

LIFELONG LOVE



The article in *Horizons* on Joyce Sharer '52 and Ron Morrison '54 ("Reunited..." Fall 2000) was interesting. I knew Joyce slightly. I didn't know Ron, but I remember seeing him

around. That was a great story.

I like our story even better. My original honey and I are still going down the road of life together. We were married at St. Michael's across the street from NMU. It was still in the building that was originally a women's dormitory for the college.

NMU is a completely new institution from when I attended. I'm sure it's greatly improved and students are receiving a wonderful education.

NMU was just part of my life up there.

At this stage of the game, I am doing something new — being a church choir director. It is very exciting, being the one to pick out and interpret the music. My husband sings in the choir and is a soloist.

—Dorothy Drozdiak '51

LETTERS POLICY

Horizons welcomes all incoming letters for inclusion in the publication. Priority will be given to letters addressing issues or topics discussed in the magazine. Letters will be printed as space permits, and they may be edited for brevity and clarity. If there are too many letters on a given topic for the space available, we will choose a balanced, representative sample.

Send your letters to horizons@nmu.edu or mail to *Horizons* editor, Northern Michigan University, 1401 Presque Isle Avenue, Marquette, Michigan 49855.

Technology for tomorrow

Northern participates in Internet 2 project

By KRISTI EVANS

Northern Michigan University is a secondary participant in the Internet 2 project. Internet 2 is a consortium of more than 180 research universities working with industry and government to develop advanced network applications and technologies.

In order to become involved in the project, NMU had to be sponsored by an Internet 2 member institution. This support came from Michigan Technological University.

"Northern has always had a collaborative relationship with Tech," said Fred Joyal, interim provost and vice president of academic affairs at NMU. "Internet 2 is nationally recognized as playing a pivotal role in the future of research and higher education. While Northern is not a doctoral-granting institution like MTU, we do have faculty involved in major research who could utilize a network that allows them to collaborate with others and share material and data."

NMU hosted a visit by MTU administrators and staff members Nov. 10 to discuss projects, applications and collaboration opportunities. An NMU delegation traveled to Houghton Dec. 13 to discuss the technical implications.

The partnership at the heart of Internet 2 — featuring academia, government and industry — also was responsible for nurturing the original Internet during its infancy.

"The current Internet started out as a federally-subsidized system designed to link research universities

with government agencies and companies making use of the research," Joyal said. "When it gained popularity as a commodity network, the government bowed out."

The network became so clogged with commercial and other traffic that researchers had a hard time collaborating and testing applications. Joyal said they needed a dedicated, advanced network capable of controlling high-powered instruments in real time, moving lots of data or commands, and handling multiple users.

This prompted the creation of Abilene, the high-speed backbone managed by the Internet 2 project. NMU will work with Michigan Tech and Merit Inc., a pioneer in network management, to connect to Abilene.

"One of the applications we see coming out of this opportunity is streaming video," Joyal said. "Rather than downloading video and then playing it back, digital telecommunication links allow you to transfer video in a stream. It's like watching TV, but it doesn't require so much bandwidth. This could present interesting applications for distance education and sharing all kinds of material."

Joyal said Northern is already working on collaborative research projects with MTU and the University of Illinois. He expects more will follow. At the Nov. 10 kickoff meeting with MTU, Joyal estimated that 10-15 Northern faculty either had or envisioned applications that would benefit from Internet 2 access.

High-tech recruiting

On-line college fairs help Northern expand its recruitment reach

By BRANDI SHEETS

High school students increasingly depend on the Internet to research college options, so the recruiting process has gone high tech. Northern Michigan University has joined other universities participating in on-line college fairs.

"Participation in on-line college fairs is an important statement the university is making concerning becoming a technologically advanced learning environment," said Gerri Daniels, director of admissions at Northern Michigan University. According to Daniels, the fairs also allow the university to reach students who would not have the opportunity to learn about NMU at traditional college fairs.

NMU participates in the fairs hosted by the National Association for College Admissions Counseling, whose mission is to help students make successful transitions from high school to college. At each fair, the university has a booth that students can access via the World Wide Web. If students are interested in speaking with campus representatives, they can enter the NMU chat room.

"The fairs have advantages for students beyond providing access to information on colleges," said Daniels. "If students do not know what colleges they are interested in or whether the schools provide their program, they can fill out a profile of themselves and search for colleges that can meet their needs."

Northern participated in its first



on-line college fair in October. At this fair, 28 students accessed the NMU booth and 20 students entered the chat room to speak with campus representatives. The university participated in an international student on-line fair as well as a science, engineering, and technology fair and a general focus fair in November. Northern will participate in another general focus fair in March.

"It is still too early to judge the impact of the fairs, but we are tracking the students who showed interest," said Daniels.

According to Daniels, the university is also investigating the possibility of hosting on-line open houses. The office of International Affairs is considering hosting open houses so students from around the world can contact the university and ask questions. This would eliminate barriers related to geography and time zones.

Bailey announces five-year enrollment goal

Northern Michigan University President Judi Bailey used her fall convocation address to announce a goal of boosting total enrollment to 11,200 by the year 2005. That would be an increase of about 3,000 students from fall 2000 headcount.

"Is it a reachable goal? Absolutely," Bailey told the faculty and staff in attendance. "We've already made strong strides in the right direction. The average increase in the freshman class in each of the past two years has been 13.6 percent. These increases will compound over time. We have made a good start; we're well on our way."

Of the total enrollment goal of 11,200, undergraduates would account for 10,300. That would be a 43 percent jump from the fall 1999 undergraduate count.

"Our belief is that these particular figures will make our student body large enough to bring our state appropriation figure down to \$5,500 per fiscal-year-equated student," she said, adding that the state legislature has established \$4,500 per FYES as the "floor funding level" for universities in NMU's peer group.

While campus housing is filled to capacity for this academic year, Bailey said NMU will not have to build new facilities to accommodate future growth, but will have to be innovative in its use of available facilities to address student housing needs.

NMU's fall 2000 enrollment report shows a total headcount of 8,435. This represents about a 4 percent increase from the 7,920 figure recorded in fall 1999.

Be true to your school

Show your Wildcat spirit by purchasing an NMU license plate.

NMU is one of 15 public universities in Michigan with its own license plate through a new state initiative designed to let Michigan residents show pride in the school of their choice and, at the same time, help that school raise additional revenue.

The plates were made available for sale on Oct. 2.

Two versions of the plate are available — a regular plate that may be renewed annually and a collector's plate for display on an automobile.

Motorists will pay \$35 above their annual vehicle registration fee to purchase a fundraising plate, with \$25 going to the university. Each time the license plate is renewed, a \$10 renewal fee, above the annual vehicle registration fee, will be collected and sent to the university. The collector's version of the NMU plate can be purchased for a one-time fee of \$35, with \$25 going to the university.

Those ordering either version of the plate at a Secretary of State branch office will receive their plate in the mail. The plates are available with a disabled designation, and they also can be personalized with no more than five characters for an additional fee of \$30.

Proceeds will help fund student scholarships, student learning activities, and help support alumni relations programming.

For more information, including options for ordering plates, visit the university license plate page on the Secretary of State Web site at www.sos.state.mi.us/updates/.



News from the mall

Updates from the four academic colleges

College of Arts and Sciences

Biology professor recognized for excellence in teaching

Biology Professor Jacqueline Bird has been recognized for her teaching excellence in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers 2000*. A professor at NMU since 1996, Bird is conducting two ongoing research projects. She is exploring the epidemiology of brainworm infections in white-tailed deer, and she is researching the ecology of the deer tick in Menominee County. She also is working with a former graduate student on a manuscript concerning a survey of parasites in dogs in Marquette County.

Geography profs give students a worldly experience

John Anderton, assistant professor of geography, and Richard Eathorne, instructor of geography, are enhancing their students classroom experience with world travel. Anderton recently spent 11 days in Scotland with a group of geography students.

"It gave students a very different perspective about their own lives and their own societies," Anderton said. "They got to see a different way of doing things, a different way of organizing things culturally."

Eathorne took a group of geography students to Costa Rica to get a feel for the ecotourism there and to explore the national parks and culture.

College of Professional Studies

NMU names new head of Sociology and Social Work

Ira Hutchison joined the college as the new head of the department of Sociology and Social Work.

Hutchison taught at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte for the past 23 years. His general teaching interest is the sociology of marriage and family. For the last 20 years, almost all of Hutchison's research has been in the area of family violence.

Hutchison assumed the responsibilities of department head on Aug. 1.

Criminal Justice professor sought for program expertise

Professor Bill Waters recently returned from Durban Westville University School of Law in South Africa, where he was invited to teach a full semester course on alternative dispute resolution. While at the university, Waters consulted with the law school on the development of a criminal justice program. He also consulted with members of the criminal justice community in Durban.

Nursing gets a new name, new facilities

The Department of Nursing has become the School of Nursing. The School now offers nursing from the technical LPN level all the way through the master's level.

The School of Nursing also is in the final planning stages for their new Nursing Arts lab. The lab was recently renamed the Rettig Nursing Arts Lab for the School's first dean, Margaret Rettig. In addition to the new lab, nursing students will soon get to take advantage of the Pendil home suite, which will be a simulation of a home environment. This will enable students to practice nursing care in a home setting prior to going out and providing care for real patients in the community.

Walker L. Cisler College of Business

New program assists women-owned businesses in the U.P.

Northern Michigan University and area business leaders are sponsoring the international *ATHENA PowerLink* program in the Upper Peninsula.

This non-profit program is offered through the ATHENA Foundation. Its mission is to help women-owned businesses expand profitability through leadership and input from a volunteer advisory panel comprised of successful community professionals.

The Walker L. Cisler College of Business is a sponsor of the program.

According to the foundation, the "advisory panel concept" has had a major impact on many women-owned businesses. After completing the year of counseling provided by the advisory panels, participants have seen increases in their average gross revenues, number of employees, real estate and sales taxes paid, and size of occupied office space.

Interested women business owners can apply for the *ATHENA PowerLink* program based on their potential to effectively utilize an advisory panel and its ability to assist the business' profitable growth.

Established women business owner candidates must meet certain criteria to be considered and selected for the program.

College of Technology and Applied Sciences

Forging partnerships

The College of Technology and Applied Sciences is developing a partnership with Pioneer Surgical Technology to aid with an expansion of their manufacturing capacity. Bill Rigby, head of the Industrial Technologies department, is spearheading the partnership.

The healing force of art

By KRISTI EVANS

Sam Dozzi says art saved him from depression.

The Gwinn resident had always been interested in screen printing; he even dabbled in it professionally, producing t-shirts and cards. But Dozzi wanted to perfect the craft and explore its untapped potential. The motivation to finally fulfill this desire came from an unfortunate source: Polycystic Kidney Disease.

PKD is a disorder in which multiple clusters of cysts form on the kidneys and impair their function. Dozzi, 51, his brother and sister inherited the disease from their father.

"When I entered the final stages of renal failure, I figured it was my last chance to pursue my interest in screen printing," Dozzi said. "I needed something to get my mind off my health problems. I was brooding and making myself miserable."

Rather than wallow in self-pity, he enrolled in classes at Northern Michigan University. Now three of his creations are being featured in a national juried exhibition, *Art as Healing: Aesthetic Objects That Restore One to Health*.

It is an appropriate showcase for Dozzi and the 17 other artists assembled for the traveling collection. Each discovered that the creative process offers a means of recovery from a traumatic illness or incident.

"My art was a source of comfort; it kept me going," Dozzi explained. "Many times I had to push myself because I had little energy or I was in pain, but it was healing me mentally. Art won't improve my condition, but it improves my outlook."

During the fall semester Dozzi was on the NMU campus three times each week for printmaking sessions with NMU professor John Hubbard.

"Sam has come a long way," Hubbard said. "When he started, he had traditional, stereotyped ideas about images and didn't know much about the process. But his imagery has changed dramatically. He's tapping into his own ideas and bringing more originality to his work. He's researching new processes and techniques, and sometimes even shows me a few things. And he's a hard worker; he's a nice student to have around."

In addition to having his work accepted in a national exhibition, Dozzi also learned he won a purchase award worth up to \$500. He is not used to his creativity paying off financially.

"I don't do this to make money — just to keep occupied," he said. "I've given a lot of my work away. If someone likes something I've done, I give it to them. If they get enjoyment out of the image, that makes me feel good."

The Art as Healing exhibition — sponsored by the Printmaking Council of New Jersey — will travel to a number of hospitals and other venues through October 2002.



Sam Dozzi thinks of himself as an image technician. "There's beauty in all things," he said, "and sometimes you can tweak them to get even more out of them."

Edmund Fitzgerald tragedy inspires theater production

By KRISTI EVANS

Shelley Russell is afraid of water and doesn't know how to swim. Ironic, considering the Northern Michigan University professor and playwright derives so much creative inspiration from Lake Superior and its surrounding region.

Her latest effort is *Holdin' Our Own: The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald*. The play opened at NMU Nov. 8 — two days before the 25th anniversary of the tragedy. The title is based on the final words uttered by Captain Ernest McSorley before the Fitzgerald disappeared beneath the surface.

Russell said she never set out to write a play on the Edmund Fitzgerald. When a friend made the suggestion based on the approaching anniversary, she was preoccupied with other projects and hardly eager to take on a new one. Still, once presented with the idea, she couldn't get it out of her head.

"There's an odd dialectic surrounding the incident," she said. "On one hand, there's the argument that it was a matter of fate that the ship happened onto that storm. On the other hand, there are those who question why that ship was anywhere near that storm in the first place."

The debate and mystery surrounding the Fitzgerald is well documented. Russell scoured many books and articles during the course of her research. She and members of the cast also ventured aboard the Lee A. Tregurtha, a freighter that frequently docks in Marquette to take on a load of iron ore pellets.

The boat's captain, Jim Nuzzo of

the Interlake Steamship Company, served as a consultant on *Holdin' Our Own*. Nuzzo and a Fitzgerald crew member were classmates at the Great Lakes Maritime Academy.

"I like the perspective of the script because it personalizes the tragedy and the individual trauma as it developed," he said. "I think it's an honorable attempt to memorialize the individuals rather than glamorize the sinking."

The resulting production — a combination of historical accuracy and artistic license — features a cast of 14. Eleven compose a representational group aboard the Edmund Fitzgerald. The remaining three are on the Anderson, the boat in closest proximity to the Fitzgerald on that fateful evening.

"On the surface, you had a storm, a driven captain, and an experienced crew on this flagship vessel of the company; all of these factors combined to make it seem indestructible," Russell said. "Yet this was a ship with mechanical problems — two radars were out. The Whitefish beacon and light were also out. At some point, you can't help but look at this and ask about the real explanation for what happened."

There have been countless shipwrecks on the Great Lakes, but the Edmund Fitzgerald has had the most enduring impact. It happened recently enough that many people clearly remember reports of the Nov. 10, 1975, incident. It was also immortalized in the compelling ballad by Gordon Lightfoot.

Russell said it was impossible to



In Shelley Russell's mind, she has spent the past year on an ore boat, immersed in thoughts of what transpired during the final hours of that ill-fated voyage.

research the tragedy without being personally affected.

"During the day, it never let go of me," she said. "I looked at the lake and thought of the crew. As I played with my daughter, I thought of how some of those men wanted nothing more than to see their kids again."

Despite being haunted by Lake Superior, Russell plans to "write about her until the day I die." Her work often revolves around the natural surroundings and people of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. She wrote and directed *Haywire*, a musical about a U.P. logging camp that was performed at the Kennedy Center. She also was the creative force behind *Beacon on the Rock*, a musical about the diverse immigrant groups that settled the region.



Captain McSorley, played by NMU freshman Bill Holland, leaves the dock and boards the Edmund Fitzgerald for her final voyage.

Making waves

Northern professor is using radio to promote wellness in Africa

By KRISTI EVANS

Louise Bourgault's fascination with Third World countries traces back to her Rhode Island childhood. She attended a Catholic school, where missionary nuns narrated slide shows detailing their work in underdeveloped areas. She also enjoyed leafing through the pages of National Geographic and other magazines that offered glimpses of far-off places and people.

When Bourgault enrolled at Syracuse University as a teenager, however, her academic compass was pointing in a different direction. She originally planned to major in advertising.

"I became turned off by using media simply to sell products and measure ratings," she said. "We're talking about a very powerful tool and it seemed like it could be used for some higher purpose."

In the Syracuse University library, Bourgault experienced a life-defining moment when she stumbled upon a section on Africa. She sat amidst the stacks poring over books with the same anticipation and curiosity she experienced as a child with National Geographic.

"Somewhere in the midst of all this, I found out that the mass media were being employed in promotion of Third World wellness. I thought — Eureka — this is it; this is what I want to do!"

As a professor in the Communications and Performance Studies department at NMU, Bourgault now is able to combine her affinity for Third World countries — particularly those

in Africa — with her academic interests in communications and broadcasting.

She traveled to Liberia in 1989 with the U.S. Aid Project to help promote the expansion of rural radio.

"They had been broadcasting in Africa in major languages like Swahili, but the minor languages were excluded," Bourgault said. "It was a matter of making radio accessible to more Liberians by giving them a representative voice. The project promoted development and put 13 Liberian languages on the air."

On another U.S. Aid excursion, Bourgault spent three weeks in Mali leading a workshop on broadcast scriptwriting techniques and production ideas. She developed a manual that was distributed to the country's 90 non-governmental stations.

"The new radio system in Mali is deregulated," she said. "Most of the stations are low power and underfunded. They tend to be community oriented — similar to public access television. There are even women on the air now, which previously would not have happened."

Bourgault spent a portion of her 1999-2000 sabbatical in Durban, South Africa. She served as a scholar in residence at the University of Natal.



Louise Bourgault with research assistant John Momo in Mauwa, Liberia, West Africa.

While researching the use of performance art to address AIDS and other social ills in South Africa, Bourgault discovered Eager Artists. The troupe combines acting, singing, and dancing to raise awareness of various causes.

With the help of local individuals and organizations, Bourgault brought Eager Artists to Marquette in October.

"That experience taught me that the way to really impact students is to touch them personally and allow them to make human connections," she said. "I could have shown a video or had a guest lecture, but they wouldn't have been nearly as effective. My students were so buzzed because they had a whole week to connect with these performers. There was a big hugfest the last night they were in town."

One of her students is producing a video on the Eager Artists' visit. Others are working on a multi-media CD companion to the book she is writing titled, *Playing for Life: African Performance in the Age of AIDS*.