

# TODAY

## BEYOND THE GAME

Team spirit. Time management. The importance of winning, and of moving forward after not winning. The lessons Maverick athletes learn serve them long past graduation.



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Health sciences grad Paul Terry, *page 6.*

Volleyball alumna Joan Ellison and fellow former Mavs, *page 8.*

Dean Emerita Jane Earley, *page 16.*



You've still got it.  
Come see who else does.

*The Ellis Street Singers reunited in Fall 2008 for a performance at the Minnesota State Foundation Gala. They'll meet again at Homecoming 2010.*

PHOTO BY SPORTPIX

## JOIN FELLOW MAVERICKS, FRIENDS, AND FANS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS ON CAMPUS IN 2010:

**Jan. 16**, alumni reception in conjunction with men's hockey vs. University of Minnesota-Duluth at the Verizon Wireless Center in Mankato.

**Feb. 5**, celebrate National Women and Girls in Sports Day at a reception in conjunction with women's basketball vs. Crookston.

**Also in February**, bring the family to Maverick Alumni, Faculty and Staff Night at Mount Kato. Special discount. Check [mnsu.edu/alumni](http://mnsu.edu/alumni) for a date.

**April 23**, honor high-achieving grads at the Distinguished Alumni Awards. Honorees to be announced on [mnsu.edu/alumni](http://mnsu.edu/alumni).

**May 5**, help clean up the campus or volunteer in the community with alumni, staff and students on Maverick Service Day.

**Oct. 8-9**, Homecoming on campus including a special College of Arts & Humanities reunion, a gathering of Ellis Street Singers and a Golden Mavericks reunion for grads from 1960 and earlier.

Learn more at [mnsu.edu/alumni](http://mnsu.edu/alumni), or by calling Alumni Relations at 507-389-3235.

## DEPARTMENTS

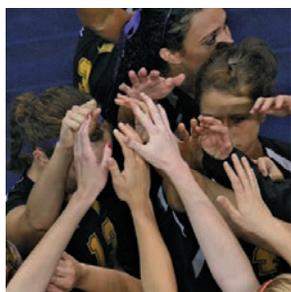
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BY SARA GILBERT FREDERICK



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“I can still see and smell and hear that first schoolhouse, even though it is long gone and the land on which it stood now nurtures grain, not brain.” Dean Emerita Jane Earley recalls her first and last classrooms, and the magic that joined them together.



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## FROM THE EDITOR

One evening last October, after the Athletics Hall of Fame banquet, the 1970-71 women’s volleyball team hit the town to celebrate their induction. All ten team members had traveled to Mankato for the occasion. There at Pub 500, they huddled around a single table reconnecting with their glory years and with each other. Their joy stood out like an oasis in a restaurant full of people going about daily life in 2009. They were a living example of what *TODAY* hopes to be—an invitation to alumni to step back to their own favorite Maverick moment. And if we can prompt you to visit campus for real, all the better. See page two for a list of official gatherings in the works, or consider an event of your own—use MSUGrads.com to find names you remember, or spread the word through the Alumni Association’s Facebook fan page. Either way, step back. Think reconnection. Think oasis. And enjoy your *TODAY*. ☞

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# A NEW YEAR, NEW PRIDE

It's a new year, a new semester and a new era in our commitment to strategic priorities—priorities you'll want to know about even if you've been away from the University for decades.

In our new goals, you'll see ambitiousness and relevance to the world beyond our campus. You'll see the strengths of an institution that has helped shape the lives of 100,000 alumni, plus new areas of growth and new sources of pride:

*Priority: Global solutions.* This is a shorthand way of talking about a longtime strength, that of teaching and researching in ways that begin with a big picture, synthesize information into a meaningful whole and solve problems relevant to people's lives and needs. We'll enhance this strength by providing students, faculty, and staff with international and other experiential opportunities for learning and idea-sharing. One example is the new Glen Taylor Nursing Institute for Family and Society, the nation's only research center dedicated to developing, testing and disseminating innovative concepts, policies and educational models to improve family health through nursing.

*Priority: Quality and excellence.* Most businesses and organizations strive for excellence they can prove, and we're no exception. Our recent high ranking by *Forbes* magazine and other honors featured in this issue of TODAY show that we're on our way to new levels of measurable excellence.

*Priority: Doctoral institution.* We'll capitalize on our status as a doctoral institution in ways that enrich the campus, the region and our broader communities. The programs are already known for high-quality educational experiences and innovative research. We'll ensure continued success by providing support as the programs grow and further distinguish themselves.

*Priority: Campus of the future.* This means transitioning our facilities to develop a pedestrian-friendly and ecologically sensitive environment, and ensuring community-friendly learning, gathering and collaborative places in welcome and safe surroundings. It's creating green and energy-conscious facilities such as the newest campus building, Ford Hall.

*Priority: Extended learning.* Thousands of students already take classes away from campus through Extended Learning, including at our 7700 France location in Edina. We'll reach thousands more by developing programs that suit the needs of online and distance students. For example, our new collaboration with Mesabi Range Community and Technical College allows Iron Range students to obtain four-year engineering degrees from Minnesota State Mankato through online coursework plus hands-on, project-based learning in students' home communities—a partnership that's on its way to becoming a national model.

In the fall 2009 TODAY, I shared the good news of our measurable success with all five of our 2002-2008 strategic priorities (online at [mnsu.edu/planning/priorities/reportcard](http://mnsu.edu/planning/priorities/reportcard)). It's exciting to share our current plans on the heels of that report, confident that we've got the strong foundation and momentum we need to achieve new heights in this new year and beyond. ♪

President Richard Davenport  
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## TODAY

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# newsmakers

■ **FORBES MAGAZINE'S "AMERICA'S BEST COLLEGES" LIST** had Minnesota State Mankato in the top quartile of America's four-year public and private colleges and universities. The University was one of four Minnesota public universities on the list, and the highest-ranking institution in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System.

■ Two internationally renowned family nursing scholars led discussion about putting "family" at the center of nursing practice during the **INAUGURAL FORUM OF THE GLEN TAYLOR NURSING INSTITUTE FOR FAMILY AND SOCIETY** in November.



■ The Minneapolis publication *Finance and Commerce* recently named the Leonard A. Ford wing of Trafton Science Center one of the **TOP 25 MINNESOTA CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS OF 2008**. The University also broke ground in November on a one-of-a-kind \$1.8 million, 6,300-square-foot renewable energy research center on the northwest corner of campus.

■ The estate of Warner A. Zeno, a lifelong Mankato resident who founded Zeno Glass Company, announced in October a **\$1.1 MILLION SCHOLARSHIP GIFT TO MINNESOTA STATE MANKATO**. The endowment is part of \$1.8 million in donations from the former Mankato businessman to the University and three other Mankato organizations: the Blue Earth-Nicollet County Humane Society, the Mankato Masonic Lodge and the Salvation Army.

■ A new **PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN MINNESOTA STATE MANKATO AND THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT** will allow non-English-speaking Latinos to develop English language skills and pursue higher education, with tutors and space provided by the University, and government-provided materials. The free program, beginning this spring, will target adults in their 30s, 40s and 50s.

■ **KMSU RECEIVED "STATION OF THE YEAR" HONORS** from the Association of Minnesota Public Educational Radio Stations. The Association cited the station's new transmitter, addition of a remote studio on campus and 2009 Pathfinder Award as developments deserving of the recognition.

■ The public service program **CAMPUS KITCHENS WAS ABLE TO INCREASE THE VOLUME AND VARIETY** of food it provides to residents in need, thanks to new partnerships with Mankato-area restaurants Long John Silver's, Chipotle and Panera, the latter of which signed on to provide cash donations.

■ In June, after 40 years, **JANE EARLEY** retired as dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, and College of Allied Health and Nursing Dean **KAYE HERTH** announced she will retire in August of 2010 following 12 years in the position.

■ In July, the University's new **MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM GRADUATED ITS FIRST COHORT** of 26 students. Launched in 2007, the program prepares students for social work practice and administration in small and rural communities.

■ The **\$1.6 MILLION REHABBING OF THE OSTRANDER AUDITORIUM** in the Centennial Student Union was completed in October. Renovation included new seating, a new stage, new sound and lighting, better wheelchair accessibility and electronic conferencing capabilities.



■ In September, **THE RIBBON WAS CUT ON THE PSYCHOLOGY DOCTORAL AND CLINICAL CENTER** in University Square. The off-campus site houses the applied doctor of psychology (Psy.D.) program in school psychology and the master of arts program in clinical psychology. President Davenport, left, attended the ceremony as did David Peters, president of Mercury Investments, which donated use of the space for five years.

■ The Nadine B. Andreas Endowment in Arts and Humanities, established in 2007, began bringing **HIGH-PROFILE PERFORMERS AND LECTURERS TO CAMPUS THIS FALL**, including Duke University philosopher of biology Alex Rosenberg, the world-acclaimed Rose Ensemble and renowned contemporary painter Amy Sillman.

■ With statewide name recognition of "Minnesota State University, Mankato" well in place, video spots in metro area media are now featuring specific faculty, students and alumni who embody the University's emphasis on big ideas and real-world solutions. **TWO SUCH VIDEOS CAN BE SEEN ON MNSU.EDU.**

# A HEALTHY PASSION

Paul Terry '78—executive, researcher, Fulbright and Kellogg fellow, and teacher to the core—is devoted to the why and how of people's choices about their health.

*At the 30th anniversary celebration of WellShare International, Paul Terry spoke about the role Minnesota has played in affecting the health of Africans.*

**A**t first glance, 55-year-old Dr. Paul E. Terry's office looks like that of any other successful Midwestern executive: the requisite desk, small meeting table, and slatted blinds damping the early morning sun.

Yet, some unexpected touches suggest there's more to this corporate leader. There's a rustic, two-foot tall hidebound drum tucked behind a credenza. There's also an oil painting—bisected by a real piece of worn rope—that depicts a group of African men at work on a battered fishing trawler. On the far wall, two unframed photos show an expanse of impossibly turquoise sea, with more African men laughing as they stand waist deep in the water.

Terry, who earned his master's degree in health sciences from Minnesota State University, Mankato in 1978, is president and CEO of StayWell Health Management in Eagan, Minn., a 310-person health management firm that works with various companies to educate and encourage healthy employee populations. Terry also has a distinguished past as an educator, researcher, and teacher, including working to publicize the crushing public health problem of HIV/AIDS in Africa. He has received two Senior Fulbright fellowships,

was selected as a Kellogg National Fellow, and is a widely published author of books and respected literature in his field.

Despite his accolades, Terry moves easily through the offices of StayWell, fetching his own early morning cup of coffee from the communal pot in the lunchroom, and greeting numerous young staffers by name. He has the trim physique and athletic grace of the college gymnast he once was, and his relaxed camaraderie with his staff speaks to his first love, teaching and coaching.

"I fundamentally always call myself an educator," says Terry. "At my core, when I do work here at StayWell, whether it is as the administrator for the company or at the table with our product development team or doing sales support, I always feel like I'm wearing a teacher's hat."

**T**erry is a native of Roseville, Minn., where his mother still lives in the family home. A passion for men's gymnastics took him to what was then St. Cloud State College in the mid-1970s to compete and to pursue an undergraduate degree in health sciences. At the time, Terry believed his career would be as a health teacher.

After graduation, however, a part-time job coaching men's gymnastics at what was then Mankato State University led him to pursue his master's degree.

"That was partly why I selected Mankato, the combination of being able to coach and also to do my master's in health science," he says.

Terry has many fond memories of his time in Mankato, not the least of which is "meeting and courting my wife" there. (Terry's wife, Gail, was a Parks and Recreation major at the time, and the two met at a canoe camp at the local YMCA.)

It was also in Mankato that Terry discovered his love for serious academics.

"I learned that I could be a really good student, and I loved it," he says. "I had great faculty. I felt that they were sincerely invested in my success."

Harold Slobof, a professor in the Health Sciences department who retired in 2004 and whom Terry cites as a mentor, remembers Terry well, even though their paths crossed 30 years ago.

"He's a great example of someone kind of evolving into what they were meant to do," says Slobof. "He was someone who underwent a metamorphosis."

In Mankato, Terry began his first serious studies in what has become a lifelong passion—understanding why and how people make choices that concern their health.

“[My thesis topic was] Multidisciplinary Health Locus of Control. I was looking at...what level of activation people have relative to taking care of their own health. It's [a passion tracing] all the way from graduate school to my work in Africa...of people feeling that they have some level of personal control over their health and their environment.”

After graduating, Terry received his doctorate at the University of Minnesota. He then began to work part-time for the company he helms today.

“One of the first jobs I had in the mid-1980s was at StayWell, which was at that time a program within Control Data,” he says. “Many of my colleagues here today are doing the work I used to do as an instructor, teaching nutrition, stress management, smoking cessation, things like that.”

Laughingly describing himself as a “boomerang employee,” Terry left StayWell for a period of almost 20 years, working his way up to the position of CEO and president of the Park Nicollet Institute, the research and education division of Park Nicollet Health Services.

It was during his tenure at Park Nicollet that Terry was selected as a Kellogg Fellow, a leadership development program funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. It was an opportunity that he says changed his life.

“It was an almost unbelievable grant, because [the foundation grant] gives you a quarter of your time for three years to do nothing but develop yourself as a leader. Some of their requirements are that you don't study in your field but that you get into a different sector, so that you can see more of the cross-sector impact of one area on another.”

Part of the Kellogg mandate is that grant recipients travel, and Terry did. He visited Africa several times and was exposed to both the area's overwhelming poverty and to the public health crisis relative to HIV/AIDS.

“I think it was really during that fellowship that my [health science] training moved into my heart,” he says. “Before

that, it was very head-oriented, and while I kind of knew all this stuff about health disparities and the statistics about where they were most severe, I think it was being with other compassionate leaders on the ground all over the world that really just kind of touched me in ways I never saw coming. That's maybe the brilliance of this Kellogg set-up. They give you these resources to go and learn and they know that you can't be untouched.”

While in Africa, Terry met a Fulbright scholar in Zimbabwe who had also been a Kellogg fellow. Intrigued, and looking for a way to continue his work, Terry applied for and received his first Fulbright scholarship, a program sponsored by the U.S. government to encourage international educational opportunities. The funding allowed him, accompanied by his wife Gail and children Anna and William, to teach, conduct research, and work with community-based education interventions in Zimbabwe for a year in 2000.

Since that initial stay, he's returned several times. Terry's experiences in Zimbabwe led to his book, *Breaking Stone Silence: Giving Voice to AIDS Prevention in Africa*. (The title comes from the name Zimbabwe, which means House of Stone.)

“Silence on the HIV epidemic, from the public health point of view, is probably the greatest driver on the epidemic—the stigma attached to that, the cultural resistance to talking about it,” he says. “At the time I was [in Zimbabwe], they were heading toward 25 percent infection rates for young people. That fundamentally and

obviously changes the ability of the country to be viable for the long-term, when you've got a quarter of your workforce [infected].”

Terry's participation in two worlds—the American world of what he describes as “incredible privilege,” and the African world of developing nations struggling with rampant HIV infection—shows no signs of slowing. He accepted the position of president/COO of StayWell in 2007, but not before he had the slightly ticklish task of asking his new bosses if he could first take a few months off to travel to Tanzania on his second Fulbright fellowship.

“In this negotiation with my new leaders here, I said, ‘I just got this grant, which is usually for nine months, but I know it would be hard to take a new job and immediately ask for nine months off. What would you think of four months?’ There was the longest silence,” Terry says with a chuckle. “To their credit, they said sure.”

Terry credits his education, especially his time at Minnesota State Mankato, with giving him the solid foundation that has allowed him to pursue both his work here in the United States and abroad.

“Whatever in the learning environment gives you more energy than drag, that's the clue” to what you should do with your life, Terry says. “Your education has to feel like a booster rocket, not like some kind of ballast. When you catch those teachers, those classes, that dialogue that you're excited about, stay with it. That's the path.”

## LEARN MORE

Dr. Paul Terry has worked, taught, and traveled extensively on the African continent, using his public health background to identify and publicize the problem of HIV/AIDS in the area.

“Training in public health obviously gives you a pretty good breadth of global epidemiology,” he says. “It gave me a good overview of where the greatest problems are and where the greatest needs are.”

To begin to meet those needs, one program with which Terry has been actively involved, including as a past board chair, is WellShare International, which sends volunteers to the areas of greatest need. The group works “to improve the lives of women, children, and their communities around the world.”

Terry says the program is one of the best he's seen, and urges those interested in helping or learning more to visit its website, [WellShareInternational.org](http://WellShareInternational.org).



BY SARA GILBERT FREDERICK

# BEYOND THE GAME

Joan Ellison's days of playing volleyball, basketball, and softball are over. Her knees are tired and sore and simply can't keep up with her anymore. But even though Ellison knows that the years she spent playing all three sports at Minnesota State University, Mankato contributed to her knee problems, she doesn't regret that experience for a moment.

"People ask me if I would do anything differently, knowing what happened because of it," she says. "And my answer is a resounding, 'hell no!'"

That answer is echoed by thousands of other student athletes who have played for the Mavericks over the years. The opportunity to be part of a team and to push themselves physically while also striving for academic success brings lifelong personal and professional rewards—even if their knees do eventually give out.

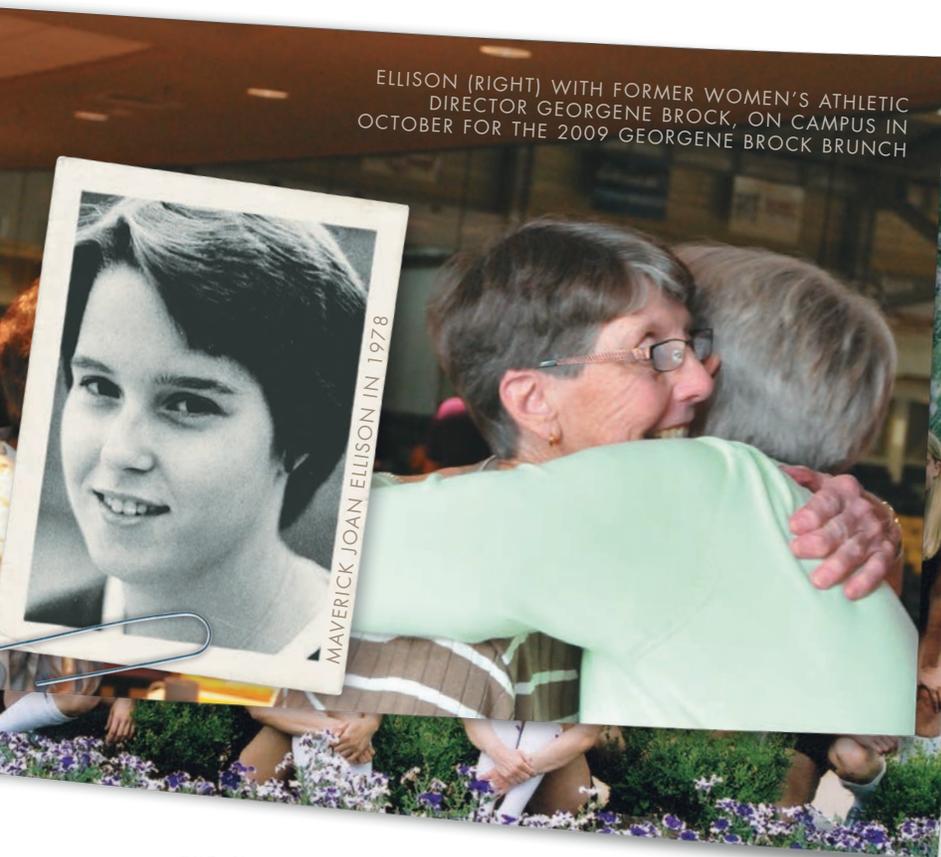
"There is no question that it shaped me and my life," says Weston Weber, who played baseball at Minnesota State Mankato in the 1980s. "Because of my experience there, I knew what it took to succeed at a higher level."

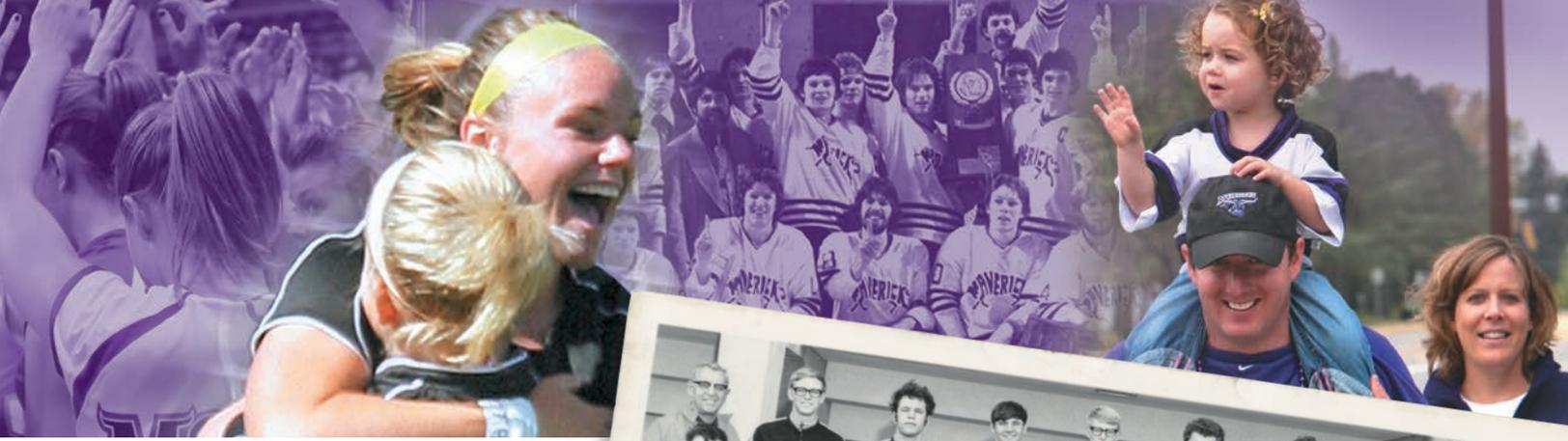
## A FANTASTIC FOUNDATION

Joan Ellison didn't even apply to college until the summer after her senior year in high school. It wasn't a given then, she says, especially not for young women. But she had decided that she might like to be a physical education teacher, so she asked around for suggestions of schools in Minnesota. When her own phy ed teacher mentioned Mankato as the best in the state, she decided to apply.

But Ellison, who had always been an athletic sort, also took it upon herself to write a letter to the athletic department inquiring about the possibility of joining the volleyball team, if one existed on campus. "I got a form letter back saying that yes, there was a team, and that tryouts would be held on the first day of classes," she says. "So that's what I did. My parents dropped me off in the dorm and I was scared to death, but I found my way down to the Valley Gym [on the lower campus] and went to the tryouts."

Those tryouts shaped the rest of Ellison's college experience. Not only did she make the team (as well as the basketball and softball teams later in the year) but she also made the best friends of her life. Those friends helped her get through the five years she spent at Minnesota State Mankato—and they still help her get through whatever she's dealing with today. "I can call any one of them whenever I need to," she says. "The greatest gift I got from my time at Mankato was the lifelong friends I made there."

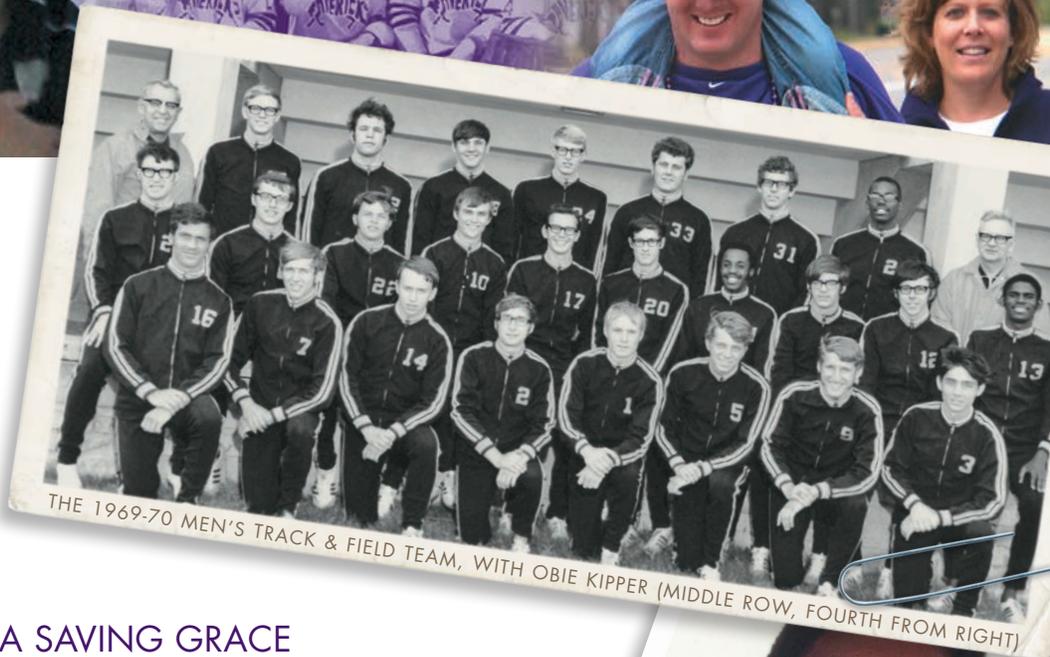




When she and those friends get together now, one of the things they talk about is how important their shared experiences as Minnesota State Mankato athletes have been to the rest of their lives. “The things that we went through in those early years of women’s athletics provided a fantastic foundation for us,” Ellison says. “We had to work hard and fight for what we got. We had to work for equality. An experience like that can’t help but build some interior personal character. I just think it means more when you have to work harder for it.”

Although Ellison graduated in 1980 with a degree in physical education, she never actually taught gym classes. Instead, she’s used what she learned both as a student and an athlete to work in business. Today, she works for Minnesota-based manufacturing firm Entegris, implementing computer application systems for businesses around the world. “I am constantly building teams, working with project management, and training users,” she says. “I love getting up in a room full of people and doing a presentation or leading a discussion.”

That may not be exactly what she studied in Mankato, but she knows her time at the University prepared her well for it. Her education classes taught her skills that translate to almost any job, Ellison says. But without downplaying the importance of her degree, she says she believes athletics likely made the biggest difference. “Being involved in athletics taught me a lot about teamwork, about interacting with other people and about building a career,” she says. “It has been, in many ways, as valuable or even more valuable than the actual book learning I had.”



THE 1969-70 MEN'S TRACK & FIELD TEAM, WITH OBBIE KIPPER (MIDDLE ROW, FOURTH FROM RIGHT)

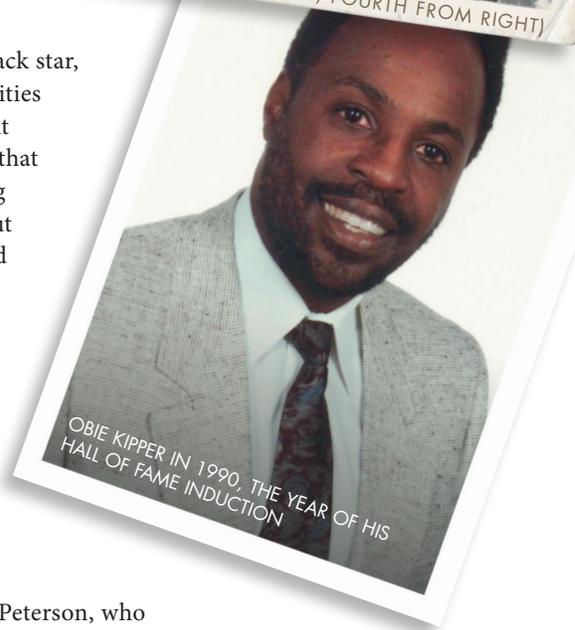
### A SAVING GRACE

Obbie Kipper had options. As a high school track star, he had been recruited to a number of universities that wanted his fleet feet on their teams. But it was the offer from Minnesota State Mankato that most interested him. “Mankato had a winning tradition, and that was part of it,” he says. “But their athletes also graduated from college, and I wanted to graduate. That was absolutely important to me.”

Kipper’s speed may have opened the doors to higher education, but it was his determination, along with the support of his coaches and teammates, that made his college career successful. When he came to Mankato in the late 1960s, he was one of just a handful of African Americans on campus. He struggled academically as a freshman and had a tough time transitioning from his urban home in Minneapolis to Mankato’s more rural setting. But no matter how many obstacles he faced, his coaches wouldn’t let him give up.

“They treated me like a son, like a family member,” Kipper remembers. “There was more to it than me just running up and down the track. They cared about me, they cared about our team.”

It was his coaches, including Earl “Bud” Myers and Charles “Chuck”



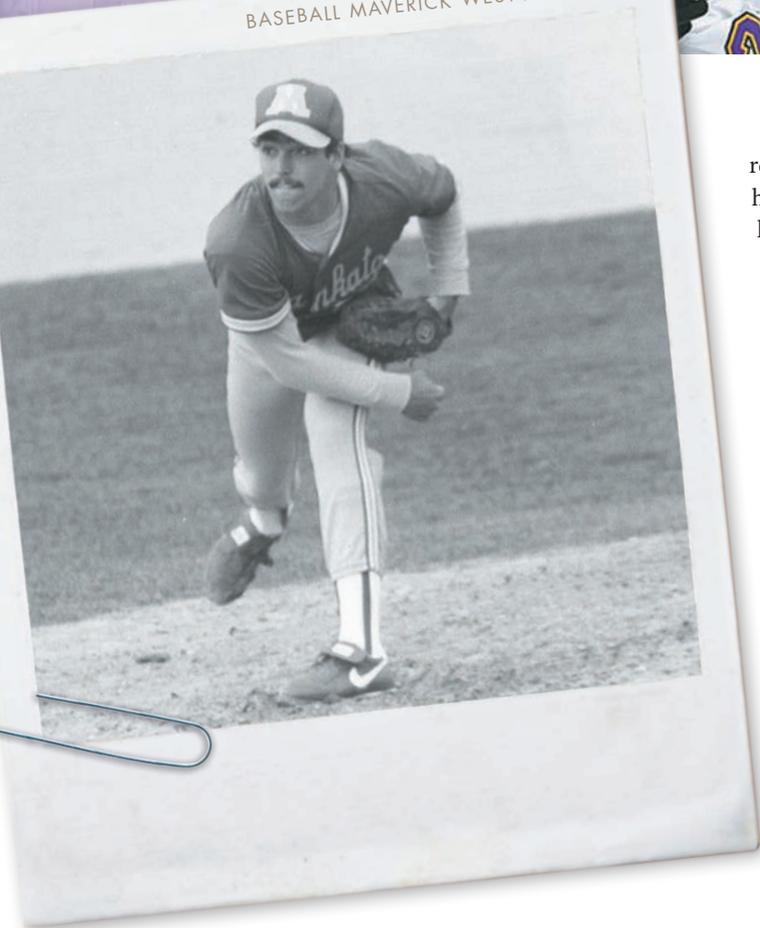
OBBIE KIPPER IN 1990, THE YEAR OF HIS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

Peterson, who helped him figure out his major and who encouraged him to stick with it. “They sat me down and talked to me about it,” he remembers. “I knew I wanted to do something in education, but they were instrumental in helping me get into recreation and parks administration.”

Kipper completed that degree in 1970 and then immediately began a master’s program, also at Minnesota State Mankato, in rehabilitation counseling. Before he had even finished



BASEBALL MAVERICK WESTON WEBER



his thesis, he had been offered a job working with the State of Minnesota as a rehabilitation counselor. After doing that for several years, he took a job with the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board; he is now a district manager. "I may be the only guy out there who's been able to use both of his degrees 100 percent," Kipper says. "Without those degrees, I couldn't have gotten either of those jobs."

But Kipper knows that without his athletic ability, he likely wouldn't have gotten those degrees either.

"Athletics were my gift from God and my saving grace," he says. "They set the table for me. I wouldn't have been down there if I wasn't an athlete, because you just don't get recruited for your good looks. I was very gifted by having time there; I was lucky."

The education Kipper received in Mankato gave him more than just the jobs he wanted. It also provided a broader perspective about the world in general. "I came from the inner city of Minneapolis and I didn't know anything about the rural lifestyle," he says. "Being in Mankato really taught me to have a healthy respect for rural areas. It helped me see that we're all hard-working folks, that we all put our pants on the same way each day, that we all want the same things for our kids."

What Kipper wants for his kids now is a youth football

championship. He coaches his 11-year-old son's team, which has lost in the championship game every year. "They call me Bud Grant, because I've lost three times now," he laughs.

## A PRICE WORTH PAYING

Weston Weber's life changed the day he pitched against Tink Larson's baseball team the summer after his senior year in high school. Larson was so impressed by what he saw that he called his friend Dean Bowyer, the baseball coach at Minnesota State Mankato. And then Weber, who had been planning to go to St. Cloud and walk on the baseball team there, got a call from Bowyer inviting him down to Mankato.

"I changed gears immediately," Weber remembers. "Coach Bowyer

makes quite an impression when you meet him. And just knowing that I had a spot, that I was wanted in Mankato, that made it an easy choice."

Two decades later, with a track record of success in both sports and business, Weber can see that Larson's phone call to Bowyer changed his life. He played four years of baseball in Mankato; during his senior year, when he served as team captain, he was drafted by the Oakland Athletics. He played in their system for 10 years, making it all the way to the Triple-A level before an injury ended his career in 1996.

"There are no ifs, ands or buts about it," Weber says now. "If Tink Larson doesn't call Coach Bowyer, I never play professional ball. My life changed that day."

But Larson's call could only do so much. The rest was up to Weber—and he was definitely up to the challenge. Although he struggled early in his career at Mankato, he worked as hard as he could to become the best pitcher on the team. "We worked our tails off on that team," he remembers. "But I have never been afraid of hard work. I've always had to work harder than the next person. You have to be willing to pay the price, whatever it is you want to do, or you won't be successful."

That mantra also helped Weber, who graduated with a degree in physical education in 1987, finish a master's degree even as he was working his way through the Athletics' minor league system. "I was going to libraries while my teammates were sleeping," he says. "I was working on my thesis on the bus as we were traveling from city to city. Everyone else was listening to their music and I was working. I knew that I had to do that, that I had to pay the price if I was going to make it."



The price Weber paid as a college athlete was an incredible investment in his professional life. Being drafted by a major league ball club was just the beginning. After leaving baseball, he started a putting greens installation company—Southwest Putting Greens—that became known as one of the best in the business. “That goes back to what I learned in Mankato,” he says. “I became someone who was always willing to outwork everyone else.”

## A SOURCE OF STRENGTH

During her sophomore year at Minnesota State Mankato, Emily Birkholz entertained the idea of trying out for the softball team. She was already a member of the women’s basketball team, her first love, but she liked the idea of playing softball as well. Then, before the basketball season had even ended that year, Birkholz and her husband Jacob found out that they were pregnant with their first child.

Although that news kept her from joining the softball team, it didn’t change anything else for Birkholz. Haley was born in August 2000; by October 15, when *Midnight Madness* kicked off the basketball season, Birkholz was back on the court with her team. “We didn’t miss a step,” she says. “Jacob and I tried to have opposite schedules, so that we could keep going to school. He would have a class at 8 a.m. and then I would have one at 9 a.m. We just found a way to make it work.”

Being part of the basketball team helped. Teammates pitched in to babysit, and the coaches supported Birkholz’s decision to keep playing, encouraging her to bring the baby both to practices and to games. “Haley was a spectator at all of my games,” Birkholz remembers.

But besides her commitments to her baby and to her team, Birkholz had high academic expectations of herself. “I knew I wouldn’t be able to play basketball all of my life,” she says. “I always knew that I was there to get into medical school. That was always my goal.” So when she was traveling to games, she brought her books on the bus. When teammates slept in on Saturday mornings, she got up early to study. Whenever possible, she got her class work done before she went home, so that she

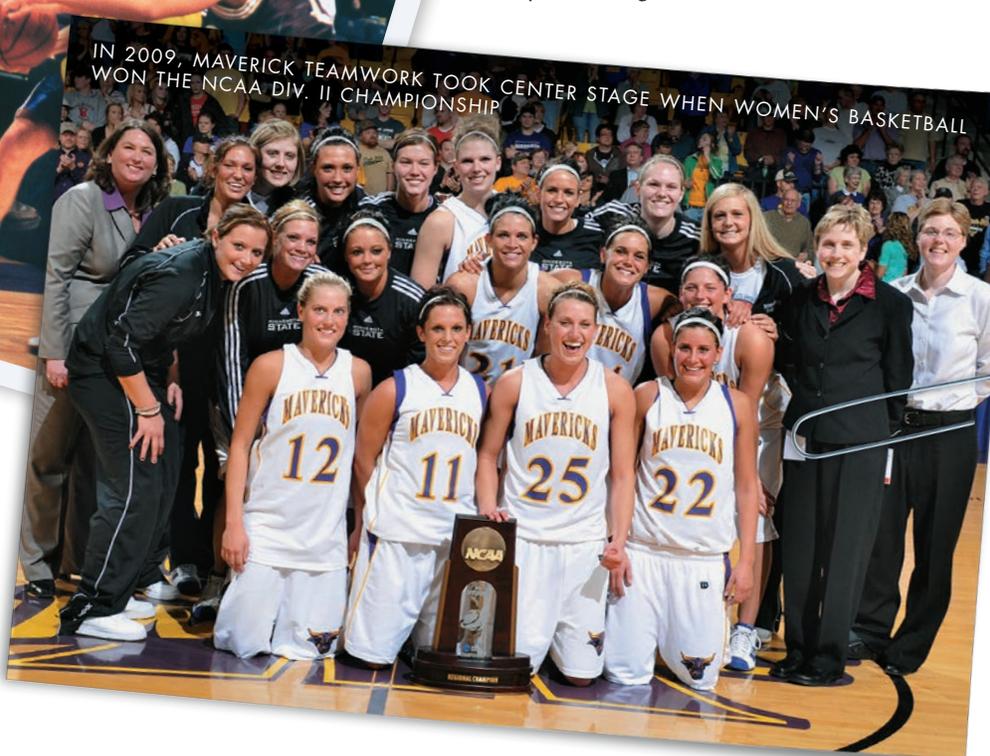
could spend as much time as possible with her daughter. And in the process, she learned a lot about time management.

“I learned a lot about making time in the day to reach all of my goals,” says Birkholz, who is now in the third year of her medical residency, specializing in ophthalmology. “I want to be a good mom, a good wife, a good doctor—and you have to find time for all of that.”

Although Birkholz, who now has four children, rarely has time to play basketball anymore, she is grateful for the endurance she developed during her busy college career. “Basketball seasons can be long and grueling,” she says. “You have to be able to muster up the strength and persevere. Those qualities have served me well even now in medical school and residency, because some days have really been tough.”



BASKETBALL MAVERICK EMILY BIRKHOIZ



IN 2009, MAVERICK TEAMWORK TOOK CENTER STAGE WHEN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL WON THE NCAA DIV. II CHAMPIONSHIP



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS



# THE HUMBLE MAVERICK

*Laura Leber is a bona fide college soccer star—just don't try getting her to admit it.*

If an athlete is best judged by his or her best performance, Laura Leber could have walked away from collegiate soccer last year, after just her sophomore season, with her legacy firmly intact.

It was that campaign that placed Minnesota State University, Mankato in Denver last November to face Colorado School of Mines in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. It was that sophomore who made the NCAA Tournament stage her own with a performance that will be forever engraved in the Maverick record book. Leber scored three goals—just one shy of the NCAA Tournament record for goals in a match—en route to leading her team to a 3-1 first round win.

But don't ask Leber to tout her performance as what it was: one of the all-time greatest in the history of that tournament.

"They had said I was one goal away from tying the record, but I was so into the game and focused, that I didn't really realize it," Leber said. "I just got lucky. I was in the right places at the right times."

Her head coach disagrees.

"The scary thing is that she hit the post twice," explains Maverick head coach Peter McGahey. "Her statistics that day were: five shots, three on goal, three goals. On the other two, she hit the post. It was an awe-inspiring performance."

And between the lines of those differing opinions lies all you really need to know about Laura Leber. Her humility belies her successes. Her statistics speak grandly of a career that could go down as one of the best in Maverick soccer history, offering a wide scope of achievement and leadership that the humble star from Council Bluffs, Iowa either doesn't acknowledge or would simply rather not talk about.

"I think one of the most powerful skills for a leader is the ability to self-evaluate," explains McGahey. "Laura is truly a player who people look to naturally because she scores goals and creates and those kinds of things. But I think a true testament to Laura and her spirit is that she would much rather be on a great team than be a great player herself."

In that respect, Leber is having her cake, and eating it, too. In 2007, she became just the third freshman in Maverick history to lead the team in points. She also led the conference in goals (11), game-winning goals (7) and points (26). But you wouldn't know it by her depiction.



“As a freshman, I would have been happy to just make the travel team,” Leber says. “I was so intimidated by all the upperclassmen. They were so good. Once I got into games and played, my goals were to just help out the team and go as far as we could. I just wanted to do as much as I could to help the team win games, whether it was to score or to open up a run that gave us a scoring chance.”

In her sophomore season, she established new career highs with 12 goals and 27 points, again leading the team, and earning her second-team All-American honors.

But those aren't the numbers that matter most to Leber. She would rather talk about the team's 33-7-3 record the past two years. Or the two NCAA Tournament games those teams have won. The consummate teammate, she's even more likely to talk about what she feels this team still has left to accomplish.

“My team goals really don't change from year to year,” Leber explains. “I want to do whatever I can to get this team to make it as far as we can. Whether it's me scoring or me starting a run that someone else scores off of.”

Despite consistently performing in a manner that fits the descriptions, Laura Leber calls herself neither a leader, nor a star player. And that's probably for the best. This leader, this star player, should rather be known for her greatest attribute—her character.

“To her credit, as the game gets bigger, Laura plays very close to her strengths all the time,” McGahey said. “She knows what she's good at and she's able to do those things very well. To me, that's a testament to her character.”



## OFF THE FIELD

- Keep up with Maverick Athletics at [msumavericks.com](http://msumavericks.com), now mobile-friendly with an integrated downloadable calendar, social networking opportunities, simplified navigation and increased access to multimedia features. Fans have easy access to updated scores, statistics, bios, schedules and links to live webcasts. Maverick Athletics partnered with one of the nation's top collegiate web companies, SIDEARM, to create the new site, which serves as the official online home to the Mavericks' 23 varsity athletic programs.
- New Athletics Hall of Fame members include wrestling stand-out Tony Kenning ('96), softball All-American Heather Hillstrom ('97), track star Michelle (Clarke) Oman ('97), basketball forward Lynell (Anderson) Senden ('94) and Dean Bowyer (MSU baseball coach 1977-2008). The five were inducted October 2, along with the 1970-71 women's volleyball team. The Jim Schaffer Service Award was presented to Mark and Kristy Sybilrud, and this year's Philanthropy Award recipients were Jim and Sue Clark. Learn more about the Hall of Fame at [msumavericks.com/hof.aspx](http://msumavericks.com/hof.aspx).
- Interest in Maverick hoops is high, with the women's team coming off of a national championship season and the Maverick men, a national regional semifinalist last year, hoping to improve on a 26-9 record from 2008-09. More than 800 students attended the annual MSU Basketball Midnight Madness Oct. 15, and more than 120 people attended the third annual Maverick Hoops Fan Fest Oct. 29 in Taylor Center.
- In July, the Western Collegiate Hockey Association announced that it had accepted Bemidji State and Nebraska-Omaha as members of its men's league. Beginning in 2010-11 the WCHA will become a 12-team conference.

# maverickscene



**(1)** President Emerita and 2009 Volunteer of the Year Margaret Preska and Assistant Director of African-American Affairs Maria Baxter-Nuamah '93, '05 outside the Centennial Student Union at the Foundation Gala in September. **(2)** Second Chance Coronation Homecoming Queen Jan Eimers '73 and King Jerry Anderson '86. **(3)** Minnesota State Mankato Foundation President Jim Connors '68 and Kris Connors '68. **(4)** Foundation Gala honorees, new members of the Dean's Circle: **Front:** Don Brose, Mary Brose '69, '91, '95, Aaron Budge for Minnesota Surveyors and Engineers Society, Justin Bramstedt for S&S Cycle, Inc. **Back:** Dennis Hood, John J. Janc, Laura and Tim Heinze for Lake Crystal Coaches, Dick Ahern for Larson Allen, LLP.

**MAKE THE MAVERICK SCENE.** Learn about events for alumni and friends at [mnsu.edu/alumni](http://mnsu.edu/alumni).  
Submit photos of your own alumni gatherings to [today@mnsu.edu](mailto:today@mnsu.edu).



**(1)** Cornelius Votca '39, '69 and Foundation Board member Jeanne Votca Carpenter '73. **(2)** President Richard Davenport and Foundation Board member Shyamal (Sam) Roy '77. **(3)** Spencer Wood '74, Alumni Relations Director Jennifer Guyer-Wood '95, '98 and Ruth Wood '45. **(4)** Foundation Gala honorees, new members of the President's Circle: **Front:** Elizabeth Lawrence Ross, Susan G. Sneer '59, '60, James G. Sneer '59. **Back:** Cy Denn '77, Justin Parranto for The Kenneth W. Scully Endowment of the Catholic Community Foundation directed by James and Janice Parranto, Kyle Swanson for the Orthopaedic & Fracture Clinic, William B. Steil '65, '70. **(5)** Foundation Gala guests Herman and Helen Dharmarajah.

# A PARTICULAR MAGIC

When I opened the door to my formal life in education in September 1944, it was to a one-room country schoolhouse where the other four students were older boys. When I closed the door to my formal life in education on June 30, 2009, it was at a public comprehensive university of over 14,000 students.

I can still see and smell and hear that first schoolhouse, even though it is long gone and the land on which it stood now nurtures grain, not brain. There was no charm to the building: plain, white, undecorated on the outside. But oh, what it held within! To me, the door opened onto the world, not just a room. Two side walls with unadorned windows, the front wall covered with slate blackboard above which paraded the alphabet in correct Palmer penmanship, the teacher's desk in the front of the room to the right of a huge silver floor register through which spewed the intense heat from the coal furnace in the cellar. The floorboards were wide and old and smelled of a sweeping compound that left them slightly oily and grainy.

There were a dozen desks ranging from tiny (front row, left side) to adult size (back row, right side). They were fixed to the floor and did not all match. In the back of the room there was a row of coat hooks to the right of the entrance, and on the left a space containing the earthenware jug of water and the trap

door to the cellar. There was one bookcase. My Elson-Gray Reader preceded the days of Dick and Jane. Beyond electric lights and the furnace, there was no other technology. But in spite of the drab conditions, the room was full of magic: the lessons I was given, the lessons I heard the teacher working on with the "big boys," and the magic of all the teacher knew.

It was a place of serious work—where each of us had work to accomplish and expectations to meet. Yet it was also a place of imagination and theatre, including seasonal pageants and programs that the five students put on for the community.

What I learned in that one-room school has followed me everywhere, and in some ways prepared me for my role in higher education more than one would suspect (that and 4-H Club, where I learned about parliamentary procedure and group dynamics as well as about baking and sewing and furniture refinishing).

What I learned in that one room was that learning is serious business, that you have to apply yourself, that there is work for everyone to do, that you are not expected to solve all the problems but you are expected to try, that you can learn a lot by watching and listening, that you can go beyond what the day's work is—on your own, and that you don't know everything (and the teacher knows that). These are valuable lessons for someone who ends up being an administrator.

I have only to picture that one-room school, and all the magic returns of what I sensed as the power of education. It is what T. S. Eliot and other writers called the “objective correlative” meaning that some object—what you can visualize—becomes so closely identified with a complex body of emotion and responses that it comes to stand for the emotion itself. For example, the sound of the music “Taps” comes to stand for the emotion of a mournful funeral, or a gorgeous sunrise stands for freshness and hope and expectations of the new, of starting over.

What then, I ask myself, is the objective correlative for the educational institution from which I retired this summer? Minnesota State Mankato does not have that same one-ness of place that the country school had; it isn't easily pictured in a single visual image. The picture of this institution that evokes emotions is the procession of people who touched my life here, and the lives of others, in lasting and profound ways.

The faces in that procession are many, and they have come to represent all that is Minnesota State Mankato. Chief among those would be the former Presidents under whom I served. Then there are the faces of the senior faculty and staff who, when I was new, helped me understand much in many ways. There were also those who had left before I arrived in 1969 but who were spoken of so frequently they are part of the picture.

But most vivid in this procession are the students I had in my classes and whose work was so wonderful: among them were Bob Tesar, Clifford Strom, Jeanne Votca, Karen Waterston, Tim Price, Sheila Coghill, Penny Samuelson, Bonnie Hildbrandt, Kathy Sufka, Paul Evenson, Paul Goodnature, Barb Knutson, Debbie Gage, Gail Huiras, Richard Meyer, Mona Anderson, Tom Maertens, Valerie Stolze, Janet Stadulis, Richard Beerling, James and John Bill, the red-haired Fitzsimmons twin sisters, and Will Partridge. They've come to stand for all students who had great expectations for what the academic experience would do for them.

For me, the objective correlative becomes the relationship between teacher and student that takes on such significance it becomes the symbol for education, for the way in which a teacher may have touched student minds and lives, and the way students certainly influenced the teacher's life and mind.

This is incredibly different from the objective correlative being the physical location in which the education took place. While that one-room school is simple to picture and held the magic of basic informational learning, the picture of Minnesota State Mankato is an image more complex, more dimensional, more transformational—for it is not just about information but about knowledge and understanding flowing in many different directions: teacher to student, student to teacher, student to student, teacher to colleague, as well as to the work of those who have gone before and those who will come after.

When I moved from faculty to administration, I saw and felt that the relationships between people continued to be what is special about Minnesota State Mankato. And as I move beyond my formal role at the University, I know that the power of those relationships and the changes they affected are assurance that the particular magic of education goes on for life, never-ending, more illuminating than the happily-ever-after stories in our first readers may have led us to believe.

Whatever the place and whatever happens to the place, the magic and power of the education goes on beyond time and place. Even though I shut the door to that formal life in education on June 30, there really is no end: picturing that procession of relationships tells me that the magic is forever. ♪

*The picture of this institution that evokes emotions is the procession of people who touched my life here, and the lives of others, in lasting and profound ways.*

Iowa native Jane Earley lived and taught in Minneapolis, Milwaukee, and Chicago before she came to Mankato in 1969 to teach English at Minnesota State University, Mankato and serve as the first dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, a position she held for 35 years until her retirement in 2009. She has received national recognition for her leadership and mentorship to deans across the country. She also served as chair of the state Humanities Commission and of the Bush Regional Collaboration for Teaching and Learning, and served on the Minnesota News Council. In addition to her love for Minnesota State Mankato and its people, Earley's passions include attending competitive figure skating, reading, fine fountain pens, and sterling silver brooches.

# facultyemeritus

## BACK TO BUSINESS

Chan Lee was delighted to see Oliver Mulford at the first meeting of the College of Business Emeriti Luncheon in December 2008. Although Lee, who retired in 2006 after serving on the faculty for almost 25 years, and Mulford, who retired in 1995, both still live in Mankato, they hadn't seen each other in years.

"How else am I going to see a guy like Ollie?" Lee said afterwards. "I almost forgot what he looked like."

That's one of the reasons that Lee, who taught finance and created the Certified Financial Planner® program at Minnesota State Mankato, brought the idea of a College of Business Emeriti Association to then-Dean Scott Johnson in 2008. He missed his old friends. But he also missed the sense of community he had felt during his tenure at Minnesota State University, Mankato, and wanted to stay connected to both the University and to the people he knew there. So with the help of the staff in the Dean's Office, he compiled a list of 35 emeriti faculty and sent them invitations to a lunch meeting on December 19, 2008.

Almost 20 people—both emeriti and current faculty, as well as staff members—attended that first event. Although most live in or around Mankato, many hadn't maintained contact with their colleagues. "It is surprising how many retirees live in town but how few you actually see anywhere," says Mulford, who taught economics and management from 1962 until 1995. "You'd think that we'd encounter each other more than we do, but there were some I hadn't seen in quite a long time."

But at the same time, rarely do the emeriti find themselves talking shop when they get together for their bi-annual meetings (eventually, Lee would like to hold quarterly gatherings). "I don't think you can say that we just picked up where we left off," Okleshen adds. "We don't talk about academia anymore. Now we talk about other things."

Their conversations also include more people now. "It does broaden your relationships," says Okleshen, who spent most of his 23 years at Minnesota State Mankato teaching finance. "When I was working here, I spent most of my time with the other finance faculty. Now, in the emeriti group, I spend time with everybody. These are the people you wish you had had more time to spend with when you were working."

In between talking about travel plans and life in retirement, the emeriti also address issues that have become important to them—financial planning and healthy eating, for example. They're also trying to bring in speakers to touch on topics of interest and facilitate discussions.

One of the most important parts of their gatherings, however, is the chance to talk about what's happening at the University. They occasionally invite current faculty and staff to their meetings and were pleased to have the co-directors of the MBA program join them earlier this year. "We listen to what they have to say, and then they listen to what we have to say," Okleshen says. "We appreciate that."



Minnesota State Mankato's College of Business Emeriti Association connects colleagues with each other, and with the University

Despite the lapsed time, picking up with old friends was easy. The emeriti quickly returned to teasing each other and sharing stories about their families. Henry Okleshen, who retired in 2003 and has been involved in the Emeriti Association since it began, was pleased to find that the same spirit of cooperation that existed between them all as colleagues still defines their relationships. "There was never any backbiting or fighting when we worked together, and it remains that way amongst those of us who are retired now," he says.

Lee hopes that developing a stronger link to the University will create opportunities for retired faculty members to get more involved. When emeriti understand what's happening on campus, they're more likely to be willing to help, he says. "We can exchange ideas, help each other, and support the University," Lee says. "We should try to know what's going on at the College of Business so that, if they need our help, we can try to help." ✍️

# classnotes

## 1930s

**OLIVE (SEVERNS) BLUMENSHEIN, '31,** Mankato, MN, turned 100 years old on November 15. She received her country school teaching certificate from Mankato Normal School, and has been a life-long resident of the Mankato area.

## 1950s

**ISABELLE (SCHULZ) FRENCH, '50,** Chatfield, MN, and her husband—who is a retired veterinarian—are proud parents and grandparents of their son and granddaughter, who have chosen the veterinary field as well.

**BEVERLY (PIERCE) STROEBEL, '53,** El Dorado Hills, CA, published her book *Full Sail—A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Spiritual Cruise on Board the Mayflower*, which is based on the Christian and civil Mayflower Compact signed by some of her ancestors who were on board.

**ALDEN (AL) READER, '55,** Naples, FL, is retired from teaching in the Naples Public Schools. He and his wife, Marianne, are enjoying watching the Gators and Tim Tebow and their football team.

## 1960s

**DR. MEL STRAND, '60, '68,** Waseca, MN, is a retired university professor who is listed in current and previous editions of *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in the World*, *Who's Who in Education*, and *Who's Who in the Midwest*. He also has written two college texts.

**BILL GOEDE, '60,** Cold Spring, MN, is a retired community education director in the District 750-Rocori Schools.

**ARLIN GYBERG, '61,** Brooklyn Center, MN, is a professor of chemistry at Augsburg College in Minneapolis who has received several teaching awards over the years. He is a co-inventor of a process to produce biodiesel.

**ROD GROVE, '68, '74,** San Diego, CA, is semi-retired with Skyrod Aviation Services, Inc. in San Diego, CA, and still flies the Citation CJ3 extensively. He fondly recalls his time spent teaching at MSU, and he remains enamored with aviation.

**ROBERT KOSKOVICH, '68,** Atlanta, GA, is a regional manager with Allegheny Surety Company.

**JANET (LENZ WALKER) NIKISHER, '68,** Aransas Pass, TX, is retired.

**JOSEPH DELANEY, '69,** Miami, FL, has held a number of positions in several areas since graduating from college. He also has served in public office. He has traveled extensively as well.

## 1970s

**PATRICK DOUGHERTY, '71,** Grand Prairie, TX, retired in July after 25 years of flying for American Airlines.

**LINDA (JOHNSON) LECY, '71,** Spring Valley, MN, recently completed majors in mathematics and chemistry.

**PATTY DAVIS ROWE, '72,** Millersburg, PA, has a new book out called *The Other Side of the Desk*—her memoirs from 1957-2007.

**EDNA THAYER, '72,** Elysian, MN, is a retired nurse who just published her book *Feisty Lydia, Memoirs of a German War Bride*.

**PRUDENCE (JOHNSON) GUSHWA, '72, '78,** Mankato, MN, has been serving as emerita professor at Minnesota State Mankato since May 2009. She spent 24 years as a school administrator and teacher in the K-12 systems before becoming a professor to those aspiring to become principals and superintendents.

**TERRY BARNETT, '73,** Austin, MN, has retired from the Tempe Union High School District. He was married in April 2007, and has six grandchildren.

**THOMAS BONNE, '74,** Port St. Lucie, FL, is the president/owner of T C Builders LLC. His daughter Kelly graduated from Minnesota State Mankato in 2000.

**DIANE NELSON DeMARCO, '74,** Frederick, MD, is the owner of the marketing communications firm Marketing e Work, which works with small businesses and the petroleum and biofuels industry.

**DENNIS MASTIN, '74,** Manassas, VA, retired in 2000 after 26 years in federal law enforcement. He now is CEO of Mastin Company LLC, and operates the business with his wife. The couple has five children and one grandchild.

**GARY OLIVER, '75,** Shakopee, MN, lives in Shakopee, MN, with his wife, LeAnn.

**NANCY KOLANDER, '75,** Andover, MN, is a program manager with Volunteers of America in Minneapolis.

**EUGENIE (BERTHAUDIN) WYCHRESCHUK, '79,** Beausejour, MB, Canada, is a retired teacher-librarian. She and her husband have four adult children.

**SHAWN P. BERNIER, '79, '89,** Sela, WA, is a self-employed portrait artist. He has an 11-year-old daughter and he continues to run.

## 1980s

**DOUGLAS WOLF, '80,** Sequim, WA, recently published his book *Marketing Me Book: The Complete Plan for Keeping Your Job in Any Economy*.

**ROBERT J. CHARLES JR., '80,** Chester, MD, is a program manager with the U.S. Army USAREC who just returned from deployment in Afghanistan where he was an officer charge of the emergency department. He was awarded the Bronze Star NATO medal, GWOT and given a combat action badge.

**HELEN ALBERTSON-PLOUCHA, '81,** Moscow, ID, is an associate dean of students and administration at the University of Idaho College of Law.

**BRIAN SHAUGHNESSY, '81,** Lonsdale, MN, works in information technology for the State of Minnesota.

**ELIZABETH (SCHEEF) HARTKE, '81,** Fairmont, MN, works in the purchasing department at Avery Weigh-Tronix, LLC in Fairmont, MN.

**DENNIS MILLER, '82,** Mankato, MN, retired in 2007 after leading Midwest Wireless from its inception to its sale to Alltel. He currently is consulting within the wireless communications industry.

# classnotes

Your classmates are eager to hear about you!

## GARY LARSON, '83,

Ramsey, MN, is the CEO senior in-home care for Angel Helpers in Ramsey, MN, which he bought after working 25 years in the IT field. His company helps senior citizens to stay living in their homes through the care of home health aides.

## DAWN LOOMIS CUNNINGHAM, '84,

Eleva, WI, is a territory sales representative with Palterson Dental Company.

## PAUL SNELLING, '85,

Hastings, MN, retired from the 3M Company.

## GREG HAMILTON, '86,

Lake Villa, IL, is a pilot with United Airlines in Chicago.

## JON JENSEN, '87,

Grand Forks, ND, is a partner with Person, Christensen & Clapp, LLP in Grand Forks. He recently was selected as a super lawyer in the area of taxation—as published in *Minnesota Law & Politics*.

## NANCY SKOW, '87,

New York, NY, is a partner with Ernst & Young LLP in Times Square, NY.

## MARK L. WELLNER, '87,

North Mankato, MN, is the lead security counselor at the Minnesota Security Hospital in St. Peter, MN.

## PAUL KLUGHERZ, '88,

Eyota, MN, is a project manager at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN.

## RAMZI HARATY, '89,

Beirut, Lebanon, is an associate professor at Lebanese American University.

## 1990s

### AYMAN M. AREKAT, '90,

El Cajon, CA, is self-employed with Advantage Towing. He and his wife have a son, Rakan.

### KAREN L. JACOBUS, '90,

Bismark, ND, is an audiologist within a private practice.

### DOROTHEA WALTERS, '91,

Spokane, WA, is the president/founder of Occupational Health Solutions, Inc., which provides a variety of occupational health services to employers in the Northwest.

## DAWN (MELIN) SANKEY, '92,

Willmar, MN, is the manager of systems analysis for Hawkeye Energy Holdings, LLC in Ames, IA. Prior to that, she was a consultant for Microsoft Dynamics—GP for 15 years. She is married and has two children.

## PAM WELLER-DENGEL, '92,

North Mankato, MN, is the director of the Career Development Center at Minnesota State Mankato. She recently received the Minnesota College & University Career Services Association award for distinguished service.

## ARIF ALI, '92,

Spring, TX, is residing in Spring, TX.

## LISA (HERBERT) BEECROFT, '92,

White Bear Lake, MN, is the executive director of the 916 Education Foundation—a charitable organization that enhances teaching and learning for students and teachers.

## ROXANNE (PRANGE) GODDES, '93,

Scottsdale, AZ, is a physical educator with the Scottsdale Unified School District. She received her master's degree in educational leadership from Northern Arizona University. She continues to compete in races, including marathons. She has two children.

## DEANNA RUCKS, '94,

Minnetonka, MN, is a personal care assistant with A Chance to Grow Choice, a nonprofit agency in Minneapolis.

## TODD WALDO, '94,

Northville, MI, is an account manager for ElringKlinger in Plymouth, MI.

*The Fall 2009 TODAY included this Class Note but incorrectly named Todd Waldo as Todd Russel. TODAY regrets the error.*

## ARTHUR SNYDER, '95,

Rochester, MN, is a title examination attorney with Fredriksen & Byron, P.A. in Minneapolis.

## HELEN KING-SEARFOSS, '96,

Plymouth, IN, is a juvenile probation officer at the St. Joseph County Probate Court in South Bend, IN. She is working on her master's degree at Indiana University and hopes to graduate in 2012.

## BRYAN KARRICK, '97,

Clive, IA, is a meteorologist with KCCI-TV in Des Moines. He was named Broadcaster of the Year in 2009 by the National Weather Association.

## DAVID KRUSE, '97,

Iowa City, IA, is a first-year resident physician in pediatrics at the University of Iowa, Children's Hospital in Iowa City, IA.

## LUN-MEI YANG, '98,

Sindian City, Taipei County, Taiwan, is an instructor with the National Taipei College of Business in Taiwan. She and her husband have three children.

## SPENCER KRAMBER, '98,

Venice, CA, is an actor who appeared in the television show *Criminal Minds* in October 2009

## LYNN BOWERS HELGESON, '98,

Rose Creek, MN, is a self-employed massage therapist.

## 2000s

### JOSSUE ORTIZ, '01,

Carlsbad, CA, is living in Carlsbad, CA.

### PAUL TELANDER, '02,

Chaska, MN, recently moved into private industry through his job as a tax manager for Holiday Companies in Minneapolis. Prior to this, he was in public accounting. He and his wife, Nicole, are in the Master of Business Taxation (MBT) program at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management. They are looking to graduate in Spring 2011.

### JASON EDWARDS, '02,

Quincy, MA, is an assistant professor at Bridgewater State College who has published his first book, *Navigating the Post Cold War World: President Clinton's Foreign Policy Rhetoric*.

### JANELLE BROBERG, '03,

Burnsville, MN, is a human resources generalist with the Dart Transit Company in Eagan, MN.

### KATIE (SEYS) AGUILAR, '03,

Madelia, MN, is a food safety manager with CHS in Mankato, MN. She has one daughter, Ariana, and she is hoping to move to her hometown, Janesville, MN.

Please use the form on page 23 to share your news. Class Notes are listed by decade and baccalaureate date.

**FAITH BAYEUR, '03,**

Mankato, MN, is a registered nurse with Park Nicollet Heart and Vascular Center in St. Louis Park, MN.

**RUTH JEWELL, '03,**

Evans, GA, is a healthcare representative with Chamberlin Edmonds in Augusta, GA.

**CELESTE HOLLERUD, '04,**

South St. Paul, MN, is a student at Hamline University School of Law. She recently had an article published in the *Hamline Journal of Public Law and Policy*.

**BILLY SABIN, '04,**

Gulfport, MS, is a security officer for Hudson's Salvage.

**ALEX BLOM, '05,**

Greenfield, WI, is an assistant professor at Alverno College in Milwaukee, WI. He completed his PhD at Iowa State University.

**JANELLE (BEAUCHAMP) GERGEN, '05,**

East Grand Forks, MN, is a freelance graphic designer for j.bo design, a business she runs out of her home.

**SARA FREDERICKSON, '05,**

Blue Earth, MN, is living in Blue Earth, MN.

**JESSICA (MANTHIE) WOODS, '06,**

Houston, TX, and her husband relocated to Houston TX, where she is now a stay-at-home mom. Their daughter, Abigail Joy, was born on Aug. 19, 2009.

**STEPHEN HERRMANN, '06,**

Queen Creek, AZ, is a teaching/research associate at Arizona State University.

**JASON PENDLETON, '06,**

Milwaukee, WI, is a second-year dental student at Marquette University in Milwaukee.

**BRENT FALKENSTEIN, '07,**

Savage, MN, is a business analyst with Verisk Health, Inc.-TierMed Systems in Chanhassen, MN.

**PAULA HEYER, '07,**

Mankato, MN, is a marketing coordinator with Corporate Graphics International in North Mankato, MN. She was a member of the WU Bowling Team, and finally threw her first 300 game. She received a 2009 Presidential Medallion at the Minn. Jaycees Convention for her involvement with the Mankato Area Jaycees.

**ERIC BEENKEN, '07,**

Owatonna, MN, is a staff accountant with LarsonAllen LLP in Owatonna, MN.

**RYAN McCABE, '07,**

Mankato, MN, passed the Certified Public Accounting exam, and has been with Eide Bailly in Mankato since 2007.

**TAWNI (HINRICHS) BULLERMAN, '07,**

Adrian, MN, is a dental hygienist with Dr. Carl O. Hallum, D.D.S. in Adrian, MN.

**STACY (GRAMENTZ) COLLINS, '08,**

Waseca, MN, is a sixth-grade teacher in the Waseca School District. She married her husband, Kyle, on August 7.

**WHITNEY (BAUER) WINKELS, '08,**

Medford, MN, is an international project manager with Viracon in Owatonna, MN.

**ABDUL MUQEET AHMED KHAN, '09,**

Vienna, VA, is an administration intern for Z VIP Sedan & Limousine Services, Inc. in Windsor Mill, MD.

**TRAVIS O'BRIEN, '09,**

Rochester, MN, is a registered nurse with the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN.

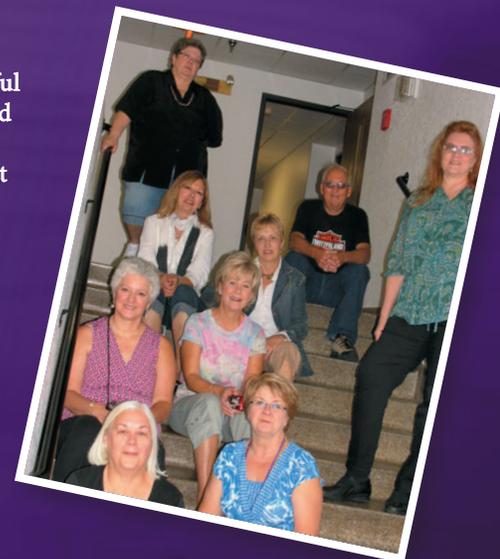
Last fall, a group of graduates and 1970-71 Searing Center residents gathered on campus for a mini-reunion. Afterward, they shared a note with Alumni Relations Director Jennifer Guyer-Wood.

We had a great time sharing pictures and stories and we were amazed at how much the upper campus had changed. It's a beautiful campus. So many memories came flooding back to us as we walked through the Student Union, commented on the artwork and had many pictures taken in front of the fountain. We talked about Kent State and our recollections of the demonstrations that occurred on the campus. It was like we had only been gone a few years and not 38!

Reflecting on the past made us realize how fortunate we all were to have received our education at Mankato State College. It was an amazing place and we consider ourselves blessed to have made friendships that have lasted for 38 years. We decided that we had better get together in a year or two because we can't afford to wait three decades to see each other.

Thanks again for making our weekend so special.

CHAR KRAHLING '70, MS '76  
Sioux Center, IA



# in memoriam

## 1920s

Marvyl Bertha (Ostrander) McLeod '28  
Anne M. (Rouse) Schaefer '28

## 1930s

Marianna Marie (Bonkenberg) Schumacher '30  
Blanche Virginia Kindstrom '33, '50  
Wilma Aganetha (Fast) Jungas '34  
Mary Helen (Eberhart) Peterson '35  
Gertrude Elaine (Knapp) Bruender '36  
Leona (Draheim) English '37  
Ernest M. Thomsen '38  
Lenore Margaret (Sampson) Wilson '39, '62

## 1940s

Helen Marcella (Behr) Tyler '40  
Jessie Adeline Juanita (Skarpohl) Keech '41  
Victoria R. (Andrzejewski) Keith '41  
Kathlyn Iola (King) Lee '41  
Nettie F. (Kellam) Eernisse '42  
Stella Marie Ratzloff '42, '60, '62  
Wesley William Ulrich '42  
Betty J. (Daehn) Dahle '43  
Bernice Ruth (Peterson) Bluhm '44  
Betty Lou (Theel) Ferrin '44, '58  
Glenn W. Schwartz '47  
Gloria Carolina Louisa (Kain) Klinder '49  
Ione Cecelia (Teig) Rossow '49

## 1950s

Mary Lee (Chapman) Day '50  
George Martin Hackett '50, '61  
Betty S. Reese '50  
Norma Edith Thompson '51, '61  
Roderick Royal Collison '52  
Marshall Alan Matejcek '52  
Vernon L. Conrad '54  
Viola Laverna (Heaston) Anderson '55, '65  
Roy D. Jenkins '55, '80  
Janice Colleen (Allen) Kirkeide '55  
Alicia Bernice (Clork) Krusemark '55, '58, '62  
Arlene A. (Mellenthin) Maloney '55  
Lyle Eugene McLaughlin '55  
Helen S. (Ring) Sellner '55, '58  
James Thomas Woychick '55  
John Phillip Mohns '56  
Constance Faith (Klucas) DeMuth '57

Dennis L. Hogenson '57, '59  
Emery Johnson '57  
Joan M. (Prom) Sherwin '57  
Marilyn S. (Swanson) Srsen '57, '72  
Ella Anna Maria (Ortlip) Bode '58  
Raymond Oren Colwell '58  
Wilma C. (Bathke) Froehlich '59, '65  
Eugene Henry Jenson '59  
James Alan Lundquist '59  
Delano Harry Siewert '59  
Helena L. (Sprink) Stuart '59

## 1960s

Ruby Samantha (Howerter) Chaffee '60  
Donald B. Dauman '61  
Roger D. Hallum '61  
Camille Adair (Paulson) Hartmann '61  
James A. Huberty '61  
Mike C. Kromminga '61  
David Albert Lueck '61  
Roman Anthony Mathiowetz '61  
Donald Edward Thompson '61  
Gene Alan Hawkins '62  
Donald A. Helvick '62  
Marian Henrietta (Webster) LaFavor '62, '69  
Glenn Lester Pierce '62  
Elaine G. (Nienhaus) Gahl '63, '86  
Jon R. Pearce '63  
Larold Orlo Peterson '63  
David Paul Ruthenbeck '63, '70  
Elizabeth Jane (McKee) Schwiager '63, '70  
Frederick Oren Atkinson '64  
Claire Weldon Carpenter '64  
Virgie C. Dikkers '64  
Ethel Georgia (Kistle) King '64  
Donald Botten Larson '64  
Donald Charles Westphal '64  
Ronald Francis Thibault '65  
Susan K. (Johnson) Sandstede '66, '86  
Michael Lee Scherzler '66  
Kristen Ann (Rasmussen) Wedeking '66  
Robert A. Bruckmeir '67  
Marshall M. Olson '67  
Joseph W. Diedrich '68  
Donald Andrew Froehle '68  
Veronica M. Lander '68  
Robert Donald Milne '68  
Leon Curtis Olson '68  
James Joseph Tepy '68, '75

Deann Kay (Weitgenant) Werner '68  
Richard M. Broich '69  
Donavon E. Hachfeld '69  
Joseph E. Malherek '69, '71  
Florence E. (Madsen) Pangburn '69  
Jack Duane Stowell '69  
Gary Lee Van Stelten '69

## 1970s

Arlie P (Peterson) Hanson '70  
Linda Lou (Klindworth) Soifakis '70

## ALUMNI UPDATE

Please list any career changes, awards, honors, marriages, births or memorial information you'd like to see in TODAY and at [www.MSUGrads.com](http://www.MSUGrads.com). Due to publication schedules, your news may not appear in the next issue. Class Notes may be edited for length and clarity.

MAIL: Editor, TODAY

232 Alumni Foundation Center  
Mankato, MN 56001

FAX: 507-389-2069 E-MAIL: [today@mnsu.edu](mailto:today@mnsu.edu)

ONLINE: [mnsu.edu/alumni/update](http://mnsu.edu/alumni/update)

### ABOUT YOU

Name (including maiden) \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation year(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Major(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Professional title or position \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

### ABOUT YOUR SPOUSE/PARTNER

Name (including maiden) \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation year (if Minnesota State Mankato graduate) \_\_\_\_\_

Professional title or position \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

John W. Zimmer '70  
David E Bailey '71  
Dale F. Carter '71  
Judith Eileen (Murry) Hauer '71  
Margaret Grayce (Gegan) Kortuem '71  
Glen Richard Pfeffer '71  
Robert Randall Shamp '71  
Kenneth J. Beck '72  
Margaret Magdeline (Steege) Meyer '72  
Wayne Terry Olson '73  
Elizabeth Marie Appel '74  
John Michael Cleary '74  
Vincent Lloyd Ferguson '74  
Kenneth Wayne Marshall '74  
James L. Peterson '74  
Ralph Allen Vinje '74  
David Alan Leuze '75  
Michael Peter Sobraske '75  
Bernhardt M. Millimaki '76  
Barbara J. (Gunn) Weum '76  
Edward Carlyle McClurg '77  
Floyd Levi Thies '77  
Doris A. (Burden) Cooper '79

### 1980s

Judy Lynne (Engelmann) Allbutt '81  
Bradley J. Baker '81

John M. Gamble '81  
Kathleen Mary Benson '82  
Cynthia Sue (Ruby) Kotewa '82  
Norma J. Nickelson '83  
Patrick John Farrell '85  
Laurie Elaine (Olsen) Wiebusch '87  
Martin Owen Bakko '89  
Thomas M. Nichols '89  
Christine A. (Orth) Rosenstein '89, '92  
Robert Duane Stady '89

### 1990s

Joseph Bernard Cunningham '90  
Jon Andrew Geraghty '90  
Dorothy Eloise (Buckley) Steinke '91  
Shawn W. Olson '93  
Kerry Jon Petersen '96  
Nadine Barbara Schreyer '96  
Grayce Karamana (Rarama) Gilman '99

### 2000s

Kelly Beth (Schuller) Marin '00  
Angela M. Olson '02

### FRIENDS

Elizabeth J. Bemis  
James L. Campbell  
Joy Ann (Larson) Edwards  
John P. Huettl  
Joseph E. Lynch  
Frank L. Parsons  
Warner A. Zeno

### FACULTY AND STAFF

Henrietta Alida (Noy) Fleming  
Ethel Georgia (Kistle) King  
David Paul Ruthenbeck  
Hiley H. Ward

To notify TODAY of alumni, faculty or staff members who have passed away, please send an obituary or funeral program to University Development, 126 Alumni Foundation Center, Mankato, MN 56001. If you wish to notify us via email, or would like a copy of an obituary for someone listed above, please contact Connie Wodtke at [connie.wodtke@mnsu.edu](mailto:connie.wodtke@mnsu.edu) or 507-389-6762.

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507-389-6061, 1-800-627-3529 or 711 (MRS/TTY).