

FALL 2011

# *connections*

Minot State University Alumni Association & Development Foundation

MSU in the forefront  
of GEOTHERMAL  
Heating & Cooling



# PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

**R**ecently someone said while discussing the flood recovery, “Who would have thunk?”

Yes, who would have thought that a year filled with so many successes and achievements for Minot State University would have ended in a summer with so many losses and heartaches for Minot and the region.

At the beginning of last academic year, we were dedicating our beautifully renovated Swain Hall, preparing for the start of the exciting interdisciplinary program Studies in the Community and Environment, embarking on the Severson Entrepreneurship Academy, beginning construction on our Wellness Center, opening the new Student Support Services TRiO office, beginning the drilling of test wells for our new geothermal system and preparing for the start of football and our new women's soccer team on the new Field Turf athletic field. MSU was riding high after our acceptance into the premier Northern Sun NCAA DII athletic conference, enjoying significant enrollment increases and showing notable increases in retention and graduation rates.

Faculty, staff and students teamed up to focus on our commitment to students and Vision 2013 goals and strategies. The visible accomplishments in our academic programs, student



gave us hope. Then a few weeks later, the river levels rose to an historic high, above the highest level recorded in 1881.

Before the crest, we constructed a dike along University Avenue to protect MSU and its buildings. Had we not built the dike, Model Hall, Crane Hall, Dakota Hall and the Power Plant would have been inundated. Fortunately we secured the campus and opened our doors to the National Guard, Red Cross, FEMA, truck drivers, energy workers, displaced citizens and many others in Minot to fight the flood. We are grateful and impressed by how tirelessly our staff worked so MSU could assist the many emergency workers and yet remain focused on our mission to provide a quality education.

As I write this letter, we are preparing for the new academic year. Despite the turmoil of the flood and immense losses suffered by many of the faculty and staff, MSU is prepared to welcome our faculty and students. We've made special accommodations to housing policies to help faculty, staff and students who were displaced. We've also hired Rob Anderson, an alumnus, to serve as ombudsman to assist those in need. While it is likely MSU will experience a decline in enrollment, we have worked hard to inform students that we're ready for the start of the academic year.

**‘As I write this letter, we are preparing for the start of our new academic year. Despite the turmoil of the flood and immense losses suffered by many of the faculty and staff, MSU is prepared to welcome our faculty and students.’**

services, athletics and campus infrastructure were clear indicators of MSU's commitment to student success and raising the bar to achieve a reputation as one of the premier regional universities in the Great Plains.

The graduation ceremony, which focused on student success and achievements, finished a year we were proud of. Only two weeks later on June 1, MSU faced rising waters of the Mouse River and an immediate need to enlist the support of our campus to help others. Within two weeks, the danger seemed to pass and

This edition of *Connections* includes stories of achievements and challenges depicted in a center pictorial of the flood and its impact on Minot and Minot State University. At the center of these stories is a remarkable theme of how our campus — students, faculty, staff and alumni—worked selflessly to help others during both the challenging times and the good times of this remarkable year. Readers can be proud of how MSU has continued to serve our students and contribute to the welfare of our community and region.

— DAVID FULLER, President



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# MSU in the forefront of **GEO THERMAL** HEATING AND COOLING

**Minot State University began the bold transition of converting the campus from coal-fired boilers to geothermal heating and cooling. It's a huge undertaking, one that will put MSU and Minot on the national map.**

In 2009, MSU's primary coal-fired steam boiler needed replacing. The short-term fix was estimated to cost \$3.5 million, but it would only extend the life of the boiler by six to eight years. A new boiler would exceed \$10 million — a prospect no one savored. During discussion at a MSU Foundation board of directors meeting, a board member suggested looking into geothermal heat, and the rest, as they say, is history.

"The geothermal conversion project is a large, complex project that has been a challenge to figure out funding," said David Fuller, MSU president. "But the more people learn about it, the more excited they get."

## *Laying the groundwork*

A feasibility study, funded in part by Xcel Energy, was needed to determine if a geothermal system conversion would be cost effective and viable. MSU consulted with MEP Associates of Eden

Prairie, Minn., geothermal design experts, to prove the concept based on MSU's heating and cooling needs, through the results of test boreholes on campus.

MEP's study showed that switching to a decentralized geothermal heating and air conditioning system would reduce utility costs and dependence on fossil fuels in the long run. It is projected to cost \$16.7 million. Conservative estimates predict an annual utility savings of \$500,000 and a payback period of 12 1/2 years.

The firm outlined a plan that included three areas of opportunity, constructed over a period of time, based on available and projected funding. MSU had a \$2.5 million legislative appropriation, originally allocated for boiler repair, plus an additional \$2 million from N.D. Department of Commerce renewable energy grants.

With the assistance of state Sen. Karen Krebsbach and Rep. Matt Klein, an additional \$4.85 million was allocated during the 2011 legislative session to further assist with the project.

“The major obstacle to securing funding was that MSU’s geothermal project was on the drawing board, but not a priority,” Krebsbach said.

To convince the legislature it was a worthwhile project, Krebsbach initially focused on short-term savings to the governor’s budget in funding the geothermal system conversion versus the cost of a new boiler.

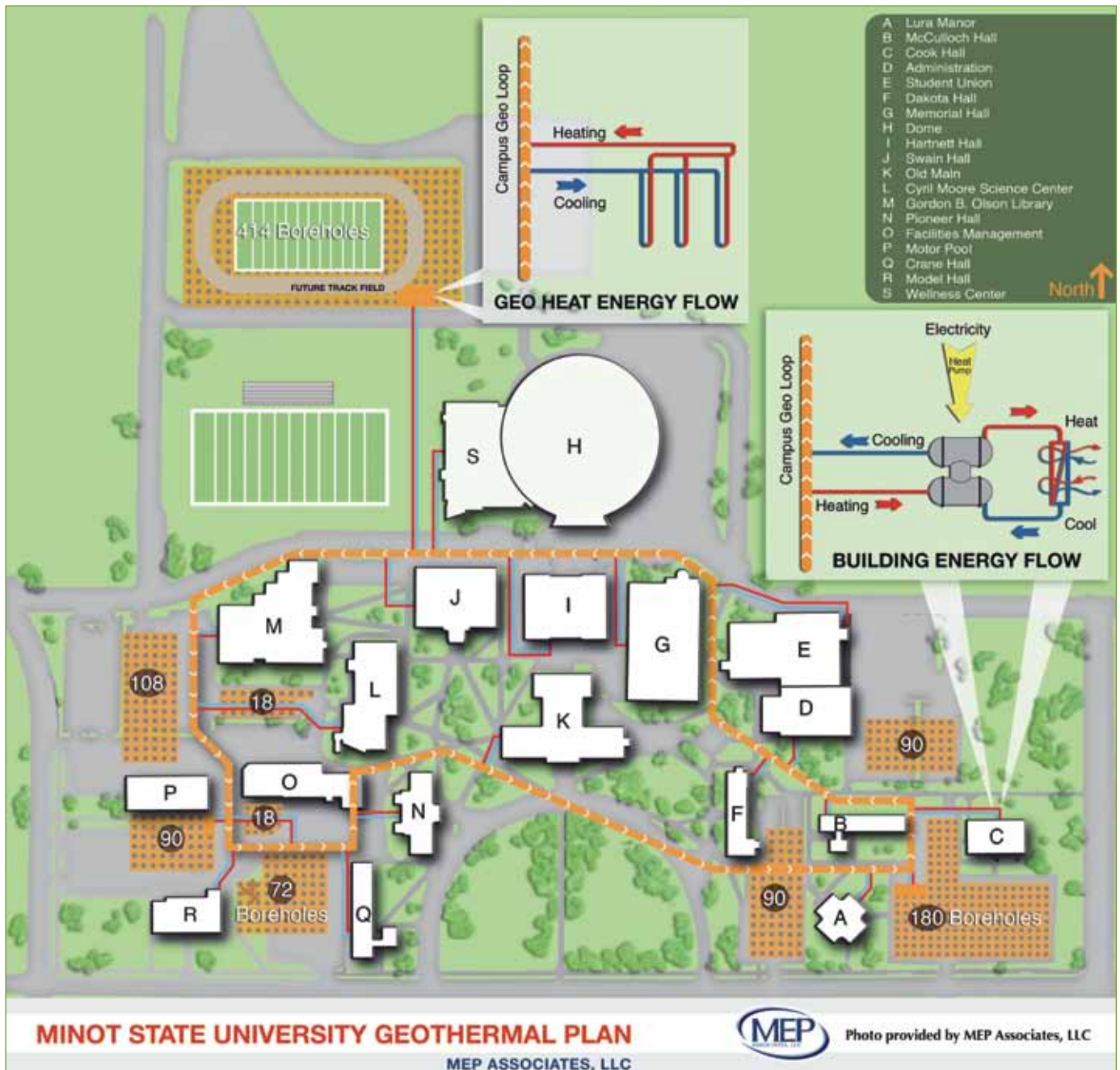
“Once people heard the full story and began to understand the long-term savings and opportunity to tie it to a curriculum, the effort (to fund MSU’s project) became easier,” Krebsbach said.

To complete the project, MSU is researching financing through low-interest loans and performance contracts, with utility savings paying the performance contract.

## Choosing geothermal

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency notes that geothermal heat pumps (GHPs) are the most energy-efficient, environmentally clean and cost-effective systems for temperature control. GHPs, sometimes called ground-source heat pumps, have proven capable of producing large reductions in energy use and peak demand in buildings.

According to a 2008 Oak Ridge National Laboratory study, although heat pumps consume electrical energy, one unit of purchased energy, plus 3.5 units of free energy from the earth, results in nearly five times more energy output than conventional methods. For example, one unit of purchased fossil fuel results in 80 to 90 percent of heat to a building.





## Making groundbreaking efforts

By mid-winter, the first areas of the replacement schedule of MSU's three natural gas boilers will be complete. Construction crews will install 414 wells 400 feet below the ground in the north practice football field and convert Swain Hall, Gordon B. Olson Library, MSU Dome and Wellness Center to the partial geothermal loop.

In 2012, construction will include 2 additional well fields which will provide an additional 666 wells. Installation of the main geothermal loop will continue throughout the campus, completing the infrastructure, Swain Hall and Olson Library. Moore and Hartnett Halls will be added to the main geothermal loop by summer of 2012.

In spring 2013, the remaining campus buildings will be converted and connected to the geothermal system. As part of the project, all well fields will be restored to their original use. The north well field will become a practice track; the southeast and southwest fields will be used as parking lots.

It is projected that the complete MSU geothermal system will host more than 1,000 wells responsible for heating and cooling 17 buildings and 1 million square feet of floor space on campus if funding is secured. By 2014, MSU will be one of the first universities in the nation to be fully geothermal.

## Providing payback for everyone

The decision to convert to geothermal energy is more than about saving money. Geothermal energy will reduce MSU's reliance on fossil fuels and emission of greenhouse gases, which complies with campus goals to reduce its carbon footprint and be a good steward of the environment.

Vision 2013, MSU's strategic plan, states that MSU will "provide students with a strong and engaging academic experience for intellectual and personal growth ..." Cutting-edge classroom curriculum will allow geoscience students to monitor ground temperatures, giving them hands-on training. In addition, Xcel Energy has provided seed money to explore the feasibility of adding an energy program to the Geoscience Department.

The geothermal system on MSU's campus will be a closed-loop system, using 24-inch high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe buried in the earth. The system will use strategically placed heat pumps and compressors throughout campus to efficiently move heat from ground energy sources to heat buildings in the winter and reject heat to the ground when cooling buildings in the summer. Due to North Dakota's extended temperature range, propylene glycol will be added to the circulated water for freeze protection.

Additional system circulation pumps will be located in the Power Plant, Wellness Center and Lura Manor. Modest changes will be made inside buildings, involving installations of new piping for the hot water system, which will be connected to the central water loop.

The switch to geothermal heat will not be detectable. Students, faculty and staff will not notice a difference in temperatures in offices, classrooms, or residence halls.

'By 2014, MSU will be one of the first universities in the nation to be fully geothermal.'

"We are appreciative of the many people and organizations who have stepped up to help make this geothermal system at MSU a reality," Fuller said. "In the end, this system is good for our students, our full campus operations, and for the greater good of the state and our global environment."

— SUSAN NESS, Public Information Director

# SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE

## Earth Day, every day

Minot State University students, faculty and staff showed up in large numbers to participate in the annual campus cleanup, April 20, sponsored by the Sustainability Committee.

“One thing I noticed this year was that there was much less garbage on the campus grounds,” Paul Lepp, committee president, said. “I think we are doing a better job of keeping the campus clean year round.”

In 2009, the MSU Sustainability Committee added special green recycling bins, along with blue paper recycling bins, on campus to introduce recycling and eliminate waste. The committee has worked for several years with special events, such as Earth Day, to bring awareness on how recycling affects the environment.

The MSU community improved its recycling efforts in 2010. Paper, newspaper, aluminum, plastic, magazines, cardboard and even fluorescent bulbs were recycled on campus. Facilities management employees made the effort possible by picking up recyclables from around campus — approximately 39,299 pounds in 2010. All of the recyclables were taken to the Minot Vocational Workshop Recycling Center, located in southeast Minot.

Recycling isn't the Sustainability Committee's only focus. Its mission is also to provide community outreach through education and to collaborate with other community entities.

“Minot State University's Sustainability Committee works to raise public awareness and help Minot State University and the

Minot community learn ways they can employ more environmentally sound practices,” said Linda Olson, a committee member.

In 2010, Lepp and committee member Heidi Super conducted a carbon inventory. They tracked MSU's carbon footprint in the usage of natural gas, electricity, coal, airline and commuter travel, fertilizer and refrigerant. The inventory allowed the committee to create a baseline, from which to create a campus action plan aimed at moving toward a zero carbon footprint.

In October 2010, MSU received the Greener North Dakota Award from the North Dakota Solid Waste and Recycling Association.

Along with recycling, President David Fuller brought geothermal energy to MSU, with the first phase under way.

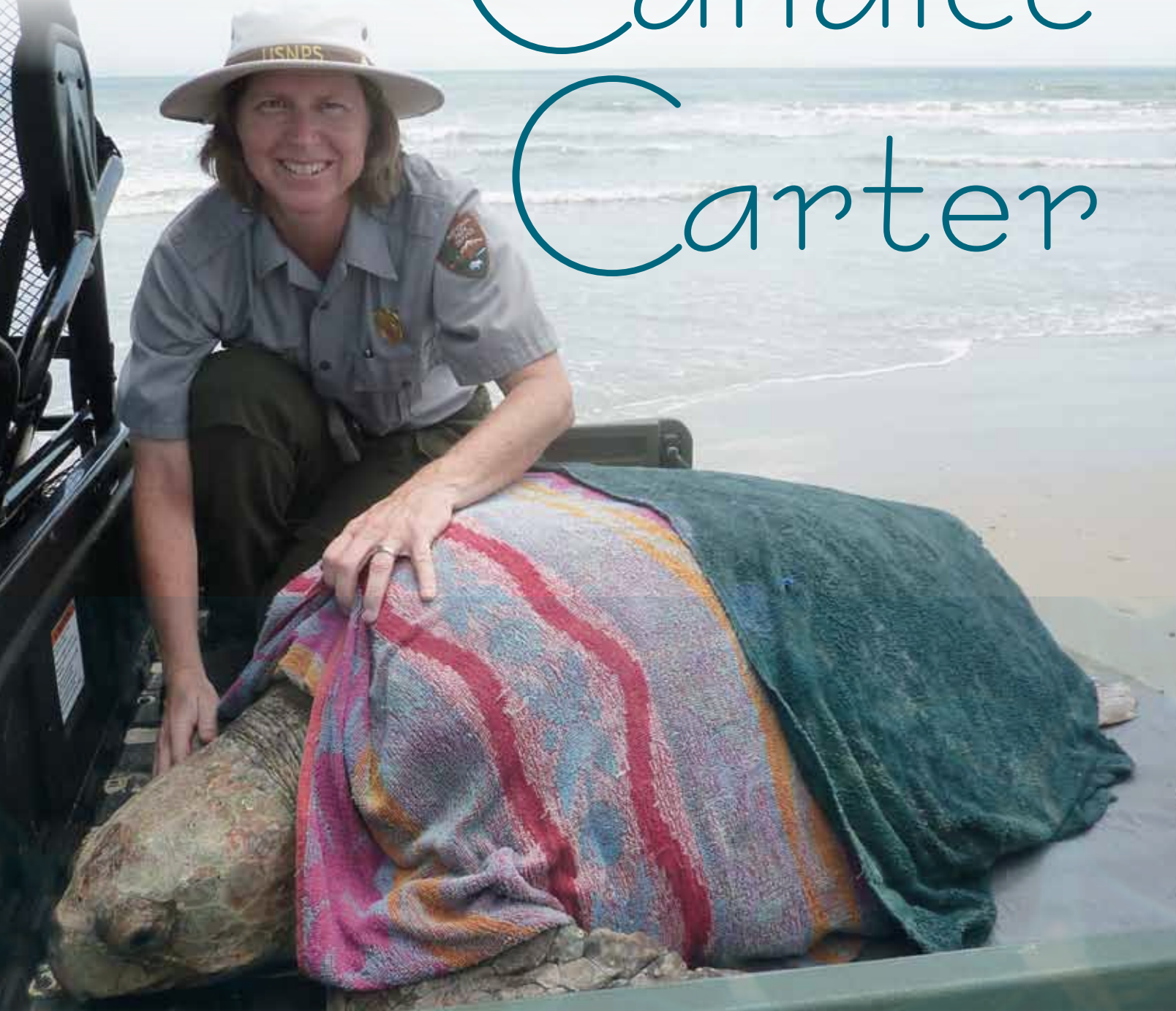
The Sustainability Committee's future goal is to approach the city of Minot to further explore how to incorporate recycling into garbage collection. According to the North Dakota Department of Health and Waste Management (2008 data), 16 communities in the state offer curbside pickup programs for recyclable waste, and 18 communities offer drop-off recycling programs. Minot is not on either list.

For more information on the MSU Sustainability Committee and how to begin recycling, check out [www.minotstateu.edu/sustain/](http://www.minotstateu.edu/sustain/)

— SUSAN NESS, Public Information Director



# Candice Carter



Graduate finds her true calling in  
wildlife protection



## **A** MSU ALUMNA FOLLOWED SEVERAL PATHS BEFORE FINDING THE RIGHT ONE FOR HER.

Cincinnati-native Candace Carter attended Minot State University after a stint in the U.S. Air Force. She studied in the pre-veterinary program and wrote for an underground newspaper.

The inquisitive undergraduate was inspired by professors Ron Royer and Jonathan Wagner, although they taught in dissimilar fields.

“It was cool to have people excited about the discipline they were teaching,” she said.

After Carter left MSU in 1988, she earned a doctorate in veterinary medicine from Iowa State University. For the next eight years, she maintained a private practice, mostly in Myrtle Beach, S.C., but her head danced with bigger dreams.

Growing up in rural Ohio, she regularly visited state parks with her parents and longed to become a park ranger. The time had come to follow her heart.

“I decided that I really liked doing wildlife things and being outdoors,” she said. “Veterinary medicine wasn’t really my passion, so I took a big step.”

She joined the Bureau of Land Management, working to reintroduce the endangered black-footed ferret to a remote corner of Colorado, 75 miles from the nearest town.

Carter later transferred to Florida to work as a biologist with the National Park Service at Canaveral National Seashore. The area is home to 14 federally listed threatened and endangered species — the second greatest number in the entire National Park Service.

Rescuing endangered sea turtles has been a large part of her work. At one point, the creatures were threatened by the chilly waters of Mosquito Lagoon.

“They became paralyzed and were just floating on the water,” she said. “If they weren’t rescued, they would eventually drown because they would get too sluggish to pick their heads up.”

Carter and her colleagues rescued 2,000 distressed sea turtles. About 70 to 80 percent of them survived.

In another incident, Carter and her colleagues protected sea turtles from feral hogs that were invading their nests. The Discovery Channel covered the rescue in a program titled “Hogs Gone Wild.”

“I’m kinda like a movie star,” she said.

Over the years, Carter has worked to restore the equilibrium after both natural and man-made disasters.

After three hurricanes rocked Florida in 2004, she helped restore the habitat for nesting sea turtles. After the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010, Carter was deployed to Mobile, Ala., to help relocate 15,000 hatchlings to Florida’s east coast.

When not protecting wildlife, Carter writes mystery stories featuring a park ranger sleuth. She works with a writing group, retains an agent and plans to publish a book within a year. Her long-term goal is to retire and write full time.

“It would be great to become the next Dan Brown,” she said, giving a nod to the bestselling author of “The Da Vinci Code.”

In the meantime, Carter is perfectly content doing her part in protecting earth’s endangered species.

“I really like my job,” she said.

— FRANK McCAHILL



‘I decided that I really liked doing wildlife things and being outdoors,’ she said. ‘Veterinary medicine wasn’t really my passion, so I took a big step.’

# MSU alumnus moved from oil fields to boardroom

An MSU graduate is thriving in an industry he grew up in.

**W**esthope native Nathan Conway is the chief operating officer of Ward Williston Oil Company, a North Dakota oil and gas firm with corporate offices in Michigan.

Conway started in the business in North Dakota as a high school and college student, checking oil wells on weekends and over summers.

“The field experience early on in my life was paramount in helping kick-start my career,” he told *Connections*.

Conway studied accounting at Minot State, where professors Joan Houston and Jay Wahlund stood out.

“Classes were challenging, and the instructors forced me to think,” he recalled.

After graduating from MSU in 2001, Conway joined Ward Williston and quickly scampered up the corporate ladder. On the way, he earned an MBA from the University of Michigan in 2010.

“At times it was like drinking from a fire hose. It was difficult to balance work, college and life,” he said of his graduate experience.

As Ward Williston’s chief operating officer, Conway plans to expand the firm’s opportunities in western and north central North Dakota as well as open up the Michigan market.

Ward Williston is headquartered in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. Founded in 1952, it maintains operations in North Dakota and Michigan and has land holdings in Colorado.

The firm was a pioneer in the North Dakota oil and gas industry. It drilled the state’s second successful oil well in the early 1950s. It was also a pioneer in the oilfield services sector, which provided services to other companies working in the area.

Conway believes the American oil and gas industry must reduce its dependence on foreign oil.

“We need to produce as much oil from the United States as possible rather than import oil from the Middle East,” he said. “By producing oil in the United States, no one will have fought over it, no one will have died over it, and we will no longer be supporting countries that do not like us.”

Improving technologies will enable the industry to explore untouched formations while reducing its carbon footprint, he added.

Because of its chronic boom-and-bust cycle, the oil and gas industry has been left with an aging workforce. Conway believes that MSU’s new energy economics and finance major will help to correct this imbalance.

“I am delighted to know that MSU was willing to teach the next generation of business leaders in this industry,” the 34-year-old said.

Conway is active in both the professional and local communities. He is a member of the Independent Petroleum Association of America and is on the board of directors of the North Dakota Petroleum Council.

Last August, Conway served as the chairman of the Golf for the Gulf event held at the Minot Country Club to help raise funds for families and workers affected by the 2010 Gulf oil spill.

He is active in a variety of domestic and international non-profit organizations and devotes much of his time and funds to help feed starving children in Africa through the humanitarian organization, JAM International.

Conway’s brothers, Robbie and Randy, also attended Minot State University.

— FRANK McCAHILL

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'I am delighted to know that MSU was willing to teach the next generation of business leaders in this industry,' the 33-year-old said.

# Idaho students get **FIRED UP** about science

*Ask most people what they remember about high school science, and you'll hear:*

*B-O-R-I-N-G. Ho hum. Woo. Hoo.*

But not from select students from the Boise and Meridian School Districts in Idaho.

The FIRE UP for Summer class takes students out of the classroom and puts them in the real-world labs of the Idaho foothills and high desert.

Minot State University alumnus Steve DeMers '95 is part of a four-teacher team that works in the program.

"FIRE UP is a Field Inquiry Research Experience for students," DeMers explained. "The goal is to complete local projects that are valued and used by our community."

Started in 2004, the FIRE UP class meets eight hours a day for three weeks. This summer, 23 16- to 18-year-olds participated in three projects that focused on fuels, fire risk and noxious weeds. The class costs \$335 and provides two high





school elective science credits and four concurrent college credits in environmental science at Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa.

Every year, FIRE UP groups conduct research for various funders, such as the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) through the Department of the Interior, the city of Boise and State Farm Insurance.

“There are multiple tiers to the projects,” DeMers said. “We train students on research techniques, teach them how to collect the data, prepare a (GIS software) presentation, and share their findings with funders and community members. The experience sets them apart from their peers.”

This summer, students conducted a fire-wise home survey, which was a collaborative effort between the BLM, Boise Fire Department and State Farm. Students canvassed neighborhoods and surveyed 581 homes in the foothills to assess fire risk in the community. Criteria were based on standards such as building materials, adequate defensible space and address visibility. The findings will be plotted on a map and color coded according to the severity of the fire risk.

funders’ needs and expectations. During the first year, most of the work was done in Pixley Basin doing a post-burn vegetation assessment. The location was in the Owhyee Mountains approximately two hours from Boise, and on each of the three big data collection days teachers and students commuted there and back, which made for very long days. Later, they were delighted to discover that the BLM had yurts available for lodging and from that point on, camping out became part of class experience.

“Now we are like a SWAT Team,” DeMers said. “Thanks to the BLM and our own personal camping supplies, we can move into our work area, stay for three days and have everything we need. Since Pixley Basin, the project has been to many different locations including: Pine, Featherville, Garden Valley and the historic Silver City, nestled in the Owhyee Mountains. The students definitely enjoy the campout and it’s a big selling point when recruiting students. The more remote the location, the more appealing it is to them.”

“We have aha! moments on a daily basis,” DeMers added. “We are not teachers so much as facilitators in the field. We’re spending eight hours a day with students for three weeks—you don’t get to know kids on this level in a classroom. And as data is collected, we learn right along with them.”

DeMers was always interested in science, even as a kid. During his senior year as a biology education major at MSU, he student taught at Minot High’s Central Campus under Jim Gilbertson and Bucky Anderson and knew he had found his calling.

‘We have aha! moments on a daily basis,’ DeMers added.  
‘We are not teachers so much as facilitators in the field. We’re spending eight hours a day with students for three weeks — you don’t get to know kids on this level in a classroom. And as data is collected, we learn right along with them.’

Another project is a noxious weed assessment of 100 acres around a subdivision in the foothills. In teams of two, students learned how to identify weeds such as medusahead wild rye, rush skeleton weed and cheat grass—all fire hazards in the Idaho foothills—and then surveyed and photographed 121 plots according to GPS coordinates provided by the BLM. The data will be used in the treatment of the parcel.

Often, the BLM and other funders use the data when submitting grant proposals to secure funds for fuel control.

For teachers, FIRE UP classes are a continual challenge because the projects and products change every year depending on

“I was always interested with the natural world from a biological and natural history standpoint and figured that teaching was an avenue that would let me share my passion with others,” DeMers said.

“FIRE UP classes are a student favorite because there are no tests, and our classroom is outdoors,” DeMers said. “I enjoy it because it’s teaching science how it should be taught. The students also have a science project component where they implement the scientific method for their final GIS presentation. They’re doing work someone else will value and use, and that is important to them.”

— SUSAN NESS, Public Information Director

## ALUMNI FEATURES

# A MAN ON A (SOCIAL) MISSION

**A**s CEO of Strotheide Consulting, Minot State University alumnus Mike Strotheide helps organizations save money. His unique approach doesn't include additional sales, better marketing or fewer employees; it focuses around garbage. Specifically, more efficient disposal of waste.

Strotheide's journey to waste and recycling is a winding road. As an Air Force brat, his formative years were influenced by growing up in 20 states and several countries and attending high school in England. He spent two years in college in Texas, then joined the Army and spent three years in Vietnam. When his father retired and took a civilian job at Minot Air Force Base, Strotheide finished his education at MSU.

"I loved my experience at Minot State," he said. "I liked the campus, smaller classes, interpersonal relationships and the connection to Minot."

After all those years of traveling, Strotheide said MSU felt like a real home.

"MSU was about quality of life," he added. "It was very Americana."

After graduating in 1972, Strotheide found his career path in business development. He worked in economic development in Williston, and later he became the vice president of business development in Bismarck. For the next two decades, he worked in economic development in Texas, Arkansas, Georgia, Oklahoma and Montana. In 1997, he was listed as one of the Top 10 economic developers in the southern United States by Southern Business & Development Magazine.

When he retired, Strotheide knew his work wasn't done. He moved back to North Dakota from Oregon, a state with a strong tradition of sustainability measures and legislation.

"I wanted to be my own boss but more so to use my business experience and do something that was both profitable and socially responsible," he said.

Through research, Strotheide and his wife, Belinda, discovered Environmental Waste Solutions, a Louisiana-based solid-waste consulting business. After completing training in solid waste and cost reduction, he was ready to make a difference.

Strotheide Consulting analyzes and audits the waste and recycling programs of businesses, then creates a savings and implementation plan based on the company's requirements. Once recommendations are executed, Strotheide Consulting, unlike most consulting firms, is paid a share of the waste management savings.

"We don't charge for our services up front," Strotheide said. "We see our business as a partner in generating savings, which is why we are paid a percentage of the savings. Unless we can save our customers 10 percent, our contract is null and void."

Strotheide's long-term goal is to establish a sustainability conference with other organizations. He envisions it presenting a trade show that features products that contribute to environmental consciousness and sustainability.

Much of the success of his industry is up to the university students of today, he says.

"I look to the leaders of the next generation to change things," he said. "They are already doing it. I am very excited about the knowledge base of students."

— SUSAN NESS  
Public Information Director



# DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

## Minot State University is an amazing place ...

It has never been more evident than right now as our community and more specifically our faculty, staff and students continue to deal with the incredible devastation caused by the recent horrific flood.

Even though 116 of our faculty and staff have been forced to leave their homes for an undetermined amount of time and some will never be able to return to their homes, the Minot State family remained strong in their efforts to save the university.

The university served as a staging area all summer for various flood support groups such as the Red Cross, National Guard, FEMA, SBA, and Border Patrol. And now we are welcoming students back to our campus. This is all due to the sacrifice and on-going commitment of the university's fantastic faculty and staff.

Would you consider helping these 116 families? It is very difficult to understand how hard it is to come to work each day, knowing that you cannot go home after work or not knowing if you can ever go home.

The MSU Development Foundation has established a fund to help these very deserving employees. Please, please consider making a gift to support these wonderful members of the MSU family as they work through this very trying time.

**Please mail any gift, large or small, to:**  
**MSU Flood Families**  
**MSU Foundation**  
**500 University Ave. West, Minot, ND 58707**  
**or give securely online at**  
**[www.minotstateu.edu/alumni.html](http://www.minotstateu.edu/alumni.html)**

*MARV SEMRAU*  
*Executive Director*



# MSU remains strong

Beavers are known for their natural trait of building dams on rivers. They are intelligent, highly skilled, strong and industrious; they accomplish their goals.

And when the flood of 2011 tried to claim our environment, the Beavers did not back down. The result is a campus strong and determined that is ready to face any challenge.



Construction crews work tirelessly to complete the "Beaver Dam."



National Guardsmen patrol the dike along the south perimeter of campus on University Avenue.



The MSU Dome prepares for the needed refuge for over 200 evacuees.



One of over 100 MSU employees devastated by the flood of 2011, Rick. Also pictured are Rick's wife, Erin, and two daughters, Chelsea and...



To assist our MSU families, we invite you to consider donating to MSU Flood Families. You can

mail your gift to MSU Development Foundation, 500



# ng and determined

s and streams and constructing their homes in the resulting ponds.  
nive success through team effort.

eavers went to work. Because when there's a job to do, they get it  
o serve our students, faculty, staff, families and communities.



hard Heit '07, begins the process of cleaning and restoring his home.  
Brienna.



President Fuller speaks to students, faculty and staff during  
the difficult days of the flood.



MSU's "Beaver Dam" accentuates the delicate contrast  
between safety and harm from the flood waters.



Hundreds of Red Cross volunteers from around the nation  
responded to the community's needs.

University Ave. W., Minot, ND 58707, or give online  
via our secure website at [www.minotstateu.edu](http://www.minotstateu.edu) or call  
Renaee at 701-858-4243 / 800-777-0750. Thank you in  
advance for your consideration.

# MSU student is living link to state's past...

**As he propels his wheelchair around the MSU campus, Joe Iverson greets the world with a ready smile and pleasant demeanor.**

The 48-year-old doesn't feel sorry for himself, even though he's been a quadriplegic since the age of 22.

"I broke my neck in a car accident," he explained. "Instantly, I was paralyzed. My life was changed."

The New Town resident has grown to accept the seismic shift that occurred early in life.

"I'm fortunate because most quads are injured worse than I am," he said. "They have less use of their motor functions. You'd be amazed at the stuff I do."

Joe Iverson ticks off the list of those things — he lives on his own, drives a car, works in the family business and goes to college.

The Iverson family has operated the SuperValu grocery in New Town for 60 years. Joe Iverson works there on weekends and commutes to Minot for classes during the week.

He took a community college course several years ago and discovered that he wasn't too old to learn or be embraced by a college community. When he decided to attend a four-year college, he looked at MSU and one other state school.

"Minot State was just so welcoming," he noted. "They said, 'We'll deal with the disability no matter what it takes. We'll make it work. We'll even push you from class to class.'"

Iverson began classes in 2007. He's working toward a degree in business, taking two or three courses at a time. He plans to graduate in three more years.

His mother graduated from Minot State with a business degree in the 1950s.

The name Iverson resonates in the hearts and minds of many North Dakotans. In 1951, oil was first discovered on Clarence Iverson's wheat farm near Tioga (see accompanying story). Clarence Iverson had three sons and two daughters. James, his oldest son, is Joe Iverson's father.

Joe Iverson has fond memories of the flinty grandfather who survived the hardscrabble Dust Bowl to become a wealthy landowner.

"He was a quiet, simple farmer," he said. "He kept on farming and never let it change him."

Clarence Iverson sensed there was oil on his land when he noticed a constant film of oil in his water tank. Yet he always hedged his comments to neighbors.

"He said he wasn't convinced that was from oil. Maybe it was just dripping off the windmill," Joe Iverson recalled. "Once they



hit oil, he claimed, 'Yup, I knew there was oil down there.'"

Joe Iverson doesn't boast about his family connections, yet he's secretly proud to be a living link to history.

"I think it's neat," he said. "It opened up the world of oil exploration."

— FRANK McCaHILL

## Iverson oil discovery was significant event in state

Amerada Petroleum Co. of Tulsa, Okla., struck oil at its No. 1 test well on Clarence Iverson's 680-acre wheat farm near Tioga on April 4, 1951. The discovery led to a six-decade scramble for oil in the Williston Basin of western North Dakota.

A banner headline in The Minot Daily News the next day blared, "Now It's Official! Oil Found at Tioga." The discovery made North Dakota the 26th state in the nation to strike oil.

Bill Shemorry, a photographer for the Williston Press-Graphic, took a photo of the landmark oil rig. When spring floods closed highways, he drove back roads to get to Minot to develop his negatives in The Minot Daily News' darkroom. Northwest Photo engravers made the printing plates to reproduce the photo in the newspaper.

The picture was circulated across the state and the nation.

The Iverson well drilled down to 11,000 feet. Amerada drillers reported that the amber-colored crude oil was of "high

gravity.” The well produced 18 barrels of oil per hour the first day. Clarence Iverson’s first royalty check totaled \$172.27.

The well produced nearly 585,000 barrels of oil and 818 million cubic feet of natural gas before it was shut down in 1979. Today, a monument in an overgrown durum field marks the site. Clarence Iverson died a wealthy man in 1986.

Although the Iverson strike was widely celebrated, oil drilling in North Dakota had a long history before that. The first test well was drilled in Adams County in 1922. A year later, a 4,000-foot well was drilled in the area of Des Lacs. Both proved to be dry holes.

Thomas Leach visited the state in 1928 as chief geologist for the Transcontinental Oil Co. He was convinced that the Williston Basin contained oil. When he couldn’t convince his own company to explore the area, he encouraged Amerada to do it. Following his hunch, he bought up mineral rights around the region. He achieved vindication when the Iverson well came in.

Since the Iverson discovery, the state has experienced the boom-and-bust cycles characteristic of the energy industry. But growing worldwide demand and new technologies opened a

dramatic new chapter of the story in the first decade of the 21st century.

In 2008, the U.S. Geological Survey estimated that 4.3 billion barrels of crude oil could be recovered from the Bakken and Three Forks-Sanish formations in North Dakota and Montana. It is the largest oil deposit the agency has ever assessed.

In April of this year, 173 rigs were active in the state, and 5,536 wells were producing 351,183 barrels of oil and 358,611 million cubic feet of natural gas per day, according to the North Dakota Petroleum Council.

The current oil boom has produced tight housing, heavy traffic and road deterioration in the region. To meet these challenges, the N.D. Legislature approved \$1 billion for infrastructure improvements this spring.

In addition, the industry will invest \$4 billion in oil and gas pipelines, rail facilities and natural gas processing plants in the near future.

These dizzying developments are the legacy of a humble discovery of oil on Clarence Iverson’s farm 60 years ago this year.

— FRANK McCaHILL

## MSU AND MAFB CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF TEAMWORK

Minot State University celebrated its 50th anniversary of serving military members and their families at Minot Air Force Base on Monday, June 6, 2011. Education officials, students and their families enjoyed cake and ice cream served by MSU’s education staff at MAFB’s Education Center.

In the fall of 1961, the North Dakota Board of Higher Education named J. Bernard Busse, a faculty member of Minot State Teachers College, director of the Extension Service.

Continued campus growth and extended field-service operation created the need for a full-time extension service director. Adult education was becoming increasingly important in the 1960s, and MSTC was in a position to contribute to local and regional needs.

Under the new program, Busse was empowered to utilize all available staff, professionally trained faculty and qualified citizens to teach in the program. This broadened MSTC’s reach to the surrounding region and Minot Air Force Base. The program later absorbed qualified airmen to teach as well.

By the spring of 1962, airmen of the 906th Refueling Squadron were taking MSTC classes at MAFB. The sessions were eight weeks and available to on-duty and off-duty airmen and dependents. The campus also offered high school courses and evaluations for credit and implemented the newly created Air

Force Bootstrap Program. Bootstrap allowed airmen to attend college full time to finish degree requirements for programs they had not previously completed.

William Foster, base education adviser, and Capt. Terrance O’Brien, Strategic Air Command education project officer, designed a schedule of 10 classes at MSTC. These classes included courses in communications, mathematics, humanities, geography, political science, sociology, education and U.S. history. On-duty classes operated out of the base aircrew Alert Facility. B-52 alert aircrews from the 525th Bomb Squadron, Strategic Air Command, used the same space for classrooms and plotting their “Peace Persuader” missions around the globe.

Today, Minot State University offers 40 to 50 classes per semester and bachelor’s degrees in more than 60 majors. MSU continues to be the only educational provider offering a “full university” within a 10-minute drive, with a full-time advisor on MAFB. Growth has not tempered the solid relationship between MAFB and MSU. Fifty years and thousands of students later, the team remains strong.

“MSU currently serves over 300 airmen and women in flexible course offerings,” Kris Warmoth, dean of the Center for Extended Learning, said. “We have continued the tradition by bringing the classroom to the squadron and beyond.”

— SUSAN NESS, *Public Information Director*  
— MARK TIMBROOK, *Instructional Design Specialist*

## ATHLETICS

# MINOT STATE LOSES A LEGEND

Minot State University lost one of its most storied coaches as longtime track and field and cross country coach Wiley Wilson passed away in July.

He left behind a legacy on the field of play at MSU, but he will always be remembered for what he did off the field. He was coach, mentor and friend to numerous student-athletes. As his obituary stated, he touched many lives, and many touched his.

Wilson, 79, was a head coach at MSU from 1968 until 1997. He guided 17 NDCAC Conference and District Championship teams in track and field as well as cross country. During his time at MSU, he mentored 10 NAIA All-Americans and 240 individual conference and district champions.

He was elected into the Minot State Hall of Fame in 1998. His 1977 men's track and field team was inducted into the MSU Hall of Fame in 1995.

Wilson was born in Tennessee in 1931, but he moved to Stanton as a child. Wilson attended Dickinson State University

and served four years in the U.S. Air Force before earning his undergraduate degree. He earned a master's degree in physical education from the University of North Dakota and then taught and coached in the northwest part of the state.

He entered the Air Force in August 1951 and was honorably discharged in August 1955. He spent one of his four years in Korea during that conflict. Wilson married Hermelle Sues on June 22, 1956. The couple had two children, Charmayne and Jack.

Wilson taught and coached football, basketball, and track and field for 11 years in Savage, Mont., Carpio, and at the Minot Model High School before coming to Minot State. He reinstated cross country at MSU a year after arriving.

Memorials are preferred to the Wiley Wilson Track Scholarship Fund, MSU Development Foundation, 500 University Ave. W., Minot, ND 58707.

— MICHAEL LINNELL  
*Sports Information Director*



Left to Right: (Homecoming—Sept. 24, 2010) Chad McNally, Assistant Athletic Director for Development, Hermelle and Wiley Wilson, and Athletic Director, Rick Hedberg

# Minot State University moves to NCAA Provisional member



Officials at Minot State University were informed in July the university was granted NCAA Division II Provisional member status by the governing body.



MSU will spend this year as a provisional member of the NCAA and looks to complete the three-year process sometime in July 2012. MSU will be an NCAA Division II independent for the upcoming school year, but has been selected as a member of the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference beginning in the 2012-13 school year.

“We are excited to be moving on to our final year in the transition to NCAA Division II. The NCAA personnel who called indicated that they view Minot State University as a very solid DII institution,” said MSU Athletic Director Rick Hedberg. “That’s exciting to hear because our entire campus has worked very hard at this process. Our coaches, student-athletes and everyone across campus have done a wonderful job of embracing this move. Their attention to the requirements of the NCAA during this transition has been outstanding and the committee was very aware of that.”

“Being an NCAA member is a big privilege,” said MSU sophomore women’s basketball player Michaela Larson.

“When I found out we were moving to NCAA Division II, I knew that was a big accomplishment—not just for the school, but for the students. It shows we are moving up. It’s not just the sports, but the academics; everything is going to be a step higher.”

The university began the transition to NCAA Division II rules and regulations during its second year of candidacy, but will now be required to meet all regulations and abide by all rules during the provisional status. MSU will also be required to submit any violations to the Northern Sun office. The university will go through a compliance blue print review this fall, serving as a follow-up to the NCAA membership committee site visit that took place in April.

“This is one more step toward Minot State University realizing our goals within Vision 2013 on becoming a premier institution in the Great Plains,” Hedberg said. “This is an exciting final step in our transition.” GO BEAVERS!

— MICHAEL LINNELL, *Sports Information Director*

‘Being an NCAA member is a big privilege,’ said MSU sophomore women’s basketball player Michaela Larson. ‘When I found out we were moving to NCAA Division II, I knew that was a big accomplishment—not just for the school, but for the students. It shows we are moving up. It’s not just the sports, but the academics; everything is going to be a step higher.’



# ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

## GALA 2011

Gala attendees enjoying the 28th Annual MSU GALA.



This year's GALA co-chairs were Gloria Lokken '72, Leslie Barney '80, Ellen Simmons '68, and Rob Anderson '83.



Duane '62 & Jeanne '60  
Brekke



Chelsea '06 & Kent '06  
Kirkhammer



MSU students Aaron Jaeger  
& Camila Olivera selling raffle  
tickets for the Joe Mauer  
baseball.



The GALA couldn't be done without students like these; they were a tremendous help!

*Join us for the 29th annual Gala  
April 27, 2012 at the Holiday Inn!*

# ARIZONA 2011

MSU Alumni and friends enjoyed a golf tournament in Surprise, Ariz.



Marv Semrau, Bruce & Tammy Peterson and Tawnya Bernsdorf '04/'08 at the MSU social in Scottsdale.



Kathy Courter, Butch Knittel and Lynn Courter '74 fire up the grill at the MSU baseball tailgate.

Orlin '58 and Millie Backes, Terry and Gail '73 Hjelmstad watching the Beaver baseball team in action!



## PROGRESSIVE DINNER

## SUMMER GOLF TOUR 2011



The third annual Progressive Dinner was another enjoyable evening with an appearance by Buckshot!



Another successful turnout at our first golf stop in Velva.



Our guests from Rugby provided a great tour stop.





# Graduate degree helps one man climb career ladder

ONE PROFESSIONAL CREDITS AN ADVANCED DEGREE FROM MSU WITH FURTHERING HIS CAREER.

Marty Dahl has a difficult time pinpointing his hometown. He was born in Stanley, went to high school in Grand Forks and spent considerable time on the family farm near Lake Metigoshe.

After high school, he worked as an electrician and later earned an electrical engineering degree from Montana State University in 1989.

Dahl worked as a consultant for 13 years. But the nomadic lifestyle grew wearisome, so he joined Verendrye Electric Cooperative of Velva as the Minot service area manager.

Verendrye serves rural consumers across a seven-county area in north central North Dakota, with the bulk of its service area lying within Ward and McHenry counties.

Living in Minot and having more free time, Dahl enrolled in MSU's Master of Science in management (MSM) program in 2008. College of Business Dean JoAnn Linrud provided the motivation.

"She said the program would be a good one for me," he said. "It worked well with my schedule."

The MSM offers 12-month and 24-month options. Dahl chose the one-year option. He worked full time and attended classes at night, working alongside a cohort of Chinese students. Two professors left memorable impressions on him.

"Andy Bertsch was a lot of fun; I learned a lot. Gary Ross has been around the block a few times. Classes from him were all good," he said.

Of course, with an engineering background, he liked the mathematics involved in finance.

Dahl's wife, Alisa, also completed the MSM program. She chose the online option and graduated in a year and a half. "Her degree has helped her as well," he said.

Alisa Dahl serves as area director for the U.S.D.A. Office of Rural Development in Minot. The agency offers programs to improve the economy and quality of rural American life.

After earning his master's degree, Marty Dahl became general manager and CEO of McLean Electric Cooperative in 2009.

**'I credit the master's degree with getting me to the next step in my career. I'd certainly recommend it.'**

Based in Garrison, the co-op serves rural consumers in McLean County and portions of Sheridan and Mountrail counties.

"This has been an excellent fit because it makes use of all of my previous experience," he said. "I credit the master's degree with getting me to the next step in my career. I'd certainly recommend it."

Marty and Alisa Dahl live in Garrison. They have two grown children and three grandchildren.

— FRANK McCAHILL



# Class notes...

## 60s.....



**Robert Ulrich '61** was inducted into the Concordia College Athletic Hall of Fame in Moorhead, Minn., on Oct. 3, 2010. Robert was the head athletic trainer for all Concordia College athletics for 27 years (1966-1993). He was the first physical therapist and athletic trainer on staff. Concordia College recognized him for his outstanding service to Cobber athletics, his pioneering work as a trainer and therapist and for his personal example of striving for excellence. Robert's son, Brett Ulrich (pictured), had the honor of presenting this distinguished award. Robert Ulrich currently resides in Mesa, Ariz., with his wife, LaVonnie.

**Richard Limke '63** retired after three years as superintendent of the Minot Catholic Schools. Dick has more than 35 years experience as a high school and college coach and 20 years of experience in school administration. Limke enjoyed stops at Center, Tioga, Bismarck St. Mary's, Minot State University and Max before culminating his career with Minot Catholic Schools.

**Marilyn Peters '66**, Devils Lake, retired from teaching after 47 years. Her career, which spanned nearly half a century, included stops at Noonan, Webster, Penn and finally Devils Lake. A native of Devils Lake, Peters plans to try new things and vacation without referring to a school calendar.

**Dorothy Van Sickle '69**, Bismarck, celebrated her 95th birthday on March 26! She received a music degree from MSU and currently stays active by driving her PT Cruiser around Bismarck.

## 70s.....

At the age of 61, **Gary Clock '71** has been named Natural Athletic Strength Association Power Lifter of the Year by the national orga-

nization based in Oklahoma City, Okla. Clock has been lifting competitively since 1967 and has been a key contributor to the power-lifting program in Minot.

**Paul Tefft '71** was recently asked to serve on the Fargo Forum's Readers Board, the paper's community sounding board. Tefft, along with five other new members, will serve a one-year term. Paul is a retired government and history teacher and coach. He and his wife have lived in the Fargo area since 1972.

**Kathy Aspaas '74** retired from Minot High School after a 34-year career of teaching physical education and coaching swimming. She also coached for 20 years with the Minot Swim Club. Kathy currently owns the ASK Swim Club, which she started in 2009. Her club is a competitive swimming club and is sanctioned by the USA Swimming Association. Dagny Knutson was one of her students and is now swimming professionally in Florida.

**Doug Gibbens '74** has been hired as branch president of the Ramsey National Bank and Trust in Cando. Doug has almost 30 years of experience in the banking industry. He and his wife, Teresa, live in Cando.

**Richard Danielson '74** is currently residing in Friendswood, Texas, where he is an audiologist for NASA and an instructor at Baylor University in Houston.

**Debra M. (Larson) Nichols '76** retired as Mountrail County clerk of district court after working in the office for 32 years, four years as deputy clerk and 28 years as clerk of court.

**Joan Hansen '77** was a featured artist with her "Peaces of Me" exhibit at the Taube Museum of Art in May and June of 2011. Joan has been teaching art for 33 years and is currently an art teacher at Minot's Central Campus.

**Mike Smith '77** is the owner and president of Paladin Resources in Minot, an oil and gas brokerage. The company specializes in pre-exploratory land services for oil exploration companies in the area. Mike, a native of Minot, has been in the oil business since March of 1977. He and his wife, Kristie (Poole '80) make their home in Minot with their son, Wyatt.

**Janice Ostdahl '78**, Dickinson, retired in May 2011, from Dickinson High School after 33 years in education, with 23 of those years at DHS as a special services instructor. A native of Palermo, Janice began her teaching career in Hulett, Wyo., where she taught for four years.

From there, she moved to Bowman, where she taught for six years before joining Dickinson High School.

**Stephen Huebschwerlen '79** has been a practicing social worker in Bismarck since his graduation from MSU. Recently, he opened a private practice called Alliance Mediation and Therapy, PC.

**Jackie Velk '79/'91** recently retired after 29 years as treasurer for the city of Minot. Velk, a Magic City native, began her career with the city as a high school junior, when she worked part time in the Public Works Department. She works in the Minot office of U.S. Sen. John Hoeven and serves as the field representative for the northwest region of North Dakota.

## 80s.....

**Marie Mettler '80** is the new head of public relations at Sakakawea Medical Center in Hazen. Mettler will also handle marketing, staff support and grants for the hospital.

**Patrick Gores '81**, Fargo, celebrated his 15th anniversary as managing partner for Northwestern Mutual and his 30th company anniversary in May. He heads Northwestern Mutual Financial Network in Fargo.

**Cynthia Olson '81** is employed as a special education teacher in Williston. She is working on a master's degree as a special education strategist. She is married and has a 16-year-old daughter and a 14-year-old son.

**Lonnie Berg '82** recently received recognition from Midwest Business Systems. Berg, a digital solutions specialist with the Minot office of MBS, won awards for most machine revenue, most machines sold and sales for 2010.

**Cal Storseth '82** is the new vice president and operations manager of BNC National Bank in Bismarck. The Grenora native has worked in banking since 1983, most recently at Citizens National Bank in Park Rapids, Minn.

**Stephen Rinell '83**, CEO of Otsego Electric Cooperative in Hartwick, N.Y., met with former President Bill Clinton during a campaign stop. As part of the cooperative's government relations program, Rinell visits federal, state and local representatives about issues that affect the cooperative's programs and members.

**Brenda Foster '84/'92** was appointed by the Minot Public School Board to fill a vacated seat. Foster, who is an active volunteer in the Minot Public Schools, is vice president of First Western Bank in Minot.

**Susan Gunsch '84** was recently promoted to customer service area director at Job Service North Dakota. She will oversee the activities of 16 Job Service offices. Gunsch, who is originally from Napoleon, began her career with Job Service in the Minot office.

**Casey Smith '85**, was recently hired by First International Bank and Trust in Fargo as their home mortgage lender. Smith, a native of Minot, has been in the lending industry for over 25 years.



He lives in West Fargo with his wife, Jodi, and their son, Ethan.

**Tami Jurgens-Styles '86/'87** was honored for integrity at the Jeffco Value Awards. She has worked for Jefferson County Public Schools in the Denver area as a speech-language pathologist since 2005. She previously worked in El Paso, Texas, from 1989-2005.

**Craig Christensen '88** was recently named Idaho 5A Athletic Administrator of the Year. Christensen has been in education for 20 years, with 15 of them as an athletic director. He is currently athletic director at Post Falls, Idaho, where he lives with his wife, Lori, and their three children, Chase, Brady, and Hanna.

**Patrick Audet '89** was selected as the new superintendent of Park City Schools in Montana. Most recently, Audet served as a high school principal in Whitefish, Mont. He was also a high school principal and superintendent in Whitehall, Mont., for four years. He assumed his new duties on July 1, 2011.

## 90s.....

**John Schaffer '90** has been appointed by Brian Schweitzer, the governor of Montana, to the Public Safety Officer Standards and Training Council. Schaffer is a police officer and training coordinator for the Great Falls Police Department. He also serves on the board of the Montana Police Protective Association.

**Kristal Huntley-Egemo '91** is a social worker in the Bismarck office of Catholic Charities of North Dakota's Pregnancy, Parenting and Adoption Services. Kristal has spent most of her 20-year career in North Dakota's child welfare services.

## **Don Jones '92 and Melissa (Malzer)**

**Jones '91** make their home in Minot where Don Jones is a catastrophe claims representative for Farmers Insurance Group and Melissa Jones is a high school prep teacher at Minot High Central Campus. They have three boys, Dillon, Cole, and Brock.

**Wayde Sick '99/'07**, Bismarck, is the new director of Missouri Valley Montessori preschool and kindergarten in Bismarck. Sick spent eight years at Burdick Job Corps in Minot, most recently as deputy center director. Earlier, he was a social studies teacher and a coach. He is married to Jennifer (Hariper) '05/'10.

**Michael Hitland '97 and Holly (Taylor) Hitland '98** are residents of Mobridge, S.D., where Michael Hitland is a staff accountant. Holly Hitland is employed as a chiropractic assistant and a speech and drama coach. This year, she took students to state in both events. The couple has a 10-year-old son, Jalen.

**Christopher Heth '99** received a doctor of philosophy degree in chemistry from NDSU on Dec. 17, 2010. Christopher, along with his wife, Tiffany, reside in Fargo. He received his undergraduate degree in education from Minot State University.

**Matthew Lahring '99** has been named system administrator for PostBulletin.com in Rochester, Minn. He previously was a systems administrator at United Building Center.

**Lisa Murphy '99/'03**, a teacher at North Plains Elementary School at Minot Air Force Base, has been named Teacher of the Year by the local David C. Jones Chapter of the Air Force Association. Murphy was promoted to director of the STARBASE program, a curriculum she uses with her 5th grade students, which features innovative lessons in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The program engages students with hands-on and mind-on experimental activities. At the Air Force Association's Annual Banquet, which was held in April, Lisa was also awarded the North Dakota State Teacher of the Year as well!

## 00s.....

**Jason Toews '00** is employed with the Province of Manitoba as a probation officer. He and his wife have two daughters, Olivia, and Avery.

**Heather Miller '01** has been promoted to assistant manager of Denny's in Minot. She will manage 65 employees and be responsible for quality assurance and customer service.



**DelRae Zimmerman '04**, a broker/owner of Brokers 12 Inc. in Minot, was selected as one of Realtor Magazine's 2011 Top 30 Agents Under 30.

**Chelsea (Peterson) Kirkhammer '06** has become marketing director and website manager for United Community Bank's branches in Leeds, Drake, Burlington and Minot. Kirkhammer, a native of Mohall, has been an employee of United Community Bank for three years. She and her husband, Kent, are the parents of an infant daughter. They make their home in Minot.

**Gary Morphis '06** is the base formal training technician (Civ GS-5) at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona.

**Katy Solar '06/'09** is the new human resource director and city clerk with the City of Minot. A Minot native, Solar is professionally certified as a senior professional in human resources.

**Bethany (LaBarre) Elshaug '07/'08** has returned to her native Devils Lake to become an LD strategist at Prairie View Elementary School. Elshaug has been teaching special education in the Langdon Public Schools for the past three years.

**Mary Huston '07/'09** was a member of a team of speech-language pathologists that authored an iPad application of Google Docs Goal Bank. The app is a clinical tool for creating goals for children and adults with speech and language delay.

**Mat Jensen '07** is an agricultural loan officer at First International Bank and Trust in Minot. Jensen is originally from Kenmare. He moved back to this area from Grafton, where he was employed by Choice Financial Group.

**Tyler Persson '07** is continuing his education at Ohio State University, where he is enrolled in a dual degree program of optometry and vision science. He will graduate in 2013 with a doctorate in optometry and a master of science in vision science. Tyler played football for the MSU Beavers while pursuing his undergraduate degree.

**Amy Greene '07** received the 2011 Horace Mann-Abraham Lincoln fellowship. Greene, one of 50 teachers nationwide to receive this award, will attend a week long institute at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Ill. She will study the life and legacy of the 16th president.



Minot State University alumni, **Army Capt. Cameron Trudell** (left) and **Army Staff Sgt. Jason Stadel '02** (right) pose for a picture outside of the USO on Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, in October, 2010. Trudell is a Sidney, Mont. native and 2001 MSU graduate; he is a field artillery officer, with the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division based at Fort Carson, Colo. Stadel, a Columbus, Mont. native and 2002 MSU graduate, is a public affairs specialist with the 16th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment based

at Fort Bliss, Texas. Both are active-duty Army. This is the first deployment to Afghanistan for both Trudell and Stadel. However, both have had year long deployments to Iraq. The picture was taken during a chance meeting last fall on the 25,000 troop base in southern Afghanistan. Stadel is based at Kandahar Airfield, and Trudell was passing through Kandahar on his way to a forward operating base in western Afghanistan. Both Trudell and Stadel will wrap up their deployments, and return to the U.S., in the summer of 2011. Trudell is married with two children, and Stadel is also married with one child.

**Amanda Juelson '07** has joined the Hillsboro office of the Ohnstad Twichell Law Firm as an associate attorney. Previously, she worked as an intern in the Grand Forks County state's attorney's office and in the Grand Forks Air Force Base Judge Advocate General's Corps area defense counsel office. She will concentrate her practice on estate planning, probate, trusts, real estate, agricultural, criminal and family law.

**Kara Lacher '07** was recently promoted to internal auditor at Kirkwood Bank and Trust in Bismarck. She has been with the bank for two years.

**Tanja Brown '96/'08**, has been hired as principal of Divide County Elementary School in her hometown of Crosby. When Tanja attended Divide County Elementary School, her father, Don Nielsen, was the principal. Education is a family affair for Tanja. Her mother, brother, sister and husband are also teachers.

**Dan Erdman '08** joined Results Unlimited as a videographer/editor. Previously, Erdman worked at KXMC News as a weekend weatherman and news reporter.

**Josh Moen '08**, recently accepted the role of credit administration specialist for Choice Financial in Grafton. Moen has been employed by the company's Grand Forks location since 2009.

**Jessi Sorenson '08** has been hired by the Village Family Service Center. She will work in the Bismarck office as a facilitator in the team decision-making program.

**Airman 1st Class Zebulon Pierce '09** graduated from basic training at Lackland Air

Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. He completed an intensive eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

**Brekka Bloms-Hancock '09** has fulfilled her dream and started Magic Morsels, a custom bakery with a wide assortment of confections. The Minot native has turned her childhood hobby into a full-time business. Magic Morsels is on Facebook with dozens of tempting pictures.

**Scott Ruzicka '09** has been promoted to business banker at Dacotah Bank in Minot.

**Tony Thorson '09** is the new agriculture loan officer at Farmers Security Bank in Washburn. Thorson is originally from Turtle Lake.

## 10s .....

**Amanda Anderson '01** was recognized as April's Teacher of the Month by KFYZ-TV. Anderson moved back to her hometown of Williston after graduating from MSU. She began her first year of teaching in the Wilkinson Elementary School. She was nominated by one of her third-grade students.

**Seth Gravesen '10**, Cooperstown, has been hired by Citizen's State Bank of Cooperstown as an agricultural loan officer. A native of Kenmare, Gravesen grew up on the family farm. He says his new job combines his two passions — farming and business.

**Eric Johnson '10** has recently been hired as a science teacher at Powers Lake High School. He will also coach track in the spring.

## ATTENDED .....

**Jayne Bement-Miller** has been hired as a graphic artist at Sanctuary Renovation in Fargo.

**Jennifer Newton** has joined Cornerstone Bank as a teller at the bank's South University Drive branch in Fargo.

**Cheryl Overby** has been appointed Mohall city auditor. A native of Stanley, Overby began her career in the Mohall area with MTI. She then worked with Renville County as tax director, assessor and city auditor. She and her husband, Jason, have a daughter, Hanah.

## FACULTY AND STAFF .....

**Dr. Robert Weber** retired August 1 from the University of Oshkosh after completing 40 years as a teacher, coach and administrator. Weber taught in the Department of Teacher Education and Human Performance at Minot State University from 1998-1999. He also served as a head football coach in the Minot YMCA Youth League and as an assistant coach in the Minot Youth Hockey Association. He and his wife, Nancy, are retiring to their lake home in Bemidji, Minn.

## CLASS NOTES

Please let us hear from you with news of your career updates, marriage, family, address change, etc. You're invited to include a photograph if you have one. For your convenience email [alumni@minostateu.edu](mailto:alumni@minostateu.edu) with your information.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

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Phone

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E-mail

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Mail to: Alumni Association  
Minot State University  
500 University Avenue West  
Minot, ND 58707

# In memoriam...

*It is with honor that we dedicate this section to recognize alumni and friends who have passed away between approximately January 2011 to July 15, or as submitted.*

'26 Johnson (Effertz), Marcella M.; Minot  
'28 Caldwell (Haakenstad), Thelma; Minot  
'32 Pfau (Davis), Nellie H., Minot  
'35 Korman (Stroebel), Linette M.; Deering  
'36 Welliver, Harry B.; Albany, Ore.  
'36 Welliver (White), Margaret; Albany, Ore.  
'37 Solberg (Hill), Selma H.; Eugene, Ore.  
'37 Tyler (Argersinger), Margaret; Minot  
'38 Haugstad (Ristvedt), Leona L.; Minot  
'38 Overvold (Opedahl), Elnora E.; Vela  
'38 Stephens, Beulah; Jamestown  
'40 Fiskum (Anderson), Ruth E.; Nampa, Idah.  
'40 Hovland, Ruthvin "Rudy"; Monona, Wis.  
'40 Wilson, Norris W.; Tioga  
'42 Erlien, Ellef C.; Twin Valley, Minn.  
'42 Good, Norma J.; Rolla  
'47 Blake, Jerald D.; Moorhead, Minn.  
'49 Tibbs, James M.; Hayden, Idaho  
'50 Galgerud, Ole J. T.; Laramie, Wyo.  
'51 Earl, Clayton C.; Madras, Ore.  
'51 Walker, Robert H.; Glendale, Ariz.  
'52 Hegseth (Vetter), Irene; Williston  
'52 Simonson (Baker), Sylvia; Olympia, Wash.  
'53 Boppre (James), Mary; St. John  
'54 Lieberg, Hardy D.; Minot  
'54 Volochenko, Joyce; Minot  
'55 Berg, Merrill; Cooperstown  
'57 Thronson (O'Cain), Gwen; Stanley  
'58 Dalen (Peterson), Thelma C., Bottineau  
'58 Kvamme, Frances; Ruso  
'59 Leitzke, Duane W.; Moses Lake, Wash.  
'60 Bartelson (Detienne), Florence; Parshall  
'61 Wade, Hal L.; Bottineau  
'64 Barentsen (Buness), Carole; Powers Lake  
'64 Ostrom, Richard A.; Boise, Idaho.  
'65 Holm, Richard; Alamo  
'65 Paul, John B.; Sioux Falls, S.D.  
'65 Warden (Fredericks), Juanita; Twin Buttes  
'68 Dalen (Peterson), Thelma; Bottineau  
'68 McNally (Wehrman), Arlene; Minot  
'68 Voeller (Rohrer), Barbara A.; Karlsruhe  
'69 Sutter, Wayne; Vicksburg, Miss.  
'70 Bieri (Troxel), Ruthanne, Minot  
'70 Linrud (Pfeilschiefer), Carlotta; Wichita, Kan.  
'72 Finklea (Enget), Jill L.; Land O' Lakes, Fla.  
'72 Flaten (Unruh), Lois; Ray  
'74 Joachim, Patricia; Biloxi, Miss.  
'75 Beck (Hofmann), Laurel; Minot  
'75 Scholl, Steven P.; Washburn  
'76 Geiger (Anderson), Alvina M.; Rockville, Ill.  
'77 Johnson (Spires), Kathleen; Minot  
'79 Mueller (Kautzman), Janell R.; Bismarck

'83 Johnson, Eugene "Gene" D.; Towner  
'84 Cole (Rubenstein), Liss-Beth; Williston  
'85 Lowe (Wehri), Laura L.; Bismarck  
'89 Larson (Mockel), Julie D.; Rapid City, S.D.  
'91 Lovo (Ehlers), Darlene; Minot  
'94 Ihla, Michael C.; Bismarck  
'95 Nurnberger (Nelson), Marilyn; Vela  
'96 Glibota (Nurminen), Brenda K.; Minot

## ATTENDED .....

Adolphi (Hitland), Margaret; Wenatchee, Wash.  
Anderson (Cuffe), Helen; Minot  
Bagaasen, Melvin S.; Cary, N.C.  
Bakke, Marian M.; Oakland, Calif.  
Barrett, John W.; Boise, Idah.  
Beirels (Lithun), June D.; Bedford, Texas  
Bjorke, Carroll; Harvey  
Black (Volk), Delores; Karlsruhe  
Boese (Haluska), Evelina; Grand Forks  
Borstad (Rype), M. Doris; Devils Lake  
Burke (Young), Audrey; Minot  
Butz (Nelson), Diane A.; Lake Metigoshe  
Caldwell, Dale "Cubby"; Boise, Idaho  
Canevello (Alme), Mildred A.; Minot  
Carlson (Domrese), Maxine, Minot  
Cline, Donald V.; Beulah  
Cumings, Warren H.; Loveland, Colo.  
D'Aurora, Elsie I.; Charlotte, N.C.  
Dormont (White), Mary "Jean"; Edmonds, Wash.  
Ebertz (Rice), Mildred; Bismarck  
Eidsness (Picken), Violet; Minot  
Evenson (Mechill), Gladys; Coleharbor  
Feldner (Gibb), Winifred; Helena, Mont.  
Fiesel, LaVerne; Martin  
Grina (Stach), Kathy; Minot  
Hall (Berg), Violet; Wildrose  
Hanson (Walter), Vida B.; Seattle, Wash.  
Harchenko, Michael J.; Salem, Ore.  
Hartman (Lesmeister), Marcella; Killdeer  
Jensen, Lindsay; Battleview  
Johnson, Wallace H.; Minot  
Kenady, Marjorie H.; South Bend, Ind.  
Knosp (Knudson), Marjorie; Seattle, Wash.  
Knutson, Wanda; Williston  
Kohel (Winnege), Harriet W.; Frazee, Minn.  
Kraft, James; Tillamook, Ore.  
Levadney, Roy; Minot  
Lewis (Kovarik), Katherine; West Fargo  
Mahlum, Victor; Bismarck  
Markwardt (Frye), Genevieve; Ryder  
Moe (McCormick), Helen; Minot  
Nelson (Johnson), Signa C.; Fargo  
Nelson, Donovan C.; Fargo  
Odegard, Stephen E.; Everett, Wash.  
Olson, Harlan O.; Minot  
Oynes (Nelson), Lorraine G.; Leesburg, Va.

Paul, John B.; Sioux Falls, S.D.  
Reinarts, Donald H.; Preston, Minn.  
Rossow, Neale; Bismarck  
Schallow, Merrill; Fargo  
Schwab, Frances (Sister Barbara Ann); Richardton  
Speck (Georgeson), Gertrude; West Covina, Calif.  
Stearns, George B.; Chieffland, Fla.  
Steenstrup, Thomas; Minot  
Stewart (Van Berkom), Adella C.; Eugene, Ore.  
Swensrud (Mattson), Hazel L.; Nampa, Idaho  
Thielen (Arneson), JoAnn; Bowbells  
Thorland (Nelson), Phyllis; Watford City  
Walters (Pulst), Caryl; Cando

## FRIENDS .....

Akan (Broneske), Frieda; Garrison  
Becker (Read), Ninette "Nan"; Minot  
Bertoch, Ronald; Otter Tail Lake, Minn.  
Bone (Higgins), Evelyn E.; Minot  
Cumings, Wes; Garrison  
Fred, James J.; Minot  
Hagenstein (Soltis), Grace; Minot  
Huwe (Ramberg), Lola M.; Bismarck  
Jagd, Robert W.; Minot  
Joraanstad, Kenneth; Bottineau  
Jorgenson, Leonard; Kenmare  
Kanenwisher, Rudolph; Stanley  
Lenertz, Darren; Minot  
Martz (Hubbard), Shirley; Minot  
Palda, Robert W.; Minot  
Pietsch, Elvin B.; Minot  
Schell, Duane; Minot  
Schwartz, John P.; Kirksville, Missouri  
Sevig, Arthur; Minot  
Ward, William "Roger"; Minot

## FACULTY & STAFF .....

Martin, DeWayne C.; Minot, former biology instructor  
Tracy (Goodwin), Ellen M.; former campus nurse  
Wilson, Wiley L.; Fargo, former physical education instructor and track coach

**MOVING OR HAVE A  
TEMPORARY ADDRESS?  
SEND YOUR NEW ADDRESS TO:  
MSU Alumni Association,  
500 University Avenue West  
Minot, ND 58707  
or e-mail us at:  
alumni@minotstateu.edu**

# MARE ROCK IT

HOMECOMING 11

# HOMECOMING 2011

## SEPTEMBER 18 – 24

### Monday, September 19

- Free community concert with Johnny Holm Band, 5-8 P.M.  
East Dome parking lot
- Community Bonfire, 8-9 P.M.—north of MSU Dome

### Tuesday, September 20

- Coronation, Ann Nicole Nelson Hall, 7 P.M.

### Wednesday, September 21

- Community Block Party, Old Main Lawn, 5-8 P.M.

### Thursday, September 22

- Alumni Golden Awards Banquet, Conference Center, 6 P.M.
  - *Golden Award 2011 Recipients:* Dale Elhardt, Thomas Fredericks, and Jerry & Judy Spitzer.
  - *Alumni Association Young Alumni Achievement Award 2011 Recipient:* Dean Frantsvog

### Friday, September 23

- All Alumni Reunion, Grand International, 7 P.M.  
Special Reunion Groups:
  - Music
  - Beta Theta
  - Wrestling

### Saturday, September 24

- Homecoming Parade, Downtown Minot to Broadway, to campus, 10:30 A.M.
- Tailgating, East Dome Parking Lot, 11:00 A.M.
- Football Game vs. University of Sioux Falls, Herb Parker Stadium, 1:30 P.M.
- Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet, Grand International, 7 P.M.  
*2011 Recipients:* Hank Hettwer, Steve Holen, Darrik Trudell & the 2002 Men's Cross Country Team.

For more information, contact the Alumni Office at 701-858-3234, 800-777-0750 ext. 3234.  
Email [alumni@minotstateu.edu](mailto:alumni@minotstateu.edu) or [www.minotstateu.edu/homecoming](http://www.minotstateu.edu/homecoming).





Have you had an addition to your family within the last 12-18 months? We want to know! Contact Kate at [kate.neuhalfen@minotstateu.edu](mailto:kate.neuhalfen@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.neuhalfen@minotstateu.edu](mailto:kate.neuhalfen@minotstateu.edu).



**Levi Jeremy** was born to **Jeremy '07** and **Nicole '07 (Dmytruk) Blais** on Oct. 25, 2010, in Lloydminster, Saskatchewan. Levi was 7 pounds, 10 ounces and 20 inches long.



**Tyler and Pam '94/'97 (Hagel) Bungay** welcomed **Tate Berenger** to the family on Nov. 9, 2009, in Calgary, Alberta. He weighed 7 pounds, 15 ½ ounces and was 20 inches long.



**Michael and Jen '04 (Aspaas) Crisp** welcomed **Breklyn Lee** to the world on June 5, 2010, in Minot. She was 6 pounds, 12 ounces and 18 inches long.



**Michael '08 and Ashley '07 (Olander) Evanoff** welcomed son **Henrik Allen** on June 18, 2010, in Phoenix. He weighed in at 7 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20 1/2 inches long.



**Broc '03 and Amanda Giffey** welcomed son **Hugh Thomas** to the world on Feb. 25, 2010, in Rochester, Minn. Hugh weighed 6 pounds, 3 ounces and was 19 inches long.



**Brent '92 and Jan Zhu-Gilje** welcomed the birth of their son **Taos Lars Zhu** on May 14, 2010, in Denver. Taos weighed 5 pounds, 5 ounces and was 18 ½ inches long.



**Matthew '00 and DeAnn Hallaway** welcomed **Cortland Thomas** to the world on May 5, 2010, in Fargo. Cortland weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and was 19 inches long.



**Barrett Aksel** **Michael** was born on Sept. 22, 2010, to **Shane '97 and Karen '99 (Johnson) Hannegrefs.** He weighed 7 pounds, 15 1/2 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long. He joins older brother Grayson William Oliver, born Feb. 17, 2008.



**Kalli Jean** was born Dec. 22, 2010, in Minot to proud parents **Travis and Kristy '02/'10 (Halvorson) Hennings.** Kalli weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20 ¾ inches long. She joins siblings Jake (5) and Kaia (3).



**Gary and Lois '71 (Jevne) Hirschler** welcomed a new granddaughter, **Hailey Elizabeth,** born in Pueblo, Colo., on Feb. 3, 2011. Hailey weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces and was 19 inches long. She joins big brother Bradley Nathaniel, who is 2 1/2. Proud parents are Eric and Tiffany Hirschler of Rocky Ford, Colo.



**Brooklyn Joy** was born Sept. 7, 2010, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, to **Norman and Krista '07 (Thoen) Hochbaum.** Brooklyn weighed 7 1/2 pounds and was 18 3/4 inches long.



**Josh and Jolene '99 (Johnson) Hovde** are proud parents to **Tayden Jace,** born April 17, 2009, in Minot. Tayden weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 20 ½ inches long.



**Kassidy Rosa** was born Oct. 17, 2010, in Bismarck to proud parents **Chad '99 and Marie (Keller) Johnson.** She weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces, and was 21 1/4 inches long. She joins big brother Ethan, who is 3 years old.



**Annabelle Lynn** was born Jan. 16, 2011, in Evanston, Ill., to **Nathan '07 and DeeAnn '07 (Kjelshus) Johnson.** Annabelle was 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 21 inches long. Welcome to the world!



**Azalea Cay** was born on Oct. 22, 2010, in Kenora, Ontario. She was welcomed by proud parents **Lonny and Heather '97/'98 (Walker) Kirkpatrick** and big sister Violet (3 ½).





**Eric '02 and Calina Krogen** are proud parents, thanks to the arrival of daughter **Natalie Kay** on Jan. 22, 2010, in Williston.

Natalie weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces and was 19 ¼ inches long.



**Richard Jaxson Benjamin Michael** was born Nov. 16, 2008, at 6:58 p.m. in Grand Forks. He weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 19 ½ inches long. He was welcomed by proud parents **Richard and Barb '91 (Fix) Leshovsky**.



**Derek and Kari '96/'03 (Erickson) Mayer** welcomed to the world **Shaunie Anne** on Oct. 20, 2010, in Hettinger. Shaunie

weighed 8 pounds and was 20 inches long. She joins big sister Andrea (12) and brother Erick (9). They live in Mott.



**Erik and Amy '07 (Thomas) Nelson** welcomed **Jack Thomas** on Oct. 3, 2009, in Gillette, Wyo. Jack was 7 pounds, 1 ounce and

19 inches.



**Sgt. Teddy and Amber '09 O'Brien** became proud parents to **Annabelle Marie** at 5:03 a.m. on Sept. 13, 2010, in Minot. She

weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 21 inches long. The family currently lives on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Alaska.



**Isabella Joy** was born May 31, 2010, at Trinity Health in Minot to new parents **Ryan and Kera '06 (Kramer) Pederson**.

Isabella weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce and was 19 ¾ inches long.



**Jake and Candice '07 (Kopeck) Porter** welcomed their first baby **Jaxon Evan** on July 15, 2010. He

was born in Regina, Saskatchewan, and weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and was 21 ½ inches long.



**Travis and Renee '06 (Burnett) Rathje** are proud parents, thanks to the arrival of daughter **Ayva Marie**. Ayva was born Feb.

24, 2011, in Wichita Falls, Texas. She weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 20 ½ inches long.



**Mark and Melanie '02 (McCormack) Schaper** are proud parents to triplets — **Emelie Johanna, Sarah Dakota and Matthew Benjamin**, born Jan. 31, 2010, in Bismarck. Emelie Johanna weighed in at 2 pounds and was 13 1/2 inches long. Sarah Dakota was 1 pound, 15 ounces and 14 inches long, and Matthew Benjamin was 2 pounds, 3 1/2 ounces and 14 inches long.



**Ahnika Jo** was born July 30, 2010, in Longmont, Colo. She weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and was 20 1/4 inches long. She was

welcomed by her parents **Russ and Staci '99/'01 (Dykins) Schell**.



**Treston Sky** was born to **Trevor '02 and Shayla '02 (Strasser) Sinclair** at Medcenter One in Bismarck, on Jan. 8, 2011. Treston

weighed 5 pounds, 10 ounces and was 18 1/2 inches long.



**Luke '06/08 and Rebecca '09 Steen** welcomed **Benton** to the world on March 24, 2010. Luke was 7

pounds, 15 ounces and was 21 inches long.



**Grant Erick** was born Sept. 22, 2009, in Apple Valley, Minn., to **Erick '96 and Renee '96 (Bergan) Swenson**.

He was 8 pounds, 6 ounces and 21 1/2 inches long. He joins big sister Brynn (7) and big brother Brady (5).



**Hannah Lynn** was born Oct. 23, 2009, in Breese, Ill., to proud parents **Mark '94 and Jennifer Thompson**.

Hannah weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 20 inches long.



**Cade Matthew** was born Dec. 13, 2009, in Minot to **Matthew (attended '04) and Jenny '05 (Engl) Undlin**.

He weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and was 19 3/4 inches long.



**Aanika Lily** was born at Trinity Health in Minot at 10:42 p.m. on Dec. 31, 2010, to **Michael (attended 1999-2003) and**

**Tabitha '08 (Haugen) Wilber**. She weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 19 inches long.





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**Alumni Association**

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*“Minot State is a very vibrant place and I am pleased to be a part of the growth and dynamic changes to the campus.”*



Ryan Hertz '00, is president-elect of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and is very active in campus activities including the Beaver Booster Club. Ryan earned a Bachelor of Science degree in finance and is a business banker at Dacotah Bank in Minot.