

Connections

Fall 2020

Alumni Association & Development Foundation



Cederstrom

hangs up the helmet

Congratulations to two outstanding alumni

Heather (Lee) Ell '12 was awarded Minot Education Association Teacher of the Year. Ell is in her ninth year as an educator with the Minot Public Schools and is currently a first-grade teacher at John Hoeven Elementary School.

Pictured L to R: Janna McKechnie, alumni director; Heather Ell; Rick Hedberg, VP for advancement; and Steven Shirley, president



Kristi (Patterson) Reinke '01, '04, '08 was chosen as the 2021 North Dakota Teacher of the Year. Reinke is a social studies teacher at Jim Hill Middle School in Minot. We are grateful for her dedication and for all of our state's educators for their commitment to helping students reach their fullest potential.

Pictured L to R: Rick Hedberg, VP for advancement; Janna McKechnie, alumni director; Kristi Reinke; and Steven Shirley, president

Have you had a recent change to your



**HOME, SEASONAL, or
EMAIL ADDRESS?**



PLEASE CONTACT

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at 701-858-3399, by email at
Bonnie.Trueblood@MinotStateU.edu.
or online at MinotStateU.edu/alumni**

Publication corrections:

In the 2019-20 President's Report, a photo accompanying the feature on Jim McIntyre '73 on page 8 was misidentified as including McIntyre as one of the students editing sports articles for the Red & Green student newspaper. McIntyre was, in fact, a writer for the Red & Green but was not one of the students in the photo. The Connections staff regrets the error and any confusion it might have caused.

We apologize to the family and friends of C. Robert Schweiger for the error in listing Schweiger under the In-Memory Friends category in our Spring 2020 issue of Connections. He should have been listed under Faculty and Staff.

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ADDITIONAL PHOTO CREDITS:

On the Cover: On the Cover: Gary Cederstrom looks on in between innings while working home plate during a game between the Texas Rangers and Oakland Athletics at the Coliseum in Oakland, California. Cederstrom announced his retirement from Major League Baseball following the 2019 World Series. Photo courtesy of Brad Mangin/MLB Photos via Getty Images.

Cederstrom retires from Major League Baseball: p. 6-7 photo courtesy of Alex Trautwig/MLB Photos via Getty Images; p. 9 top courtesy of Tom Mix, North Dakota High School Activities Association; p. 9 bottom courtesy of Cederstrom family.

Through the camera lens: p. 10-11 photos courtesy of Joshua Strong/Arbaut Photography.

Learning on the job: p. 16-17 photo furnished by Whitney Molina.

The show has just begun: p. 18-19 photos furnished by Justin Fisk.

Leaders, innovators highlight Academic Hall of Fame: p. 20-21 photos furnished by Becky Becker and Tim Henry.

Connections is published two times a year by the Minot State University Alumni Association and Development Foundation. Send comments, articles, or photo submissions to:

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Third class postage paid at Fargo, ND 58101.



President's message

Greetings to all of our Minot State alumni and friends.

I sincerely hope each of you are safe and healthy as we continue navigating the COVID-19 pandemic. It is certainly a fall semester on campus unlike any other we have previously encountered.

Our students, faculty, and staff have responded remarkably well to the shifting landscape this fall, and we are so pleased to be continuing forward with face-to-face classes on campus. MSU certainly looks and feels quite a bit different this fall with all of the modifications, but

we are pleased to continue fulfilling our promise of educating the next generation of graduates.

Thank you for perusing this issue of Connections to read the latest campus updates and activities. The cover story on recently retired MLB umpire and Minot State alum Gary Cederstrom is a great article about Gary's fascinating career and life. Please also note the announcements regarding MSU's newest class of both Academic Hall of Famers, Dr. Tim Henry and Dr. Becky Becker, and Athletic Hall of Famers, Gary Cederstrom, Ian Best, Sheila Green Gerding, Mandy Greenberg, and the 2004-05 men's basketball team. Also our distinguished 2020 class of Golden Award recipients and Young Alumni Achievement, Chuck Barney, Josh Duhamel, Dr. Terry Eckmann, John Schwan, and Josh Brewer. Unfortunately, we have not been able to host our usual recognition events and banquets celebrating each of these remarkable individuals, but we look forward to doing so next year!

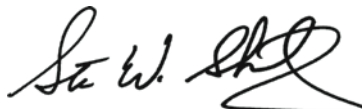
You will also find several features on recent alums including Whitney Molina, Sean Arbaut, and Justin Fisk, along with a nice profile of long-time MSU distinguished professor Robert Holmen and Athletic Hall of Famer Paul Harrell. It is always fun catching up with those who graced the hallways of Minot State to learn where they are now and what they are doing in their careers (or in retirement!).

Please also take a moment to learn more about the exciting Summer Theatre renovation project that is underway — a story highlighting our recent groundbreaking is featured on page 28. We are still in the midst of completing the fundraising for this important project, so please see MSUSummerTheatre.com for more information on how you can help.

We also celebrate on page 26 the life of beloved long-time MSU professor Dr. Doris Slaaten who passed away in early October — just a week after her 100th birthday. I was honored to be asked by her family to provide the eulogy for Doris' funeral a couple weeks ago. Part of my comments that day included, "Doris was loved and admired by generations of MSU students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends for good reason. She was a kind and caring professor. She was a friendly, team-oriented colleague. She was supportive of the University and the broader Minot community. She was gracious and sincere with everyone with whom she interacted. She was genuine, and always had a positive outlook on life. She was a role model, a great influence, and inspirational, especially for young women at MSU ... It is clear the impact Doris has had on Minot State and countless students, and clear that this lasting impact will be felt by future generations — an incredible and enduring legacy ... It gives all of us strength and comfort knowing the lasting impact and the legacy Dr. Doris Slaaten has had and continues having on the Minot State University community." May Doris rest in peace.

Thank you for your continued support of Minot State University, and as always ...

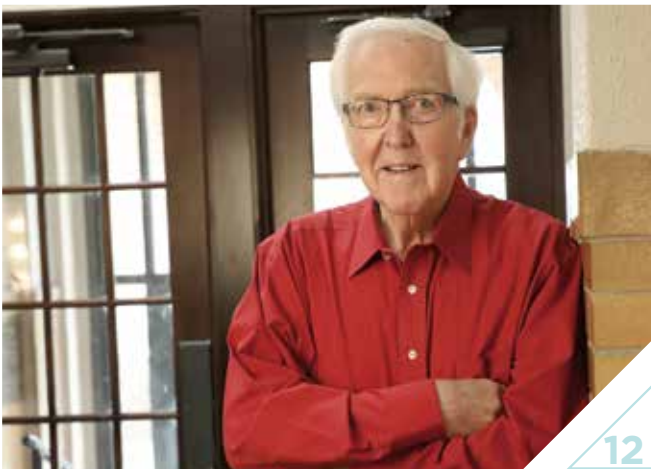
GO BEAVERS!



▲ Steven W. Shirley, Ph.D., President

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▲ **Be seen. Be heard. Be inspired.**

Growth and evolution



Candace (Olson) Brekke '01 drew inspiration for an original painting for the Minot State Gala from the changing landscape of the MSU campus.

"It's growth and evolution," she said.

The same could be said for Brekke's own personal art journey.

"Although I have an art degree from MSU, my focus was never painting. I didn't discover a love for

painting until years later," Brekke said. "I had always drawn as a child. In college, I focused on realistic drawing, but mostly honed my skills in graphic design. Later in my career as a designer, I think painting became an outlet for me to create beyond the computer. It opened me up and allowed me to get my hands dirty!"

The original acrylic on canvas painting was produced as a donation to the Gala to raise money for the Alumni Association. When the Association needed a cover for the 2020 Alumni Directory, the painting was the perfect choice.

"When Janna (Alumni Association Director Janna McKechnie) approached me to use the image for the Alumni Directory cover, I was happy to share it," Brekke said. "The original piece is part of the Ackerman's collection now, but a few copies have been made and can be seen on campus in the alumni office and the Wellness Center.

"My boss, Ryan Ackerman, ended up purchasing it at the Gala and it hung in the Ackerman-Estvold suite at Herb Parker Stadium, so I got the chance to enjoy it for a while at MSU games."

To view additional pieces of Brekke's work, visit her Facebook site @eyecandycreative or Instagram account @eyecandyartwork.

"I find the medium very freeing and love to experiment with the textures and colors that acrylics can produce," she added. "A lot of times, I end up putting the paint brush down and use various tools or my hands to create the piece." ▲



Cederstrom retires from major league baseball

by Michael Linnell

“GONE

Gary Cederstrom announced his retirement as an umpire from Major League Baseball in February via Twitter with those two words following a distinguished 31-year career. The Bismarck native worked four World Series, including the crew chief in 2015 and 2019, two All-Star Games, seven League Championship Series, seven Division Series, called a no-hitter, and worked over 3,500 MLB games.



FISHING.”



Fast forward to September and Cederstrom '78 has mostly made good on his tweet.

“Yeah, we got out a few times,” he said. “Probably not as much as I’d like, we are still working on the cabin area and I just got the boat this year, but yeah, my son, son-in-law, grandson, and granddaughters have all been out, heck, even my wife went out once!

“I got a big ol’ bass. My son’s girlfriend caught one that’s a whopper and we are going to get that one mounted. I thought I would put mine on the wall, but then I had the family out and they all caught ones bigger than mine!”

Cederstrom knew he was going to retire after the 2019 season but didn’t necessarily have a plan that included going out on top. But, as fate would have it, his final game in an MLB umpire’s uniform was as crew chief working second base during Game 7 of the World Series between the Washington Nationals and Houston Astros in Houston.

There have been a couple times during the offseason — as he worked on his cabin or sat in a floatable rocking chair allowing him to fish off the dock — when the realization he wouldn’t be traveling to locations like Minute Maid Park sunk in.

“It’s the one thing I guess I’ve thought about a little since retirement, I won’t get to go to cities like Chicago, New York, Boston, the ones in Texas, Toronto,” he said. “You know, you have friends in those cities and you’re not going to see them anymore. Since COVID-19, some of those clubhouse attendants aren’t there anymore. The thing I miss is the people.”

While he enjoyed much of his career on the diamond, Cederstrom admits there were times early on, before breaking through to the highest levels, that doubt would creep in.

"You had to keep an even keel because the grind can affect you," he said. "So, were there times I thought it wasn't going to happen? Yep. When I was at A ball in my fourth year, that could have been a sign (to walk away), but a month later, I'm in Double A and then Triple A."

During those times, however, he fell back on sage, blunt advice he received from various Minot State professors and administrators.

"I got really good advice from guys like Mr. (Gary) Leslie, Dr. (Robert) Holmen, Dr. (Jonathon) Wagner, Mr. (Vence) Elgie; they always had something to say that helped," he said. "I really enjoyed my conversations with them.

"Basically, it was: if you are going to do it, then do it. If you are going to do something, don't go halfway, all in or all out. If you don't like what you're doing, find something else. There's something out here for you that you love doing, so do that."

The advice also came in everyday lessons while taking classes towards his physical education degree.

"I had all those guys as instructors, and they pushed you. They taught you, but they pushed you," Cederstrom said. "They were all from different departments, too. Those were my mentors at Minot State."

Getting that advice was key for Cederstrom as there wasn't much patting on the back — as he put it — during his time in the minor leagues. In a profession that is scrutinized on every single call, Cederstrom learned early on, the scrutiny starts well before he stepped on the field.

"People are making judgements on you whether you make a call or not. Presentation, energy, things like that, before you ever even make a call," he said. "That whole first impression idea and then how can you keep that up. It has to be you, can't be a façade. You have to bring your lunch pail every day."

Cederstrom started his professional baseball umpiring career in the Midwest League in 1979, working the long league for four years. In 1982, he worked the Eastern League and moved up to the American Association in 1983. He worked his first MLB game in 1989.

He began the journey in umpire school, looking to break into college baseball.

"I was doing high school and some college but went to umpire school so I could get more college games," he said. "After that, I didn't have to do a short league like the Gulf Coast or Pioneer, I went right to a long league, the Midwest League, which you can't do now."

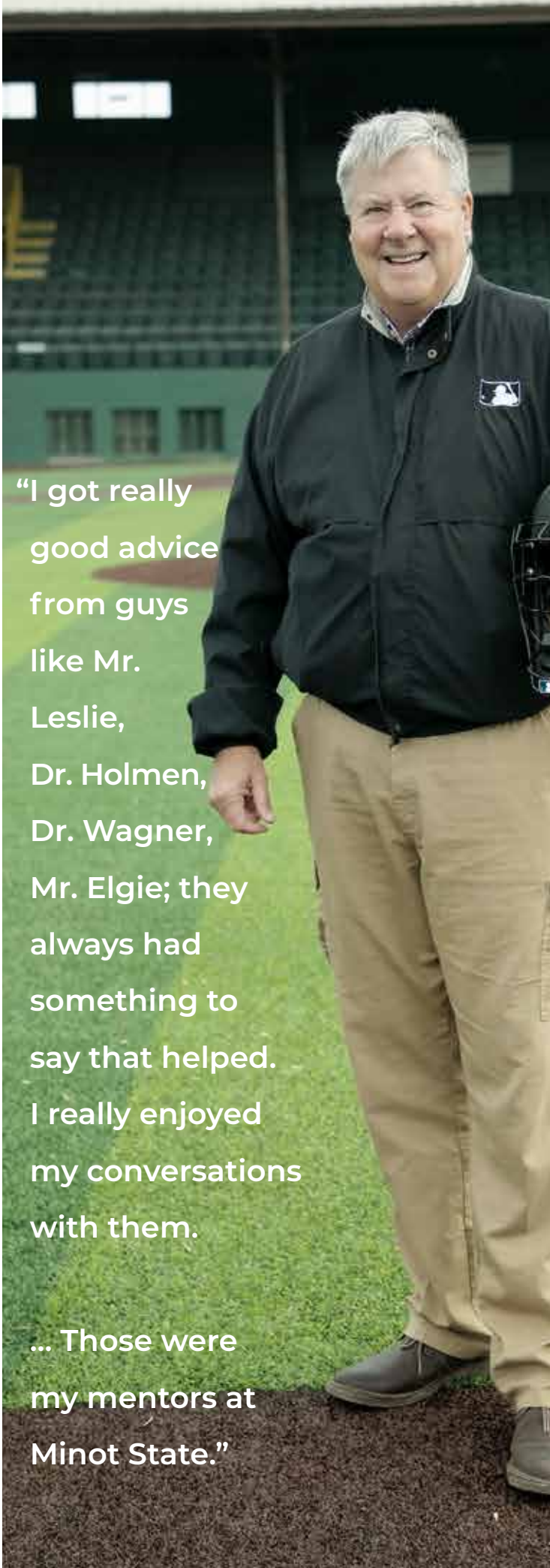
After working in the minor leagues, the next goal was to get a Spring Training game. From there, opportunities to get call ups would eventually lead to staying at the major league level.

"It took five years to get an opportunity for Spring Training," Cederstrom said. "So even then, there were times that you aren't sure this is ever going to happen. But, I was making good money and I liked the job. Back then, if you were the fourth guy on a call-up list, you might get 25 games. Now, the fourth guy is getting 100 games. If you are doing 100 games in the big leagues, you are making pretty good money."

Over the past 31 years, Cederstrom said the game changed from a more combative game in the 60s and 70s to a more finesse game. He has strong opinions on how the game has transitioned to strikeouts and home runs, but one constant remained.

He was most impressed by those athletes who could fly.

"Yeah, when something phenomenal happens, I go, wow, that was sweet! But, if I had to pick one, we had the game with Bo Jackson and Deion Sanders in Kansas City," he remembered. "Both could run



"I got really good advice from guys like Mr. Leslie, Dr. Holmen, Dr. Wagner, Mr. Elgie; they always had something to say that helped. I really enjoyed my conversations with them. ... Those were my mentors at Minot State."



down the line, but they were way different. Bo runs like a runaway train and Deion is silky smooth. To this day, I enjoy watching people get extra base hits and the most fun are the ones that just glide.

"Doubles and triples and turning hits into extra base hits are fun. I like people running the bases, and you then find out how defensively skilled teams are. You then have some second baseman or shortstop making a phenomenal play and throws someone out at home. That's big-league ball."

While Cederstrom lights up during the conversation about Jackson and Sanders, he admits it was time to retire. Spending time with his family during the summer, a luxury he wasn't afforded with the 162-game MLB schedule in the past, was a big part of the decision. The onset of COVID-19 and the changes that have affected the world, let alone Major League Baseball, have cemented that sentiment.

"I was getting a little long in the tooth," he said. "It was time. I'm happy I'm retired. I haven't watched much at this point, but I didn't go back to my room and turn on a game back then either, that wasn't my style."

But that doesn't mean Cederstrom isn't busy. He and his son are rebuilding a fishing boat, he coached fastpitch softball this past summer, and is working high school football games, learning how to run again.

"The grass is so much longer for football than baseball. I haven't fallen yet, I thought I might a couple times, but haven't yet," Cederstrom said laughing.

It's just a different kind of busy.

"I'm always finding something to do, it's a little different pace," he said. "I was picking up pinecones at the lake and I looked at my watch and thought, I don't have any place to be and a long time to get there." ▲



Through the camera lens

▲ by Amanda Duchsherer

CHANCE put Sean Arbaut '15 behind a camera lens.

PASSION keeps him there.

Today, the owner of Arbaut Photography, director of athletic photography at Minot State University, and marketing coordinator and performance coach at Heilman's Performance is often found with a Canon camera in hand, even though photography was not part of his original plan.

Finding a student-worker job while attending Minot State was.

"Everyone told me, hey, just go to the athletic department, they're always looking for people to help out. So, I went to the athletic department and they threw me to Michael Linnell (then-sports information director). At first, he just got me random odd jobs," he said. "Then, one soccer game he was like, hey, can you take pictures? And I said sure, but I've never done that before.

"The photos were awful. But Mike said they were okay, and he taught me the basics. Ever since then, I've been taking

pictures at Minot State games. And, slowly but surely, I fell in love with photography."

While photography unexpectedly entered Arbaut's life, his profession as a performance coach was planned. He graduated with his degree in corporate fitness and wellness management in 2015 and began working for Heilman's Performance when the business first opened its doors.

"I did my practicum hours with him (Caleb Heilman '17) for school, and then it just turned into a job after a while," he said. "First it was a part-time job, then I was his first full-time employee."

Working with student-athletes began before he landed at Heilman's, and it was that experience that gave the Tehachapi, California native a sense of community belonging.

"After my first year playing baseball here, I was asked if I could coach in the summer. I coached out in Burlington and the community was amazing. They welcomed me with open arms and they're like a second family. I coached out there for five years," he said. "I had a group of kids that were stuck to me. They're all in college now so I see them on campus; it's fun to see them and how they've grown."

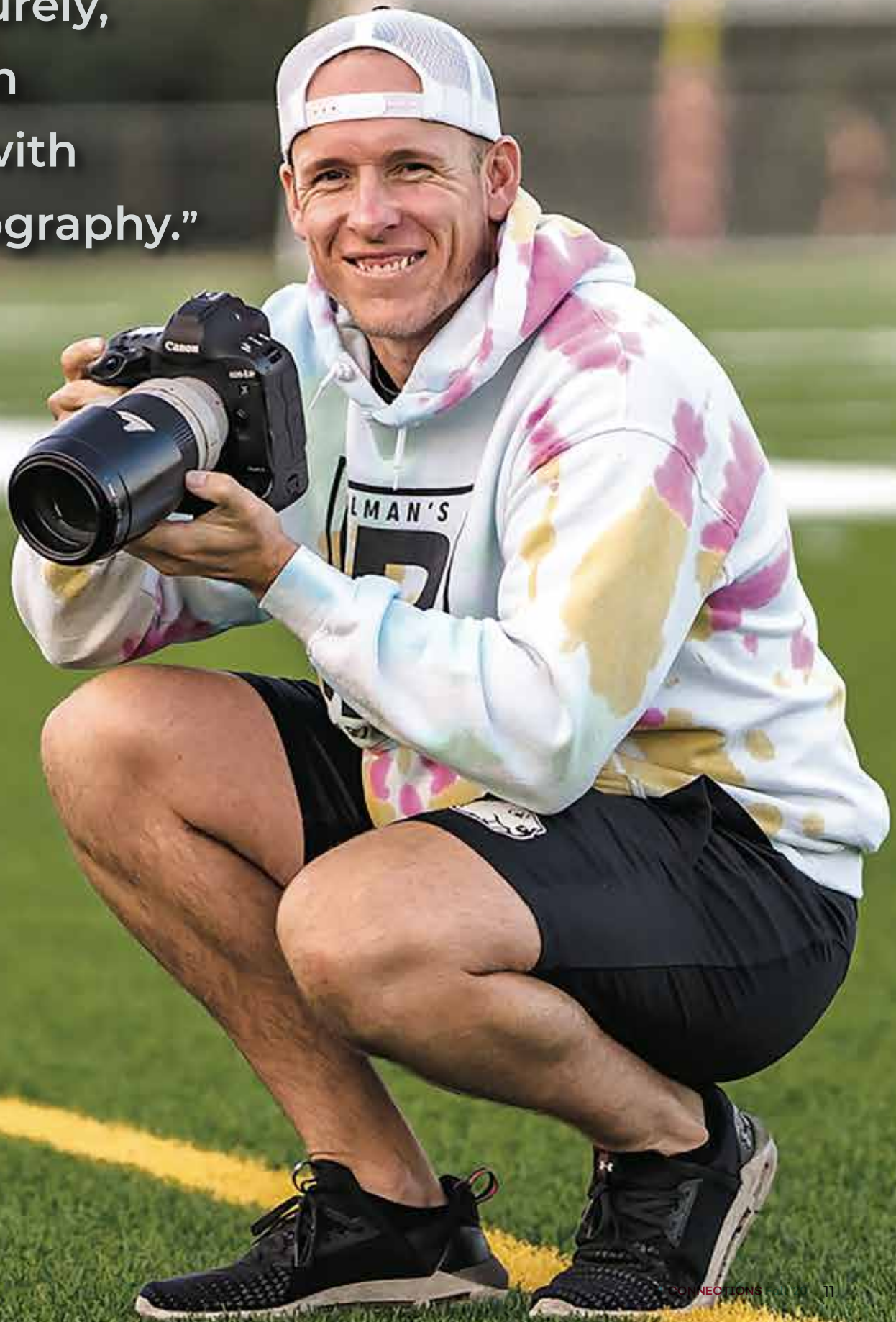
When Arbaut moved to the North Dakota plains, he wasn't sure if he would find that connection. He only knew one person attending the University, but an offer to play baseball coupled with in-state tuition helped him make the decision to move north.

"I never came on a visit so everything I had to do was online or through talking to the coach, but it just felt right," he said. "And I definitely feel like there is a family atmosphere here. Even the crew I worked with on game days as a student, we had so much fun even though it was long hours. I just love the small-town feel. And I love seeing it grow.

"I like seeing all the kids achieve what they're doing on and off the field; it's cool to be a part of that and see it grow for the better. Minot State is headed in the right direction." ▲



“... slowly
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WHERE are they NOW

Holmen legacy a winning formula

▲ by Dan Fagan

For over 37 years, Robert Holmen '59 was a fixture in the mathematics department at Minot State where he inspired his students to embrace the magic of numbers and become the teachers of tomorrow.

The son of a nurse and an educator, Holmen first thought he would go down the road of medicine and be a doctor. However, after his first semester of pre-med, he discovered the stethoscope-around-the-neck look wasn't for him but was attracted to math and the prospect of teaching.

"Once you get into calculus and higher math, you see the power and applicability of mathematics," Holmen said. "It's such a foundational subject. There are aspects of mathematics that are part of almost any area of study. Math is underlying so much of life if you look for it, if you seek it, and if you are willing to find it."

Holmen attended Minot State specifically because of its teaching program. He taught high school math and science for three years before heading to the University of Illinois to earn a master's degree.

Once his graduate studies were complete, Holmen returned to his alma mater to teach in the classrooms where he had been a student years before.

During the next three decades, Holmen would work his way up the ranks from associate professor to the chair of the mathematics and computer science department. But for Holmen, the job was less about job titles and more about the mission of fostering a culture in the classroom where he could enrich and challenge minds.

"I enjoyed introducing concepts and material to my students, things that they had never been introduced to

before, and helping them grasp it," Holmen said. "To watch them get to a place where they finally understood the material was a special experience."

It wasn't just in the classroom that Holmen influenced young minds to embrace the world of math, but at home, as well.

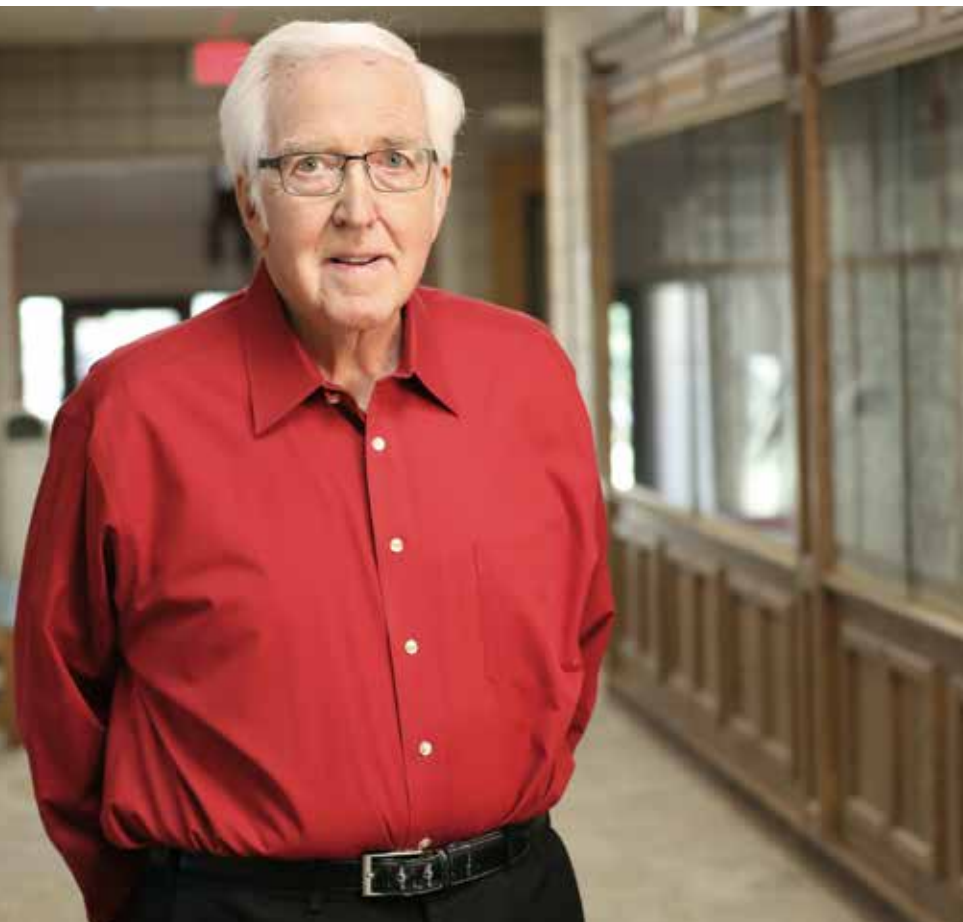
"I guess I rubbed off on my sons, because they both became math teachers too," he said.

As the father of three and grandfather of four, Holmen proudly points out that all seven of his children and grandchildren attended Minot State and earned at least one of their degrees there.

Holmen retired from teaching in 2000. The following year, he received both the Alumni Golden Award and Distinguished Lifetime Educator Award. In 2012, Holmen's legacy was cemented into the history of Minot State when he was inducted into the Academic Hall of Fame.

"It's encouraging," Holmen said, reflecting on his teaching career. "It's a value beyond money that you can have that bond and memory of working with so many extraordinary people. It doesn't leave you." ▲

ROBERT HOLMEN



alum **from DAY** one

FRESHMAN Kylee Cook

Music education ▶ Scobey, Montana

Kylee is always making noise. The freshman, who is in her first year with the MSU volleyball team, is constantly listening to music and singing or humming to herself. She is putting that to good use by pursuing a vocal concentration with her music education degree at Minot State as well as performing in her hometown's Pioneer Days, an event that is one of her biggest highlights each year.

Why did you choose Minot State?

I've visited family here since I was a kid, so it's very familiar. Minot State gave me the opportunity to continue playing volleyball, and I enjoyed the music department's faculty. I knew it would be a great learning environment.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

As of now, I'm getting more familiar with the technical side of music, which I haven't had much experience with.

What is your favorite quote?

"And now, for something completely different."
— John Cleese of Monty Python

What has been your favorite class?

As of now, it is band because I can make music without a mask being in the way.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Four weeks is too soon to tell who has had the greatest influence on me; however, Dr. (DeVera) Bowles is a lovely lady who I've so enjoyed working with the past few years. She has really helped my voice grow.



SOPHOMORE Destiny Stanton

Graphic design ▶ Kenmare

Destiny is active in the art world at Minot State as she is involved in the art club as well as an intern for Letterpress Studio and Flat Tail Press. But don't be too surprised if you don't recognize her from those groups as her "hair color changes often." When not in school, Destiny is active outside the art scene as well, playing softball and shooting guns.

Why did you choose Minot State?

I chose Minot State because they had graphic design as a degree, and it was close to home.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

Minot State has helped me with the opportunities that come with the different classes.

What is your favorite quote?

"Darling, you'll be okay." — Pierce the Veil

What has been your favorite class?

Surprisingly, for an art major, my favorite class I've taken so far has been chemistry.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Bill Harbort. He is always having a good time with whatever he does. That's helped me be motivated by just enjoying my work.

What is your most memorable moment at Minot State?

Volunteering at MSU's annual art festival NOTSTOCK.



alum from DAY one

JUNIOR Christopher Scott

Chemistry ▶ Minot

Christopher loves politics and that passion has led him to be very active in clubs on campus including Student Government Association, Residence Hall Association, and the North Dakota Student Association. He currently sits on the North Dakota Youth Leadership Board.

Why did you choose Minot State?

This is my hometown university. It is very affordable, not too small where you know everyone, and not too large where you do not know your professors on a one-on-one basis. The community here is also so awesome and welcoming.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

Being here has allowed me to push myself to be the best that I can be, both in and outside of the classroom, extracurriculars, and research opportunities.

What is your favorite quote?

"When an opportunity presents itself, do not be afraid to take it."

What has been your favorite class?

Physics. It is fascinating to find out how objects move, why they move, and how amazing, complex, and weird our universe is.

What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

One hundred percent would be the senator study room that is hidden on campus.

What is your most memorable moment at Minot State?

Student Convocation is such a spectacular event to be at during Welcome Weekend. The excitement of a new year can be felt within Ann Nicole Nelson Hall.



SENIOR Joshua Strong

Multimedia studies ▶ Glendale, Arizona

Josh is quite visible on campus as he has worked for the University's marketing department, KMSU, and Residence Life. You can usually find him with a camera in hand as he is an avid photographer and graphic designer, focusing on sports.

Why did you choose Minot State?

I took online and flex classes through Minot State when I was in the Air Force. Once I separated, I was sold on the immediate hands-on and in-depth experiences both inside the classroom and beyond.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

The faculty and staff here are very passionate about student success. If you seek out the resources on campus, you will find a vigorous foundation upon which to achieve success. My job as social media assistant has been the key item in my career-skill growth.

What is your favorite quote?

"BOOM" – Bill Harbort

What has been your favorite class?

Every art class.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Bill Harbort. He has taught me so much and broadened my perspective as an artist. As my advisor, he has molded the courses I take to maximize an education that is right for my goals.

What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

Multimedia studies. It's a perfect fit for students wanting to enter the creative digital industry. Having a skill set in multiple disciplines gives you a competitive advantage.

What is your most memorable moment at MSU?

I had this outside perspective looking at MSU as a "small college" and I remember the shock when I toured the facilities and saw the resources and technologies available to students.



MASTERS Janel Bortoluzzi '20

Speech-language pathology ▶ Winnipeg, Manitoba

Janel is in her second year of graduate school, working toward a degree in speech-language pathology after earning a general studies degree in the post-baccalaureate program and a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in psychology from the University of Winnipeg. The former competitive tap dancer is passionate about politics and world issues and served as the Student Government Association president in 2019-20.

Why did you choose Minot State?

I wanted to study speech-language pathology and there is no program offered in my home province of Manitoba. I appreciated the fact that MSU is only a five-hour drive away from home.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

I have gained hands-on experience through my clinical involvement. I am grateful for the opportunity to complete part of my clinical practicum right here on campus, as it is very convenient and easily accessible.

What is your favorite quote?

"Everything happens for a reason."
I have grown to learn that many things are out of my control, and when one door closes, another one opens.

What has been your favorite class?

Voice disorders class with Mrs. (Lisa) Roteliuk '97, '00. This class really opened my eyes to how diverse the field of speech-language pathology is and the various opportunities for specialization that exist throughout our field.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Ms. (Kara) Nunziato '10 is a clinical supervisor within the CD department, and she has been very influential in my academic experience.

What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

The ridiculous amount of free MSU stuff you collect!

FACULTY Chris Heth '99, '04

Chemistry ▶ Westhope

Chris might be "The Most Interesting Man at Minot State." Along with two degrees from MSU, he holds a doctorate in chemistry from North Dakota State University. He has an unbelievably wide array of hobbies including playing the guitar and mandolin, being a licensed falconer, serving as the lighting designer for musical and theatrical performances at MSU, and playing hockey (badly, according to him). Chris also designed MSU's medicinal plant chemistry degree, just the second such degree in the U.S.

Why did you choose Minot State?

Since I planned to be an educator, I didn't really consider anywhere but Minot State. Having grown from the state Teachers College, MSU's reputation for educating future teachers made it the obvious choice.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

The science education I received gave me a solid foundation to build on in graduate school. However, it was the mentoring and interactions with faculty while I was a student that greatly influenced my approach to both graduate school as well as my role as a professor.

What has been your favorite class?

One that unexpectedly — at the time — made a huge impression was a 300-level geometry.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Dr. Bob Crackel. I took more classes from him than anyone else through my various studies and am proud to now have him as a colleague.

What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

I'm tooting my own horn a little, but our STEM offerings. We have a long history of graduate success stories, with alumni in academia and industry.







Learning on the job

▲ by Amanda Duchsherer

WHEN WHITNEY

Molina '19 decided to take some time off in between graduation and her nursing career, she traveled to 10 different states and the Turks and Caicos islands.

"I knew I was going to be jumping into the workforce, and I knew it was probably one of the last times I was ever going to be so carefree," the 2019 alumna said. "I wanted to make sure when I started working I could fully dive into nursing and give it all I had."

As she and fellow Minot State basketball teammate Kanasha Woods took their trip of a lifetime, Molina had no idea exactly how quiet the respite would be compared to her first nursing job. In August 2019, she began working at a critical access hospital on the Ft. Peck Indian Reservation in Montana, just months before COVID-19 began effecting the area.

"Just being in a critical access hospital, and then on top of a pandemic, it's just crazy," she said. "We were already short staffed and short supplied, and we do the best with what we have. And with the pandemic, we're seeing an at-risk population being affected."

Molina never intended to be working only 90 miles from her hometown of Hinsdale, Montana. She envisioned herself in a large city, far away from an area the Washington Post labeled the "middle of nowhere" in the United States in March 2018 — a point of pride for many in the area.

"It's not the place I ever expected myself to be but being here now, seeing where decisions take you, I'm exactly where I need to be. I literally learn something new every day. That's one of the cool parts about a smaller hospital, you really get to see all areas, and you get to discover what you really like to do. Just a couple weeks ago, I delivered a baby in a shower, and then a week later, I have COVID patients. It's literally from zero to 100 in ages. One day you can work in emergency medicine and the next day you'll be on the floor (the medical floor), and then you'll be working in the long-term care unit," she said. "I really see such a wide variety of patients and illnesses; it's an incredible opportunity."

She also never thought emergency medicine would be her favorite area.

"At my clinicals at Trinity Hospital in the ICU (intensive care), I thought I was an ICU nurse through and through," she said. "And working in the emergency department, I just really love the emergency situations. I love the adrenaline of it. I don't know if it's because I used to play sports or what it is, but I just love to dive in and get in the zone."

Having the opportunity to play collegiate basketball while pursuing a nursing degree is what brought Molina to the University.

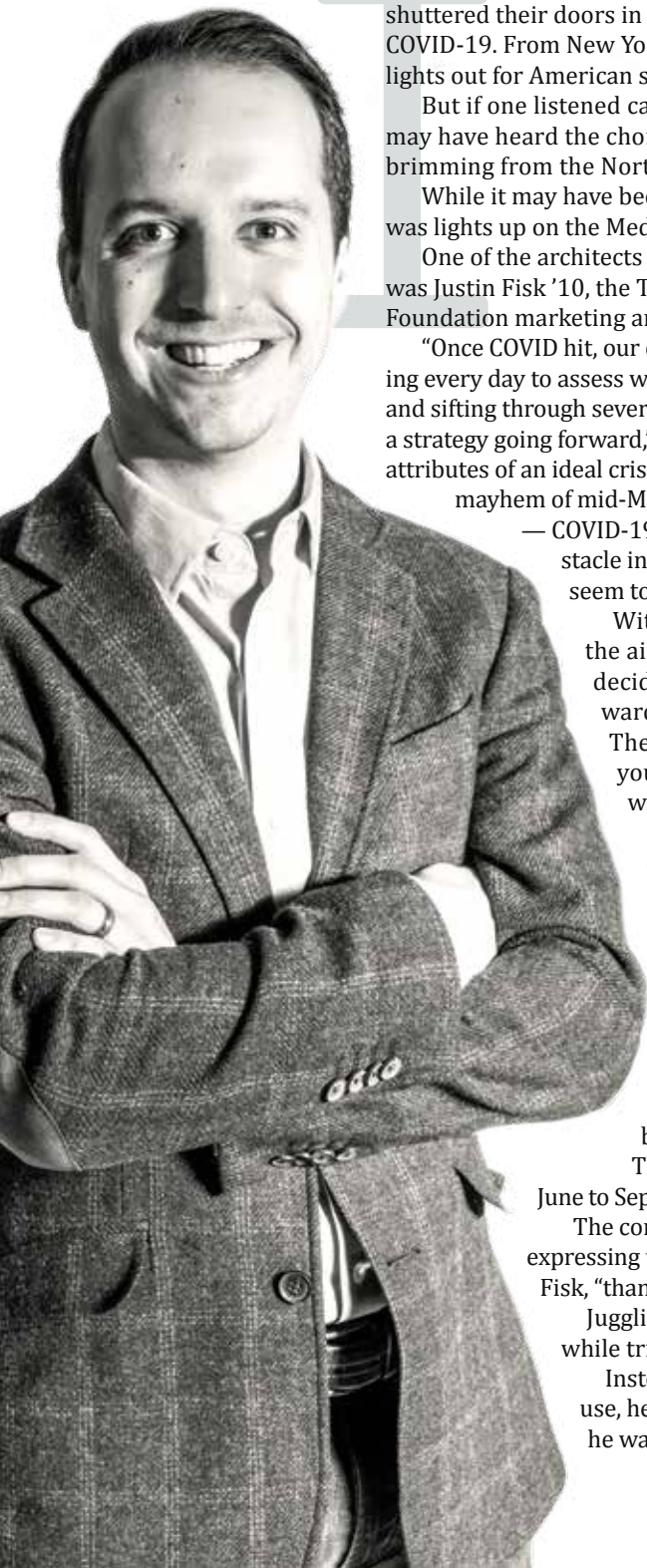
"I have the ultimate pride for Minot State, even in the recruiting process," she said. "A lot of schools, you tell the head coaches you want to do nursing and they say, oh no, sorry, but we don't allow our players to do that. It was really important for me to take basketball to the next level and coming to Minot State, and them allowing me that opportunity, that alone is something I am so grateful for."

That gratitude extends to the nursing department, from professors coming to her games and cheering her on; to the department helping her manage clinicals, schoolwork, and being a student-athlete; and to having support every step of the way.

"That alone prepared me for success, having professors that were willing to go above and beyond for me," she said. "Having sports and learning to juggle and time manage is what really set me up for nursing in general. And I still have people from Minot or my teammates reaching out and checking on me, it's awesome." ▲

The show has just begun

by Dan Fagan



It was a domino effect in early March, as theaters shuttered their doors in response to the specter of COVID-19. From New York to Los Angeles, it was lights out for American stages.

But if one listened carefully this summer, they may have heard the chorus of melodious echoes brimming from the North Dakota Badlands.

While it may have been lights out on Broadway, it was lights up on the Medora musical.

One of the architects behind the summer musical was Justin Fisk '10, the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation marketing and communications director.

"Once COVID hit, our executive team started meeting every day to assess what had changed, what hadn't, and sifting through several different models to develop a strategy going forward," Fisk recalled. Fisk exudes the attributes of an ideal crisis-handler. He discusses the

mayhem of mid-March with an air of calmness

— COVID-19 was simply one more obstacle in an industry where obstacles seem to grow on trees.

With so much uncertainty in the air, Fisk and his counterparts decided to build their path forward with a motto attributed to Theodore Roosevelt, "do what you can, with what you have, where you are."

A plan was hatched to open the musical, but with major adjustments to the budget and accommodations to protect the health and safety of audiences, as well as the performers, crew, and staff.

"It was a collaboration,"

Fisk said. "We asked everyone for their input and evaluation but at the same time asked for their courage to step out into the unknown."

The unknown proved to be a pleasant surprise, with the show running from early June to Sept. 12. The response from audiences was overwhelmingly positive.

The communications team received hundreds of comments from audience members expressing their gratitude, including one message in particular that still resonates with Fisk, "thank you for being tough when times are tough."

Juggling projects is a skill Fisk honed during his undergrad days at Minot State while triple majoring in marketing, international business, and virtual commerce.

Instead of waiting for graduation to enter the workforce and put his education to use, he decided to start a business, a motorcycle publication called Grassroots, when he wasn't at class.



With so much uncertainty in the air, Fisk and his counterparts decided to build their path forward with a motto attributed to Theodore Roosevelt,

“do what you can, with what you have, where you are.”



After graduating, Fisk started as an online marketing manager for Midwest real estate conglomerate IRET. A few years later, Fisk landed at KK Bold ad agency in Bismarck, a job he described as a “next-level bootcamp” in the world of virtual business. One of his clients was the Medora Foundation. A few years later, his client would offer him the opportunity to lead the Foundation’s marketing team.

During his tenure, Fisk has advanced Medora Foundation’s virtual footprint, with a shift toward focusing on tech to inspire travel and conduct business. The summer musical, alone, has experienced its five best-selling seasons under Fisk’s watch.

Now in his seventh year with the Medora Foundation, the sky is the limit for Fisk, who is transitioning into the role of chief strategy officer.

“We’re getting ready to put together a plan for the board of directors for what the next 50 years might look like,” Fisk said. “We’re at a point now where we know our strengths and are thinking about what’s next. What are the things that Disney is doing that we can also do? Let’s see how we can incorporate that kind of sophistication into a business model that North Dakotans will still be proud to be a part of.” ▲

LEADERS, INNOVATORS highlight Academic Hall of Fame

▲ by Michael Linnell

The Minot State University's Academic Hall of Fame committee has chosen two outstanding alumni in Dr. Becky Becker and Dr. Tim Henry as members of the Class of 2020.



Becker '92 is currently a professor of theater in the Department of Performing Arts at Clemson University in Clemson, South Carolina. In addition to her teaching career in theater history, dramaturgy, playwriting, and devising performance, Becker is a director, dramaturg, and playwright.

Henry is a cardiovascular interventionist at The Christ Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio. He serves as the Lindner Family Distinguished Chair in clinical research and is the medical director of The Carl and Edyth Lindner Center for Research at the Christ Hospital. Henry is a pioneer in the treatment of myocardial infarction.

"Minot State is proud to announce two new members to the Academic Hall of Fame," said Minot State Vice President for Academic Affairs Laurie Geller. "Both Dr. Becker and Dr. Henry are talented individuals who are leaders and innovators in their respective fields of work. Each has shown great passion for their work and have inspired those around them as mentors and colleagues."

Dr. Becky Becker

Becker, originally from Minot, grew up participating in band, choir, and theater from fourth grade through high school. She earned two degrees from Minot State, in communication arts and English. Becker also earned a Master of Arts in theatre arts at the University of North Dakota and completed her doctorate from Bowling Green State University.

"Being acknowledged by my undergraduate institution means so much because Minot State is where I developed a deeper love of learning, a stronger work ethic, and the beginnings of an artistic vision that helped to shape my career," Becker said. "It means the world to me to be honored by the University responsible for setting me on this path."

Becker has directed a wide range of established works as well as new pieces such as "Companeras," by Kathleen Coudle-King, "The Old Ship of Zion," by Natalia Temesgen, and "Eddie's Stone Song: Odyssey of the First Pasaquoyan," by Scott Wilkerson and James Ogburn. She has conceived, written, and directed several oral history plays, including "Westville: Collected Lives" and "Bibb City: Collected Lives from a Mill Town."

Along with teaching, Becker is the chair of the national Playwriting Program for Region IV of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival and serves on the editorial board for Theatre Symposium: A Journal of the Southeastern Theatre Conference.

"Over the course of my career, I've been really fortunate to be able to work on many projects that were meaningful and, I hope, impactful," she said. "As a young professor at Truman State, I began devising documentary-style plays in collaboration with students."

In all of my various academic positions,



one of the things of which I am most proud is that I have continually worked to provide a platform to marginalized voices through my work in the classroom, my work on stage, and my work as an administrator. I've no doubt this is why the production of new plays and new play dramaturgy are near and dear to my heart. As chair of the Kennedy Center American Theatre Festival National Playwriting Program in Region IV, I am fortunate to work on behalf of playwrights in our region and meet amazing playwrights and colleagues from across the country."

Becker has fond memories of her time at Minot State, especially of those who mentored her and collaborated with her in the classroom and on stage.

"There are so many influential people from my time at Minot State. Kevin Neuharth was a wonderful director and mentor," Becker said. "He may not know it, but he instilled in me a love of Shakespeare, in large part due to his classes. I also love telling current students that the best praise we ever got from Kevin after a performance was often, 'It didn't suck.' Paula Lindekugel-Willis



was an early female role model in academia, which couldn't have been easy since we are still working toward greater equity for women and other minorities in higher education, even today. Conrad Davidson was known among my peers for being able to ask one key question in a class, then sit back and watch us debate the idea.

"Performing in Summer Theatre as Martha Washington alongside Eric Fureseth's Benjamin Franklin in the musical, '1776,' is still one of my favorite MSU Summer Theatre memories."

Dr. Tim Henry

Originally from Westhope, Henry attended Minot State from 1974-77 before graduating from medical school at the University of California, San Francisco in 1982. He did his internal medicine residency and chief residency at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center from 1982 to 1986 and completed his training as a cardiology fellow, chief cardiology fellow, and interventional cardiology fellow at the University of Minnesota in 1991.

"This is tremendously special for me — very humbling," Henry said. "Hopefully, I can be a mentor and an example of what you can accomplish at Minot State. The University is such an important institution regionally. People ask where I went to school and I tell them, 'I'm a Beaver.' I look back and this is where I spent my formative years; I have a very strong affinity to Minot State."

Prior to The Lindner Research Center, he was the chief of cardiology at the Smidt Heart Institute at Cedars Sinai Medical Center, a professor of medicine at Cedars-Sinai and UCLA, and was the director of research



at the Minneapolis Heart Institute Foundation.

Henry's path to medicine was directly influenced by the death of his grandfather, Howard Henry. Utilizing cutting-edge clinical research has progressed cardiology at a remarkable rate during his career.

"If you want to be on the cutting edge, you can't do it without research which is essential to outstanding clinical care," he said. "I knew I wanted to go to med school early on. My sophomore year of high school, my grandfather died of a heart attack. In these days, there is no way he would have died. So, I developed a special interest in cardiology. At that time, if you had a heart attack, they put you in a bed and hoped you got better. There was no real treatment. In the past 30 years it is remarkable how far we have come in treating heart attacks.

"In 2002, I became the director of research at the Minnesota Heart Institute. We put together a network for treating heart attacks and

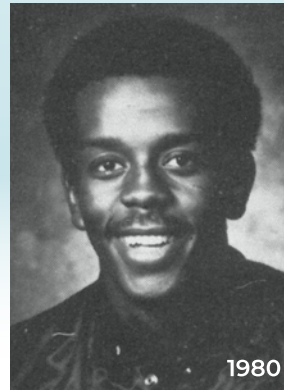
it transformed the care of heart attacks, not only in the U.S., but throughout the world. We developed a STEMI, or ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction regional system of care and from that work alone, we have over 200 publication articles. In the first two years, we cut the mortality rate in Minnesota by 50%. It is shocking the progress we have made from the research. To be a part of that has been gratifying and humbling."

Henry is also a member of the Minot State Athletics Hall of Fame as a member of the 1977 men's track & field team, inducted in 1995.

"I was involved in a lot of different areas at Minot State, I was in the Vagabonds and was a Sig Tau," Henry said. "I got an outstanding education, and this laid the groundwork for my career. The opportunity to get a quality education and participate in extracurricular activities like sports and music was very important to me. The memories with the track team and coach Wiley Wilson are very special moments in my life." ▲

REFLECTIONS with

PAUL HARRELL'S hall of fame college career at Minot State University on the men's basketball team was dynamic. He set a record with 1,826 career points that stood for almost 40 years, putting him at the top of the scoring list until 2018.



From 1975 to 1980, Harrell helped lead the Beavers to two conference championships (1977, 1979) and set the single season scoring record for points in a season (576) in 1979-1980 as the co-captain. His 576 points in a season is still ninth best all-time at MSU. He was named all-conference each of his four years with MSU in the North Dakota College Athletic Conference (NDCAC).

Harrell reflected on the coaching staff that brought him to Minot State.

"I really enjoyed the coaching staff; Ken Becker was a good coach. When I first got to Minot it was in September, he took me under his wing and made me the player I was," he said.

Harrell was recruited by coach Becker who led the Beavers from 1976 to 1985 and finished with 97 wins and three conference championships.



"When you have good games it's nice, but I enjoyed being around the guys I was playing with. My great-

est moment was when I broke the scoring record against Mayville at home, that was a great thing to accom-

plish in front of the home crowd," he said when asked about his best memories of being a Minot State Beaver.

Harrell was inducted into the Minot State Athletics Hall of Fame as a member of the 1989 class as the top scorer in MSU basketball history. He is now second all-time to Tyler Rudolph '18, who broke the record in 2018 and scored 1,987 career-points.

"I met Tyler back at the reunion in February (2020) and congratulated him on breaking my record. I was very proud and happy for him," Harrell said. "I know that records are made to be broken and that was a great accomplishment for him. I told him to put his whole heart into playing basketball and he would go far."

Harrell reflected on a time in college basketball when the three-point line didn't exist.

"When I was at Minot State, there was no three-point line, so I believe that if we had that I would've scored a lot more points," he said. "I think I would've scored at least 3,000 points if the three-point line was allowed in college."

Minot State Hall of Famer PAUL HARRELL

by Jeff Bowe



Minot State's top three career scorers: Henry Milkey, Tyler Rudolph '18, and Paul Harrell

In contrast, Rudolph made 142 career three-pointers while Harrell finished with zero — as it wasn't an option. Also, college players were banned from dunking the ball because of UCLA legend Kareem Abdul Jabbar, known then as Lew Alcindor.

"My jump shot was the best part of my game. They used to say,

'he can make it from the parking lot' when people watched me play in high school and college," Harrell said.

Harrell was named to the MSU Athletics Hall of Fame just nine years after his playing days ended.

"Being inducted into the Hall of Fame was a great honor, and being the all-time scorer was a great accom-

plishment," he said. "To know that I had that record for almost 40 years was a great feeling. I enjoyed that they had my name and all of my accomplishments on a plaque, it made my day."

In February of 2020, Harrell returned to Minot State and got to experience the campus for the first time in 30 years.

"I never got to play in the Dome as a student at Minot State. We played in Swain Hall. It was great to see all the changes and I got to sit down and do an interview at halftime of the basketball game and we were honored together," Harrell said. "I enjoyed seeing my teammates again; Randy Hedberg, Brad Johnson, and some of the guys I played with prospering and doing well, so that was great to see."

After MSU, Harrell went on to a career in the Air Force.

"I got to travel around the world and play basketball, even though I had an Air Force job, I still got to play basketball," he said. "I got to play against David Robinson, who was in the Navy at the time, and that was one of my best experiences."

"When I was stationed in Hawaii playing on the base team, I was there for three years and I was the MVP for our Air Force team each year. I led the team in scoring with 27.5 points per game when we played in England against the Belgium team in the national tournament. I was the UK scoring

champion with 27.9 points per game."



Harrell is now retired at 62 years old and living in Columbia, South Carolina, where he enjoys keeping up with the NBA and Minot State basketball in his free time. He plans on getting back to Minot whenever another reunion takes place and spoke on what made him enjoy the Magic City so much.

"The people," Harrell said. "When I got there the people were very friendly, especially the coaches and the coaches' friends. The people that took me around and showed me the area and the different schools. The fellow students and fans that really appreciated us playing here." ▲

Minot State honors five with **GOLDEN AWARDS** &

The Minot State University Alumni Association honored four individuals with the Golden Award and one with the Young Alumni Achievement Award in 2020. Honorees include:



Chuck Barney



Josh Duhamel



Dr. Terry Eckmann



John Schwan



Josh Brewer

The highest award bestowed by the Minot State University Alumni Association is the Golden Award. Selections are based on outstanding service to the University or alumni association and distinguished leadership in the recipient's career or community. The Young Alumni Achievement Award recipient is between the ages of 21 and 39.

Honorees will receive their awards at a dinner along with the 2021 award winners next year as the University has decided to not hold any large in-person events this fall due to COVID-19. For more information on the Golden Awards, visit the Alumni Association website.

BARNEY

Barney is originally from rural Western New York, graduating from Brockport High School near the shores of Lake

Ontario. He graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York in 1979 and, in 1981, left to attend graduate school at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. He completed a Master of Science in Instructional Systems Technology. While at IU, he met Leslie Metz '80, a music student from Minot. They married in 1983 and the desire to be closer to family brought them to Minot in the summer of 1991.

Since then, the couple have been involved in several business ventures. Barney joined the Minot State University College of Business as director of the Severson Entrepreneurship Academy in 2012.

Barney has served on various boards including president of the Minot Convention and Visitors Bureau, treasurer of the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce, board member of Minot Area Development Corporation, assistant

scout master of Boy Scout Troop 416, and district chairman of the Northern Lights Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

In addition, he served three terms as 4th Ward alderman, two terms as city council president, and seven years as finance committee chairman. He was elected mayor of Minot in June 2014 and completed his term in June 2018.

DUHAMEL

Duhamel, from Minot, is a dynamic and versatile actor who, most recently, starred as James O'Connor in "The Lost Husband," and portrayed Lukas in Lionsgate's "Think Like a Dog." Duhamel made his directorial debut at the 2019 Mammoth Film Festival with "The Buddy Games," which he co-wrote, co-produced, and starred in.

He spent three years at Minot State with plans to attend dental school and was a member of the MSU football

program before choosing to pursue an acting and modeling career in 1996. He later returned to finish his degree at Minot State.

Duhamel is known for his role as Danny McCoy on the NBC crime drama "Las Vegas." Additionally, he lent his voice to Nickelodeon's Emmy Award-winning animated series "Fanboy & Chum Chum" and starred in several seasons of the long-running ABC soap opera "All My Children," in which he received three consecutive Daytime Emmy nominations. He made his big-screen debut in 2004's "Win a Date with Tad Hamilton!" and was Captain William Lennox in 2007's summer blockbuster "Transformers." He reprised the role in three of the sequels, including 2017's "Transformers: The Last Night."

Other recent credits include USA Network's scripted series "Unsolved: The Murders

of Tupac and the Notorious B.I.G." as Detective Greg Kading and as Jack Spier in the romantic comedy "Love, Simon." Additionally, Duhamel starred in Lasse Hallstrom's "Safe Haven," a drama based on the best-selling novel by Nicholas Sparks, and in the thriller "Scenic Route." Additional film credits include "Life as We Know It," "Ramona and Beezus," "When in Rome," "Lost in the Sun," "Bravetown, Misconduct," "Spaceman," and "The Romantics."

Other recent television credits for Duhamel include CBS' "Battle Creek" and the J.J. Abrams, Joseph Boccia, and Athena Wickham's Hulu mini-series, "11.22.63."

Duhamel currently resides in Los Angeles.

ECKMANN

Eckmann (Ferebee) '81, '82 is a professor and chair of teacher education and kinesiology (TEK) at Minot State. Eckmann is an award-winning presenter,

YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

author, and researcher, presenting internationally on topics related to effects of lifestyle choices on the brain, movement that matters, healthy aging, brain and learning, stress management, worksite wellness, and the power of choice.

She began her professional career journey as a Minot State admissions counselor in 1981 and worked as a speech-language pathologist for Souris Valley Special Services from 1983 to 1988. Eckmann partnered with Trinity Heath and the UND Family Practice Center to complete her University of Montana master's project on the benefits of exercise on older adults in 1988. The community response was overwhelming, resulting in the founding of the Trinity Wellness Center and the birth of Seniorcise.

While at Trinity, Eckmann was the Wellness Center director and went on to serve as director of community education, public relations, and marketing. She returned to Minot State as a faculty member in TEK in 1999.

Eckmann has involved MSU students in research exploring the effects of Zumba, yoga, and Les Mills BodyPump on cognition and fitness parameters. She has also researched the impact of live versus virtual exercise on cognition, fitness parameters, and body

image. Minot State students have traveled with Eckmann to teach yoga and group exercise classes at resorts in the Dominican Republic, Mexico, and Jamaica.

Eckmann and her daughter, Katie, coauthored "101 Mindfulness and Meditation Practices," which was released in March 2018. Another of her works, "101 Ways to Age Gracefully," was published in May 2016. She also published "101 Brain Boosters" in 2013, a book used in schools and active aging communities nationally.

She has been active in the fitness and wellness industry for over 30 years. Eckmann received the NDSHAPE Honors Award, NDSHAPE University Instructor of the Year, MSU Regents Award for Research and Scholarship, North Dakota Picture of Health Award, IDEA Make Fitness Happen Award, and the Industry Enhancement Award from Club Industry. Eckmann serves on the advisory board of the International Council on Active Aging.

She and her husband, Bock, have two children, Cole and Katie, and two grandchildren, Nixon and Nellie.

SCHWAN

Schwan '82 is the founder and CEO of Schwan Financial Group (SFG); a financial, estate, and business succession planning firm based in Aberdeen,

South Dakota. Since its founding in 1984, SFG has developed into a national multi-family private office serving valued clients at the highest level.

Schwan and his team of 42 help businesses, owners, and professionals protect what matters most and enjoy life with the confidence of financial freedom. His passion for helping people has garnered him recognition as a leader in the industry, including speaking at events across the country and publications in Investment Advisor, Financial Planning Magazine, and US News. SFG has also been recognized as a top planning firm by Forbes.

He is a Million Dollar Round Table Lifetime Top of the Table, has won New York Life's prestigious Council President Award, and is a perennial member of their Chairman's Cabinet, awarded to only the top financial planners in the company.

Schwan participated on the Minot State basketball team during his college career and carried his knowledge and appreciation for the sport into a coaching career at Roncalli High School in Aberdeen while operating SFG.

Schwan has always considered himself a coach, now developing his SFG team and working with financial professionals across the country, teaching them what has brought him success.

Outside of spending time with his family, Schwan is active in the development of the Aberdeen community, serving on boards and associations and on the forefront of campaigns and fundraisers.

He and his wife, Laurie, have four adult children and four grandchildren. Sons Kyle, Kevin, and Kory are all active leaders in the SFG business. Schwan is an avid outdoorsman and enjoys sharing in it with his children and grandchildren.

BREWER

Brewer '04 is a 2000 graduate of Velva High School. After initially pursuing a degree in physics, he switched to chemistry to finish his undergraduate career. After graduation, he moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado, to take a position at Johns Manville Technical Center.

Brewer finished graduate school at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2010 with a doctorate in inorganic chemistry with a focus on chemical vapor deposition of high temperature rare earth compounds.

During the start-up of what became Rare Earth Solar, there was a trade war with China surrounding rare earth elements and large-scale bankruptcies of government-backed solar companies Abound and Solyndra which led

to the collapse of both the rare earth markets and solar markets in the United States. In order to survive, Brewer, along with another scientist, started a new company, Rare Earth Salts, an extraction company with the aim to stabilize the Western rare earth supply chain to mitigate future damages from trade wars. As the company began to grow, work with large scale mining companies led to the development of a rare earth separations process that was co-invented by former Minot State faculty member and Brewer's undergraduate advisor Ryan Winburn.

Rare Earth Salts currently is operating out of Beatrice, Nebraska with 13 full-time employees and an active internship program which has provided positions to two MSU alumni and one current Minot State student. The company is active in research and development and is currently working with the University of North Dakota on producing rare earth oxides from coal.

Brewer and his wife, Kayla, were married in 2004 and the family has five children with one due in January. He is the founder and lay spiritual director of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Beatrice and was recently Grand Knight for the Knights of Columbus Council 1723. ■

Minot State University mourns the passing of **DORIS SLAATEN**

1920 – 2020



The Minot State University community was saddened to learn of the passing of longtime professor, MSU Development Foundation Board member, and friend of the University, Doris Slaaten, who died at the age of 100 on Oct. 11.

Slaaten's connection to Minot State began in 1949 when she graduated from Minot State Teacher's College with a bachelor's degree in English and a minor in business. After teaching elementary and secondary school in North Dakota and Montana, she returned to her alma mater to teach in the College of Business for 27 years.

"The entire Minot State University community of students, faculty, and staff, along with thousands of alumni as well as her former colleagues, are saddened by the passing of Dr. Doris Slaaten," said Minot State President Dr. Steven Shirley. "Doris was a pillar in the MSU family, and she left an indelible mark on this campus over the course of so many decades. It was certainly a special occasion earlier this month as she celebrated her 100th birthday, and we will certainly never forget Doris and the incredibly positive impact she had on Minot State University and the Minot community."

Among her many contributions to the University are the Slaaten Learning Center in the College of Business on the third floor of Old Main and the Northwest Arts Center's new home in the Gordon B. Olson Library. Slaaten was also the chair of the University's Kimball Organ Restoration Campaign at Ann Nicole Nelson Hall.

The Slaaten Learning Center was renovated in 2011 following a gift to the University to enhance student development, supplement scholarships, and provide for on-going support, including the creation of a video-conference board room, financial trading lab, and study space.

"Doris was a special lady," said Rick Hedberg '89, MSU Development Foundation executive director. "If I had to use one word to describe Doris it would be 'class,' as she always exhibited the highest degree of integrity and grace. She was such a caring person. There's a reason why she is revered by so many of her former students. She led a wonderful life and has left a lasting legacy."

Active as a public servant, Slaaten served on several University boards including the Development Foundation, was a charter member of the MSU Board of Regents, a founding member of the advisory board of Phi Beta Lambda, and was a member of the MSU Legacy Society and Old Main Society.

Along with her bachelor's degree from MSU, Slaaten earned a Master of Arts degree from Northwestern University and her doctorate from Colorado State University.

Slaaten was a Professor Emeritus in the College of Business and earned the MSU Alumni Association's Golden Award, the highest honor bestowed by the association based on outstanding service to the University or the Alumni Association and distinguished leadership in their career or community, in 1979.



"Doris was a pillar in the MSU family, and she left an indelible mark on this campus over the course of so many decades."

Dr. Steven Shirley, President

Director's note

WE HAVE SO MANY AMAZING ALUMNI AND FRIENDS at Minot State University. I am constantly blown away by the generosity of this group. As you were able to see in our recent President's Report, we had another great year with many highlights, none of which would have been accomplished without support from our alumni and friends. We are so grateful!



MSU Summer Theatre Phase One groundbreaking

You will see this generosity in action on page 28 with the groundbreaking of Phase One of the MSU Summer Theatre Revitalization project. In early October, we broke ground on the first of two phases that will transition the 50 year-old amphitheater into the next half century with upgrades to bathrooms, concessions, ticketing, dressing rooms, seating, and general accessibility. We still have fundraising to complete before breaking ground on Phase Two so please check out our website at MSUSummerTheatre.com to assist in making this transformation a reality. As we found out this past season, our summers in Minot are incomplete without MSU Summer Theatre!



Homecoming 2020 goes viral

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed everyone's world. We made the difficult decision to cancel all in-person Homecoming events and moved to a virtual Homecoming. Although we connected with hundreds of alumni from across the country during our virtual week, we are looking forward to 2021 when we can see you in person. We have scheduled our annual social events in Florida (Feb. 18-20) and Arizona (March 4-6). We hope you will join us!



Planned giving website

We are excited to unveil our new planned giving website, MinotState.giftlegacy.com. This new website features donor stories, regularly updated articles, an online wills planner, personal gift illustrations, advisor information, and more. If you are interested in a potential estate gift, charitable gift annuity, IRA rollover, or charitable remainder trust, this is a place to go to learn about advantages of making such a gift.



THANK YOU for all you do to make Minot State University a special place for our students! Please stay safe and healthy.

GO BEAVERS!

▲ Rick Hedberg '89, Vice President for Advancement
Executive Director, Development Foundation

SUMMER THEATRE breaks ground

Minot State University celebrated the ceremonial groundbreaking for Phase One of its MSU Summer Theatre revitalization project in the future home of an expanded plaza in early October.

The ceremony kicked off a two-phase process to upgrade the amphitheater which was originally built in 1970.

“It’s going to be an exciting year as we look forward to the renovations at MSU Summer Theatre,” said Minot State President Dr. Steven Shirley. “This facility has served our region for 50 years, and with these renovations we look forward to it continuing on for the next 50 years. This project is about giving patrons a better experience with improved accessibility, viewing upgrades, and building enhancements that will improve the overall enjoyment of everyone who attends an event at Summer Theatre.”

Phase One, begun in October with a May 15, 2021 final date, will focus on upgrades to accessibility, including integrating handicap seating in the lower, middle, and upper concourse, increased space for aisles and handrails, and a replacement of the upper level deck. Some seating will be relocated to the upper level to accommodate the new aisles and additional seating will be added to the upper level to bring the total capacity to approximately 500 seats.

“It is an exciting day to see this project move forward with Phase One,” said Rick Hedberg ’89, Minot State vice president for advancement. “Summer Theatre plays an important role in

the quality of life for so many people in and around Minot. The revitalization will modernize both the accessibility and the aesthetics of one of our most iconic venues at Minot State.

“We know how incomplete our summers are without MSU Summer Theatre.”

After completion of Summer Theatre’s 55th season next summer, construction is anticipated to begin on Phase Two, a complete overhaul of the existing complex including bathrooms, ticket office, dressing rooms, and office space, along with a new plaza and drive-through, and lower-level concessions. Additional fundraising is needed to complete Phase Two.



Rolac Contracting of Minot was awarded the bid as general contractor for Phase One. Phase Two is expected to go to bid this winter for an August 2021 start date. The entire \$1.9 million project is expected to be completed by May 2022 in time for the 56th season.

Fundraising for the project is ongoing. For more information, to view a project description, to view photos, and to support the revitalization visit MSUSummerTheatre.com.

Pictured L to R: Rick Hedberg '89, Executive Director, MSU Development Foundation, Jason Zimmerman, President, Minot Area Community Foundation, Cheryl Nilsen '90, Summer Theatre Board President, Dan Langemo, Summer Theatre Board Member, Dr. Steven Shirley, MSU President, Chad Gifford '00, '08, Summer Theatre Artistic Director, and Jon Backes '84, MSU Development Foundation Board President.



2020 ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

honors four individuals, one team

Gary Cederstrom



CEDERSTROM '78 played baseball during his four seasons at Minot State University and was best known for his selflessness and teamwork to help make the team better on a day-to-day basis. He worked for 41 years in professional baseball as an umpire, including 31-plus years in Major League Baseball. The Minot native finished his umpiring career ranked

45th on the all-time games-worked list in Major League Baseball history with 3,850 games logged. Cederstrom is arguably the most accomplished alumnus of Minot State University in professional sports.

Sheila Green Gerding, women's basketball coach (1995 – 2017 • 22 years)



GREEN GERDING coached the Minot State University women's basketball team from 1995-2017 (22 years). During that time, she tallied 360 total wins to etch her name as the women's basketball program career leader in wins. Green Gerding led the Beavers to six NAIA national tournaments and advanced to the Elite 8 two times. Her teams notched five 20-plus win

seasons including a school record 22 wins in 2010-11. Green Gerding posted 15 winning seasons in her 22 years and double-digit wins in all but one year. In her 16 years at the NAIA level, she had 14 winning seasons and developed 11 All-Americans.

2004 – 05 men's basketball team

The 2004-05 Minot State University men's basketball team set the all-time wins mark with 23, topping the 1972 team by one victory. MSU won both the DAC-10 regular season title and the tournament title. The Beavers advanced to the NAIA national tournament, the fourth time in school history. The team had one NAIA All-American and two DAC-10 All-Conference players. Head coach Mike Hultz was named DAC-10 Coach of the Year, Courtney "Coco" Haley '07 was named Newcomer of the Year and first-team All-DAC, and Jeremy Feller '07 was named second-team All-DAC.



Ian Best



BEST '05 was a defensive standout from 2000-03 on the Minot State University football team. Best posted a school record in single-season sacks with 13.5 in 2002, along with 25.5 career-sacks. He was a four-year starter for a team that earned the DAC-10 Co-Championship in 2002 and a berth into the NAIA national playoffs that same year. He was named honorable

mention NAIA All-American in 2002 and second team NAIA All-American in 2003. Best was named first-team All-DAC in both 2002 and 2003 and was one of just two Beavers (joining Harry Mills) as a member of Victory Sports Network's NAIA All-Decade team.

Mandy Greenberg



GREENBERG was a star in the circle for the Minot State University softball team, posting a record of 73 wins from 2010-2013 along with a career-ERA of 1.77 over 614.1 innings pitched with 867 strikeouts. Greenberg set the Minot State record with most wins in a season with 25 in 2013 and also posted the second (23) and seventh (17) highest total in single-season wins





during her time at MSU. She also posted the most strikeouts in a season in softball program history with 262 in 2010, a season where she made 40 appearances in the circle and posted a 23-10 record and a 1.77 ERA. Greenberg was named Freshman of the Year in the Dakota Athletic Conference and DAC Pitcher of the Year. She was also first-team all-conference her sophomore year and senior year. She was named NSIC Pitcher of the Year and first-team All-NSIC as a senior, helping the Beavers to their first-ever NCAA Division II national tournament. During her career, MSU earned trips to the national tournament three times.

2020 Summer Golf Tour






Check out some of the posts from the 2020

Stay at **HOME**COMING virtual events!










Post a picture of anything Minot State you have in your home, office, or car.



Show us how you stayed healthy today!

Post a picture of yourself in your college glory!







Make an "M" out of whatever is around you. Post a picture.

Post a picture of yourself with any Minot State gear on.






ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Upcoming **EVENTS**



February 18-20

FLORIDA
Alumni & Friends
Reunion



ARIZONA
REUNION
March 4 - 6, 2021

2021 Gala
& auction
& dinner
Minot State University Alumni Association
May 7, 2021 • Clarion Hotel

1956



Eldon Stompro, a native of Columbus, is enjoying retirement in Great Falls, Montana. He taught instrumental music for 30 years, which included four years in North Dakota and 26 years in Great Falls. After retirement, he spent time in Swan Lake, Montana and Mesa, Arizona.

1962



Judith Howard retired from practicing law after 42 years. Howard was the founder of the Estate Planning Law Center, P.C., doing business as Howard & Associates Law Firm. At the start of Howard's career, there was only one other female attorney practicing law in Minot. During her law career, Howard's devotion to the law and to her clients became well-known throughout the area.

1968

Daryl Riersgard published his first book, "Get Lucky & Stay Lucky." It is a collection of short stories from a 73-year time span. The stories range from an account of a fiery helicopter crash in Vietnam to a quieter life on a remote ranch in northern Nevada. Riersgard had a career in the Marine Corps, a second career in law enforcement, and then 14 years on a remote ranch in Nevada. He is working on a second book called "Martin Creek (Building a Dream)." It recounts the story of building a ranch from scratch. The chronicle takes 21 months before the ranch infrastructure is basically finished. Today, Riersgard is enjoying retirement in San Antonio, Texas.

1972



Beth (Peterson) Wentworth, a professor of mathematics, was selected as the 2020 Teaching Excellence Award recipient for the Nebraska State College System by the Nebraska State Colleges Board of Trustees. The award is given in recognition of superior teaching and advising, innovative instructional practice, high educational standards, and engaging learning

environments that inspire and motivate students. Wentworth earned a doctorate in curriculum and instruction, mathematics education from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree from Northern State University.

1976



Devra (Barros) Smestad, Ward County auditor/treasurer, retired on Aug. 31. Smestad was Burlington's city auditor until joining the Ward County Auditor/Treasurer's Office on April 1, 2004. During her tenure with Ward County, she served in various positions with the North Dakota Association of Counties. She served a year as board president and a year as past president. Smestad is looking forward to spending more time with her grandchildren and working on home remodeling projects.

1977



Randy Hedberg returned to his hometown of Parshall for the ribbon cutting ceremony of Hedberg Field. School faculty and representatives of the Mandan Hidatsa and Arikara Nation gathered for the event. Hedberg played college football at Minot State University and played in the NFL for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He was the head football coach of St. Cloud State, Minnesota from 1999-2007 and was inducted into the MSU Beavers Hall of Fame in 1985. He has been North Dakota State University's quarterback coach since 2014. He was elevated to associate head coach and passing game coordinator in 2019.

1979



Vicki (Christiansen) Dougherty retired from teaching spring of 2019 from Park County School District #1 in Powell, Wyoming after 38 years in education. Dougherty taught half of her career in elementary and middle school in Lisbon and Fort Ransom and the other half of her career in special education at all grade levels in various school districts. She and her husband have retired to Buffalo, Minnesota.

1980



Bill Triplett is the head women's basketball coach at Williston State College. Triplett is a three-time state champion high school coach who began his career in 1980. From 2007-2017, Triplett coached women's basketball and softball at Minot State before returning to Montana to serve as the head girls basketball coach at Savage High School.



Lynette Borjeson Painter was recognized as the National Business Education Association Post-Secondary Business Teacher of the Year at the association's conference held in April. NBEA is the nation's leading professional organization devoted exclusively to serving individuals and groups engaged in instruction, administration, research, and dissemination of information for and about business. Painter is a professor of computers and office technology at Bismarck State College.

Becky (Reierson) Keller retired from teaching at TGU Towner School. Keller taught for two years in Valley City and for five years at Bishop Ryan before moving to Towner with her husband, Chuck. She was a paraprofessional in Towner for eight years before transferring to Granville where she served as a physical education and health teacher until her retirement.

1982

Christine (Olson) Aleshaire retired after 38 years in music education. Aleshaire most recently was a music teacher at Century Elementary School in Grand Forks. Aleshaire grew up in Tioga. She took graduate courses at the University of Minnesota and earned a master's degree from the University of North Dakota. She taught vocal and instrumental music during a career that took her to Wilton, Rugby, and New Rockford before she joined the Grand Forks school system in 1989. She started as a band director at South Junior High, now South Middle School, before accepting a position as assistant band director at Grand Forks Central High School in 1997. While at Grand Forks Central, in 1999, she launched the first drum-line group in Grand Forks.

1986



Troy Mantz, Freedom Financial Group, received the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award in September. MACC sponsors the program to recognize Minot workers who exhibit superior customer service.

1987



Brian Duchscherer retired following 33 years of teaching, coaching, administrative, and educational duties in public schools. Duchscherer spent the past 14 years in Carrington. He received his Master of Science in Education in School Administration from Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota. In 2003, he received an education specialist degree from North Dakota State University in educational administration. In 2001 received his Doctor of Education Degree, Educational Leadership, from the University of North Dakota.

1988



Steve Heilman is an agent with Marquardt Heilman Agency-Minot. The agency was named one of just 12 Farmers Union Insurance agencies in the state to achieve the designation of Premier Agency status. This is an elite group recognized for their high level of service, sales, and marketing.

1989



Bryn Halgrimson, Job Service North Dakota, received the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award in August. MACC sponsors the program to recognize Minot workers who exhibit superior customer service.



Denise (Randle) Jonas was presented with the North Dakota Career & Technical Education Association Administrator of the Year award. Jonas has been an educator in North Dakota for more than 25 years. She has held career and technical education

positions at Devils Lake High School, Lake Region State College, and Lake Area Career & Technical Education School. She is currently the director of the Cass County Career & Technical Education Center.

1990

Paul Gillund was promoted to sales director at SRT Communications, Inc., headquartered in Minot. In his new role, Gillund oversees the business sales department, communication systems technicians, and product management. He is responsible for all business-related sales and services. He previously served as SRT's sales operations manager. He has 30 years of experience in management.



Greg Limke was named activities director at West Fargo Sheyenne High School. Limke holds a master's degree in school administration from Northern State University. He began his career in education in 1990 as a social studies teacher at Bishop Ryan Catholic School in Minot. He was a social studies teacher for Mandan Public Schools from 1994-2001 before accepting a position as a social studies teacher with West Fargo High School. During his time at West Fargo High School, he also spent three years as dean of students. Throughout his three decades as an educator, Limke gained extensive experience in athletic coaching and leadership. He has more than 20 years of experience as a head boys basketball coach, four years as a head girls basketball coach, three years as a head boys golf coach, more than a decade as an assistant coach, and a few years as a middle school coach.



Kate (Sevde Wittowski) Preisler joined Berkshire Hathaway Home-Services Premier Properties as a licensed realtor in North Dakota and Minnesota. She will concentrate on selling and listing residential properties. Originally from Williston, Preisler has lived on both coasts of the United States. Preisler enjoyed a career in radio, television, marketing, and design for many years. In 2010, she formed Design Solutions as a commercial and residential decorator. Preisler resides in Fargo and supports World Vision

International and Good News Clubs, as well as volunteering at local theater venues. Outside of work, you can find her spending time with her college-aged son and daughter, hiking, biking, and enjoying the outdoors.

1991



Mike Larson was promoted to vice president, ag lending for First International Bank & Trust in Minot. Larson has been with FIBT since July 2018. He has been involved in ag lending for the past 11 years.

Kian-Hoat J Yoe obtained a master's degree in teaching English to speakers of other languages from the Education University of Hong Kong in 2018.

1992



Pinkie Evans earned a Master of Social Work in 2001 and a doctorate in social work in 2019. She is currently an associate faculty at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.



Brenda (Juergens) Foster was named one of the top 25 Women in Business by Prairie Business Magazine. Foster is a Class A director of the Federal Reserve Board of Minneapolis' board of directors. She is chair of the Large Community Bank Council for the Independent Community Banks of America, chair of the MSU Board of Regents, a volunteer for Junior Achievement, and past president of the Independent Community Banks of North Dakota.



Mary (Hammond) Kynett decided, after teaching for 25 years in Montana, to teach in an American school overseas and landed in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. She is teaching sixth, seventh, and eighth grade social studies at Dunecrest American School.

1994



Chanda (Leonard) DeCent is the finance director for the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce and Minot Area Development Corporation. DeCent is a Minot native and previously was employed with Dakota Fire Extinguishers. She has twins, a son and daughter, who are juniors at Minot High School.



Jeffrey Sather, chief of staff at Trinity Health in Minot, has been appointed to the board of directors of the American Heart Association, Midwest Region, for a two-year term. Sather earned his medical degree from the University of North Dakota. He also has a master's in business administration from the University of Tennessee and completed emergency medicine residency training at St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center in Toledo, Ohio. He is board certified in emergency medicine and a Fellow in the American College of Emergency Physicians. In addition to serving as chief of staff, he is medical director of the Emergency Trauma Center. Sather has been a medical director for the North Dakota Department of Health since 2014. He serves on the board of directors of Trinity Health, Great Plains Quality Innovation Network, and Quality Health Associates of North Dakota as a board president.

1995

Warren Strand joined First International Bank & Trust as a business development specialist for both the Fessenden and Harvey branches. Previously, Strand held various positions in the Fessenden-Bowdon Public School system for the past 25 years, most recently as principal.

1996



Jenn (Erber) Ahmann, Chico's, received the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award in September. MACC sponsors the program to recognize Minot workers who exhibit superior customer service.



Darren Dyke was promoted to lieutenant with the Minot Police Department. Dyke has been with the department since 1998. In 2015, he was appointed to be the lead fire-arms instructor. He will transition into the department's night shift commander.

1999



Kelly Perrin was appointed to United Community Bank's board of directors. Perrin, who has been employed for seven years with UCB, serves as their chief financial officer. He also serves as a board member of the Burlington Rural Fire Department.



Brock Teets was named the boys basketball coach at Our Redeemer's Christian School in Minot.

2000

Dale Plessas was promoted to captain with the Minot Police Department. Plessas has been with the MPD since 2001 and is the current commander of the bomb squad.

2002

Tina (Marshall) Angus is a certification action officer with U.S. Strategic Command.



Perry Olson was promoted to assistant vice president, business development at First International Bank & Trust in Minot. Olson started working at FIBT as a business development specialist in 2015.

Brent Danks is teaching physical education for grades K-5 at Stanley Community Schools. Danks received his Master of Education, Secondary Administration from the University of Mary in 2020. His experience includes teaching social studies in New Town, Harvey Public Schools, Stanley Schools, and Dickinson Public Schools. He and his wife, Carol, will be living in staff housing in Stanley. They have two children.

2004



Mandy Buick is the social worker for Burke Central School. Buick was hired to create a tie between the school and community. If school families need assistance, they will now be able to access that help through Buick directly at the school. She will assist with distance learning students, help those in the need of assistance through programs, direct families to the resources they need, and educate them on what is available. Buick and her husband have two children.



Shannon (Dunn) Racine has been promoted to senior accounting specialist for Town & Country Credit Union. Racine joined TCCU 20 years ago and held multiple positions in member services prior to joining the accounting department 12 years ago. She specializes in wire transfers, participation loan accounting, and check adjustments. Shannon is a certified National Check Professional.

2005



Joann (Glinz) Kveum owns and operates Vitality Health in Bottineau. The family practice clinic provides integrative and functional medicine to individuals. Kveum received her Master of Science in nursing education from Walden University in Minneapolis, and a post-master certificate in family nurse practitioner from Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois. She also holds advanced hormone therapy from American Association in anti-aging medicine and advanced class work from the Institute of Functional Medicine. She has been employed as a nurse at St. Andrew's Health Center, a nurse educator at Dakota College at Bottineau, and a part-time nurse practitioner at Sanford Health Occupation Medicine in Minot.

2006



Rick Geloff was named chief financial officer of Starion Bank. Geloff will oversee and represent all financial

operations for the bank and its holding company. He joins the bank's executive committee, which is responsible for initiating key actions within the organization, reviewing financial data, and setting major project priorities. He is located at the downtown Bismarck branch. Geloff, a certified public accountant, joined Starion in 2013 as a credit analyst. He served in the roles of business banking officer and special assets officer prior to being promoted to financial reporting manager/vice president in May 2018. In December 2019, he was promoted to controller. He is a member of the Bismarck School Board, currently serving as its president.



Jessica (Haider) Henderson joined Town & Country Credit Union, Minot, as the accounting manager. Henderson has 19 years of banking experience, including 12 years in bank accounting. She is currently the treasurer of the board for the Magic City Discovery Center.

Jodi (Higgins) Loring, Gate City Bank, received the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award in February. MACC sponsors the program to recognize Minot workers who exhibit superior customer service.

Stephanie (Mueller) Petrauskis is the director of therapy services for CaringEdge Home Health and Hospice in Minot. CaringEdge is a branch of the Edgewood Healthcare network and focuses on geriatrics, specifically maintaining strength and functional independence in an older adult population. Petrauskis is an adjunct faculty for the Minot State biology department. She completed her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree at the University of Illinois-Chicago in 2013. She and her husband have two children.

2007

Sarah Dawson has been hired as the business manager for North Central Electric Cooperative in Bottineau. Dawson, who has served as the co-op's accounting coordinator since 2011, began her new duties July 1. She and her husband, Bill, have two children.



Jeremy Froseth received the FY19 Torchbearer Award at Sysco North Dakota. Froseth was recognized for going above and beyond in bringing in new business, supporting his customers in their success, and growing sales profitably day in and day out. The award is based on 52 weeks of case and gross profit dollar growth and only one winner is selected per Sysco operating company. The winner must qualify for this award by achieving Chairman's Club status.

Drew Hysjulien was named Minot High School's head boys track & field coach. Hysjulien has been a track & field coach at MHS for the past nine years, as well as a basketball coach for the past nine years. He teaches social studies at Magic City Campus.



Mat Jensen was promoted to vice president, lending at First International Bank & Trust in Minot. Jensen has been with FIBT since February 2011.



Chris Jundt is the senior vice president and chief lending officer for First State Bank & Trust in Williston. He currently serves on the board of directors for North Star Caviar, is a board member of the Williams County School District #8 School Board, and is involved with the Williston Power Play Project. Jundt previously served as president of the Williston Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, president of Dakota Business Lending Board of Directors, member of the Basin United Way Board of Directors, member of Williston Korner Lions, and chairman of the 4th of July Blast Committee.



Emily Rodacker is a holistic healer who recently published her first book, "Vibe Higher," under the pen name Serena James. A Minot native, Rodacker currently makes her home in Montana with her family where she provides holistic healing services to individuals across the globe through her business Just Be.



Josh Wheeler was promoted to assistant vice president, commercial lending for First International Bank & Trust in Minot. Wheeler has been with FIBT since February 2014.

2008

Ryan Geltel was named Best of the Bakken 2020 in the lawyer/attorney category in the Williston Herald.



Julie (Fry) Hatfield joined the behavioral health team at Trinity Health in Minot. Hatfield completed her Master of Social Work degree at Florida State University in 2014. After graduation, she worked as a therapist at Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch and later in Trinity Health's Child/Adolescent Partial Hospitalization program, where she provided family, individual, and group therapy sessions. Prior to earning her master's, Hatfield served as a case manager for Ward County Social Services and North Central Human Services Center.



Chauncy Hendershot was named the Minot High School head football coach. Hendershot has been a part of the Minot High football staff for the past eight seasons and teaches at Magic City Campus. He is also the co-head coach of the varsity track & field team.

Cody Melgaard was named president of Merchants Bank in Towner. Melgaard has been with Merchants Bank for five years and previously served as vice president. He attended the School of Agricultural Lending held by the Independent Community Bankers of North Dakota and is currently attending the Dakota School of Banking.

2009



Levi Bjertness, Birdy's Hydromulching, received the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award in June. MACC sponsors the program to recognize Minot workers who exhibit superior customer service.

Allyana (Kalmik) Stevens is a substitute teacher at Williston School District 1, the artistic director for Youth Education on Stage, a dance instructor for Studio 89, and an auctioneer clerk for Stevens Auctioneer Services. Stevens is a Relay for Life team member, blood donor, supporter of veteran and first responder events, involved in Youth Education on Stage, Entertainment Inc., Williston Community Chorale, Community Youth Art & School Art for the Upper Missouri Valley Fair, co-director of the Miss ND Little Sister Program, volunteer for Lewis & Clark School PTO, a member of the American Legion Women's Auxiliary, James Memorial Art Center, the Frontier Museum, the Moose, Williston Thursday Musical Club, and active in the Nazarene Church. She and her husband, Brenden, have three children.

2010



Preston Phillips was promoted to vice president, commercial lending for First International Bank & Trust in Minot. Phillips has been with FIBT since 2010.

Randi (Dockter) Monley was promoted to the children's librarian at the Minot Public Library. Monley began working at the library in 2013 and has been a strong advocate for library services in regional organizations such as the North Dakota Library Association and Mountain Plains Library Association. She also supports local arts with the Minot Area Council of the Arts, serving as their secretary/treasurer for the past three years.



Jordan Huettl has been promoted to store manager at Tires Plus, Minot location.

2011



Heather (Johnson) Cymbaluk was named one of the top 25 Women in Business by Prairie Business magazine. Cymbaluk is the

executive director of Companions for Children. She holds a master's degree in business administration from the University of Mary and serves as president for both the Minot Optimist Club and the Minot Alliance of Nonprofits.



Ryan Kamrowski began his duties as the new City of Minot assessor on June 22. Kamrowski comes to the City of Minot after spending more than five years as the director of tax equalization for Ward County. He is a certified Class 1 assessor by the State of North Dakota Office of Tax Commissioner. Kamrowski is a member of the International Association of Assessing Officers and the North Dakota Association of Assessing Officers.



Stephanie (Pfeifer) Silverthorn was promoted to assistant vice president human resources for Town & Country Credit Union. Silverthorn

joined TCCU in 2014 as executive admin and human resources coordinator, in 2017 was promoted to HR generalist, and in 2018 was promoted to HR director. She earned her SHRM-CP Certification in 2017.



Nathan Stremick, Signal Realtors, received the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award in September. MACC sponsors

the program to recognize Minot workers who exhibit superior customer service.



Lindsey (Wolf) Wald was named the executive director of Advancement and Foundation at Bishop Ryan Catholic School in Minot.

2012



Lacey (Berentson) Krueger is serving as the secretary/treasurer of Independence Inc.'s board of directors. Independence Inc. is a resource center for independent living. Krueger is the chief financial officer at Affinity First Federal Credit Union in Minot.



Kelcey (Moore) Lee, DNP, FNP-C, has joined Trinity Health's family medicine services in Minot. Lee received her Doctor of Nursing Practice/Family Nurse Practitioner

degree from the University of Mary. She is a member of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners and Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. Lee resides on her family's farm and ranch with her husband and four children.

2013



Cole Strandemo was promoted to sergeant with the Minot Police Department. Strandemo has served since 2011. In 2016, he joined the Investigations Division and worked as a detective. He currently serves on the SWAT team and Minot bike patrol.

2014

Matt Fetterley was presented as one of the five greatest athletes from Reeths-Puffer since 2000. Fetterley was a two-sport, all-state athlete during his days at Reeths-Puffer. He earned all-state honors twice in wrestling (2007 and 2008) and once in football (2007). The linebacker was a two-time, first-team all-area selection, who in his senior season notched 142 tackles (102 solo) with 10.5 tackles for loss. As a senior 171-pound wrestler, Fetterley placed third in the state and finished with a 50-2 record. During his junior season, in the same weight class, he placed fifth with a 48-6 record. He wrestled at Muskegon Community College and at Minot State.



Kyle Stephens was promoted to assistant vice president, commercial lending for First International Bank & Trust in Minot. Stephens started with FIBT on the teller line in May 2013. He became a credit analyst, then started his lending career in 2016.

2015



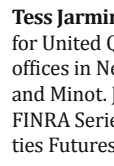
Katelyn (Backes) Denne joined First Western Bank & Trust in Minot as an internal auditor. Denne was previously employed at Brady Martz & Associates focusing on tax preparation and auditing.



Jessi (Hoffer) Erdmann was selected as the 2020 Business Partner of the Year by the Minot Board of Realtors. Erdmann, mortgage loan officer at First International Bank and Trust, is involved in the community via Minot Young Professionals, Minot Board of Realtors, Minot Association of Builders 40 Below Committee, Northern Plains Children's Advocacy Center, Companions for Children Lunch Pal, and the Junior Achievement Program. Erdmann and her husband, Jake, have a daughter.



Jordan Hughes, volunteer at the Minot Commission on Aging and their Meals on Wheels program, received the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award in May. MACC sponsors the program to recognize Minot workers who exhibit superior customer service.



Tess Jarmin is a grain merchandiser for United Quality Cooperative with offices in New Town, Parshall, Ross, and Minot. Jarmin also passed her FINRA Series 3 National Commodities Futures Exam.



Taylor Teske is the head football coach at Des Lacs-Burlington. Teske is the social sciences teacher as well as an assistant boys varsity basketball team coach.

2016



Jacob DeCoteau, social studies instructor at Turtle Mountain Community High School, was honored for three and a half years of perfect attendance, not using a single day of sick or personal leave throughout his time as an instructor.



Natalie (Melin) Degenstein, Gate City Bank, received the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award in May. MACC sponsors the program to recognize Minot workers who exhibit superior customer service.



Courtney (Klein) Pardon is a mortgage banker at Bremer Bank in Minot.



Jalisa (Andreasen) Tinnes is the assistant director for Companions for Children in Minot. Tinnes has called the Magic City home since 2013 when she moved from Custer, Washington.

2017



Bailee Koop is the speech-language pathologist at the Turtle Lake-Mercer and McClusky schools.

2018



Ryan Miner, Minot State head women's hockey coach and university financial technician, was named the 2020 Young Alumnus by the Dakota College at Bottineau Foundation.



Crystal Williams, Olive Garden, received the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award in September. MACC sponsors the program to recognize Minot workers who exhibit superior customer service.

2019



Emily Brick was promoted to branch manager at Town & Country Credit Union in West Fargo. Brick joined the credit union in 2019 as an assistant branch manager. Originally from Mandan, she brings over six years of customer service experience in the finance industry to her new role and is a certified financial counselor.



Miranda Dyke passed the certified public accountant exam in August. Dyke is currently an associate with Brady Martz & Associates in Minot.



Sadie Hackman is a human resource generalist for Town & Country Credit Union. She joined TCCU in 2017 as a member services

representative before quickly moving up to the HR administrative assistant position. In her new role, Hackman will provide administrative support to the president/CEO and board members as needed, as well as play a vital role in supporting all HR functions. She will also assist with recruiting, onboarding, payroll, and state licensure program administration for staff.

Shania Mau is teaching third grade at Velva Public School. Mau taught sixth grade at Stanley Community Schools last year.



Carson Schell, Val's Cyclery, received the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award in September. MACC sponsors the program to recognize Minot workers who exhibit superior customer service.



Katharina Schmolly received a full scholarship to medical school at the University of California Los Angeles, David Geffen Medical School.



J'Kobe Wallace performed as a Burning Hills singer in the 2020 season of the North Dakota Medora Musical.

2020

Jess Clark is teaching second grade at Powers Lake School. Clark student taught in Minot at Lewis and Clark Elementary prior to schools converting to distance learning last spring. She is excited to have found her passion, working with children, something she has always wanted to do.



Ericka Larson was promoted to mortgage loan processor at First Western Bank & Trust, Minot main. Larson began working at First Western Bank & Trust in 2015 as a customer service representative. She has served as assistant administrator for the MinDak Key Club District Board.



Matt Flom was promoted to credit analyst for First Western Bank & Trust in Minot. Flom, a Minot native, has been with the bank since 2017.



Roanna Parker is a special education specialist at Underwood School. Parker is married with two children.



Zeb Pulkinen joined Houston Engineering, Inc.'s Minot team as a technician I. He primarily works in the field, providing survey and construction observation services for projects across western North Dakota.

Uriel Steven Torres is teaching seventh grade math, seventh grade pre-algebra, eighth grade pre-algebra, and algebra 1 for Stanley Schools. His experience includes a practicum at Magic City Campus in Minot, student teaching at Surrey, and one-year teaching in Garrison.

Attended:

Jim Haff is the manager of the Dakota Territory Air Museum in Minot. A native of Michigan, he grew up in Cedar Springs, near Grand Rapids. After high school, he lived in Israel and visited Egypt before going into the U.S. Army. During his five years in the Army, Haff was a signals intelligence linguist. He graduated from the Defense Language Institute in California. His military service included Fort Bragg, North Carolina and deployment to Iraq. Haff was discharged from the military in 2009 and moved to Minot a year later. He attended Minot State University, sold insurance, then sold cars, before joining the air museum in the manager's position in February.

Marisa Haman, a Westhope native, has been named the Ward County auditor/treasurer. Haman came to work in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office as a property tax clerk in September 2012. She became deputy auditor in October 2013. She previously worked at ING.

Donna (Olsen) Pritschet retired as a paraprofessional from TGU Towner School. Pritschet worked as a paraprofessional for the school in Willow City prior to working

at the Towner School. Donna will continue to work on the farm and ranch with her husband, Duane. They have three children and seven grandchildren.



Gene Putnam was inducted into the Dakota Musicians Association Hall of Fame. Putnam has been a frequent performer around

the Minot area for many years and plays guitar and bass on his church praise team. He has performed with his wife of 47 years, Cynthia, and Tim Klimpel at Norsk Hostfest. Putnam has performed at corporate events, restaurants, churches, senior centers, weddings, private parties, grand openings, open houses, North Dakota State Fair, Frozen Fingers Festival, and other regional festivals.

Friends:



Greg Tschetter was named to the Barron's magazine 2020 America's Top 1,200 Financial Advisors, State by State ranking. Tschetter ranked number three in North Dakota. This is his sixth appearance on this prestigious list. The ranking recognizes the top 1,200 financial advisors in the nation and is unique because it is based on assets under management, revenue produced for the firm, regulatory record, quality of practice, philanthropic work, and more.



Jason Zimmerman was named president of the Minot Area Community Foundation. Zimmerman is a third generation Minot native and has several years of community experience. He is a past partner of the Holiday Inn and Holiday Inn Express in Minot, the former flood recovery coordinator with the City of Minot and Ward County, and was most recently employed with First Western Bank & Trust as a business banking officer. He is active in and around the Minot Community. He is a past chair and current board member of the Minot Area Chamber of Commerce and a commissioner of the ND State Water Commission.

Ryan Gatch is the track & field coach and head football coach at Havre High School.

In memory

It is with honor we dedicate this section to recognize alumni and friends who have passed away from approximately January 2020 through October 2020 or as submitted.

Graduates

'30 Schnabel (Meitz), Blossom; New Rockford
'32 Hepper (Sandberg), Judith; Battle Lake, Minn.
'41 Shields (Lakoduk), Edna; Lincoln, Neb.
'43 Christen (Jensen), Donna; Williston
'43 Konetzki (Taylor Carlson), Ann; Mesa, Ariz.
'44 Lopton (Myers), Naomi; Shoal Lake, Manitoba
'48 Moeller (Leite), Clarice; Oakland, Calif.
'48 Thielens, Lawrence; Mandan
'49 Anderson (Torgrimson), Mavis; Bismarck
'49 Haugan, Kenneth; Kalispell, Mont.
'49 Hummel (Underdahl), Helen; Garrison
'49 Westlie, James; Scottsdale, Ariz.
'49 Winderl (Liebel), Elaine; Meridian, Idaho
'49 Yeager, Vernon; Loxahatchee, Fla.
'50 Bilquist, Robert; Dallas, Texas
'50 Hoover (Falstad), Yvonne; Minot
'51 Anderson (Berget), Astrid; Billings, Mont.
'51 Gillund (Stearns), Shirley; Fargo
'52 Dhuyvetter (Rindel), Mary; Crosby
'53 Caufield, Rodney; Sun City, Ariz.
'53 Sundahl (McKenna), Beverly; Cedar Rapids, Iowa
'54 Daiger (Elvrum), Alice; Lynnwood, Wash.
'54 Murphy (Knudsen), Mollie; Las Vegas, Nev.
'56 Hagen (Nielsen), Wanda; Glenburn
'56 Butler (Sosalla), JoAnne; Tallahassee, Fla.
'56 Garbe, Wallace; Minot
'56 Hayhurst, Myron; Minot
'56 Larson (Nygaard), Ilene; Bismarck
'56 Richardson, Lloyd; Alexandria, Neb.
'56 Wall (Emerson), Joan; Fargo
'57 Stewart, Jerald; Wahpeton
'58 Marquardt, Lewis; Austin, Texas
'58 Miller (Milbrath), Marlys; Livermore, Calif.
'58 Wigness (Molvik), Ruth; Fortuna
'59 Gale (Jones), Alice; Hobe Sound, Fla.
'59 Johnson, Wallace; Watford City
'60 Asplund (Sjaastad), Bette; New Carlisle, Ind.
'60 Hegg, Gahlyn; Colorado Springs, Colo.
'60 Helgeson (Wurtz), Marvel; Minot
'60 Hovland, Royal; Powers Lake
'60 Johnson (Ackerman), Barbara; Cando
'60 Kirschman (Schick), Violet; McClusky
'60 Kriese (Feist), Phyllis; Lander, Wyo.
'60 Quie (Roland), Lorraine; Williston
'60 Shelver (Werner), Dr. Janet; Sioux Falls, S.D.
'62 Bloomquist (Lindaas), Alta; Lakota
'62 Fay, Daniel; Astoria, Ore.
'62 Hanson, Noel; Williston
'62 Hermes (Ihla), Deanna; Polson, Mont.
'63 Crossover (Greer), Carol; Washington, Pa.
'63 Isaak, DeLane; Clark, S.D.
'63 Mongeon, Dennis; Mandan
'63 Roebuck, Gary, Mesa, Ariz.
'63 Streifel, Romaine; Minot
'63 Susak, Don; McCleary, Wash.
'64 Breckenridge (Vande Kral), Lillian; Tulsa, Okla.
'64 Coder, Donald; Fargo
'64 Gates, Charles; Grand Forks
'64 Othout, Dennis; Minot
'65 Brandt, Richard; Aurora, Colo.
'65 Davis, David; Wellesley, Mass.
'65 Kjelvik (Borstad), Corrine; Tioga
'65 Kocis (Severson), Judy; Bismarck
'65 Peterson, Terrance; Watford City
'65 Stahl (Simon), Geraldine; Mason City, Iowa
'65 Venema (Ringgenberg), Janet; Modesto, Calif.
'66 Haugland, Marvin; South Heart
'66 Reiersgaard, James; Anthem, Ariz.
'66 Tinglestad, Maynard; Grand Forks
'66 Woodiwiss, Fred; Minot
'67 Grossman (Walsh), Marjorie; Everett, Wash.
'67 Riveland, Roger; Bismarck
'68 Kalinowski, Roger; Fargo
'68 Luepke, Robert; Yakima, Wash.
'68 McBride (Christensen), Karen; Bismarck
'69 Azure (Malaterre), Shirley; Belcourt

'69 Heitmann (Kost), Marceda; Detroit Lakes, Minn.
'69 Larsen (Larson), Alverda; Minot
'69 Pederson, Irene; Plentywood, Mont.
'69 Van Sickle (Hermann), Dorothy; Bismarck
'69 Wenger (Mickelson), Barbara; Minot
'69 Yost (Seltvedt), Irene; Dickinson
'70 Black, Wesley; Williston
'70 Dwyer, George; Jersey City, N.J.
'70 Kautzman (Harder), Jayne; Ellendale
'70 Schwab, Duane; Devils Lake
'70 Staudinger (Klein), Antionette; Bismarck
'70 Sukumlyn (Wolitarisky), Phyllis; Turtle Lake
'70 Tysse, Lloyd; Cottage Grove, Minn.
'71 Kopp (Carlson), Ruth; Minot
'71 Krause (Torno), Ruby; Duseith
'71 Siverson, Melvin; Bowman
'72 Ambers (Berglund), Doris; Maddock
'72 Breiland, Donald; St. Louis, Mo.
'72 Caley (Ronnie), Diane; Minot
'72 Engstrom (Soland), Marlene; Crocker, Mo.
'73 Erdmann, Jacob; Garrison
'73 Lukach, Robert; Cleburne, Texas
'73 Voelz (Jans), Aileen; Mankato, Minn.
'73 White, Keith; Minot
'74 Hauze (Webster), Bertha; Minot
'74 Vandal, Terry; Garrison
'74 Voiles, Terry; Minot
'75 Brodehl, Byron; Vancouver, Wash.
'75 Credico, Richard; Lethbridge, Alberta
'75 Erickson, Carroll; Stuart, Fla.
'75 Sheldon, Patrick; Minot
'75 Wattenford (Haugen), Priscilla; Manhattan, Kan.
'76 Ronning (Stole), Joanne; St. Louis Park, Minn.
'77 Anderson (Kragg), Margaret; Minot
'77 Olson, Terrence; Eden Prairie, Minn.
'77 Wohl (Christensen), Shirley; Bismarck
'78 Kihle, Kristie; Columbus
'78 Munger (Ruckle), Margret; Staples, Minn.
'80 Avery, Monte; Mesa, Ariz.
'80 Schmeichel (Kragness), Charlene; Mercer Island, Wash.
'81 Lindberg (Andersen), Karen; Stanley
'81 Malling (Huettl), Joyce; Bismarck
'82 McCain (Cotton), Valerie; Rocky Mount, N.C.
'83 Farley (Sellner), Letha; Bismarck
'84 Martin, Berilynne; Minot
'85 Brooks (Harris), Phillis; Denver, Colo.
'85 Cowan, William; Candle Lake, Saskatchewan
'87 Johnson, Paul; Fort Myers, Fla.
'87 Nelson (Hanson), Carol; Bottineau
'89 Hale (Cooper), Shirley; Cottage Grove, Minn.
'89 Stevick (Gjerde), Donna; Minot
'90 Doll, Sheila; Fort Collins, Colo.
'90 Hanzal, Steven; Fargo
'90 Nehring, Charles; Shawmut, Mont.
'91 Wood, Kenton; Minot
'92 Magnuson, Todd; Minot
'93 Faul (Hoover), Myrna; Minot
'93 Gilbertson (Amundson), Alycia; West Fargo
'93 Heck (Meyer), Valerie; Minot
'93 Helten (Locker), Kimberly; Devils Lake
'93 Pressnell, Raymond; Tioga
'93 Willenbring (Pretzer), Rhonda; Berthold
'94 Benson, Arlyn; Greenwell Springs, La.
'94 Nordmark (Vikan); Norma; Fargo
'94 Roeder, Wyman; Mandan
'95 Gagnier (Wheeler), Judith; Minot
'95 Kurry-Swartwout (Owens), Karen; Minot
'96 Tieg (Chaher), Lorrie; Spruce Grove, Alberta
'99 Fox, Gerald; New Town
'99 Kershaw, Roger; Bismarck
'00 Jacobson, Jeffrey; Vallejo, Calif.
'04 Miller, Laurel; Underwood
'04 Schaan, Duane; Waterloo, Iowa
'09 Thomason, Suzanne; Terry, Mont.

Attended

Anderson (Logen), Marilyn; Velva
Anderson, Marty; Minot
Archibald (Holzer), Rose; Lemmon, S.D.
Betzen, Wallace; Maple Grove, Minn.
Bjornson, Marlin; New Rockford
Boucher (Cote), Louise; Minot
Burlig, Harriet; Stockton, Calif.
Charlebois, Joan; Denver, Colo.
Darr (Thompson), Shirley; Minot
Deck, Herbert; Round Rock, Texas
Dolan, Erling; Crosby
Fee (Husby), Lila; Columbus, Ohio
Ferguson (Parker), Rokki; Rocky Boy, Mont.
Fursteneau (Ziegler), Joanne; Minot
Grove (LaRose), Phyllis; Williston
Grubb, Michael; Tioga
Hanson, Fredrick; Mesa, Ariz.
Harris, Wayne; Garrison
Hoehl (Henrikson), Anne; Wenatchee, Wash.
Huseth, Merle; Charlotte, N.C.
Jackson (Olson), Julie; Fessenden
Kaldahl (Boline), Alice; Tioga
Laney (Gackle), Rose; Velva
Larson, Allen; Tucson, Ariz.
Larson, Gary; Mandan
Lium, Lawrence; Mansfield, Texas
Lund, David; Reno, Nev.
Meyers, Larry; Bismarck
Meza, Cory; Calgary, Alberta
Morey, Jack; Velva
Musia, Bryan; Minot
Nagle, Darrel; Collingswood, N.J.
Nelson, Oranda; Seattle, Wash.
Oines (Plant), Mildred; Lynnwood, Wash.
Opp, Cheryl; Minot
Pratt (Kuist), Meredith; Bismarck
Reinke (Larson), Mildred; Bottineau
Richards, William; Spokane, Wash.
Richardson (Svenkeson), Marjorie; Hazen
Rieder, John; Mesa, Ariz.
Ritters (Johnson), Bernadine; Onalaska, Wis.
Roy (Stein), Diana; Williston
Rudnick (Prom), Theresa; Anamoose
Smithey (LaFrance), Peggy; Reno, Nev.
Sorenson (Bigelow), Edith; Eugene, Ore.
Spitzer (Farnam), Audrey; Bismarck
Wolf, Claudette; Port Angeles, Wash.
Yockey, Heather; Melbourne, Fla.

Friends

Allen, Earl; Minot
Anderson, Virgil; Leeds
Bacon, Sandra; Granville
Beitzel (Stennes), Josephine; Bemidji, Minn.
Bertsch, Dennis; Minot
Bilquist, Richard; Williston
Birdsall, Ralph; Berthold
Bolkan, Harland; Parshall
Brooks, Bruce; Minot
Broyles, Lucille; Grand Forks
Butz, Allen; Princeton, Minn.
Carlson, Joseph; Perham, Minn.
Christianson (Fjeld), Liz; Minot
Cresswell, George; Fargo
Davis, Leroy; Minot
Duke, Charles; Minot
Egge, Dennis; Ocala, Fla.
Esterby, Bob; Minot
Fry, Kenneth; Edmonton, Alberta
Fuchs, Jerald; Palm Desert, Calif.
Gunderson, Thomas; Minot
Hanson, George; Minot
Helm, Donald; Mandan
Hennix, Wesley; Niobe
Hermanson, Rodney; Lignite
Hochsprung, A.J.; Minot
Jundt, Tom; Minot
Kuhn, Ed; Minot

LaCroix, Jerry; Bottineau
Landphere, Russell; Minot
Larsen, Carl; Ray
Lee, Abner; Minot
Leier, Eldore; Minot
Lodoen, Dusty; Westhope
Loken, Rolland; Velva
Lucht (Landsberger), Mary; Bismarck
Lunde, Lyle; Bottineau
Deck, Lawrence; Minot
McCutcheon, June; Minot
Moffit (Dedinger), Elizabeth; Minot
Morris, Rodney; Garrison
Murphy, Diana; Williston
Nelson, Arlene; Minot
Oas, Gordon; Columbus
Olthoff, Richard; Minot
Olinger, Jack; West Fargo
Peterson (Bieber), Twilla; Minot
Philon, Karen; Minot
Pishtek, Arlene; Brocket
Quick (Olson), Marion; Minot
Quill, Colman; Minot
Robinson, Marjorie; Clearwater, Fla.
Saunders, Beulah; Minot
Savelkoul, Audrey; Minot
Schieve, Lucille; Minot
Schnabel (Johnson), Carol; Minot
Stafford, Gayle; Minot
Steinwand, Alex; Garrison
Stevick, Vern; Minot
Teagle (Lewis), Virginia; Minot
Tollefson (Berge), Rosella; Minot
Vix (Lambert), June; Golden, Colo.
Welsch (Rowen), Pat; Williston
White, Richard; Gordonsville, Va.
Wimer, Robert; Fargo
Zimmerman, Neil; Minot

Faculty and Staff

Dammen, Myron '57; retired professor emeritus of psychology; Minot
Fogel, Dr. Lyle '57; retired professor emeritus of social science; Southlake, Texas
Halvorson, Duane; retired professor of humanities; Minot
Kalvelage, Dr. Carl; retired professor emeritus of political science; Minot
Luther, Wes '54; retired professor emeritus of physical education, athletic director, and men's basketball coach; Minot
Meng, Sister Mabel; former professor of nursing; Alliance, Neb.
Mergenthal, Roger; retired professor in the college of business; West Fargo
Papenfuss, Charles; former custodian with facilities management; Minot
Ronningen (Stenson), Ruth '90; former library staff; Bismarck
Schmidt, Dennis; former staff of the business community assistance center; Minot
Scott, Gary; former director of guidance and counseling; Jefferson City, Mo.
Sidener (Middendorf), Audrey; retired staff emeritus in teacher education and kinesiology; Minot
Slaaten, Dr. Doris '49; retired professor emeritus in the college of business; Minot
Solie (Eraker), Irene; retired staff emeritus with food services; Minot
Stockdell, Kenneth; former professor of speech pathology; Acworth, Ga.
Swanson (Pau), Patricia '69; retired professor emeritus in teacher education and kinesiology; Bismarck
Vick, Dr. Donald; former professor of mathematics; Bottineau

Look who's NEW!



Have you had
an addition to your
family recently?

We want to know! Contact Kate Marshall,
donor relations coordinator, at Kate.Marshall@MinotStateU.edu
to receive a free T-shirt for your new little Beaver! Please be
sure to tell us your baby's name and birth date. Also, please
provide your graduation year, spouse's name, and
contact information. After you receive your T-shirt,
email your baby's photo to:
Kate.Marshall@MinotStateU.edu.

Axtman

Ames Joseph was born Feb. 19, 2020.
Proud parents are

**Bethanie
(Bogers)
Axtman
'07/'09**
and her
husband,
Jake.



Gahner

Gabriel Goodrich was born Feb. 29, 2020. She was
welcomed by **Karissa (Erdmann) Gahner '13** and
husband, Carter, along with big brother Emmanuel.

Buxbaum

**Lindsey
(Nelson)
Buxbaum
'14/'16**
and her
husband,
Chantz, are
parents to
Aubrey
Lorelle, born
July 22, 2017,
and Carter
Ross, who arrived
June 24, 2019.



Craveiro

Lorena Alice was born
Nov. 16, 2019 to **Diogo
Craveiro '13**, joining big
sister Clara. The family
resides in Iowa.



Ennis

Brooke Alexis was born Sept.
27, 2018 to **Janell (Laubacher)
Ennis '00** and her husband,
Philip. She joins big brother
Luke. Proud grandfather is
John Laubacher '84.



Ford

Gisele entered the world
on Nov. 09, 2019 and
was welcomed by **Gill
Ford II '08** and **Christen
(Lethridge) Ford '06**
along with big brother Gill.



Halvorson

Lance and **Patricia (Sollin) Halvorson '07**
welcomed Summer Anne on Dec. 17, 2019.
She joins big brothers Lane and Liam.



Hove

Kevin and Jenna (Rask) '11 Hove welcomed Bridger on Sept. 17, 2019. The family resides in Tioga.



Pinnick

Derek and Danielle (Vaughn) Pinnick welcomed Judah Raymond on Sept. 20, 2019. Proud grandparents are Rick Pinnick '90 and Lyn Dockter-Pinnick '74 and Mike Vaughn '78 and Rita (Blickensderfer) Vaughn '79.



Jarmin

Avery Jarmin entered the world on Feb. 8, 2019. Proud parents are Tess (Foley) Jarmin '15 and her husband, Zachary.

Rostvedt

Alexa (Hornecker) Rostvedt '14 and her husband, Ethan, welcomed a baby boy, Bodey Thomas, on April 22, 2020.



Jensen

Emily and Mat Jensen '07 welcomed their second little one, Pippa Ardet, Dec. 10, 2019.

Rued

Bridger Douglas was born July 8, 2020 to Danielle (Cook) Rued '13 and her husband, Jonathon.



Stroschein

Nyssa Stroschein '16 and husband, Rusty, welcomed Declan on Nov. 11, 2019. Proud grandmothers are Emelia (Hanson) Braun '91 and Joan (Hogner) Stroschein '85.



Miller

Jaxon Anthony was born on June 4, 2020 to Regina (Botrager) Miller '16 and husband, Joe. She joins big sister Nikkita Rae.



Trueblood

Marisa (Perhus) Trueblood '10 and her husband, Adam, welcomed Bodie Lee on March 29, 2020.



Nagel

Brekka Blake entered the world Dec. 18, 2019. She was proudly welcomed by Chelsea (Carlson) Nagel '07 and husband, Ryan.

Wilkie

Harmony (Bickell) Wilkie '16 and her husband, Daniel, had Myles Joseph on May 25, 2019.



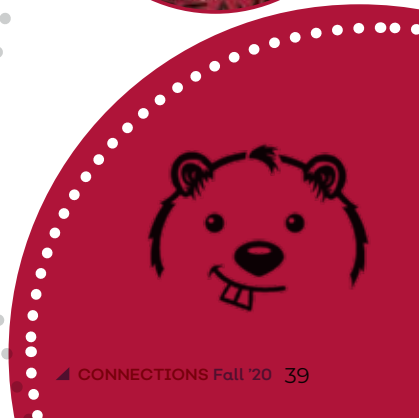
Peltz

Eden joined the Peltz family on May 23, 2019. Proud parents are Elisha (Traxel) Peltz '07 and her husband, Greg.



Wurtz

Ferguson was born on Nov. 29, 2019 to Shelby (Bigelow) Wurtz '18 and her husband, Luke.





Alumni Association
500 University Ave W
Minot, ND 58707

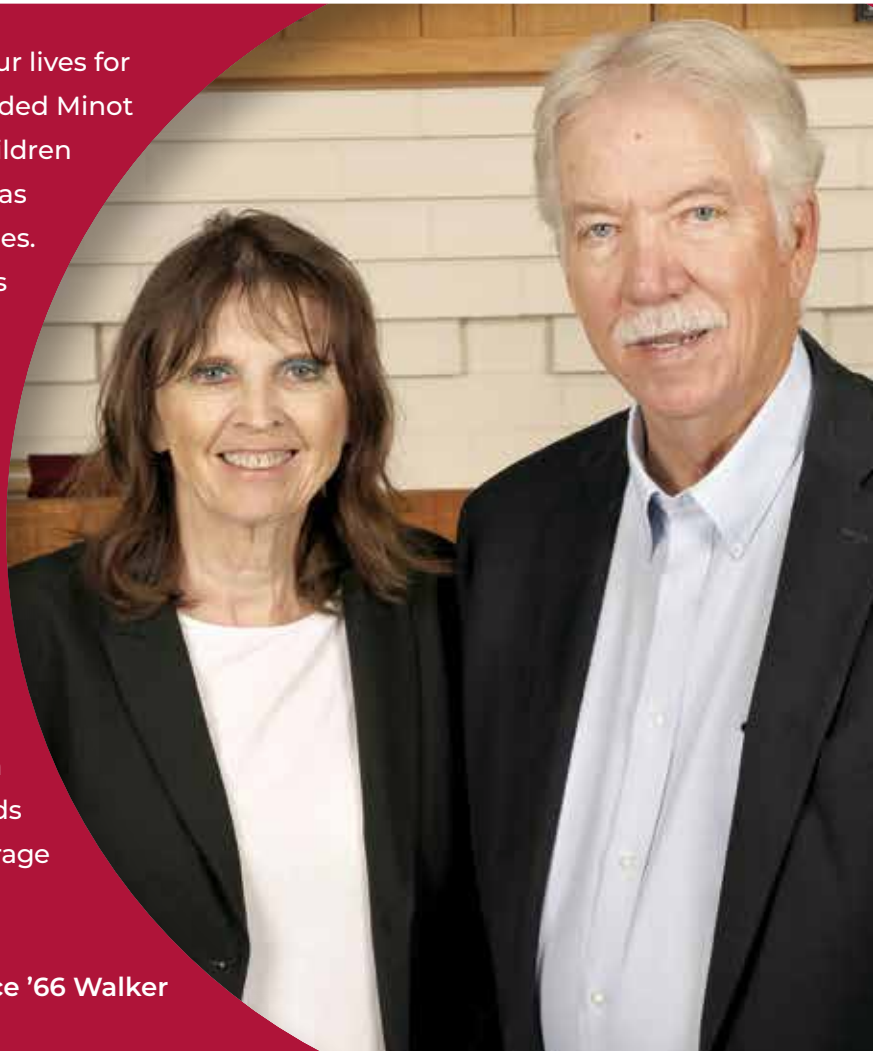
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“**M**inot State University has been part of our lives for many years. Three of our children attended Minot State and currently one of our grandchildren is attending MSU. Living and working in Minot has given us the occasion to be part of MSU’s activities.

Summer Theatre is one of those many activities we have enjoyed. Summer Theatre gives many students interested in theater a chance to have a great experience performing during the summer months in Minot. Many community members have also been able to enjoy performances in the summer. When the opportunity arose to support the updating and expansion, we were pleased to be able to contribute.

Our philosophy in life has been to support this community that provided us the ability to enjoy the many activities, to raise our family, and earn a living. Summer Theatre is a great activity that adds to the quality of life in Minot and we would encourage others to attend and support this iconic venue.”



GO BEAVERS — Diane (Schreiner) '84 and Bruce '66 Walker