

SPRING 2012

# Connections

**BUSINESS CONSULTANT  
MELDS PROFICIENCY  
WITH PASSION**

**Schwan enriches  
family tradition**

**Jones' Pentagon war won with  
dedication and persistence**



**Minot State  
UNIVERSITY**

**Alumni Association &  
Development Foundation**

# PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

The closer we get to our Centennial and further away from the day we held our first class in 1913, I cannot help but think of those people who not only believed an institution of higher learning was essential for our city and region but also had the wherewithal to take a responsible step. Resources were limited; there were notable struggles with the challenges of building this relatively new community; and there were, as we would expect, others who questioned the need of an institution in Minot. But those who believed in the importance of this new school, such as Erik Ramstad who donated the original 60 acres, took a step for the good of others and our community.

Some of the first faculty at that time knew as well and exclaimed proudly that the purpose of this institution was to “serve, serve, serve,” and from that day nearly 100 years ago, we understand very well that service to our students and to our community remains a top priority.

In 1916 in one of its first editions, “The Magician” reported that the



This edition of *Connections* is focused on the sixth strategy of Vision 2013: Creating a Commitment to Civic Engagement, Service, and the Common Good. There is nothing new about a call for civic engagement and service, as we are reminded by the voices of our past who dedicated their lives to serving their communities. But in

It's not any specific type of action, it's the action and service we recognize in Erik Ramstad's work; in the selfless dedication revealed in the story of Karen Lund; in Gen. David Jones' remarkable service to our country; in the contributions to our campus and community of Briana Schwan and her parents, Pat and Colleen Schwan; in the work of Susan Ewert, who volunteered tirelessly for the Red Cross during the flood emergency; and the remarkable service of Sheila Green-Gerding during her successful career as our women's basketball coach. There are so many more stories of people who learned that the value of an excellent education they receive at Minot State University comes primarily from knowing how to serve others.

Many talk these days about higher education's purposes to contribute to economic development and workforce training. While certainly viable purposes, they, nevertheless, pale in comparison to our role in showing students how the best of what we know contributes to the quality of how we serve others.

*“It is important to remember the words of those people who remind us not to forget our responsibility to our community. The philosopher Herbert Spencer, for one, understood that our purpose extends well beyond learning and knowledge and suggests, ‘The great aim of education is not knowledge, but action.’”*

“personality of Pres. A.G. Crane and his consistent upholding of the ideal of ‘Service First’ have been dominant factors in vitalizing the spirit of the school.” It adds that “the progress thus far stands as a monument to the spirit of cooperation, which has prevailed among the students, faculty and staff, and has been reinforced by the people of the entire northwestern section of the state.”

We continue to hold firm to those principles and to our heritage of service.

higher education and in our understandable focus on learning, knowledge and careers, we sometimes forget our role to serve others. It is important to remember the words of those people who remind us not to forget our responsibility to our community. The philosopher Herbert Spencer, for one, understood that our purpose extends well beyond learning and knowledge, and suggests, “The great aim of education is not knowledge, but action.”

Minot State University's mission represents well the voices of our first faculty in 1913 and many of our own graduates who continue to know the importance of service:

*Minot State University is first and foremost dedicated to the success of all students: their growth and development as educated citizens, their confidence, and their life-long devotion to the common good and the welfare of others.*

— DAVID FULLER, President



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# Business consultant melds proficiency with passion

**KAREN LUND '62** rises around 3 or 4 a.m.

She meditates. She reads and studies. She drinks her coffee, eats a little breakfast, and by 7 a.m. she is dressed and seated at her home computer in St. Paul, Minn. If she has no morning appointments, she does office work and may spend time researching and writing a book.

Afternoons, Lund gets out of the house. She meets with clients. She touches base with business associates. She also takes a weekly yoga class and regularly joins friends for an hour of “free dancing.” She meets with her women entrepreneur mastermind group.

Her days vary with the seasons. Spring and summer, she volunteers in the Japanese Garden at St. Paul’s Como Park Zoo & Marjorie McNeely Conservatory. In the winter, she volunteers at Ten Thousand Villages, a free-trade retail store where artisans from across the globe get fair prices for their wares.

Lund, 71, describes it as “a pretty simple day.”

It’s the kind of day Lund would like other people to enjoy: days filled with meaning that benefit many. It’s why she — an expert in business productivity and profitability — is writing a book titled “Being an Elder.”

“An elder is one who has wisdom and experience she wants to share with others,” she said. “The first person you need to be an elder to is yourself. You do this by taking care of yourself — exercising, eating right, simplifying your life — and by identifying your passions and dreams.”

After that, an elder’s sphere of influence extends as far as she is willing to reach.

## Life lessons

Lund’s inspiration comes from a lifetime of experiences and learning that began in North Dakota.

The Lund family moved to Minot from Burlington in 1948. Ten years later, Karen enrolled at Minot State University. An independent spirit and active member of the student body, she graduated in 1962 with a double major in physical education and history. Her first teaching job took her to Brainerd, Minn. Two years later, she accepted a post in Colorado.

“I’d been teaching for five years, when I realized I did not want to be in the classroom until I was 65 years old,” Lund said. “That was when my independent spirit really started to come out.”

And that’s when she saw a newspaper ad placed by the American Red Cross. The agency was looking for college graduates to work overseas.

Lund applied, fully expecting that she might be sent to Vietnam. The closest she got to the war zone was Guam Naval Hospital, where she served two years as recreation director. She worked in stateside military hospitals, too, but Guam instilled a love for experiencing other cultures and provided a role model named Rita Merrigan.

A Red Cross staffer since World War II, field director Merrigan managed more than 100 people who volunteered at the hospital. Lund noticed that every time there was a shift change Merrigan stood at the sign-in book and welcomed incoming volunteers.

“In that environment, volunteers were no different than paid staff,” Lund said. “They did everything. Rita maximized her interaction with the volunteers. She always had a smile and let them know they were valued.

“Later on, when I went out on my own as a business consultant, I realized I wanted to teach people to manage not through fear but through love. In a corporate setting, that means treating people with respect and dignity, providing appropriate challenges and showing appreciation.”



Karen Lund's inspiration comes from a lifetime of experiences and learning that began in North Dakota.

## Have talent, will travel

Lund's Red Cross assignment ended in California in 1973 at Fort Ord Army Hospital. She stayed in California, went to graduate school and spent a couple of years in property management. In 1978, she joined the U.S. staff of APC Skills, an international business consulting company. The job was a perfect meld of her life experiences and teaching skills.

"Teaching corporate managers was really no different than classroom teaching," Lund said. "It's just a different language and a different environment."

It turned out Lund was good at it. Really good.

In 1984, Lund joined the international staff at Alexander Proudfoot and spent the next seven years working as a productivity and profitability strategist in Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States. In 1996, she founded her own business, The Lund Group, and she's been busy ever since.

"I don't just sit and do paperwork," she said. "I get involved with the people I work with."

Always listening, observing, questioning and analyzing, she's worked in more than 100 industries, including the world's largest silver, zinc, copper mine, a carrot farm, a Barbie Doll factory, a chicken

uses the Core Passion assessment tool to help business owners identify their natural talents and the force that drives them from within.

"If you try to do something in a business that doesn't drive you — let's say it's the financials — you become frustrated," Lund said. "You start procrastinating,

*"Teaching corporate managers was really no different than classroom teaching," Lund said. "It's just a different language and a different environment."*

processing plant and a Minnesota rock quarry. At the moment, she's developing training for call centers.

In 2005, she also became vice president of operations for Core Passion, Inc. Lund

the business stagnates and eventually the business dies. When you know what drives you, you can build your team around what doesn't drive you, optimizing your natural talents and those of your staff."

— CATHERINE JELSING

## A GUIDE FOR ELDERS by Karen Lund



The manuscript for "Being an Elder" started as a speech Lund gave in 2008 at her 50th high school reunion in Minot. Many in the audience came up to her afterward and told her she should write a book. She accepted the encouragement, did some research and began to write. She's publishing her work this spring as an e-book, which can be downloaded at BEINGANELDER.com.

The book addresses the many ways elders contribute to society. They help maintain family traditions, share family history and have a positive impact on their grandchildren. Many elders share their talents as volunteers.

"By recycling or purchasing locally grown produce, you can even be an elder to the planet," she said.

In her book, Lund includes many personal anecdotes, like the story of her first trip to Malaysia in 1971. She and a friend hired a driver to take them on a tour of Kuala Lumpur. In the course of the day, the driver took them to a Hindu shrine, Buddhist temple and national mosque. At day's end, he hastily pointed out a small Christian church.

"It made me realize how many ways there are to celebrate one's spirituality," she said.

The experience helped her better understand her clients in Malaysia and throughout the Pacific Rim. It also shaped her belief that spiritual elders should express their spirituality however they want.

Lund practices what she preaches and lives an exciting and fulfilling life, but ultimately she credits "the universe" for who she has become.

"I never married and have no children," she said. "That was the plan for me. It's the reason I could say, 'I'm going to work in Singapore,' and travel to all those other places and have those experiences. Without all those experiences, I couldn't have written the book.

"I think my purpose for being here is to bring love to the world. The message in 'Being an Elder' is to treat others with love, kindness and compassion. The only way we can move toward greater peace and understanding is if we understand our similarities and our differences, and we respect each other."

— CATHERINE JELSING

# ALUMNI FEATURE

## Recent graduate makes volunteering her career

In June of 2011, a wall of water roared toward Minot and its sister communities in the Mouse River Basin. The river and its flood plain quickly merged into one, creating the worst natural disaster in state history.

The flood damaged 4,000 homes in Minot and forced 12,000 individuals to evacuate. Volunteer agencies vaulted into action as the crisis unfolded.

A key figure in the flood fight was MSU graduate Susan Ewert '09, who served at the time as emergency services director and volunteer coordinator for the American Red Cross.

Up and down the river valley, the Red Cross fed evacuees and emergency workers and provided cleaning supplies to homeowners. Most importantly, it provided shelter for the newly homeless.

"For the individuals who had no place to go, having a shelter was so important," Ewert said. "It saved them from having to move out of town, find hotel rooms, or live in their cars or on the street."

The Red Cross sheltered 130 people during a first evacuation in early June and 230 during a later evacuation that month. The agency supplied victims with cots, blankets and comfort kits. Shelters were located initially at both the Minot Municipal Auditorium and the MSU Dome. The auditorium site later closed.

Through June and July, the Red Cross provided 8,300 overnight stays, 61,000 meals, 174,000 snacks, 5,700 cleanup kits, 3,200 mental-health consultations and 3,600 health services consultations.

Behind this effort was an army of 150 local volunteers. They are the reason Ewert joined the Red Cross three years ago after majoring in broadcasting and multimedia studies at Minot State.

"I grew up volunteering," the always-upbeat Ewert said. "I was really excited to work with volunteers and help them fulfill their passion for volunteering."

The ill-tempered Mouse River also flooded Red Cross headquarters on Fourth Avenue Northwest in Minot. Allan McGeough, executive director of the Mid-Dakota Chapter, scrambled to pack computers and telephone equipment into agency vehicles as the dark waters rose.

"I was at the shelter," Ewert said. "There wasn't any time for me to run across town and rescue things from my office. The water was already coming through the garage in the back. I lost quite a few files, paperwork and binders."

The Red Cross office is being restored and will be operational again this spring.

After the flood crisis ended and the recovery period began, Ewert left the Red Cross and joined the Salvation Army. Once again, her work involves housing the needy.

"My job is working with homeless veterans and their families," she said. "It's so rewarding to be able to offer financial assistance and see them going from being on the streets to being in housing."

Her new job often brings her back to the MSU campus. Collaborating with David Klassy, director of the Veterans Center, Ewert offers services to the 180 veterans attending college full time.

Ewert grew up volunteering in her hometown of Anamoose. She feels blessed to be working in a profession she loves.

"I feel like I'm volunteering permanently," she said. "I really enjoy the nonprofit world. It's so much more rewarding than a lot of the other jobs I looked into. Nonprofits are where my heart is right now."

In addition to her work at the Salvation Army, Ewert volunteers with Companions for Children, Minot Area Homeless Coalition and Exchange Club.

"I still get to do some fun volunteering," she said.

—FRANK MCCA HILL



## Flood gets personal for Ewert

In a fiendish twist of fate, members of the helping professions often need assistance themselves during a crisis.

This was the case with Susan Ewert, emergency services director and volunteer coordinator for the American Red Cross, during the Mouse River flood this summer.

As the river topped its banks, Susan Ewert's boyfriend, Brandon Burden, learned that his home in northwest Minot was threatened. The first lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force couldn't rescue his belongings because he was in Afghanistan serving a six-month deployment. Susan Ewert wasn't available because she was managing a Red Cross shelter at the MSU Dome.

That's when her parents, Frank and Roberta Ewert of Anamoose, and her brother, Justin Ewert of Harvey, came to the rescue. The family traveled to Minot, moved Burden's belongings out of his house and took his pickup truck and Labrador retriever back to Anamoose. Not satisfied, the Ewerts also volunteered at the Red Cross shelter.

"My family was a tremendous support to me and Brandon," Susan Ewert said.

With floodwaters lapping at the edges of his consciousness, Burden was continually in touch with his girlfriend back in Minot. After long days helping flood victims at the shelter, a fatigued Susan Ewert would huddle in the warm glow of a laptop to comfort her boyfriend.

"At night, I would sit in a corner of the shelter. I would Skype with him on my computer and send him pictures of his house," she said.

—FRANK MCCA HILL

# Jones' Pentagon war won with dedication and persistence

After enduring hundreds of combat hours in the skies over North Korea in the early 1950s, GEN. DAVID C. JONES fought his toughest battle after he retired from the U.S. Air Force.

In the mid-1980s, the Minot State University alumnus led a universe-shaking overhaul of the Pentagon shortly after serving as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

For much of the 20th century, the four military services displayed veiled contempt for one another. Chiefs of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines fought each other for taxpayer dollars, clashed over battlefield tactics and offered conflicting advice to the civilian leadership.

“When I was in command jobs, I was unimpressed,” Jones told *Connections* via telephone from Virginia. “The system was too structured, too bureaucratic and needed to be changed.”

Study after study from World War II to Vietnam identified inter-service rivalry as a serious problem, but Washington remained willfully blind to it. Then a cascade of errors in the early 1980s forced Congress to acknowledge the issue.

First, the military failed to rescue 52 Americans held hostage in Iran during the Iranian Revolution in 1980. In 1983, the terrorist group Islamic Jihad bombed a military barracks in Lebanon, killing 220 Marines. Finally, the U.S. invasion of Grenada the same year revealed coordination problems within the armed forces.

Even before these events, Jones dedicated himself to the reorganization of the Defense Department. When he retired as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs in 1982, he went directly to Capitol Hill, sidestepping senior military leaders. Testifying before the House Armed Services Committee, he declared that the vaunted American military machine was broken.

Jones' bombshell got the attention of Rep. Bill Nichols, (D-Ala.), who quickly put Pentagon reform at the top of the Congressional agenda. Over the service chiefs' objections, the House passed three reform bills over the next several years, but all three died in the Senate. Sen. John Tower (R-Texas), the powerful chairman

of the Armed Services Committee, blocked the measures.

Jones remained undaunted. He continued to press the issue in a low-profile, methodical fashion.

“It took years,” Jones recalled. “We'd get a setback. Somebody would come out against it. We would just bide our time. It took a heck of a lot of time.”

During the legislative battle against the huge, heaving Pentagon bureaucracy, Jones became a pariah within the clubby military culture. He remained characteristically unfazed, however.

“The secretary of defense, the members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff all recommended against what I was trying to do. It didn't bother me at all,” the still-feisty 90-year-old said.

In 1985, powerful reinforcements came to Jones' aid — Sens. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) and Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), members of the Armed Services Committee. The veteran politicians quickly found themselves in the military's crosshairs. Service chiefs charged them with trying to jeopardize national security. The senators, though, refused to be bullied.

Finally, the Senate passed the Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act in 1986 by a vote of 95-0. The House passed similar legislation 383-27. President Ronald





Reagan signed the bill into law. Jones' steady resolve forged a new Pentagon template.

Under the new law, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs became principal military adviser to the president and secretary of

The 1991 Gulf War provided the initial test for the integrated structure. It functioned flawlessly, as U.S. commander Norman Schwarzkopf exercised seamless direction over the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines in liberating Kuwait from Iraq.

"If you asked the chiefs today how they feel about it, I think you'd find they're unanimous in support of it," Jones said.

Jones' feat is a notable victory in modern military history. But readers likely won't find it in history books because it was fought, not in foreign skies or on distant battlefields, but in the marble halls of the U.S. Capitol. It was won, not with reckless valor, but with quiet persistence, emblematic of a no-nonsense man from the vast and silent plains of the Dakotas.

— FRANK MCCA HILL

*Jones' feat is a notable victory in modern military history. But readers likely won't find it in history books because it was fought, not in foreign skies or on distant battlefields, but in the marble halls of the U.S. Capitol.*

"Sam Nunn and Barry Goldwater were invaluable in bringing it to fruition," Jones said. "I was fortunate to have the right people at the right place at the right time."

defense. The once-omnipotent service chiefs were reduced to an advisory role. The change improved the quality of military advice given to the president and the readiness of the nation's combat forces.

Picture: The Gen. David C. Jones Room at MSU displays his military memorabilia.

## The Jones Biography

DAVID C. JONES was born in 1921 in



Aberdeen, S.D., and grew up in Minot. He graduated from Minot High School

in 1939 and attended the University of North Dakota and later Minot State Teachers College until the outbreak of World War II.

Jones entered the Army Air Corps and received a commission as a second lieutenant in 1943. Jones was assigned to the 3rd Emergency Rescue Squadron of the 5th Air Force in Japan in 1945. He began as a unit pilot, flying Catalina

flying boats, and rose to command the squadron.

During the Korean War, Jones commanded the 19th Bombardment Squadron, which flew B-29 Superfortresses out of Okinawa, Japan. He flew more than 300 hours of combat missions over North Korea.

Jones was later transferred to Strategic Air Command headquarters in Nebraska, eventually becoming an aide to Gen. Curtis LeMay in 1955.

In 1969, Jones served as deputy commander of operations and later as vice commander of the 7th Air Force in Vietnam.

From 1974 to 1978, Jones served as Chief of Staff of the Air Force. In 1978, he became Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, serving until his retirement in 1982.

Jones donated military memorabilia to the Minot chapter of the Air Force Association in 1983. To house the material, MSU created the David C. Jones Room in the Student Center. N.D. Gov. Allen Olson and MSU President Gordon B. Olson joined Jones at the room's dedication in 1984. The room was relocated to the Administration Building in 2010.

— FRANK MCCA HILL



## Schwan enriches family tradition

Like many graduates, Schwan is now contemplating how to translate what she learned in the classroom to the real world. As for photography, she said, “My instructor is trying to convince me I should start submitting my work to galleries.”

She has done some commercial work, including graduation pictures and weddings, but her art photography is more of a solitary pursuit. As for music, Schwan discovered during her years at Minot State that she enjoys being an accompanist.

“It’s a little easier to manage, and you’re not cooped up in a practice room all by yourself,” she said.

Whether she’s accompanying Minot’s Voices of Note, teaching piano lessons, playing in the Swing Band of Minot, or performing with her parents in St. Leo’s Catholic Church choir, music is what connects Schwan to her family and her community.

Schwan’s dad, Pat Schwan ’87, ’95, teaches band at Erik Ramstad Middle School in Minot. Her mom, Colleen

(Wald) Schwan ’86, teaches elementary music and band in Surrey Public School. Her brother, Tyler Schwan, 20, is a trombone player and singer majoring in music at Northern State University, Aberdeen, S.D. Her brother, Brady Schwan, 18, is attending Southwestern Community College in Creston, Iowa, on an academic and baseball scholarship. The non-music major does play saxophone and guitar, and his iPod is so packed he can play tunes all the way to Iowa without a repeat.

Pat and Colleen Schwan began making music together as sweethearts at Surrey High School, singing in the choir, playing in the band and partnering in swing choir. They shared the stage at Minot State and were in demand as wedding singers. Colleen Schwan still sings at weddings and funerals, often accompanied by Briana Schwan on piano or organ. Colleen Schwan is a soloist with the Swing Band of Minot and sings in the St. Leo’s choir.

Trumpeter Pat Schwan performs with eight different groups: Minot Symphony Orchestra, Minot Community Band, Minot City Band, Dakota Dixie, Brass Band of Minot, North Dakota State Legion Band, Swing Band of Minot (he also conducts) and St. Leo’s choir.

“Minot is a great place for musicians who want to perform,” Pat Schwan said. “I enjoy playing jazz, Dixieland and swing, and playing in the Legion Band, but really I enjoy playing in all these groups, or I wouldn’t do it.”

Briana Schwan says the two most important things her parents taught her about making music were “the importance of practice, and importance of having fun.” What the Schwans did not say, but demonstrate every day, is that one of the greatest joys of being artists is sharing their talents with others.

—CATHERINE JELSING

**B**riana Schwan grew up in a home filled with music. The daughter of music teachers, Schwan took her first piano lesson at age 5. This spring, like her parents, she’s graduating from Minot State University with a degree in music (piano performance). But she’s added a twist to the family legacy by earning a second degree in art, with an emphasis in photography.

Schwan is likely the first — perhaps only — artist ever to play piano in the Gordon B. Olson Library Gallery as part of her gallery talk.

Musical constructs and techniques, like “canon” and “vibrato,” inspired the 20 abstract photos she exhibited in her senior show titled “Synesthesia.”

“Synesthesia” is defined as a condition in which the customary boundaries between the senses break down — sight mingling with sound, or taste with touch. Schwan’s goal was to make images to represent musical concepts, “so people could see the music.” To reinforce the connection between sight and sound, Schwan created an iPod audio tour for the exhibit, recording herself at the piano.

Schwan orchestrated her senior piano recital just as carefully, selecting works for their place in musical history and for their audience appeal. On the recital poster, she enjoyed noting the program included everything from Debussy to Schumann to Billy Joel. Her performance was dazzling.





# SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE

## Excellence in Education

*Dedicated to student growth and community stewardship*

It is easy to say, “We will grow successful, compassionate young adults.” But any mission statement without a strategy and action becomes merely words on a page.

A well-rounded liberal arts education provides students with the knowledge and skills to become successful in their chosen fields. It also provides awareness and empathy to become engaged citizens in their chosen communities.

Three university student support centers comprise the core of MSU’s mission statement. They advise and coach their students to tackle challenges and utilize their unique skills to participate in something bigger than themselves, perhaps outside a comfort zone, to create a life of intention on and off campus.

### Student Success Center

The Student Success Center (SSC) assists students from the beginning to the end of their university careers, beginning with student orientation and ending with job searches. The SSC provides students with support through academic advising, career services, orientation and student workshops. SSC is also responsible for helping students in career exploration, employment opportunities and job-search techniques, such as résumé and cover-letter writing and interview techniques.

“The Student Success Center is here to help students bridge the gap from the classroom to reaching their current and future career goals. By working together with faculty and staff, we can enhance the professional development of MSU students,” said Lynda Bertsch ’83, SSC director.

### SUCCESS is defined by a personal touch:



For Minot native Derek Borud, the Student Success Center paved the way for personal success. A two-year veteran of SSC services, Borud admits when he first came to MSU he didn’t know what he wanted to do with his life. SSC Director Bertsch helped him organize his schedule, map out a long-term plan and find tutors when homework proved daunting. Today, he is a junior majoring in business management, on track to graduate in 2013.

“Lynda was an awesome help,” Borud said. “I couldn’t have gotten this far without her.”

### The POWER Center

In January 2011, the POWER (Providing Opportunities with Enhanced Resources) Center staff moved into their new office in MSU’s Student Center as part of a \$1.1 million Title IV grant. The five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements and serves to motivate students toward completing their postsecondary education.

To be eligible to participate in the POWER Center, an individual must be accepted for full-time enrollment at Minot State, be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident and meet at least one of three qualifications: a first-generation college student, income eligible, or have a documented disability.

MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY IS FIRST AND FOREMOST DEDICATED TO THE SUCCESS OF ALL STUDENTS: THEIR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT



“The POWER Center offers support to students who possess rising potential but need the motivation and confidence to succeed with their university education,” said Holly Major ’95, POWER Center director.

### There’s no place like HOME:



Sophomore Melissa Plesuk heard Minot State University was a “great teaching university,” and as an older-than-average student with a family, she liked that she had a quality school so close to her Velva home. Struggling in algebra class, Plesuk was directed by her adviser to the POWER Center for tutoring. “The POWER Center has a ‘home’ feeling,” Plesuk said. “They are great and very welcoming.”

### Individual support is a POWERful thing:



Sophomore Johannah Miller initially considered Minot State because of its low student-to-faculty ratio. She also liked the excellent Music Division. A chemistry and math major, the Mandan native still wanted to keep music as a part of her life. “These people are actually on my side!” Miller said. “For the first time, I felt like a part of MSU and that I could survive my first year of college. The POWER Center ladies are so supportive of my studies and achievements. I also enjoy tutoring fellow students. Whenever I meet someone new to campus, I ask them if they have checked out the POWER Center, because it will help them so much as they adjust to the demands of the college system.”

## Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning

The Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning (CETL) provides opportunities for students, faculty and staff to enhance higher education experiences and increase student success. CETL staff facilitates student-engagement activities, which include active in-class learning, volunteer commitments, civic-engagement options, service-learning projects and internships. Upper-level students often become peer mentors for first-year students, easing the transition from home to campus life.

“We find when students participate in activities that sustain the community, they become more aware of community needs,” said Beth Odahlen, CETL director. “These experiences open their eyes to the greater good, and they realize the value of giving back.”

### CURIOSITY can lead to self-discovery:



Sarah Johnston originally signed up for the First Year Experience class through CETL because she was interested in that year’s theme: art. She “super enjoyed” the professors and how all the classes encompassed one theme, but it was the associated peer mentorship program that surfaced as her true interest. One year later, the sophomore volunteers as a peer mentor, participates in intramural sports, sits on the executive board of the Residence Hall Association and participates in Chi Alpha, the Christian ministry on campus. “FYE and peer mentoring helped me become my own person, not who I was in high school,” Johnston said. “College is about classes, but also about networking and the friendships you make. It’s a safe environment to try new things and meet new people.”

AS EDUCATED CITIZENS, THEIR CONFIDENCE, AND THEIR LIFE-LONG DEVOTION TO THE COMMON GOOD AND THE WELFARE OF OTHERS.



# SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE

## MSU history class studies challenges of education pioneers

A First-Year Experience can transform into an experience of a lifetime for students.

FYE students enroll in three courses, which are connected by a theme, to form a learning community. One of the three courses is the first-year seminar course, Interdisciplinary 110.



“Being in First-Year Experience was a great decision! Because we met for classes every day, we got to know our classmates extremely well,” said Haley Oian, a sophomore from Minot. “With FYE, we could apply what we learned in one class to the other two classes.”

“Our First-Year Experience, which was called ‘Controversy, Challenges and Changes: The Enduring Promise of Education’ were History 104, Education 260 and Interdisciplinary 110. In the Interdisciplinary 110 class, Mark Timbrook taught about the history of both Minot and Minot State University. We researched the difficulties MSU’s early education pioneers overcame.”

“The combination of classes allowed students to examine the controversies, challenges and evolutionary changes of education in our nation,” said Timbrook, Office of Instructional Technology design specialist, history adjunct and author. “We researched the history of MSU because it supports the education foundations class, and the school was established during the early 20th century.”

Brittany Dutchak from Canora, Saskatchewan, learned about Minot’s beginnings and the struggles of establishing the Normal School at Minot.

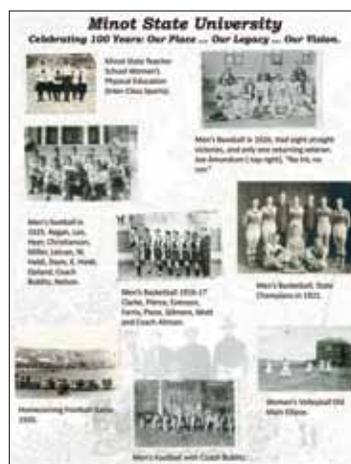
“We toured MSU and downtown Minot and studied many historic events that occurred,” said Dutchak, a freshman majoring in communication disorders. “We were even able to take a tour of the tunnels under the campus!”

Breanna Benson, a sophomore majoring in elementary education, appreciated working with primary sources in their research. For their final project, the students created posters focusing on topics about Minot State’s history. The range of topics included

“Those Who Served and Sacrificed: The Great War,” “Founding Fathers,” “Original Clubs,” “Old Main” and “Early Sports.”

“Interdisciplinary 110 was an extremely interesting and beneficial class,” the Minot native said. “It allowed us to get to know the city and campus on a more intimate level; we now know what trees were planted as World War I memorial trees and why Old Main looks the way it does. We know the meaning of the ‘Normal School’ bench in front of the campus, and we know the names and histories of the former MSU presidents. This class allowed us to understand our campus so much better, and it allowed us to feel more connected as MSU students. You know that you’ve made a difference.”

— LINDA BENSON



# Basketball coach reflects on program and personal growth

**The weekend of Jan. 13 and 14 will go down as a special Friday and Saturday in Minot State University women's basketball history.**

The Beavers accomplished two huge milestones in a span of less than 24 hours, as Minot State University earned Head Women's Basketball Coach Sheila Green Gerding her 300th career win against South Dakota Mines Friday.

The Beavers went back to work Saturday and captured the basketball program's 500th win overall, topping Black Hills State. Green Gerding is pretty quick to deflect any praise when it comes to wins. She points out her coaches and players have as much to do with it as she does.

She is even quicker to say that earning 300 wins just means she has been here for a long time.

But since that big weekend, Green Gerding has reflected on what transpired over the past 17 years as head coach at MSU.

"Well, first, even more because of the 500th win, I have been able to think about some of the players who helped us get here," she said. "That is truly what I think about when I think about the wins — the players, coaches, support staff and definitely my husband, David, and my family — who helped me along the way."

Green Gerding doesn't remember her first win but can recall many details from the first season, including a feeling that Minot State had huge potential.

"That was the reason I decided to come to Minot State; I could see the potential," she said. "I couldn't fully understand why they weren't winning. That first team had some great players on it, and I credit (former MSU Head Coach) Terry Voiles for getting those players to come here. You could hear a pin drop in the Dome sometimes that first couple of years, but it has grown from there."

And while the program has grown, so has its coach. The evolution of Green Gerding as a coach has gone from fierce competitor, still taking on the game like a player, to one of facilitator and mentor.

"Those first couple of years, I felt I was the difference in winning and losing," she said. "I would get consumed by it, nervous over it. We had one team on the way back from a loss, that was laughing, playing cards and drinking pop, and it was driving me crazy. But then I started to realize that is what that team needed. I started to understand that it doesn't matter what I do so much (on game day), but what they did that really mattered. If they needed to laugh, play cards and drink pop, then I needed to let them."

The formula certainly worked. Green Gerding has 301 of the program's 500 wins. She is 301-191 overall and has won 20 or more games five times, including last season's team-record 22. Over the past seven seasons, she is averaging 20 wins per season. She has had just two losing records.

Green Gerding finds herself coming full circle during the season where she notched her 300th win. Minot State is in its transitional season from NAIA to NCAA Division II this year with the Beavers playing an independent schedule. Next season, MSU will play a full Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference schedule against some of the top teams in all of Division II.

"Yeah, it definitely feels like that first year," she said. "We feel like we have prepared for next year and understand just how difficult it will be, but we just don't know for sure. We have tried to play everyone we can this year to get us ready, but until you experience a full season in a conference like the Northern Sun, you won't know. I do know we are ready to meet a new challenge."

—MICHAEL LINNELL



*The evolution of Green Gerding as a coach has gone from fierce competitor, still taking on the game like a player, to one of facilitator and mentor.*

# Track coach and protégé share life lessons

## ED PARISE

**MSU graduate's philosophy on coaching is pretty simple: Be committed, put in the work and achieve success.**

His teams at first Galena High School and later Robert McQueen High School in Reno, Nev., have personified this. They became just the sixth (Galena in 2006) and seventh (McQueen in 2010) programs to win both the boys and girls state track and field titles in Nevada.

"We have been very successful on the track, and that is a tribute to the athletes I coached and the assistant coaches who worked with me over the years," Parise '96 said.

"When I started out, I was probably a little harsh, as I didn't have a track and field background, but more of a football background. A young man by the name of Jason Mixie helped me because he related to the kids better than I did. I still expect certain things from my players, but now I try to relate to the kids a little better."

But this simplistic mantra extended past the stars on his teams and affected others who have been around the former Minot State University football player.

One such person is Tony Rolle, who was diagnosed with autism at three years of age. He has spent time both as a participant and as an assistant coach with Parise but has come to know the coach as much more.

Tony Rolle heard about Parise from his grandparents, Milton '60 and Bonnie '71 Rolle of Minot. Since both Parise and Milton Rolle are Minot State graduates, Tony Rolle concluded that Parise must be a good person.

Parise became a father figure to Tony Rolle, since his biological father died of a heart attack 15 years ago. But Parise sees himself, not as an authority figure, but as an associate.

"I think of Tony as a colleague, someone to talk with, someone who will correct him and help him. I want him to get a career, to be successful," Parise said.

The life lessons started almost immediately after Parise began teaching and coaching at McQueen in 2007.

"When I got here, Tony would spend more time at the concession stand than competing, and I told him that if he was going to be a part of the track team he was going to compete," Parise said. "We wanted him to get more connected with the team. Instead of just hanging out, he would develop some healthy habits."

After that, Tony Rolle, whom they call "Mr. McQueen," became a mainstay of the track and field program. It began with him becoming Parise's assistant coach.

"We got him cleared to coach, had him fill out the application on his own

— which he did better than some of my other coaches," Parise said. "He became the yelling coach — get them on the right track, help supervise the bus, set up camp. Tony is the biggest recruiter for the track and field team. He is always talking to someone."

Parise began his college career at North Dakota State University but got mononucleosis his first year and returned to Minnesota. After two years in coaching, he decided to attend North Hennepin Community College and play football. His play at NHCC earned him a scholarship to Minot State.

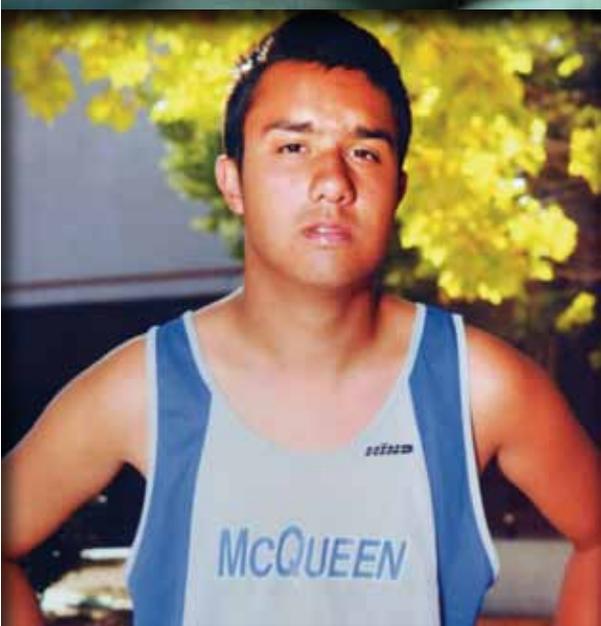
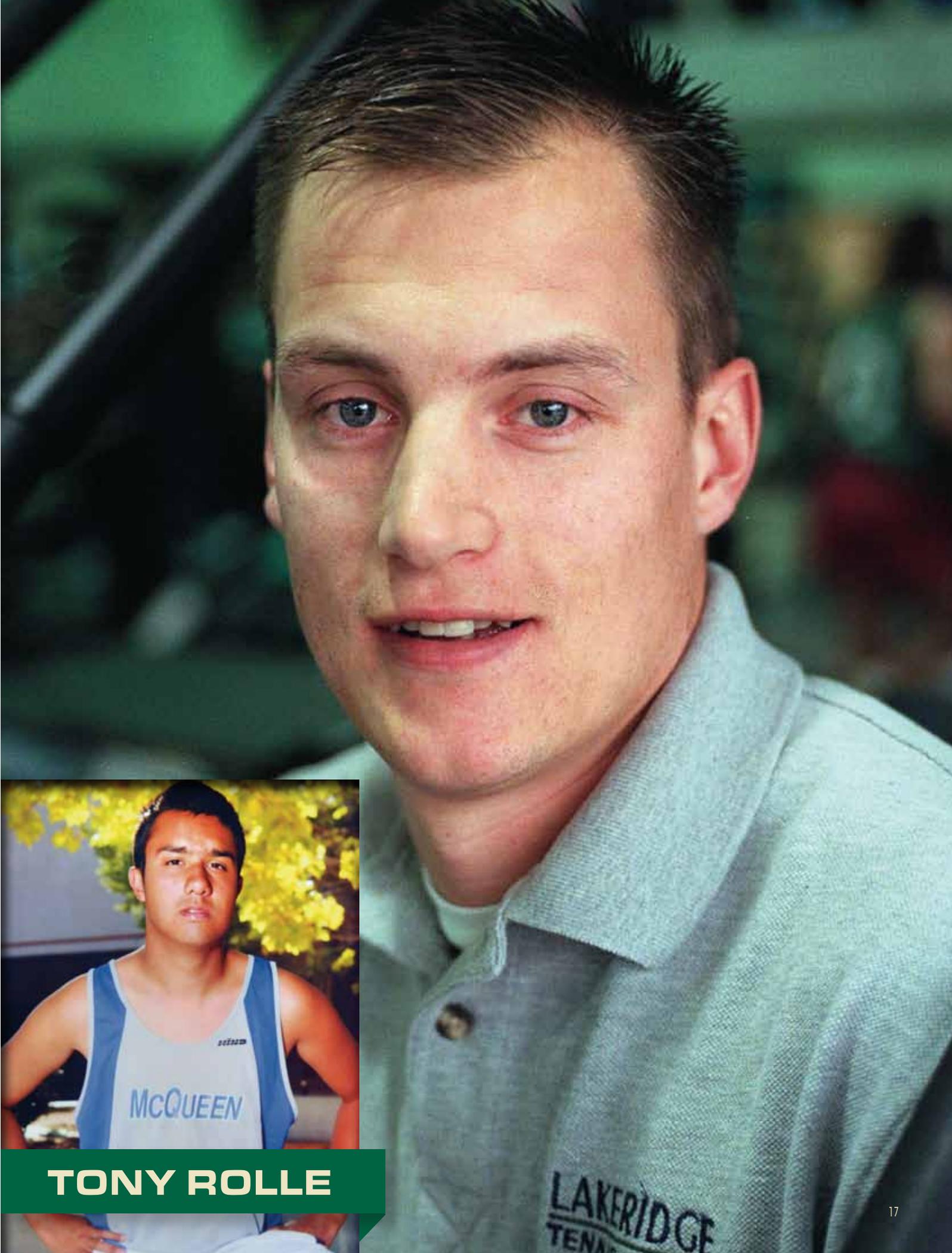
"I really learned that you don't have to go right out of high school or follow a certain path to be successful," he said. "I got a scholarship from (then MSU Head Coach Dave) Hendrickson and learned a lot about coaching that first year here. I blew out my knee my first year at MSU and couldn't go full time in the spring because of eligibility. That semester I couldn't run track, but (former Track Coach) Wiley Wilson allowed me to go to practice with them. I learned much of the basics from Wiley."

While the wins will likely keep piling up for Parise, it is the success of students like Tony Rolle off the track that gives him the most satisfaction.

"One of my goals is to get athletes to compete at the next level, to have them get the opportunity I got," Parise said. "But, ultimately, I just want them to be successful. I hope that we are teaching life lessons as well as track lessons."

—MICHAEL LINNELL

*"We have been very successful on the track, and that is a tribute to the athletes I have coached and the assistant coaches who have worked with me over the years," Parise said.*



**TONY ROLLE**



Minot State  
UNIVERSITY



Be seen. Be heard.

# Growing the investment

**I**n spite of the negative impact of the flooding caused by the Mouse River in the summer of 2011, it has been another very strong year for the MSU Development Foundation. Thanks to private donors who invested in Minot State University's future, the assets of the Development Foundation continued to increase. Those assets include 232 endowments, the most ever at Minot State.

This year the foundation provided \$529,662 for scholarships and university support. Scholarships from our donors enable MSU students to keep their education affordable. Successful careers and community service are enjoyed by MSU graduates. Many of these students have been supported through generous scholarship donations. This legacy of support continues throughout future generations and has a worldwide impact.

Engaged teaching and service learning make Minot State a distinctive university. After nearly a century of service, Minot State will continue to build upon this history of service with the support of our growing number of donors.

If you would like to grow your endowment, add to an existing endowment or initiate a new endowment, please contact me at (701) 858-4483, 800-777-0750, ext. 4483 or [marv.semrau@minotstateu.edu](mailto:marv.semrau@minotstateu.edu).

—MARV SEMRAU, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

## BLOCK PARTY 2011



Community members watch Atom work at the block party.

The instrument petting zoo was a hit!



A large crowd gathers for food and entertainment at the third-annual block party.

## TAILGATING 2011



A tailgate fanatic, Jim Artz '76 prepares burgers for MSU fans. Jim is also the father of player No. 50 Luke Artz.

Everyone loves Buckshot!



## APPRECIATION NIGHT 2011



Duane '62 & Jeanne '60 Brekke enjoy Alumni Appreciation Night.



Mary '73 and granddaughter Isabella Lockrem pose for a picture at Alumni Appreciation Night.



Hundreds turn out for Alumni Appreciation Night at the Dome.

# HOMECOMING 2011

## Music Division Reunion



Julli (Koehn) Nissen '85 (No. 928) participates in the 5K Run/Walk with other community members.



MSU wrestlers made it back for a Homecoming reunion.

## HOMECOMING 2012 SEPT. 9 – 15

- 12: MSU Community Block Party
  - 13: Golden Awards Banquet, Coronation
  - 14: Tri Sigma Reunion & '91 – '94 NDCAC Championship Football Teams
  - 15: Parade, Tailgating, Football Game
- View schedule of events at [minotstateu.edu/homecoming](http://minotstateu.edu/homecoming)



The Beta Thetas had a great turnout for their 2011 reunion.

Look for the names of reunion attendees and other events at [www.minotstateu.edu/alumni](http://www.minotstateu.edu/alumni)

## BEAVER FOOTBALL IN SAN ANTONIO



Alumni, parents and fans in Texas.



Buckshot and our future MSU alums.



MSU fans from across the country cheer at the MSU vs. UTSA game.

# GOLDEN AWARDS 2011

## MSU Alumni Association bestows awards on five

### DR. DALE ELHARDT

Dale Elhardt, professor emeritus from the Division of Social Science, began a 50-year association with Minot State when he enrolled as a part-time student in 1960. Upon his discharge from the United States Air Force, the family moved to Fargo and later Beulah, before Elhardt returned to MSU and graduated cum laude in 1968.

After completing a master's degree in sociology from the University of Arizona in 1970, Elhardt started a 31-year career as a sociology faculty member, a division chair from 1984 to 1990 and the College of Arts and Sciences dean from 1990 to 2001. He received a doctorate in sociology from Colorado State University in 1988.

Serving on many university committees, including the first system-wide salary committee, Elhardt also was on Faculty Senate and was its president for a year. Involved in several community and state research projects on aging, housing and displaced homemakers, Elhardt also served on a Minot Area Chamber of Commerce committee and the Minot Arts Council. He retired in 2001.

Elhardt and his wife, LaDonna, have three children and four grandchildren. They winter in Arizona and spend summers in Beulah.

### THOMAS W. FREDERICKS

Fredericks, born at Fort Berthold Reservation's Elbowoods, is an enrolled member of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation. He attended tribal schools and Killdeer High School, excelling in sports and attaining athletic scholarships to Minot State University.

Briefly a high school teacher and coach after college, he was appointed the Economic Opportunity Program director for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and participated in the University of New Mexico's Summer Indian Law Institute. While at the University of Colorado at Boulder Law School, Fredericks' work as a liaison between the California Indian Legal Defense Fund and the law school facilitated the founding of the Native American Rights Fund in the early 1970s. While still a law student, he began as a clerk but quickly became NARF's executive director.

As NARF executive director, Fredericks helped navigate the overall legal strategy during the 1970s. Later, he served as chief legal officer and then the primary policy official for Indian Affairs within the Department of the Interior as a political appointee in the Carter Administration.

Fredericks was the founding partner of his own law firm in 1979. He negotiated for tribes with the federal government concerning its trust responsibilities and the responsibility of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to provide technical assistance in management and finance.

Fredericks continues his devotion to representing Indian tribes as an equity partner at Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP, one of the nation's largest Native American law firms dedicated solely to the practice of federal Indian law.

Fredericks and his wife, Judy, have two daughters, Michelle and Monique, and four grandchildren, Elsie, Beau, Wade and Lucas.

Minot State University Alumni Association is accepting nominations for the Golden Award and Young Alumni Achievement Award. The deadline is May 20. Please utilize the official nomination form. This can be found on the website at [www.minotstateu.edu/alumni](http://www.minotstateu.edu/alumni) or by contacting the Alumni Office (701-858-3234).

### JERRY AND JUDY SPITZER

Jerry Spitzer graduated from Parshall High School and completed a bachelor's degree in music in 1963 from Minot State Teachers College.

Initially, he taught in public schools in Minot and Parshall. After working as an insurance agent and in banking, he was associated with the Mid-Dakota Chapter of the American Red Cross for more than 22 years. He was the chapter's executive director and served on its governing board. He retired in 2002.

Jerry has directed the Nodakord Barbershop Chorus for 27 years and recently completed his 28th year as director of the Minot City Band. He feels honored to have directed the Parshall Community Male Chorus for Gov. William Guy and the Minot Nodakords for Gov. Art Link. Currently, Jerry plays in the Minot Community Concert Band and is its president.

Judy (Allen) Spitzer was born in Minot and received a bachelor's degree in music in 1962 and a master's degree in music education in 1994 from Minot State University. She studied clarinet with Ira Schwarz, MSTC director of bands, and Himie Voxman, director of the University of Iowa School of Music.

Judy is presently principal clarinetist in the Minot Symphony Orchestra and a member of its board. She continues playing in the Minot City Band and the Community Band. She is a life member of Sigma Alpha Iota Professional Music Fraternity, Music Educators National Conference, North Dakota Music Educators Association, where she has served on the board of directors, the International Clarinet Association and other professional organizations. She is also a member of P.E.O. women's organization.

A public school music educator for 35 years, Judy maintains a private woodwind studio in her home and regularly adjudicates area elementary and secondary music festivals. She was an adjunct woodwind instructor at MSU from 2007 to 2010.

The Spitzers have two sons, John and James, and four granddaughters.

### DEAN FRANTSVOG YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Minot native Dean Frantsovog, graduated from Minot State University in 1997 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. Before completing his juris doctorate from Hamline University School of Law in 2000, he served as a senior associate with the school's Journal of Public Law and Policy. He also worked at the Erstad and Riemer law firm in Bloomington, Minn., during that time. Frantsovog then worked at Minot's Olson, Burns & Lee, P.C. In 2002, he became the youngest person ever elected to the Minot City Council. In 2008, council members elected him as their president. He currently serves in that capacity.

Frantsovog began teaching at MSU in 2004. He is an associate professor of accounting in the Department of Accounting and Finance and the university faculty athletic representative. Frantsovog also works as a legal consultant, focusing on small business and financial matters. In 2008, the Minot Daily News named him to its list of top lawyers in the area.

Frantsovog chairs the Minot Recreation Board of Directors and the Minot High School Business Advisory Board. He serves on the boards of several other local and professional committees. Frantsovog is also a volunteer football and baseball coach.

His wife, Sara, also an MSU graduate, is a nurse in the Minot Public Schools. They have two children, Quaid and Cambry.



# Class notes. . .

## Love of music inspires rare gift



Although they are not formally trained musicians, Wilber and Grace (Winge, '53) Lippert enjoy music. She sang in the high school glee club. He has sung most of his life in church choirs. When their daughter Muriel Lippert was in high school, Muriel and Wilbur Lippert sang in choral performances of Handel's "Messiah" and J. S. Bach's "Christmas Oratorio." Music was a family activity.

Muriel Lippert, pastor for Williston's Good Shepherd and West Prairie Lutheran Churches, continues to share her talents as a violinist in the Minot Symphony Orchestra. Since the MSO practices on MSU's campus, she was aware that the Division of Music didn't have a harpsichord. So in an act of genuine kindness and musical appreciation, the Lipperts decided to gift the Division of Music with one.

"That the Lipperts took the time to think of a gift is rare," said Ken Bowles, chair of the MSU Division of Music. "Much was involved in the harpsichord's acquisition. It was a two-year process. For its truck transport from Olympia, Wash., the cost was \$1,700 because it was packed in plastic and packaged to avoid temperature differences. The humidity had to be 2 percent for it to be put into the packaging."

The harpsichord, called a Hubbard French Double because of its two keyboards, was professionally built by Steven Sorli in 1976 for the University of Wisconsin. Sorli built it from a kit patented by Frank Hubbard, a pioneer in re-establishing the building traditions of the Baroque period. Possessing a black exterior and red interior with gold banding, it is embellished with a Latin inscription. Sorli also customized the instrument to improve the action and tonal quality.

Delivered Dec. 1, the harpsichord was played in the "Messiah" performance Dec. 4. Made of natural wood, the instrument is extremely sensitive to humidity. Consequently, it is housed in the Jeanne and Maynard Sandberg Room in Old Main, which features new humidity controls.

"The Lipperts are genuine and open," Bowles said. "The harpsichord is one of the most thoughtful gifts in recent years."

—LINDA BENSON

### 1962.....

**Gary Kramlich**, Watne Realtors, received the Multi-Million Dollar Production Award for 2010.

### 1963.....

**JoElla (Risan) Westgard**, **Beverly (Traub) Nelson** and **Sharon (Coons) Gates** celebrated their 70th birthdays in New York City, along with fellow Tri Sigma Jean Braun.



### 1967.....

**Jean (Rowe) Braun** celebrated her 70th birthday in New York City along with JoElla Westgard, Sharon Gates and Bev Nelson. All were Tri Sigmas at MSU.

### 1970.....

**Don Kapfer** has been named hospital administrator for the Linton Hospital. Kapfer, formerly CFO of the Pipestone County Medical Center in Minnesota, took over his new duties in Linton June 20, 2011. He and his wife, Jewel, both wanted to return to their home state.

### 1971.....

**Mary Jo (Iglehart) Blanchard** was the Mound Westonka School District's first "Feature Teacher" of the new school year. Blanchard is a high school art and honors English teacher.

**Steve Blikre**, financial representative with Northwestern Mutual, qualified for the 100 Lives Club. This honor recognizes financial representatives who have a total net of 100 lives insured for a calendar year. Blikre also qualified for the Million Dollar Round Table.

### 1972.....

**Curt Zimelman** has been promoted to senior vice president at First Western Bank & Trust.

**Terrence Oxendahl**, financial representative with Northwestern Mutual, qualified for the Million Dollar Round Table.

### 1973.....

**Bruce Bremer** has been promoted to assistant vice president at First Western Bank & Trust.

### 1974.....

**Holly (Hahn) Stroh** has relocated to Vancouver, Wash. She currently teaches special education in the Vancouver area. She and her husband have two children and three grandchildren.

### 1978.....

**Rose (Carlstad) Greaves** received the Changing Lives Award from Experience Works. Experience Works is the nation's largest nonprofit training and employment organization for older workers. The award recognized her efforts to help low-income older workers obtain the training they need to find good jobs in their communities.

### 1979.....

**Roberta "Bobbie" (Yineman) Ripplinger** retired from her position as city clerk and human resources manager for Minot. A Minot native, Ripplinger began working for the city as personnel secretary in 1977. Two months later, she became personnel director. She later spent 15 years as a secretary in the finance department. She served as a financial analyst for a few years before being named clerk and human resources manager in 1997. She is believed to be the first woman to head a city department in Minot.

### 1980.....

**Betty (Hanson) Vibeto** received the humanitarian award from the Magic City Council for Exceptional Children.

**Mary (Carlson) Keller**, program instructor, was awarded the N.D. Association of Career and Technical Education Award of Excellence on behalf of the health careers program at the Minot Public Schools at the 41st-Annual Department of Career and Technical Education Professional Development Conference.

**1981**.....

**Barb (Delzer Schmidt) Peterson** has been hired by the N.D. Department of Human Services as a behavior-modification specialist for central and western North Dakota.

**Brenda (Milkey) Demke**, program instructor, was awarded the N.D. Association of Career and Technical Education Award of Excellence on behalf of the health careers program at the Minot Public Schools at the 41st-Annual Department of Career and Technical Education Professional Development Conference.

**1982**.....

**Lonnie Berg** was recognized by Midwest Business Systems as Digital Solutions Specialist of the Month.

**Robert "Dobie" Thom** is the new principal at Kenmare High School.

**1983**.....

**Rob Anderson** worked as Minot State University's ombudsman to resolve issues arising from the recent flood. Anderson coordinated with public information, human resources, student services, facilities management and external agencies to find resolutions for problems facing Minot State faculty, staff and students dealing with the flood aftermath.

**1985**.....

**Vassilia (Vassiliou) Young**, powerlifter and dermatologist, set a state women's master's record in the deadlift in her first powerlifting competition. She's hopeful that she'll improve on her 314.6-pound effort at the USA Powerlifting Raw Nationals in Scranton, Pa. Young lives and practices in Rapid City, S.D.

**1986**.....

**Roxanne (Wass) Vendsel** was named clinical program director for services with the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, which has campuses in Bismarck, Minot and Fargo.

**Phyllis (Boyer) Casebolt**, who served as principal at Clarksville (Tenn.) High for the past three years, will begin new duties as director of educator quality.

**Dr. James Hurly** channeled his passion for the Green Bay Packers by co-authoring a book on the history of a predominately blue collar community that embraced, supported and preserved its beloved football team to make it the most unique and arguably the most storied franchise in football history. The book is titled "Green Bay: A City and Its Team."

**Kevin Burckhard** is a financial representative with Northwestern Mutual (NML). For

the 2011 calendar year, Burckhard qualified for the NML Lives Summit which requires insuring 100 lives and in excess of \$225,000 of premium. He was recognized for being a life and qualifying member of the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT). This was his 10th consecutive year qualifying for the MDRT.

**1987**.....

**Alyce (Anderson) Killmer** retired from Trinity Health. An open house was held to honor her 45 years of service.

**Julia (Richard) Koble** was selected as a 2011 Siemens STEM Fellow last spring. She learned new ways to use technology and social media in the classroom during a week long professional development program at Discovery Education's global headquarters in Silver Spring, Md. She and 49 other teachers were chosen from among 4,000 participants.

**Kelly Hayhurst**, Raymond James Financial Services, Inc, successfully completed Level II of the Institute of Investment Management Consulting Certification Series.

**Susan (Swedlund) Sisk** was recently promoted to vice president of accounting and finance at St. Alexius Medical Center in Bismarck. Sisk joined St. Alexius in 2007.

**1988**.....

**Joseph Gergen's** first play, "Lear's Fool: I Will Not Go to Bed at Noon," was recently released in electronic format for the Kindle, Nook and iPad and is available as paperback on Amazon's Create Space. Gergen is a furniture designer and builder, fiddler, former corporate junkie and writer from Minneapolis.

**Brenda (Mihalicz) Werner**, an English teacher at Bismarck High School, was named N.D. Teacher of the Year for 2012. Werner was selected from four finalists. She is also a part-time assistant professor of education and online coordinator with the University of Mary in Bismarck, teaching graduate-level courses, supervising practicum students and mentoring student teachers.

**Lori Soltis** was promoted to director of The View in Minot. Soltis is responsible for the overall supervision and operations of The View facility and programs. She has been at The View since 2007, most recently as the facility's community relations manager.

**Craig Christensen** was presented the Dick Fleischmann Memorial Award by the Idaho High School Activities Association's Hall of Fame. The award is given for going above and beyond in serving the youth of

Idaho. Christensen has been a teacher, coach and athletic administrator for the past 17 years.

**Bob Dietchman** is the high school principal/activities director at Napoleon High School.

**Gayle (Person) Lawson** was hired as the new Renville County tax director.

**1989**.....

**Todd A. Borrison** was selected to the Iowa Coaches Association Basketball Hall of Fame, as well as being named a National Coach of the Year finalist. Borrison has been a head coach for 20 years, has taken 10 teams to the state tournament and has won three state titles. He and his wife, Trish, have two boys, Cade, 13, and Kye, 10.

**1990**.....

**Lloyd Halvorson** was named assistant vice president for the Lake Region State College Instructional Services area.

**Chad Vogel** joined Bremer Bank as a loan officer in Minot. He works with individuals and families throughout the area on servicing their mortgage lending needs.

**Michelle (Vetter) Bertsch** of Fargo was a finalist for the N.D. Teacher of the Year award.

**Robbi Jo (Muller) Morgan** was named the Minot Education Association's Teacher of the Year. She is currently a third-grade teacher at Edison Elementary.

**Mike Koppang**, physical education teacher at Jeffers Pond Elementary School, Prior Lake, Minn., was named Teacher of the Year.

**1991**.....

**Timothy A. Thueson** was inducted into the N.D. Lions Hall of Fame Committee of the Past District Governors Association.

**1992**.....

**Brenda (Juergens) Foster** is president-elect for 2011-2012 of Independent Community Banks of North Dakota.

**JoDell (LeBeau) Bourgois** was named trust officer in the Trust Department at Kirkwood Bank and Trust in Bismarck.

**1993**.....

**Darren Evjen** has signed a three-year contract as assistant coach with the Swift Current Broncos hockey organization in Swift Current, Saskatchewan. Evjen spent last season as the head coach and general manager of the Notre Dame Hounds Junior 'A' team in the SJHL, finishing the season as runner-up for Coach of the Year. He had been with the Hounds since 2007, serving as team governor, director

of player personnel and assistant coach. Evjen served as an assistant with the Moose Jaw Warriors in 2006-07. Previous to his WHL coaching experience, he coached the SMAAAHL Saskatoon Contacts from 1998-2006, winning a national midget championship in 2005.

**1994**.....

**Dr. Jeffrey Sather** was named the medical director of Trinity Hospital's Emergency Trauma Center.

**Jeff Meissner** is a fourth-grade teacher at Hazen Elementary School. Meissner is also an assistant coach with the Bison football team and coach of the junior high girls basketball team.

**Corey Burgum** was hired as a credit analyst and loan assistant in the Bismarck office of Dakota Certified Development Corporation. He has more than 11 years of accounting and finance-related experience.

**1996**.....

**Jennifer (Fox) Grady** is currently teaching in New Town.

**1997**.....

**Pam (Correll) Stroklund**, program director, accepted the Director's Award of Excellence on behalf of the health careers program at the Minot Public Schools at the 41st-Annual Department of Career and Technical Education Professional Development Conference. She was also named vice president for the N.D. Association of Career and Technical Education at the group's board meeting.

**Jeremy Timm** is partner/owner in Fitness 19 health club franchises around the United States. He currently resides in Billings, Mont.

**Jason Rohrer**, financial representative with Northwestern Mutual, received the National Quality Award.

**1998**.....

**Jerry Nelson** recently joined Northern Tier Federal Credit Union as vice president-chief financial officer. Nelson is responsible for data processing, bookkeeping and other financial and accounting functions.

**Rochelle Schaffer** joined Medcenter One as home-care services executive director.

**Stephanie (Sauber) Johnson** was hired as a financial analyst in the corporate accounting and planning department at MDU Resources Group, Inc. She previously was an internal auditor at the company. Johnson has worked for MDU Resources for six years. She is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors and the N.D. Society of Certified Public Accountants.

**Jonathan Skalicky** of the N.D. Highway Patrol has been reassigned to Valley City. He began his career with the Highway Patrol in 2010.

**1999**.....

**Susan (Bartz) Nannenga** opened Positive Progressions Therapy in Harvey. Positive Progressions Therapy's goal is to help people of all ages reach their full potential in areas of speech, language and fine motor skills.

**Karen Barnes** was named Special Educator Teacher of the Year by the Magic City Council for Exceptional Children.

**Dusty (Sandeem) Zimmerman** has joined Ackerman-Estvold Engineering and Management Consulting Inc. as director of corporate communications. Zimmerman will coordinate all marketing and communications efforts for the organization.

**Jay DeMers** has been hired by The NetWork Center in Fargo as a help-desk technician. DeMers has 11 years of experience in information technology. He has a bachelor's degree with majors in business management and international business.

**2001**.....

**Scott Louser** is the 2012 National Association of Realtors vice president and liaison to government affairs, which is the highest appointed position in the association.

**Leslie (Gray) Coughlin** was named one of four N.D. League of Cities "Hometown Heroes" at the NDLC annual conference.

**Amy (Hendershot) Ripley** and husband, Kevin, opened Bella Catering & Cakes in Minot. Between them, they have 25 years of catering and cake-decorating experience to draw upon. Bella Catering & Cakes is a full-service catering and cake-decorating business.

**2002**.....

**Joann (Schumacher) Jessor** joined the Village Family Service Center in Bismarck as a facilitator in the Family Group Decision Making Program.

**2003**.....

**Shana (Modin) Haugenoe** teaches and serves as technology coordinator at Divide County High School. She and her husband, Levi, reside in Crosby. He works for U.S. Customs and Immigration. They have two sons.

**Alicia Hegland** opened Travel Trends, a travel agency serving the Bismarck area. Hegland has worked in the travel industry for nearly 10 years and earned the Certified Travel Associate designation in July.

**Karen Schaeffer** was promoted to team leader in the customer service area for student loans at the Bank of North Dakota.

**2004**.....

**Michael Allen Rose's** debut novel, "Party Wolves in my Skull," has been published by Eraserhead Press.

**2005**.....

**Shelby Larson** has joined Behm Energy as a land administrator. Larson will assist in the preparation, updating and maintenance of Behm Energy's land documents and lease records. She is responsible for the analysis and interpretation of land data to create various maps for company use.

**Brandyn Hendrickson**, financial representative with Northwestern Mutual, qualified for New Representative of the Year. He was awarded the Pacesetter 60 award (which honors financial representatives who sell 60 life policies during their first six months), and he qualified for 50 New Clients (which recognizes representatives who have a total of 50 new clients for a calendar year).

**Gary McDaniel** teaches physics, AP physics and chemistry at Geneseo High School in California.

**Jason Merck**, financial representative with Northwestern Mutual, qualified for the 100 Lives Club. This honor recognizes financial representatives who have a total of 100 lives insured for a calendar year. He also received the National Quality Award.

**2006**.....

**Gary Morphis** is a legal administrative specialist with the Department of Veteran Affairs. Morphis also earned an MBA from Grand Canyon University.

**Tanya Ide** was honored with the Director's Award for Counselor Achievement-Honorable Mention for her work in placing individuals in employment by the N.D. Department of Human Services' Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

**Deb Berger** was in the cast of Minneapolis Musical Theatre's production "Bat Boy: The Musical."

**Chris Schilken** was elected to the board of Center for Technology and Business. He is executive director of Forward Devils Lake.

**Kyle L. Kirchmeier** was promoted to captain and was reassigned as the administrative commander of the southwest region in Bismarck by the N.D. Highway Patrol.

**2007** .....

**Emma (Erie) Broe** joined Western State Bank, West Fargo, as a marketing representative in the Sales and Marketing Department.

**Kari (Bjerke) Cutting** has been hired as vice president of the N.D. Petroleum Council. She has more than 25 years of experience in chemistry, sales, marketing and transportation. She was also elected to the board of directors of the Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Foundation based in Washburn. She earned a Master of Science degree in management from Minot State University and a Bachelor of Science from the University of North Dakota.

**Brigitte Freschette** joined Lake Region State College as the director of counseling and head volleyball coach.

**Teresa (Kraft) Loftesnes** is president of the board for 2012 for Minot's CVB.

**Amanda Rothe** was named store manager for Maurices, a national specialty-clothing store.

**Amanda Moser** has joined KK BOLD's account team. She has three years of experience in economic and community development.

**Josh Wheeler**, along with his wife, Breanna, and brother, **Kyle Wheeler**, are the owners of the Spicy Pickle Sandwich Company in Minot.

**Max Milne** has completed all requirements to obtain the designation of Associate Safety Professional. This designation is awarded to individuals who meet academic requirements and have passed the first of two examinations.

**2008** .....

**Ryan Geltel** joined the MacMaster Law Firm as an associate attorney in Williston.

**2009** .....

**Talia Renz** became certified in the developmental disabilities curriculum established by the State Council of Developmental Disabilities of North Dakota. Certification was obtained by completing modules and coursework through MSU and Support Systems, Inc.

**Brooklyn (Heid) Schaan** is a new kindergarten teacher at Washburn Public School.

**Susan Ewert**, former emergency services director and volunteer coordinator for the Mid-Dakota Chapter of the American Red Cross in Minot, spent many hours helping evacuees during the Mouse River flood. She recently joined the Salvation Army in Minot, where she works with homeless veterans and their families.

**2010** .....

**Jacob Jenkins** is currently teaching ninth-grade English, composition and speech in New Town.

**Stephanie Skar**, second-grade teacher at Burlington-Des Lacs Elementary, received \$1,000 in school supplies from A Day Made Better Program, sponsored by Office Max and Adopt-A-Classroom. She was among 1,000 teachers nationally selected to receive the award.

**Rebecca Peters** is teaching seventh-grade math and computer applications at Beulah Public Schools.

**Jordan Huettl** was named Driver of the Year by the Nodak Race Club.

**2011** .....

**Jennifer Nelson** has joined KK BOLD in the web development and graphic design area. She holds a degree in commercial art from Bismarck State College and bachelor's degrees from MSU in marketing and international business. Nelson previously worked for Tao Interactive.

**Kellan Zietz** is teaching second grade at Ray. He hopes to start a wrestling program at the school.

**Nathan Schell** is teaching seventh- and eighth-grade language arts at Ray.

**Mari Kellog** is a kindergarten teacher for Divide County.

**Yvonne Roth** graduated summa cum laude with a master of education degree from MSU. She teaches business communication online at Dickinson State University and works in the DSU Office of Extended Learning as an online student support specialist. She and her son, Andrew (a 2011 Trinity High School graduate), celebrated their graduations together.

**David Scharpe**, financial representative with Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, qualified for the Pacesetter First 40 Award.

**Attended** .....

**Gary Lybeck**, agency manager at First Western Insurance in Minot, was awarded the designation of Certified Professional Insurance Agent by the American Insurance Marketing and Sales Society.

**Blake Krabseth**, Watne Realtors, received the Multi-Million Dollar Production Award for 2010.

**Colleen Johnson**, Watne Realtors, received the Multi-Million Dollar Production Award for 2010.

**Jerik Middleton**, Roger Ward North American, was a recipient of the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce's Eagle Award. The program is sponsored by the Chamber to recognize workers in Minot who exhibit superior customer service.

**Kelsea Volk** is student teaching at the secondary level at Stanley Public Schools. She is majoring in business education.

**Linda Zeltinger**, Job Service North Dakota, was a recipient of the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce's Eagle Award. The program is sponsored by the Chamber to recognize workers in Minot who exhibit superior customer service.

**Rebekka Freije** will be working in special education at Stanley Public Schools. She is a member of the Council for Exceptional Children.

**Jeremy Tofteland** was hired by the Bottineau County Sheriff's Department and began his duties in 2011.

**Andrea Haider**, a member of American Trust Center's management team since 2008, has been named assistant vice president of trust operations.

**Sandi Eastgate** has been hired as general manager of AmericInn Lodge & Suites of Bismarck.

**Friends** .....

**Daryl Hodnefield** retired from Wells Fargo Bank in 2011.

**Grant Wentz** was named market president for Wells Fargo Bank in 2011.

**Dennis Helgeson**, financial representative with Northwestern Mutual, qualified for the Million Dollar Round Table.

**Mark Anderson** was selected general manager of Farmers Union Service Association and Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Company by the N.D. Farmers Union board of directors. Anderson and his wife, Melanie, have three children, Maximus, Mathias and Marielle. The family lives in Jamestown.

**MOVING OR HAVE A TEMPORARY ADDRESS?**

**SEND YOUR NEW ADDRESS TO:  
MSU Alumni Association  
500 University Ave W  
Minot, ND 58707  
or email: alumni@minotstateu.edu**

# In memoriam . . .

*It is with honor we dedicate this section to recognize alumni and friends who have passed away from approximately July 2011 to January 2012, or as submitted.*

## Graduates.....

- '30 Martin (Lizotte), Marian; Crookston, Minn.
- '31 Knutson (Eide), Olga K.; Williston
- '31 Larson (Iverson), Bernice E.; New Town
- '32 Ringen (Irwin), Helen C.; Paynesville, Minn.
- '33 Boettcher, Ethel; Garrison
- '33 Morrison (Einarson), Bergthora "Becky"; Mountain
- '35 Anderson (Baalerud), Anne C.; Minot
- '35 Burkhart (Joiner), Lucille I.; Minot
- '37 Stillwell (Smedsrud), Kay; Williston
- '38 Sargent (Moum), Thelma; Bend, Ore.
- '38 Sundin, Leonora; Bowbells
- '39 Nelson, Kenneth H.; St. Paul, Minn.
- '39 Tscheppen (Miller), Lavina; Bisbee
- '41 Dugan (Kongslie), Eileen J.; Towner
- '41 Peterson (Ege), Evelyn B.; Mesa, Ariz.
- '42 Trondson (DeBilt), Margaret; Minot
- '43 Christensen (Stusrud), Helen; Minot
- '44 Verlinde (Schammel), Margaret; Noonan
- '47 Smette (Sund), Beth; Newburg
- '48 Messer (Goodwin), Patricia; Minot
- '49 Yonker, John A; Bismarck
- '50 Kabanuk, Arthur R.; Minot
- '51 Evenson, John L; Northfield, Minn.
- '51 Hennenfent, Quentin "Curly"; Mesa, Ariz.
- '51 Johnson, Dr. Marlowe; San Bernardino, Calif.
- '51 Matteson (Tonneson), Bernice; Minot
- '52 Burkholder, Lynn D.; Moscow, Idaho
- '53 Hill (Vooge), Gloria; Ray
- '53 Mickelson (Stearns), M. Kay; Billings, Mont.
- '54 Robson (Mattern), Joyce; Great Falls, Mont.
- '54 Shervold, Marlo; Kent, Wash.
- '56 Bjork, Delwin L.; Minot
- '56 Holte, Melvin; Glendive, Mont.
- '58 Ruge (Martel), Joyce; Mulvane, Kan.
- '59 Siechert (Carter), Nureda; Fresno, Calif.
- '60 Dailey, Allen "Jack"; Plymouth, Minn.
- '60 Erdahl (Dirksen), Virginia; St. Paul, Minn.
- '60 Kemper, Marilyn; Minot
- '60 St. Aubin, Donald; Grand Rapids, Minn.
- '61 Erh, Melvin; Minot
- '61 Jan, Donald D.; Jamestown
- '64 Hagen, Dr. George R.; Napa, Calif.
- '64 Kraft (Halvorson), Helen; Bismarck
- '64 Olesen (Johnson), Beverly; Sherwood
- '66 Parkinson (Schaefer), Agnes; Mesa, Ariz.
- '67 Burnstad (Kiss), Evelyn G.; Reno, Nev.
- '67 Keller, Warren H.; Warroad, Minn.

- '68 White, William, Jr.; Mercer
- '69 Kuehn, Jonathan E.; Minot
- '70 Reinke, Robert D.; Helena, Mont.
- '71 Petersen (Kohler), Carol D.; Franklin, Tenn.
- '71 Van Dyke, Jan R.; Cottonwood, Ariz.
- '72 Reid, Howard P.; North Port, Fla.
- '73 Breeding, Robert D.; Powers Lake
- '73 Breiland, Eugene; Minot
- '74 Hill, Rodney; McClusky
- '75 Condon, William W.; Minot
- '75 Wold (Murray), Virginia; Detroit Lakes, Minn.
- '81 Beaudry, Bruce P.; Polson, Mont.
- '82 Brown (Thoreson), Hope A.; Berthold
- '82 Kornkven (Shank), Geraldine "Jeri"; Minot
- '83 Butts (Muus), Martha "Penny"; Minot
- '83 Higgins, Maj. Rex C.; Mesa, Ariz.
- '88 Harstad, Bryan L.; Minot
- '90 Rogers (Hoffer), Margaret; Minot
- '91 WhiteBull-Richard, Patricia; Fort Yates
- '02 Schuler, Courtney B.; Bismarck
- '09 Jones, Rev. James D.; Minot

## Attended .....

- Allmaras (Molitor), Lorraine; New Rockford
- Anderson (Petron), Angeline; Spokane, Wash.
- Baumann, Donald E.; Buffalo
- Bertsch, H. E. "Larry"; Burlington
- Blesener, William E.; Minot
- Bull (Sigurdson), Ardis; Scottsdale, Ariz.
- Burckhard, Todd M.; Minot
- Close (Eide), Christine; Sutter, Calif.
- Dobranski, Edward; Minot
- Engeberg (Krause), Luann; Tolley
- Gehring, Eloy V.; Rochelle, Ill.
- Gondringer (Panko), Clara; Underwood
- Gorman (Spafford), Marion; Minneapolis, Minn.
- Guthrie, Roger; Polson, Mont.
- Hall, Darrold "Darryl"; Parshall
- Hauglie, Robert C.; Georgetown, Texas
- Humble (Kvernstoen), Gyneth; Mount Vernon, Wash.
- Humphreys (Becwar), Mary "Addie"; Minot
- Inglehart, Robert; Garrison
- Keller, Delvin J.; Minot
- Kirkaldie, David; New Town
- Knudsen, James H.; Sacramento, Calif.
- Lehne (Eliason), Eleanor; Bismarck
- Leier (Duklet), Marvelyn; Esmond
- Laity (Helle), Lila; Butte, Mont.
- Lindberg, Donald E.; Mansfield, Texas
- Little (Gudmanson), Therese; Minot
- Mahlum (Brown), Ameralys; Minot
- Marks (Thronson), Alice; Bismarck
- Merrill, Neal A.; Donnybrook
- Muus, John "Jack"; Vela

- Norby, Russell; Austin, Texas
- Norland (Forland), Gladys; Bismarck
- Olson, Hennrik B.; Minot
- Peterson, Bradley; Chaska, Minn.
- Rasmuson, Darrell D.; Minot
- Redlin, Rolland; Minot
- Reinarts (Gorman), Margaret "Polly"; Preston, Minn.
- Sandhofner, Bennie L.; Hendrum, Minn.
- Signalness, Alice; Watford City
- Simonson, David L.; Crosby
- Smith (Speers), Doris A.; Rugby
- Smith (Smith), Georgia; Maxbass
- Smith, Robert G.; Bismarck
- Sorby (Mortensen), Adeline; Minot
- Sullivan, John P.; Baxter, Minn.
- Thompson (Blaisdell), Iona J.; Grand Forks
- Tollefson (Thornby), Lyla; New Rockford
- Trout, Aaron; Sherwood
- Turcotte (Gibbins), Jean; Williston
- VanBerkom, Jim; Powers Lake
- Vitko (Solie), Diane; Surrey
- Watts (Coad), Viola; Belmont, N.Y.
- Wavrin (O'Doto), Dorothy; Bismarck
- Westlie, Charles H.; Minot
- Westmiller (Gilfooy), B. Loretta; Garrison
- Winslow (Lagasse), Eva; Everett, Wash.

## Friends .....

- Beck, Irene; Surprise, Ariz.
- Burnside, Steve; Minot
- Enns, Glen "Bud"; Stanley
- Erfert, Wallace; Minot
- Frey, Allen; Granville
- Geobel (Fedorenko), Gerry; Minot
- Herberg, Howard; Bismarck
- Hilton, Robert; Williston
- Holwegner (Palda), Jayne; Minot
- Howard (Nermyr), Pauline; Minot
- Irwin, Dale J.; Bismarck
- Jenneman, Warren O.; Minot
- Kottsick, Walter; Riverdale
- Lawrence (Anderson), Donna; Minot
- Moore, CMSgt Jack; Boerne, Texas
- Rismoen (Lunden), Lois; Minot
- Schreiner (Matthews), Paula; Max
- Slavick, Laymn; Minot
- Smith (Anfinson), Janice; Minot
- Smith (Kerzman), Lorrie Ann; Minot
- Solberg (Bakke), Lillian; Minot
- Thunshelle, Haakon A.; Minot
- Young, Gregory "Butch"; Mesa, Ariz.

## Faculty & Staff .....

- Primeau, Joseph; Decatur, Ala., former retention specialist for TRiO Program
- Torgerson, John K.; Rugby, former MSU professor in the Department of Speech Pathology



Have you had an addition to your family within the last 12-18 months? We want to know! Contact Kate at [kate.marshall@minotstateu.edu](mailto:kate.marshall@minotstateu.edu) to receive a free T-shirt for your new little Beaver! Please be sure to tell us the name, birth date, place, weight and length. Also, please provide your graduation year, spouse's name and contact information.

After you have received your baby beaver T-shirt, send us your baby's photos! E-mail your photo to [kate.marshall@minotstateu.edu](mailto:kate.marshall@minotstateu.edu).



Kaine Raymond was born May 22, 2011, in Minot. He was 8 pounds, 12 ounces and was 19 3/4 inches long. Parents are **Eric '05** and **Nicole '05**

**(Moline) Bertsch.**



Skylar Violet was born March 24, 2011, in Albuquerque, N.M., to proud parents **Evan Borisinkoff** and **Becky '01 Daigneault**. She

weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20 inches long.



**Nate '09** and **Jenna '09 (Nelson) Doornek** welcomed Beckett Ross to the world on May 1, 2011, in Glasgow, Mont. Beckett weighed 8 pounds,

1 ounce and was 21 1/2 inches long.



Caleb Arnold was born June 29, 2011, in Glasgow, Mont., to **Matthew '02** and **Jennifer '01 (Beaver) Goettle**. He was 9 pounds, 4 ounces and

21 1/2 inches long. Caleb joins big sisters Abigail (7) and Elizabeth (5) and big brother Lincoln (3).



Hayden Ambrose was born March 30, 2011, in Bismarck. He weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and was 20 3/4 inches long. He was welcomed by proud parents **Tracy '02** and **Amy '06 (Fetsch) Hanzal**, brother Kameron (7) and sister Ava (5).



**Ryan '01 Harlow** and **Daria '01 Stakiw** welcomed their fifth child, Easton Ryan on July 27, 2010. Easton weighed 6 pounds, 7 ounces and was born

in Glenwood Springs, Colo.



**Erik '06** and **Andrea '06 (Aamot) Haser** joyfully welcomed Quinn Evangeline on June 2, 2011. Quinn weighed 6 pounds, 2 ounces and was 21

and 1/2 inches long. She was born in Jamestown.



**Shawn and Tanya '07 (Wilson) Hersack** are proud parents to baby girl Brooklyn May. She was born on July 15, 2011, in Brandon, Manitoba. She

weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces and was 20 inches long.



**Kendall and Tarri '01 (Allmendinger) Joki** welcomed Trygg Jesse Lee on July 14, 2010. He weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20 inches long. He joins Kendall Wayne Joki Jr., who is 4 years old.



Crew Ryan was born Feb. 22, 2011, in Minot to proud parents **Ryan** and **Sara '06 (Rist) Klein**. Crew weighed

8 pounds, 10 ounces and was 22.5 inches long.



**Ryan '96** and **Raumi Kudrna** welcomed Kainen Ronald into the world on August 28, 2011. Kainen weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 19

3/4 inches long. He joins brother Kelsen, who is 5 years old.



**Jason and Elizabeth '05 (Baker) Lavelle** welcomed Addison Elizabeth on August 11, 2011, in Vermillion, S.D. She weighed

6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 18 1/4 inches long.





Breanna Gayle was born on April 15, 2011, to **Brian DuPuis** and **April '95 Mindt**. Breanna weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and was 19 ¼ inches long.



**Bryan Lariviere** and **Tara '07 Morelli** proudly welcomed Hayden William on Aug. 14, 2011, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Hayden weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces and was 20 ½ inches long.



Kinsley Lynn was born July 11, 2011, in Marshall, Minn., to **Tim '99** and **Stacy Olson**. Kinsley weighed 6 pounds, 13 ounces and was 19 inches long.



Kimberly Ann was born Jan. 24, 2011, in Bismarck to proud parents **Francis (attended '90-93)** and **Serena Riley**. Kimberly weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces.



**Chris and Brooklyn '09 (Heid) Schaan** welcomed Julius Jeffrey on June 10, 2011, in Bismarck. Julius weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20 inches long.



Samantha Nicole was born in Dickinson on March 16, 2011. She weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long. Samantha is welcomed

by her parents **Mark and Melanie '02 (McCormack) Schaper** and her siblings, Emelie, Sarah and Matthew, who are all 2 years old.



**Chris '06 and Erika (attended '01-05) Schilken** are proud parents to twins — Mack Roger and Knox James, born Jan. 9, 2011. Mack was born at 5:22 a.m. and weighed in at 6 pounds, 4 ounces and was 18.5 inches long. Knox was born at 5:23 a.m. and weighed 5 pounds, 9 ounces and was 18.5 inches long. They are also welcomed by big sister Izabella, who is 7 years old.



Dexter James Irvin was born Dec. 2, 2010, in Great Falls, Mont., to **Nolan '04** and **Kaylee Taylor**. Dexter weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20 inches long.



**Joshua '07 and Breanna Wheeler** welcomed Embry Noelle to the world on Oct. 16, 2010. Born in Minot, Embry weighed 5 pounds, 6 ounces and was 18 ½ inches long.



Trevor Will was born to **Wille '85/'87 (Rudy) Jr.** and **DawnAnn '94 (Lanners) Trondson** on April 14, 2011, in Columbia, S.C. He weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces and was 21 inches long.



**Luke (attended 1993-95) and Nikki '08 (Thompson) Lahtinen** along with big brother Lander (5) and big sister Lucy (2) welcomed twins Aimee Nicole (left) and Kinsey Lynn on Dec. 17, 2011. Aimee weighed 4 pounds, 2 ounces and was 17 ½ inches long. Kinsey was 5 pounds, 2 ounces and was 17 ¼ inches long.



**Jake '09 and Alisa '07/'09 Sonnenberg** welcomed their son Sam Ryker to the world on Sept. 24th, 2011. Sam weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long. The proud parents and their son live in Weyburn, Saskatchewan.



**Travis and Jennifer '06 (Roberts) Friedley** welcomed a baby boy on Feb. 28, 2011, in Calgary, Alberta. Carter Ryan weighed 5 pounds, 2 ounces.



Gracyn Kay was born August 18, 2010 to **Levi and Tasha '08 (Tonnessen) Johnson**. Gracyn weighed 7.9 pounds and was 21 inches long.



# OUR READERS WRITE

Alumni and friends of Minot State University are encouraged to submit their memories and notes. Send your items to MSU Alumni, 500 University Ave W, Minot, ND 58707 or email to [alumni@minotstateu.edu](mailto:alumni@minotstateu.edu).

September 27, 2011

Dear Alumni Association,

Thank you for the *Connections* magazine I recently received. The article that most interested me included a map showing the location of various buildings on campus. A few years ago while visiting relatives in Minot, I decided to visit the campus. I was really impressed with the new library and the science building. When I was a student there (in the 1940s) the library consisted of a large room on the top story of the Old Main and science consisted of three labs – biology, chemistry and physics. A lot has changed in 70 years.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,  
Arthur A. Schmitz  
Arlington Hts. IL

# CLASS NOTES

Please let us hear from you with news of your career updates, marriage, family, address change, etc.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail to: Alumni Association  
Minot State University  
500 University Avenue West  
Minot, ND 58707  
e-mail: [alumni@minotstateu.edu](mailto:alumni@minotstateu.edu)

## The MSU Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series

features alumni who have excelled in their chosen field and have a desire to return to the campus to share their experiences with students, staff and community.

If you would like to be part of this series, or would like to submit a name, please contact the Alumni Office at 701-858-3234, 800-777-0750 or [alumni@minotstateu.edu](mailto:alumni@minotstateu.edu).



*Paul Johnson, '72, president of the American College of Sofia in Sofia Bulgaria, discusses his career milestones with VP of Advancement, Marv Semrau.*

Please join us in celebrating the  
**GRADUATING CLASS**  
**OF 2012**  
at MSU's  
Commencement Ceremony  
Friday, May 11, 2012 at 10 a.m.  
in the MSU Dome.

MSU diploma frames will be available for purchase.





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MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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*dinner & auction*

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SOCIAL: 5:30 P.M. • DINNER 6:45 P.M.

To order tickets for this year's event, contact the Alumni Office at  
701-858-3234, 800-777-0750 ext. 3234 or e-mail: [alumni@minotstateu.edu](mailto:alumni@minotstateu.edu).





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**UNIVERSITY**

**Alumni Association**

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*Leslie (Gray) Coughlin, 01, serves on the executive committee of the MSU Board of Regents, is president of the Souris Valley United Way board of directors and is the coordinator of the Recovery Warehouse in support of the Mouse River flood recovery. Leslie and her husband, John, live in Minot.*