

**Public Information Office**

**A NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY**

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**Sept. 25, 2013**

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**Homecoming king and queen named**

Residence Life and Housing candidates, Gary Heitkamp and Tiffany Jaeger, captured both crowns during Minot State University Homecoming coronation Sept. 21. Heitkamp, a Minot native, is a biology and chemistry major. Jaeger, from Washburn, is majoring in psychology.



Other members of the Homecoming court are Alex Baker, Hanna Borner, Jordan Brown, Rachelle Brown, Jamie Council, Kylie Gamas, Samantha Gores, Courtney Johnson, Sarah Johnston, Camilla Keller, Ward Lamon, Nicole Love, Lindsey Nelson, Karen Niewoehner, Jared Schumaier, Phillip Streccius, Andrew Torgerson, Sarah Tucker, Sarah White and Roy Whyte.

**MSU Alumni Association to bestow awards**

Four Minot State University alumni, Lona Anderson, Robert "Rob" Anderson, Gary Cederstrom and Clint Severson, will receive the MSU Alumni Association's Golden Award Thursday (Sept. 26) in the Conference Center, 6 p.m. Nathan Conway will receive the Young Alumni Achievement Award. Banquet tickets are \$25 and can be reserved by calling 858-3373.



The Golden Award is the highest award bestowed by the MSU Alumni Association, and selections are based on outstanding service to the university or alumni association and distinguished career or community leadership. The Young Alumni Achievement Award recipient is between the ages of 21 to 39.

Lona Anderson, retired realtor, graduated from Minot State in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science in Education. After teaching business classes in Casselton, New Town and Rugby, she moved to Minot and began a real estate career in 1978.

Robert "Rob" Anderson, MSU art adjunct professor, graduated from MSU with a bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1983. He returned to MSU to earn a master's degree in elementary education in 1999. As an undergraduate student, he belonged

to the Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity.

After teaching for Minot Public Schools for 25 years, the New Rockford native retired in 2011. However, he was quickly called back into service to become the special assistant to the MSU president, or “flood ombudsman,” after the 2011 Mouse River Flood.

Gary Cederstrom, crew chief with Major League Baseball, graduated from MSU in 1978 with a bachelor’s degree in physical education. While attending Minot State, Cederstrom belonged to the M Club and Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity. He was also a member of the Beaver Baseball team for four years.

For the past 34 years, Cederstrom umpired professional baseball, joining MLB staff in 1997. The Minot native has umpired in six Division Series, six League Championship Series, one All-Star Game and one Japan All-Star Series. He worked both the 2005 and 2011 World Series.

Clint Severson, Forbes’ 2007 “Entrepreneur of the Year,” is the president and chief executive officer of Abaxis, a point-of-care medical diagnostic company. Graduating from MSU with a bachelor’s degree in business administration in 1973, Severson’s job search took him to San Francisco.

In 1984 Severson discovered his true calling: turning small, start-up businesses into profitable companies. Severson’s latest success story is Abaxis; under his leadership, sales have grown 28 percent, compounded annually to over \$186 million per year and reach an operating profit of over \$40 million.

Feb. 9, 2010, Severson and Connie Ahart donated \$1 million to establish the Severson Entrepreneurship Academy. SEA uses business courses to teach multidisciplinary classes related to the creative process of building a business. Abaxis also provides internships for MSU students.

Nathan Conway is chief executive officer of Fortis Energy Services, a Michigan-based oilfield well services company. Previously, Conway was chief operating officer of Ward Williston Oil Company, a North Dakota-based oil and gas exploration and production company. He led the business’ daily operations and oversaw its strategic plan to grow within the Williston Basin and expand its holdings in Colorado and Michigan.

The Westhope native earned a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from MSU in 2001. He holds an MBA from the University of Michigan’s Ross School of Business. To read the full news release, visit [www.minotstateu.edu/pio/pdf/2013\\_09\\_13\\_Release\\_GoldenAwards\\_NR.pdf](http://www.minotstateu.edu/pio/pdf/2013_09_13_Release_GoldenAwards_NR.pdf).

### **MSU Academic Hall of Fame honors Kim Baldrige**

Minot State University announces the induction of Kim Baldrige, theoretical chemistry professor at the University of Zurich, into its Academic Hall of Fame for 2013. The MSU Faculty Senate selects inductees from faculty and community nominations to represent a range of outstanding career achievements by MSU alumni.

MSU will honor Baldrige at a banquet Sunday (Sept. 29) in the Conference Center, beginning with a social at 5 p.m. Community members as well as MSU students, faculty and staff are welcome to attend. Faculty are encouraged to sponsor students from their departments so they may interact with accomplished professionals who began their careers at Minot State.



A Minot native, Baldrige graduated from Minot State with majors in chemistry and mathematics in 1982. She holds a master’s degree in mathematics and a doctorate in theoretical chemistry from North Dakota State University. She also completed post-doctoral work in theoretical chemistry at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn. In addition to being a faculty member, Baldrige is founder and director of the Grid Computing Competence Center, which fosters research, education, infrastructure and usage of distributed computing at UZM. She is a prolific scientist, who has authored or co-authored 161 peer-reviewed articles, two books and 17 book chapters, mostly in the field of computational chemistry. She will speak at the banquet about her start at MSU and the opportunities she has had along her career path.

Banquet tickets are \$27 for adults and \$20 for students. For tickets, contact Amy Woodbeck, professional and community education coordinator, at (701)858-3989 or [amy.woodbeck@minotstateu.edu](mailto:amy.woodbeck@minotstateu.edu). Parking is available on the Student Center’s east side.

### **MSU Homecoming 2013: ‘Then, Now, Always’**

Minot State University continues its tradition of excellence as it celebrates its 100th birthday and 84th Homecoming. It officially kicked off Sept. 21 and runs through Sunday (Sept. 29).

Thursday (Sept. 26), recipients receive the highest honor bestowed by the MSU



Alumni Association at a banquet in the Conference Center at 6 p.m. Lona Anderson, Rob Anderson, Gary Cederstrom and Clint Severson are the 2013 Golden Award recipients, while Nathan Conway will receive the Young Alumni Achievement Award. Banquet tickets are \$25 and can be reserved by calling 858-3373.



Friday (Sept. 27), the Homecoming Alumni Reunion, open to all MSU alumni and friends of the university, will convene at The Grand, 7 p.m. This year, special reunion groups include an All Greek Reunion and the '83 and '85 football teams.

Homecoming reaches its apex Saturday (Sept. 28) with the Homecoming Parade at 10:30 a.m. The parade route begins by Thompson Larson Funeral Home and travels north to its final destination in the Dome parking lot. A tailgate party will follow in the Dome's east lot. The MSU Beavers face off against Winona State University in football at Herb Parker Stadium, 1:30 p.m. During halftime, the Homecoming royalty, the MSU Marching Band and the '83 and '85 football teams will be introduced. Then dressed in red, hundreds of MSU students, alumni and friends will gather on the football field for an MSU Centennial Celebration group photograph. Photos can be ordered at [www.minotstateu.edu/100](http://www.minotstateu.edu/100).

Homecoming concludes Sunday (Sept. 29) with the MSU Academic Hall of Fame banquet in the Conference Center at 5 p.m. The inductee is Kim Baldrige, chemist and 1982 MSU graduate, who specializes in theoretical chemistry and supercomputing. A Minot native, Baldrige is a professor of theoretical chemistry at the University of Zurich. Banquet tickets are \$27 for adults and \$20 for students. Tickets may be obtained by contacting 858-3989 or [amy.woodbeck@minotstateu.edu](mailto:amy.woodbeck@minotstateu.edu).

For more information, visit the Homecoming Week website, [www.minotstateu.edu/alumni/homecoming.shtml](http://www.minotstateu.edu/alumni/homecoming.shtml), or call student activities at 858-3987, advancement at 858-3373 or athletics at 858-3041.

### **MSU Centennial symposium celebrates the Great Plains**

Minot State University is directly connected to place, to the northwest region of North Dakota and to the larger global environment. To commemorate MSU's Centennial Celebration, the Great Plains Symposium will feature MSU's legacy, place and vision Oct. 11-12 with speakers, presentations and performances. This event, co-sponsored by the North Dakota Humanities Council and the MSU Board of Regents, is on MSU's campus.

"Minot State University would like to invite the community to attend the Great Plains Symposium Oct. 11-12. The symposium is open to all and features topics on MSU's Centennial history, Great Plains immigrants and the region's future," said Warren Gamas, symposium co-chair. "Author Ian Frazier will present the keynote address Oct. 11 on issues related to his book, 'Great Plains.' His book is a provocative and fascinating study that does not hold back in its discussions of the many issues and challenges that are unique to our region."

Ian Frazier, American writer and humorist, is best known for his 1989 non-fiction history "Great Plains," his acclaimed 2010 best-selling opus "Travels in Siberia," and as a writer and humorist for The New Yorker. His other published works include "The Fish's Eye," "On the Rez," "Family," "Coyote v. Acme" and "Dating Your Mom."

The symposium schedule features the following historical presentations:



- "The North Dakota Experience" by D. Jerome Tweton, Chester Fritz distinguished history professor emeritus, University of North Dakota.
- "State Normal Schools and the Expansion of Educational Opportunity: Minot State's Origins in a National Context" by Christine Ogren, associate education policy and leadership studies professor, University of Iowa.
- "Standing on 'One Leg': Immigrants on the Great Plains" by Raymond Screws, historian.
- "When Dreams Come True: A Centennial History of Minot State University, 1913-2013" by Jonathan Wagner, history professor emeritus, MSU, and Mark Timbrook, adjunct history instructor, MSU.
- "Digital Minot Project" by Bethany Andreasen, history professor, MSU, and MSU history student interns. Andreasen and the student interns will present their research on the university's history.

Two panel discussions will also allow for dialog. One panel discussion will look at North Dakota's future. Another panel will feature MSU and the memories of retired MSU faculty and staff and alumni.

The Great Plains Symposium is free, though there is a minimal charge for Oct. 11 and 12 lunches. MSU students eat free.

To register or learn more, visit [www.minotstateu.edu/100/symposium.shtml](http://www.minotstateu.edu/100/symposium.shtml). The registration deadline is Oct. 4.

### **MSU unveils beaver statue**

Minot State University unveiled its beaver statue Sept. 24 in honor of the university's Centennial Celebration and first day of class, nearly 100 years ago.

The statue, located east of the MSU Dome on 11th Avenue, is composed of rebar (reinforcing bar/steel) and sits atop an erratic glacial, donated by Gravel Products. It was funded by donations to the MSU Alumni Association.

Belcourt artist Bennett Brien created the sculpture and incorporated curving lines to give it a feel of motion and power. In his research, Brien took photos of real beavers and measured a stuffed beaver at the Turtle Mountain Heritage Center in Belcourt, doubling its size for his sculpture.

Brien related the beaver works hard, much like MSU students, and the stick it holds is a symbol of the tools beavers use to achieve their goals.

"If I were to name this, I would call it 'Life's Journeys,'" Brien said. "It was an honor for me to create this for Minot State."



### **In the galleries**

Oct. 1-31 — "Poor Boy and the Mud Pony, an Arikara Perspective," paintings by Monte "Black Pinto Horse" Yellow Bird, Great Falls, Mont., Library Gallery.

Oct. 3-30 — "From the Quiet," exhibit by Sherry Lee Short, Fargo, Hartnett Gallery. The public reception with Short will be Oct. 30 in Hartnett Gallery, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

### **Faculty and staff achievements**

*The Office of Public Information proudly shares the many accomplishments of faculty and staff with the campus community in every issue.*

**Bethany Andreasen**, history professor, **Kevin Matze**, alumnus, and **Amy Lisner** and **Robert Schwartz**, students, will present "The Digital Minot Project: Promoting Student Historical Research and Presentations to the Community" at the Northern Great Plains History Conference, Hudson, Wis., Sept. 27.

**Stephen Banister**, library director, was recently appointed by Gov. Jack Dalrymple to serve a three-year appointment on the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council. NDLC assists in planning, coordinating, and evaluating the services and programs of North Dakota libraries.

**Deanna Klein**, associate professor of business information technology, has been appointed to the SRT Communications board of directors Sept. 13. Klein represents District 4, comprised of Minot, Burlington and Surrey.

**Kevin Neuharth**, associate communication arts professor, was named 2013 Outstanding Teacher by the Communication, Speech and Theatre Association of North Dakota. The award is given to teachers who demonstrated excellence in teaching, developed instructional materials or designed novel approaches to teaching.

**Nancy Pearson**, assistant communication arts professor, was inducted into the C STAND Hall of Fame.

**Tom Seymour**, business information technology professor, co-presented "Mobile Apps for Directors and Telco Leaders" at the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association Fall 2013 meeting in Chicago, Sept. 17. View the conference App -- <http://app.core-apps.com/ntcafc13>.

### **Minot State University Mission**

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

**Be seen. Be heard.**