

Connections



Fall 2024 ...

Alumni Association and
Development Foundation

Believing
the unexpected

Nathan Bowles



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MINOT

President's Message

The fall semester has been a whirlwind of exciting activities across campus. We began with a ribbon-cutting to celebrate the reopening of Hartnett Hall following a two-year closure while undergoing a \$26.6 million renovation. The result is an incredible transformation, and this academic space is now positioned to play a key role in the success of future MSU students and their educational pursuits.

Just days following the Hartnett celebration was our annual Homecoming Week. The mid-September weather was terrific and the turnout from MSU alumni and friends was superb. During the week we bestowed the Golden Award and Young Alumni Achievement Award on five very deserving individuals; please learn more about these wonderful folks on pages 22-23. During the Academic Hall of Fame ceremony two new members were inducted, and you can read about Dr. Vicki Michels and Dr. Jacob Schillo on page 18. The week also featured enshrinement of a new class into the MSU Athletics Hall of Fame. The six individuals and one team of inductees are featured on pages 20-21, and it was nice having so many former MSU athletes and their families in Minot to celebrate. The President's Club luncheon was another highlight where we recognized a large number of donors who support the MSU Development Foundation. Saturday morning's parade from downtown Minot to campus along with a tailgate festivity and football win were cherries on top concluding a memorable week of Beaver Pride!

Other highlights this fall have included the Western Plains Opera's incredible performance of La Boheme in Ann Nicole Nelson Hall, and the Minot Symphony Orchestra's start of its 99th season. We are blessed with such amazing talent in this community, and MSU music professors, students, and alumni help make these incredible productions possible. The feature story on Nathan Bowles is a powerful testament to the kind of musical talent we have at MSU, so please read his story and learn more about Nathan's remarkable journey. The 2024-25 theatre season also began this fall, utilizing a beautiful new recital space in Hartnett Hall to stage its first production. And, the 17th annual NOTSTOCK was held in late September bringing hundreds of area students and residents to campus over several days to interact with various artisans.



MSU's 24th annual SRT Tech Day recently concluded where 100+ regional high school students came to MSU to compete and hear from business and technology speakers, and our 4th annual NoDAKoN conference was held bringing technology and cyber experts to campus discussing cybersecurity and online threats.

MSU's student enrollment increased this fall compared to the Fall 2023 semester, and this is our second consecutive semester of growth following the increase we also saw in Spring 2024. This great news provides confidence that new academic programs we have added, new student club and athletic opportunities we have initiated, and programs such as the Hometown Pride Scholarship are all paying dividends while we continue navigating the shifting demographics and competitive higher education landscape.

Please join us if you are able at any of the alumni events held throughout the year to reconnect with longstanding acquaintances and make some new friends as well. All the best in the months ahead, and as always,

GO BEAVERS! ::::

Steven W. Shirley, Ph.D.
President

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PHOTO SUBMISSIONS:
Nathan Bowles '19: pgs. 4 - 6
Dick Jenkins: pg. 7
Steven Wood '69: pgs. 8 - 9
Sofia Lewis '21: headshot, pg. 19
Sean Arbaut '15: soccer photo, pg. 19
Headshots by honorees: pgs. 20 - 21
Headshots by honorees: pg. 22
Baby Beaver families: pgs. 36 - 37

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or EMAIL ADDRESS?**

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Connections Magazine
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Cover story

Page 4

**Believing the
unexpected:
Bowles makes
it as an artist**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Feature stories

- 8 Finding rewards in real estate — Steven Wood
- 18 Michels, Schillo inducted into Minot State Academic Hall of Fame
- 19 Lewis living the dream of playing professional soccer
- 20 Minot State Athletics Hall of Fame 2024 Inductees
- 22 2024 Golden Awards and Young Alumni Achievement Award Recipients

Every issue

- 7 Where are they now? — Dick Jenkins
- 10 Alum from Day One: Profiles of MSU students, faculty, and staff
- 14 Under 30: Foster finds her niche
- 16 Under 40: Minot State helps Manlove dream big
- 24 Development Foundation and Alumni
- 31 Class notes
- 35 In memory
- 36 Baby Beavers



A historic day for **HARTNETT HALL**



Minot State celebrated the grand opening of Hartnett Hall with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house after nearly two years of renovation. The state-of-the-art facility welcomed students back for the 2024 school year and is the new crown jewel of 11th Avenue.



› \$26.6 million renovation

› 200-seat Aleshire Theater

› 80-seat Lecture and Recital Hall with new Steinway piano

› State-of-the-art Esports Arena

› KMSU television, radio, and podcasting studios

› Dedicated student, faculty, and visual effects studios





I was steered in this direction by people who believed in me. They are really connected and storied people with a lot of life experience in this field.



Believing

No matter where his career takes him — whether it be Dallas, New York, or Los Angeles — Nathan Bowles '19 will always have a reason to perform in Minot.

"I will come back as many times as I am asked to," he said. "It's an incredible program. Stuff like that builds the stars of tomorrow."

This incredible program is Western Plains Opera (WPO) on the Minot State campus. Having performed with WPO since elementary school, the small, community-based company has greatly influenced the music education major's career. It even helped him choose where to pursue a graduate degree in vocal performance.

WPO gave Bowles the unique opportunity to work closely with musicians from all walks of life: community members, professors, peers, and professionals from all over the country. After meeting with his soon-to-be vocal instructor at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, he knew he would continue to receive that individualized attention and quickly enrolled.

"I was a little worried about going somewhere and being a face in the crowd. That was not the case there," he said. "I was relieved that I got so much care and had so many people actively wanting me to do better."

Bowles quickly found success as a graduate student. His vocal instructor, internationally renowned heldentenor

Clifton Forbis, was an early supporter of his performance career. When Bowles initially thought he would attend graduate school to become a better teacher, Forbis encouraged him to pursue singing.

"I've always loved teaching," Bowles said. "I still feel the same way. It wasn't an emotional change or a perspective change. I was steered in this direction by people who believed in me. They are really connected and storied people with a lot of life experience in this field."



the unexpected:

Bowles makes it as an artist

By Emily Schmidt

Three years later, it still hasn't fully sunk in that Bowles has made it as a performer. He and his peers still stay humble on the job.

"I didn't really wrap my head around it until I graduated and said, 'Well, here we go. Let's see what happens,'" he said. "It's hard to think of

singing the next day, and call it that. But then I advanced in the district, and then I advanced into the region, and just like that, I was going to New York. I thought, 'Oh my god, I can't believe I'm doing this.' I was like, 'Great. I'm gonna get paid to sing on the Met stage and then I'll have a day or two,

changed his path. During his semi-final performance at the Met, one audience member just so happened to be the director of the Los Angeles Opera's Young Artist program. After the competition, he sent Bowles an email asking him to breakfast and soon after, offered him the job.



ourselves as professionals yet, thinking we've 'made it'. That goes all the way to the top. But if you're paying your bills, you're making it."

Starting in a small community like Minot, the big moments – like making a living off of his artistry – still surprise Bowles. He never expected to become a 2024 Laffont Competition finalist at the Metropolitan Opera in New York.

"I tried to do it once before (in 2022), and I was given an encouragement award in my district. I got a \$40 check and spent the day in Tulsa. It was wonderful," he said. "Then I did it again this year. I fully expected to sing, have a great time, listen to some good

and I'll go home and relax. But then I advanced to the finals. Then it all started getting real."

As a finalist, Bowles spent a week in Manhattan, working with world-renowned musicians and performing several times on the Met stage.

"It was a complete whirlwind," he said. "I never expected any of it. I didn't expect to make it to New York. It set off a lot of things for me."

Bowles wouldn't have his current position as a Young Artist for the Los Angeles Opera if it weren't for his performance at the Met. Having originally been cut from the auditions after the first round, one coincidence

Today, Bowles lives in Los Angeles and is enjoying his first of two years as a resident artist, and among the auditions, travel, and excitement of performing professionally, he never forgets his roots.

"I wouldn't have had any of the opportunities that I've had without WPO," he said. "It's near and dear to my heart, and I actually make a point to wear my WPO dress shirt to the start of any production I am in to remind myself where I've come from. WPO is the reason I could go out into the opera world and not be overwhelmed by it. It was the thing that sent me out in the first place." ❖❖❖



DICK JENKINS
can find many
parallels between
his time at Minot
State University
and his retire-
ment at the lake.

"A lake place is a lot of work, and what's neat about that is I guess it parallels my career at Minot State. You have to be able to do many different things," Jenkins reflected.

Jenkins started his career at MSU in 1983 as the director of student affairs before being promoted to vice president of student affairs in 1989. From 1994 to 2005, he took on a dual title.

"I chaired a search for a new advancement director, and we were unsuccessful, so the president asked me if I would take on that role in addition to my student affairs duties," he said. "For about 12 years, I did both. My title was vice president of advancement and student affairs. That obviously kept me very busy, but it was a chance to do some different things.

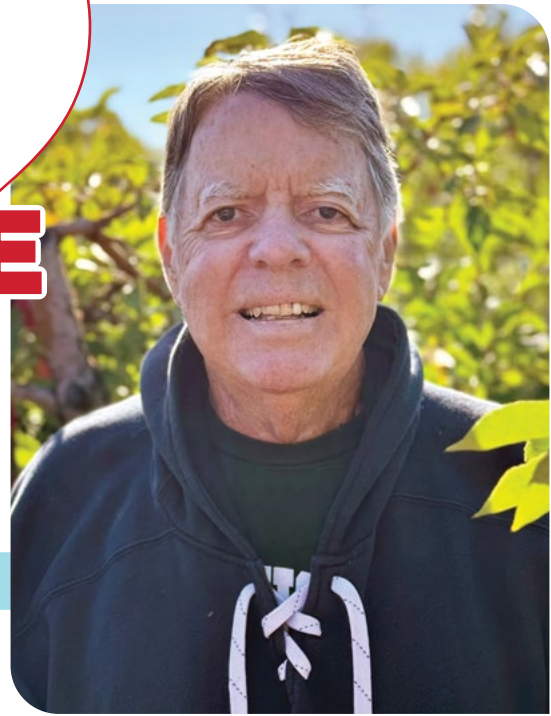
"After that, I went back to being vice president for student affairs, and that's how I finished my career in 2015."

In his retirement, Jenkins has continued using his multitasking skills to maintain and improve his home on Big Cormorant Lake.

"I was fortunate enough that my parents had a lake place. I spent my summers at the lake. When the opportunity came along when my parents decided to sell their place, Sally and I bought it and kept it going," he said. "But once we got ready to retire, we decided to build a new cottage on the property.

WHERE are they NOW

By Veronica Corey



Dick Jenkins

"I've been well-versed over the years and had a lot of experience, and I guess one of the things I like to do is build things."

Once the new cottage was built, Jenkins and his wife moved from Minot to their lake home, managing the process themselves.

"My wife encouraged me to finish the closets as soon as possible so we could finish moving. We handled that ourselves with many trips," Jenkins said. "We were going from a very large house to a smaller place, and you quickly learned that you have to find places to put things."

Jenkins now has more time to enjoy his hobbies and make more memories with his four grandchildren.

"I just traded my dark blue car for the light blue one," he recalled. "Cars have been a lifelong hobby for me, and retirement has provided me with more time to indulge in this interest.

"Much of my work has been aimed towards trying to make the lake fun and convenient for my grandchildren to use. Putting steps in at the dock, so they can get into the water easily."

Jenkins and his wife also own a home in Phoenix next door to his sister, Kathy.

"She helped me find a house. In fact, it was next door to hers," he said. "We ended up buying that house from her neighbor and that's why we split our time between the lake in Minnesota and Arizona.

"Last Christmas, we had everybody in Arizona, and we called it Cactus Christmas, and that was real fun." ...



Finding rewards in real estate >>>>

By Veronica Corey

Steven Wood '69 has lived much of his life following a simple bit of advice.

"Take one step at a time until you find something you love and that rewards you the way you want to be rewarded."

His career journey, filled with diverse experiences, ultimately led him to his true passion – owning and operating his own real estate advisory business.

Wood graduated from Minot State University with a Bachelor of Science in Education, majoring in history and political science. After MSU, he went on to the University of North Dakota School of Law and graduated in 1972. Soon after, he joined the Marine Corps as a judge advocate, fulfilling a four-year commitment. During his service, Wood was stationed at Parris Island, South Carolina, and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

"That was before it became the prison that it is today," he shared. "The main reason it exists is it's the training base for the Atlantic Fleet."

After leaving the Marine Corps in 1976, Wood worked as a trial lawyer for the Internal Revenue Service in Los Angeles. Three years later, he returned to the Midwest to work as tax counsel for Burlington Northern Railroad (BNSF) in St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1981, when BNSF relocated its corporate headquarters to Seattle, Wood, a native of the state, seized the opportunity to return home.



"I went to work with Burlington Northern in 1979, and in 1981, they moved their corporation headquarters to Seattle," he said. "My parents were both living in eastern Washington. I just came home, and I've been in Seattle ever since."

Woods then transitioned to Glacier Park, a subsidiary managing BNSF's vast land holdings – nearly four million acres across 22 western states. He served as their general counsel and eventually became their chief operating officer.

"In 1989, I figured if I could do this for the shareholders of Burlington Northern, I should be able to do it for myself," he said.

That year, he started his company, CenturyPacific.

"I was a corporate guy and thought I knew a little bit about real estate. I found out I had a lot to learn," Wood added.

Thankfully, he was a quick learner and developed skills and connections over the next three decades.

He adapted swiftly, building skills and relationships and formed a key joint venture with Davis Wright Tremaine, a 600-plus lawyer firm, which provided him access to high-net-worth clients in Washington.

"I wanted to start a business where I could do what I wanted, make real estate deals," he said. "Where we could be active in buying and selling real estate and managing real estate for people; and frankly, the affiliation with the law firm gave me that opportunity because they represented many of the folks and companies that I wanted to represent."

After more than 30 years, Wood decided to step back, showing gratitude to long-term employees.

"In 2021, I gifted the company to my employees, who hired me back," Wood said. "I'm working a little bit as their employee now. The three of them were loyal, very loyal to me for 25 years. Both my wife Mary and I are so pleased that we did that."

While Wood is proud of the company he built, his greatest pride comes from his family.

"Probably my proudest achievement are my four kids," he said. "We've got a great close family, and that's been rewarding." ...



“Take one step at a time until you find something you love and that rewards you the way you want to be rewarded.”



Alum from DAY one

Why did you choose Minot State?

I chose Minot State because it's close to home and MSU has one of the best radiology programs in the area.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

I have amazing mentors and advisors, including James Sturm, director of the Looyenga Leadership Center, and Robert Crackel, associate professor in chemistry.

FRESHMAN



Taryn Braaten

Velva • radiologic technology

What has been your favorite class?

RAD 102. It's my introductory class where I learn more about the Radiologic Technology program.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Sturm and Christine Borden-King-Jones, assistant professor in social science.

What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

How much free merchandise I have/will receive from MSU Life events.

What is your most memorable moment at MSU?

Winning a free water bottle at the MSU Life annual bingo event.



SOPHOMORE

Walker Jerome

Regina, Saskatchewan
business management

Why did you choose Minot State?

I chose Minot State for the excellent academics and the ice hockey program.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

MSU has given me a great start in developing my business career, teaching me that hard work, commitment, and willingness to learn will set me on the right track.

What has been your favorite class?

All my business classes, marketing, entrepreneurship, and the fundamentals of management, have been quite interesting. In leadership, I gained valuable tools for my career and general day-to-day life.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Hands down Beverly Fleischman '21, assistant professor in business administration, has been the biggest influence not only on me but many other students. She treats every student with true professionalism but knows how to be lighthearted and get the best out of every student. From teacher to cheerleader, she is always supporting her students in extracurricular activities.

What is your most memorable moment at MSU?

The sporting events, whether that's myself putting on the Minot State Beaver jersey and competing or cheering on my fellow schoolmates in their activities.

Why did you choose Minot State?

When I toured Minot State, I got that homey and cozy feeling and knew that I belonged here. I knew at Minot State that the professors would actually know my name, and I would be able to easily ask any of them for help.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

Minot State has led me to many opportunities that I wouldn't have gotten somewhere else. The leadership program pushed me out of my comfort zone and taught me how to be a leader in everyday life and my future career.

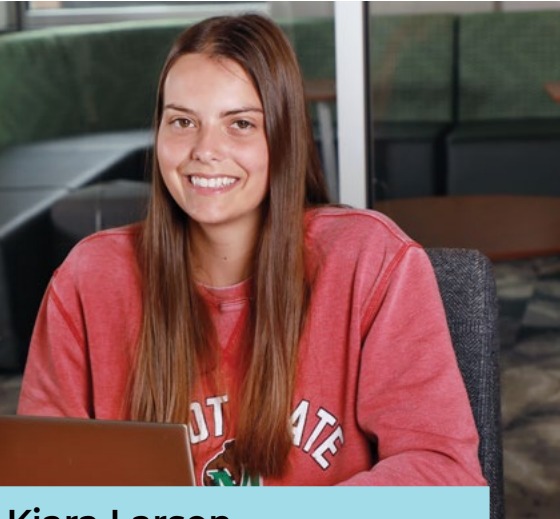
What has been your favorite class?

Collaborative Leadership. It's one of my favorites because of how close everyone in the class was with each other. We did an activity in each class to put what we learned into action.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Katelynn Albers '15, assistant professor in accounting, truly cares about all of her students and makes her students her top priority. She has influenced me to get my CPA after college.

JUNIOR



Kiara Larson

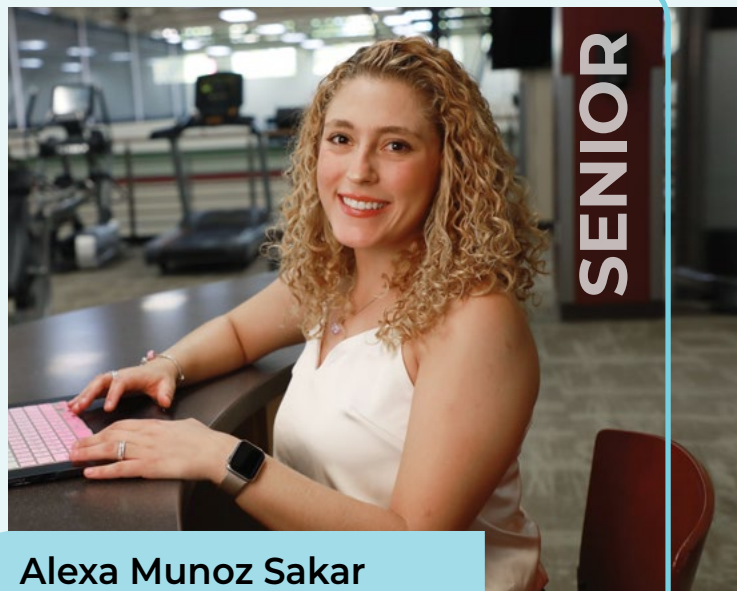
Rugby • accounting and finance

What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

There are so many things you can rent (for free) from the Wellness Center as a college student – bikes, Spikeball, Frisbees, basketballs, equipment for pickleball, and many more.

What is your most memorable moment at MSU?

My most memorable moments would probably come from welcome week as a freshman. The first few nights with my roommate and suitemates were so fun because we did everything together and got to know each other so well.



Alexa Munoz Sakar

Mexico City, Mexico
marketing and management,
fitness and wellness specialist

Why did you choose Minot State?

I chose Minot State because I love snow. Crazy, no? I love snowy winters, but I also came to MSU because it offers a strong academic environment in a close-knit community. I wanted a place where I could focus on my education.

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

MSU has provided me with a supportive environment in which I can thrive. Since the class sizes are small, it has allowed me more personalized attention from professors who are always willing to offer guidance and mentorship.

What has been your favorite class?

My favorite class so far has been fitness leadership. The course was incredibly interesting, where I learned leadership in the fitness industry and the career field of each area of the fitness industry.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Without a doubt, Terry (Ferebee) Eckmann '81/'82! She is an incredibly influential professor here at Minot State. Her passion for health and physical education shines through everything.

What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

Minot State's best-kept secret is how supportive and close-knit its community is. The campus offers great opportunities for students to network, get involved, and grow both academically and personally.

What is your most memorable moment at MSU?

I think my most memorable moment at MSU is meeting each of my best friends, the ones that made MSU feel like home.

Why did you choose Minot State?

Minot State was close to home, but I learned quickly in my time that MSU had something that I was looking for that I would enjoy and set me up for future success.

MASTERS



Cole Clementich

Minot • sports management

How has Minot State helped you further your academic career?

Campus offers hands-on classes and programs that give you real-world reps while also receiving class credit. Before coming to MSU, I never thought I'd get to create podcasts, run a TV show, talk on the radio, and so much more.

What has been your favorite class?

Because of my sports background, I really liked the sports television production and sports play-by-play classes.

Who has been your most influential professor?

Neil Roberts was there the first time I came to campus, and I carry a great relationship with him today. He was my advisor and led me to many opportunities around campus and in the department.

What is your most memorable moment at MSU?

The Eric Sevareid Awards are cool and when I took part in the show, there was an opening for someone to grab multiple host interviews. On the same production in early December 2022, I got the chance to interview both the president and athletic director all while hearing their input on some major happenings around campus on a live TV broadcast.



STAFF

Leisa (Halverson) Harmon '88/'89

Scobey, Montana • speech language pathology and elementary education, masters in speech-language pathology

Why did you choose Minot State to study and stay/return to teach?

As a high school student, I had friends who attended Minot State, and they loved it here, so I tagged along. I returned to Minot State as a faculty member after eight years working in school systems in Minnesota and North Dakota because I saw it as a chance to influence future generations of speech-language pathologists.

What has been your favorite class?

I love to teach speech sound disorders. It's exciting to help students understand the miracle of speech and how they can change the lives of affected children. It's a good thing I don't wear a fitness tracker because I suspect my heart rate might occasionally approach dangerous levels when I passionately teach this class!

Who has been your most influential professor?

David Williams, Audrey Lunday, Diane (Goranson) Maupin '71/'72, and Marla (Dean) Rose '78/'81 were all profound influences on my development as a speech-language pathologist. When I returned as a faculty member, they became my colleagues and friends. I would not be the human I am today without them!

What is the best kept secret about Minot State?

At 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Onward Beavers and the Alma Mater are played in the quad. I truly get emotional when I walk through the circle of lights as these amazing tunes are played.

What is your most memorable moment at MSU?

Kevin '89, my husband, and I met at a dance in the Beaver Dam (formerly the Ballroom) in 1986, and the rest is history! We now have three adult children and five MSU degrees (soon to be six!) among the five of us.

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MSU ALUMNI
UNDER
30



Foster finds her niche

By Michael Linnell

Danielle Foster '16 wasn't sure what she wanted to study as a freshman at Minot State University.

She wasn't necessarily interested in going to law school and certainly didn't know anything about employee stock ownership plans (ESOP).

She is grateful, however, for how the steps in her life played out.

"No one in my family is a lawyer, and it wasn't really on my mind," Foster said. "But I was always interested in politics and how things work, so I joined student government my sophomore year and fell in love with it. I was interested in matters of the University and the students, and I was around a lot of students who aspired to go to law school.

"And so, then, I had law school on my mind."

With her newfound passion in place, Foster set out to direct her studies and personal life toward the goal of getting into law school.

"I still wasn't positive about my path, so I worked at a couple of accounting jobs and ended up working for Maxson Law Office. I really loved it," she said. "One of the most influential mentors in my life was the late Dean Frantsvog '97. I took all the classes he taught. He was probably annoyed with me; he was a practicing attorney, so he had to hold his office hours at 7:30 in the morning, and I was there just about every morning."

After graduating from the University of North Dakota School of Law, Foster still hadn't found her niche. She moved to Minneapolis and worked in corporate law, but something was missing.

"I did the whole corporate law – helping large corporations save money on their taxes – and it just wasn't rewarding," Foster said. "In the end, I want to do something that I feel is rewarding. Helping employees gain equity where they work and, in turn, helping someone who spent their lifetime building a company sell it to those employees, is really one of the coolest jobs you can have as an attorney."

Foster has spent four years at Atlas Legal Services in Fargo and believes her mentor at Atlas, Bart McIlonie,

is an extension of the mentorship she received from Frantsvog and the Maxons in college.

"This has been one of the most rewarding experiences that I didn't even know existed," she said. "I ended up meeting a mentor who practices a unique area of the law and is one of the smartest people I've met."

While she acknowledges there is some fate in her progression, Foster also put in the work. As a former student-athlete, excelling for the Beavers on the women's golf team, she developed a keen sense of time management.

"Being a student-athlete isn't for the faint of heart; you're gone all the time, you have to stay on top of your work, and you have to play well," she said. "I don't want to sound overdramatic, but I feel like being a student-athlete changed my life in so many ways. I met my best friends playing on the team, and now, in this profession, I've met a lot of clients on the course."

Playing 18 with clients isn't the only way Foster stays connected with the game of golf. For the past two summers, she has partnered with the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation for the Medora Girl's Golf Camp.

"I always wanted to open a girl's golf camp. There isn't really anything like it in North Dakota, and one of my favorite places to play is Bully Pulpit," she said. "It was a big learning curve, but I think it has become a huge success. It was important to me to implement a leadership component and focus on the whole athlete."

Her experiences since moving back to Fargo and in western North Dakota only solidify her decision to originally attend MSU.

"I had opportunities to go elsewhere, and there was a time when I was ready to leave Minot and experience something else, but I'm so glad I decided to stay at MSU," Foster said. "I feel fortunate to get involved with student government, to play on the golf team, and my time in the College of Business.

"All of it has made me who I am today." ::::



Minot State helps Manlove DREAM BIG

By Emily Schmidt

You never know how much something you say may influence someone. For Eric Manlove '11, one comment a bystander made to him at a t-ball game caused him to pursue a career in sports broadcasting.

"I would always comment on the game while I was playing," he said. "I have a vague memory of one of the parents saying 'Oh, you should do this as a career,' and that always stuck with me."

Today, Manlove has worked from coast to coast as a sports video photographer and editor, most recently moving to Connecticut to join ESPN's creative studio daily team.

"I get to watch games every single day. That's really cool," he said. "That's always how broadcasting and storytelling through broadcasting has been to me, especially because it's around sports. It's more fun than anything."

As a video editor, Manlove works closely with ESPN producers to compile the best moments from each game every day. If you're a regular SportsCenter viewer, you've probably seen his work. But the broadcasting major didn't start there.

Originally from Fargo, Manlove moved to Minot State for its well-established broadcasting department. When he graduated, he worked as assistant sports information director for the MSU Beavers, weekend sports anchor at KXMC, and broadcast director at BEK Sports until he moved back to his hometown. A few years later, he relocated to California where his experience at Minot State came in handy in an unexpected way.

"I went out there without a job," he said. "I was searching and searching, and I finally found a post for a video editor at NBC Sports Bay Area. They got back to me pretty quick saying, 'I'm going to send it to this hiring manager. They'll look at your resume and get back to you.'"

"Not even five minutes later, the hiring manager called me. He wanted to talk to me about the job, but he saw that my resume said Minot State



and wanted to talk to me about that because his father-in-law had been stationed at Minot Air Force Base. Literally my resume saying, Minot got me my job in California."

Just before he started at ESPN in the summer of 2024, Manlove was also part of a team that won a Northern California EMMY for their short series "Mr. Relevant: Brock Purdy's NFL Story." Working at NBC Sports Bay Area, he traveled to Arizona for Super Bowl LVII and got to interview the San Francisco 49ers quarterback's family in his hometown.

Now reaching a major high point in his career, Manlove can't help but remember his time as a broadcasting major at Minot State.

"Having the base from Minot was awesome. It allowed me to have bigger dreams than I probably thought I could have," he said. "It's funny now being at ESPN. I think back, and I kind of forget that as a little kid, that was my dream. I always wanted to be at ESPN. That all stems back from getting a broadcasting degree from Minot State and being able to be hands-on faster than I would have done in other places." ...



Michels, Schillo inducted into Minot State Academic Hall of Fame

By Michael Linnell

Minot State University inducted two new members, Vicki Michels '88 and Jacob Schillo '15, into the Minot State Academic Hall of Fame to represent its 2024 class.

The duo was honored with a reception ceremony on Sept. 13 in the Hartnett Hall Collaboration Space during Homecoming 2024 festivities.

"Minot State is proud to announce Dr. Vicki Michels and Dr. Jacob Schillo as members of the Academic Hall of Fame," said Laurie Geller, MSU vice president for academic affairs. "Both Vicki and Jacob are exemplary scholars and leaders who have made significant contributions to their disciplines. We are proud of their accomplishments and are excited to honor them both."

The duo joins 11 other past recipients. Becky Becker '91 and Tim Henry were the most recent members of the Academic Hall of Fame, enshrined in 2020. Veronica (Cavallo) Pinnick '04 was inducted in 2019, Robert Hubbard '91 in 2014, Kim Baldrige '82 in 2013, Robert Holmen '83/'88 and Joe Alme '68 in 2012, and Carrie Forshner Evans '90, Lisa Feldner '86/'90, Delane Kritsky '65, and Rosanne Olson '72 comprised the inaugural class in 2011.

Michels received her bachelor's degree, majoring in psychology, from Minot State University, and her doctorate from the University of Wyoming in clinical psychology. She is a licensed psychologist, professor, Department of Behavioral Sciences and Criminal Justice Chair, and the director of the Addiction Studies Program at Minot State.

She was part of the team that helped establish Trinity Health Center's outpatient behavioral health unit. Michels has served as the president of the International Coalition for Addiction Studies Education, the president of the North Dakota Board of Addiction Counselor Examiners, the chair of

the National Addiction Studies Accreditation Commission Board of Commissioners, and the editorial board for the journal Substance Abuse. She has published research examining factors impacting post-traumatic growth, women prisoners' mental health, and older adults' cognitive abilities and mental health.

Schillo, a native of Iowa, served six years as a nuclear weapons specialist in the U.S. Air Force. His military service brought him to North Dakota, where, after completing his service, he pursued a bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from Minot State University. During his time as an undergraduate student at Minot State, he began his cancer research career under the mentorship of Heidi Super, focusing on how chemotherapies affect DNA structure in leukemias.

He then pursued a doctorate in genetics at the University of Iowa, where he developed novel genetic sequencing technologies that advance our understanding of cancer evolution. Currently, as a scientist at Yale University, Schillo is working to uncover the mechanisms driving lung cancer metastasis, developing new therapeutic regimens to combat the disease.

Induction into the Minot State University Academic Hall of Fame honors meritorious service in an academic discipline and highlights the accomplishments of our most distinguished alumni. Nominations may be made by any individual or organization, either within Minot State University or from the community at large. Nominees must be Minot State alumni who completed a significant portion of their education at Minot State, have gone on to complete an advanced degree, and made a substantial contribution to the advancement of their field of study.



Lewis living the dream of playing professional soccer



By Mike Stetson

She wrote the record books for the Minot State women's soccer team, and now alumna Sofia Lewis '21 is living out a dream of playing professional soccer in Europe.

Lewis, whose mom, Lorena, was from Argentina, always followed soccer but got a late start in the sport, picking up the game when she was 13. Working twice as hard as others to refine her talents, that effort by the Minot High School product earned the notice of former Minot State women's soccer head coach Jason Spain.

"He knew my strengths and weaknesses," Lewis recalled, "He convinced me that Minot would be the perfect place for me to receive quality coaching from a staff that already knew what I needed to grow. In addition, I loved the idea of playing at a high level in front of my hometown and my family."

It was a perfect fit as Lewis shined on the field for the Beavers, setting a school record by scoring 51 career goals in five seasons while adding 18 assists. Minot State women's soccer, in turn, also excelled as she led the Beavers to the NCAA National Tournament in 2018.

When her career at Minot State concluded following the 2021 season, Lewis spent a year working as a project controller for KSI in the oil field while completing her master's degree. She also coached a youth team for the Minot Soccer Association.

All the time training "so I could be ready if or when a (pro) team showed interest in signing me," she noted.



That call came from a team in Iceland, launching what has now been a three-year pro career for the Beavers all-time scoring leader.

After a season, Lewis moved from a second-division team in Iceland to Portugal and eventually earned her current spot with the Club Sport Marítimo, located on the island of Madeira, in the top Portuguese league Campeonato Nacional Feminino.

Through the end of September, Club Sport Marítimo was 2-2-1, and Lewis had two goals for her club.

Recalling the memories of earning a trip to nationals and making lifelong friends, Lewis credits Minot State for setting the stage for her current success.

"MSU helped prepare me to work an office job and work as a professional athlete," she said. "In addition to that, I left MSU with lifelong friends and connections that have helped support me throughout my journey, and for that, I'm grateful!" ::::



The Minot State University Athletics Hall of Fame Committee selected five individuals, one team, and one special achievement award as its Class of 2024. The group was inducted on Sept. 13 in a special ceremony at the Sleep Inn & Suites and honored at halftime of the Beavers' Homecoming game.



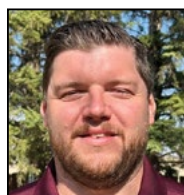
Robert Sando **Special Achievement Award**

A long-time supporter of Beaver Athletics, Sando has played an integral role as a Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR), a conference representative, and assisting with a variety of gameday operations.

During his involvement with Minot State Athletics, he started the Winter Beaver Booster Party and, with the permission of then-MSU President Erik Shaar, started tailgating prior to Beaver football games. He also has served for 14 years on the Beaver Booster Board of Directors and was president for the 1991-92 year. Sando served for a decade as the FAR at Minot State and as a representative to the North Dakota College Athletic Conference (NDCAC) and the Dakota Athletic Conference (DAC), helping form the DAC.

Along with his work with committees and as FAR, he coordinated funding for the Sertoma walking and running path on the third floor of the Minot State Dome, built the Minot State Athletic Christmas display at Sertoma's annual Christmas light show in Oak Park, established a scholarship endowment for business students at MSU with preference given to student-athletes that has been awarded to more than 70 students to date, and has assisted Minot State coaches by driving vans, setting up for cross-country races, and serving as timer at track & field meets.

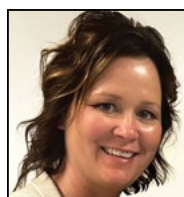
Sando has previously been honored with Minot State's Alumni Association Golden Award (2003) and the Minot State University Distinguished Lifetime Educator Award (2006), along with the Burlington Northern Foundation Faculty Achievement Award (1985).



Bart Archdekin **Football: 2006-09**

A four-year starter on the offensive line and a team captain as a junior and senior, Archdekin was named to the Victory Sports All-American Team following the 2007 and 2008 seasons. The native of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, who played for Minot State from 2006-09, was a three-time All-Dakota Athletic Conference (DAC) First Team performer for a Beaver football team that went 24-17 during his playing career, won the 2009 Dacotah Bank Bowl – 38-21 over Jamestown – and the 2009 DAC title to advance to the 2009 NAIA Playoffs.

Following his playing career with the Beavers, Archdekin signed with the British Columbia Lions in 2010 and the Saskatchewan Roughriders in 2011 to play professional football in the Canadian Football League (CFL).



Jennifer (Sundahl) Becker **Women's Basketball: 2002-06**

Becker was named an NAIA All-American as well as the DAC Most Valuable Senior in 2005-06 and the Co-Defensive Player of the Year that season with teammate Kendra Meyer. A two-time All-DAC performer who played from the 2002-03 season through the 2005-06 campaign, Sundahl is No. 4 all-time in Minot State women's basketball.

history with 591 career rebounds, No. 6 all-time with 169 career steals, and tied for No. 9 playing in 114 career games. Her team-highs of 69 steals and 142 defensive rebounds during her senior season rank No. 7 and No. 9 all-time in Beaver single-season history, and she led Minot State in rebounding her junior season, averaging 11.0 rebounds per game.

During her playing career, Minot State compiled a 67-56 record and twice qualified for the NAIA National Tournament, advancing to the NAIA quarterfinals in 2003-04. A product of Mohall High School, she graduated from Minot State with a bachelor's degree in business finance and a minor in accounting with a cumulative GPA of 3.4.



Joe Engler **Baseball: 2002–05**

Engler, who played baseball for the Beavers from 2002-05, was named an NAIA All-American in 2004 and 2005, was twice named to the NAIA All-Region III team, and was a two-time 1st Team All-DAC performer.

During his career, which included a freshman season using wood bats, he hit .372 in 255 career at-bats and holds the No. 2 all-time single-season record at Minot State, hitting .455 in 2005. He also drew 67 career walks.

Currently, Engler is an associate professor of psychology at Gonzaga University.



Tina Kirkpatrick **Track & Field: 1998–2002**

Kirkpatrick, who competed in track & field from the 1998-99 season through the spring of 2001-02 is a five-time NAIA All-American, earning the honor in the high jump at the 1999 NAIA Outdoor Championships as she was runner-up national champion, at the 2000 NAIA Indoor Championships where she finished fifth, and at the 2002 NAIA Outdoor Championships, where she again finished as runner-up national champion. In the triple jump, Kirkpatrick earned All-American honors as national runner-up champion at the 2001 NAIA Outdoor Championships, and she was fourth at the 2002 NAIA Outdoor Championships, competing in two events that spring.

A native of Bismarck, Kirkpatrick holds the all-time indoor Minot State records in the triple jump with a mark of 38 feet, 11.5 inches, and in the high jump clearing 5-8. She also holds the Minot State all-time outdoor records in both events, with a mark of 38-11 in the triple jump and 5-8 in the high jump. Kirkpatrick won the DAC-10 indoor high jump title in 2000 and 2001, won the outdoor high jump title in 2001 and 2002, and was the title holder in the triple jump in 2001 (indoor) and 2002 (outdoor). She was named Outstanding Field Athlete at the 2001 DAC-10 Indoor meet and her jump of 5-8 set the indoor conference record. Kirkpatrick was also named the Outstanding Field Athlete at the 2002 DAC-10 Outdoor Championships, setting the outdoor record, again clearing 5-8.



Nolan Taylor **Cross Country and Track & Field: 1999–2003**

Taylor was a member of the Beavers' 2002 and 2003 NAIA National Champion cross country teams and a seven-time All-American who competed for Minot State from the 1999-2000 season through the spring of the 2002-03 academic year.

In cross country, he finished 26th at the 2002 NAIA National Championships, which was third for the Beavers, and led Minot State finishing 12th at the 2003 NAIA National Championships, earning All-American honors both years.

In track & field, he was part of the Beavers' fourth-place distance medley relay team at the 2003 NAIA Indoor Championships and individually finished third in the 3,000 meters, earning All-American honors for both, and he finished third in the 3,000-meter steeplechase to earn All-American honors at the 2003 NAIA Outdoor Championships.

Taylor finished as runner-up national champion and earned All-American honors at the 2004 NAIA Indoor Championships and was fifth in the 3,000-meter steeplechase at the 2004 NAIA Outdoor Championships, once again earning All-American honors.

1972-73 Men's Wrestling

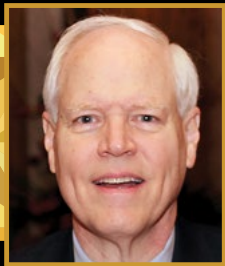


The 1972-73 Minot State men's wrestling team includes a group of 15 student-athletes, a student manager, and their coach, Dean Bachmeier. The team went 13-3 on the season in dual meets and claimed the North Dakota College Conference (NDCC) championship.

Members of the wrestling team are: Ted Brinkman, Rich Christen, Tom Christen, Dave Dougherty, Kevin Dougherty, Tom Dougherty, Dan Holwegner, Terry Mathson, Lowell Romfo, Milo Schmeichel, Nick Schmit, Max Schriock, Dave Stuart, Ken Vetter, Iggy Weigel, team manager Paul Jacob, and head coach Dean Bachmeier.

Along with winning the NDCC championship, Ted Brinkman won the individual conference crown at 126 pounds, Ken Vetter won the 142-pound title, Dan Holwegner claimed the 150-pound crown, Terry Mathson won the 177-pound title, and Lowell Romfo won the 190-pound championship. ::::

2024 Golden Awards and Young Alumni Achievement Award Recipients



Dan Langemo



**Teresa (Kraft)
Loftesnes '07/'15**



Dr. Jeffrey A. Sather '94



**Julie (Keller)
Stavn '76**



**Jazmine (Wolff)
Schultz '11**

THE MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HONORED FOUR INDIVIDUALS WITH THE GOLDEN AWARD AND ONE WITH THE YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD IN SEPTEMBER. The Golden Award is the highest award bestowed by the Alumni Association. 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.

Dan Langemo

Langemo, a Valley City native, retired from First Western Bank & Trust (FWBT) in 2015.

He began his 40-year career in the asset management business in December of 1975 when he was hired as a trust representative for First National Bank and Trust of Fargo. He moved to Minot in 1979 to manage Norwest Bank (now Wells Fargo) and worked for Bremer Bank before securing a position with FWBT in 1999.

Langemo worked on a part-time basis as a development officer for the MSU Development Foundation following his retirement from FWBT until May 2019. Active in the MSU community, he is a longtime member of Beaver Boosters, is a past chair of the MSU Board of Regents, and is currently the vice president of the MSU Development Foundation and the MSU Summer Theatre boards.

Outside of MSU, he has been a board member for

numerous organizations in the Minot area and currently serves on the boards of First Lutheran Foundation and Minot Junior Golf Association. He is a current member, former board member, and past president of the Rotary Club of Minot, where he was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow following his term as club president in 2001.

Langemo is married to his wife, Jeri (Doerr) '80, an MSU graduate in music education. They have three children, Tim (Amber) of Grand Forks, Katie '15 (fiancé Yoshio Alarcon Hernandez) of Minneapolis, and Karen (Aaron Sims '20) of Minot, along with two grandchildren: Nolan, age 10, and Dawson, age 6.

Teresa Loftesnes '07/'15

Loftesnes, from Norwich, retired in 2021 after 42 years at Minot State in various roles, including her last 14 as marketing director.

In July 1978, she stepped onto the campus of Minot

State College with a single expectation: to earn a degree.

Fast forward to May 2021, and Loftesnes turned the page to a new chapter after a fun, fulfilling, and inspirational 42-year career. Starting as a student and finishing with the energy of one, her journey is a testament to her dedication and passion for MSU.

She started as a student worker in the post office and switchboard, which became her first full-time job, the first printing press operator, and an administrative assistant for the dean of continuing education and college and high school relations.

In 1987, Loftesnes was hired in the graduate school and continuing education office, where they started College for Kids, now in its 35th year, and became director of continuing education from 1994-2006. Loftesnes was a charter administrator for MSU's online education program, the first in the North Dakota University System. Marketing was a key

responsibility in all positions, leading to her appointment as the University's first director of marketing in 2006 until her retirement in May 2021.

She married Darrel Loftesnes and became the mother to three amazing children Wade, Whitney '11, and Loren. Along with earning two MSU degrees, Loftesnes mentored numerous student interns, was inducted into MSU's Old Main Society, established the Lofty Goals Scholarship, and received numerous recognitions, including the 1994 Board of Regents Staff Achievement Award and the 2013 MSU Vision Award.

She gives her time to the University, Magic City Discovery Center, ND Special Olympics, her church, Visit Minot, and numerous other organizations. Loftesnes spent many hours volunteering at Norsk Høstfest and now enjoys her "funtirement" as its volunteer coordinator. Her motto, "putting life in your life," embodies the spirit of being an MSU Beaver.

Dr. Jeffrey A. Sather '94

Sather and his wife, Mary, live in rural Norwich with their dog Murphy (a black lab), a cat, a horse, and a donkey. Together they have seven children and 13 grandchildren.

A Velva native, he spent his early years working on the farm and various other jobs before discovering his lifelong passion. Sather began his career in health-care when he enrolled in the EMT program at the John Moses US Air Force Hospital in Minot. He worked for the newly developed Community Ambulance Service, a joint venture between Trinity Hospital and St. Joseph Hospital, and started the registered nursing program at Trinity Hospital.

After becoming a certified paramedic in Grand Forks and manager of Care Ambulance in Yakima, Washington, he moved back to Minot to become the clinical coordinator and transitioned the service to Advanced Life Support. He had simultaneously desired to further his own education with a goal of getting into medical school when he enrolled at Minot State University in 1990 and graduated with a degree in psychology in 1994.

Sather graduated with his Doctor of Medicine degree in May of 1998 from the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences and did an emergency medicine residency at St. Vincent Mercy Health System in Toledo, Ohio.

In July of 2001, Sather joined the medical staff of Trinity Health. In 2003, he became the medical director of the Emergency Trauma Center.

He has been a medical director for the Department

of Health and Human Services for the State of North Dakota since 2014.

Sather serves on the Board of Directors of Trinity Health, the Midwest Region of the American Heart Association, the Great Plains Quality Innovation Network, and Quality Health Associates of North Dakota (serving as board president). He is a member of the AHA Coronary Artery Disease Systems of Care Advisory Working Group, a National Committee that peer reviews research proposals in cardiac care. Sather's lifetime professional passion has been the continuing improvement of rural healthcare in the Minot community, across the great state of North Dakota and the country.

Julie Stavn '76

Stavn, from Bismarck, is a former teacher and coach in the Bismarck Public Schools, earning multiple state championships and coach of the year awards during her 41 years in education.

She earned her first North Dakota High School Coaches Association (NDHSCA) Class A Girls Coach of the Year award in 1988 in cross country. She repeated that award in 2010 and 2014. In track and field, she was honored in 1996, 2005, 2008, and 2012. In 2009, she was inducted into the NDHSCA Hall of Fame and North Dakota Track & Field Hall of Fame. In 2017, she was inducted into the National High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame, having been a finalist for National Coach of the Year four times.

Stavn earned a degree in physical education with a minor in special education from MSU in 1976. She was a varsity cheerleader for two years and competed

in track & field, was a Mu Sig Fraternity Sweetheart in 1974-75, and the Sigma Sigma Sorority president in 1974-75.

She followed her time at MSU with a master's degree in physical education at the University of North Dakota in 1982, earning a graduate assistantship for the 1981-82 academic year.

Following school, she was employed as a physical education teacher in Bismarck for 36 years. She coached basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, swimming and diving, cross country, and track & field. She captured four state championships and two runner-up finishes in track & field and won a state championship with three runner-up finishes in cross country.

She earned the North Dakota Alliance of Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance Secondary Physical Education Teacher of the Year in 1994 and the Association's Pathfinder Award in 2006. The Bismarck Quarterback Club gave her the Roger Higgins Award for Dedicated Service in 2017.

Stavn and her husband, Rockie, have three sons, Thad, Rockie II, and Tanner, along with seven grandchildren.

Jazmine Schultz '11

Schultz, originally from Burlington, is the co-owner of Prairie Sky Breads in downtown Minot.

She is a 2011 graduate of MSU with degrees in theatre arts and elementary education. While at MSU, Schultz was an active member of the theater department, participating in approximately 30 productions and four MSU Summer Theatre seasons. She was president of the MSU Honors Club in 2009 and 2010 and a reporter for

the Red and Green.

Schultz also spent her college years incubating all-ages, affordable arts opportunities in Minot. With friends, she founded an all-ages art space called Pangea House and created the Why Not?! Minot Music and Arts Festival and GRip (Girls Rip) Fest. It was here, and among the theater department, that she found her lifelong friends, her DIY ethos, and her community organizing talents.

Since graduating, she has had a multitude of work experiences, most notably: spending three years in Velva as their family and consumer science teacher and Family, Career and Community Leaders of America coach, working as a financial planner for Northwestern Mutual with recognition as the 2019 New Rep of the Year for MN/ND and accomplishing both Pacesetter First 40 and Second 60, and in February 2020, opening Prairie Sky Breads, in Minot.

Schultz is known for knitting, her love of art and community, and her work at the bakery. She is a community organizer, educator, and artist. It's important to note she does not do the baking, and one shouldn't ask her for sourdough advice.

She satisfies her teaching itch as an instructor for Co-Start Minot and International Music Camp's Garage Band Camp. She serves as marketing director for MSU Summer Theatre, is the web developer for the Lord's Cupboard Food Pantry and the Retired Teachers Association of North Dakota, as well as president of The Souris Basin Foundation. She is also a board member and performer with Community Rocks . ::::

Development Foundation

Minot State University and the MSU Development Foundation embarked on an exciting journey in July 2019 with "EMPOWER: A Campaign for Minot State University." The campaign is aligned with the campus strategic plan, "Empowering Generations," a plan that outlines MSU's mission as a public university dedicated to excellence in education, scholarship, and community engagement achieved through rigorous academic experiences, active learning environments, commitment to public service, and a vibrant campus life.

As we approach the final days of this historic \$50 million capital campaign, I'm happy to announce we have accomplished a great deal thanks to your support. We have completed much-needed, multi-million-dollar renovations within the MSU Dome and the MSU Amphitheater. Several academic spaces have seen major improvements including the greenhouse and a designated space for our Severson Entrepreneurship Academy in Old Main. These are just a few of the facility upgrades that have taken place, not to mention the significant support that has been provided for student scholarships throughout the campaign.

Although much has been accomplished, we have work yet to do. Hoffman Auditorium, our large lecture hall in Cyril Moore Science Center, is in need of a major renovation with improvements in seating, lighting, technology, and accessibility; our observatory on the north end of campus is in need of significant upgrades; and scholarship support continues to be important as we work to keep MSU affordable and accessible to all.

Beaver Athletics is in the early stages of a facility master plan that identifies areas of need within the MSU Dome including locker rooms, restrooms, food court, and office space. Plans at Herb Parker Stadium include a new video board and a new east entrance and concourse improvements. Discussions around a potential outdoor track and field space are also taking place.

If you are interested in learning more about these plans, please don't hesitate to reach out. Our goal with the EMPOWER campaign is to build a Minot State University that will stand the test of time. Together we can do exactly that.

The EMPOWER campaign will sunset on Dec. 31. I invite you to make a gift that will empower generations at Minot State University.



Rick Hedberg '89
Vice President for Advancement
Executive Director,
Development Foundation
rick.hedberg@minotstateu.edu
701-858-4483



EMPOWER



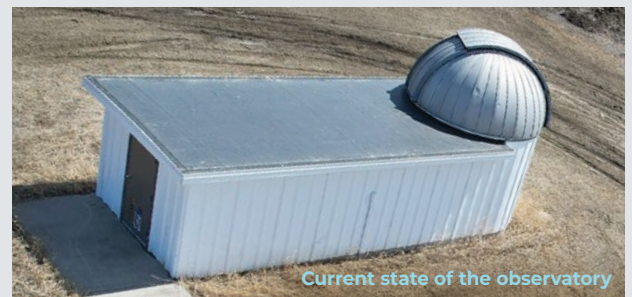
Updated Severson Entrepreneurship Academy



Newly constructed greenhouse



Architectural rendering of proposed Hoffman Auditorium



Current state of the observatory

To learn more about **EMPOWER:**
A Campaign for Minot State
University, please visit:
MinotStateU.edu/Empower



::: Alumni and friends EVENTS :::

Friend-Raising Golf Tour



Fargo Social



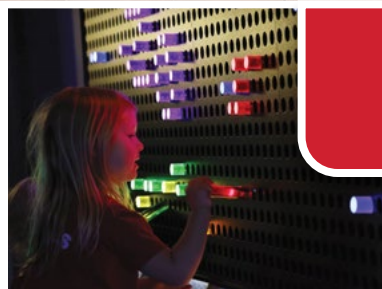
Arizona Socials

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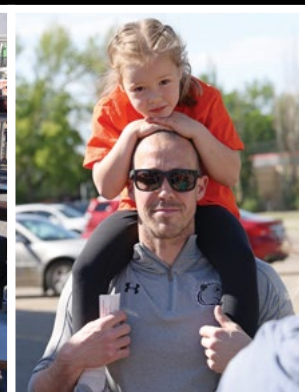
Gilbert
Scottsdale
Sun City West



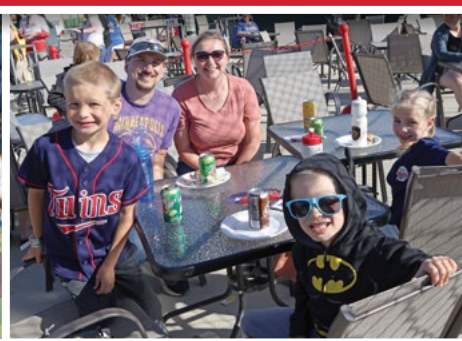
Bismarck Social



MSU Night at Magic City Discovery Center



Minot Hot Tots Night





North Dakota State Fair Parade

MSU Luau





Homecoming





»» ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

Upcoming **EVENTS**

MinotStateU.edu/alumni



Basketball
Alumni & Friends
APPRECIATION
NIGHT
Jan. 24, 2025



ARIZONA
Alumni &
Friends
Socials
Feb. 27 – 28 & March 1, 2025

2024 Gala
& auction
dinner

May 9, 2025

CLASS NOTES

Send us your news: MinotStateU.edu/alumni

1968



Emery Roy was head girls' varsity coach at Meridian High School, Idaho, for eight years before going to

Centennial High School for 25 years. He finished his career as girls' head coach at Rocky Mountain High School for six years. During his career, he received extensive accolades, including District Coach of the Year 18 times, State Coach of the Year 10 times, Northwestern Regional Coach of the Year in 1998 and 2006, and was a finalist for National Coach of the Year. In 1999, he was selected as Idaho's Girls Basketball Coach of the Century. His overall record is 817 wins and only 187 losses.

1972



Devra (Barros) Smestad, council member for the City of Burlington, received the Leadership

Training Program Innovator Award at the North Dakota League of Cities spring workshop. The award recognizes 30 hours of training in the program.

1980



Anita (Beck) Erickson retired from Burke Central School after 44 years in education. She spent 13 years

teaching at Columbus School before spending 31 years in Lignite at Burke Central School.



Ron Garcia was named a winner of the inaugural Hidden Hometown Heroes

program created by the Minot Hot Tots in partnership with Ryan Family Dealerships. Garcia has been an instrumental advocate for retired military members in the Minot community.



Darwin Saari received the Outstanding Office Employee award at the North Dakota Rural Water

Systems Association's 38th annual Rural Water EXPO Conference. Saari, city auditor for the City of Turtle Lake, has been involved in the water industry since 1980 and currently serves on several boards.

1981



Brian Palmer '81/'94 is serving as the Bottineau Public School superintendent. He became

Bottineau's elementary principal in 2012.

1984

Stuart Glasoe retired following a 36-year career working for the people and state of Washington on environmental protection and environmental public health issues with emphasis on pollution control and protection of water quality, drinking water supplies, shellfish growing areas, and Puget Sound. He received his Master of Regional Planning degree from Washington State University in 1988.



Nancy (Dodds) Thul has been the speech language pathology assistants program director at Alexandria

Technical and Community College in Alexandria, Minnesota for the past 11 years. She is also the recent past president of the Minnesota Speech Hearing Association and is a member of the MNSHA legislative steering committee.

1986



Kevin Burckhard was named one of six winners of the inaugural Hidden

Hometown Heroes program created by the Minot Hot Tots in partnership with Ryan Family Dealerships.

Barry Striegel has joined the Elgin/New Leipzig School District as a second-grade teacher. He taught in Mexico for three years and started a N.D. Youth Entrepreneurship Education Program.

1988



Sue (Olson) Ceglowski retired after 35 years of teaching. She began her career in

Richmond, Indiana before continuing her journey in Colorado, working in Grand Junction and Salida.



From left: **Brian S. Nelson '88**, who passed away in February 2024, **Leann (Artz) Hall '74**, and **Troy Ross '88**, were inducted into the inaugural class of the Berthold Bombers Hall of Fame. Nelson served as a superintendent, Ross as a math teacher, and Hall as a third-grade teacher at the school. Nelson and Ross also coached several different teams throughout their tenures in Berthold.



Leisa (Halverson) Harmon '88/'89 was one of 15 North Dakota University

System faculty members awarded \$1,000 scholarships through the Dakota Digital Academy to attend and participate in conferences or professional development experiences involving artificial intelligence. Harmon is an assistant professor in communication sciences and disorders at Minot State.

1989



Kevin Harmon, previously vice president of student affairs at Minot State, was named vice

president of student affairs and intercollegiate athletics, a newly expanded role at the University.



Bruce Mack earned his 500th career baseball win coaching the Surrey Mustangs.



Lisa (Nylander) Olson '89/'05 was elected to serve as the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

northwest regional director. She will oversee leadership training and opportunities for DKG members in 16 U.S. states and Canadian provinces. DKG is an international education organization of key women educators and has chapters in 17 countries, including nine in North Dakota.



Todd Van Dusen, Brady Martz & Associates CEO, recently retired. He

joined the company in January 1989 as an intern before spending the next 20 years of his career in client service. Van Dusen served in several leadership roles including market segment lead for the Minot office and board member. Under his leadership, Brady Martz has grown to nearly 400 team members, including more than 50 shareholders. He was recently recognized as a Leaders & Legacies award recipient by Prairie Business magazine.

1990



Kevin Ternes and his three bandmates from the Dakota Drifters

were inducted into the Dakota Musicians Hall of Fame. The quartet was formed in 2015.

1991



Mary Beth Votava, longtime director for the Minot Center of the North Dakota

Small Business Development Centers has been promoted to assistant state director.



Melaney (Neb) Grenz '91/'93 recently retired from Spring-

field Public Schools. She worked in Oregon public schools for the past 29 years as a speech-language pathologist and recently became the project

manager at the Center on Brain Injury Research and Training through the University of Oregon. Grenz is currently helping other states enact Return to School laws for students who have sustained a head injury.



Tim Thueson was inducted into the Mayville State University Performing Arts Hall of Fame as an educator during their 2023 Homecoming activities. During his teaching career, Thueson has held leadership roles in North Dakota United/National Education Association, is a Lions Club Hall of Fame inductee, and a life member of the North Dakota Firefighter's Association.

1993



Shawn Grosz, chief technology officer at SRT, was presented the NTCA Excellence Award in Innovation by The Rural Broadband Association for his transformative work on 911 services in North Dakota.



Sally (Jelleberg) Henke has joined New Salem-Almont Public Schools as an English teacher. She was previously an educator for Turtle Mountain Public Schools in Belcourt.



Melissa (Price) Maasjo, founder and operator of Matthew 25 Project, was named one of six winners of the inaugural Hidden Hometown Heroes program. The Minot Hot Tots, in partnership with Ryan Family Dealerships, created the initiative to shine a spotlight on those in the Minot community. Maasjo and a group of volunteers run Matthew 25 Project, which helps provide donated goods to those in need.

1997



Jarid Lundeen joined the Minot Area Chamber EDC Board of Directors. He is the owner of a variety of local businesses including Trusted Tire & Auto with four locations, Valvoline Instant Oil Change franchise with eight locations, and Bones BBQ Smokehouse and Grill.

Dan Van Ness has joined the entertainment team at Agua Caliente Casinos as entertainment production manager and oversees all production requirements for A-list entertainers at three separate properties spread throughout Coachella Valley, California. Van Ness also manages the AV remodel and rebuild of the casino's conventional and ballroom space and manages production for all convention events.

1998



Jonathan Skalicky began his duties as a North Dakota Highway Patrol regional sergeant on Feb. 1 in Valley City. Skalicky was previously a trooper and named the 2022 NDHP Trooper of the Year and awarded the NDHP Legion of Honor medal.

1999



Chris Heth '99/'04 has joined TGU Granville Public School as a seventh through 12th grade science teacher.

2001



Evan Borisinkoff was one of 15 North Dakota University System faculty members awarded \$1,000 scholarships through the Dakota Digital Academy to attend and participate in conferences or professional development experiences involving artificial intelligence. Borisinkoff is an associate professor in special education and the program director for associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees in disability human services at Minot State.

2001



Jason Feller joined First Western Insurance as a commercial account executive.

Tiffany (Homiston) Olson, Fox Hills Elementary School, Watford City, was named 2024 ND County Teacher of the Year for McKenzie County.

2002



Steve Dangle, Garrison High School, was named Region 1 Principal of the Year for 2023.

2004



Chris Seil, a board-certified physician assistant, has joined Trinity Health as a member of their provider team at FirstCare Walk-In Clinic. A longtime member of the North Dakota Army National Guard, the major received his master's degree in physician assistant studies from UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.



Sanders Shumway was unveiled as one of six winners of the inaugural Hidden Hometown Heroes program, created by the Minot Hot Tots and Ryan Family Dealerships, for his selfless dedication serving as a youth pastor and working tirelessly to help address social issues, promote inclusivity, and advocate for the wellbeing of young people.



Veronica Pinnick was awarded the Electrical Engineering Division Engineering Excellence Award by the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.

2008



Michael Hardy has been named a senior graphic designer for Interstate Engineering in Mandan. With 14 years of experience, he specializes in graphic design and audio/video and print production.

2009

Jessica Brokaw '09/'11 has been promoted to senior cloud solution architect at Infor Solution Architect, a multinational company that provides industry specific, enterprise software.



Ben Daggett has joined Minot State University's Design and Print Services as a design specialist/copy center and data technician.



Anthony Lee '09/'12 was named the 2024 North Dakota High School Coaches Association Division B Boys Basketball Coach of the Year and led the Westhope-Newburg Sioux to the State Class B Boys Championship.



Kayla (Mitchell) Reykdal has become a new partner at BDO in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, Canada. BDO is an international network of public accounting, tax, consulting, and business advisory firms. Reykdal has worked for BDO since graduating from Minot State.



Sarah (Rowe) Clutts has joined Fox Rothschild in their Oklahoma City, Oklahoma office as counsel in the litigation department. She serves on the board of the Oklahoma Foundation for Medical Quality and volunteers as a court appointed special advocate for children and with the Alzheimer's Association.

2010



Amanda (Towle) Meier has been hired as the Bismarck Public School's first-ever Learning Design and Innovation (LDI) Director. She began her career as a teacher in Phoenix where she was named the 2014 Arizona Rodel Aspiring Principal of the Year and most recently, was recognized as Principal of the Year by the North Dakota Association of Elementary Principals for her work at Lewis and Clark Elementary School in Mandan.

Eagle Award

The Minot Area Chamber EDC honors individuals who have excelled in customer service with the Eagle Award. The following Minot State alumni were recipients of the Eagle Award:



Florence (St. Croix) Helde '94, Target



Cory Almy '97, Minot's Finest Collision Center



Jennifer Lemon '06, CHI St. Alexius



Jazmine (Wolff) Schultz '11, Prairie Sky Breads



Rayme (Clark) Haggin, Divide County Elementary, Crosby, was named 2024 ND County Teacher of the Year for Divide County.

2011



Samantha (Gores) Klein '11/'14 was promoted to director of special projects at the Arizona Department of Education/Exceptional Student Services in September 2023.



Kara Kline is a board-certified nurse practitioner who has joined the Trinity Health FirstCare Walk-in Clinic. She received her Master of Science in Family Nurse Practice from Maryville University, St. Louis.

Mary (Gress) McHugh, Sweet Briar School, Mandan, was named 2024 ND County Teacher of the Year for Morton County.

2012



Cassandra (Lavey) Allerdings '12/'18 has joined North Dakota State University Extension as the family and community wellness agent in Morton County. Before coming to NDSU Extension, she was an elementary education teacher with Bismarck public schools and, prior to that, a teacher and gifted and talented specialist in Minot.

2013



Bryan Banfill has been named the City of Minot Public Works operations director. He comes to the city after retiring from a 21-year career in the U.S. Air Force, most recently in the Human Systems Division of the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center at Ohio's Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.



Thomas Maus is serving as superintendent at Griggs County Central in Cooperstown. He previously taught and coached football in Grafton and Jamestown.



Kyle Patterson '13/'20 has joined Minot State as the new academic advisor for the School of Business, Math, and Technology. He previously served as an admissions counselor in enrollment services at MSU, the State of North Dakota on the Vision Zero traffic safety program, and at the Bank of North Dakota in financial literacy.



Kara (Dietz) Pulver has been named director of marketing at Coal County Community Health Center and Sakakawea Medical Center that serve the communities of Beulah, Center, Hazen, and Killdeer. She has been employed with CCCHC/SMC for nine years.



Cole Stober joined Bravera Bank in Minot in the role of mortgage banking officer. He has worked in the financial industry since 2018.

2014



Katelyn (Weiss) Lesmann, First International Bank and Trust, was named to the Greater North Dakota Chamber's annual list of 5 Women to Watch in North Dakota. The list spotlights individuals whose achievements are driving progress in their organizations and industries.



Stephanie Little, Minot State social work assistant professor, was awarded a health equity position at Be the Match through the National Marrow Donor Program for Summer 2024. She joined the health equity team responsible for addressing barriers to transplant and advancing initiatives to reduce health disparities for AI/AN patients.

2015



KateLynn Albers, MSU assistant professor of accounting and finance, was honored with the Making a Difference Award by the ND CPA Society at their annual convention. The award recognizes contributions made by a society member in community service, education, or the CPA association.



Stacy Fournier was honored with the Bobbie Steen Foundation Legacy Award at the Sport BC Athlete Awards Ceremony. Fournier is head coach for the Simon Fraser University Red Leafs softball team in British Columbia, Canada.



Whitney (Pandolfo) Rick, Burke Central School District, Lignite, was named 2024 ND County Teacher of the Year for Burke County.



Wyatt Waselenchuk, Minot State men's hockey head coach, was named the 2024 Men's Division I Coach of the Year as selected by ACHA Men's Division I head coaches. He was also named assistant coach for the United States Men's National University Team that will compete in the 2025 Winter World University Games in Torino, Italy.

2016



Wendy (Dammen) Kimble, Karuna Holy Fire III Reiki master, works in Reiki energy healing and is a facilitator for chakradance at her studio, Indigo Muse Studios. She also teaches art through the Taube Museum of Art, is an artist member at Artspace Suite 1 Gallery, and project coordinator for Creative Night Out First Thursday events in Minot.



Kayla (Scholes) Tatro '16/'20, Roosevelt Public School, Carson, was named 2024 ND County Teacher of the Year for Grant County and was one of four finalists for the state's 2025 Teacher of the Year award.

2017



Heather (Oswalt) Zander has joined Trinity Health as a provider at their walk-in clinic. A board-certified nurse practitioner, she provides care to patients to evaluate their health status and recommends treatment for a full range of conditions.

2018



Paige Wright has been hired as the Blue Devils women's basketball head coach for Lawrence Technological University, Michigan. She spent the previous two seasons at Huntington University, Indiana, as assistant coach and recruiting coordinator.

2019



Aaron Richard has joined the SCHEELS corporate offices in Fargo. He began his SCHEELS career in Minot in 2014 and, since then, has interned at the corporate office, worked in the original Eden Prairie (Minn.) store, and helped open the current Eden Prairie location.

2020



Ryan Clark has been named the women's basketball head coach for Minot State University after serving as an assistant for two years. Clark was previously head coach and assistant athletic director at Lake Region State College in Devils Lake.



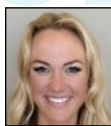
Emily Love has joined Visit Minot as the director of group development. She will assist incoming team events, conferences, and conventions and curate and grow new events.

Amanda Somerville was honored at the City of Minot's Winter Employee Recognition event for helping save a woman's life during a call for service. Somerville works for the city's police department.

2021



Taylor (Kraft) Kirkhorn will be teaching fifth and sixth grade writing and coaching girls' basketball at Velva Public School. She previously taught third, fourth, and fifth grade at Sawyer Public School.



Abbie (Wilhelmi) Johnson is serving as a speech and language pathologist at Chatter Pediatric Therapy in Minot.

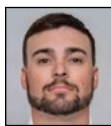
Macee Sortland has joined Velve Public School as a preschool teacher. She previously spent two years teaching sixth grade reading at Erik Ramstad Middle School in Minot.



Myles Sundby was named the 2023 Trooper of the Year by the ND Motor Carriers Association. He serves as a motor carrier operations trooper for the North Dakota Highway Patrol and is stationed in Grand Forks. The award reflects the trucking industry's appreciation for enhancing safety for those who depend on the highway for their livelihood.



Tanner Verplancke was promoted to assistant athletic director of marketing and fan engagement by Tarleton State University Athletics in Stephenville, Texas. He has six years of experience in athletics marketing, including his time at Minot State as a graduate assistant of marketing, tickets, and promotions.



Tanner Wickham '22/'24 has been hired by Ottawa University as an assistant baseball coach and will be working with the university's hitters and catchers. Wickham was an assistant baseball coach at Minot State from 2022 to 2024 and coach of the Wickenburg Juniors Baseball team in the summer of 2017.

2023



Kayli Olson has been named junior assistant loan officer at Aspire Credit Union. She will collaborate closely with the mortgage team to assist members with home loan options.

2024



Olivia Reiser has been hired as a science teacher for Bottineau Public School.



Carly Boag was the first Minot State Beaver to be honored with induction into the Northern Sun Inter-collegiate Conference Hall of Fame. Inducted into the Minot State Athletic Hall of Fame in 2021, Boag etched her name in the record books during her basketball career at MSU, setting multiple University and NSIC records. Following her collegiate career, Boag played professional basketball in France, Finland, and Australia. She spent four seasons with the Women's National Basketball League Sydney Uni Flames, helping the team win the WNBL championship in 2016-17. Boag played five seasons with the Mandurah Magic of the NBL1, earning All-Star Five honors in 2017.



Josh Johnson is entering his first season as the men's assistant basketball coach at Fort Hays Tech | Northwest in Goodland, Kansas. Johnson was previously a part of the Minot State men's basketball staff, an MSU basketball player, and he played professionally with the Jacksonville Giants and semi-professionally with Worldvision Sports.



Paul Burns retired April 2024 from the Minot Police Department after 28 years of service. He was initially issued a patrol hat in 1996 and was promoted to Sergeant in 2008. Burns also served in the U.S. Air Force, the Army National Guard, and the Air Force Reserves for a total military service span of 31 years.

Friends



Cassidy Hjelmstad, SRT, was named to the Greater North Dakota Chamber's annual list of 15 Women You Should Know in North Dakota. The list spotlights individuals whose achievements are driving progress in their organizations and industries.



Brent Lohnes, North Dakota general manager for Hess Corporation, joined the Minot Area Chamber EDC Board of Directors. He has been general manager for

Hess since 2016 and with the company since 2007. He serves on numerous boards, including the North Dakota Petroleum Council and Minot State Board of Regents.



Kathleen Neset, Neset Consulting Service, was named to the Greater North Dakota Chamber's annual list of 15 Women You Should Know in North Dakota. The list spotlights individuals whose achievements are driving progress in their organizations and industries.



Tom Ross, Minot mayor, has been selected to participate in the inaugural cohort of The Hunt Institute's

Early Learning National Fellowship. The fellowship is a prestigious, invitation-only program designed to support locally elected officials who are committed to establishing their communities.



Greg Tschetter, Edward Jones financial advisor, qualified for the Edward Jones recognition conference, Pinnacle, which celebrates the contributions and achievements of the 205 top financial advisors from the firm's more than 19,000. Pinnacle is reserved for those who have achieved the highest level of firm recognition.

Borgen named NDACTE Teacher of the Year

Byron Borgen, a 1997 graduate from Minot State University with a degree in elementary education, was named the 2024 North Dakota Association for Career and Technical Education (NDACTE) Teacher of the Year. Borgen is the career and technical education educator at Memorial Middle School at the Minot Air Force Base.

Borgen started his journey into teaching by spending a year substituting in the Minot Public Schools system following his graduation from MSU. He taught CTE at Surrey for nine years.

After his time in Surrey, he worked a variety of positions, including running the daycare center at Job Corps, construction-related jobs, and curating a private museum collection of cars, motorcycles, and toys.

Borgen returned to teaching in 2018 after being offered a CTE position in Minot Public Schools.



L to R: Rick Hedberg, vice president for advancement/MSU Development Foundation executive director; Courtenay Brekhuis, director of alumni engagement; Byron Borgen; Stephen Young, principal of Memorial Middle School; and MSU President Steven Shirley.

In memory

It is with honor we dedicate this section to recognize alumni and friends who have passed away from approximately February 2024 through October 2024 or as submitted.

Graduates

'45 Perry (Hove), Arlene; Minot
'47 Peterson (Frick), Agnes; Kenmare
'51 Berget (Taylor), Doris; Saint Paul, Minn.
'51 King, Richard; Dickinson
'51 Riemer (Dickinson), Patricia; Garrison
'52 Bennett (Essig), Kathleen; Concord, Calif.
'52 Schafer (Senger), Marcy; Devils Lake
'53 Hager (Gumeringer), Delores; Rugby
'53 McIlroy, Bruce; Bellevue, Wash.
'54 Morris (Anderson), Helen; McLean, Va.
'54 Schenfisch (Knudson), MaryAnn; Makoti
'56 Hirsch (Hass), Irene; Williston
'57 Resch, Rita; Jeffersonville, Ind.
'57 Teigen (Gunderson), Bonny; Devils Lake
'58 Britsch, James; Wilsonville, Ore.
'59 Theige, Howard; Moorehead, Minn.
'61 Ely, Robert; Mt. Shasta, Calif.
'61 Halvorson, Edward; Devils Lake
'61 Schiele, Allen; Huron, S.D.
'62 Hadler, William; Annandale, Minn.
'62 Henry, Gordon; Grand Forks
'62 Ketterling (Damstrom), Judith; Conrad, Mont.
'62 Williams (Vixo), Elaine; Baraboo, Wis.
'63 Darling, Harry; Bismarck
'63 Dendinger, George; Bismarck
'63 Klokonos, Fred; Faribault, Minn.
'64 Gilbertson, Dean; Lincoln, Neb.
'65 Bone, Jack; Canyonville, Ore.
'66 Bauer, Kathleen; Kenmare
'66 Gietzen (Thompson), Janice; Minot
'66 Langseth, Jerome; Williston
'66 LeBeau (Shubert), Patricia; Bismarck
'67 Johnson (Haagenson), Marlys; Devils Lake
'67 Schepp, Ronald; Coleharbor
'69 Schmidt, Merle; Louisburg, Kan.
'69, Froeber (Kongsli), Kathleen; Minneapolis
'71 Lagerquist, Steven; Athol, Idaho
'71 Moen (Axness), Sheryl; Upham
'71 Olmsted, Gary; Mandan
'73 Lovelien (Fox), Marjorie; Minot
'73 Vaught (Dennis), Jewell; Cleveland, Tenn.
'74 Dean (Bauer), Linda; Minot
'77 Ramey, George; Minot
'77 Wheeler (Fugere), Linda; Denver
'78 Hinrichs (Landgrebe), Sandra; Kansas City, Mo.
'78 Iverson (Miller), Laurie; Mansfield, Texas

'79 Morstad (Bernauer), Marilyn; Grand Forks
'80 Bratvold, Craig; Detroit Lakes, Minn.
'80 Gumeringer, Gary; Esmond
'83 Job (Malone), Mary; Snohomish, Wash.
'87 Edington (McGregor), Verna; Minot
'87 Hovland (Blaisdell), Kathryn; Rugby
'88 Hopson (McClintic), Nancy; Wolf Point, Mont.
'88 Nelson, Brian; Fargo
'88 Olson (Markhart), Cheryl; Williston
'89 Schmidt (Long), Michelle; Minot
'90 Swensrud, David; Minot
'94 Deuth, Judith; Hazelton
'95 Gilbert (Brasen), Joanne; Scobey, Mont.
'95 Halpain (Quammento), Michelle; Devils Lake
'95 Halpain, Michelle; Devils Lake
'96 Kleveland (Hanson), Jane; Buxton
'96 Merchant, Steven; Minot
'96 Smith, Larry; Minot
'97 Yundt (Uhlich), Monica; Mandan
'98 Schobinger, Randy; Delano, Tenn.
'00 Jacobson, Michael; Burnsville, Minn.
'06 Ramsey (Hagen), Jennifer; Minot
'07 Eklund, Frank "Tim"; Minot
'09 Power (Spotts), Dawn; Bismarck
'20 Sanders (Hanson), Tiffany; Glenburn

Attended

Azure, Lisa; Bottineau
Bechtold, Gregory; Minot
Bowen-Olson (Nyre), Anne Marie; Edina, Minn.
Eaton (Arndt), Betty; Minot
Faul (Harju), Lorraine; Minot
Gates, Moine; Grand Forks
GreyBear, Loren; Devils Lake
Hagen, Donald; Minot
Hope, James; Dickinson
Hurly, Mary; Tucson, Ariz.
Olson, James L.; Phoenix
Klosterman, David; Minot
Kramer, Philip; Scobey, Mont.
Lesmeister (Koch), Cynthia; New Rockford
Mahlum (Pancerzewski), Blanche; Oakes
McCann (Johnson), Marlene; Omaha, Neb.
Myers (Hulet), Kimberly; Minot
Oliphant (Willenbring), Doreen; Foxhome, Minn.
Olson, James; Minot
Salisbury, Richard; Devils Lake
Tveter (Skarphol), Lois; New Town

Friends

Berning (Okerstrom), Mary Ellen "Cookie"; Minot
Buchwitz, Lyle; Universal City, Texas
Clark (Taber), Elizabeth; Saint Paul, Minn.
Dendinger (Eslinger), Betty; Bismarck
Elgie (Stalwick), Donna; Minot
Engwis (Schmeichel), Sharon; Auburn, Wash.
Gotvaslee (Boutilier), Evelyn; Norwich
Graff, Dale; Carpio
Grosche, Larry; Minot
Haider, Leo; Minot
Hansen (Marsh), Velma; Jamestown
Hanson, Tom; Minot
Harkleroad (Burkett), Carol; Stilwell, Kan.
Hasby, Glenn; Minot
Holmen (Grubb), Loretta; Waunakee, Wis.
Kemper, George; Minot
Kinsella (Parker), Pamela; Bluffton, S.C.
Koble, Adam; Minot
Lang (Pellett), Ione; Minot
Lee, Heidi; Williston
Maragos, James; Minot
Martens, Franklin; Ross
Mathwich, Gary; Havre, Mont.
Middaugh, Bruce; Fargo
Milkey (Hendershot), Sharon; Minot
Ness, Paul; Grand Forks
Nilson, John; Minot
Olson, Ordean; Phoenix
Patterson, Clayton; Minot
Peterson (Piquette), Yvonne; Minot
Schweyen, Jim; Minot
Skorick, Michael; West Fargo
Smith (Sax), Marilyn; Albuquerque, N.M.
Sollin, Dale "Bennie"; Rugby
Tally (Clark), Linda; Lansford
Triplett, Theron; Minot
Vetter, Stanley; Minot
Woods (Metcalf), Patricia; Dunseith

Faculty and Staff

Billings, Kenneth, retired staff emeritus; Minot
Hill (Ballantyne), Marlene, former staff; Sioux Falls, S.D.
Lang (Reiner), Marie, former staff; Fargo
Williams, David, retired staff emeritus; Minot

BABY BEAVERS

Look who's new!



Arntson

The Arntson family welcomed Judd on Feb. 28, 2024. Proud parents are **Pat '15 and Jaci (Norbury) '15 Arntson**. He joins big sister Landry.



Battle

Finn Robert was born on July 4, 2024, to **Anthony '17 and Amber (Anderson) '17 Battle**.



Brekhus

Dakota '18 and Courtenay (Burckhard) '12 Brekhus welcomed Parker Rose on June 13, 2022. She joins big sisters Avery and Stella.



Kringen

Seth and **Stephanie (Sundhagen) '18 Kringen** welcomed a baby boy, Everett, on April 11, 2024.



Lakoduk

Taylor '16 and Delaney (Huss) '18 Lakoduk welcomed twins, Brooks and Etta, on June 27, 2024.



Le

Tony Le '15 and Hyeji Stella Lee '16 welcomed Damian on Dec. 07, 2023.



Larson

Riley entered the world on June 21, 2023. She was welcomed by **Joshua '10 and Addie (Weeks) '15 Larson** and big brother Cameron.



Larson

Dakota '15 and Carly (Stewart) '23 Larson welcomed Baker Jay on Feb. 2, 2024.



Lysne

Brooks Theodore was born May 23, 2023, to **Brady Lysne '15** and his wife, Megan. The family resides in Omaha, Nebraska.



Malafa

Atlas was born on Dec. 28, 2023, to **Darin '15 and Emily (Cunningham) '16 Malafa**.



Lembke

Geo entered the world on Sept. 12, 2023. Proud parents are **Tanner '21 and Jessica (Bingham) '22 Lembke**.



Massey

Miles was born Sept. 14, 2023, to **Isaac '18 and Miranda (Dyke) '19 Massey**.

Caiden Dale arrived on April 12, 2024. Proud parents are **Cameron '15 and Chelsea (Geis) '17/'22 McBeth**.



McBeth



Miner-Green

Ryan '18 and Jayla (Graham) '19 Miner-Green welcomed their first little one, Lennon Jo, on Nov. 18, 2023.



Powell

Marty and **Tina (Berndt) '06 Powell** welcomed Sage Louis on July 26, 2023.



Ramos

Jordan Paul joined the Ramos family on Oct. 8, 2023. Proud parents are Lorrin and **Allison (Stadstad) '13 Ramos**.



Reiter

Mason and **Sydnie (Schell) '15 Reiter** welcomed Cashtyn on March 11, 2024. He joins big brothers, Chase and Cade.



Rosenthal

Andy and **Lexi (Bahl) '15 Rosenthal** welcomed Scottie Jolene on July 27, 2023. She joins big brother Hale.



Steinwand

Isaiah '16 and Mariya (Williams) '16 Steinwand welcomed their first baby girl, Zuri, on June 8, 2022. She was welcomed by older brothers, Zaheir and Brycen.



Tatum

Thomas was born Feb. 29, 2024, to **Charles Tatum, Jr. '92** and his wife, Brea. He joins siblings Joshua, Jacob, Kimberly, and Harlow.



Tucci

Scarlet Marybeth was born July 5, 2023, to **James '21 and Nichole (Warren) '10 Tucci**.



Vega

Violet was born Oct. 20, 2023, to **Reece '10 and Cassandra (Saylor) '13 Vega**.

Have you had an addition to your family recently? <<<

We want to know! Contact Kate Marshall, director of foundation operations, 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 date of birth. 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.



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We are inspired to support Minot State University because of the exceptional nursing program that shaped our daughter, Darlis (Somerville) Mabin, who graduated in 1989 and is now serving as a school nurse in Las Vegas. Her positive experiences and the program's reputation have left a lasting impression on us. In light of the current nursing shortage, both locally and nationally, we understand the importance of investing in quality nursing education. Our support aims to help sustain the program and foster the next generation of skilled nurses.

– Dean and Diana Somerville

