnered numerous awards, including the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Service from President Clinton in 2000 and from President Bush in 2005.

While somewhat demure about her own achievements, she points with pride to the bravery and accomplishments of her agents, many of whom, despite the risks, volunteer to serve in dangerous international settings such as Afghanistan, one of the most requested

assignments among her agents.

What pleases her most, though, is the declining trend in the nation’s use of illicit drugs.

“A lot of people will say we’re losing the war on drugs,” comments Leonhart. “That’s not true. We have 900,000 fewer teens using drugs today than in 2001. Kids are getting the message.”

Still, the drug challenges continue. Leonhart notes that while illicit drug use has declined, U.S. teens are abusing pharmaceutical drugs, such as painkillers, at alarming rates. She also worries about violence in Mexico as officials tighten their grip on Mexican drug cartels and about the global connections between terrorism and drugs.

“I bet I could have gone my whole career and not have seen what I saw in a month in Baltimore. I was exposed to all those things that Minnesota isn’t. And all those crimes – abuse to children, rape, theft, assault – somehow they were all connected to drugs.”

Michele Leonhart





During her campus visit, Leonhart chats with Dr. Don Bradel, BSU criminal justice professor, former Chicago police officer, and Leonhart mentor.

A Natural Leader

The oldest of seven children, Leonhart learned to lead at a young age. Her father traveled as a salesman, so when her mother began a full-time job, Leonhart took charge at home. She made sure her siblings were out of bed, fed, and on the bus in time for school. These youthful experiences helped frame her approach to the job.

"I always felt that I was in charge," says Leonhart, noting that one of the main functions of an administrator is to ensure everyone has what is needed to get the job done. In a way, it's like being a responsible big sister, she says.

As Leonhart reflects on her career, she's most fond of her work as an undercover agent where her investigative prowess would make even Nancy Drew envious. "Nothing will ever be as fun and as exciting as being an agent on a big case," acknowledges Leonhart.

At the writing of this story, Leonhart is unsure when President Obama might appoint the next DEA administrator. While it's hard for her to imagine a life outside the DEA, she's too busy to think about that possibility right now.

"Whatever I do next, it will be helping on the drug front," says Leonhart. "I'm a cop. That's what I love to do. That's what I'm meant to do." **HORIZONS**



SENIORS

TO *Watch*

Meet Kyle, Mandy, and Jennifer.
Their worlds and opportunities expanded at BSU.



Kyle Hardwick

Kyle Hardwick was playing in the United States Hockey League when Bemidji State University and Dartmouth offered him the chance to play Division I hockey.

The appeal of an Ivy League education was compelling, but the Warroad native opted for the school that was closer to home and more affordable. He had no idea how fortuitous his decision would be.

"A lot of people look at me and say, 'What?' when I tell them that I could have gone to Dartmouth, but chose Bemidji State," quips Hardwick, adding with a smile that he has no regrets. "I'm happy I came here."

Hardwick, a defenseman, helped lead the men's hockey team to a historic berth in the NCAA Frozen Four in Washington, DC, in 2009. That experience alone makes his decision to attend Bemidji State hard to beat, he says.

In addition, he's found an enriching academic experience at BSU, one allowing him to explore his interests in intercultural relations and politics. He reads international newspapers for their diverse perspectives and follows world politics through *The New York Times* and the BBC. He also appreciates insights gained from well-traveled professors and international students, including a Malaysian exchange student whose passion for Beaver hockey caught Hardwick by surprise. "He can't get enough of hockey," says Hardwick, who enjoys their conversations.

Hardwick carries a 3.92 GPA and will graduate in May with a degree in business administration and an emphasis in international business, as well as a minor in political science. His career aspirations are wide open, although he's applying to law school, possibly to become a corporate attorney, a player agent, or some type of professional who has international travel as a job responsibility.

To focus more on intercultural relations, he's also considering a BSU summer study abroad program in China, although he doesn't need the extra credits to graduate.

"It would be amazing to go to China, Mongolia, Hong Kong," says Hardwick. "I think it would be a life-changing experience."

Whatever Hardwick pursues, his adviser Doug Leif, business administration department chair, has every confidence in him. "He's a person of integrity and mature beyond his years," says Leif. "He's someone who you would want your own children to emulate."

Hardwick anticipates graduation with mixed emotions. He's excited about his future but will miss his teammates and the daily rhythm of classes followed by hockey practice.

"I'm just trying to enjoy every minute," says Hardwick as he heads into his final stretch at Bemidji State. **HORIZONS**

As a recently divorced mother of two young sons, Mandy Abeld quickly realized that her nursing assistant salary would not pay the family's bills for long. She needed a better paying job and a route to finding one. So in 2004, she and a friend, another single mom, decided to return to school together.

"I thought if she can do it, I can do it," recalls Abeld, who had dropped out of the University of Minnesota-Crookston nine years earlier.

Undecided on a major, she and her friend eventually transferred and moved their families to Bemidji State in 2005. The two moms rented side-by-side apartments so they could help each other.

Abeld relied on part-time work, financial aid, student loans, and supportive parents to fund school. Yet, it wasn't enough, so she turned to public assistance. She met caring staff who inspired her to pursue social work and a career of giving back.

The decision also led Abeld to face an earlier chapter in her life. She grew up with a chemically dependent stepfather and was, at the time, involved with a chemically dependent boyfriend. The situation drew her to a chemical dependency course, an area of social work she initially had wanted to avoid.



"I always said that it would never happen to me," recalls Abeld, who eventually ended the relationship. "I had to think of my kids. I didn't want them to go through what I went through."

In August, Abeld earned her social work degree with a minor in chemical dependency and certification as a licensed alcohol and drug counselor. She'll take the test for her Minnesota license this spring. Currently she works full-time as a counselor at Oshki Manidoo, a treatment center in Bemidji for chemically dependent youth. She is also interested in influencing social policies that support people of all ages.

"Mandy has overcome numerous life challenges," says BSU social work director Dr. Cheryl Byers. "She is a role model for every student who wonders if they can succeed at reaching their goals."

Abeld is grateful for supportive professors and for the help of her friend. Both have graduated and found fulfilling work, which makes for two happy new beginnings.

"There were many times I wanted to give up," admits Abeld. "I was so tired, and it was hard making ends meet. I'm proud of myself, and my kids are proud of me. I hope it will encourage them to attend college too." **HORIZONS**



Mandy Abeld



Jennifer Phillips

Jennifer Phillips is on the brink of a second career. In the first, she compiled abstracts as a science editor for two monthly journals. An uncle, who read one of the journals, declared it the most boring publication he had ever read. Phillips agreed.

When, in the midst of a health crisis, she lost her job, Phillips decided to write a new chapter in her life, one requiring inspiration rather than the exactness of editing. Bemidji State University provided the backdrop for her new story line.

In December, she graduated from the University with a degree in creative writing. She completed the program in 15 months so she could pursue a master of fine arts. She aims to be a freelance writer eventually and, perhaps, teach writing online.

"My goal is to write books that aren't boring," says Phillips in deference to her uncle and her own high standards.

Dr. Mark Christensen, BSU professor of English, has no doubt that she will succeed. His student file marked "Jennifer" is bursting at the seams with her prolific writing from courses in advanced poetry, advanced prose, American literature, and creative non-fiction.

"She's like my second job," teases Christensen. "She astonishes me with the volume and quality of her writing. Her poetry is outstanding. She has an amazing control of image and sound, which

is astounding because she doesn't hear."

The youngest of five children, Phillips was born deaf, as was her oldest brother. She graduated from a Fairfax, VA, high school as a National Merit Scholarship semi-finalist and earned a biology degree from Gallaudet University, a school for the deaf in Washington, DC.

A lover of language, Phillips has mastered English and American Sign Language and also studied Latin, French, and Spanish. Those experiences, she says, help her feel the beauty of language, particularly in poetry.

"I experience the rhythm in my head as a flux of gesture and the images as they are. I see the pattern of language and repetition," Phillips explains. "I get phrase cooties as you get tune cooties."

Phillips appreciates her BSU experience. She's been close to her parents in International Falls and found good writing mentors among the University's faculty. While at BSU, she also has explored the history of deaf in America, a possible subject for a future book.

Inspired by her love of Isaac Asimov essays, Phillips had planned to major in writing as well as biology at Gallaudet, but she didn't have the patience. Bemidji State has been her second chance.

"I'm glad to have the opportunity to actually carry out that old dream," says Phillips. **HORIZONS**

Keeping Students Engaged

ALUM MAKES LEARNING FRESH,

Ask John Broda where he works and he'll tell you Buffalo Ridge Elementary School in Cheyenne, WY. Ask him if he considers his role as teacher, coach, and mentor to 27 sixth graders a job. The answer is no.

"Every day is not a job, that's for sure," says Broda, a 2001 graduate of Bemidji State. "It's a passion just to teach and be here. You go in and you get to play with kids and hopefully have a positive effect on them every day."

It's Broda's passion – and outstanding service in and out of the classroom – that has attracted accolades from students, colleagues, and the education community throughout his career.

Recently Broda was honored with an Arch Coal Teacher Achievement

Award. In its ninth year, Arch Coal recognizes Wyoming teachers who excel in their work with students and are valued members of their communities. Nominated by his colleagues and former students, Broda was selected by a panel of past Arch Coal award recipients. The panel noted his dedication to student success in the classroom and through extracurricular activities. They also cited his commitment to community service, involvement that Broda and his wife, Stacy, a former teacher, take very seriously.

"If students see you in the community, they're going to respect you and understand you're not just a teacher, you're a person too," says Broda, a former volunteer firefighter and city council member who also coaches wrestling at a local community center.

Creating Connections

One of the most challenging aspects of Broda's job, but one he considers vital to being a good teacher, is connecting with every student. That bond is important whether it occurs in class, in the hallway, or in extra curricular activities.

"Finding a different angle to reach every kid is so important," he says.

"Finding a different angle to reach every kid is so important. You need to see all the kids, making sure they're not slipping through the cracks and doing your best to find the right resources for them."

John Broda



FLEXIBLE, AND FUN

"You need to see all the kids, making sure they're not slipping through the cracks and doing your best to find the right resources for them."

One way Broda reaches out to his students is through his fervor for athletics. At Bemidji State, he played baseball and earned all-conference honors as a pitcher. Today, he relishes being able to pass along his love of sports to students. Besides coaching high school wrestling, Broda recently founded his school's first archery club. One of his new archers has excelled in the sport, placing in national competition and now ranking 31st in the world.

"I wouldn't have expected her to be an archer at all, but that was the thing she grabbed on to," says Broda. "Every activity, every time you interact with a child, may be the thing that will keep them in school."

In the classroom, Broda says the key to keeping students engaged in learning is to make things fresh, flexible, and fun.

"I guarantee, if you walk into my classroom, most of the time, we're having fun," says Broda. "But we're having fun getting down to business."

Even during standardized testing weeks, Broda and his teaching partner, Kirsten Rief, keep it light. They bring in treats for his kids, come up with fun activities to prepare for the tests, and blast "We Will Rock You" from an MP3 player to get students fired up before each exam.

While fun is a must, Broda is always mindful that his students must succeed. The ten-year teaching veteran helps ensure their progress by never being



Broda builds individual connections with his sixth graders.

content to rest on his past experience or last year's worksheets.

"Every kid is different, every class is different, every day is different," he says. "If I'm not getting positive results, I have to change. I need to be the flexible one and find a way for the kids to make progress."

Continuing Education

Broda traces his love of teaching, and some of his teaching techniques, to influential educators in his own life. From them, he learned the importance of meeting the academic and social needs of students first hand. In first grade, for instance, he struggled in math, and a special education teacher, spotting his difficulties, took him aside for extra help. Then there was Mr. Voltz, Broda's high school physics teacher. He kept students on their toes by randomly breaking things during class to grab their attention and make class more fun. Broda also will never forget Mr. Bang, an English teacher who invited students to dig deeper into complicated texts, making the whole class feel smart when they accomplished their assignments. Each teacher left an indelible mark, and each one still influences the way Broda teaches today.

"You learn from those great teachers and go back to some of the things they

did," he says. "I find myself sometimes telling the same jokes I remember an elementary school teacher telling me. Hopefully it will stick with a kid, and maybe we can build a connection."

Broda also credits his instructors and peers at Bemidji State for giving him a solid foundation on which to build his career and for helping him land his first full-time teaching job in Wyoming.

"The principal knows the teachers who have come out of Bemidji; he knows the work ethic that comes out of Minnesota. It put me on top of the list just by being from there," he says.

Bemidji State also gave Broda ample opportunity to test his teaching skills before leaving college, something he considers essential for any would-be teacher.

"As soon as you teach, you know if you are a teacher or not," he says. "I thank Bemidji State for putting me in the classroom with kids, not just having me do class work."

As for the future, Broda plans to return to college and obtain his principal endorsement. His ultimate goal is to move into administration. For now, however, he is content to fulfill his passion as a teacher, mentor, and friend to students in and out of the classroom. He strives to view every day as an opportunity to teach and to learn.

"Each day, when I go in front of students, I never know what they will say or do that will leave a lasting impression on my future lessons," he says. "Every day I learn how to be a better teacher from my students." **HORIZONS**



Bucky helped members of the Class of 1969 and wrap-around classmates celebrate their 40-year reunion during Homecoming weekend. **First Row (l-r):** Ilene (Heimsjo) Rice, Rod Augustine, Rob Jacobson, Ron Sprafka, Kathryn (Manwiller) Eastman, Judy Erickson, Sandy (Heron) Sprafka. **Second Row (l-r):** Gregg Rice, Gary Hokanson, Barb (Parks) Hokanson, Linda (Fraser) Jacobson ('70), Ken Tervola, Judith (Shingler) Newell, Pat Kelly, Darlene Fee ('70), Diane (Lance) Sizer, Arline (Weiss) Richter, Carter Pettersen ('70). **Third Row (l-r):** Ray Reekie, Bill Brufflodt, Judith (Eidem) Hirdler, David Hanson, Glen Bressler, Robert Scarpino.

IN MEMORIAM

Roy Aho '69, Eveleth, MN
 Cora Anderson '38, Albuquerque, NM
 Nancy A. Brown '03, Bemidji, MN
 Frank E. Connor '97, Orr, MN
 Betty L. (Whitehill) Dahl-Schumann '91, Aitkin, MN
 Eugene Dalzotto (Faculty), Bemidji, MN
 Jay Emerson '81, Eagan, MN
 James D. Erie '60, Marysville, WA
 Jeanette (Melcher) Fox '69, Duluth, MN
 Tonnette L. (Kulisek) Gregerson '72 & '83, Grand Rapids, MN
 Melvin R. Hendrickson '61, Fairbanks, AK
 Albert J. Hermiston '66, Grand Rapids, MN
 Calvin P. Hinrichs '50, Big Lake, MN
 William Hunnicutt, Jr. '72, Wadena, MN
 Dr. Myrtie Hunt (Faculty), Bemidji, MN
 Delores Husted '64, International Falls, MN
 Gertrude E. (Muckala) Johnson '39, Wadena, MN
 Yvonne G. Johnson '69, Leonard, MN
 Ray W. Kavanagh '83, Bemidji, MN
 Beverly Kays '77, Thief River Falls, MN
 Royal C. Knutson '65, Ada, MN
 Mary M. Krantz '71, Little Falls, MN
 Verna (Ferrell) Langlie '34, St. Augustine, FL
 Carol L. Leacox '97, Park Rapids, MN
 Brad G. Lemke '93, Grand Rapids, MN
 Dorothy M. (Traver) Lewison '77, Winter Haven, FL
 Cheri Jo Long '01, Roanoke, VA
 Charlene (Lewis) Lundin '71, Bagley, MN
 Scott C. Monsrud '86, Mazeppa, MN
 Michael J. Muchlinski '85, Plymouth, MN
 Gregory J. Myhre '76, Stillwater, MN
 Leo A. Nistler '48, Santa Rosa, CA
 Catherine A. Nordlund '31, Eugene, OR
 Josephine R. (McDonald) Oberg '57, Duluth, MN
 Shirley M. Ogden '73, Coleraine, MN
 Roger D. Olson '79, Wadena, MN
 Florence M. (Wright) Peterson '36, Mankato, MN
 David W. Pieper '80, Minneapolis, MN
 Richard Randall '69, Grand Rapids, MN
 David W. Rose '72, White Bear Lake, MN
 Earl C. Seelye Jr. '75, Deer River, MN
 Elizabeth I. Shetterly '79, Tofield, Alberta
 Stephan L. Stinar '93, Bemidji, MN
 Benny Tonce '80, Cass Lake, MN
 Willard L. Torgerson '57, Edina, MN
 Otto E. Ursin '41, Moorhead, MN
 Gary G. Zitzer '68, Crookston, MN

SEEKING NOMINATIONS

The Alumni Association is seeking nominations for the Outstanding Alumni Award and for the Athletic Hall of Fame. Although the majority of names submitted for these awards come from alumni and friends, nominations for both programs can be made by anyone except an immediate family member. Nomination forms can be found under "Awards" on the Alumni Association website at www.bsualumni.org. Completed nominations must be postmarked by February 1, 2010.



Paul Hedtke graduated from Bemidji State University in 1981 with a double major in physics and mathematics. In addition to his BSU degree, he also completed the Executive Program for Scientists and Engineers at the University of California, San Diego, as well as the Hughes Executive Marketing Program at the Anderson Graduate School of Management, University of California, Los Angeles. Having spent his career in engineering, product design, and business development, Hedtke is currently senior director of business development for Qualcomm, Inc. He and his wife, Tammi, have one son and live in San Diego, CA.

Kevin Jackson graduated from BSU in 1985 with a bachelor's degree in mass communication. Since then, he has spent his entire career in radio. He currently serves as the program director for Paul Bunyan Broadcasting stations 104.5-FM, 95.5-FM, and 1450-AM. He is also the sports director for all five of the company's Bemidji stations. Kevin and his wife, Nicole, have three children and reside in Bemidji.

Gordon Johnson earned a bachelor's degree in music from Bemidji State College in 1971, completed his master's degree at Northwestern University in Illinois in 1976, and finished course work requirements for a doctorate in music at the University of Oregon. Devoting his career to music, he currently is the music director and conductor of the Great Falls Symphony. Gordon and his wife, Ruth, have two sons and make their home in Great Falls, MT.

Outstanding Alumni Award

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

All nominees must have graduated no less than 10 years ago from Bemidji State University. Current faculty, staff, and members of the Board of Directors of the Bemidji State University Alumni Association are not eligible for consideration.

Athletic Hall of Fame Awards

The BSU Athletic Hall of Fame now has three different award categories. Those categories are: Athletic Hall of Fame, which focuses primarily on an alum's accomplishments while an athlete at Bemidji State; the BSU Alumni Coaching Achievement Award for alumni athletes whose major accomplishments were in coaching after they left BSU; and the BSU Coaches Hall of Fame, which recognizes significant accomplishments achieved while coaching at BSU.

To be considered for the first two alumni awards, former athletes must have earned an athletic letter at Bemidji State, attended BSU for at least two years, and attended or graduated from the University at least 20 years ago. They also must not have earned a degree from another university.

Save the Date

Men's Hockey vs. UMD

Alumni and Friends Pre-Game Social

Grandma's Sports Garden, Canal Park, Duluth
Saturday, January 23

BSU Athletic Hall of Fame Weekend

Friday and Saturday, February 19-20

John Glas Fieldhouse Closing Ceremonies

Celebrating the final hockey game in the Glas
Saturday, February 20

Alumni and Friends Dinner and Golf

Oakwood Country Club, Sun Lakes, AZ
Saturday, March 6

50-Year Reunion of the Class of 1960

Thursday, May 6

Golden Beaver Society Luncheon

Recognizing alumni who graduated fifty or more years ago
Friday, May 7

For more information on each event, visit the association's website at www.bsualumni.org.

2009 OUTSTANDING ALUMNI



Paul Hedtke



Kevin Jackson



Gordon Johnson



Michele Leonhart



Adele Munsterman



Col. Gregg Rice



Dr. Linda Shadiow



Dave Sorensen



Dr. Ranae Womack

Michele Leonhart is a 1978 Bemidji State graduate with a degree in criminal justice. She has spent her career in law enforcement, primarily in narcotics enforcement. In 2004, President Bush appointed her deputy administrator of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). Since November 2007, she has served as DEA's acting administrator. Leonhart and her husband, Gene Johns, have two sons. The couple splits their time between California and Washington, DC.

Adele Munsterman earned a secondary education degree in 1974 with a double major in French and Spanish. She taught both languages during her 32-year career in the Fridley Public Schools. After she retired from the Fridley schools in June 2009, she began a new teaching position at Blaine High School in the fall. She was named previously to the University's Professional Education Hall of Fame. She and her husband, Walt, reside in Brooklyn Park.

Col. Gregg Rice is a 1969 Bemidji State College graduate with a bachelor's degree in business management. He later earned a master's in systems management from the University of Southern California and graduated from the Air Force Squadron Officer School, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff School, and Australia's Joint Services Staff College. Col. Rice served 23 years as a fighter pilot for the United States Air Force. After retiring from the military, he spent another 10 years flying commercial airliners. Rice and his wife, Ilene, also a BSU alum, have two grown children. The couple lives in Colorado Springs, CO.

Dr. Linda Shadiow earned a double major in English and in speech and theater from Bemidji State in 1969. She later earned a master's in secondary education from Montana State University and a doctorate in secondary English education from Arizona State University. She currently is the director of Arizona State University's faculty development program and a professor of educational foundations and English. Shadiow and her husband, Robert, also a Bemidji State alum, make their home in Flagstaff, AZ.

Dave Sorensen earned a degree in business education from Bemidji State in 1972. After graduation, he began a 36-year career at General Mills and retired in 2008 as vice president of worldwide sourcing. Actively involved in community and business organizations, he currently serves on the BSU Foundation Board of Directors. Dave and his wife, Kathy, have three grown children and reside in Minneapolis.

Dr. Ranae Womack earned two bachelors' degrees from BSU, one in health education in 1979 and another in nursing in 1987. She later received a master's in nursing and a doctorate in higher education administration and statistics from the University of North Dakota. Womack spent much of her career at BSU, including eight years as the dean of the College of Social and Natural Sciences. Retiring in 2009, she now lives in Ashland, OR, with her husband, Dr. Larry Womack, a previous BSU Outstanding Alum. They have four grown children.

Class Notes

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

PLEASE NOTE:
*Towns are located in Minnesota unless otherwise noted.
Alumni names appear in bold.*

2009 Terry Bennett recently accepted an associate loan officer position with AgCountry Farm Credit Services in Morris. While attending BSU, he had worked for Pro Ag Farmers Coop. He lives in Kensington ... **Samantha (Lemke) Bohnert** has opened Samplicity Art Hovel, a gallery and studio in Glencoe. She currently exhibits her own pieces in the gallery and creates various art forms, custom craft items, and murals for area homes. She and her husband, **Aron**, live in Glencoe ... **Rachel Johnson** is teaching grades 4-6 language arts classes for Verndale schools, where she previously served as a paraprofessional and librarian. She and her husband, **Dan**, have two children ... **Amanda Schmitz** has been hired to teach middle school and high school math at Frazee schools ... **Karlee Simonson** is teaching four sections of science and is helping with physical education classes and volleyball coaching for Maple Lake schools. She lives in Rockford ... **Trevor Page** is the new industrial arts instructor at Lafayette High School in Red Lake Falls, where he resides. He will also coach junior high and junior varsity baseball ... **Edward Holmes** is teaching 7-12 earth science, chemistry, physics, and other science classes at Verndale public schools. He previously taught at Crosby-Ironton High School ... **Josh Karch** is teaching biology, physics, and earth science in the Ulen-Hitterdahl school system. He lives in Moorhead.

2008 Jared Stull was a member of a golfing foursome that tied for second-place in the Don Fairchild Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament in Bemidji, where he resides. He is operations manager at T & K Outdoors ... **Heidi Borgen Warne** is a kindergarten paraprofessional in the elementary school in Badger. She worked the past two years in that school district as well as Herman-Norcross schools. She and her husband, **Stacey Warne**, make their home in Badger ... **Ashley Duray** is teaching second grade at the elementary school in Middle River. She and her husband, **Max**, live in Greenbush with their son ... **Rebecca Moosey** married Kyle Johnson last June in North Branch. She is a special education teacher in the Clearbrook-Gonvick School District, and he is employed at Arrow Printing in Bemidji, where the couple resides ... **Lacie (Roppe) Hovland** is directing the new drumline at Lafayette High School in Red Lake Falls. She lives in Fertile with her husband, **Tom** ... **Kimberle Nagle** is the new grant writer at Central Lakes College. She will coordinate and manage external funding opportunities offered by corporations, foundations, and government sources. She formerly was a director of development in the BSU Foundation office. She and her husband, **Matt**, reside in Laporte ... **Melani Walen** married Nolan Capra ('00) last spring in Park Rapids. The newlyweds live in Glencoe, where she is employed by Glencoe Regional Health Services, and he is a State Farm Insurance agent ... **Jessica Patterson** is teaching elementary Title

I in the Onamia school system after spending last year as a long-term substitute in both Isle and Ogilvie. She lives in Mora with her husband and son ... **Emily Rousslange** is a part-time Title I teacher in Sauk Centre public schools ... **Isaac Kvasager** is teaching science classes at Grygla-Gatzke School. He and his wife, **Danielle**, live in Plummer ... **Lisa Farwell** is teaching art at schools in Kelliher. She previously taught at a charter school in Rochester ... **Angie Baker** is the lead Title I teacher, sixth-grade reading teacher, and high-potential instructor at Ashby public schools. She lives in Evansville with her husband, **Brad**, and two children.

2007 **Stephanie Aker** is teaching kindergarten in the Pine River-Backus school system, where she had been a long-term sub the previous school year. Aker lives in Backus ... **Andrea Foster** was promoted to a loan technician position at Bank Forward in Walker. Prior to joining the bank, she worked in public accounting ... **Lori Vigstol** had two submissions selected for publication in a nursing anthology. Vigstol works for Polk County Public Health as a public health nurse in the Elderly Waiver Program. One of the submissions, "I Married Santa," won third place in a humorous writing contest sponsored by allnurses.com, a forum for the nursing profession. She lives in Red Lake Falls with her husband, **Jeffrey**. The couple has three children ... **Crystal Price** operates the Celeste Shop in Pequot Lakes, where she lives. The shop features the works of Minnesota artists ... **Sgt. Daniel Bishop** has returned to the United States after being deployed overseas at a forward operating base in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. A member of the army reserve for 10 years, he is a heavy equipment vehicle operator normally assigned to the 353rd Transportation Company based in Buffalo. He lives in Glencoe ... **Shaina Sakrison** married Jared Ostby last summer in Cohasset. The bride is enrolled in chiropractic at Northwestern College of Health Sciences, and the groom is finishing a law enforcement program at Minneapolis Community and Technical College. They live in Bloomington.

2006 **Christina Egnell** married Ryan LaPoint last June in Rogers. She is teaching seventh grade health and physical education in the St. Michael-Albertville school system, and Ryan teaches middle school physical education in Elk River. The couple resides in Otsego ... **Allen Zutz** was a member of the third-place foursome during the Courage North Golf Open held in Bemidji, where he lives and works as a financial associate at Thrivent Financial for Lutherans ... **Justin Stottlemire** was named General Manager of the Bellingham Bells, a summer collegiate baseball team located in Bellingham, WA. Stottlemire's experience includes six years in athletic media and public relations on the professional baseball and intercollegiate athletic levels, most recently in the minor league media relations department of the Florida Marlins. He lives in Bellingham ... **Aaron Phillippe** recently began a position as a Minnesota state trooper covering Roseau and Lake of the Woods counties. His previous experience included service in the Roseau County Sheriff's Office and the police department in Warroad, where he currently resides. He also is a licensed EMT and a volunteer firefighter ... **Adam Kladivo**, a Hibbing

police officer, received a Lifesaver Award for traffic safety work from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. A resident of Tower, he also is a first responder and volunteer firefighter ... **Sally Wolff** has been hired as an agent for State Farm Insurance in Warren. Licensed in all areas of insurance sales, she will specialize in life insurance and financial services. She also works part-time as a personal trainer. Her husband, **Duke**, is a supervisor with a pipeline construction company. The couple lives in Thief River Falls.

2005 **Maija Harju** received an Early Career Excellence Award during the annual conference of the Minnesota Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. The award is presented to social workers who demonstrate a high degree of professionalism and achievement in the first 10 years of their career. A licensed social worker from Underwood, Harju was honored for her work as an adoption social worker with the Permanent Family Resource Center, a licensed, nonprofit adoption agency serving Minnesota and North Dakota ... **Mike Schultz** is the new industrial mechanical technology instructor at Mid-State Technical College in Wisconsin Rapids, WI. He brings 25 years of work experience to the classroom as a millwright, machinist, and welder for Hasseblad Machine Company, Kendall Healthcare Products, and Medalcraft Mint ... **Marci Maple** is a new nurse practitioner in internal medicine and family medicine at MeritCare Clinic in Bemidji. Maple earned a master's degree as a nurse practitioner from St. Scholastica in Duluth. Board certified, she is a member of the Sigma Theta Tau nursing honor society and lives in Bemidji ... **Jen Honek** is teaching first and sixth grades as well as third- and fourth-grade religion at St. Joseph Catholic School in Red Lake Falls. She previously held teaching assignments in Staples and New Town, ND. A composer of Christian music, she recently finished recording an album of her guitar and vocal music. She and her husband, **Tim** ('04), recently moved to Crookston.

2004 **Matt Kukowski** and his wife, **Samantha**, announce the birth of their first child, a girl. Matt serves as the athletic director and a sixth-grade teacher in Isle, where they live, and Samantha works for Oberfeld Insurance ... **Heather (Hoffman) Humeniuk** and her husband, **Marty** ('03), recently celebrated the birth of their first child, a boy born in April. Heather teaches English in Faribault, and Marty currently works as an agency management specialist for Selective Insurance. They reside in Owatonna ... **Jim Mack** is teaching industrial technology classes, ranging from woods to manufacturing, at Greenbush-Middle River School, where he also is the assistant wrestling coach and middle school baseball coach. He recently married **Lisa Peterson**, who is employed at the Roseau Clinic. They live in Greenbush ... **Terry Sawdley** is a new fifth-grade teacher for the elementary school in Cromwell. Recently married to **Jessica Knight**, he taught at Hill City for four years and Albrook for one year ... **JerriAnne Burton** began teaching first grade in Frazee this fall. She previously worked in the Sebeka School District for five years. She is married to **Christopher**, a jailer in the Becker County Sheriff's Department. They live in Frazee with their daughter ... **Jessica (Radermacher) Smith** and her husband, **Kyle**, announce the addition of a son to their family, which includes two



Class Notes

daughters. They live in Windom, where Jessica coaches high school softball.

2003 Matt Nohner married Grace Steiner during a July ceremony in Mankato. Matt teaches math at Delano High School, and Grace teaches English at Orono High School. The couple recently moved to Delano ... **Angela Holmquist** recently joined Nystrom and Associates, a rehabilitative mental health service in Baxter. She previously was employed in the chemical dependency field. In her new position, she will work collaboratively with community-based agencies on basic living skills, social skills, and community intervention ... **Kevin Krigbaum** and **Jeanne Larson** were married in Bemidji last fall. Krigbaum is an insurance advisor at Wells Fargo in Minneapolis, and Larson is an attorney in Champlin. They reside in Brooklyn Park ... **Bryan Hielscher** married Jennifer Peterson last spring in San Antonio, TX. He is an Air Force officer and flight commander of the 12th Logistics Readiness Flight; she is a stock and finance associate at Smith Barney. They make their home at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio ... **Ben Hanson** obtained a master's degree in curriculum and instruction through the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. Hanson has taught English for the past six years at Lafayette High School in Red Lake Falls, where he lives ... **Aimee (Anselmo) Rahier** is teaching this year in the Bigfork school system. She previously was the Title I teacher in the district and also taught for three years in Grand Rapids. She and her husband, Mike, live in Bigfork with their two children ... **Donny DeMars** has been inducted into the Warrior Athletic Hall of Fame in Warroad. As an athlete, he earned 15 high school letters in three sports. He currently works for a Twin Cities area refinery and lives in Red Wing.

2002 Tom Jenkins captured the men's championship at the Birchmont Golf Tournament held at the Bemidji Town and Country Club last summer. Jenkins plays annually in top amateur tournaments across Minnesota and tied for 14th in the 2009 state amateur championships. It was his first Birchmont title after second-place finishes in 2001 and 2002. From Maple Grove, he has begun training for an insurance job at Wells Fargo in Minneapolis ... **Kimberly Woodland** is a nurse practitioner in family medicine for MeritCare Clinic in Bemidji. A Bemidji resident, she earned her master's degree as a nurse practitioner at St. Scholastica in Duluth.

2000 Mark Palmer is the plant manager at Highwater Ethanol in Lambertson. Prior to moving to Wabasso with his wife, Victoria, to start his current position, he worked for companies in Minnesota and Illinois ... **Jeff Myers** is the new special education teacher and football coach at Browerville High School. His previous teaching experience included seven years in the St. Cloud School District. Myers, his wife Erica, and two daughters live in Browerville.

1999 Missy Andvik, director of social services at Golden Living Center in Moorhead, was named the facility's Employee of the Year for enhancing residents' quality of life and for her leadership skills. A social service professional with 11 years experience in the area, she is responsible for coordinating admission and discharges at Golden Living Center, while also

identifying and providing for each resident's social, emotional, and psychological needs. She lives in Breckenridge.

1998 Shane Zutz has been named as the principal at Lincoln High School in Thief River Falls. Zutz, who received the 2009 Assistant Principal of the Year Award from the northern division of the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals, previously served the school district as a middle school vice principal. He and his wife, Mya, live in Thief River Falls with their three sons ... **Kim (Oja) Elhardt** is teaching fourth grade in the Bigfork school system, where she previously taught kindergarten for 11 years. She lives in Marcell with her husband, Eric, and three sons ... **Corey Derby** received the Outstanding Service Award presented by Monticello High School. An industrial technology teacher at the school, he has classes in woods, metals, digital video, and photography. He taught at the middle school in Monticello for nine years before moving to the high school in 2007. He and his wife, Monica Rogus, live in Monticello with their two children ... **Brent Olson** is in his fourth year as the head football coach for Lewiston-Altura High School. He lives in Lanesboro with his wife, Michelle ... **Tracy Schar** joined the Rochester firm of Waddell & Reed as an advisor. He develops customized financial plans and recommends investment strategies. He resides in Kasson with his wife, Jeannie.

1997 Mark Borene has authored, illustrated and self-published four children's books in the Welcome to the World series he initiated. The books, *Welcome to the Sky*, *Welcome to the Farm*, *Welcome to the Ground*, and *Welcome to the School*, can be viewed on his website: www.thewelcomebooks.com. He lives in Northfield with his two children ... **Dane Jones** and **Richard Blomberg** were members of the golfing foursome that won the Don Fairchild Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament in Bemidji. Jones is a partner at the accounting firm Krigbaum & Jones. Blomberg owns Skeeter Stitch, a custom silkscreen and embroidery company ... **Michele Carnahan** is teaching sixth grade in Bigfork after spending the previous eight years at a school in Marshalltown, IA. She and her husband, Larry, have two grown children and live in Grand Rapids.

1996 Scott Rud is currently studying for a master's degree in risk control through the University of Wisconsin-Stout. He and his wife, Sandy, live in Eau Claire, WI, with their two children ... **Tony Palm** has been promoted to president at the International Falls branch of Border State Bank. He has been employed with Border State Bank since 2001, most recently as business development officer. He and his wife, Leesa, make their home in International Falls with their two children ... **Aaron Stefanich** is the new children's librarian at the Grand Forks Public Library. Prior to accepting the position, he worked as a media specialist in Minnesota schools. He lives in Grand Forks, ND ... **Kim Bettcher** has written a children's book about football as part of a Way to Play series intended to introduce youngsters to the basics of games or activities. She is the programming director at the Detroit Lakes Community & Cultural Center. Her husband, Josh, is a high school biology teacher. They have lived in Detroit Lakes for 10 years with their three children.

1995 Jason Schardin has been teaching pre-K classes at the Northwest YMCA Early Learning Center for the past eight years. He and his wife, DeAnn Lea, recently moved to Brooklyn Center with their daughter ... **Jennifer Parker** has completed a master's degree through Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, AZ. Parker is an English teacher living and working in Blackduck, where she also coaches the speech team and directs all theater productions in the high school ... **Dr. Donald L. Schunk** recently spoke on the state of South Carolina's economy to a group of community leaders in Hartsville, SC. Schunk is a research economist with the Coastal Federal Center for Economic and Community Development at Coastal Carolina University. Formerly with the Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina, he now serves as liaison with businesses and government agencies at CCU. He and his wife, Tamara, reside in Myrtle Beach, SC.

1994 Robyn Heinle is teaching science, health, and environmental science in Bigfork schools. She most recently taught in Brandon and Grand Rapids. She and her husband, Mark, have two sons and live in Elbow Lake ... **Steve Philipp** obtained a master's degree from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. Philipp has taught at Lafayette School in the Red Lake Falls district for the past 15 years. An assistant football coach and advisor for the National Honor Society, he and his wife, Renae, have four children.

1993 Jason Saari is currently doing business objects development while serving as the vice president of education for the Toastmaster's Club Prime Timers. He lives in Roseville ... **Shelly Geerdes** is serving as chair of the Bemidji Area Chamber of Commerce. Geerdes has been employed by Pinnacle Publishing for 15 years, including the past 10 as general manager. During this time, Pinnacle grew from publishing seven to 137 phone directories. She was also a member of the first-place foursome at the Courage North Golf Open recently held in Bemidji, where she lives with her husband, Kevin ('92), and two sons ... **Lora (Hilger) Hanks** was recently recognized by the Taylors Falls Foundation as an outstanding athlete during her time at Taylors Falls High School. Since 1994, Hanks has worked as a senior cadre officer, patrol officer, 911 responder, and member of the community response team and the mounted patrol for the Minneapolis Police Department. She and her husband, Timothy, live in Columbia Heights with their three children.

1992 Drew Hildenbrand is serving as principal of the Bemidji Middle School. His previous assignments within the district included principal at the Bemidji Alternative School, where he was in charge of the Lumberjack High School; the Alternative Education Center; Bemidji Youth Learning and Working; First City School at the Northwestern Minnesota Juvenile Center; and the New Spirit Center School. He also was an assistant principal at the Bemidji Middle School for seven years and a K-12 principal at Northome School for one year. He and his wife, Lori ('98), live in Bemidji ... **Deb Steinbar** joined three other harpsichordists for a concert this fall in Bemidji, where she lives. Owner of a French double manual harpsichord, she wrote a grant to

(Continued on page 18)



Class Notes

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



(Continued from page 17)

help fund the rare concert featuring each musician on different harpsichords. She is married to husband, William.

1991 Karen Busch and her mother, Marge, travelled to Iceland last summer to explore their heritage. Busch lives in Duluth ... **Jim Shulstad** performed a summer trumpet concert in Barnesville last July. The program included familiar hymns, classical selections, and light jazz numbers. After teaching bands in North Carolina and Virginia, he worked in the print music industry while performing and offering private trumpet instruction. He has composed and arranged music for ensembles of varying sizes and recorded one CD of original jazz with The Sunset Quartet. He currently lives in Salem, NC, with his wife, Reeves, a music historian at Appalachian State University ... **Lt. Col. Curtis Anderson II** has assumed command of the Army Forces Battalion and is assigned to the Joint Task Force-Bravo at Soto Cano Air Base in Honduras ... **Judi Campbell** has been hired to teach fifth grade at Chisholm Elementary. The advisor for cheerleading and the Pep Club, she worked in the district as a Title I reading and math instructor as well as sixth-grade teacher. She previously taught kindergarten and was a long-term substitute in the Virginia schools. She lives in Chisholm.

1990 Robert Enger has been elected secretary of the Minnesota State Bar Association. An attorney at the Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota office in Bemidji, he focuses on serving low-income and elderly clients in five counties of a 22-county region. The Bar Association, with 16,000 members, is the largest voluntary organization of attorneys in the state. He and his wife, Rebecca, live in Bemidji ... **Tammy Volloom-Matturro** is director of the Kenai Peninsula Orchestra in Alaska. A resident of Alaska since graduating from BSU, she has provided private woodwind and piano lessons, served as band director on the high school as well as middle school levels in Kenai schools, and also taught at Tustemena Elementary. She and her spouse, Gregory, reside in Kenai ... **Erika (Jacobson) Ahlbrecht** has taken an extended leave from her job as a flight attendant and purser with Delta Airlines. She took the voluntary furlough following the birth of a son. She will remain on leave through May, while her husband, **John ('93)**, continues operating his business, AC Analytical & Consulting, LLC. The family has a home in Puposky ... **Brian Stefanich** is the new principal at Bemidji High School. Since joining the Bemidji school district in 1990, he had served as a third-grade and fifth-grade teacher as well as the assistant principal of the high school for the past five years. He retired in 2007 as a major after a 20-year stint in the Army National Guard. He lives in Bemidji ... **Bob Anderson** is the new special education instructor at Armstrong Elementary School in St. James. He taught several years in schools across the Iron Range and in south-east Minnesota.

1989 Frank Herman is principal of the newly refurbished Spring Lake Park High School, a position he's held since 2006. Prior to that time, he was the school's dean of students and later directed the district's Learning Alternatives

Community School. Previous educational positions included assignments in the Cambridge and St. Louis Park school districts. A Blaine resident, he is a single parent to four children ... **Roy C. Booth** will have a book of dark fantasy, horror poetry, and monologues published by Daverana Enterprises in 2011. He won two awards from the Brainerd Writers' Alliance, a first-place in poetry and a second in the short-story category. Roy and his wife, Cynthia, also had their play *Two Wives and a Dead Guy* performed recently in Maitland, Australia. The couple participated in a series of panels as part of the annual Arcana Convention of horror, thriller, and fantasy writers. Roy owns and operates a comic and games business in Bemidji, but he and Cynthia call Hibbing their home.

1988 Karen Michelson continues to teach English at the Fergus Falls campus of Minnesota State Community and Technical College. Next spring she will conduct extensive research on the enduring Gullah culture of the Georgia low country, an interest sparked during a 2008 summer workshop funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. She lives in Fergus Falls.

1987 Kathryn Mellen of South St. Paul reports that her oldest son, Lucas, is now enrolled at Bemidji State. She and her husband, Matt, still have three children at home ... **Deanna Olson** works in the science library at St. Olaf College in Northfield. She enjoys life with her husband, Larry Jensen, on a farm near Cannon Falls ... **Mike Musich** has been appointed police chief for the city of International Falls, where he lives. He began his career as a police officer in a small North Dakota town and started serving the South Falls and International Falls police departments in 1986. He is married to Donna, and they have two children.

1986 Paula Hedlund of East Grand Forks was a member of the fivesome that won the 26th annual First National Bank/BSU Women's Golf Classic, a fundraiser for Beaver women's athletics. Hedlund teaches and coaches in the East Grand Forks school district ... **Carol Campbell** was recognized as a Minnesota Outstanding Older Worker by Gov. Tim Pawlenty for her work as a mentor and program assistant in Youth Build US, Bi-County CAP. She and her husband, Eugene, reside in Bemidji ... **Jill Katrin** lives in International Falls and reports she's a new grandmother. A second-grade teacher in International Falls, she and her husband, Mike, who works as a financial advisor, have two grown children. Son Andrew graduated from BSU last spring with a business administration degree.

1985 Derek Olson recently completed a mural on the exterior of the Twisted Tower Computer Building as part of a beautification project for the Oklee Centennial Celebration planned for 2010. The mural depicts a historic railroad scene in Oklee. A former billboard and sign painter, he has relocated from the Twin Cities to Bagley and is a consultant in home restorations.

1983 Capt. David A. Schnell of the U.S. Navy has assumed command of an amphibious assault

ship the *USS Peleliu*. In nearly 25 years of naval service, he has served as an officer on a destroyer, cruiser, and frigate. He most recently completed a three-year assignment as operations officer to the commander of the U.S. Naval Forces Central Command. He and his wife, Alexandra, list La Jolla, CA, as their home port.

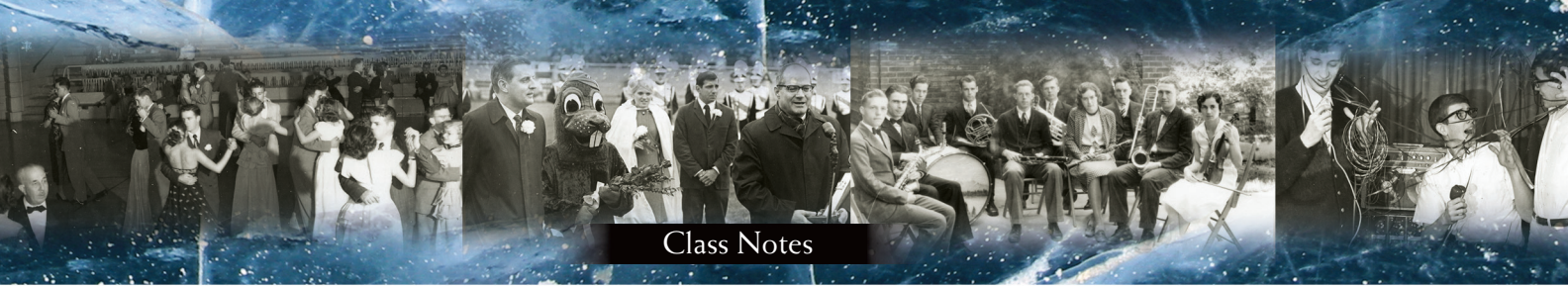
1982 Ann Haas VanSeters is a trauma intensive care unit nurse at Loyola University Medical Center. She lives in Glen Ellyn, IL, with her husband, Rick, and young daughter.

1981 Marian Barcus is a trustee and board chair of the Blandin Foundation. She recently retired as division manager with Itasca County Health and Human Services in Family and Children Services. In addition to more than 30 years of promoting mental health services in Itasca County, she held public office in Cohasset for nine years, including four years as mayor. Her husband, Dale, is retired after working at the UPM-Blandin Paper Company. They now live in Grand Rapids ... **Rich Dahlberg** will be working with the high school FOCUS program in the Dassel-Cokato school district. A resident of Howard Lake, he brings 25 years of teaching experience in Alaska to the district.

1980 Jeffrey Allison was a member of the second-place foursome that competed in the Courage North Golf Open held in Bemidji, where he is employed as a forest technician for the U.S. Forest Service and lives with his wife, **Deborah ('75)** ... **Ted Fiskevold** and his wife, **Marysia**, are empty nesters with the exodus of their two children to college, including the youngest, **Hank**, at BSU where he is majoring in music and education. Ted continues working as a freelance writer and photographer, most frequently with a company that specializes in aerial photographs of farms and ranches in America's heartland. He has also attended both the 2004 and 2008 Democratic National Conventions as a freelance writer and photographer. **Marysia**, who is a hair stylist, and **Ted** live in Detroit Lakes ... **Darlene Mathews** played in the Tom Mathews Memorial Golf Tournament held last summer in Blackduck to recognize the longtime educator and school administrator in that city who died earlier this year. **Darlene** lives in Bemidji ... **Elizabeth Trout** is the director of the Shattuck-St. Mary Middle School. She recently completed a master's in education from Hamline University. Trout and her husband, **Phillip**, live in Faribault and have two children.

1979 Mark Backlin recently completed a humanitarian mission to work in poor communities of Ecuador, the home country of his late wife, **Judith Lombeida**. The mission was organized by the Judith Lombeida Medical Foundation, which Backlin founded following a car accident that killed his wife. To date, more than 5,000 Ecuadorians have benefitted from three missions to improve medical care in the region. He lives in Northrop, CO.

1978 Thomas Ogaard is the new executive vice president and banking group manager of Citizens First National Bank, which has branches in eight counties across northern Illinois. Since 1978, Ogaard has held a number of banking positions, including executive vice president and chief loan officer at the State Bank of Park Rapids. Princ-



Class Notes

eton National Bancorp, Inc., is the bank's parent company and is headquartered in Princeton, IL.

1977 Scott Baird recently completed 30 years of work in the insurance profession in Bemidji, where he lives with his wife, Lynn ('76). Scott was a previous owner of Insurance Placement Services, which was purchased by his current employer, Insure Forward. He has been a licensed insurance agent in Minnesota since 1979 and is a certified insurance counselor and a certified risk manager ... **Regene Dykstra** lives in Shoreview with her husband, Ron. They have three children.

1975 Chuck Scanlon set a new Minnesota high school career coaching record in soccer when his Apple Valley boy's team earned his 501st win this past fall. He now ranks fourth nationally for all-time high school soccer wins. His 2009 squad finished the year undefeated and won the Minnesota 2A championship, giving their coach his eighth state crown. Scanlon and his wife, Barbara ('74), live in Apple Valley.

1973 Dan and Tricia McGrath reside in the Panama City Beach area of Florida. Dan is the general manager of Hombre Golf Club, and Tricia is the broker-owner of Sugar Shore Properties Realty. They recently moved into their lake home, which they noted has neither loons nor walleyes but does boast of egrets and alligators. The families of their two sons, including four grandchildren, also live in the area ... **Mary Seipkes** has retired after a 36-year teaching career in the Wadena-Deer Creek public school system. During her tenure, she taught second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grades. She and her husband, Don ('72), have four grown children and three grandchildren. Don continues to teach special education in Henning, where he and Mary have their home ... **Gerry Vuchetich** is the new local pastor for the communities of Faith United Methodist Parish of Clarissa, Clotho, and Eagle Bend. A former newspaper photojournalist and collegiate sports photographer, Vuchetich received a master's in divinity studies and pastoral care from Bethel Theological Seminary in 2007. He has been married to his wife, Ann, for 16 years.

1972 Kathryn Hoffmann has returned to the United States after 25 years of teaching in Woodstock School, a boarding school in the first foothills of the Himalayas in India. She has resettled in St. Paul ... **Bob Bjorklund** has retired as the director of internal audit for the city of Minneapolis. He previously worked in the Legislative Auditors Office and for Fingerhut Corporation. He lives in Sauk Rapids and has one adult son. He plans to relocate in retirement to Texas or Tennessee ... **Dr. Mel Strand** is a retired educator who is listed in *Who's Who in World*, *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in Education*, and *Who's Who in Midwest*. He is the author of two texts and lives in Waseca ... **Larry Pederson** has been named the director of nanoscale science and engineering at North Dakota State University in Fargo, ND. He most recently was a laboratory fellow in the Energy and Environment Directorate at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, WA. His research encompasses materials development for electrochemical applications, including solid oxide fuel cells, electrochemical sensors, and lithium batteries. He is married to Eileen (Etter).

1971 Terry Cuthbertson has retired after 32 years as a chief information officer for the Department of Veterans Affairs. Married to Celia, he and his wife have two grown sons and live in Topeka, KS.

1969 Ken Bracken has retired from the University of Minnesota Medical School and Pearson Educational Measurement in Brooklyn Center. Now living in West St. Paul, he previously had worked in San Diego, CA, and at the Pentagon in Washington, DC ... **Jeff Oestreich** lectured on his work at Bradley University, where his pottery was exhibited in the Heuser Art Center Gallery. Oestreich operates a studio in Taylors Falls, where he lives, and exhibits his art and conducts workshops across the U.S. and abroad. He is the recipient of grants from the McKnight Foundation and the Jerome Foundation that enabled him to teach and exhibit in England, Scotland, Wales, New Zealand, and Australia ... **Allan Skinner** has retired as the director of the Southeast Arkansas Regional Planning Commission in Pine Bluff, AR. Skinner worked for the commission for 35 years and also had experience in South Dakota and Illinois. He and his wife, Charlotte, live in Hot Springs Village, AR ... **Darlene Sawyer** has received the 2009 First Lady Award for Clearwater County. A resident of Gonvick, Sawyer is a correspondent for the *Bagley Farmers Independent* newspaper. A volunteer for many organizations, she retired in 1998 from teaching English in Bagley for 30 years and helped write a history of Gonvick.

1968 Gene Bakke played in the Tom Mathews Memorial Golf Tournament held last summer in Blackduck to recognize the longtime educator and school administrator in that city who died earlier this year. Bakke lives in Bemidji.

1967 Elizabeth E. Borelli and her husband, Frank, have both retired from careers in higher education. They live in Indianapolis, IN, and continue to enjoy traveling, reading, and family.

1966 Regina (Toscano) Scott is in her last year of teaching reading at Cattell Elementary in Des Moines, IA. In addition to her 10-year tenure with Des Moines schools, she taught nine years at Saydel Schools and three years in Hibbing. After retirement, she and her husband, Pat, who retired as an audit supervisor with the state of Iowa, will move to a new home in Clear Lake, IA. The couple has two grown children ... **Kathye Renning** served as the grand marshal for the Longville July 4th parade. Renning retired in 2006 after a career working for Longville, including 20 years of management over the community's municipal liquor store. She taught for 10 years before moving to Longville in 1978.

1963 Joe Benko and his wife, Mary, continue to live in Jordan, where he was a fifth grade teacher for five years and an elementary principal for 35 years. He has been active in several area service organizations and served 14 years on the Jordan City Council. He and Mary have five grown children.

1962 Bill Lawrence has retired the *Ojibwe News*, which covered Native American news and issues since he started the newspaper 21 years ago. He previously worked as a taconite miner, a development specialist in Red Lake, a busi-

ness manager of a tribe in California, an agent for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Arizona, and as the state assistant director of Indian education in Minnesota. Now a resident of Sun Valley, ID, he received the 2003 Freedom of Information Award from the Society of Professional Journalists ... **Bill Cline** is a member of the Pequot Lakes High School Hall of Fame. He was a three-sport letterman at the school and later played baseball as well as basketball at Bemidji State. A former educator and coach, he now lives in Las Vegas, NV.

1959 Will Antell recently presented the keynote address for a daylong summit on the history and current status of Indian education held at the American Indian Resource Center on the BSU campus. Antell has spent more than four decades in public education, including 20 years with the Minnesota Department of Education. He also served terms under three presidents on the National Advisory Council on Indian Education, which advised presidents and Congress on education policy for American Indians. A former Bush Fellow and board of trustee member for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, he lives in Stillwater with his wife, Mary Lou.

1958 Don Campbell was a member of a foursome that registered a fourth-place finish at the Courage North Golf Open this summer in Bemidji, where he resides. A retired businessman, he spends winters in Sun City West, AZ.

1950 Reuben Patnaude was recently honored by the Itasca County YMCA in Grand Rapids for teaching adult art classes at the facility for 57 years. A retired educator and artist, he continues to volunteer, working with adults at the YMCA as well as with students in area elementary schools. One of his paintings was recently purchased to display permanently in the Bruce Bauer Senior Citizen Center. He and his wife, Mary Lou, live in Grand Rapids ... **Frank Hamerlinck** remains busy in retirement after an educational career that included stops in Clearbrook and Thief River Falls, where his last assignment was in the central administrative office as assistant superintendent. He also worked for the Northwest Minnesota Service Co-op and had a private consulting business. A resident of Thief River Falls, he travels to visit family in Wyoming and Minnesota. He has four grown children.

1947 Otto Mickelson celebrated a 60th wedding anniversary with his wife, Patricia. Residents of Eagan, they return to BSU annually to participate in the Golden Beaver Society's luncheon and visit with friends in Bemidji and Foston. The couple has two grown children. ... **Pat (Fallon) Gregerson** is enjoying retirement and her seven grandchildren. A resident of Rochester for 50 years, she had taught nursery school for 20 years.

1942 Lucille Thias Stinson lives in Palm Harbor, FL, with her husband, George. The couple has three grown children and a grandson.

OTHER ALUMNI Shawn Crowser has been promoted to assistant vice president and branch manager at the Miller Hill and Hermantown Square locations of the Republic Bank in the Duluth area. He lives in Cloquet. **HORIZONS**

2008-2009 Report OF Gifts



This past year, 3,886 BSU alumni, friends, faculty, and staff chose to stand and be counted among the supporters of Bemidji State University. These individuals, as well as organizations, seized the opportunity to open doors for BSU students by providing support for scholarships and programs on campus. With this support, significant resources were raised to advance the University's mission despite the uncertainty of the economy worldwide. The highlights below reflect the generosity of Bemidji State supporters this year and the continued commitment of the University to being good stewards of the resources received:

■ Achieved an all-time high in contributions of cash, pledges, and endowment gifts, from \$2.15 million in 2008 to \$3.44 million in 2009.

■ Awarded 773 scholarships to BSU students as a result of \$772,664 in donor contributions.

■ Totaled \$593,846 in contributions to all endowed funds.

■ Secured endowed and annual funds for the new BSU Leadership Program and the President's Student Leadership Commission.

■ Held the 4th Annual BSU Community Appreciation Day, drawing over 3,000 to campus in celebration of BSU's partnership with the Bemidji community.

■ Increased funding for Beaver athletics by 80%, from \$586,011 in 2008 to \$1,056,37 in 2009.

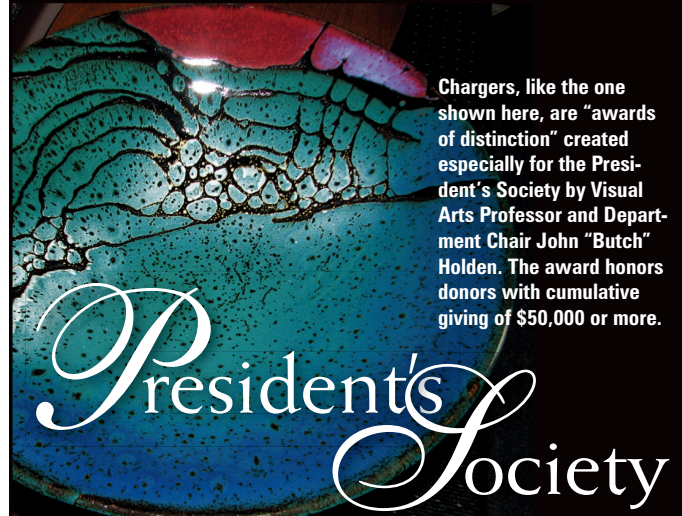
■ Launched new events, including the BSU Women's Walk for female student-athlete scholarships and the Hardwater Classic Ice Fishing tournament for athletic scholarships.

Thanks to each Bemidji State donor for helping advance the University by your participation in BSU activities and through your gift. With a decline in state funding, your gift is more important than ever. If you are still considering a gift to BSU, now is the time to stand and be counted. Through your generosity to BSU, you help create opportunities for talented students and gifted faculty, making a significant difference in their lives as well as the lives of others in the community and beyond.

Sincerely,

Rob Bollinger

Rob Bollinger, Executive Director of University Advancement



Chargers, like the one shown here, are "awards of distinction" created especially for the President's Society by Visual Arts Professor and Department Chair John "Butch" Holden. The award honors donors with cumulative giving of \$50,000 or more.

The President's Society recognizes the University's most generous contributors. Based on lifetime cumulative giving to Bemidji State University, membership includes individuals, families, and organizations. Members are recognized for gifts and pledges at the levels listed below.

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\$1,000,000+

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June L. Bender
Kermit and Sandy Bensen
Best Western Bemidji
Blandin Foundation
Jon and Linda Blessing
Bob Lowth Ford, Inc.
Robert and Lisa Bollinger
Dr. Mel and Ruby Bolster
Scott Curb and Mary Boranian
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Marjorie and James Gildersleeve
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Dr. Harold and Renate Hagg*
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Dr. Clayton and Ivy Knoshaug
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Robin and Diane Mechelke
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Debra Melby*
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Minnesota Humanities Commission
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Darby and Geraldine Nelson
Gerald* and Fern Nichols
Dr. Lee A. Norman
North Central Door Company
Northern Amusement
Northwestern Surveying & Engineering, Inc.
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John S. Persell II
Dr. Martha and Don Peters
David Lee Peterson Estate*
Rohl and Patricia Peterson
Productivity, Inc.

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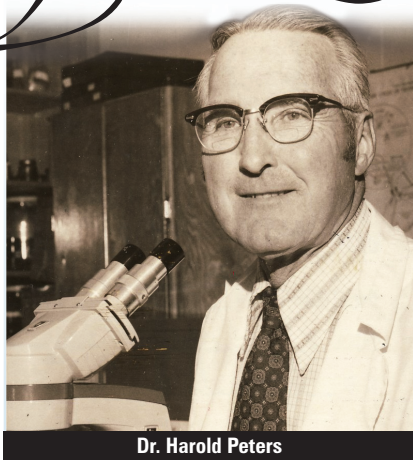
Slim's Bar & Grill/
Larry, Connie, and Karl Jacobson
Dr. Kathryn Smith
Michael and Melinda Spry
St. Joseph's Area Health Services
Irene K. Stewart
Stittsworth's Nymore Food Mart
Corey Stittsworth
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Teammates for Kids Foundation
Sue and Eugene Teigland
Telespectrum Worldwide
Thorson, Inc./Wayne and Beverly Thorson
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*Deceased
New Members

A Gift OF Love



Dr. Harold Peters

HAROLD T. PETERS SCHOLARSHIP

*Every scholarship provides
an opportunity to improve
a student's life, and
I thank Dr. Peters for
giving me that chance."*

Chelsea Pollreizs

colleagues, students, research, academic rigor – all of that. But most of all, he loved to teach."

Harold retired as a biology professor in 1975 after a career as a teacher who touched the lives of countless students and as an administrator who affected the future of all BSU sciences.

When he arrived at BSU after World War II, slightly more than a handful of faculty taught all the sciences. He was the first president of the faculty senate and was tapped to serve as the first head for the Division of Science and Math in 1947. In both capacities, he promoted choices for students by moving science beyond classical disciplines. His time on campus saw the development of programs like aquatic biology, environmental studies, space studies, and nursing. The aquatics biology wing in Sattgast Hall is named for him.

While his energies were always devoted to advancing majors in his division, his thoughts never wandered far from the labs and lecture rooms in Sattgast Hall.

"Teaching was something he did very naturally, and it never was just a job," says Laura Mumm, his youngest daughter who often accompanied Harold to campus. "So much of what my dad said or did taught something. Life was always a learning situation."

She and her brother believe that this love of teaching compelled him to decline administrative assignments and

Jeff Peters remembers how his father, Dr. Harold Peters, felt about his 30-year tenure at Bemidji State University and describes it in a single word, *love*.

"He loved it and had a real passion for Bemidji State," Jeff says. "The whole academic world that was the pulse of the University was in his blood – faculty

return to the classroom before retiring. In 1987, he solidified his relationship with students by establishing scholarships in chemistry, biology, physics, math and computer science, nursing, and environmental studies. The endowment has resulted in 67 students receiving more than \$40,000.

"He never talked about the scholarships," Laura said of her father, who passed away in 2008 just months shy of his 100th birthday. "He wanted to remain in the background. Having kids in college now, I know how much work and dedication it takes for students to stay in school today. They are always able to use money to help them through their schooling."

Chelsea Pollreizs benefits directly from Harold's scholarships as one of the 2009 recipients, but she also is a product of his foresight for nudging the sciences into new directions. Pollreizs majors in a decidedly traditional discipline – chemistry – but with a distinctly modern emphasis, forensics.

"Even when I was in the eighth grade, I wanted to get into something like police or detective work," Pollreizs explains. "Forensics is very interesting. I love the detail work, nit-picking the small things and gathering evidence regardless of how large or small, because it can make a difference in the end."

A senior from Zimmerman, she came to BSU because it is one of two Minnesota universities with this focus. In addition to her science classes, she has taken courses in law and criminal justice. She also completed a summer internship with the St. Paul Police Department crime lab, gaining experience handling evidence, dusting for fingerprints, examining blood stained clothing, analyzing drug evidence and

surveillance videos, executing search warrants, and observing autopsies.

She felt the internship solidified her interest in the field. After graduation this spring, she hopes to join a lab that both processes evidence and works at crime scenes. While beneficial, the internship had another residual effect. Since it was unpaid, she wasn't able to save money for school.

"The scholarship helps me a lot," Pollreisz explains. "I didn't have a job, and I needed money for books and living expenses. Every scholarship provides an opportunity to improve a student's life, and I thank Dr. Peters for giving me that chance."

Harold would understand, for his was a gift of love. **HORIZONS**




The Legacy Society

The BSU Legacy Society recognizes those who have made a deferred or planned gift to the BSU Foundation. The society has grown from 43 charter members when it formed in 2002 to 185 members today.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Anderson, Donald Gilbert | Jordan, Johannas |
| Anderson, Kenneth M. | Kelly, Pat and William |
| Andrican, Boris and Caroline | King, Richard and Sharon |
| Baer, Jessie and H.C. Baer* | Kircher, Margaret Ann |
| Bateman, Grant* | Kleven, Lillie M.* |
| Bensen, Jim and Nancy | Kringen, Curt and Sue |
| Berg, Evelyn* | Lind, Eva* and Roy* |
| Bergan, John (Dan) and Terri | McMurrin, Neil B. and Patricia* |
| Birnstihl, M. Fern* | Melville, Nelmarie |
| Bishop, Marie* | Mertz, Kathryn and Donald |
| Bohanon, Elaine D. | Miles, Margaret (Peggy) |
| Breen, John Fred* | Minter, John and Susan |
| Breen, Raymond* | Mitchell, John and Walli |
| Brew, Alan | Moore, Dorothy L.* |
| Brew, Linda | Moore, Harry* |
| Bridgman, Gurnee and Virginia* | Morris, Claude W.* |
| Britton, Bill and Henrietta | Murray, Betty and George* |
| Bunt, Lynne E.* | Nelson, Judy and Norman |
| Busse, Jeffrey P. | Nelson, Raymond* |
| Campbell Anderson, Joan | Nelson, Wilfor* and Albiona* |
| Carlson, Dale and Joanne | O'Boyle, John |
| Carson, Joe and Jenifer | O'Connor, Charlie |
| Chen, Rose and Samuel* | Parisi, Beulah |
| Christianson, Bertha* | Parnow, David and Diane |
| Clark, Almond (Al) | Perkins, Lawrence |
| Czarnecki, Caroline M. | Peters, Bob and Lou |
| Dally, Lyle E.* | Peterson, David Lee* |
| DeKrey, Donald and Petra | Peterson, Rohl Carlo and Patricia |
| Eggers, Rebecca* | Provo, Joanne M. |
| Ehlers, Fritz and Robin | Quistgaard, Jon and Trish |
| Erickson, Donald and Mary K. | Ramsey, Dave and Kim |
| Erickson, Janet M. | Richard, Tom and Sandy |
| Erickson, Jean C. | Robertson, Willard and Lois |
| Flowers, Ann* | Rosenbrock, Patricia |
| Forseth, Bill and Marge | Russell, Carol |
| Froseth, Jerry and Shirley | St. John, Pat and Irwin |
| Gantz-Bergsven, Gail | St. Martin, Jack and Marie |
| Gill, Helen | Schullo, John and Charlotte |
| Gillett, Ardis and Ted | Sherman, Ken and Betti |
| Gladen, Ronald and Nancy | Shimmin, Hazel* |
| Gregoire, Beulah | Sorenson, Lowell (Steve) and Lois |
| Gribble, James D. | Sperl, Duane and Celeste |
| Grimes, Pat | Stenson, J. Ruth* |
| Gunderson, Keith W. | Sullivan, Lorna and Maury |
| Hagen, Cedsel and Elmen* | Swedmark, Chet |
| Hamm, Kathryn K. | Thiel, Merril |
| Hanko, James F. | Tiffany, Dave and Peggy |
| Hanson, Linda and Kurt | Torfin, Joanne |
| Harding, Gudrun and Russell* | Traxler, John and Mary* |
| Harlow, Margaret H. | Trochlil, Ben and Joan |
| Haugsrud, Oluf and Margaret* | Tuorila, Jim and Diane |
| Henriques, Beverly | Tweten, Floyd A. |
| Henry, Annie | Wallin, Christel and Jeff |
| Howe, Ruth | Weber, Victor |
| Hunt, Myrtie A.* | Welle, Robert and Jeanette |
| Instebo, Esther F. | Winter, Wesley* |
| Jacobsen, Jack and Delphine | Yliniemi, Shirley |
| Johnson, Jeffrey and Marjorie | Young, Robert and Sherry |
| Johnson, Margaret H.* | Zielin, Charles and Susan |
| Johnson, Peggy and Sam | 9 Anonymous |
| Johnson, Vince* | |
| Johnson, Wilbur* | |

*Deceased

Charter members

Fueling THE Spirit

ERNEST PLATH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Dr. Ernest Plath

Dr. Ernie Plath may have arrived at Bemidji State University in 1962 to direct student teaching and oversee the lab school, but had known for years he was destined for BSU. While his family was vacationing in Ottertail in the early 1950s, he poured over a map of Minnesota and pointed to a town in the north central part of the state.

His youngest daughter Diane remembers it vividly. "He looked at the atlas and said, 'That's where I'm going to retire.' It was Bemidji. I have no idea why, because he didn't know about BSU at that time."

Ernie had that notion during the middle of his educational career. He taught elementary grades prior to World War II and, following the war, he had stints as

a high school principal, school superintendent, and an official in the Kansas Department of Education. After earning advanced degrees, he directed the lab school at the University of Oklahoma and teacher education at the University of North Dakota (UND).

"I believe one reason he left UND was that he did not have ample opportunity to teach," says his son, Bud. "He really enjoyed teaching more than administration, and he would be able to spend more time in the classroom."

Education was important to him beyond the classroom. He grew up in a small South Dakota town where his parents operated a creamery. He was the only child in his family to obtain a formal education.

"He felt education made everyone equal," Diane says. "Everybody had the same opportunities, and he encouraged students to take advantage of them. He related well with students, because he was a first-generation student, like many of them."

To broaden that opportunity to small, rural communities, he became involved in Head Start, helping develop the national program and leading its supplemental training across northern Minnesota.

Before his dream of retiring in Bemidji became reality, Ernie died suddenly in 1971, while working at Bemidji State. His wife established the Ernest Plath Memorial Scholarship, and over time it has provided nearly \$16,000 for education students. "It was Mom's way of going forward and keeping his spirit at the college," Diane says.

Unlike Ernie, the 2009 scholarship recipient had education in her bloodlines with both parents currently teaching and two grandparents who were school administrators. Like Ernie, Laura Johnson felt she would end up in Bemidji.

"I always knew I would come here," explains the senior elementary education major from Glenwood. "My par-



"If you know students on a personal level, you can better understand what they need from you and how to reach them. You will know the simple things that might help them through a school year, or not be wary of school, or not be afraid to go home."

Laura Johnson

ents are alumni, and I wanted to study in a small town where I can walk hallways or streets and recognize many faces. My teachers know me, and my advisor knows me very well. It's comforting to know people who care and are willing to help me change."

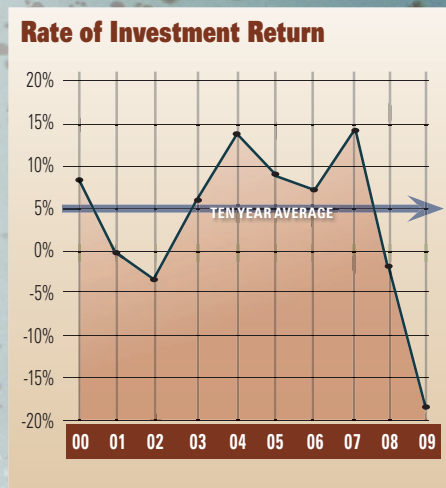
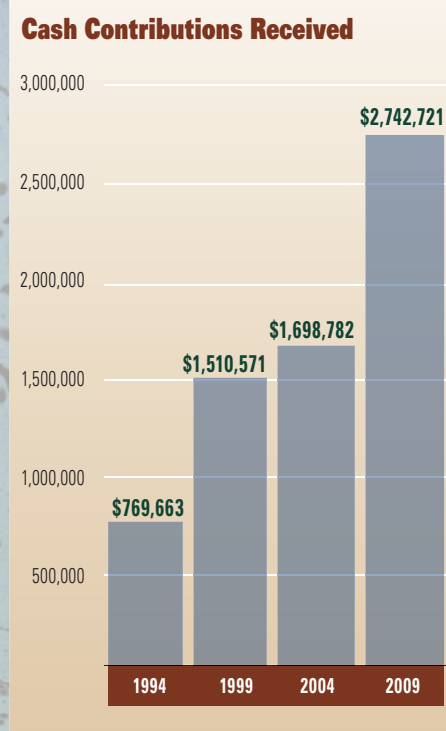
Gregarious and inquisitive by nature, Johnson took time to know people outside of classes and got involved. She chaired last year's student Relay for Life, doubling the number of participants as well as money raised for the American Cancer Society. She also clears trails and promotes green activities as a member of the Students for the Environment organization.

After graduation, she hopes to continue the family tradition by teaching in a small school district. Although she doesn't know where she'll settle, she is firm about the kind of teacher she wants to be.

"I've seen teachers who know you're in their class, and that's all," she explains. "At the opposite end, I've seen teachers who know you, your family, and what you are like. If you know students on a personal level, you can better understand what they need from you and how to reach them. You will know the simple things that might help them through a school year, or not be wary of school, or not be afraid to go home."

With that approach, the spirit of Ernie Plath is very much alive at Bemidji State.

HORIZONS



Annual Return
Ten Year Average

A Game FOR Life



Ed (left) and Ray Sauer

ED SAUER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

"Toward the end of the semester, it's always a struggle to come up with money, so the scholarship helps. It's also an affirmation of how far I've progressed as a golfer and a student. Playing here has changed my life completely. If it wasn't for golf, I wouldn't be getting an education and wouldn't have opportunities after I graduate."

Jesse Nelson

October 6, 2007, dawned splendidly, and everyone thought golf would appropriately honor a friend, former teammate, and brother. That day was set aside in memory of Ed Sauer, Walker businessman and lifetime golfer, who had recently passed away. Organized by three members of Bemidji State University golf teams from the late 1960s, a dozen golfers

teed off to play one round for Ed.

That first swing started something that grew into an event with the potential of creating the largest endowed golf scholarship in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC).

"We raised \$500 to \$600 that day," remembers Ray Sauer, Ed's twin brother who put together the outing with Jeff Wallin and Joe Aitken. All played together during their days at BSU, which included multiple conference championships and national tournament appearances. "The three of us wanted to do something on an ongoing basis to remember Ed at BSU, so we planned an annual tournament on the Tianna Golf Course in Walker. It just took off."

The scholarship organizers filled the field for the 2008 and 2009 events as golfers raised over \$16,000 to establish the Ed Sauer Memorial Golf Scholarship. Both Ray and Ed had sons who earned golf scholarships and experienced first-hand the importance of such support.

"There were no scholarships when we played," Ray says. "Attracting good players is needed for a strong golf program, and scholarships can be the difference in recruiting."

In the early 1970s, Ed and his wife, Sue, took over the Dairy Queen in his hometown where he became a fixture at Tianna, winning several local titles. He won the Birchmont in Bemidji, one of the state's premier amateur tournaments when he turned 40 and teamed with Ray to capture the state senior four-ball crown in 2001.

Ed swung his first club at the age of 10, something the 2009 recipient of his namesake scholarship can't imagine. A junior business major, Jesse Nelson didn't begin playing golf until he turned 17, and only then because he played free while working on courses near his hometown of Pequot Lakes. He played baseball and tried the diamond when he enrolled at St. Cloud State following high school. Neither the sport nor St. Cloud worked for him, so he dropped out.

His golf transformation arose from simple motivation. "I was losing. I'm a very competitive person, and I wanted to win," he says. He improved with more play, but nothing else in his life changed until he joined a golfing buddy at BSU.

"The reason I came to Bemidji was golf," he admits. "I love the game and everything that comes with it – the competitiveness, the creativity of shot making on the course, and the goofy pars."

His love grew following his first round for the Beavers. Over the season, he learned shot management and the discipline needed for team competition. He channeled his aggressive style to elevate his game to the All-NSIC level. Last summer, he won the qualifying round in the Birchmont. This fall, he helped the team earn three, first-place trophies and two, third-place finishes in its initial five meets.

In a little over a year, he went from a future of chasing the ball around local courses to winning a scholarship at a university where his education and experiences will open up career choices in the business side of golf. As a result, he values the scholarship for more than monetary reasons.

"Toward the end of the semester, it's always a struggle to come up with money, so the scholarship helps," Nelson notes. "It's also an affirmation of how far I've progressed as a golfer and a student. Playing here has changed my life completely. If it wasn't for golf, I wouldn't be getting an education and wouldn't have opportunities after I graduate."

Ed Sauer approached golf as a game, one played for a lifetime. Jesse Nelson got a late start in golf, but discovered it is a game for life. **HORIZONS**



Statement of Position

June 30, 2009

Assets

Current Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	53,466
Investments	10,686,769
Contributions Receivable	536,779
Prepaid Expenses	2,748
Total Current Assets	<u>11,279,762</u>

Property and Equipment	342,512
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Other Assets

Contributions Receivable	878,168
Remainder Interest in Real Estate	110,681
Cash Surrender Value Life Insurance	35,185
Total Other Assets	<u>1,024,034</u>

Total Assets	\$ 12,646,308
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Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	11,556
Annuities Payable, Current Portion	37,591
Accrued Interest Payable	22,728
Note Payable, Current Portion	5,696
Total Current Liabilities	<u>77,571</u>

Long-term Liabilities

Annuities Payable, Long Term Portion	205,141
Note Payable, Long Term Portion	734,005
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>939,146</u>

Total Liabilities	<u>1,016,717</u>
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Net Assets

Unrestricted Net Assets	
University Fund & Quasi Endowment Fund	110,567
Alumni House Acquisition	-70,000
Plant Fund	342,512
Total Unrestricted Net Assets	383,079

Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	1,838,428
Permanently Restricted Net Assets	9,408,084

Total Net Assets	<u>11,629,591</u>
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Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 12,646,308
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AN Opportunity TO Succeed

MANDY WICK
SENIOR ACCOUNTING
ENDOWED
SCHOLARSHIP



Mandy Wick

against schools with pre-selected pools of students, and she understood very well that BSU admitted undergraduates from northern Minnesota, just like her, who weren't born with silver spoons in their mouths. She was really proud that the accounting department could turn them into really good accountants."

As a result, both scholarships had an unusual eligibility requirement – the recipients had to be working and taking classes. A strong work ethic and dedication to academics served Mandy well while earning her bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees. She had no doubt there were similar students at BSU whose dreams needed nurturing rather than being waylaid by monetary constraints, employment, or other obligations.

Mandy would have recognized the dreams of Jessica Cox, the 2009 winner of the Mandy Wick Senior Accounting Award. The Menahga native has held a job since she turned 14 and is paying her own way through school. Last summer, she worked 55-60 hours weekly on three jobs as she tried to make ends meet. With the scholarship this year, she still holds two positions, one on campus for 10 hours per week and another at Marketplace Food and Drug in Bemidji for 25-30 hours.

"My parents are behind me 100 percent and are there if I really need help," explains Cox, who plans to use her accounting degree in a small business setting after graduation next spring. "But I don't ask my parents for money, and I don't expect them to pay my way. I can support myself, and I think that's made me a better person."

Working as hard as she does, Cox still earns above average grades studying between classes and whenever she finds free time on evenings or weekends. While she does enjoy hanging

As the fourth of ten children in her East Grand Forks family, Dr. Mandy Wick's chance for moving ahead was sidetracked by work, family, and financial constraints. It was a lesson she never forgot, and one she used later in life to forge opportunities for others.

"Mandy came from a family where her dad really worked hard and money had to stretch," Steve Wick says of his wife, a BSU accounting professor and longtime department chair who died in 2008. "She understood that mom and dad weren't in a position to send them off and put them up in college. That really stuck with her."

Diagnosed with cancer in 2000, Mandy had time to reflect on those family memories as she continued to teach while battling the disease. During this time, her former students started a scholarship in her name for a person just entering the accounting program. An anonymous donor came forward to fully fund another scholarship for students in the later stages of their accounting studies.

"She recognized it was easier to have scholarships oriented more to academic criteria," Steve recalls of discussions with his wife on the scholarship criteria. "She knew that BSU competed

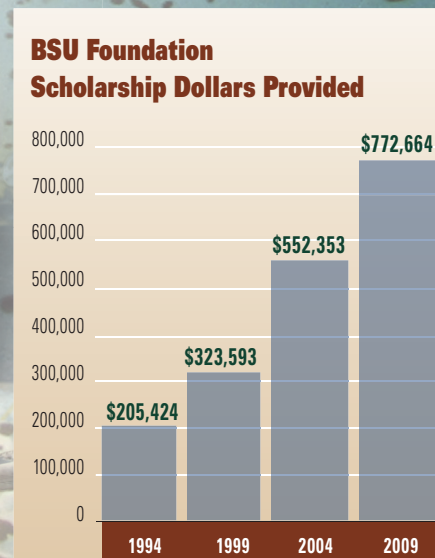
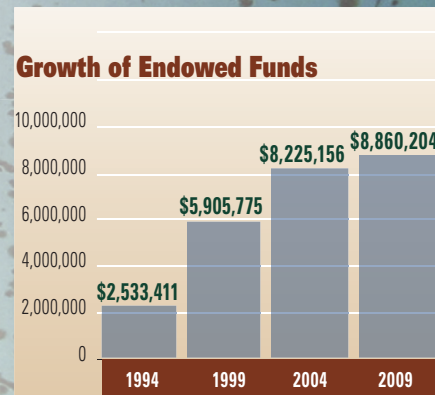
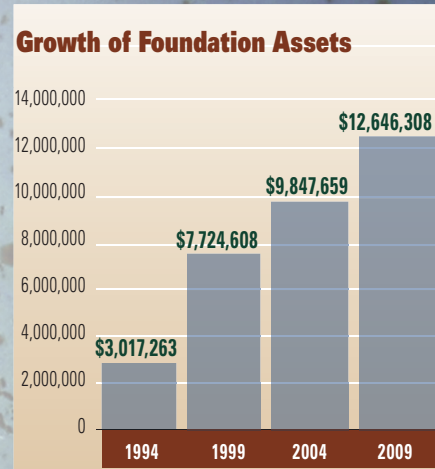
"My parents are behind me 100 percent and are there if I really need help. But I don't ask my parents for money, and I don't expect them to pay my way. I can support myself, and I think that's made me a better person."

Jessica Cox

out with friends and classmates, she isn't afraid of marathon book sessions lasting until dawn. As a first-generation college student, she appreciates the real-life value of her education.

It's also what makes the scholarship special to Cox. "I know I could get better grades if I didn't work as much, but I couldn't get through financially," she says. "I worked so hard all my life, and now I feel like it has paid off. I know a lot of people who work and take classes. That's why I'm so honored to get this scholarship."

Steve feels the scholarships allow students to go for their dreams, something his wife would fully support. "Mandy believed a lot in level playing fields, whether it was pay equity or helping someone afford the classes to make them a better person. These scholarships are opportunities to make success happen." **HORIZONS**





BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

1500 Birchmont Drive NE
Bemidji, MN 56601-2699



ADMISSIONS Campus Preview Days

Fridays, Jan. 15, 22, 29
Monday, Feb. 15; Friday, Feb 26 (Transfer Day)
Fridays, Apr. 9, 16

Spring Open Registration

Friday, Jan. 8

Academic Advising & Registration

FRESHMAN TRANSFER

Fridays, March. 19, 26 Monday, Apr. 12
Monday, Apr. 19 Monday, May 10
Friday, Apr. 23 Friday, Jun. 25
Friday, Jun. 18 Friday, Jul. 23

Admissions Tours

Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
First Saturday of every month, 11:00 a.m.

CAMPUS *Calendar*

Jan. 8 **Spring semester begins**

Mar. 1 **Summer session registration begins**

Mar. 11-12 **Early Childhood Mega Conference**

Apr. 7 **Student Scholarship and Creative Achievement Day**

Apr. 16-17, 23-25 **Spring theatre production, "Man of Lamancha"**

May 7 **Commencement**



Snow Ball

January 30

Featuring Jazz I and Vocalists
For More Details - 218-755-2915

For BSU Updates, go to "BSU Today" & "Events Calendar" at www.bemidjistate.edu