

MSU *today*

Spring Edition
June 2018

a magazine for alumni and friends of Mayville State University



Hagen leaves legacy of prosperity and growth

The turf construction project is underway! See page 6.

Come home to Mayville State for
Homecoming 2018!
 September 28 - 30

Enjoy an evening with
 your Mayville State friends and
 the Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks
Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks vs. Texas AirHogs
 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.



Adult Tickets - \$25
 Kids age 3-12 - \$15

Tickets must be
 purchased by June 10.

Purchase at www.mayvillestate.edu/redhawks
 or call 701-788-4864.



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MES

Alumni Day 2018

Friday, June 22

Mark your calendar and plan to
 join in the festivities at MSU!

Schedule of Events

1 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! You'll have a
 chance to go through the new Health,
 Physical Education, and Recreation
 facility and see the updated locker
 rooms, as well as other campus build-
 ings.



Keven Dockter



Ray Dusek



Doug Anderson



Debbie Hagen



Beth Swenson

3:30 to 5:30 p.m. • Reception to Honor the 2018 Distinguished Alumni and Distinguished Service Award Recipients

You are welcome to stop by and
 celebrate the successes of this year's
 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients,
 Keven Dockter ('81) and
 Ray Dusek ('62), and Distinguished
 Service Award recipients,
 Doug Anderson ('74), Debbie Hagen,
 and Beth Swenson ('82).

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/alumniday or
 by calling
 the MSU Foundation, 701-788-4864.

The Larson Center
 will be open
 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

You're invited to stop by for
 a visit and refreshments!

See more at www.mayvillestate.edu/alumniday.



MSUTODAY

a magazine for alumni and friends of
 Mayville State University

Spring Edition
 June 2018

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2018 Calendar of Events

MSU Golf Classic June 15 & 16

Alumni Day June 22

MSU Night with the F-M RedHawks June 27

Harvey McMullen Memorial Golf Tourney July 13

Alaska Cruisetour July 20-31

Around the Horn Golf Tourney Aug. 10

CAC Sportsmen's Raffle Event Aug. 25

Farmers Bowl Sept. 8

Homecoming Sept. 28-30

See details at www.mayvillestate.edu.

On the cover: Mayville State University President Dr. Gary Hagen will retire on
 July 31, 2018 after a 42-year career at Mayville State. Hagen was named president
 of MSU in February of 2007, and had served as interim president since July of
 2006. Hagen came to Mayville State as a faculty member in the Division of Busi-
 ness in 1976. He taught in the division until 1997. In addition to his duties as a
 faculty member, he was chairman of the Division of Business from 1991 to 1997.
 He served for one year as the university's chief information officer, from 1997 to
 1998, and was Vice President for Academic Affairs from 1998 to 2007.

Reflections on a 42-year career at Mayville State

I will retire in July and my time as a Mayville State University employee is nearing an end. Because so much has happened in the past 42 years, reflecting on specific memories is difficult. Most of my memories center on people rather than accomplishments or situations. I am most grateful that Debbie and I found a home in a community that accepted us and fully supported the institution where I would eventually spend so much time working. Over the years, the number of students, employees, community members, and alumni we have grown to care for has grown exponentially. It is hard to believe that one person could be so thoroughly blessed.

My first memory of Mayville State came because of a call to the University of North Dakota from Jack Sand, chairman of the Business Division at the time. I was a graduate teaching assistant at UND and Mayville State needed an instructor. There were only a few weeks before the fall session would begin, so the need was urgent.

I took Debbie for a drive to Mayville to look over the town and see what she thought. I was from Northwood, N.D., so Mayville looked like a good move to me. Debbie was from Grand Forks, and I am not sure she shared the same initial enthusiasm. One reason was because of our first evening in Mayville. Our first home was in the faculty apartments on campus and I remember coming to Mayville in the evening to do some painting to get the apartment ready for us to move in. We finished our work after 6 p.m. and realized we were too low on gas to get back to Grand Forks. There were no gas stations open or convenience stores available at that time of day in 1976. We made it to Hillsboro on empty and were able to fill on gas, then made it back to Grand Forks.

I think that experience was a culture shock for us, but it soon became obvious that living in a small town meant getting to know a large percentage of the town's population. That involvement in many activities would be necessary. Both Debbie and I seemed to thrive in this environment, so my initial promise of working here for a year or two ultimately became 42 years. We are both thankful for the privilege to live and work in a community where people care for each other and support one another through both good and challenging times.

One of the advantages of working at one institution for a long time and having multiple positions along the way is being able to visit with many alumni and friends about "the old days." One of the more common topics people like to bring up to me is that of computers. When I started my employment in 1976, computers were not a factor in everyday life. In 1982, IBM introduced the world to its PC and the world has not been the same since. I soon learned that dealing with change was one of the biggest challenges professional people face.



Dr. Gary Hagen.

Trying to secure funding for computers, and simply gaining acceptance for them on campus was not an easy task.

Persistence always pays off, and it wasn't long before we had computer labs and new classes. I remember developing a general education course called "Computers in Society." This wasn't an easy pill for the more traditional professors to swallow, but we were soon offering many sessions each semester. I continually run into people who love to visit about punch cards, floppy disks, and their initial feelings of computer fright. My, how times have changed!

Computers soon took over my working life and I left teaching to become the campus's first Chief Information Officer (CIO). Mayville State had entered the computer era and even had an administrative position dedicated to technology.

From there I moved to new administrative positions, where I felt much more comfortable than I was when teaching. In 2006, the campus hit a low point in its existence and began what many call the "darker days." I found myself in a challenging situation, but I soon realized that my 30 years of prior work on the campus, combined with the appropriate advanced academic degrees, had somehow prepared me for what was to come. I never doubted the ability of the campus to persevere and I felt comfortable in my new role. How can one go wrong with a dedicated, committed, and caring campus and community?

My memories over the past 12 years as president can be summed up with one word: teamwork. The campus community has collaboratively developed aggressive plans over the years and worked hard to implement them. Everyone on campus has played a role and been unselfish in the endeavors. Together, so much has been accomplished, and everyone on campus can share equally in these successes.

More than anything, I will look back on this time as one of cooperation, communication, and mutual effort. It is only when you add this campus effort to the caring and sharing attitude of our community, alumni, and friends that one can understand and appreciate the full measure of this era of Mayville State. I continue to be humbled by everyone's dedication and support of our campus mission.

The true basis for everything we do is our students, and I have never had to remind anyone of this because our historical roots as a teaching institution have permanently ingrained this in all that we do. This is a great source of pride!

I look forward to retirement and Debbie and I hope to maintain the friendships and relationships built over the last 42 years. It's been a great ride, and the campus accomplishments of these last years would not have been possible without you. We look forward to creating new and different memories in the future!

Gary Hagen
President

SBHE selects next Mayville State president

On Wednesday, March 28, 2018, the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education named Dr. Brian Van Horn as the next president of Mayville State University. Van Horn currently serves as associate provost at Murray State University in Murray, Ky.

During the interview, he said that he appreciated North Dakota's investment in Mayville State University. "Here we make an impact for life on students and I appreciate North Dakota's commitment to affordability," Van Horn said.

The night prior to his interview, he said that he walked around campus visiting with students and every student he spoke with expressed love for the university experience at Mayville. "In my time on campus, I have been impressed with the friendliness of the people and the student-centered focus of the institution. It is clear to me that Mayville is a special place and I am honored to be selected as the person to lead this institution. I am excited to begin working on behalf of the students here as well as all of the people on our campus and in our community," said Van Horn.

The search for the next MSU president began mid-November 2017 after Dr. Gary Hagen announced his upcoming retirement this summer.

"The Board underwent careful deliberations and it was a difficult decision to make," said Don Morton, chair of the State Board of Higher Education. "We had three strong candidates, all good leaders who understand the value of higher education in making North Dakota strong. We are excited about the possibilities for Van Horn. I want to thank the presidential search committee for all of the time and effort that went into the search to find the best fit for the Mayville State University community. The committee always kept in mind what was best for Mayville and with that, what was best for the students."

The presidential search committee was co-chaired by Dr. Andrew Pflipsen and Board member Dr. Casey Ryan, who led the effort to interview semifinalists and forward its three recommendations for the position to the Board for final interviews.

"Thank you to the Mayville community and the Mayville presidential search committee for their active participation, commitment, engagement, and efforts throughout the presidential search. As a campus, this has been a good process for us to gain insight from the students, faculty, staff, and community members about the new president as well as the campus itself. I believe that we have a lot to be proud of right now and I know the new president will serve our students and campus

community well into the future. Now is an exciting time for us at Mayville State," said Pflipsen.

Van Horn holds two degrees from Murray State University, a Bachelor of Science and Master of Public Administration. He earned a doctorate in leadership and policy studies from the University of Memphis. He believes strongly in access to education and has grown Murray State through many distance-learning avenues. He has served at Murray State in various capacities including campus director, assistant dean, dean, Student Government Association president and also served on Murray State University's Board of Regents for two terms.

Van Horn will take over as the 17th president of MSU no later than July. He will succeed Dr. Gary Hagen, who will retire this summer after serving more than four decades at the university.



Dr. Brian Van Horn.

Journeys with Mayville State presents...

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE ALPINE COUNTRIES

Germany, Austria & Switzerland

JULY 2019



Join Gary and Debbie Hagen the summer of 2019 as they explore the beautiful Alpine Countries.

If you're interested in learning more as information becomes available, contact the MSU Office of Alumni Affairs, 701-788-4750 or alumni.mail@mayvillestate.edu.

Spend time exploring some of Europe's most beautiful landscapes. This pleasantly paced and interesting itinerary will take you into Bavaria and Austria, a Mecca of classical music and Alpine views. You'll then travel into Switzerland where dramatically stunning geography has no equal. We would love for you to join us in the "Land of the Sound of Music" to enjoy lakes, mountains, delicious food, charming villages, and expert sightseeing.

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MSU research finds prospect of wheat as an industrial resource

North Dakota is a major wheat producer, harvesting about 362 million bushels annually. More than 23 million bushels of spring and durum wheat are milled every year.

Accordingly, North Dakota is producing 3.34 million bushels of wheat bran per year. Of this, three million bushels are waste. A wheat kernel generally contains 14.5% bran. A miller either sells 90% of this bran at an extremely low price or disposes of it as waste, which has the potential to cause environmental hazards, to save the transportation cost.

Since a strong wheat industry is very important to the viability of North Dakota, alternative uses for the wheat, for example using the wheat bran as an industrial resource, are urgently needed to sustain the productivity of wheat and the profitability of wheat for farmers, augmenting the rural economy of North Dakota.



MSU professor of biology and INBRE researcher Dr. Khwaja Hossain (left) is heading up research at Mayville State that has the potential to positively impact the wheat-producing industry in North Dakota. He is pictured with Summer Dearing, Walhalla, N.D., MSU undergraduate researcher.

Researchers at Mayville State University have been working to identify possible alternative uses for wheat bran, which could have a positive impact on the quality of the wheat farmer's life, as well as society. Dr. Khwaja Hossain, professor and project leader, along with Dr. Atikur Rahman, a Mayville State research associate, conducted their research with assistance from Mayville State undergraduate students. Dr. Chad Ulven, an associate professor from North Dakota State University is a collaborator on this project, which was supported by NSF-ND-EPSCoR.

Through their research work, the team determined that the thermoplastic they prepared with bran composite has industrial uses. The wheat bran was determined as an appropriate reinforcement in the polymers and could trade between \$100 and \$200 per ton. It would most efficiently be processed and densified into bio-composite pellets located in rural areas prior to being transported to the end molder. They are continuing to analyze the biodegradability of the prepared thermoplastic.

Wheat bran has cellulosic fiber compounds, along with starch, protein, and a little amount of fat. Like all the plant material that shows mechanical strength properties having cellulose in them, the high percentage of water-insoluble fiber constituted by cellulose, hemicellulose, and lignin in wheat bran also offers the advantages of mechanical strengths.

Wheat bran has the potential to be an effective and economical reinforcing material because of its low density, non-abrasive nature, availability, low cost, and renewability. The Mayville State research team determined that wheat bran is an important and very cheap agricultural by-product.

Fall and winter NAIA Scholar Athletes named

In order to be nominated by an institution's head coach or sports information director, 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.

- Darrel Wilson - Junior - Douglasville, Ga. - Football
- Bill Duckworth - Junior - Glendale, Ariz. - Football
- TaLise Hansen - Senior - Granby, Colo. - Volleyball
- Daniel Lindgren - Senior - Enderlin, N.D. - Basketball
- Garek Droog - Senior - Grafton, N.D. - Basketball
- Jacob Eaton - Senior - Roseau, Minn. - Basketball
- Michael Slaba - Senior - Canby, Minn. - Basketball
- Sydney Gangl - Senior - Dickinson, N.D. - Basketball
- Joelle Ertl - Junior - Avon, Minn. - Basketball
- Andi Gayner - Senior - Dassel, Minn. - Basketball

Hall named athletic director

Mayville State University has hired Ryan Hall as its new athletic director. Hall will begin his duties at Mayville State in early July.

Hall comes to Mayville State from Benedictine College Preparatory School in Richmond, Va., where he has served as Director of Athletics since July of 2013. He began his career at Benedictine College Preparatory School as the senior admissions/athletics officer and director of summer programs in July of 2010. Aside from his work in administration, Mr. Hall has a successful nine-year record as a head wrestling coach.



Ryan Hall.

Ryan Hall grew up in Mineral, Va., where he competed as a two-sport all-state athlete in wrestling and soccer and was a member of the National Honor Society. He graduated cum laude from Ferrum College in 2007, and then earned a Master of Education degree in Sport Leadership/Administration from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2008, graduating with honors.

"Hall will bring passion and energy to our athletic programs at Mayville State University," said Dr. Andrew Pflipsen, MSU Vice President for Student Affairs and co-chair of the search committee. "We look forward to welcoming Ryan, his wife, Lindsey, and their children Ryan O'Hara "O.J." and Berkeley to the Mayville-Portland community."

Ryan takes over as athletic director after the departure of Mike Moore, who is now the executive director of the Pittsburg (Kan.) Family YMCA.

MSU employees recognized for years of service, retirements

The Mayville State University employee recognition banquet, held Monday evening, April 23, 2018, was a tribute to the employees of Mayville State for their work and commitment to the university. The annual event was held at the Mayville State Campus Center Luckasen Room. All Mayville State employees and their spouses or guests were invited to attend, as were Mayville State retirees and spouses or guests.

Six Mayville State employees who will retire, or who have retired, during this academic year were also recognized. They are Pamela Braaten (36 years of service), Marjorie Fugleberg (38 years of service), Ernest Fyre (37 years of service), Gary Hagen (42 years of service), Dale Nelson (29 years of service), and Sheri Peterson (16 years of service).

Misti Wuori was named the 2018 recipient of the Orville Johnson Meritorious Service Award. This award recognizes outstanding service by members of Mayville State classified staff. Misti is Director of Extended Learning and an instructor in sociology.

Special recognition was given to those employees who have reached milestones in years of service. Those honored are as follows:

25 years of service – Robert Miess and Robert Sylskar.

20 years of service – Sharyl Hanson, Wendy Hanson, Dawn Huard, Rhonda Nelson, John Pederson, Carmen Rygg, and Keith Stenehjem.

15 years of service – Donna Gutschmidt, Brittany Stevenson, and Gary Stordahl.

10 years of service – Susan Cordahl, Lindsey Johnson, Jeremiah Moen, James Morowski, Brian Norstebon, Denise Overmoe, and John Peterson.

5 years of service – Denise Andress, Allissa Bratager, Melissa Gehl, Ashley Hanson, Aaron Kingsbury, Sandra Knudson, Joseph Mehus, Ashley Nelson, Joanna Nielson, Debra O'Brien, Karen Peterson, Anna Sjol, Lonamalia Smith, Andrew Steele, William Tomblin, Mary Townsend, and Kristin Wosick.



These Mayville State employees were recognized for 10 years of service. Pictured from left to right are Susan Cordahl, Financial Aid Coordinator; Lindsey Johnson, head volleyball coach and Assistant Professor of HPER; Jeremiah Moen, Associate Professor of HPER and chair of the Division of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation; Jim Morowski, Director of Admissions; and John Peterson, who is with building services.



These Mayville State employees were recognized for 20 years of service. Pictured from left to right are Sharyl Hanson, Assistant Director of Academic Records; Dawn Huard, site coordinator for Child Development Programs; Rhonda Nelson, Associate Professor of Business and chair of the Division of Business; John Peterson, Professor of Humanities and Social Sciences; and Keith Stenehjem, Vice President for Academic Affairs.



Misti Wuori was named the recipient of the Orville Johnson Meritorious Service Award for 2018. The Orville Johnson Meritorious Service Award is given to an employee who shows outstanding dedication, loyalty, and trustworthiness toward Mayville State University and his or her fellow employees. Each year, staff members nominate and select a fellow employee to receive the distinguished award.



Photo at left: Marge Fugleberg (right) is retiring this year after a 38-year career at Mayville State University. She has been Mayville State's serials librarian and interactive video network coordinator. She is pictured here with her library supervisor, Kelly Kornkven (left).



Photo at left: Pam Braaten (right) will be retiring this year from her position as Director of Academic Records after a 36-year career at Mayville State University. She is pictured with her supervisor, Keith Stenehjem (left).

Turf construction is underway!

The longtime dream that started in 2013 has finally been realized. Mayville State University is wrapping up almost all of its fundraising for the first phase of the artificial turf project. Construction on a turf football field began June 4, under the management supervision of Zerr-Berg Architects, Fargo, project manager for the turf project. A ground-breaking ceremony, complete with shovels, was held by the lead benefactors for the project on June 5 at Jerome Berg Field.

In the comprehensive bidding process, university officials learned that original estimates for the cost and scope of the project needed to be revised upward because of the complex site work required in a high quality field. The MSU Foundation had raised more than \$500,000, but the new field price tag was \$750,000. This challenge was met in several ways.

First, Mayville State University stepped up by putting some state-allowed equipment reserves into the project. University administrators know that the project will transform the athletic program and pay dividends far beyond the investment.

The MSU Foundation board voted in April to designate a part of a generous estate gift to the project. The alumnus who gave the gift had the foresight to leave the gift for the purpose of helping wherever the need was greatest at MSU.

Another success factor in getting the project underway was the football program itself. Head football coach Sean Thom was willing to put some hard-earned funds raised by the program toward the project, even though his scholarship needs are high.

Coach Thom said, “We want to put our money forward too so that MSU and the community can be proud of what will be a real game-changer. We all have some skin in the game. So many alumni and former athletes have been very generous. The football turf gift roster is a virtual ‘who’s who’ of Mayville State athletes, fans, faculty and staff, and the community.”

MSU Foundation Executive Director John Klocke hopes the last phase of fundraising will be as successful.

“We’re not completely finished yet. We have some additional fundraising to do to accelerate the project and get it finished by fall. An anonymous donor has offered a \$30,000 dollar-for-dollar challenge match, which could help us use less of Coach Thom’s reserves and allow him to offer more scholarship dollars to prospective students.”

Klocke encourages anyone who wishes to be a part of the first phase of the project to get in on the football turf matching funds and to send their gift to the MSU Foundation before the July 1 deadline.

“If we are fortunate, we will exceed our fundraising goal and all of the extra funds will go right into phase two of our total project, turf for the infield of the baseball field, and potentially the outfield as well,” said Klocke.

To make a gift, go to www.mayvillestate.edu/turf or call 701-788-4864.

Watch the website at www.mayvillestate.edu or sign up for e-mail alerts at www.mayvillestate.edu/updates to stay up-to-date with news on the turf project.

Mayville State alumni among 2018 N.D. Sports Hall of Fame inductees

Scott Berry (‘78) and Dan Carr (‘78) are among this year’s North Dakota Sports Hall of Fame inductees. The pair, together with Brooks Bollinger and Laura Roesler, will receive the Cliff Cushman Award as they are inducted into the hall of fame at a banquet which will begin at 5:30 p.m. on June 16 at the Jamestown Civic Center. Cliff Cushman, a Grand Forks native and 1960 Olympian, lost his life in the Vietnam War. However, his legacy and inspiration live on. The evening will include the induction banquet, a social, and an auction. The awards program will be at the conclusion of the evening. Tickets are \$35 each. Call 701-252-4835 to order tickets.

One of the most heralded and respected baseball coaches in America, Scott Berry is member of six halls of fame and an active participant in local, regional, and national baseball organizations. Berry has kept MSU on the collegiate baseball map for nearly four decades.

Berry’s career record as a head coach after 35 years in the NAIA stands at 1,082-573-1, which is good for a winning percentage of 0.638 even though more than 75% of all MSU baseball games have been played on the road. Berry is the sixth active winningest coach in the NAIA.

Dan Carr’s coaching career spans 41 years, with two years as a college coach. He guided his high school boys basketball teams to 728 victories during his 39-year tenure. Carr has coached his Linton basketball teams to 22 conference titles and 18 district titles. Linton boys basketball teams have also been region runner-up titlists eight times and regional champions 11 times. The Linton Lions boys basketball teams have also been NDHSAA state runner-up titlists once (1987) and state champions three times (1984, 1985, 2009). Coach Carr has mentored his boys golf team to a regional championship and his girls golf teams to 10 conference titles and eight regional championships.

Carr’s coaching has resulted in his being selected NDHSCA Regional Coach of the Year seven times. He has also been named NDHSCA Boys’ Basketball State Coach of the Year twice (1984 and 2005). He was selected for these awards by his peers at each level. He was named Girls Golf Regional Coach of the Year seven times and State Girls Golf Coach of the Year in 1995. In 2016 Carr became the winningest coach in N.D. history.



Scott Berry.



Dan Carr.

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.

Comets are NSAA champs!

The Mayville State men’s basketball team advanced to the NAIA National Tournament for the first time in eleven years at the end of the 2017-2018 season. Under first-year head coach Darren Tighe, the Comets were able to finish the season with an 18-11 overall record and an 8-8



Mayville State coaches and players are pictured holding their championship banner after defeating Dickinson State University to win the North Star Conference Tournament in Bellevue, Neb.

mark in the North Star Athletic Association (NSAA). Mayville State defeated Waldorf, Bellevue, and Dickinson State University in the North Star Conference Tournament to earn the tournament title and an automatic berth in the national tournament in Sioux Falls, S.D.

The Comets started their season with a handful of exhibition games against some tough NCAA competition. Coach Tighe wanted the opportunity to measure where his team was early in the season. The team dropped games to the University of South Dakota, St. Cloud State, the University of Mary, and Minot State in November before they got started with the North Star portion of the schedule in December.

Coach Tighe’s team started with some big wins over Presentation, #18 Jamestown, and Valley City State to start 3-0 in the North Star before losing to Dickinson State on Dec. 9. The Comets then rattled off five wins in a row over the holiday season, fading down the stretch and losing five of their last six games to North Star opponents heading into the conference tournament.

The Comets were able to find their groove at the right time, beating Waldorf 75-68 in the opening round of the conference tourney, then taking down home-standing and top-seeded Bellevue 97-92 in the semifinal round. A tough battle against Dickinson State in the championship game saw a back-and-forth fight with Mayville State building a 9-point lead with just under three minutes to play. Dickinson State would make it interesting at the end, but tough defense down the stretch gave the Comets the 73-70 win to take the conference tournament title, thrilling the Comet faithful who watched the game long-distance in the MSU Campus Center Luckasen Room.

Mayville State met the College of Idaho in the opening round of the national tournament. They hung around in the first half, but couldn’t keep up with the Coyotes late in the game. The College of Idaho went on to beat MSU 66-50, ending the Comets’ season.

The team was led all year long by Daniel Lindgren and Gorg Alhag, who both averaged 13.9 points/game and easily led the team in the top minutes played each game. Cameron Epps and Eric Staebler added 10.6 and 10 points per game respectively. Staebler also led the team in rebounds, pulling down 6.7 each game on average. Lindgren and Alhag both earned North Star honorable mention all-conference honors for their performance throughout the season.

The Comets graduated three seniors. Garek Droog, Cameron Epps, and Jacob Eaton will all be missed next season in the Lewy Lee, but Mayville State will bring back three of their top-six performers from last season and will now look for leadership from the seven seniors and three juniors they’ll have back for the 2018-2019 campaign.

The latest from Comet Athletics

Football

The Comets didn't win a game last fall, but the program has seen a transformation in the first year under head coach Sean Thom. Thom and his assistants have put an emphasis on work ethic and being accountable in the classroom, in the weight room, and on the field. This new attitude and a large, talented recruiting class coming in should make a difference next fall when the Comets take the field for year two under Coach Thom.

Last fall saw the Comets battle in a handful of close games, but inexperienced players learning a new system put a lot of pressure on the team early in the year. Losing their first two games by four points each was a tough way to start the season. The team felt they could have won both of those games and kicked off the season with some momentum before heading into the conference schedule.

The Comet defense struggled to find success throughout the season. Mayville State ranked last in the NSAA by giving up 45.4 points/game and 471 yards/game. The offense needs to improve as well. The Comets ranked last in the conference in points and yards per game. One bright spot was the Mayville State passing game. Quarterback Creighton Pfau was third in the NSAA with 243.3 yards/game. He ended the season with 2,433 yards and 14 touchdowns for the Comets.

Coach Thom and his assistants got a late start with recruiting last year after getting hired at the end of the year. But now that they've had a full recruiting period 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 by creating relationships with local high school coaches and administration. To date, the Comets have signed 58 players and recruiting continues.

The returning players spent the winter in the weight room and worked hard to get bigger, faster, and stronger. Coach Thom's team had 15 practices this spring and finished with four combination practices with the Tri-City North Stars, an amateur football team based out of Grand Forks, N.D.

Volleyball

The Comets volleyball team continues to add young talent and looks to rebound after a 7-win season in 2017. A number of freshmen played key roles in 2017 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, 12 of the 22 2017 North Star all-conference players return for the 2018 season.

The Comets will return most of their key contributors from last season, but lost a senior to graduation. TaLise Hansen averaged more than 16 digs per match in 2017. The senior also recorded her 1,000th dig on Oct. 24 in a match against Dakota State. Through her hard work and leadership, Hansen was able to be a key part of the Comets' success throughout her time on campus.

Hannah Bliss racked up 366 kills in her sophomore year to lead the Comets, and her 3.1 kills/set was tied for second in the conference. Freshman Jana Mehus was fourth in the conference in assists/set with 7.5, and Cassidy Miller finished tied for fourth in blocks/set last season.

Mayville State will be adding eight new players to the squad for next fall. They are Ashley Wright from Hillsboro, N.D., Victoria Johnson from Roseau, Minn., Natalie Hadrava from Laporte, Minn., Emily Kassa from Florence, S.D., Natalie Roisum from Moorhead, Minn., and Jaycee Walter, a transfer from Bismarck State College. Kiana Johnson will transfer from Ridgewater Junior College, and Mary Kalal will transfer from Lake Region State College.

The Comets will kick things off for their 2018 season by traveling to Brunswick, Ga. for the Coastal Georgia Tournament. There they will mix it up with teams like Point University (Ga.), Warner University (Fla.), Lindenwood (Mo.), and Faulkner (Ala.).

Coach Lindsey Johnson's team will also play in the Corn Palace Tournament in Mitchell, S.D. early in the season, and travel to Great Falls, Mont. for the University of Providence Tournament before they settle into their conference schedule with a game in Aberdeen, S.D. against Presentation College on Sept. 12.



The men's basketball team was out in full force to support the volleyball team when they played Valley City State at home last fall.

Women's Basketball

The Mayville State women's basketball team finished their season with a winning record for the seventh consecutive year, the longest-such streak in the history of the program. During the past seven years, the Comets have an overall record of 131-63, for a .675 winning percentage. This past season the Comets finished with an overall record of 20-9, and a winning record within the North Star Athletic Association (NSAA) with a 10-6 mark. In the North Star Conference Tournament, Mayville State defeated Dakota State 83-68 in the opening round, but fell to Jamestown in the semifinal round, ending their season.

The Comets started the 2017-2018 campaign 7-3 in the month of November with wins over Providence University, Dordt College, and #17 Northwestern College. Their only losses in the first month of the season came to the #3 team in the country, Concordia University - Nebraska, and two NCAA teams, NDSU and Bemidji State.

Mayville State then got into the conference portion of their schedule and started things off with a win over Presentation before dropping games to #8 Jamestown and #14 Valley City State. Then the Comets won six of their next eight NSAA match ups and sat near the top of the conference standings heading into February.

The Comets finished their regular season on the road with wins over Viterbo and Waldorf to end things on a high note before heading into the conference tournament. Mayville State senior Andi Gayner was able to have a career night in the opening round of the tournament and put up 37 points to lead the Comets past Dakota State. Karleigh Weber poured in 19 of her own that night and Naomi Torgerson added 16. MSU had to travel to Jamestown for the next round and the #1 seed was too much for the Comets to overcome.

The team was led all year long by senior Andi Gayner. Gayner led the NSAA in scoring, averaging 18.9 points/game, shooting 46.3% from the field. Gayner finished the year with a number of accolades, including first-team all-conference, Honorable Mention NAIA All-American, and NAIA Scholar-Athlete. Naomi Torgerson also had a nice season for the Comets. The sophomore averaged 13.1 points and 5.7 rebounds per game on her way to receiving NSAA second-team all-conference honors.

The Comets graduate three seniors. Andi Gayner, Karleigh Weber, and Sydney Gangl will all be missed next season, but Mayville State will be relatively experienced and will look to leadership from the three seniors and seven juniors they'll have back for the 2018-2019 campaign.

Softball

Playing against North Star Athletic conference foes was challenging enough this season, but the Comet women found that they had to battle Mother Nature as well. Snow-covered

fields all over the area meant that the Comets had to scramble to find places to play. They eventually had only one home stand at Paul Karlstad Field in Portland, N.D. for the season.

The Comets did enjoy kinder weather on their spring trip to Tucson, Ariz., March 11-16, but they only managed to win two games while losing nine.

The road warriors and their head coach, Ashley Vande-Veen, did not have the season they had hoped for, ending with an overall record of 12-29 and an 8-18 mark against North Star opponents. A season highlight, though, was taking a North Star game from Bellevue, 3-2. They defeated Bellevue in walk-off fashion after eight innings. Shaye Kemball delivered a base hit to score Kiano Ishikawa to give the Comets the big win and move their conference record to 8-10.

In postseason North Star tournament play, the No.-8-seeded Comets went up against No.1-seeded and nationally ranked University of Jamestown in their opening tournament game in Aberdeen, S.D. Despite the heroic efforts of Shaye Kemball, who blasted a three-run homer to tie the game in the top of the fifth, the Jimmies came back with two runs of their own to capture the game 5-3.

The Comet ladies further suffered a heart-breaking defeat in Game Two. Mayville State held a 3-2 lead in the bottom of the seventh inning, but fourth-seeded Bellevue ended the game in walk-off fashion with a pair of runs in the bottom half of the inning for a 4-3 victory.

In postseason honors, the Comets had one player named first-team all-conference and one named to the second team. Senior AJ Tinoco, Sacramento, Calif., hit .375 at the plate with 35 RBIs, five home runs and three doubles in 39 games. She received first-team all-conference honors.

Earning second-team all-conference honors was Shaye Kemball, a sophomore from Winnipeg, Manitoba. She hit .344 for the Comets with 20 RBIs, two home runs and 14 doubles. She also started 20 games in the circle for the Comets this season, ending the year with a 4.29 ERA while striking out 105 opposing batters.

AJ Tinoco was one of two Comets to earn Player-of-the-Week honors this season. The other Comet to win POTW honors was pitcher Haley Kravetz.

Tinoco blasted a home run in each of the first three games of the four-game series against Dakota State in March. She was perfect at the plate twice during the series as the Comets went 1-3 against the Trojans. For the week, Tinoco produced a batting average of .556 (5-of-9) and a slugging percentage of 1.556. She had three home runs, scored five runs and reached base by a walk five times. At the time the Comets were 7-14 with a 3-5 mark in the NSAA.

In April senior pitcher Haley Kravetz from Winnipeg, Manitoba was named Pitcher of the Week. She tossed a complete game April 12 in the Comets' 8-1 victory over Dickinson

Comet Athletics cont'd. from page 9

State as part of the North Star triangular in Bellevue, Neb. She limited the Blue Hawks to one run on five hits while striking out eight DSU batters and only issuing one walk. At the plate she went 1-2 with an RBI.

The team says good-bye to nine seniors: Megan Rabe, Danielle Sheridan, Kiana Ishikawa, Haley Kravetz, AJ Tinoco, Bailey Nordquist, Breena Martinez, Annjeanett Urbano, and Jolene Ruiz. Their dedication and hard work throughout their tenure as Comets laid the foundation for future Comet success.

Baseball

The Comets found a lot of success this season, not only being in first place in the North Star for many weeks, but finally winning the conference title outright. They finished the season with a win-loss record of 19-4 in the NSAA and 31-13 overall.

The Comets started the spring in Minneapolis, Minn., at US Bank Stadium for a series against Midland University. The Comets were 3-1 in that series before heading to Tucson, Ariz., for their annual spring trip, where they notched a 5-1 record.

With terrible weather conditions this spring, the team was forced to be road warriors, managing only one home series. Nevertheless, they won early and often while leading the conference. As the season progressed they proved to be balanced in almost every category in the North Star rankings. They were in the top-five or better in virtually every category, showing the consistency and balance that Coach Berry's squads strive for.

Pitching was stellar, especially with Erik Barron, Mason Swegarden, and Kalton Agnes on the mound.

Competition was stiff this season, with nationally-ranked University of Jamestown and Bellevue University nudging the Comets in the pursuit of the conference title.

While the Comets win the conference title outright, the defending conference tournament champions from last year would not repeat the feat this season. No.-1 one ranked for the tourney, they fell in the first game to Dakota State, 13-3. They worked their way through the brackets, however, defeating Waldorf 11-1 in Game Two, blasting in 8 runs in the fourth inning.

In Game Three, they defeated Dakota State 14-3, avenging their earlier 10-run-rule loss in the teams' first match up. In what turned out to be the final game of the season, however, the Comets fell to Presentation College 5-3. They had an early lead but PC chipped away and was the eventual winner. Bellevue University was the tournament champion, besting the University of Jamestown for the title. At the end of the tourney, the Comets sat 19-4 in NSAA play overall.

Statistically, several Comets placed high in both NSAA and NAIA rankings. Mason Swegarden and Erik Barron ranked in the top five in a handful of pitching categories throughout the season. Barron and Swegarden tied for No. 4 in the country for total runs allowed (14) and Swegarden, with an ERA of 1.46 and Barron, 1.62, ranked No. 5 and No. 7 respectively.

Kalton Agnes was also highly effective on the mound this season, as the junior ranked on top of the North Star in strikeouts per game with an average of 11.33 Ks every nine innings.

Riley Nelson, Zachary Foster, and Jonathan Pluth all ranked in the top 15 in the North Star for batting average. Nelson ended the season hitting .342, while Foster batted .341 and Pluth .340.

Andrew Hill ended the season ranked No. 8 in the conference in both home runs (7) and runs scored (39). Brady Nygaard ranked No. 5 in the North Star in runs batted in (43) for the season.

Mayville State had eight players named to North Star all-conference teams, with three on the first team, three on the second team, and two receiving honorable mention honors.

Jonathan Pluth, a junior from Concord, Calif., Zachary Foster, a junior from Salinas, Calif., and Mason Swegarden, a senior from Lake Park, Minn., were first-team all-conference recipients.

Pluth started 40 games for the Comets and hit .340 at the plate with 34 runs scored, 29 RBIs, seven doubles, and two home runs.

Foster had a batting average of .341 with 31 runs scored, 3 RBIs, 11 doubles and six home runs.

Swegarden appeared in 18 games this season with an ERA of 1.46. He gave up 13 earned runs in 80 innings of work and struck out 67 batters while holding opponents to a .184 batting average.

Jonathon Folen, a senior from Elk Grove, Calif., Erik Barron, a senior from San Jose, Calif., and Kalton Agnes, a junior from Langdon, N. D., were second-team all-conference recipients.

Folena had a batting average of .330 with 20 runs scored, 35 RBIs, eight doubles, and two home runs in 38 games.

Barron appeared on the mound in eight games with a .62 ERA, only giving up nine earned runs in 50 innings pitched.

Agnes struck out 68 batters with a 3.50 ERA. The consistent reliever out of the bullpen all season, he led the team in saves and pitched 54 innings in 20 appearances.

Andrew Hill, a junior from Bottineau, N.D., and Riley Nelson, a junior from Cooperstown, N.D., both received honorable mention all-conference honors. Hill had a batting average of .328 with 39 runs scored, 32 RBIs, four doubles, and seven home runs.

Nelson led the team with a .342 batting average and scored 34 runs, batted in 23 runs, and had four doubles and one home run for the Comets.

www.msucomets.com

Comet Athletic Club Sportsmen's Raffle

50-Gun Giveaway

Saturday, Aug. 25, 2018 • Mayville Armory

Tickets sell for \$100 each.

Ticket price includes dinner and a night of fun and prizes.

Purchase tickets at mayvillestate.edu/sportsmensraffle.

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.

Annual MSU Foundation Honor Society president's dinner held October 26

The annual MSU Foundation Honor Society president's dinner, held Thursday evening, Oct. 26, 2017, 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.



Myrna and Merwin Lyng, Mayville, N.D., were named the MSU Foundation Philanthropists of the Year. Not only have the Lyngs made significant financial contributions, they have assisted Mayville State in countless other ways through their generous donation of volunteer hours and much more. In presenting the Lyngs for the award, Mayville State President Gary Hagen said, "Mayville State University is a better place because of the contributions of Merwin and Myrna Lyng. We are so very fortunate to count them as members of the Mayville State family, and we are forever indebted to them for their generosity."

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 currently includes more than 200 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 Food Services of America, Fugleberg Seed & Bean Co., Leo and Julia Hannon Estate, James and Virginia LaBarre, Arthur Odden, Robin and Paul Severud, Ruth Stone Glaser Estate, Jeremy Strand and Sue Strand/Thrivent, and Marian H. Taddei. Steve and Marion Baker, Lori and Sam Kalainov, Lee and Cynthia Kaldor, Tim and Karen Pratt, and Nick and LaVonne Storhaug moved up to the Silver Club. Gary and Debbie Hagen, Lowell and Cynthia Nelson, the Donald and Ardyce Newman Estate, and the Alex Stern Family Foundation advanced to the Gold Club, while MayPort Insurance & Realty, Larry and Dixie McGillis and Corey and Tracy McGillis, moved into the Ambassador 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 President Hagen. "This steadfast support is crucial to Mayville State's success."

The 2017 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 701-788-4864.

MSU Wellness Center has new equipment thanks to ‘Gift for a Lift’

Mayville community members Rick and Allison Newman are long-time believers in staying healthy. These patrons of the MSU Wellness Center knew that having weight machines at the facility would be a benefit to students and community members. Not everyone can safely use free weights, so the machines would be of great value to those who wish to incorporate simple weight and resistance training into their fitness plans.

The Newmans offered a \$10,000 matching challenge to their friends and other Wellness Center patrons in an effort to raise enough money to purchase four-to-six machines for the Wellness Center. Their friends came through, and six new Freemotion weight machines have been purchased and are now in use at the Wellness Center. Each machine helps to work a different area of the body.

“The generosity of the Newmans and their friends has helped to improve Mayville State facilities, making the university more appealing to prospective students and others,” said MSU President Dr. Gary Hagen. “We are grateful for their foresight and initiative in making this happen. The MSU Wellness Center is a wonderful asset for the campus and community, and anything done to improve the facility is a benefit for all.”

Names of those who contributed to the project can be seen on a plaque that is on display at the Wellness Center. They are Richard and Allison Newman, Mayville, N.D.; Jon and Kari Bakkum, Mayville; Jesse and Wendy Bring, Galesburg, N.D.; Kurt and Cheryl Elliott, Blanchard, N.D.; First State Bank of Buxton; Martin and Diane Johnson, Portland, N.D.; James Lande, Mayville; Merwin and Myrna Lyng, Mayville; James and Wendy Mehus, Mayville; Arnold and Pat Osland, Mayville; Mark Osland, Mayville; Dennis and Sheri Peterson, Mayville; Ken and Kathleen Reinarz, Hatton, N.D.; Sheryl Vinje, Portland; and Steve and Tammy Volla, Mayville.

The MSU Wellness Center is a comprehensive fitness and wellness center and is available for use by members of the community, as well as the students, faculty, and staff of Mayville State University. It offers many options for promoting overall well-being and fitness, including a variety of group fitness classes. To learn more, go to www.mayvillestate.edu/wellnesscenter or call 701-788-5200.



Rick and Allison Newman display a plaque recognizing those who contributed to the “Gift for a Lift” project for the MSU Wellness Center. The Newmans’ \$10,000 donation matched the gifts of others dollar-for-dollar. The total raised was used to purchase weight-lifting equipment for the MSU Wellness Center.

Farmers Bowl is a big success once again in 2017

A warm, sunny day, exciting football, and teamwork among members of the Mayville State campus and the community highlighted another successful Farmers Bowl. The annual celebration of the area’s agricultural way of life took place Saturday, Sept. 9, 2017. Coordinated by the MSU Foundation, working together with alumni and friends in the Mayville-Portland community and beyond, this was the 23rd annual Farmers Bowl. Activities included the Farmers Bowl Field Frenzy 5K Run/Walk, a parade, the Farmers Bowl football game featuring the MSU Comets vs. Sterling College, and the Farmers Bowl auction.

Leah Larson was chairwoman for the festivities. Other Farmers Bowl committee members were Rick Karboviak, Doug Anderson, Dena Bergstrom, JoDee Dungan, Mandi Evans, David Moeller, Rhonda Nelson, Mindy O’Connor, Danielle Soholt, Beth Swenson, Samantha Thom, Ashley VandeVeen, and Ann Willeson. These folks were assisted by the MSU athletes, members of the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Club, 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 historic Old Main. The course went through the Mayville State campus, making a jaunt into Jerome Berg Field. Overall winner of the race was Konrad Bueckers, a member of the Mayville State men’s basketball team. The 42 participants included Mayville State’s entire men’s basketball team, including head coach Darren Tighe and his wife and children.

MSU President Dr. Gary Hagen and his wife, Debbie, led the parade, riding in a Model A pickup owned by Richard Fugleberg of Portland. The parade included a number of antique vehicles and farm machinery, along with more modern-day entries. Several community organizations and businesses participated, as did the MSU varsity athletic teams and student organizations. The May-Port CG High School marching band entertained parade-watchers with their music.

The Comets football team came up just four points short in their contest versus Sterling College, a team ranked #14 in the nation. Before a very nice crowd of Comets fans at Jerome Berg Field, the Comets demonstrated their tenacity in the home opener which ended in a score of 40-44.

The 21st annual Farmers Bowl auction wrapped up the day’s activities in the MSU Campus Center Luckasen Room. Silent and live auction bidders enjoyed great food and spirited bidding on a fantastic assortment of donated items in the annual auction. Auctioneer Wayne Trottier of Northwood called the bids in the live auction event, as he has done for nearly every Farmers Bowl auction. When all was said and done, this year’s auction and other Farmers Bowl activities generated more than \$30,000. Proceeds will be distributed through the MSU Foundation for the benefit of Mayville State University and its students.



Ray and Alana Gerszewski of Mayville donated this fabulous T-shirt quilt that was crafted with shirts representing MSU through the years and assembled and quilted by Alana.

The auction event began with a friendly game of heads or tails which was won by Kim Weber of Thompson, N.D. The grand prize in the game was a custom-made Comets neon sign, which was donated by Doug Petersen of Citizens Insurance Agency of Finley, Northwood, and Cooperstown.


Darcene Burgess, Mayville State alumna from Cavalier, N.D., was the winner of the \$1,000 cash prize in the Farmers Bowl Cash Fundraiser that was offered to alumni and friends all over the U.S. Proceeds of the Farmers Bowl Cash Fundraiser are included in the total revenue for Farmers Bowl 2017.

Teri Wright of Hillsboro, N.D. won an original watercolor painting by Mayville State graduate Doug Anderson, Cavalier, N.D. “Rockin’ Comets” depicts a peaceful scene on the north side of the Edson and Margaret Larson Alumni and Leadership Center at Mayville State. Framing of the piece was donated by Mayville State graduate Kelly Morrison, Mayville.

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

“Farmers Bowl is the product of many great volunteers working together for the good of Mayville-Portland and Mayville State University. We are very grateful for all who get involved with Farmers Bowl,” said MSU President Gary Hagen. “From the people who do the physical work, to those who attend and participate in the events, to those who donate items for the auction, and those who attend the auction and make purchases, Farmers Bowl is a great team effort. 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, Gate City Bank and Moore Engineering. Because of their generosity, MSU and its students will experience even greater benefits as a result of the annual Farmers Bowl activities.”

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



Midwest Dueling Pianos entertainers kept the audience singing, laughing, dancing, and just plain having a good time at the Dueling Pianos Party.

Dueling Pianos Party returns to MSU

The young, energetic, and exciting Midwest Dueling Pianos entertainers performed at Mayville State Saturday evening, Jan. 27, 2018, just in time to help chase away the winter blues and cabin fever! The Dueling Pianos Party, hosted by the MSU Foundation, was held for the second-straight year to benefit the students of Mayville State through the annual fund.

Thanks to the generosity of several sponsors, nearly all of the ticket proceeds from the Dueling Pianos Party went to the annual fund. Sponsors were Rob and Kim Lauf and Betsy and Jon Ewen of Mayville, N.D., and Terry Bachmeier of Mesa, Ariz. Associate sponsors were Steve and Linda Hilstad of Mayville and Shannon and Denise Bergstrom of Portland, N.D.

Midwest Dueling Pianos brought a memorable level of fun to Mayville State. This has quickly become one of the most sought-after dueling piano production companies in the country. Everyone who attended experienced a program of excitement, hilarity, musicianship, and raw fun.

The Dueling Pianos Party netted nearly \$9,000 for the annual fund at Mayville State.

Submit your alumni news at mayvillestate.edu/alumniupdates.



Things are developing

by John J. Klocke, CFRE
MSU Foundation Executive Director



Greetings, MSU alumni and friends! I am so glad to be back at the MSU Foundation! My short stint away is over and I am back home where I belong!

Lots of great things are happening here at the MSU Foundation. First of all, we welcome Stacy Buchl, our new development assistant. She will be a Jill of all trades, working with annual giving, special events, and office management day-to-day when I am on the road travelling the country visiting with our wonderful supporters! Stacy began working for us in March and a second team member, Regann Thrasher, began her work as a development assistant at the MSU Foundation June 1. She will focus on accounting and gift entry. We are so thankful to have Stacy and Regann join us!



Stacy Buchl.

We bid a fond farewell to two hard-working MSU Foundation Board members, Ernie Strube, board treasurer, and Shannon Bergstrom, member of the finance and development committees. Both have served two three-year terms. That is tremendous service and leadership.

Our longtime dream for turf at Jerome Berg Field is becoming a reality! Construction has begun, but we're not quite to the fund-raising goal. You might say we are at the two-minute warning with thirty yards to go! One of our good community friends, who wishes to remain anonymous, has offered a \$30,000 match for any turf gift given by July 1 or pledged to be given by the end of the year - a dollar-for-dollar match! Please consider a gift soon. We are so very

close. If we are fortunate, we will exceed our fund-raising goal and all of the extra funds will go right to phase two of the total project, turf for the baseball field. See more on page 6 of this publication.

The N.D. State Match Challenge has been a tremendous help to Mayville State. Of the \$200,000 of matching funds offered for annual scholarships and endowed scholarships, we have about \$70,000 remaining. We anticipate using up these remaining funds by the end of the year or sooner. Ideally, if you would like a scholarship gift matched, consider making a gift before Sept. 15 to ensure there are matching funds left.

Our May Days Drive held May 1st through the 3rd was a great success with more than \$10,000 in gifts and matching funds raised! The annual fund is critical to everything the Foundation does to help students. Thank you to all of you who took part.

I would like to take a few moments to give my well-wishes to my boss and friend, President Gary Hagen. Our time together on the road in our travels all over this great country holds many treasured memories for me and for my wife, Jan. Together with Gary and his wife, Debbie, we spent lots of time visiting with wonderful alumni and friends not only in our backyard, but from coast to coast. I have a feeling there will be more memories made as Gary and Debbie go into retirement mode. I'm sure we will see them at some MSU events. Congratulations, Gary and Debbie, as you start the next chapter. Thank you for making Mayville State University a better place for our students in so many ways!

As always, THANK YOU to all alumni and friends. You have given more than one million dollars this year! We couldn't do it without your support!

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.

Trail County/Mayville State luncheon held in Mesa February 13



The original Captain Comet, AKA Al Larson ('86), enjoys a laugh with President Hagen. Captain Comet led the luncheon attendees in his "We are the Comets" routine.



Lori and Fred ('91) Coleman were among those who attended the annual Trail County/Mayville State luncheon in Mesa.

The annual Trail County/Mayville State University reunion luncheon was held in Mesa, Ariz. Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018. As it has for the past several years, the luncheon was held in the Apache Hall of the Apache Wells Country Club.

Socializing was followed by a delicious meal. Those who attended included current and former Trail County area residents and Mayville State University alumni and friends.

During the program, Mayville State University President Dr. Gary Hagen presented a slide show that featured photos of the many friends and alumni they've gotten to know in their travels to Arizona over the years. MSU Foundation Executive Director John J. Klocke and his wife, Jan, entertained with their vocal and piano music. Numerous door prizes, including various books and a variety of items from the Mayville State bookstore were given away. The door prizes had been donated by Mayville native Terry Bachmeier.



Dale Johnson (ex. '73) and his wife, Diane, attended the luncheon.



These former Grand Forks, N.D. educators and Mayville State alumni attended the luncheon along with their wives. Pictured from left to right are Larry Hoiberg ('63), Everett Knudsvig ('57), and Ken Rio ('49).

Alumni and friends honored

Mayville State University alumni and friends were honored during the MSU Alumni Association's 2017 homecoming festivities held Oct. 6-8. 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. 6. About 150 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 (1966) and 1989 MSU Athletic Hall of Fame inductee Roger Moe of Erskine, Minn. emceed the program.

Melissa Charboneau-Folch, Otsego, Minn., Stu Gilman, Calgary, Alberta, Neil Steffes, Fertile, Minn., Lonnie Thomas, Rockville, Md., and the 1988 baseball team were inducted into the Mayville State University 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.

Nick Storhaug, Lisbon, N.D., was inducted into the Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame, in recognition of his successful career as a high school wrestling coach after graduating from Mayville State.

In recognition of her service to the student athletes of Mayville State University, Gwen Shaffer was presented with the MSU Distinguished Service Award.

The homecoming parade kicked off the festivities on Saturday, Oct. 7. The traditional homecoming parade 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 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 Caylee Dodson from Houston, Texas, and included remarks from Martin Johnson, Military Honor Garden project co-chair and Mayville State graduate. Lindsey Shimpa, Mayville State student from Grand Forks, N.D. played "Taps" from the upper level doorway of the Larson Center.

The program ended on a solemn note, with program emcee, retired MSU faculty member Mike Bakken, 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 bell by Mayville State student Briar Bahnmitter, Grandin, N.D., followed each name.

Many of those in the crowd were moved in silent reflection, as when the reading of the names was coming to a close, two bald eagles came from the east and flew over the garden. The bald eagle, our national bird, represents freedom, the very thing all of those who have been honored in the Military Honor Garden worked to ensure for all Americans. The two eagles that flew above those gathered for the ceremony of remembrance conveyed a very special and touching message to those below.

The Alumni Association board members 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. 8, in the Classroom Building Auditorium. Inductees Caroline (Knudson) Brown, Rapid City, S.D., Robert Gust, Fargo, N.D.; Dr. Joseph Hegstad, now deceased, but formerly of Minot, N.D. and Scottsdale, Ariz., and David "White Thunder" Trotter, N.D., comprised the fifth group of distinguished individuals to be inducted into the Performing Arts Hall of Fame since its establishment in 2013.

Homecoming 2017 culminated with a social to honor the Performing Arts Hall of Fame inductees. Hosted by the Alumni Association board, the social was held immediately following the concert in the MSU Campus Center Luckasen Room.

"Homecoming 2017 was a very special time," said MSU Director of Alumni Affairs Beth Swenson. "It was a heart-warming celebration of what makes Mayville State University special - the people. It was our privilege to pay tribute to so many wonderful Mayville State alumni and friends throughout Mayville State's homecoming festivities."



Gwen Shaffer (left) received the Mayville State Distinguished Service Award at the Oct. 6 Hall of Fame dinner. Gwen has been an extra-special friend to the athletes of Mayville State and has made sure that her brother, Stan Dakken (pictured on the right), could continue to be the #1 fan of the Comets.



This hard-working group of men was responsible for putting up and taking down the Avenue of Flags which enhanced the Mayville State Military Honor Garden throughout the day on Oct. 7. The Avenue of Flags is provided by the local American Legion Post 8. Pictured from left to right are Don Thuen, Tim Sorteberg, Butch Aamold, Larry Dakken, Harlan Johnson, and Rick Aamold. Clark Soholt also helped, but was not present for the photo.

Homecoming 2017 festivities



Members of the 1988 baseball team were inducted into the MSU Athletic Hall of Fame this year. Those attending the banquet are pictured. In the back (l-r) are Kevin Booker, Cam Biberdorf, Gary Powell, Shaun Cory, Jamie Hoffner, and Scott Whetter. In the front (l-r) are Jim Roaldson, Fred Matsubara, head coach Scott Berry, Lane Curry, Mike Kolness, assistant coach Dave Wheeler, and Dennis Reidy.



These individuals were inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame and Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame during the Oct. 6 banquet. Pictured from left to right are Nick Storhaug ('73), Neil Steffes ('92), Missy Charboneau-Folch ('02), Stu Gilman ('84), and Lonnie Thomas (ex. '78).



A new class of Performing Arts Hall of Fame inductees was recognized during the MSU Music Department homecoming concert on Sunday, Oct. 8. Pictured (l-r) are Robert Gust ('73), Caroline (Knudson) Brown ('71), David "White Thunder" Trotter ('77), and Jackie Hegstad, who represented her late husband, Dr. Joe Hegstad ('61).

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Homecoming 2018 -- September 28, 29, 30

MSU alumni have long-time association with Nye County (Nev.) School District

Dale Norton ('81), superintendent of Nye County School District (NCSD) in Pahrump, Nev., and Kyle Lindberg ('94), human resource director, were at Mayville State this spring visiting with education students who are prospective employees of the district. NCSD has a long tradition of employing Mayville State graduates.

Norton has spent the last 28 years teaching, coaching, and being an administrator at NCSD. He is a 2016 recipient of the Mayville State Distinguished Alumni Award. Kyle Lindberg has been with NCSD for 22 years as a teacher, coach, and administrator.

Current NCSD teachers and coaches who are Mayville State graduates include Lance Englund ('93), K-5 PE teacher (22 years at NCSD); Jayne (Woodard) Erwin ('06), early childhood teacher (2 years); Jill (Sawyer) Harris ('89), 5th grade teacher (28 years); Katie (Karlstad) Holzer ('06), K-5 special education teacher (11 years); Donnie Jensen ('92), 6-8 PE teacher (25 years); Bruce Moen ('80), 9-12 social studies/business teacher (30 years); Claire Moen ('73), 6-8 language arts teacher (17 years); Debra (Ness) Norton ('81), 4th grade teacher (26 years); Jeanette Ogden ('01), K-5 computers teacher (16 years); Jennifer Ogden ('02), kindergarten teacher (15 years); and Craig Rieger ('94), 9-12 PE/health teacher (23 years).



DECA continues chapter excellence

Ten members of the Mayville State University DECA chapter took part in the International Career Development Conference in Washington, D.C. in April. Pictured in the back row, from left, Dustin Olson, Ben Myszkowski, Jace Pederson, Gabe Salander, and Rob Johnston. Front row: Orson Gallardo, Madee Gallardo, Jordan Johnson, Jacob Pladson, and David Dukart.

Under the mentorship of advisers Rob Johnston ('99) and Dustin Olson ('05), this is the seventh year in a row that MSU DECA has advanced to the international conference. Jace Pederson and Jacob Pladson excelled, placing in the top ten in Financial Statement Analysis.

The goal of DECA is to take business students from the classroom into real-world experiences.



Mae celebrates 95 years

Twenty immediate family members of Ella Mae (Whitehead) Karlstad ('42) gathered to celebrate her 95th birthday on May 3, 2018. In attendance were her three daughters and their spouses, all six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren!

Pictured (l-r) in the back are Steve Gunderson, Chad Rakowski ('11), Valerie (Gunderson) Hacker (ex. '01), Stephanie Gunderson, Rebecca (Karlstad) Gunderson ('72), Jon Klabo, Lisa (Karlstad) Rakowski (ex. '83), Ralph Johnson ('66), Geri (Karlstad) Johnson, Lori (Johnson) Krenik; Alyssa Krenik (holding Leigh Brown), Debbie Johnson, Lee Johnson (ex. '86), and Jessica (Johnson) Brown (holding Nolan Brown). Standing in front of her is Gavin Brown. In the front are Rachel (Rakowski) Krueger ('07) (holding Anja Krueger), Bodhi Krueger, Ella Mae, and Haydin Hacker.

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 e-mail 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

Marlys (Pautz) Hlavinka (ex. 53) was presented with the 2017 AARP Andrus Award for Community Service during a volunteer recognition luncheon held Oct. 12 in Fargo, N.D. The Andrus Award is AARP's most prestigious and visible volunteer award for community service and symbolizes that individuals have the power and ability to make a difference in the lives of others. The award is given to one North Dakotan annually. AARP selected Hlavinka for her significant volunteer service in the community, especially for her leadership in creating Mayville's Caring Club in 1993. The Caring Club is a group of individuals whose fundraising efforts go toward upgrading equipment at the Mayville hospital. The Caring Club meets weekly.

Elaine (Grinde) Klath ('56) was featured in the Traill County Tribune during Volunteer Appreciation Week. Klath, a lifelong Portland, N.D. resident, has shared her talent for playing the piano and the organ as a volunteer throughout her life. She has been the organist at Bang Lutheran Church in rural Portland for the past 61 years, in addition to playing at many different places throughout the region. Other volunteer commitments for Klath over the years include the Luther Memorial Home, 4-H, Brownie Scouts, and Luther League. She said, "Volunteering has been a great part of my life. It has given me the opportunity to be around so many amazing people."

1960s

Myrna (Dalzell) Lyng ('61) was honored by the North Dakota Newspaper Association, who awarded her first place in the humorous column category of the large weeklies division of the Better Newspaper contest. The award was for her column "About Getting It." Lyng has been writing a weekly column, "Random Thoughts," for the Traill County Tribune since 2004. She retired from Mayville State in 1997.

Lt. General Emil R. "Buck" Bedard ('65) is an adviser and staunch supporter of the R.W.B. Dog T.A.G.S. program, a team of volunteers who

strives to have a positive impact on U.S. combat veterans and save the lives of homeless animals. By bringing them together, they help them forge a bond and give them hope.

Ken Demester ('68) was inducted into the Evanston, Wyo. High school Hall of Fame in 2017. Demester began his coaching and teaching career in 1968, before moving to Evanston, Wyo. in 1989 to become head varsity basketball coach. All of Demester's teams had a reputation for playing the game the right way and with respect. This was regularly noted by officials and opposing teams. For Demester, coaching wasn't just about wins and losses. "Sometimes you win more than you think," he said.

1970s

Tim Ralston ('70) was a bookworm and wrote poetry throughout his life. After graduating from Mayville State, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, where he served as an English language instructor during the Vietnam War. During this time he wrote poetry about life in North Dakota, with echoes of the Cold War. Couplets shared experiences from his time in the Air Force. After he died in 2010, his wife, Mary Kay, and daughter, Mariah, spent a few years preparing to publish "Tributaries," a collection of Tim's poems. It had been his dream to one day publish his collection of poems, but he didn't get that done, so his family carried his dream to fruition. Tim received the Air Force Commendation Medal for excellence in teaching and, in 1974, received an honorable discharge. Poetry served as an outlet following the war.

Dr. John Thein ('72) has come out of retirement to fill the Rocori, Minn. school district superintendent position on an interim basis.

Bob Wilhelmi ('73) is owner of The Pain Reliever bar and grill in Nekoma, N.D., population 26. The establishment provides food and drink, camaraderie and companionship in the small rural town. Wilhelmi is a lifelong Nekoma resident and an active farmer.

Dave "White Thunder" Trottier ('77) was re-appointed to another five-

Continued on page 20

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1970s ■■■■ (continued from page 19)

year term as chair of the North Dakota Council on the Arts by Governor Bergum in September of 2017.

1980s

Ron Boe ('80), with RE/MAX Legacy Realty in Fargo, has received the RE/MAX Hall of Fame Award, which honors agents who have earned a high level of commission during their career with the company. Fewer than 23% of all active RE/MAX agents have earned this prestigious award since its inception. Ron has



Ron Boe.

been serving the Fargo-Moorhead area as a full-time agent for 16 years.

Wayne Stegman ('80) directed the Drayton (N.D.) High School drama group that placed first out of nine competing schools at the Region Three one-act play competition held in Larimore, N.D. last fall. The group advanced to the state competition held in Jamestown.

Keven Dockter ('81) has served as the coordinator of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC) Annual Conference for the past ten years. At the 43rd annual national conference, which was held in Nov. of 2017 in San Diego, Calif., Dockter received the 2017 Herb Gross Presidential Award for his efforts to organize the conference. It is the top service award of the AMATYC, recognizing exceptional service to the association and to the profession. Dockter has taught college mathematics for 35 years. He is on the faculty at Anoka-Ramsey Community College in Minnesota.

Ed Simons ('83) and his wife, **Karen (Callahan) (ex. '81)** have lived in Alaska for three years. Ed teaches at Eielson High School in Fairbanks. Karen is a nurse.

Bob Sylskar (ex. '84) was recently inducted into the Communication, Speech, and Theatre Association of North Dakota (CSTAND) Hall of Fame. He's been a member of CSTAND

since 1993 and served as past president. He's also earned Creative Artist of the Year with CSTAND and he presents a variety of sessions at the annual CSTAND convention, including acting, technical theatre, and classroom speech. He's a 25-year employee of Mayville State, an associate professor of speech and English and Director of Theatre and Forensics. Sylskar has worn many hats for more than 200 theatre productions at Mayville State, including actor, director, designer, producer, technical director, stage manager, shop foreman, and technician. During the summer he works with Prairie Repertory Theatre in Brookings, S.D. He's worked with that outfit for 26 years.

Shelley (McGillis) Kotaska ('87)

is an associate with American Federal Bank. In recognition of her 30th anniversary with the bank, she received a commemorative clock plaque from the North Dakota Bankers Association, as well as celebrations at Grand Forks, N.D. and East Grand Forks, Minn. American Federal Bank locations. Shelley joined American Federal as a receptionist at the East Grand Forks Sales Office. Over the years, she has been promoted to several positions and she currently works at the Grand Forks Sales Office.

Lisa (Gylten) Strand ('88) was inducted into the North Dakota High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame at the NSHSCA convention held in Mandan, N.D. July 27, 2017. With 29 years of coaching experience and 29 years as a head volleyball coach, she has more than 830 career volleyball victories, four state championships, numerous regional championships and district championships, as well as conference titles. She has been recognized on numerous occasions with coach of the year honors at the state, region, and district levels. Lisa was named North Dakota Associat-



Shelly Kotaska.

ed Press Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association Female High School Sport Coach of the Year in 2005. She has been a finalist three times for the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Volleyball Coach of the Year. Strand teaches social studies and coaches at Thompson (N.D.) High School.

1990s

Todd Olson ('91), director of student activities for the Fargo (N.D.) School District, has been named president-elect of the 2018 National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. Beginning Jan. 1, 2019, Olson will serve as the 40th NIAAA president and will be the first-ever athletic administrator from North Dakota to hold the position. For nearly three decades, Olson has worked with student-athletes in North Dakota. In 2005, he was named athletic director for the Grand Forks (N.D.) School District. During his seven years in the position, he oversaw a \$2 million upgrade to the school system's field and track and was named Class A Administrator of the Year for the 2009-10 school year.

Kelly Peters ('92), an administrator at Red River High School in Grand Forks, N.D., has been named North Dakota Associate Principal of the Year by the North Dakota Association of Secondary School Principals. He is now eligible for consideration as the 2018 National Assistant Principal of the Year by the National Association of Secondary School Principals, which represents middle school and high school principals and aspiring school leaders across the U.S. and in more than 45 countries around the world. Peters, who has served as associate principal at RRHS since the fall of 2007, has coached and advised several student organizations, including football, speech and debate, yearbook, and student council. He has been an active member of the North Dakota Council of Education Leaders and the North Dakota Lead Center, which promotes excellence in leadership. He served on the board of directors and as president of both organizations. Kelly earned a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of North Dakota.

Brad Aune ('93) was in Reno, Nev. last fall to accept an award from the American Legion National Chapter for his work with veterans as they seek worthwhile employment following their service to the country. He was awarded a similar commendation a couple of years ago by the National DAV service organization for his work in the assistance of the disabled. Last July, the State of North Dakota American Legion presented him with another award for his efforts. Aune is a Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program Specialist at Job Service ND. He works with transitioning service members and homeless veterans, and he specializes with assisting disabled veterans overcome barriers to employment. He served 22 years in the military as an active duty Marine Corps Infantryman and member of the North Dakota Army National Guard.

Kent Anderson ('96) was named Fargo-Moorhead and Wahpeton Regional President at American Federal Bank. He has 21 years of agriculture and agri-business lending, banking, and management experience in the Red River Valley.

Eric Henrikson ('97) is principal at Longfellow Elementary School in Fargo, N.D. Longfellow was named a National Blue Ribbon School by U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos last fall. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students achieve very high learning standards or are making notable improvements in closing the achievement gap. This coveted award affirms the hard work of educators, families, and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content.

2000s

Dustin Hammond ('00) has accepted an English teaching position at the new International School of Kazan. Kazan, Tatarstan is located in the Russian Federation. Dustin previously taught English, AP U.S. history, and German in Shanghai China (PRC) for seven years.

Kelli (Meberg) Schatz ('03)
recently moved to Park River, N.D. from Mapleton. She celebrated her 10-year anniversary with CoreLink Administrative Solutions in June of 2017, and now operates a small cake business on the side. She and her husband are the parents of two children, Benjamin (8) and Keegan (4).

Charlie Gerszewski ('05) and his wife, Kelly, and their two children appeared on the HGTV show, “Log Cabin Living,” which aired on March 17, 2018. The family moved from the Houston area to Woodland Park, Colo. in 2017 for the cooler, less humid climate and the mountains. The show filmed at their rural property for three days in July. Their “quintessential Colorado” home is set back in a meadow with a stellar view of Pikes Peak.

Mitchell Greenwood ('09) was named the 2017 North Dakota Class "B" Region VI Girls Golf Coach of the Year. He's been teaching full time for eight years. This is his sixth year at Watford City, N.D., where he is head wrestling coach, head girls golf coach, and assistant football coach.

2010s

Alison Sonstelié ('10) is a supply chain manager for Sanford Medical Center in Fargo, N.D. In her position, she plans and implements supply chain operations processes and set-up for the new Sanford medical center which opened in August of 2017. The facility is a Level 1 trauma center with 400 beds and 28 operating rooms.

Alex Berry ('11) is the N.D. Region
2 Baseball Coach of the Year.

Brock Gnadt ('11) is an outside sales representative for Dairyland Packaging USA, LLC. He founded Pure Hitting Co. in December of 2015 with the mission to improve the way athletes practice and perform and to better their overall experience playing the game they love. Brock began this journey with a simple quest: to bring meaningful and innovative products to the game, expanding into a broader mission of helping athletes maximize their performance and boost their confidence while creating a controlled learning environment that

encourages skill development and muscle memory. He is also owner and instructor of BG Fundamentals, LLC, which provides sports-specific baseball training that specializes in torque, bat plane, and developing a loading mechanism.

Johnny Jorgensen ('11) was promoted to the position of vice president at The First and Farmers Bank of Mayville and Portland, N.D. He first joined First and Farmers in May of 2012 as an ag lender. He is a graduate of the Dakota School of Banking and Agricultural Lending School, and he is currently attending the Graduate School of Banking in Madison, Wis. Johnny and his wife, Taylor, reside in Mayville.

Brandon Zahn ('13) has been awarded the James Madison Fellowship for North Dakota. Fellows are selected for their academic achievements and for their desire to be more knowledgeable secondary school teachers of social studies and American history and government. Fellows must have demonstrated an interest in pursuing a course of study which emphasizes the Constitution and Bill of Rights and a willingness to devote themselves to teaching and to civic responsibility. Brandon teaches U.S. History and Problems in Democracy at Beulah (N.D.) High School.

Sabrina Rude ('15) and Arick Scherr were married May 20, 2017.

Brittany Boyer ('16) is pursuing a Master of Library and Information Science via distance learning from Texas Woman's University. She interned at the North Dakota State University Libraries in the fall semester of 2017. During her practicum at the Main Library, she assisted with a "Native Voices" traveling exhibit and she had cataloging and metadata responsibilities. She also took an active role in the NDSU Libraries' strategic planning process. Her NDSU colleagues praised Brittany for her professional, friendly attitude. "Brittany's positive demeanor and attention to detail allowed her to contribute valuable assistance to department efforts during her practicum experience," said Rex Hughes, metadata and cataloging librarian.

Abby Niemann ('16) is a loan assistant at the Choice Financial West Fargo branch.

Berry selected to coach with 16U NTDP

MSU head baseball coach Scott Berry ('78) has been named an assistant coach for one of two teams for the inaugural 2018 USA Baseball National Team Development Program. Coach Berry and Grambling State University head coach, James Cooper, will serve as position coaches and assistants to the team's manager, Bill Mosiello. Santa Clara University head coach Rusty Filter will lead the team's pitching staff. The USA Baseball NTDP offers athletes an opportunity to connect with USA Baseball staff to better prepare for future national team experience. The 2018 16U NTDP will be Aug. 4-7 at the USA Baseball national Training Complex in Cary, N.C.

MSU well-represented in drama scene

Mayville State is well-represented in the high school drama scene in North Dakota. Mayville State alumnus and current faculty member Bob Sylskar judged the Class B Region III one-act play competition last fall. Of the nine schools competing, five of the plays were directed by Mayville State University graduates. Here are the results: Wayne Stegman ('80), Drayton - first place and advance to state; Wendy (Jacobson) Holkesvig ('03), Hatton/Northwood - second place and advance to state; Miranda Frovarp ('15), Thompson - fourth place; Thomas Smette ('13), Larimore - fifth place; Teresa (Berry) Agnes ('96), May-Port CG - sixth place. Patti (Eastgate) Aanenson ('81), Larimore, was the contest manager.

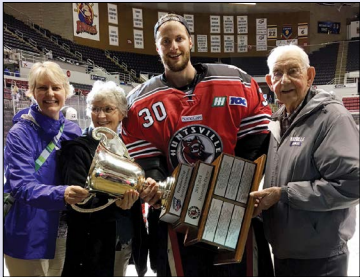


Friends since the early 50s

These ladies have been friends since they attended Mayville State in the early 1950s. They get together as often as they can and took this picture when they enjoyed lunch together in Fargo, N.D. last fall. Standing in the back (l-r): Glenna (Jackson) Gibbons ('50, '80) and Shirley (Hatfield) Berg ('49, '67). In the front are Charlotte (Hensrud) McMullen ('51, '56) and Rusty (O'Hara) McMullen ('49, '72). Sadly, Rusty passed away May 26, 2018.

Alumni celebrate pro hockey championship

Karen (Lyng) Asmundson ('90), Myrna (Dalzell) Lyng ('61), and Merwin Lyng ('54) help their son and grandson hoist the President's Cup, the league championship trophy won by the Hunstville (Ala.) Havoc pro hockey team on April 29, 2018. Keegan is a goalie for the Havoc, who play in the Southern Professional Hockey League. He was in the net for all three games in the championship series. This championship is the second in a row for Keegan, as he was a member of the Frankfurt (Germany) Lions team that won their league title a year ago. Keegan's dad, Garnet ('93), was unable to be at the games, but the others got to drink champagne from the cup in the post-game celebration. Keegan stands 6'5" without skates.



Their Comet pride shines!

Many members of the staff of May-Port CG's Peter Boe, Jr. Elementary School proudly wore their Mayville State gear on "Favorite College Day" during their homecoming week festivities last fall. Pictured are some of the staff who participated. Back (l-r): Teresa (Berry) Agnes ('96), Jacalyn (Hallof) Beck ('93), Ted Karlstad ('74), Lori (Wolden) Nelson ('83), and Emilie (Moen) Kloster ('97). Middle: Sue (Capouch) Reiser ('86), Kelly (Grandalen) Bradner ('92), Samantha (Agnes) DeLong ('10), Wanda (Johnson) Nygaard ('92), Alex Berry ('11). Front: Emily (Liljestrand) Halvorson ('14), Jeff Houdek ('84), and Hailey Verwest.

IN MEMORIAM

Honor your loved ones with a gift to Mayville State.

The MSU Foundation has a memorials and tributes fund set up to receive contributions honoring departed alumni, friends, and loved ones. Gifts may also be given to honor a friend or loved one on a special occasion. If contact information is provided, a card of acknowledgment will be sent to the family members of the departed or those being honored.

Send to: MSU Foundation
330 Third Street NE
Mayville, ND 58257
Or go to:
www.mayvillestate.edu/memorials

Memorials/Tributes listing

A listing of gifts given in memory of or in honor of friends and loved ones will be published on the MSU website and updated quarterly. You can find that listing at mayvillestate.edu/donorrecognition.

Friends & Associates

Jones, Christopher Ralph, Pinson, Ala. July 18, 1928-May 23, 2017. Chris was a faculty member and director of the theater department at Mayville State before his retirement.
Lande, Lowell, Mayville, N.D. April 7, 1928-April 13, 2018. Lowell was a custodian at Mayville State in the 1990s.
Peterson, Adeline M. (Lacina), Fullerton, N.D. May 14, 1934-Nov. 16, 2017. Adeline was a dorm director at Mayville State in the early 1990s.

Alumni

Aaker, Marian L. (Smith), St. Paul, Minn. Oct. 5, 1918-Jan. 26, 2018.
Askim, Irene (Bylin), Park River, N.D. Dec. 12, 1924-Sept. 24, 2017.
Axvig, Mildred J. (Thrugstad) ('44), Cathedral City, Calif. Sept. 17, 1921-Sept. 18, 2017.
Bahr, Dorothy C. (Johnson), Miles City, Mont. Oct. 15, 1926-Sept. 12, 2017.
Bakke, Dr. Jerome (ex. 51), Fargo, N.D. July 14, 1931-Aug. 9, 2017.
Beauchamp, Charlotte "Char" L., Grand Forks, N.D. July 28, 1934-Aug. 8, 2017.
Bounds, Nancy M. (Dunning) (ex. '71), Jamestown, N.D. July 13, 1952-Oct. 11, 2017.
Buchholtz, Mary (Richardson) ('71), Grafton, N.D. May 25, 1919-Jan. 19, 2018.
Bugbee, Cordell ('66), Minot, N.D. Dec. 26, 1944-May 25, 2018.
Capouch, Randy J. ('86), West Fargo, N.D. Feb. 21, 1963-May 2, 2018.
Carlson, Arla M. (Larson) ('51), Fargo, N.D., formerly of Page, N.D. Jan. 6, 1930-Jan. 24, 2018.
Dewhurst, Josephine Christine "Jo" ('35), Crookston, Minn. Nov. 6, 1913-July 30, 2017.
Dodge, Merton G. ('59), Merced, Calif. Aug. 11, 1933-July 10, 2017.
Dokken, Ella M. (Maegaard), Portland, Ore. April 10, 1923-Sept. 4, 2017.

Dusek, Ione M. (Paulson) ('67), Brooklyn Park, Minn. April 18, 1946-Aug. 21, 2017.
Eken, Gerald "Jerry" B., Mankato, Minn. April 20, 1943-July 22, 2017.
Eskildsen, William "Bill," Fargo, N.D. April 27, 1935-Jan. 23, 2018.
Fagerholt, Allyn O., Fargo, N.D. and Hoople, N.D. May 6, 1934-April 24, 2018.
Freund, Ruth M. (Rygg) (ex. '41), Valley City, N.D. March 11, 1922-June 21, 2017.
Green, Maxine A. (Boyer) ('43), Hatton, N.D. Dec. 30, 1920-Aug. 26, 2017.
Gronlie, Judith A. (Skjoiten), Grand Forks, N.D. and Northwood, N.D. Aug. 12, 1923-Oct. 8, 2017.
Heinz, Janice M. (Tastad) ('80), Rolette, N.D. April 11, 1945-Nov. 2, 2017.
Heller, Monty L. ('69), Cavalier, N.D. Feb. 6, 1946-Sept. 8, 2017.
Hochgraber, Audrey H. E. (Anderson) ('57, '73), Fargo, N.D. July 25, 1926-Oct. 30, 2017.
Holdaway, Ruth (Clark), Minot, N.D., formerly of Kerkhoven, Minn. April 2, 1978-Jan. 7, 2018.
Juntunen, Linda J. (Millang) ('80), Perth, N.D. Jan. 11, 1954-Oct. 26, 2017.
Komanetz, Randi J. (Rostad) (ex. '77), Mapleton, N.D. March 29, 1958-Jan. 14, 2018.
Lindgren, Mildred "Milly" (Sund), Fargo, N.D. May 25, 1935-Jan. 19, 2018.
Lovcik, Louis M. ('60), Wahpeton, N.D. July 22, 1935-Aug. 22, 2017.
McMullen, Eileen J. "Rusty," Mayville, N.D. Oct. 19, 1928-May 26, 2018.
Moen, Denis ('59) Fargo and Clif-ford, N.D. Nov. 22, 1936-Aug. 27, 2017.
Nelsen, Ann C. (Peters) ('74), Elk Horn, Iowa. June 23, 1951-Aug. 30, 2017.
Olson, William "Bill" E. ('86), Burlington, Iowa. Nov. 27, 1962-Dec. 3, 2017.

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Memorial and tribute gifts can be made online at
mayvillestate.edu/memorials.

In Memoriam.....
continued from page 23

- Parenteau, Holly J. (Reichert)** (ex. '65), Cavalier, N.D. Sept. 6, 2946-Sept. 10, 2017.
- Pederson, Geraldine “Jerry” (Thompson)** (ex. 51). Aug. 24, 1933-Dec. 24, 2017.
- Ripplinger, Donald V. ('68)**, Devils Lake, N.D. Dec. 28, 1946-Oct. 21, 2017.
- Rislov, Larry W. ('70)**, Badger, Minn. March 15, 1948-Aug. 27, 2017.
- Rustan, Alice (Nygard)**, Park River, N.D. Nov. 8, 1913-Jan. 18, 2018.
- Rustebakke, Estelle (Ness)**, McCanna, N.D. Dec. 8, 1942-Jan. 10, 2018.
- Schloss, Sandra “Sandi” M.** ('74), Devils Lake, N.D., formerly of Esmond, N.D. Aug. 26, 1952-Dec. 22, 2017.
- Schweitzer, Curtis (ex. '60)**, Cavalier, N.D. Jan. 31, 1947-Sept. 2017.
- Shimek, Cora S. (Hagen) ('40)**, Park River, N.D. July 8, 1920-Oct. 29, 2017.
- Simmons, Ruth E. (Olson) ('49)**, Virginia, Minn. Aug. 1, 1927-Dec. 3, 2017.
- Slinde, Juelle V. (Johnson) ('53, '65)**, Brocket, N.D. July 8, 1933-Nov. 23, 2017.
- Solum, Rube E. (Peterson) (ex. '55)**, Ulen, Minn. Aug. 23, 1934-Sept. 11, 2017.
- Thompson, Shari K. (Moen) ('ex. 75)**, Park River, N.D. July 19, 1956-Jan. 17, 2018.
- Votava, Lucille (Kiedrowski)**, Grand Forks, N.D. Jan. 10, 1929-Nov. 21, 2017.
- Harold Wenaas ('54)**, Great Falls, Mont. April 30, 1929-Nov. 11, 2017.
- Williams, Evelyn “Evy” (Thron-dset)**, Wahpeton, N.D. and Barney, N.D. Feb. 17, 1919-Nov. 25, 2017.
- Wold, Larry G. ('62)**, Fargo, N.D., formerly of Binford, N.D. Nov. 5, 1940-Feb. 3, 2018.
- Woods, Orella “Pat” (Nysveen)** ('45, '62), Hillsboro, N.D. Sept. 24, 1924-Aug. 26, 2017.

Join us for Alumni Day on June 22!
See more at
www.mayvillestate.edu/alumniday.

The Hagens say,
“Thank you for celebrating with us!”

Debbie and I had a very special time Friday night, May 4, at my retirement celebration held in the Luckason Room on the campus of Mayville State University. It was an evening filled with the sharing of memories and stories of our time here at Mayville State. Laughter, tears of joy, and getting reacquainted with special friends from the past created an evening we will never forget. To all of you who attended, we say “thank you.” Debbie and I love this community we came to 42 years ago and we were so happy to see the room filled with faculty, staff, friends, colleagues, family, and community members there to celebrate with us at the end of our career.

Thank you to all who contributed to sponsoring the Downtown Horns so we could enjoy their wonderful music, and to Happy Harry’s for donating champagne for an additional special touch.

We really appreciated the speakers who traveled so far to share this special night with us: U.S. Senator John Hoeven, NDUS Chancellor Mark Hagerott, Lee Kaldor, and Mike Moore. John Klocke did a great job as emcee and entertained us with those “oh so special retirement songs.” And then there was Jen Kohls, who spoke from the heart about her MSU experiences as my advisee and who was so kind with her remarks. As we listened to the words they shared, so many of our experiences from the past 42 years seemed to come alive once again.

I also want to recognize the efforts of Beth Swenson, Mary Trudeau, Stacy Buchl, Ashley Hanson, Bob Kozojed and his Facilities Services crew, and Bryan Karolus and the Dining Services staff for all their great work, as well as the dedicated President’s Cabinet members Jami Hovet, Andrew Pflipsen, and Allison Johnson, who poured champagne, along with Mary Trudeau and Stacy Buchl. The room looked wonderful, complete with fantastic fresh flowers courtesy of Kim Lauf, Shireen Grinager, Peggy Schultz, and Janice Thoreson. Ron Jacobson prowled the room catching many memories on his camera. The PLS (Portland Liquor Store) provided great service for beverages, and the band, the Downtown Horns, worked their musical magic once again.

Memories of the great many friendships forged and the incredible successes we have enjoyed have been an extraordinary part of my life. Countless community members, alumni, and friends have contributed in many ways, and our current prosperity would not have been possible without them. All of these efforts, of course, were done for the benefit of our students and I think I will miss interacting with them the most.

So there is no question that I have been very blessed throughout my career and I fully realize that most of what I am often credited with was only accomplished because of the assistance and work of many others. No one does their work alone, and I have had the good fortune of being surrounded by a lot of great people who, quite frankly, have often made me look good because of their extraordinary skills. Still, some of our efforts will only become evident many years from now, and as an ancient Chinese proverb states: “We all plant trees under which we will never sit.” In the years ahead, I look forward to watching some of these past efforts come to fruition, and I look forward to watching the efforts of the new campus leadership come to life in innovative and wonderful ways as Mayville State moves into its future. Mayville State is not just surviving, it is thriving!

With our sincere appreciation,
Gary and Debbie Hagen

Scenes from President Hagen’s retirement celebration



MSU Foundation Executive Director John Klocke served as emcee for the program and entertained the crowd of about 225 people who attended the retirement celebration for Dr. Hagen.



North Dakota University System Chancellor Dr. Mark Hagerott (right) presented Gary Hagen with a framed certificate denoting his new status as President Emeritus of Mayville State University and Debbie Hagen (center) with a certificate denoting her new status as First Lady Emerita. The North Dakota State Board of Higher Education approved bestowing these titles of honor with a vote at their meeting in April.



President Hagen is flanked by his original President’s Cabinet members (on the left) and his current cabinet members (on the right). Pictured from left to right are former athletic director Mike Moore, retired Director of Student Affairs Dr. Ray Gerszewski, retired Vice President for Business Affairs Steve Bensen, MSU Foundation Executive Director John Klocke, Dr. Gary Hagen, current Vice President for Business Affairs, Jami Hovet, current Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Andrew Pflipsen, and Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness Allison Johnson. Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Keith Stenehjem is not pictured.



Lee Kaldor ('74), former North Dakota District 20 state legislator.



Jennifer (Newman) Kohls ('96), former student of Gary Hagen.



John Hoeven, U.S. Senator from North Dakota, (left) attended the retirement celebration for President Hagen and offered his congratulations on a job well-done.



Mike Moore congratulates President Hagen.

Commencement is a wonderful celebration!

Mayville State University's 126th commencement was held Saturday afternoon, May 12. Nearly 200 individuals who had completed the requirements for their degrees at the end of the fall semester of 2017 or the spring semester of 2018 were recognized, as were several individuals who will complete their degree requirements at the end of the summer session of 2018 or the fall semester of 2018.

Dr. Mark Hagerott, North Dakota University System Chancellor, delivered the keynote address. Speakers representing the graduates were Nicole Schleske, Fergus Falls, Minn., and Donte Stevens, Opa-Locka, Fla. Pastor Scott Sheets of Riverside Evangelical Free Church, Mayville, delivered the invocation and benediction.

Leading the faculty and graduates in the procession were emeritus faculty members.

Graduation day festivities began with the traditional



The first-ever master's degree hooding took place at Mayville State's 2018 commencement exercises. Molly Rzaszutak is pictured here as she is hooded by Dr. Andi Dulski-Bucholz (left) and Dr. Keith Stenehjelm (right). Four of the graduates recognized on May 12 were the first people ever to earn a master's degree, the Master of Arts in Teaching, from Mayville State University.

graduation brunch, hosted by the MSU Alumni Association and sponsored by Gate City Bank. The event serves as the first official alumni activity for the new graduates and was attended by the graduates, along with their family members and friends. About 260 attended the brunch, and thanks to the generous sponsorship of Gate City Bank, the brunch was complimentary for all. Student speakers at the brunch were Emmalee Hall, Pembina, N.D., and Douglas Koepplin, Elgin, N.D.



A number of Mayville State's emeritus faculty members participated in the commencement ceremony. They are pictured here, along with President Hagen. From left to right are Dr. Gary Hagen, Dr. Ray Gerszewski, Dr. Nannette Bagstad, Dr. Carol Enger, Dr. Paul Batesel, Dr. Rick Holman, Dr. Ron Semmens, Dr. Mike Worner, Dr. Martin Johnson, and Dr. Merwin Lyng.

Bottom right: Donte Stevens spoke on behalf of the class at the May 12 commencement ceremony. In his remarks, Stevens asked for a show of hands from graduates who had dreamed of graduating from college.

Below: Emmalee Hall (left) and Douglas Koepplin (right) spoke on behalf of the graduates at the graduation brunch.



Above: Nicole Schleske was a student speaker at the 2018 commencement ceremony.

