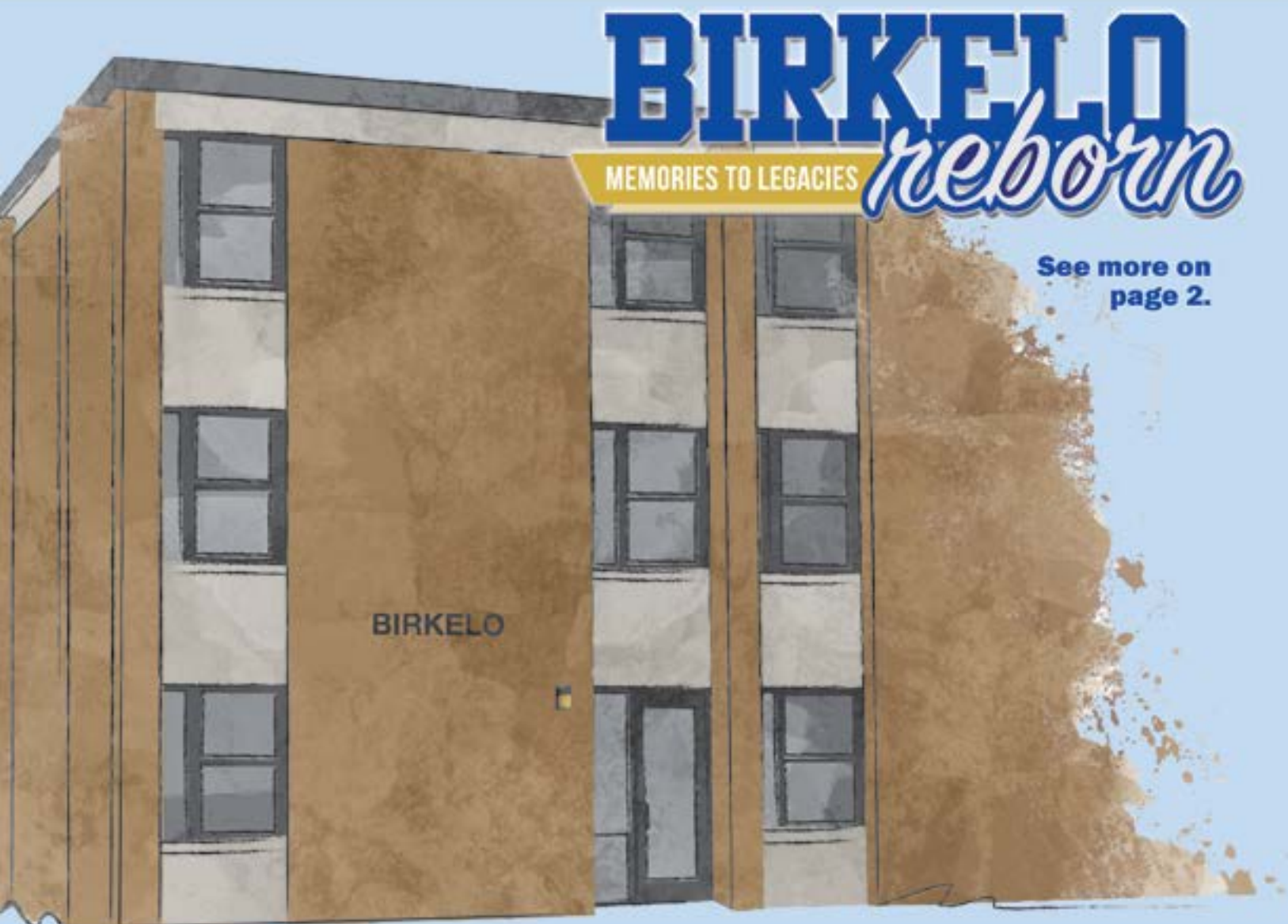


MSU *today*

Spring Edition

April 2017

a magazine for alumni and friends of Mayville State University



BIRKELO *reborn*

MEMORIES TO LEGACIES

See more on
page 2.



I'M THANKFUL FOR

Mayville State

WEEK

April 24-28
2017

See details on
pages 14 & 15!

Class of 1977 and Friends Reunion Celebration

Alumni Day 2017 • June 23

Members of the Class of 1977 and their Mayville State friends are cordially invited to take part in a 40-year celebration.

See more at www.mayvillestate.edu/1977.

Enjoy an evening with your Mayville State friends and the Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks

Wednesday, June 28, 2017

Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks vs. Sioux Falls Canaries
Newman Outdoor Field

Enjoy the game from the Armadillo Party Pavilion!

Ticket price includes a game ticket, plus all-you-can eat hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, potato salad, baked beans, potato chips, pop, water, and snacks.

Gates open at 6 p.m. • Game time is 7:02 p.m.



All Tickets - \$25

Tickets must be purchased by June 11.

Purchase at www.mayvillestate.edu/redhawks or call 701-788-4750.

Alumni Day 2017

Friday, June 23

Schedule of Events

2 p.m. • Guided Campus Tour Starts at front of Old Main

The Mayville State campus has been transformed over the last several years. Come and see all of the great facility improvements and changes! You'll have a chance to go through the recently completed Health, Physical Education, and Recreation facility, as well as other campus buildings.

2 to 3 p.m. • Open House and Ice Cream Social Birkelo Hall

Updates are underway at Birkelo Hall! Stop by to see how Mayville State is transforming the residence hall for use as a living and learning community for high-achieving students.

3:30 to 5:30 p.m. • Reception to Honor the 2017 Distinguished Alumni and Distinguished Service Award Recipients Edson and Margaret Larson Alumni and Leadership Center

You are welcome to stop by and celebrate the successes of this year's Distinguished Alumni Award recipients, Richard Balstad ('63) and Don Cavalier ('65), and Distinguished Service Award recipients, Mike Bakken and Jeff Braaten. Braaten will be recognized posthumously.

6 p.m. • Alumni Association Awards Dinner Campus Center Luckasen Room

Recognize the accomplishments of the newest Distinguished Alumni and Distinguished Service Award recipients.

Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased at www.mayvillestate.edu/alumnday or by calling the MSU Foundation, 701-788-4687. RSVP deadline is Monday, June 5.

8 p.m. to 12 a.m. • Alumni and Friends Social Mayville Golf Club

All Mayville State alumni and friends are invited to gather for socializing and refreshments. A cash bar will be available. A special invitation is extended to the Mayville State Class of 1977. We invite you to come "home" to Mayville State for the Alumni Day festivities and a 40-year celebration! See more at www.mayvillestate.edu/1977.

The Larson Center will be open 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. June 23. Feel free to stop by!



Don Cavalier



Richard Balstad



Mike Bakken



Jeff Braaten

MSUTODAY

a magazine for alumni and friends of Mayville State University

Spring Edition
April 2017

MSU FOUNDATION STAFF

Foundation Executive Director

John J. Klocke

Director of Alumni Affairs

Beth Swenson

Annual Giving/Phonathon Associate

Dena Bergstrom

Donor Services Representative

Michelle McLean

Chief Fund Accountant

Ian Bjerke

MSU Today Staff

Beth Swenson - Editor, Writer, Photographer, with contributions from John Klocke, Myrna Lyng, Michelle McLean, John Murphy, Dennis Hutter.

MSU FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Shireen Grinager

Secretary

Joni Keller

Vice President

Doug Petersen

Treasurer

Ernie Strube

Members: Dena Bergstrom*, Shannon Bergstrom, Ian Bjerke*, Joseph Dunn, Jr., Gary Hagen*, John J. Klocke*, Michelle McLean*, Mike Moore*, Kelly Morrison*, John Murphy*, Kelly Peters, Lynn Slaathaug Moen, Nick Storhaug, Beth Swenson*, Brad Wehe.

Members at Large: Terry Bachmeier, Dawn Cruff, Jon Ewen, Ray Gerszewski, Dianna Krogstad, Broc Lietz, Chris Lindberg, Craig Richie, Connie Tharaldson, Paul Twenge.

Alumni Association Board: Doug Anderson (secretary), Don Cavalier, Mary Cavalier, Gary Hagen*, Lucia Jacobson, Dean Krogstad, Kelly Morrison (vice president), Lori Nelson, Wayne Nelson, Cindy Petersen (president), Kurt Skodje, Pam Soholt, Beth Swenson*, Herb Thomson, Cleone Whelan.

Comet Athletic Club Board: Steven Bensen (secretary), Mike Carr (vice president), Gary Hagen*, Brian Halvorson, Rick Harpestad, Rick Karboviak, Mark Kloster (president), Mike Moore, John Murphy (treasurer), Rhonda Nelson, Shane Orr, Tami Parker, Tim Sorteberg, Josh Vice.

* ex-officio

MSU Today is published for alumni and friends of Mayville State University, and in the interest of Mayville State University, by the MSU Foundation, 330 Third Street NE, Mayville, N.D. 58257-1299. Bulk-rate postage is paid at Mayville, N.D. and at additional post offices. Correspondence and address corrections should be sent to Editor, MSU Today, Mayville State University, 330 Third Street NE, Mayville, N.D. 58257-1299. Articles appearing in MSU Today may be reprinted with prior permission. Discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin is contrary to the purpose and policies of Mayville State University.

TABLE of CONTENTS

CAMPUS NEWS Pages 2-6

- Plans underway for Birkelo Hall.....Page 2
- Near-space balloon launch yields amazing photos, data ...Page 3
- Study abroad experiences are life-changing.....Page 4
- Ogburn, Gonnella present research in SpainPage 5
- Recruit a Comet!Page 6

SPORTS NEWSPages 7-10

- Berry inducted into ABCA Hall of Fame.....Page 7

FOUNDATION NEWS Pages 11-14

- The Dueling Pianos Party comes to MSU!..... Page 11
- Giving Hearts Day generates \$14,000 Page 13
- Annual Fund - key to self-sustaining foundation.....Pages 14-15
- Honor Society president's dinner held..... Page 16

ALUMNI NEWS Pages 17-25

- Noles Stevens authors book.....Page 17
- Alumni and friends honored during Homecoming....Pages 18-19
- Dr. John Lyng honored at national EMS meeting..... Page 20

CLASS NOTES Pages 21-23

IN MEMORIAM..... Pages 24-25

2017 Calendar of Events

- Graduation Brunch/Commencement May 13
- MSU Golf ClassicJune 16 & 17
- Alumni Day 2017 June 23
- Mayville State RedHawks Outing June 28
- Harvey McMullen Classic Golf Tournament..... July 7
- CAC Sportsmen's Raffle Aug. 26
- Farmers Bowl Sept. 9
- Magnificent Italy! Tour.....Sept. 16-26
- Homecoming..... Oct. 6-8

See details at www.mayvillestate.edu.

On the cover: Plans are underway for a new living and learning community at Birkelo Hall. The top two floors of the building are being renovated and will be occupied by high-achieving students starting with the Fall Semester of 2017. See more on page 2.

Need a full service Realtor?
I will be with you before, during and even after your transaction! Proudly serving Fargo/Moorhead/West Fargo and the surrounding areas.

Dawn Cruff, REALTOR
NDHBA State/Local Associate of the Year
15 Yrs New Construction Experience
MSU Alum of 1991

701.361.7522
Dawn@GreenTmRealty.com
www.DawnCruff.REALTOR

GreenTeam Realty
A Colorful Approach

GreenTmRealty.com | 701.388.3503
3301 13th Ave S, Ste. 102, Fargo ND

Plans underway for living and learning community at Birkelo Hall

Renovation and exciting plans are underway for the Birkelo Hall residence hall. The new and improved facility will re-open in the fall of 2017 as a living and learning community that will encourage high-achieving first-year students to become a part of the Mayville State family. These are students who have a focus on excellence both in and out of the classroom. Rent for students accepted into the new living and learning community will be half-price.



Dr. Gary Hagen,
Mayville State University
President.

Student Life and/or Vice President for Student Affairs.

Students who are selected for the Birkelo Living and Learning program will be eligible for incentives, which include an on-campus housing credit valued at 50% of a double-occupancy rate, or about \$1,100. This award will be annually renewable if the student maintains a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher; and is actively involved on campus. The individual must remain a residential, on-campus student in good standing with the University.

Renovation

Not much has changed at Birkelo Hall since the facility opened in the 1960s. It's time to make some much-needed improvements. Campus personnel are busy sprucing up the rooms at Birkelo Hall "as we speak." The walls are being treated to create a more home-like feel. Fresh paint and window treatments are a part of the plan. New desks and beds are being purchased, and when all is said and done, the building will provide a lovely new place for our best and brightest to live and learn.

Birkelo Reborn: Memories to Legacies

Are you interested in sponsoring a room or study area in the new and improved Birkelo Hall? Perhaps you were a resident of the facility "back in the day." Here's your chance to sponsor a room and have your name remembered forever at Birkelo Hall. Did you and your buddies share a corner room? Maybe you'd like to get together and sponsor the room together. The price tag on this transformation of Birkelo Hall is about \$90,000. By sponsoring, you're giving much-needed assistance to your alma mater, and you'll be creating a legacy.

For more information about how you can get involved, please contact John Klocke at 701-788-4787 or john.j.klocke@mayvillestate.edu. You can see the details at www.mayvillestate.edu/birkeloreborn.

Come visit us!

The renovation of Birkelo Hall is another important piece in the transformation of the Mayville State University campus. Over the last several years, nearly every inch of the campus has been updated or expanded in some way. We're very proud of the wonderful improvements and the safe and beautiful environment in which our students are learning. If you haven't been to campus in a while, I encourage you to do so. Alumni Day on June 23 would be a great time to take a campus tour, see the great campus improvements, and check in on the progress at Birkelo Hall. Thank you for all you do to support our beloved Mayville State University.

With sincere gratitude,

Dr. Gary Hagen,
President

Near-space balloon launch yields amazing photos and data

Mayville State University faculty, staff, and students teamed up with students and faculty from Bismarck State College for a successful near-space balloon launch Saturday, Sept. 10, 2016. Those involved were up bright and early that morning as they prepared for a target 7 a.m. launch from the parking lot northwest of Old Main. Four Mayville State students held the balloon and payload until all was in order. Then the approximately 6-foot-in-diameter helium-filled balloon and attached payload were released. It quickly ascended high above Mayville, heading in the direction of Blanchard, N.D.



The payload included a camera and GPS tracking equipment.

Dr. Tony Musumba, associate professor of physics at Bismarck State, and Dr. Aaron Kingsbury, assistant professor of geography at Mayville State, headed up the project, which began long before launch day, as preparations were made. Among the things that needed to be done was to get permission from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). A balloon like this has the potential to be a hazard to aircraft. It was important that everything be in order.

What is involved in a near-space balloon launch?

The equipment includes a helium-filled balloon, which is about 6 feet in diameter on the ground, but swells to a much larger size in the very low pressure of near-space. The balloon, which eventually bursts, is equipped with a camera and data sensors, and the attached parachute helps the payload package return to earth safely. The whole process of ascent and return to earth takes two or three hours. The payload is tracked with GPS so that participants can retrieve it when it reaches the ground and later analyze the data captured.

Mayville State's first near-space balloon launch

There was an excellent turnout of students, staff, faculty, and others on launch day. Under perfect weather conditions the



Four Mayville State students held the balloon and payload until it was time to launch.



This cool photo of Mayville State's Old Main was taken from the payload attached to the ascending balloon.

launch went smoothly. After the balloon began its ascent, several participants got into vehicles and caravanned across eastern North Dakota and western Minnesota trying to calculate/predict where the payload would descend.

The balloon reached an altitude of 97,000 feet, which is near-space, before it burst. The payload descended north of Hawley, Minn. in an enormous unharvested field of corn. At that point,



This photo shows the balloon bursting when it reached 97,000 feet. Note the orange parachute that helped the payload reach the ground safely.

the GPS tracking device in the payload went silent. Rotten luck! The group spent many hours combing the field, but the payload was not recovered. Although labeled with contact information, project leaders did not think it would survive the combine at harvest time. Obviously, losing a payload is never ideal, but it is a risk inherent in ballooning. Thankfully, the payload was later located using different technologies by the very experienced balloonist Mike Holman, an associate professor of electronics at Bismarck State College.

Mayville State student involvement

High-altitude ballooning has a long history in facilitating scientific discovery in fields such as atmospheric science, meteorology, physics, chemistry, and remote sensing. It can also be a powerful motivational tool for students in K-12 STEM education. For this reason, three teacher education classes of MSU Associate Professor of Science Jeff Sieg worked with the project, along with local K-12 teachers.

When the data was collected from the high-altitude balloon payload, more Mayville State students had the opportunity to be involved with additional side projects.

The history of Birkelo Hall

The original Birkelo Hall, which now houses the Mayville State University Child Development Programs, opened in 1957. The dormitory was built to accommodate 60 men. Faculty and administration decided the new facility should be named for someone who had served the college in an exceptional way. Longtime professor C.P. Birkelo was chosen for the honor, and a formal dedication was held Oct. 12, 1957.

A new addition, larger than the original structure and having the capacity to house 80 men, was built during the administration of President Jenkins. It was ready for occupancy in the fall of 1964. The ground level of this building now houses the administrative offices of the MSU Child Development Programs. The top two floors of the building will now house men and women in the proposed Birkelo learning and living community.

Study abroad experiences are life-changing for MSU students

Mayville State University students have the amazing opportunity to study at the American College of Norway (ACN), a small institution located south of Oslo, in the town of Moss.

Students from all over the world attend ACN, making it a perfect low-stress international experience. Courses are taught in English, primarily by American university professors, and they fulfill Mayville State's essential studies requirements. In addition, students who study at ACN may transfer to Mayville State, so there is a possibility for Mayville State students to continue their international friendships.

Dr. Sarah Anderson, MSU assistant professor of education and co-chair of the MSU Diversity committee, has spearheaded this study-abroad opportunity using connections she

made prior to arriving at Mayville State in 2012. In January of 2016, Krista Lauritzen, ACN director, visited Mayville State and began conversations about developing an affiliate partner agreement between MSU and the ACN. This agreement allows students to attend a semester of college abroad at an affordable price.



Jeanette Sevigny is pictured at the top of the Mountain Preikestolen in Norway.



Bethany Larson is pictured by the ocean front at Moss, Norway.

Two Mayville State students, Bethany Larson from Grafton, N.D., and Jeannette Sevigny from Grand Forks, N.D., took advantage of the opportunity and studied at ACN last fall. Both found it to be a wonderful, life-changing experience.

Bethany said, "This amazing experience has made me want everybody at Mayville State to go to Norway. I am excited for my future career as a teacher and I look forward to incorporating global perspectives into my future students' learning. Going to the American College of Norway has been one of the best decisions I have made in my life. I was not only able to find myself, but also experience life in a whole different culture."

Reflecting on her experiences, Jeannette said, "I benefitted a lot from studying abroad and experienced many first-time events: going to an airport for the first time and leaving the United States for the first time. I got the chance to be independent from my family. These new experiences have changed me for the better and made me a more confident woman. These experiences will help me to be a better student while preparing to become a teacher. I encourage anyone to study abroad. It will make you a whole new person. I have grown as a person and my eyes have been opened to a world I never knew before."

While affordable, there are financial barriers to studying abroad, particularly for underrepresented students. These barriers include travel to and within Norway, immigration visa fees, passport fees, and other incidentals that come with relocation.

Please consider a Norwegian Heritage Gift to our Norway-bound students. Students who have a financial need and who desire to broaden their knowledge through the ACN will submit an essay and application to be considered for a stipend. Your tax-deductible gift could help one or more students to realize the dream of studying abroad in Norway, the homeland of many here in Mayville and around the country!

For more information on how you can help, please contact John J. Klocke, MSU Foundation executive director, at 701-788-4787 or john.j.klocke@mayvillestate.edu or go to www.mayvillestate.edu/studyabroad.

Ogburn, Gonnella present research at international meeting

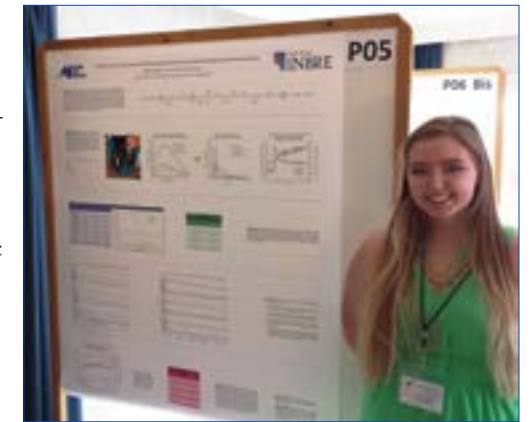
MSU Professor of Chemistry Dr. Thomas Gonnella and his student, Katelyn Ogburn ('17), presented their work at the 18th International Workshop on the Enzymology and Molecular Biology of Carbonyl Metabolism. The meeting was held in Sant Feliu de Guixols (Costa Brava, Spain), near Barcelona, from July 12 to 17, 2016.

Gonnella presented the work he has done with former Mayville State students and now graduates, Hannah Ness ('16), and Joseph Biggane ('14). The team of Gonnella, Ness, and Biggane studied ALDH2, an enzyme found in cells that fends off oxidative stress by helping to eliminate reactive oxygen species. This work is supported by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of General Medicine (NIGMS).

Katelyn Ogburn presented the work on which she has collaborated with Thomas Gonnella and Wyatt Russell, ('14), a former Mayville State student and now graduate. Katelyn's poster presentation focused on a more comprehensive look at the influence the magnesium ion has on the ALDH2 activity toward a wide variety of simple class of reactive oxygen species found in cells. In his oral presentation, Gonnella focused on the similar topic with an ALDH2 activator introduced. Their work is supported by an Institutional Development Award from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of

the National Institutes of Health.

The Carbonyl Meeting is held bi-annually. The scientific focus of the meeting is on enzyme superfamilies involved in the metabolism and detoxification of carbonyl containing substrates: alcohol dehydrogenases (ADH) and other medium-chain dehydrogenases/reductases (MDR), aldehyde dehydrogenases (ALDH), short-chain dehydrogenases/reductases (SDR), and aldo-keto reductases (AKR). These enzymes elicit an enormous interest within the biomedical field, in areas such as alcohol abuse and alcoholism, hormone metabolism, diabetes, heart disease, cancer, and stem cell biology.



Katelyn Ogburn presented the research of her team in a poster session during the Carbonyl Meeting held in Spain

Kiesau, Cruff focus on 'focus' in presentations at Larson Leadership summit

Jason Kiesau, author and motivational speaker from Iowa, was the keynote speaker for the fourth annual Larson Leadership Program leadership summit held at MSU Feb. 28. Kiesau also led a couple of breakout sessions, as did 1991 Mayville State graduate Dawn Cruff. The word of the day was "focus,"



Dawn Cruff was a presenter at the 2017 Larson Leadership summit.

and both presenters based their presentations on this concept that can be a benefit to all people as they pursue their goals. Jason Kiesau has been studying personal, professional, and leadership development for most of his adult life. He travels across the country working with leaders in the areas of self-management, relationship building, strategic thinking, and creating high-performing teams. Jason's purpose is to inspire confidence in everyone with whom he works, and he is passionate about helping these people pursue and achieve meaningful results.

Kiesau's most recent book, "Focused: Your Future Starts Now!" was featured during the summit. Copies of the book were distributed to summit participants.

Dawn's Cruff's break-out session was a spinoff of her involvement as a player on the Comets basketball team when she was a student. In her "Full Court Press" presentation, she likened the skills that are helpful in becoming a successful leader to a game plan. She stressed the importance of networking and being organized, skills she learned as a college student. She also highlighted the significance of having mentors, in addition to maintaining balance and giving back to your community as a way to show your appreciation for those who have helped you.

Cruff has had an impressive career in real estate, specializing in both existing and new home construction in the Fargo-Moorhead area. Guiding clients throughout the buying and selling process, she keeps their best interests a top priority. A member of the Mayville State Athletic Hall of Fame, as well as a recipient of the MSU Distinguished Alumni Award, she continues to stay connected to her alma mater, supporting the university in a number of ways.

Six MSU students to do research in Japan

Mayville State University professors Aaron Kingsbury and Lonamalia Parsons Smith and their students have been awarded a \$40,000 "ASIANetwork Freeman Student-Faculty Fellows" (SFF) grant to conduct research in Japan from May 13 to June 14, 2017. The project is "The future of the back roads and little farm towns in an urbanizing Asia: A case in study exploring cultural change in the rural communities of Yamanashi Prefecture, Japan." Mayville State's proposal was one of seven funded in 2017. The students will investigate the culture and people of smaller and less-studied Japanese communities.

Students on the research team with Kingsbury and Parsons Smith are Cherokee Durant, Devils Lake, N.D.; Cheyenne Durant, Devils Lake, N.D.; Ingrid Hefta, Mayville, N.D.; Megan Maassel, Fargo, N.D.; Nicholas Peterson, Rutland, N.D.; and Donte Stevens, Opa-Locka, Fla.

See details at www.mayvillestate.edu/japan.

Recruit a Comet!

Share the Mayville State Experience with your friends and relatives.
Are you a teacher? Share the good news with your students!

Recruit a Comet and you'll be helping others to experience the wonderful educational opportunities at Mayville State, just as you did, while helping Mayville State. There's no better spokesperson for the Mayville State Experience than someone who has lived it! Let's help to assure that the legacy of personal service continues.

The Recruit a Comet Toolbox

We're looking to expand our student recruitment efforts by enlisting the help of our alumni. Would you be interested in helping to recruit students to Mayville State by setting up a table at your local high school, or in the break room at your business? We'd love to send you the Comet Toolbox that includes a table cover, a few giveaways, and general informational publications that will let prospective students know the basics about what makes Mayville State special. We'd encourage you to be available at the table to answer questions and tell the prospective students about your Mayville State experiences.



If you're interested in receiving the toolbox or would like to have us visit your school or business, please contact MSU Director of Admissions Jim Morowski at james.morowski@mayvillestate.edu or 701-788-4619 or go to www.mayvillestate.edu/recruitacomet.

Do you know someone who would benefit from the advantages of a Mayville State education?

Perhaps you have a friend, student, or relative who would benefit from the Mayville State Experience. Complete the form at www.mayvillestate.edu/recruitacomet to refer a prospective student. Our Enrollment Services staff will follow up.

SPORTS NEWS



Stay in touch with Comets Athletics.

Too far away from Mayville State to get Comets sports scores in your local newspaper or on local radio and television stations?

Comets Athletics information, including team schedules and contest results, is only a click away on the web.

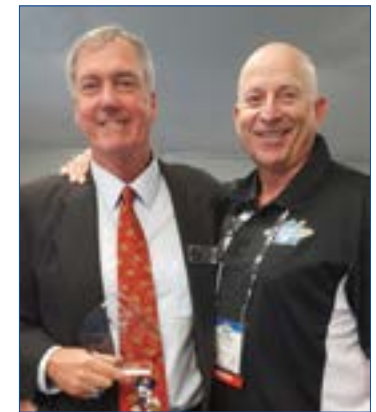
To get the latest, go to www.msucomets.com.

How'd you like to be part of the action live via web streaming, the next-best thing to being there? Learn more at www.msucomets.com.

Mayville's local radio station, KMAV, is now webcasting most Mayville State athletic events. Go to www.kmav.com to see the schedule and make a connection.

Berry inducted into ABCA Hall of Fame

MSU head baseball coach G. Scott Berry has been inducted into the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) Hall of Fame, the highest honor bestowed by the organization. The 10-member 2017 class was honored in a ceremony held Jan. 6, 2017 at the ABCA/Diamond Hall of Fame/Coach of the Year Banquet at the



Paul Twenge ('77) congratulates Berry on his latest hall of fame induction. Twenge was at the ABCA event.

ABCA Convention in Anaheim, Calif. Scott Berry was one of the six active NAIA coaches who eclipsed the 1,000-win mark during the 2016 season. The 2014 ABCA president and 1978 MSU graduate took over as head coach at Mayville State in 1982. He has grown the program into an NAIA powerhouse.

Under Berry's guidance, the Comets have won 23 regular-season conference championships, including 17 consecutive titles from 1986 to 2002. Additionally, the Comets have collected 21 conference tournament championships and have appeared in the NAIA national playoffs 26 times, including in 2016. In those 26 appearances, Berry's teams have won three NAIA regional titles, the 2002 Plains Super Regional title, and had a top-five finish at the NAIA World Series.

Prior to the 2016-17 season, Berry's career record as head coach stood at 1,012-573-1, good for a .683 winning percentage. He ranks fifth among active NAIA coaches in career wins despite the fact that more than 75% of the games in his career have been played away from Mayville State's Scott Berry Field, which was named in his honor in 2010.

Berry has been named as Conference Coach of the

Year 23 times, District 12 Coach of the Year nine times, and NAIA Region Coach of the Year four times, and he has coached 35 NAIA scholar-athletes, 25 NAIA All-Americans, and 22 players who have signed professional contracts.

An active participant in local, state, and national baseball organizations, Berry has been heavily involved with the ABCA for four decades. In addition to serving as ABCA president in 2014, he serves on the ABCA's Board of Directors and Nominations Committee. Berry has also been involved in the North Dakota Baseball Coaches Association, North Dakota Amateur Baseball Coaches Association, North Dakota College Athletic Conference, and USA Baseball.

He was previously inducted into the Mayville State University Athletic Hall of Fame, the NAIA Hall of Fame for Baseball, the North Dakota Amateur Baseball Association Hall of Fame, and the Christian Sports Commission Hall of Fame. He has also received the North Dakota Associated Press Sportswriters and Sportscasters Association "Special Achievement Award," the NAIA Robert E. Smith Achievement Award, and the FCA Jerry Kindall Character in Coaching Award.



Berry is flanked by former players Darin Everson ('95) (left) and Joel Barta ('95) (right), who were also at the convention in Anaheim.

Make a nomination! Athletic Hall of Fame Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame

We request your assistance in nominating deserving individuals for induction into the MSU Athletic Hall of Fame and Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame. Please take the time to submit a nomination at mayvillestate.edu/recognition.

- Inductees to the Mayville State University Athletic Hall of Fame fall into the following categories: athlete, team, Mayville State coach, Mayville State athletic staff, or honorary member. Athletes must have graduated from Mayville State at least ten years prior to induction, and have earned two letters in one sport or one letter in two or more sports.
- Inductees to the Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame must have graduated or left Mayville State ten or more years prior to induction. The award recognizes those Mayville State graduates who have excelled in athletic coaching during their careers. Consideration will be given for personal conduct in sports and personal contributions to the ideal of sports.

Complete nominations on file June 1 of each year will be considered for induction in that same year.

For more information, contact Beth Swenson at 701-788-4750 or beth.swenson@mayvillestate.edu.



April 24-28, 2017

You're invited to support Mayville State with your gift to the annual fund.

Your gift will be matched, up to \$35,000!

Gifts can be made online at www.mayvillestate.edu/givingday.

If you prefer, you may send a gift to MSU Foundation, 330 Third Street NE, Mayville, N.D. 58257.

Are you interested in advertising in the MSU Today?

A limited number of spots are available.

Contact John Klocke at john.j.klocke@mayvillestate.edu or 701-788-4787.

The latest from Comet Athletics

Submitted by John Murphy, assisted by Dennis Hutter

Softball

The Comets' softball team has just opened their conference slate and took three of four games against the Valley City Vikings. As of late March, this brings their overall record to 10-12 and 4-4 in the North Star Athletic Association. The Vikings were picked to finish 2nd in the NSAA this season and received some votes in the preseason Top 25 poll, which made these wins even more important.

Mayville State was able to start their season in late February at the Dome at Presentation College. The Comets traveled to South Dakota on consecutive weekends to get in some early games. Transitioning from the gym to game situations took a few games, as the Comets only picked up one win in their first eight contests. However, valuable experience and repetitions showed on their annual spring-break trip to Arizona. The Comets got in 10 games, grabbing six wins and some needed momentum.

To date, the Comets are in the top half of virtually every category. The biggest improvement has been defensively, as the Comets went from ninth in the conference in 2016 to leading the conference in Fielding Percentage. This year the Comets' defense is doing a fantastic job of limiting an opponent's extra outs. Offensively the Comets are sitting in fourth place in most offensive categories and right in the middle of the pack in the pitching department.

Individually, Kaitlyn Kuntz, Breeana Martinez, and Lauren Coronado have played error-free this season, putting them atop the Fielding Percentage list. Pitching-wise, Haley Kravetz is leading the NSAA in innings pitched/game, averaging a robust 6.1 innings per outing. Shaye Kemball is in the top 10 in every pitching category, with a 3.70 ERA and 62 strikeouts in 77 innings pitched. Kemball has six victories and two saves on the year. On offense, Nina Gurgian is fifth in Batting Average and second in RBI/game. Daisy Macias is second in Runs/game, fourth in Slugging Average, and fourth in Doubles/game. Kiana Ishikawa leads the NSAA in Triples/game and fourth in Stolen Bases/game and Coronado is also eighth in Doubles/game.

All in all, Mayville State softball has consistently improved over the last three years, and looks to make some noise at the top of the NSAA standings over the next couple of months.

Baseball

The Comets' baseball team came out strong in the fall and have continued to play well throughout the year. As of late March, they are 18-6 overall and 2-2 in the North Star Athletic Association.

Mayville State finished a seven-game fall season with a record of 6-1, including a 5-0 record against the other three

North Dakota NSAA schools (fall games are considered non-conference). The spring season began in earnest at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, where the Comets played eight games over two weeks and went 7-1. The key games were a two-game series against No. 11 Clarke University, which the Comets split. Then it was on to Arizona and a game against another ranked opponent, No. Westmont. A 2-1 victory gave the Comets another win over a Top 25 opponent. Those wins combined with a 16-4 record propelled Mayville State to the cusp of the top 25, finishing with 78 voter points and No. 27 overall.

Team-wise the Comets are once again a balanced ball club, strong in most every category. To date, Mayville State is third in ERA, third in Fielding Percentage, and fourth in Runs/game. The running game is perhaps their strongest component as they lead the NSAA with almost two stolen bases/game. Otherwise, they are in the top three or four in virtually every other category, which may mean their strength is that they have no weaknesses.

Individually, a number of Comets are making an impact. On defense, outfielder Dondrei Hubbard's error-free season puts him atop the Fielding Percentage standings. Shortstop Riley Nelson leads the conference in Assists/Game. Pitching-wise, Zach Mahoney and Kody Rock are in the top 10 in every pitching category and are 1-2 in total strikeouts so far this season. Mahoney is currently 3-2 with a 2.44 ERA and 56 K's in 48 innings while Rock is 5-2 with a 3.09 ERA and 48 strikeouts in 47 innings. Offensively, Brady Nygaard is second in the NSAA in RBI/Game, fourth in HR/game, and fourth in Slugging Percentage. Hubbard is excelling offensively as well, as he is fourth in Doubles/Game, eighth in Slugging Percentage, and ninth in Stolen Bases/Game. Drake Yoshioka leads the conference in Stolen Bases/Game and fifth in Runs/Game.

The competition is stiff at the top, as Bellevue is currently No. 8 in the country and Jamestown is rounding back into the form that gets them votes nationally. The Comets will look to continue their strong start in search of an NSAA title and another trip to the national tournament.

Volleyball

The Comets' volleyball team continues to add young talent and looks to rebound from an eleven-win season. A number of freshmen played key roles in 2016 and will look to use that experience to improve in a tough volleyball conference, as three North Star Athletic Association teams reached the NAIA national tournament last year and ranked in the top 25. In addition, 16 of the 22 2016 all-conference players return for the 2017 season. Mayville State will need to replace one of those six all-conference seniors in second-team all-conference opposite hitter Stephany Wold.

The Comets boast plenty of talent. Mayville State will lean on the lone senior, TaLise Hanson, to anchor the back line. She was seventh in the NSAA in total digs and ninth in digs/set. A

number of sophomores will need to make similar jumps in order to compete at the top of the NSAA. Hannah Bliss racked up 320 kills her freshman year, and her 2.5 kills/set ranked her tenth in the conference. Middle Hitter Whitney Janu was eighth in the conference in blocks/set and ninth in total blocks. Defensive specialist Jayden Warner was 11th in digs/set in the NSAA and led the back line in receiving percentage. Mackenzie Bring contributed all over the court and finished second on the team in assists and also played outside hitter.

Mayville State will add 14 new players next year. Three of these students are already enrolled and participating in spring workouts. Another 11 will join in the fall. Three are from junior colleges, providing some needed experience. They are Payton Kritzberger, Rumor Stokes, and Cassidy Miller. The incoming freshmen are Jordyn Lucas, Taylor Leitch, Jacey Ross, Miah Hansen, Hannah Johnson, Jaden Christianson, Maci Hart, Sydney Koontz, Jana Mehus, Jessica Lee, and Kaitlin Leier.

The large recruiting class will not only augment the existing talent base and foster competition, it will also allow the Comets to bring back a junior varsity program after a one-year hiatus. This will provide additional experience and repetitions for more players, making the team even stronger. The Comets play in one of the toughest conferences in the nation, but they look forward to testing themselves against the best!

Football

A new era in Comet football begins in 2017 as Sean Thom takes the reins. Coach Thom takes over for John Haines, whose contract was not renewed after three seasons. Thom was the defensive coordinator at North Forsyth High School in Cumming, Ga., a Class 7A high school with an enrollment of 2,400 students. He was also the linebackers coach at Faulkner University, an NAIA school in Montgomery, Ala., where he played college ball. Coach Thom's motto is "Live The Standard," and this motto will permeate every aspect of the program, from practice to academics to community involvement.

New assistants include offensive coordinator Rod Oksendahl, who spent 41 years in the North Dakota high school ranks, winning four state titles. Defensive coordinator Shane Clancy coached defensive backs at Buena Vista the last two years and coached at Northern State (S.D.) for four years prior. Quarterbacks coach Brian Quinn comes from Concordia (Neb.), where he spent the last four years coaching multiple positions on offense and was the JV offensive coordinator. Anton Anderson returns for his fifth season of coaching for the Comets. The last two seasons he has been in charge of the running backs. Jake McSpadden is in his second year as a graduate assistant working with the offense.

The Comets will have a number of all-conference players and starters returning. On offense, 2016 second-team running back Dondrei Hubbard, 2015 second-team quarterback Andrew Blake, and Desmond Earles will return to the

Comet backfield. The offensive line will be anchored by Bill Duckworth. Douglas Koeppin, 2015 second-team defensive lineman, returns for his senior season. The Comets are switching to a 3-4 alignment this fall, and linebackers Blaine Miller, Preston Hamlette, and Donte Stevens will be counted upon to generate plays. Jason Holmes, with ten career interceptions, will stabilize a young secondary.

Despite a late start with recruiting, the coaches have been working extensively in the surrounding area, not only convincing new athletes to join the Comets, but also laying the foundation for future recruiting classes. To date, the Comets have signed 22 players and will continue to recruit throughout the spring.

The returning players have been hard at work in the weight room this winter and have started spring workouts.

See "Comet Athletics" on page 10.

NAIA, NSAA announce academic awards for fall, winter sports

NAIA honorees

The Daktronics-NAIA Division II Scholar Athlete list for fall and winter 2016-17 includes football player Joseph Guidry, Elk Grove, Calif., and volleyball player Stephany Wold from Underwood, Minn. Basketball players earning the honor were Josh DeWitt, Lino Lakes, Minn.; Jacob Eaton, Roseau, Minn.; Austin Volk, Pembina, N.D.; Daniel Lindgren, Enderlin, N.D.; Garek Droog, Grafton, N.D.; Jacob Leier, Thief River Falls, Minn.; Michael Slaba, Canby, Minn.; and women's basketball player Andi Gayner, Dassel, Minn.

To be nominated, a student-athlete must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale and must have achieved a junior academic status. Mayville State is proud to say that the Comets had more athletes earn the honor than any other school in the NSAA.

NSAA honorees

To be eligible for selection as an NSAA scholar-athlete, a student must have earned a 3.25 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

Football players earning the award are Bill Duckworth, Glendale, Ariz.; Eti Falaniko, Anchorage, Alaska; Joe Guidry, Elk Grove, Calif.; Hunter McCall, Wahpeton, N.D.; Lance Rogenlin, Fargo, N.D.; Adrian Sevigny, Grand Forks, N.D.; and William Wilson, Campo, Calif.

Volleyball players receiving the award are Hannah Bliss, Nevis, Minn.; Joely Christianson, Fertile, Minn.; TaLise Hansen, Granby, Colo.; Whitney Janu, Frazee, Minn.; Megan Kolness, Ada, Minn.; Paige O'Connor, St. Michael, Minn.; Jayden Warner, Mayville, N.D.; and Stephany Wold, Underwood, Minn.

The NSAA list of honorees for winter sports was not available.

Comet Athletics cont'd. from page 9**Women's Basketball**

For the sixth consecutive season, the Mayville State women's basketball team finished their season with a winning record, the longest-such streak in the history of the program. During the past six years, the Comets have an overall record of 111-54, for a .673 winning percentage. They have advanced to at least the semi-finals of the NSAA tournament each of the four years the tournament has been in existence, while winning the inaugural tourney in 2014. This past season the Comets finished with an overall record of 17-12, and a winning record within the NSAA with a 9-7 mark. With their defeat of Bellevue University in Omaha in the first round of the NSAA tournament, the Comets advanced to the semi-finals of the tournament.

Without a senior on the roster, the Comets had to rely on seven freshmen to contribute heavily. The team had only a 4-6 record heading into Christmas break, but after Christmas they traveled to California and won two games, and that propelled the team to a seven-game winning streak. Then followed a four-game losing streak through the middle part of January. However, they finished the season strong, winning six of their last seven games before entering the NSAA tournament.

NAIA announces Champion of Character recipients for fall, winter

Champions of Character provides training for student-athletes and professional development for coaches and staff. The values of integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship and servant leadership are put into play and accounted for at NAIA schools.

Rashod Thomas, a football player from Cairo, Ga., and Stephany Wold, volleyball player from Underwood, Minn., were the fall sport recipients. Karleigh Weber, a basketball player from Thompson, N.D., and Josh DeWitt, a basketball player from Lino Lakes, Minn., were winter sport recipients.

Benefit for Pratt a success

Pete Pratt, who joined the baseball coaching staff six years ago, has severe health problems. A benefit to help defray his medical expenses was held March 20 at



the Goose River Masons Lodge. Kurt and Chase Elliott donated burgers and brats. The Masons cooked and served the meal, and baseball and softball players cleaned up. An impressive \$3,700 was raised. Pete (right, front) is shown with some of the Comets baseball players.

The team was led all year long by Andi Gayner. Andi led the NSAA in scoring, averaging 19.1 points per game and 7.9 rebounds per game. Gayner finished the year with a number of accolades, including first-team all-conference, honorable mention NAIA All-American, and NAIA scholar athlete. Karleigh Weber, another junior, also had a solid second-half of the season and finished averaging 8.2 points per game. She shot 34% behind the arc, good for seventh in the NSAA. She made 41 3's on the season, good for tenth in the NSAA.

A couple of freshmen who stepped into the lineup contributed immediately. Naomi Torgerson also contributed as she averaged 12.9 points per game, and was third in the NSAA in steals. Torgerson's season earned her the NSAA Newcomer of the Year award. Claire Blaszczek averaged 12.3 points and led the NSAA in 3 PT FG% as she shot 38.0% for the season behind the arc. Andrea Skillingstad also played well as a freshman, collecting 49 blocks, good for third in the NSAA.

The Comets return their entire roster for next season. "It's definitely an exciting time for our program," explained Head Coach Dennis Hutter.

Men's Basketball

After graduating nine seniors, the 2016-2017 Comets' men's basketball team suffered some growing pains. With only two seniors and three juniors on varsity, a number of freshmen and sophomores were counted on to make contributions. The Comets got off to a good start, but some early close losses in conference play snowballed into a long season. Mayville State finished with a 9-18 overall record and 2-14 in the North Star Athletic Association. While the young Comets took some lumps this season, 13 players with varsity experience will be returning for the 2017-2018 season. The learning experiences from this season could be the foundation for a bright future for Comets' men's basketball.

An early home stretch garnered some early optimism for Mayville State, as the Comets raced out to an early 6-1 record, buoyed by some strong defensive efforts. However, the conference slate was punishing. The Comets finished on a high note when they upset Dakota State on their home floor in the season finale.

As 15 players received substantial playing time and 14 started at least one game, individual statistics were spread evenly. Aiden Quinn finished fourth in the conference in Assist to Turnover ratio, Garek Droog finished fifth in blocked shots, and Daniel Lindgren finished eighth in three-point percentage. Ben Maranan shot 87% from the free-throw line and Max Cooper shot 54% from the field. The Comets did finish 14th in the nation in scoring defense.

The Comets are searching for a new head coach, as coach Dan DeWitt's contract was not renewed. The search is ongoing and a new coach should be in place by the middle of April.

**See the Comets sports schedules at
www.msucomets.com.**

FOUNDATION NEWS**The MSU Foundation**

The purpose of the MSU Foundation is to serve as the vehicle for resource development in support of Mayville State University; and to raise, manage, and disburse funds for the sole benefit of Mayville State University-approved needs. The Comet Athletic Club and the Alumni Association operate under the umbrella of the MSU Foundation.

For more information about the work of the MSU Foundation, please contact MSU Foundation Executive Director John J. Klocke at 701-788-4787.

The Dueling Pianos Party comes to Mayville State!

Broc Lietz ('93) enjoyed a moment in the spotlight while singing his favorite, "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown."

The young, energetic, and exciting Midwest Dueling Pianos entertainers were at MSU Friday evening, Feb. 3, 2017, just in time to help chase away the winter blues and cabin fever! Mayville State University alumni and friends packed the house at the Campus Center Luckasen Room and had a wonderful time jamming to the music. Some sang along, some sang solo, some danced, and others made their way around the room in a conga line, but one thing was sure ... everyone had lots of fun!

The all-request-driven show featured music ranging from the songs of today to as far back as memories can take you. Tips left with requests for the pianists helped to sway their song choices, and Mayville State benefited in a big way. About \$1,500 in tips was raised and added to the proceeds for the night.

The Dueling Pianos Party was held to benefit the students of Mayville State University through the Annual

Fund. Thanks to the generosity of several sponsors, 100% of the ticket proceeds from the Dueling Pianos Party went to the MSU Foundation Annual Fund.

Entertainment sponsors were Kim and Rob Lauf and Betsy and Jon Ewen of Mayville, N.D.

Entertainment co-sponsors were Linda and Roger Baier of Mayville. The hors d'oeuvres buffet was sponsored by Terry Bachmeier of Mesa, Ariz. and co-sponsored by Steve and Linda Hilstad of Mayville. Overall event sponsors were Moore Engineering, Riddle's Jewelry, and Gate City Bank. Hometown Inn of Mayville offered a special rate for people attending the Dueling Pianos Party.

"The Dueling Pianos Party was a smashing success all the way around," said Dena Bergstrom, organizer of the event and MSU Foundation Annual Giving Associate. "The Annual Fund grew by almost \$11,000 as a result of the party, and best of all, nearly 250 alumni and friends enjoyed the experience immensely."

Midwest Dueling Pianos brought a level of fun to Mayville State that those who attended will not forget. Plans are underway for a repeat performance in 2018. More information will be available soon.

See the latest from Mayville State via weekly email alerts.

Go to www.mayvillestate.edu/alumniupdates and provide your email address today!

Please remember to add Mayville State to your address book so our messages don't bounce.

Submit your alumni news at mayvillestate.edu/alumniupdates.

Beautiful weather, teamwork make for a great Farmers Bowl



Rick Karboviak (right), organizer of the Field Frenzy Farmers Bowl 5K run/walk gives final instructions before giving the signal to start the race.

Beautiful weather was the icing on the cake for another successful MSU Farmers Bowl. The annual celebration of the area's agricultural way of life took place Saturday, Sept. 12, 2016. The MSU Foundation, MSU Athletic Department, and MSU Alumni Association, together with alumni and friends in the Mayville-Portland community and beyond, join each year to celebrate Farmers Bowl. This year marked the 22nd annual Farmers Bowl, and activities included the Farmers Bowl Field Frenzy 5K run/walk, a parade, a corn on the cob and hot dog feed hosted by the MSU Athletic Department, the Farmers Bowl football game featuring the MSU Comets vs. the University of Wisconsin-Stout, and the Farmers Bowl Auction.

Lois Karlstad and Cheryl Angen, both of Mayville, were co-chairs for the festivities. Other Farmers Bowl committee members were Doug Anderson, Dena Bergstrom, JoDee Dungan, Rick Karboviak, Leah Larson, Ashley Mooney, Rhonda Nelson, Mindy O'Connor, Beth Swenson, and Ann Willeson. These folks were assisted by the MSU Athletic Department, the MSU athletes, members of the MSU Collegiate DECA organization, and many others.

The Farmers Bowl festival started out with the Field Frenzy Farmers Bowl 5K run/walk, which was coordinated by Rick Karboviak. The race began and ended in front of Mayville State's historic Old Main. The course went through

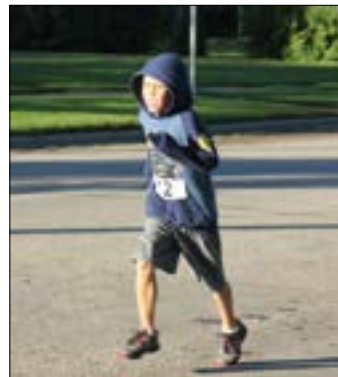
the Mayville State campus, making a jaunt into Jerome Berg Field. Overall winner of the race was Colin May, a member of the Mayville State men's basketball team. Kathy Benneweis, Enderlin, N.D., came in first in the women's division. Fifty-four people, including the entire MSU men's basketball team, finished the race.

The Farmers Bowl parade, led by MSU President Dr. Gary Hagen, who was driving an antique John Deere tractor, included a number of antique vehicles and a variety of farm machinery, along with more modern day entries. Several community organizations and businesses participated, as did the MSU varsity athletic teams and many others. Bands included the May-Port CG High School marching band and a Mayville State group.

A nice crowd of young and old enjoyed the traditional corn and hot dog feed under the tent just outside of Jerome Berg Field following the parade. A farmers market and craft sale were also located in this area, and people could shop for things such as purses and bags as well as fresh vegetables.

The Comets football team came up short in their home contest versus the University of Wisconsin-Stout. Unfortunately, five Comet turnovers led to 17 points for the Blue Hawks, leading to a 23-13 loss.

The Farmers Bowl Auction went platinum this year! The 20th annual Farmers Bowl Auction wrapped up the day's activities. Silent and live auction bidders enjoyed great food and spirited bidding on a fantastic assortment of donated items in the annual auction. When all was said and done, the auction and



Wyatt Perkins, age 7, crossed the finish line of the Field Frenzy Farmers Bowl 5K run/walk with lots of cheers from the members of Mayville State's men's basketball team. Wyatt's parents are Hanah (Olsen) ('03) and Jason Perkins.



Jace Pederson (center) was among the Mayville State men's basketball players who helped out during the Farmers Bowl Auction, displaying items as they were being auctioned. He is seen here holding the prop promoting the '80s prom party, an item donated by the MSU Alumni Association board of directors. The prom party got the highest bid of all auction items at \$2,300. Auctioneer Wayne Trottier of Northwood can be seen in the background working hard to get a high bid on the prom party. Wayne has served as a volunteer auctioneer for the Farmers Bowl Auction for many years. He was assisted this year by Todd Parkman of Hope, N.D.

other Farmers Bowl activities generated more than \$41,000. Proceeds are distributed through the MSU Foundation, the MSU Alumni Association, and the MSU Athletic Department for the benefit of Mayville State University and its students.

Those who attended the Farmers Bowl Auction had an opportunity to participate in a scholarship fund-raiser, which generated nearly \$3,000 for academic honor scholarships. All scholarship funds raised received a 50% match through The Matching Fund for Enhanced Academics, so MSU received an additional nearly \$4,500 in scholarship dollars for students.

Dennis Hopman ('58) of Detroit Lakes, Minn. was the winner of the \$1,000 cash prize in the Farmers Bowl Cash Fund-raiser that was offered to alumni and friends all over the United States. Proceeds of the Farmers Bowl Cash Fund-raiser are included in the total revenue for Farmers Bowl 2016.

Debbie Swift ('74) of Mayville won an original watercolor painting by Mayville State graduate Doug Anderson ('74), Cavalier, N.D. "Coffee On the Deck" depicts a scene from Anderson's backyard deck. Framing of the piece was donated by Mayville State graduate Kelly Morrison ('76), Mayville.

Everyone who purchased an admission ticket and attended the Farmers Bowl Auction had the chance to win \$500 in a door-prize drawing made possible through a sponsorship from Lindsey Brown ('91) of Pifer's Auction & Realty. The winner of the \$500 was Troy Sand of Mayville.

"Farmers Bowl is the product of many great volunteers working together for the good of Mayville-Portland and MSU. We are very grateful for all who get involved with Farmers Bowl," said MSU President Gary Hagen. "Farmers Bowl is a great team effort, and we appreciate all that is done to make Farmers Bowl a success year after year. I add a special note of thanks to Comet Connections sponsors, Lindsey Brown and Ray and Alana Gerszewski of Mayville's Hometown Inn."

Giving Hearts Day generates \$14,000 for RN-to-BSN online nursing program

Through the efforts of Giving Hearts Day on Feb. 9, 2017, \$14,000 was generated for the RN-to-BSN online nursing program at Mayville State University. This amount includes individual contributions, as well as matching funds. Giving Hearts Day gifts of \$10 or more (up to a total of \$5,000) were matched by the Dakota Medical Foundation and other generous sponsors.

"We are thrilled that donors have taken this opportunity to make a difference in the need for nursing professionals in the local area, as well as in the state of North Dakota and beyond," said Dena Bergstrom, MSU Foundation annual giving associate/phonathon coordinator and coordinator of Mayville State's Giving Hearts Day activities. "The generosity of donors is making a huge impact on students enrolled in the RN-to-BSN program at Mayville State."

This is the fourth time the Mayville State University Foundation has participated in Giving Hearts Day, a 24-hour online give-a-thon for non-profit organizations in western Minnesota and North Dakota. The event is hosted every year by the Dakota Medical Foundation (DMF) and Impact Foundation to help participating charities dramatically increase fund-raising success by creating awareness and a 24-hour window of participation that spurs donors to action. This year marked a record amount raised through the event overall. More than \$10.6 million was raised by 21,800 donors supporting their favorite charities.

"It is an honor to have been selected to participate in Giving Hearts Day again this year. We are grateful for the matching gifts provided by the Dakota Medical Foundation and other generous sponsors. We truly appreciate all of our generous donors who have supported the RN-to-BSN online nursing program at Mayville State," said Dena Bergstrom.

Through the online RN-to-BSN nursing program, Mayville State is educating nurses at the baccalaureate-degree level. To be admitted to the program, an individual must have earned an associate degree in nursing. Classes in the RN-to-BSN nursing program are offered exclusively online, and were first offered in the fall semester of 2014. The first students to complete the program graduated at the end of the Fall Semester of 2016. For more information, go to www.mayvillestate.edu/nursing.

Nominate a candidate for the Distinguished Alumni Award or the Distinguished Service Award.

Go to www.mayvillestate.edu/recognition or call Beth at 701-788-4750.



Mayville State student athletes cooked and served for the traditional Farmers Bowl corn on the cob and hot dog feed.



Mayville State student Peter Bakkum, Mayville, drove this shiny 1959 Massey Ferguson 65 tractor in the Farmers Bowl parade.



Things are developing

Our Annual Fund - key to a self-sustaining foundation and a successful Mayville State University

by John J. Klocke, CFRE, MSU Foundation Executive Director



I've been on board as your executive director going on six years now and with each year, the importance of the Annual Fund becomes increasingly clear. The Annual Fund is literally the "key" to the Mayville State University's Foundation mission. "The key?" you ask. "I thought scholarships were the key." Without the Annual Fund there would be no scholarships. There would be no staff to raise the needed scholarship dollars.

"How about endowments? Surely endowments are the true key to the future. After all, an endowment will provide income forever!" You are correct. Endowment is a key to the future. Yet, not a single endowment dollar could be raised without the Annual Fund.

"Well, you could ask people to give with this magazine, the MSU Today." That would work. But not without the

Annual Fund. Without it, there would be no writer, no editor, no printer, no postage. It all takes money. The Annual Fund Drive creates the funding for MSU Today, for Alumni Day, for Homecoming, for the graduation day activities. The list of benefits the Annual Fund provides goes on and on.

Without the Annual Fund Drive, the MSU Foundation would literally close its doors. There would be no staff, no office, no supplies, no postage, no letters going out, no phone calls being made, no gas in the tank to go visit and thank folks for their gifts. There would be no one to even open the mail. And from there, the list of things that would not be goes on and on ... no Larson Alumni Center, no assistance for Comet Athletic Club, no Farmers Bowl, no Dueling Pianos.

As a wise man once said about

business, it takes money to make money. But the Annual Fund isn't just any money, it's money that grows and multiplies once it is put to work. This past year, for every dollar given to the Annual Fund Drive, our staff was able to do our annual work and raise 48 more dollars. The Annual Fund dollars you gave last year went into a budget that this year helped us raise more than \$2.6 million dollars so far. (That's a record which would not be possible without, yes, you guessed it, the Annual Fund.)

The Annual Fund is like the tiny corn kernel the farmer plants that grows a stalk of corn seven feet tall by season's end. It produces countless ears of corn, each ear covered with hundreds of kernels just like the original one kernel planted. The farmer sees the cost of seed as very small, but necessary. And the return on the farmer's investment is exponential.

The Annual Fund can be compared to a shiny new truck designed to haul tons of the farmer's corn down the road for the farmer. The truck is very efficient and will do the task nicely. That is, if it has fuel in the tank. Without the fuel, the truck will never leave the farmyard. The Annual Fund is the fuel for the foundation's tank. Without it we go nowhere.

Annual Fund is key to a self-sustaining MSU Foundation

One of the most exciting things we can share with our alumni and friends is that there will someday be a foundation without the need for an Annual Fund. That's right, someday when our endowment funds are figuratively as tall as that corn. In financial terms, when our endowments reach \$10 million dollars, the interest they produce will be enough to fulfill every scholarship award with enough left over each year to run the foundation, all the salaries, supplies, gas, and postage needed to do our jobs!

The Annual Fund Drive will then become the fuel for new programs, new projects on campus, and new scholarships for more students ... fuel for a more successful Mayville State!

Today our endowment funds total just above \$6 million. Our total endowment funds have grown on average \$1.25 million per year from five years ago when total endowments were under \$2 million.

See "Annual Fund" on page 15.

Mayville American Legion post establishes scholarship

The Mayville American Legion Leon M. Mosher Post #8 has established a scholarship at Mayville State University. Scholarships will be awarded to graduates of May-Port CG High School who will be incoming freshmen at Mayville State. The first award will be made to a student who will enter Mayville State as a freshman in the fall of 2017.

The Mayville American Legion Leon M. Mosher Post #8 Scholarship was established with a \$2,000 gift to the MSU Foundation, which was matched by the North Dakota Matching Fund for Enhanced Academics. A \$750 award will be made annually for four years. Prefer-

ence will be given to a veteran, and then to a son or daughter or grandchild of a veteran.

"We are delighted that the American Legion post has chosen to establish this scholarship that will benefit veterans and/or their descendants. Their thoughtfulness and generosity are very much appreciated," said John J. Klocke, MSU Foundation executive director.

Any veteran or individual wishing to contribute to the Mayville American Legion Leon M. Mosher Post #8 Scholarship may send a gift to the MSU Foundation at 330 Third Street NE, Mayville, ND 58257.



Floyd Aune (left), commander of American Legion Leon M. Mosher Post #8, presents a check establishing the post's scholarship to MSU Foundation Executive Director John J. Klocke.

Annual Fund continued from page 12

How did we grow that fast? One guess ... yes, the Annual Fund.

Help the MSU Foundation keep operating while we strive for our goal.

The next five years are the most critical for the MSU Foundation. We need to continue growing at a pace that will get us to \$10 million in endowment and become self-sustaining. We need to keep the Annual Fund drive strong so we can continue working toward a fully self-sustaining foundation that will help hundreds of students each year forever!

The best gift to MSU

You may be asking, if the Annual Fund is so important and endowment is so important, what should I give to? The answer is simple. This year, as you decide to make a gift to your favorite fund, set aside a percentage for the Annual Fund Drive. And to go a step further, help us with that same kind of gift for the next five years to the Annual Fund. We all have our favorite funds. For some it's the Academic Scholarship Drive to help us get more students on campus. For others, it's giving to the general scholarship endowment or their own family endowment. For still others, it's to give to Comet Athletic Club or Music Makers

to help student athletes or student musicians. The list of funds goes on, from the nursing program to diversity scholarships to veterans' scholarships to naming a room in our residence halls or other buildings on campus. Just adjust your gift to give a percentage to the Annual Fund and you will have made the perfect gift!

Three ways to help the Annual Fund

First, give to the Thankful for Mayville Week Annual Fund Drive from April 24 through April 28, and your gift will be matched dollar-for-dollar by \$35,000 in matching funds given by generous MSU donors and our board of directors in our Annual Fund Drive.

Second, if you use electronic bill pay through your bank to pay bills, set up a monthly gift of whatever amount works for you through bill pay for the Annual Fund Drive or for all your giving. Set it up and let it run every month. We will send you an annual receipt for this gift for your tax records.

Third, create a monthly Annual Fund donation through your credit card. Pick an amount that you won't miss. Fill out the form (page 14), send it in, and we will set it up for you! This is another easy way to automate your gift and earn credit card points for travel and fun stuff!

Many thanks to our 2017 Comet Connection Members!

MSU students are benefitting from their generosity!

Diamond Level

- Bell Banks**
- Gate City Bank**
- Riddle's Jewelry, Grand Forks, N.D.**

Gold Level

- Brudvik Law**
- Citizens Insurance Agency**
- Citizens State Bank of Finley, Cooperstown, Northwood**

Silver Level

- Terry Bachmeier**
- Jon and Betsy Ewen**
- Rob and Kim Lauf**

Bronze Level

- Mayville Hometown Inn**
- Moore Engineering**

Comet Blue Level

- Roger and Linda Baier**
- Lindsey Brown,**
- Pifer Auction & Realty**
- Ron Boe, ReMax Legacy Realty**
- Dawn Cruff, Green Team Realty**
- Steve and Linda Hilstad**

Join the many business benefitting from doing good as sponsors of Mayville State events and projects.

Contact John Klocke at john.j.klocke@mayvillestate.edu or 701-788-4787 to request a free no-obligation sponsor kit.

Monthly Automatic Credit Card Gift form for the Annual Fund

I would like to set up a monthly donation of \$_____ to be used for the Annual Fund.

Please set up my credit card information below for this gift.

Visa MasterCard Discover Card

Credit Card #: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Your name as it appears on the card (please print.): _____

Your Credit Card Billing

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Please complete this form and mail to Donor Services Mayville State University Foundation 330 Third Street NE, Mayville, ND 58257

MSU Foundation Honor Society holds annual president's dinner



Cleone (Holum) Whelan ('62), Crystal, N.D. was named the MSU Foundation Volunteer of the Year. She was recognized for her outstanding work on behalf of Mayville State as a member of the MSU Alumni Association board. She is also instrumental in the work of the Pembina County/Hoople MSU alumni group that has been very active in their support of Mayville State, not only in monetary assistance, but also in sending students.

The annual MSU Foundation Honor Society president's dinner, held Oct. 27, 2016, gave tribute to many of Mayville State's generous and faithful philanthropists. The Honor Society includes those who have made lifetime cumulative gifts amounting to \$10,000 or more through the MSU Foundation. Gifts include contributions to all projects at Mayville State, including academic scholarships, facility improvements, Comet Athletic Club, Music Makers, and artificial turf.

"It is an honor for my wife, Debbie, and me to host the MSU Foundation Honor Society president's dinner each year," said MSU President Dr. Gary Hagen. "It is our pleasure to have that opportunity to recognize the members of the Honor Society and to thank them for their outstanding support that is so critical to the well-being of Mayville State University."

The Honor Society is organized into clubs based on various giving levels. The Bronze Club includes donors of \$10,000-\$24,999; the Silver Club, donors of \$25,000-\$49,999; the Gold Club, donors of \$50,000-\$99,999; the Platinum Club, donors of \$100,000-\$249,999; the Diamond Club, donors of \$250,000-\$499,999; the Ambassador Club, donors of \$500,000-\$749,999; the Legacy Club, donors of \$750,000-\$999,999; and the Founder, donors of \$1,000,000 and more.

The honor roll includes about 220 benefactors, including individuals, couples, businesses, matching gift programs, and other organizations, who have given a cumulative total of \$10,000 or more over the years. This year, several new members joined the Bronze Club. They are Doug and Vonda Anderson, Brad and Cheryl Angen, Jon and Kari Bakkum, Shannon and Denise Bergstrom, Jeff Braaten Family, Food Services of America, Gilbert and Elna Mae Herbel, Betty Karaim, Terry and Sandi Kemmer, John L. McCormick Memorial Trust, Dalton and Annie McMahon, and Tessa Nesheim. Herb Schultz became a new member of the Honor Society at the Silver Club level. Brent and Jennifer Kohls, Janice Dalzell Martinson, Robert D. Miess, Rick and Allison Newman, Garry



Brad and Marcia Wehe (center), Grand Forks, N.D., moved up to membership in the Honor Society Silver Club this year. They are pictured with MSU Foundation Executive Director John Klocke (left) and MSU President Dr. Gary Hagen (right). Brad Wehe is a 1987 Mayville State graduate and a member of the MSU Foundation Board of Trustees Executive Committee.



Tim Garrett ('78) (center), Mayville, N.D., is pictured with John Klocke (left) and Dr. Gary Hagen (right). Garrett moved up to membership in the Honor Society Gold Club this year.

and Karen Pierce, Kurt J. Skodje, Fred and Joanne Switzer, and Bradley and Marcia Wehe moved up to the Silver Club. Timothy S. Garrett and Gate City Bank advanced to the Gold Club, while Curtis and Lydia Larson moved into the Platinum Club and Donald H. Grage went up to the Diamond Club.

"We are so very fortunate to be blessed with loyal alumni and friends who truly care about Mayville State University and who give of their financial and other resources to support the university," said MSU Foundation Executive Director John Klocke. "This steadfast support is crucial to Mayville State's success."

The 2016 Honor Society president's dinner was sponsored by Bell Bank Wealth Management, Citizens State Bank, Citizens Insurance Agency, and Brudvik Law Office.

If you'd like to make a financial contribution to Mayville State University or are interested in learning more about the MSU Foundation Honor Society, please call the MSU Foundation at 701-788-4687.

ALUMNI NEWS

Make a financial gift to support MSU Today!

We want to be sure we can continue to provide a great magazine for all alumni. Postage and printing are always a challenge, and your gift can help ensure that we can send it out on time to all alumni ... and send it out two times a year!

Can you help?

Go online to www.mayvillestate.edu/MSUToday and make a gift today.

We want to hear from you!

The MSU Alumni Association is responsible for planning activities and events for Mayville State University alumni and friends. To help in this task, please share your ideas with us by contacting the MSU alumni office at 701-788-4750 or alumni.mail@mayvillestate.edu.

Kandy Noles Stevens authors book on grief and love through loss



Kandy Noles Stevens came home to Mayville State to launch the release of her new book. She signed copies for those who came to her book discussion at the Larson Center. Kandy writes a blog and travels all around the country sharing her message of hope.

Author Kandy Noles Stevens ('91) discussed her new book, "The Redbird Sings the Song of Hope: And Other Stories of Love Through Loss," at Mayville State University Nov. 28 and 29, 2016. Not your typical book about grief, the book is the perfect telling of what grieving people wish others knew.

Kandy Noles Stevens had two major dreams for most of her life: to be a mom and to be a teacher. Her dreams came true when she and her husband, Daniel ('94), began their life and family in southwestern Minnesota. In the blink of an eye, everything in their world changed, when a school bus carrying three of their children was involved in a tragic crash. Their oldest son and three other children riding the bus were killed that day, and fourteen children were injured, including the Stevens' two other children.

Through her grief journey, Kandy began to write about her family's story and faith in their darkest days. Although she is a grieving mom, she describes herself as a science teacher by day and a superhero by night. True to her Southern roots, she has a story about everything. Sharing her life and its trials, Kandy's down-home style of writing and speaking leaves audiences in tears, fits of laughter, or better yet, both.

In the book, Kandy unapologetically explains what isn't always helpful to the bereaved, but does so with grace and wit. Through her personal stories, she pro-

vides practical ideas about how to bring comfort to those who are hurting. In an engaging style, Kandy writes about real people, including some pretty colorful ones, who have loved her family in their darkest days. Infused in every page are hope-filled words of God's faithfulness, including the sending of one redbird when her family needed it the most.

Noles Stevens shared about her family's story and the process of writing about their journey at a discussion held at the Edson and Margaret Larson Alumni and Leadership Center the evening of Nov. 28.

Kandy also made presentations for Mayville State University students Nov. 28 and 29. Kandy's topics included grief – the thing polite people don't talk about.

According to Noles Stevens, "Grief is a unique experience and it is often isolating. To make matters worse, grief is not a comfortable subject in Western civilization and even less so in a society where everything is available instantaneously. Much like having a package arrive from Amazon in two days with a Prime account, many want and expect to be 'over it' in just two days of bereavement leave." Noles explored how we might change this conversation.

Kandy also discussed how those who are grieving are often left exhausted and weary. It is in those moments of weakness when strength of community can support those who feel depleted.

Alumni and friends honored during Homecoming 2016

Mayville State University alumni and friends were honored during the university's 2016 homecoming festivities held Oct. 7-9. The weekend was highlighted by good times and good friends, all with a common thread of Mayville State University, "the school of personal service."

The annual homecoming activities, sponsored by the Mayville State University Alumni Association, began with the Athletic Hall of Fame and Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame Awards Dinner held Friday evening, Oct. 7. Record numbers of folks enjoyed the evening, which included the induction of several to the MSU Athletic Hall of Fame and the MSU Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame. Mayville State graduate, Doug Petersen, Mayville, N.D., emceed the program.

Andee (Burriss) Thompson ('00), Grand Forks, N.D.; Randy Capouch ('87), West Fargo, N.D.; Herb Hasz ('67), Grand Forks, N.D.; Tim Miles, Lincoln, Neb.; and the 1995-96 and 1996-97 men's basketball teams were inducted into the MSU Athletic Hall of Fame. The MSU Athletic Hall of Fame recognizes people who excelled as athletes or coaches at Mayville State or who have gone above and beyond in support of Mayville State athletics.

Rick Anderson ('74), Coopersstown, N.D.; Mike Belseth ('71), Breckenridge, Minn.; Ryam Brantl ('73), Grand Forks, N.D.; Gary Gillis ('68), Albertville, Minn.; Rick Metcalf ('84), Sesser, Ill.; and Chad Omdahl ('78), Hatton, N.D.; were inducted into the Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame, in recognition of their successful careers as coaches after graduating from Mayville State.

On Saturday, Oct. 8, former Mayville State homecoming queens gathered for a time of reminiscing and fun at the Edson and Margaret Larson Alumni and Leadership Center before joining in the traditional homecoming parade, which made its way through town, beginning at 11 a.m.

Following the parade, a ceremony of remembrance was held at the Military Honor Garden on the grounds of the Edson and Margaret Larson



These individuals were inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame and Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame during the Oct. 7 banquet. Pictured in the back from left to right are Gary Gillis, Herb Hasz, Rick Anderson, Rick Metcalf, Andee (Burriss) Thompson, and Tim Miles. In the front (l-r) are Mike Belseth, Chad Omdahl, Ryam Brantl, and Randy Capouch.



Members of the 1995-96 and 1996-97 men's basketball teams were inducted into the MSU Athletic Hall of Fame this year. Those attending the banquet are pictured. In the back (l-r) are Pete Hansen, Brady Roisum, Kent Bauman, Derrick Dotson, Brandy George, Jeremy Macejkovic, Lance Roisum, Reeds Roisum, Dave Finlayson, and athletic trainer Tim O'Brien. In the front (l-r) are student manager Rick Karboviak, John Maus, head coach Tim Miles, Brad Raymond, Jason Jespersion, Justin Turnquist, and Jeff Walen.

Photo at right:

The very animated Tim Miles, who was inducted into the Mayville State University Athletic Hall of Fame as a former Mayville State University coach, kept the dinner crowd entertained during his acceptance remarks. Miles, who is head men's basketball coach at the University of Nebraska (Big Ten Conference), coached two men's basketball teams at Mayville State, in 1995-96 and 1996-97. Both teams were also inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame during the 2016 homecoming festivities. Miles is the only active coach who has taken teams to the postseason at the Division I, Division II, and NAIA ranks.



Mayville State University Foundation Executive Director John Klocke (at the podium) emceed a ceremony of remembrance at the Military Honor Garden at noon Saturday, Oct. 8. Military Honor Garden project co-chair Martin Johnson (right) announced the drive to establish an endowment scholarship fund for veterans through the Honor Garden project.

Alumni and Leadership Center at Mayville State. The Avenue of Flags provided by the local American Legion Post 8 beautifully enhanced the Military Honor Garden monument which was the centerpiece of the event. The American Legion flags that flew at the Honor Garden that day were representative of those who were also honored in the Honor Garden.

The ceremony began with the singing of "The Star Spangled Banner" by Mayville State student Destiny Hicks from Lisbon, N.D., and included remarks from Martin Johnson ('66), Military Honor Garden project co-chair and Mayville State graduate. Johnson announced the establishment of a scholarship for veterans that will be funded by excess resources raised through the Honor Garden project. Project co-chair, Lt. Gen. Emil "Buck" Bedard ('65) kicked off the drive to establish a scholarship endowment with his gift of \$1,500, one-tenth of the funds needed in order to fully fund the endowment. Bedard, a retired three-star general, spent more than 37 years in active duty with the United States Marine Corps. An Argyle, Minn. native, Bedard now lives in Las Vegas.

The program ended on a touching and solemn note, with program emcee, MSU Foundation Executive Director John Klocke, reading the names of each of the individuals who have been honored by loved ones in the Military Honor Garden project. The ringing of a chime by Mayville State student Briar Bahnmler, Grandin, N.D., followed each name. Lindsey Shimpa, Mayville State student from Grand Forks, N.D. ended the program by playing "Taps" from the upper-level doorway of the Larson Center.

The Mayville State Alumni Association hosted a chili feed inside the Larson Center following the program.

The honoring of the newest inductees to the Mayville State University Performing Arts Hall of Fame, as well as the traditional MSU Music Department homecoming concert, were a grand finale for a fantastic weekend for Mayville State alumni and friends. The concert was held Sunday afternoon, Oct. 9, in



A new class of Performing Arts Hall of Fame inductees was recognized during the MSU Music Department homecoming concert on Sunday, Oct. 9. Pictured (l-r) are Otto Evenson, representing his deceased wife, Donna (Severson) Evenson; Robert Hetler; R. Craig Sheppard; Janet Klevberg Day; Larry Pladson; Patti Baker; and Cordell Bugbee.



The Mayville State University concert choir and concert band, under the direction of first-year MSU music director Dr. Cody Hunter, presented the traditional homecoming concert on Sunday, Oct. 9. A Mayville State jazz ensemble also performed in the concert.

the Classroom Building Auditorium. Patti Baker ('74), Auburn, Calif.; Cordell Bugbee ('66), Minot, N.D.; Janet Klevberg Day ('84), Elm Grove, Wis.; Donna (Severson) Evenson ('53), deceased; Robert Hetler ('65), Valley City, N.D.; Larry Pladson ('69), Roseau, Minn.; and R. Craig Sheppard ('71), Pinedale, Wyo.; comprised the fourth group of distinguished individuals to be inducted into the Performing Arts Hall of Fame since its establishment in 2013.

Homecoming 2016 culminated with a social to honor the Performing Arts Hall of Fame inductees. Hosted by the Alumni Association board, the social was held after the concert in the MSU Campus Center Luckasen Room.

MSU Golf Classic • June 16-17, 2017

See more at
www.mayvillestate.edu/golfclassic
or call 701-788-4750.

Dr. John Lyng honored at national EMS meeting

At the annual meeting of the National Association of Emergency Medical Services Physicians (NAEMSP®) in January, Dr. John Lyng ('01) was given the President's Award for exemplary service. The award recognizes "outstanding contributions to prehospital emergency care" and cites John for "his dedication and commitment to the development of quality standards and practice for prehospital medicine."



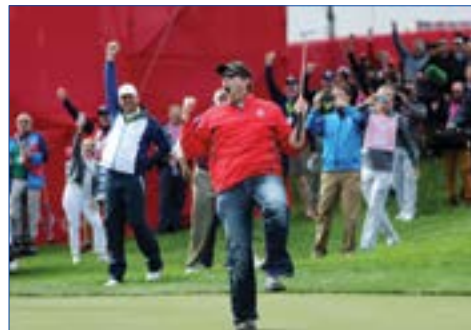
Dr. John Lyng (center) receives the President's Award from Dr. Brent Myers (left), president-elect, and Dr. Jane Brice (right), president, of the NAEMSP.

Dr. Jane Brice, NAEMSP president, told the approximately 800 EMS physicians in attendance that the award is "an honor bestowed on a member or members of NAEMSP who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to our organization in creating new initiatives or furthering the work of the organization." The awards do not usually go to board members or committee chairs but this year Dr. Lyng was selected because of his "exceptional service."

As chairman of the Standards & Clinical Practices Committee of NAEMSP and on the group's board of directors,

Mayville State grad sinks the putt seen 'round the world!

News that Mayville State graduate Dave Johnson ('09) was able to sink a putt that had been missed by European team members Rory McIlroy and Andy Sullivan during practice at the Ryder Cup in Minnesota Sept. 28, 2016 went viral. Johnson, who was watching nearby, shouted out that he'd have no problem making that 12-foot putt on No. 8. The Europeans challenged him to do just that, and Justin Rose laid a \$100 bill right next to the ball, daring Johnson to make it. Dave says that's \$100 he'll never spend.



There's a feeling of absolute elation as Dave sinks the putt.

Johnson became an instant celebrity and even made an appearance on "The Late Show" with Stephen Colbert.

John "brought order and flow to our standards and practice process. He has standardized our process and brought forth a remarkable number of position statements, resource documents, and policies in the past two years. He is creating the foundation and underpinnings of our specialty. It is hard work but he has done it with grace," Dr. Brice said.

Dr. Lyng was further honored as one of the inaugural class of distinctive credential holders nationwide to be inducted as a Fellow of the Academy of EMS (FAEMS™). The designation, "a prestigious mark of distinction," speaks to his contributions to NAEMSP and highlights his commitment to the advancement and refinement of EMS medicine.

A Mayville native and alumnus of Mayville State University, John graduated from the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences in 2005. Since 2011 he has been the medical director for the North Memorial Ambulance & Air Care and an emergency physician at North Memorial, a Level I Trauma Center based in Robbinsdale, Minn.

John's parents are Merwin and Myrna Lyng of Mayville. He lives in Minnetonka, Minn. with his wife, Megan, their daughter, Evelyn, and son, Elliot.

Make a nomination! Performing Arts Hall of Fame

We request your assistance in nominating deserving individuals for induction into the MSU Performing Arts Hall of Fame. If you know of a worthy candidate, please take the time to submit a nomination at mayvillestate.edu/recognition.

- Inductees to the Mayville State University Performing Arts Hall of Fame fall into the following categories: educators, professional musicians and/or performers, music industry, faculty, and honorary.
- In order to qualify for induction, candidates who are alumni must have graduated from Mayville State at least ten years prior to induction.
- The record of the nominee considered should be so outstanding that there would be little question as to the qualifications necessary for induction.
- Consideration will be given for personal conduct in performance and personal contributions to the ideal of performing arts.
- Criteria and qualifications for alumni will be based primarily upon the nominee's accomplishments after leaving the university.

Complete nominations on file June 1 of each year will be considered for induction in that same year.

For more information, contact Beth Swenson at 701-788-4750 or beth.swenson@mayvillestate.edu.

CLASS NOTES

What's new with you?

Your friends and classmates want to know!

Send us your updated information!

Go to mayvillestate.edu/alumniupdates. We will report timely news about marriages, jobs, awards, family additions, and deaths. Please be sure to include your current address, job information, phone number, and email address. You may also update your information by calling the MSU Foundation at 701-788-4687.

A picture is worth a thousand words.

You may provide photographs that may be of interest to others for the Class Notes section. This submission does not guarantee publication, however. Photos can be returned if requested, and if an address is attached to the picture. Digital photos must be at least 300 dpi.

Mail to: Editor, MSU Today
330 Third Street NE
Mayville, ND 58257

E-mail to:
alumni.mail@mayvillestate.edu

1950s

Rita Sanderson ('59, '62) was inducted in the Grand Forks Public School Teachers Hall of Fame in 2016. She was an elementary teacher in the district from 1961 to 1996, including 30 years as a kindergarten teacher at Viking Elementary. One colleague described her as "exceptional, organized, and knowledgeable. She was always up on the latest trends in early childhood education and spent a lot of her own money." She lives in Grand Forks with her husband, **John ('61, '67)**.

1960s

Linda (Stevenson) Banister ('61) was inducted into the Valley City State University Music Hall of Fame Sept. 10, 2016. Linda has served as professor of music at Augusta University in Augusta, Ga. for 27 years, teaching studio voice, vocal diction, and opera literature, and more. She completed her undergraduate degree at VCSU, with majors in music education and elementary education, in 1972.

Don Cavalier ('65) retired in July 2016 after 40 years of service at University of Minnesota - Crookston. Prior to his retirement, Don's title was director of career development, counseling and alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. During his career, he also managed placement services, alumni relations, diversity programs, disability programs and student health services. He was also head baseball coach for the Golden Eagles. He and his wife, **Mary (Salisbury) ('66)** live in Crookston and marked their 50th wedding anniversary on July 23, 2016.



Richard Saxlund ('65) will be one of the honored inductees at the 2017 Minnesota Wrestling Coaches Association David Bartelma Wrestling Hall of Fame Induction Dinner on April 29. Saxlund taught and coached at Leroy-Ostrander from 1965 to 1967 and at Pipestone from 1967 to 1996. He has more than 35 years of coaching under his belt. All in all Saxlund coached five state champions, five state runners-up, 13 state place-winners, 33 state qualifiers, one NHSCA High School Nationals runner-up, and ten collegiate All-Americans with three national titles. Dick came out of retirement to help the head coach keep wrestling strong in Pipestone. He

has served as Director of Apparel for the Rumble on the Red Wrestling Championships (largest high school event in the Midwest). He resides in West Fargo, N.D. with his wife, Barbara.

Rod MacDonald ('66) was inducted into the N.D. State Wrestling Hall of Fame at the state wrestling tournament in February 2017. He was recognized for his success as a coach at Mayville-Portland High School from 1969-1978 and 1988-1993. He coached 36 state place-winners, 14 state finalists, and six state champs. His teams finished in the top five in state in 1973, 1974, and 1978.

Roger Moe ('66) was named to the Minnesota State Board of Trustees in December 2016 by Gov. Mark Dayton. Moe is a former state Senate leader from Erskine, Minn.

Dennis Roden ('66) was inducted into the Fargo North High School Hall of Fame in 2016. He taught chemistry and physics at North from 1990 through 2007. He coached track and field and boys and girls basketball at the school. From 1966 to 1990, he taught science and coached sports at Wahpeton, N.D. Public Schools.

Daryl Hill ('68), who became executive director of the Oklahoma Society of CPAs in 1988, retired in April of 2016. He was recognized as one of the most admired CEOs in Oklahoma. He is a past president of the CPA Society Executives Association as well as the Oklahoma Society of Association Executives. Through his American Society of Association Executive membership, he earned the Certified Association Executive designation. In 2004, he received the OSAE George Nigh Association Executive of the Year Award. The January/February 2016 edition of CPA Focus, a publication of the Oklahoma Society of CPAs, paid tribute to Hill.



Clara (Baumann) Leno ('68) celebrated her 100th birthday Feb. 18, 2017. The widow of former Mayville State University Academic Dean G.C. Leno, Mrs. Leno now resides in Sheridan, Wyo.



Continued on page 22

1980s

Lisa (Webster-Ott) Jones ('85) married Curtis Jones July 1, 2016. She is now a grandmother of two. She works as a domestic violence advocate for the White Earth DOVE program. She lives at Frazee, Minn.

Monica Engel ('87) was recognized as a Woman of Excellence by the Dakota County (Minn.) Regional Chamber of Commerce. The award honors women who are leaders and mentors in both their profession and the communities where they live and work. She is a vice president of consumer markets for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, where she has worked since 1995. She lives in Elko, Minn.

Mark McLean ('87) was inducted into the N.D. State Wrestling Hall of Fame at the state wrestling tournament in Feb. 2107. He was recognized for his 25 years of coaching in Hillsboro and Hazen, N.D. During that time he mentored nine state champion wrestlers. He also had a successful high school wrestling career culminating in a state championship. His college career with the Comets included three NAIA national tournaments and five school records. He is in his 30th year of teaching at Hillsboro Elementary School.

Dave Sell ('88) was inducted into the Minnesota Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame in September of 2016.

Kevin Enerson ('89) became superintendent for Pipestone (Minn.) Area Schools July 1, 2016. For the previous 16 years he was a high school principal at LeSueur-Henderson (Minn.) Schools. Prior to that he was a principal and athletic director at Climax-Shelly (Minn.) Schools and was a teacher and coach in Edmore, N.D.

1990s

Dawn Cruff ('91) was named the Fargo-Moorhead Home Builders Associate of the Year in October 2016. She works for Green Team Realty.

Melissa Groetsch ('91) began teaching at the University American School in Kuwait in the summer of 2016. The school enrolls 1,800 students from all over the world and is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and the Council of International Schools.

Jeff McCanna ('91) was selected by Texas A&M to be their featured student for his work as a doctoral student, working within the field of education

Todd Olson ('91) was honored in December 2016 as one of eight high school athletic directors honored by the National Federation of State High School Associa-

tions. Olson received a citation in recognition of his contributions to interscholastic athletics at the local, state, and national level. Olson has served as director of student activities for Fargo (N.D.) Public Schools since 2012. He began a term on the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association board of directors in 2015.

Jason Deitchler ('92) became a mobile application lead for Altruista Health in the Minneapolis - St. Paul area in November 2016. He has more than 20 years of experience in software development and database, previously working for Life Time Fitness and DigiNeer.

Karl Neset ('92) was named controller and CFO of outsourcing solutions at Clifton-LarsonAllen in April 2016. The professional services firm operates in 27 states and provides wealth advisory, outsourcing, and public accounting. He is based at the Minneapolis, Minn. office.

Duane Carter ('93) was promoted in September 2016 to director of IT operations for Premier Eye Care in Boca Raton, Fla. He has 22 years of experience in IT, previously working for Univita Health, GMAC, and the Schwan Food Company.

Dr. Joe Eisenmann ('93) became Director of High Performance and Education at USA Football Feb. 1, 2017. He was previously director of Spartan Performance and remains as a consultant with them. Spartan Performance is the mid-Michigan leader in sports performance and offers a wide array of health and performance services.

Lynnae Lies ('93) was recognized as a Title I Exceptional Educator for 2016-17 by the North Dakota Dept. of Public Instruction. She is the Title I teacher at New Rockford-Sheyenne (N.D.) Schools, where she has worked since 1995. The award provided a \$10,000 grant to the school to cover program activities.

Chad Dohlen ('94) was hired as regional vice president at AppleOne Employment Services in October 2016. Previously he was a market director for Volt Workforce Solutions. He has been a spin cycle instructor for Life Time Fitness since 2008.

Michelle (Worner) Kommer ('95) became N.D. State Labor Commissioner in Dec. 2016 when she was appointed by Gov. Doug Burgum. She is the chief administrative officer and general counsel for Western State Bank in Fargo. Burgum said that her skills and experience were "the perfect fit for re-inventing our service approaches to labor and human rights oversight."

Keith Simmons ('96, '03) earned his master's degree in education from Wayne State College in Wayne, Neb. in August 2016.

His degree as a school counselor carries endorsements for pre-K through 6 and 7-12.

Jim Lavin ('97) is an assistant principal and athletic director at Desert Ridge High School in Gilbert, Ariz. He spent 15 years in the classroom before pursuing a career in administration in 2012. He and his wife, Robyn, and their two children live in Gilbert.

Matthew Schultz ('97) became the superintendent of Lanesboro, Minn. Schools in July 2016. He was previously activities director and head football coach for Red Wing (Minn.) Public Schools for eight years and teacher, athletic director, and coach in Cannon Falls, Minn., for four years. He and his wife, **Stacey (Slominski) ('99)**, have three children, Stephan, Jarek, and Lauren.

Feliciter Njeri Gitau ('98) is an IT manager for Copia Kenya and a freelance software developer in Nairobi, Kenya.

Daniel Stouffer ('98) became the managing partner of CREW Co-op and director of platform marketing for Geostaller, the nation's first and largest solar energy marketplace. The company assists residential consumers with creating a solar energy profile, customizing a solar design, installing solar panels, and generating solar energy. He continues his work as president and CEO of Solargies, a group of solar energy consultants assisting homeowners and commercial building owners.

Bobby Aamold ('99) has been promoted to business banker at the Bremer branch in Moorhead, Minn. He has worked in financial services for 16 years. He joined Bremer in 2011 and previously held the position of credit analyst.

Robert Johnston ('99) was promoted to associate professor of management and awarded tenure at Mayville State. He and his wife, Stacey Nosbusch, live in Hillsboro, N.D.

2000s

Gracia High ('00) is an interventionist at Queens Grant Community School in Mint Hill, N.C. She lives in Polkton, N.C.

Shane Sagert ('00) was hired as superintendent for the Turtle Lake - Mercer (N.D.) School District in 2016. He previously taught in Lidgerwood, N.D. and Red Lake Falls, Minn. He was an administrator in Harvey and Carson, N.D.

Heather (Mott) Severt ('00) is assistant principal at Brentwood Middle School in the Weld County (Colo.) School District. She recently earned her master's degree in educational leadership at the University of Northern Colorado. She has two sons, Ashton, 15, and Lincoln, 12. She lives in LaSalle, Colo.

Diane (Symington) Sommer ('00) is the elementary principal of the preK-4th grade at Tate Topa Tribal School in Fort Totten, N.D. Her husband, **Chris ('00)**, is a social studies teacher for grades 7-12 at Munich (N.D.) Public School. They live in Devils Lake, N.D.

Stephanie (Moore) Winterquist ('00) became the human resources manager for O'Day Management in August 2016. She previously worked for Aggregate Industries, Catalyst Medical Center, and Sanford Health. She is also a past director of the North Dakota Society of Human Resource Management State Council. She lives in Argusville, N.D. with her husband, **Travis Winterquist ('99)**.

Jana (Selseth) Samek ('01) was recently hired by Heartland Trust Co., Fargo, as a retirement services division relationship manager. She has worked for more than 14 years in banking and financial services. She most recently worked for Alerus Bank handling employer-sponsored retirement plans.

Jeannie (Johnson) Mayer ('03) became the elementary principal at Menahga (Minn.) Pubic School in 2015. She and her husband, Troy, live at Menahga.

Rhonda Nelson ('04) is an assistant professor of business at Mayville State University and chair of the Division of Business. She was among 17 graduates of the 2016 Center of Technology & business (CTB) Greater Fargo Area Women's Leadership Program. This is an exceptional six-month program dedicated to building a culture of women empowering women in North Dakota.

Stephen Schreibeis ('04) recently became a certified John C. Maxwell coach, teacher, trainer, and speaker. He is principal at Jefferson Elementary School in Glendive, Mont., where he lives with his wife, Charity.

Jerrold ('05) and Dena (Benge) (ex-'05) Bergstrom are the parents of a son,

Brody, born in July of 2016. He joins big sisters Bailey, age 7, and Brinley, 5. Jerrold is vice president and ag loan officer at Citizens State Bank in Finley, N.D. Dena is the annual giving associate and phonathon coordinator for the MSU Foundation.

Adria (Dvergsten) Lund ('05) is a teacher in the Early Childhood Family Education program at Warroad (Minn.) Public Schools. She had worked as a substitute in

the district for the past eight years. She lives in Warroad with her husband, Jason, and children Jaycie, Jordyn, William, and Wyatt.

Fernando Valadao (ex. '06) lives with his wife, Tiffany, in Tulare, Calif, where he works for the physical education department at Tulare Western High School.

Mitch Andrade ('07) became a SAM engagement manager for Microsoft in Fargo, N.D. in January 1016. He has worked for the company since April 2010.

Michelle (Halvorson) Skjerven ('07) is a second-grade teacher at Marshall County Central Schools in Newfolds, Minn. Her husband, **Justin Skjerven ('06)**, is a high school health and physical education instructor at Thief River Falls, Minn., where they live with their daughter, Jordyn, born in May 2012, and son, Austin, born in October 2015.

2010s

Brittany (Pearce) Phelps ('10, '11) is a fifth-grade teacher at Ben Franklin Elementary School in Grand Forks. Her husband, **Kevin Phelps ('13)**, is a career resource educator for Grand Forks (N.D.) Public Schools. Previously she was a teacher in Carrington, N.D. and he worked as a community integration specialist for the Anne Carlson Center in Jamestown. They were married in 2014.

Sarah Johnson ('11) teaches English and language arts for grades 7-8 and a mass media class at Dakota Prairie School. She also serves as library director at the district's schools in Petersburg and McVillie, N.D.

Kasey Koeplin ('11) joined the faculty at Beulah (N.D.) High School as an algebra teacher and head girls basketball coach and assistant football coach. He previously taught in Yuma, Ariz. and Oakes, N.D.

Jason Nosal (ex. '11) lives in Fergus Falls, Minn. and works for Vector Vinylite.

Jay Dyck ('12) is pursuing a Doctor of Law degree at the University of Alberta, where he also works as an advocate for the Criminal Law Project through Student Legal Services. During 2016 he also worked as a broad experience coordinator for Vibrant Marketing in the Calgary area. He continues to work for Vibrant as a Diageo Whisky mentor in Alberta, Canada. In his free time, he is a foster home provider and volunteer for the Alberta Animal Rescue Crew.

Jordan Olson ('12) was hired as the head softball coach at Davis & Elkins College in Elkins, W. Va. in October 2016. She was previously an assistant coach at Doane University in Crete, Neb., where she also completed her master's degree in education. She is the 12th head coach in the Senators' team history.

Rami Carlson ('13) and Jason Topp were married on June 25, 2016. They live in Grace City, N.D. She works as a fifth-grade teacher at Midkota School in Binford, N.D.



Adam Edwards ('14) has been the director of student involvement at Mayville State University since August 2016. He was previously asst. director of student life and director of campus programming. He is also head boys basketball coach at May-Port CG High School. At the end of the 2016-17 season, he was named Co-Coach of the Year for Class B Region 2. The Patriots finished fourth in the regional tourney.

Andrew Hershey ('15) is the youth coordinator for Charity Lutheran Church in Bismarck, N.D.

Sarah (Gandari) Williams ('15) is a branch coordinator for Volt Workforce Solutions in Fargo, N.D. She previously worked for Discovery Benefits as a COBRA account specialist.

Brittany Boyer ('16) is a customer service representative for Gate City Bank and an adjunct English instructor at Mayville State. She lives in Mayville.

Allyson Brundin ('16) is a fourth-grade teacher at South Pointe Elementary School, East Grand Forks, Minn.

Lynnette Huot ('16) was promoted to director of quality and patient safety at Altru Health Systems of Grand Forks, N.D. She has been with Altru since 1984, most recently serving as manager of clinic operations.

Hannah Ness ('16) was recently hired by Aldevron, Fargo as a research grade operator. She previously worked in the biomedical research lab at MSU as a research assistant for North Dakota INBRE.

Wesley Williams ('16) is working as an IT support specialist for Eldermark Software, out of the company's West Fargo support and training office. He previously worked for Volt as a support engineer.

Leigh Dean ('17) is the admissions director for World Classrooms, an educational travel company based in Aberdeen, S.D.

Leighanna Helgoe ('17) began working for the Moorhead, Minn. Police Department in January 2017 as a records office specialist.

Homecoming 2017
Oct. 6, 7, 8

Comet Sightings

Mayville State alumni and friends we've seen during the last few months.



Joanne (Stensland) (ex. '53) (center) and Fred ('55) Switzer are new members of the Silver Club in the MSU Foundation Honor Society. President Gary Hagen (left) presented their plaque.



Joe Winter ('53) was delighted to receive a replacement version of his #50 Comets football jersey and helmet. Winter, who was captain of the football team as a senior, had lost track of his "original" version of the Comet gear some years after graduating.



Eleanor Forseth (left) and MSU Foundation Executive Director John Klocke (right) enjoy a "cup of Joe" toast to Mayville State.



Orville Fillbrandt ('61) (left) and former MSU President Dr. James Schobel (right) and his wife, Jane (center), watched the Comets baseball team play at U.S. Bank Stadium.



Above:
Mike Osland ('87) (left) had a chance to catch up with his former Mayville State football coach and now MSU Athletic Director Mike Moore (right).



Right:
MSU Foundation board member Dianna "Spanky" Krogstad ('67) shows the table she had crafted from flooring pieces rescued when Mayville State's Old Gym was torn down. A new facility now stands in its place.



Left:
(L-r) Shirley (Fugleberg) Brunsdale ('55) and her husband, William ('56), enjoyed visiting with Willy's cousin, Andy Kjos and his wife, Bl.