

## Keeping Track

*Have you published a book or released a CD lately? If so, send us a brief synopsis along with the book cover or CD jacket, and we'll print it in Horizons. Do you have some other exciting news? Let us know, and we'll print it in Horizons. "Keeping Track" is generated by your submissions and is open to all NMU alumni. Send your "Keeping Track" submissions to the Alumni Association, Northern Michigan University, 1401 Presque Isle Avenue, Marquette, MI 49855; e-mail to horizons@nmu.edu, or send via NMU's Web page [www.nmu.edu/alumni](http://www.nmu.edu/alumni).*

## Pre-1960s

**Melvin Holli '57** of River Forest, Ill., co-directed a conference at the University of Illinois at Chicago titled, "The Modern Presidency: FDR to Clinton." He moderated a panel discussion on presidential character and morality at the conference. He also led a session titled, "Results of Presidential Ranking Poll."

## 60s

**Joyce (Tenhunen) Kirkwood '60** taught for ten years in various schools districts and was actively involved in the gifted and talented program in the Lansing and MSU areas. Her husband **Phil Kirkwood '66** retired from the Michigan Department of Agriculture as manager of food services sanitation. He is a food service consultant for a cruise liner and is owner of Kirkwood and Associates in Lansing and Lake Worth, Fla.

**Belva (Erickson) Olson '64** of Daggett taught school for 30 years in the Stephenson area schools. She is a widow with three grown children and has lots of hobbies.

**Georgia Grile '67** of Ann Arbor is listed in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 2000*. She is an elementary school teacher in Milan.

**David Williams II '69, '70 MA** of Nashville, Tenn., was appointed vice-chancellor, general counsel, and secretary to Vanderbilt University, as well as professor of law. He is the first African American senior administrator at Vanderbilt.

## 70s

**Stuart Boland '71** of Calgary, Canada, says that he keeps busy at his job providing human resources services to employees across Canada. In his leisure time he enjoys golf, hiking, and mountain biking in nearby Banff National Park, and in the winter he enjoys downhill skiing. He is manager of human resources at McDermott.

**Joseph Gavlas '71** of Portland, Ore., is accounting manager with Great Western Chemical Co. [joe\\_gavlas@hotmail.com](mailto:joe_gavlas@hotmail.com)

**Alan Harju '72** of Buffalo Grove, Ill., has retired after 25 years combined service in the corporate headquarters of Allstate Insurance Company in Northbrook, Ill., and Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, Discover Card in Riverwoods, Ill. [alharju@mediaone.net](mailto:alharju@mediaone.net)

**David Mattson '72** of Cape Coral, Fla., retired from *The Wall Street Journal*.

**Laurence Trepany '72** of Clearwater, Fla., is an operations supervisor at the Pinellas County Water Treatment Plant. [ltrepany@peoplepc.com](mailto:ltrepany@peoplepc.com)

**Richard Gose '73** of Duluth, Minn., has been elected to the board of directors of the Mesaba Park Association in Hibbing, Minn.

**JoAnn (Bennie) Huber '73** of Tulsa, Okla., is a founding director of an outpatient mental health clinic family resource group. She gives speeches and retreats about mental health issues and spirituality. [Joannhuber@juno.com](mailto:Joannhuber@juno.com)

**Anna Taylor '73** of Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, was assigned as the deputy

commander of the Air Force ROTC northwest region providing oversight to Air Force ROTC programs at 37 universities in the Northeast United States.

**Dave Roberts '74** of Negaunee was selected by the Michigan Association of County Clerks as the Michigan County Clerk of the Year. He has been Marquette County Clerk since 1985.

**Wendy Rose '74** of Midland is currently active as worship leader in a local Episcopal Church. She says that she is putting to use the wonderful training she received from Dr. Margaret Haynes, a faculty member in the vocal program in the early 1970s.

**Susan (Strong) Youngberg '75, '80 MA** of Iron Mountain teaches business education and computer classes for Breitung Township Schools. She also is a part-time instructor for Bay de Noc Community College. Her husband is **Michael Youngberg '73**.

**Chet Jessick '75, '78 MA** of Petoskey was listed in *Who's Who Among American's Teachers 2000*. He is a professor at North Central Michigan College.

**Kim Van Osdol '75** of Menominee is president of community banking with Wells Fargo Bank Michigan. According to Kim, three out of the seven Michigan Wells Fargo presidents are NMU graduates. His wife is **Lauri (Lundquist) Van Osdol '74**. [vanfamily@cybrzn.com](mailto:vanfamily@cybrzn.com)

**Frederick Fisher '76, '79 MA** of San Antonio, Texas, recently completed two years as the training advisor to the Kuwait Ministry of Defense. He is now working as chief inspector on the Air Education and Training Command of the Inspector General's Team.

**Mark Lovell '77** of Pittsburg, Pa., is the director of the concussion evaluation programs for the NHL and NFL. He also works with a number of universities and high schools. He is a neuropsychologist.

**Roy Yelland '78** of Merritt Island, Fla., is fleet management supervisor for the

City of Cocoa Beach.

**Sandra Kammer '79** of Port Huron is an assistant divisional director of Adult and Family Services at St. Clair County Community Mental Health.

## 80s

**Russ Jokinen '80** of Brunswick, Ga., completed the customs basic enforcement school for new criminal investigators who are employed by the U.S. Customs Service. As an attorney for the Customs Service, Russ participated in the course to develop a better understanding of the agency's multifaceted law enforcement mission to prepare him for his teaching duties at the U.S. Customs Service Academy at Glynco, Ga.  
yoooper@iname.com

**Sheila (Greig) Balog '81, '82 MA** of Austin, Texas, is a graduate career specialist at the University of Texas at Austin, McCombs School of Business. Her husband **Bill Balog '83** is a senior staffing manager at Dell Computer Corporation in Round Rock, Texas.  
wbalog@aol.com

**Ron Caviani Jr. '81** of Huntington, W. Va., is the orchestra director in Cabell-Midland High School and has three middle-school string programs. He is the founder, director, and conductor for the Tri-State Youth Orchestra and is the vice president of Artists Resources for the Tri-State (ARTS) a non-profit organization that brings together non-profit performing and fine arts groups in the area. He also is the director of curriculum.

**Kent Eckstrom '81** of Fairport, N.Y., completed a master of science in human resources development at the Rochester Institute of Technology. He is the director of human resources for Bausch and Lomb.

**Karen (Apple) Gabrielsen '82** of New Berlin, Wis., is the owner of Victory Lady Fitness Centers of Wisconsin.

**David Meinert '82, '84** of Springfield, Mo., was promoted to full professor and



*“Guess what! While golfing at my local golf course in Charleston, South Carolina, I ran into a Randy Clark who attended NMU during the early 1970's. I spotted him because his son was wearing an NMU t-shirt. Randy was on the NMU basketball team prior to transferring to the College of Charleston. His wife is from Marquette and graduated from NMU in 1972. This is my first sighting of a NMU grad in Charleston since moving here in 1988!”*

JAKE JURECKI '87

Have you spied a fellow NMU alum lately? Let us know. We'd love to tell others about it.

You just never know where those NMU t-shirts are going to show up.

received a University Teaching Award at Southwest Missouri State University. He also serves as the Director of the MS CIS program that was recently ranked 8th in the nation by *Computerworld*.

**Mike Flanigan '83** of Aylett, Va., is director of E-Solutions with UPSHOT Marketing in Richmond, Va.  
mflanigan@upshotmail.com

**Michael Gaffney '83** of Hudson, Ohio, is a drive systems commissioning manager for Reliance Electric/Rockwell Automation, where he has worked for 16 years. He is married and has five children.

**James Jamison '83** of South Lyon is regional manager of Neodyme Technologies.

**Marilee Fogeltanz '84** of Green Bay, Wis., has been promoted to senior art director at The Goltz Seering Agency.

**Linda (Potter) Rosenkranz '84** of Nashville, Tenn., co-presented an all day workshop titled, "Total Risk Management for Climbing Walls," at the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association National Conference. He is the assistant director of campus recreation at Vanderbilt University.

**Colleen (Bitner) Sullivan '85, '94 MA** of Durham, N.C., is a training and development consultant at FMI Corporation. She is a doctoral candidate in adult education at North Carolina State University. csulliva@ntrnet.net

**Barbara (Beck) Updike '85, '94 MA** of Portage is assistant vice president for human resources at Western Michigan University. She worked in the NMU Personnel department from 1986-93.  
barbara.updike@wmich.edu

**Susan (Phare) Boback '86, '95** of Ishpeming is an administrative secretary at the U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame and Museum where she assists with shop decor and museum displays. She also works on their Web page and helps with grant writing.

**Michael Henderson '86** of Traverse City illustrated *Jungle Journey*, a children's book teaching children about grief. He is a Web developer at Big Net.

**Lisa (Harry) Sanders '86** of Inver Grove Heights, Minn., is the retail manager in the Nutrition Services Department at United Children's Hospital in downtown St. Paul.

# There's no place like home

DONNA BECKER '87

**I** "I'll never forget my very first lecture." So began **Donna (Maki) Becker '87**, as she reflected on the start of her career as a professor at her alma mater, Northern Michigan University. "There I was, standing in West Science," she recalled, "in the same place Dr. Fowler stood all those times. Except this time, I wasn't sitting there listening; I was giving the lecture. I remember standing there thinking 'This is so weird.' It was almost surreal."

A Marquette native, Donna's post-graduate work took her first to Michigan State University, then to Michigan Technological University, where she earned her doctorate. Later she moved to the University of Minnesota, where she spent time as a research associate in plant pathology. After all that, why return to her alma mater?

"To be honest, we had never really considered it at first," she said. "Jobs in my field are very hard to come by. Then, in the summer of 1998, I saw the biology department was advertising for an assistant professor and I applied. My husband and I were very excited when they offered me the position."

"We liked St. Paul, but we wanted a more moderate sized city. A lot of people grow up here and can't wait to get out. I was never like that. And my family has so much loyalty to Northern; I can't help but be proud to be back."

Along with husband **Howard Becker '87**, eight members of Donna's immediate family earned degrees at Northern Michigan University.

"I feel a strong attachment to Northern," she said. "Aside from the family aspect of it, the faculty at this school shaped me. They helped me realize who I was and what I wanted to do."

Like many alumni, Donna can directly point to certain professors who were instrumental in her career, although she readily admits, at the time, she did not realize it.



Donna Becker explains culture features to her students.  
Photo by Kim Marsh.

"Dr. Frank Verley made a huge difference in my life," she explained. "He caught me very early on in my studies in organic chemistry. I was struggling and he could tell. There is such a big difference between high school and college. No one had taken the time to show me how to study. He took that extra time. He made a lasting impact on my life."

Becker shares that story with her students as she helps them with their study habits.

"I tell them, 'You may not believe me now, but I am proof

that good study habits pay off.'"

She also points to several key interactions with Dr. Ron Parejko and Dr. Warren Vande Berg for setting her on the research path. "I saw their passion and enthusiasm for this field and it just ignited mine," she said. "I knew I wanted to be as excited about my work as they were about theirs. Once I was involved in the research end of this field, I just fell in love with it."

Becker hopes she can have a similar impact on the lives of her students.

"I know these students are not going to remember every single thing I say. My biggest goal is to get them excited about science. Let them see how exciting and stimulating this field can be and give them opportunities in research that will make them more marketable in the future. That's what my Northern professors did for me."

Many of those professors are now her colleagues. That was a little strange initially.

"I have to admit, it was a little odd at first," she acknowledged. "My first year was an adjustment. But now, it's fun to be back here. I have found it very rewarding working alongside the faculty who taught me. They treat me as a peer and know I am completely qualified. And I'm very fortunate to be working with such wonderful people."

—Deanna Hemmila '88

**Sharon (Rice) Pearson '87** of Lindwood, Minn., just relocated to a suburb of St. Paul and is a registered nurse at Health East, St. John's Hospital. She is married and has a son.

**Gretchen (Anderson) Zigman '89** of Maple Grove, Minn., is an on-line training supervisor with Wells Fargo in Minneapolis.

## 90s

**Walt Lindala '90** of Marquette has been named Network News Director for Great Lakes Radio, Inc, a four-station network based in Marquette. The network currently owns and operates WKQS-FM, WFXD-FM, WHCH-FM and WQXO-AM. His wife is **April (Kelly) Lindala '97**. news@greatlakesradio.org

**“ I can honestly say that I love my job. ”**

DARYL RADLEY '96

**Terry Klavitter '92** of Waterford is a residential care specialist supervisor in the adolescent sex offender unit of Havenwyck Hospital Auburn Hills. His wife **Tracy (Boylan) Klavitter '95** is an office administrator at JAE Electronics, Inc., automotive division in Livonia.

**Brent Olson '92** of Ann Arbor is a corporate auditor for General Motors Corporation in Detroit. He is based out of GM's corporate headquarters at the Renaissance Center, and his job involves worldwide travel. He also is taking flying lessons and anticipates having a private pilot's license in the winter of 2001. b.olson@excite.com

**John Zubiena '92, '94** of Milwaukee, Wis., is the director of human resources for the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. jzub@execpc.com

**Gregory Hayes '93** of Chicago, Ill., is a corporate attorney with Piper, Marbury, Rudnick, and Wolfe. gregory.hayes@piperrudnick.com

**Jodanne (Woodbeck) Hedrick '93** of Chesterfield was recently elected chief resident of obstetrics and gynecology at Mt. Clemens General Hospital.

**Vicki (Vietzke) Logan '94** of Lindstrom, Minn., released an instrumental CD of original music written and performed by herself titled, *Chasing Dreams*. Vicki owns her own graphics company. vicki@vickilogan.com; Web site: www.vickilogan.com.

**Bill Mays '94** of Sofia, Bulgaria, writes business and financial plans for private companies and privatization deals in Bulgaria and Croatia. bulginvest@hotmail.com

**Malissa Vegas '94** of Ludington was nominated for volunteer of the year.

**Andrew Brawner '95, '98 MA** of Pulaski, Wis., is a copywriter at The Goltz Seering Agency.

**Heather (Newburg) Ferguson '95** of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, is the learning center director and coordinator of university studies at Lake Superior State University.

**Jon Gordon '95** of Orange Park, Fla., graduated from law school. He is the head cross country coach at St. John's, and in his first season posted a 33-3 record and won the district championship for only the second time in the school's history. JonGordon9@aol.com

**Tom Isaacson '96** of Bothell, Wash., is a senior account manager at Rolling Thunder Marketing, a high-tech public relations agency near Seattle. tomi@rolling-thunder.com

**Daryl Radley '96** of Bossier City, La., is a district sales representative for Nalco Chemical Company. He works in the Pulp and Paper Division.

**Gregory Wood '96** of Pittsburg, Pa., is a first year doctoral student at the University of Pittsburgh.

**Patrick Crowley '97** of Muskegon graduated from the University of Dayton School of Law and accepted a position as an assistant prosecutor in Muskegon County. He is the proud father of a daughter, Kiera Delaney Crowley. His wife is **Sacha (Conklin) Crowley '97**.

**Kari (Ross) Marcotte '97, '99 MA** of Fort Wayne, Ind., presented "Critiquing Career Services Websites" at the Career Development Professionals of Indiana conference in Syracuse, Ind. She co-presented "Critiquing Web-Based Career Services Resources," at the Midwest Association of Colleges and Employers conference in Cincinnati, Ohio. She is the coordinator of employment services, academic counseling, and career services. Her husband is **Paul White '92, '95 MA**. marcotk@ipfw.edu

**Peggy (Toellner) Stickney '97** of Milwaukee, Wis., is currently in her third year of Medical School at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. pstickne@mcw.edu

**Kelly Wagner '98** of St. Paul, Minn., is a third year student at Hamline University School of Law in St. Paul. kelw@uswest.net

**Karen Cashman '99** of Quincy, Mass., is a French teacher in western Massachusetts and is a track coach to junior high students. She writes that she enjoyed her Olympic training at NMU.

**Bruce Herr, Jr. '99** of Newport received a promotion from the surgical post-op floor to the ICU as a registered nurse at Mercy Memorial Hospital.

**Jennifer Hurst '99** of White Lake is doing a year of national service with AmeriCorps NCCC. She is stationed at the Central Region Campus in Denver, Colo. Jenniferhurst76@hotmail.com

**Kathleen Johnson '99** of Ishpeming has worked more than 22 years at NMU,

## Keeping Track

where she is currently a supervisor in Dining Services, Quad I. She worked at WUPX when it was WBKX. She has held nine jobs at NMU with each successive job being a promotion.

## Deaths

**Hildegarde Johnson '20, '51**, Aug. 8, 2000, Marquette.

**Elizabeth (Taylor) Johnson '33**, Aug. 24, 2000, Farmington Hills.

**Elaine (Aho) Rutter '36**, Aug. 27, 2000, Marquette.

**Evelyn Berwin '39 MA**, July 7, 2000, Manistique.

**Clarice Brown '40, '67 MA**, Aug. 6, 2000, Ishpeming.

**Catherine (Baxter) Rubbo '45**, July 9, 2000, Iron Mountain.

**Wallace McNeil '49**, July 11, 2000, Sun City West, Ariz.

**James Webber '50**, July 14, 2000, Ontonagon.

**Daniel Sensiba '57**, July 24, 2000, Kimberly, Wis.

**George Gusick '59, '62 MA**, Feb. 2, 2000, Oshkosh, Wis.

**Miriam (Nathenson) Boyd '62**, Apr. 24, 2000, Marquette.

**Bud Arola '64**, Aug. 12, 2000, Calumet.

**Clayton "Mickey" Valle '64**, Aug. 30, 2000, Ironwood.

**Steve Gurchinoff '67, '69 MA**, Mar. 20, 2000, Stambaugh Township.

**Dennis LaMere '68, '73 MA**, Aug. 23, 2000, Negaunee.

**Peter Bill Jr. '70**, July 9, 2000, Rochester Hills.

**Peter Wolf '70**, Aug. 25, 2000, Rapid River.

**Patricia (Walsh) Landree '78**, July 17, 2000, Ontonagon.

**Michele (Morin) Lundberg '81**, Aug. 12, 2000, Green Bay, Wis.

**Timothy Zehren '81**, July 5, 2000, Manistique.

**Karen Skufca '82**, July 19, 2000, Douglas, Ariz.

**David Turenne '83**, Aug. 18, 2000, Marquette.

## Friends

Earl McIntyre, Aug. 19, 2000, Neenah, Wis., NMU employee, director of communications from 1965-1972.

Herbert Weza, Aug. 16, 2000, Marquette, NMU employee, custodian in the Maintenance Department.

## Marriages

**Marilyn Peterson '71, '74 MA** to Loren Eastman.

**Donna Keskimaki '72, '80 MA** to John "Jack" Leadbetter.

**JoAnn Ferguson '74** to Robert Strickland Jr.

**Frederick Fisher '76** to Tita Cabasag.

**Lara Uimari '90** to Scott Jackman.

**Connie Laitinen '91** to Lyle Vander Schaaf.

**Terry Klavitter '92** to Tracy Boylan '95.

**Peggy Poirier '92** to Todd Mosher.

**Briget Berquist '93** to Wayne Fields.

**Laura Fredrickson '93** to Bob Hendrickson.

**Gregory Hayes '93** to Mary Wiertel.

**Sara Beauchamp '95, '98 MA** to Dennis Van Abel.

**Moving? Promoted? Change Careers? Personal Updates? Exciting News?**

**TELL US SO WE CAN PUT IT IN 'KEEPING TRACK'**  
(and update our records)

Stay in touch with your alma mater! Tell us what's new in your life. (Attach a separate page if you have a lot to say or don't want to write this small.) Include a recent photo if you have one — we may be able to use it in *Horizons*.

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**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First M.I. Maiden

**Home Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Year of Graduation:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Major:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Business Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Occupation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Business Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Alumni Office, Northern Michigan University, 1401 Presque Isle Avenue, Marquette, MI 49855, e-mail to [horizons@nmu.edu](mailto:horizons@nmu.edu) or send via NMU's WWW page: [www.nmu.edu/alumni](http://www.nmu.edu/alumni).

## 'Mean Jean' the ski queen

JEANNIE THOREN '68

**J**eannie Thoren '68 discovered the "missing link" in the evolution of women's downhill skiing. The Marquette native and Alpine enthusiast was on the 1964 Junior National team, placed second in her class in the Birkebeiner ("thirty pounds ago"), and won the Pin Binding Downhill three years in a row in Sun Valley. Despite her success on the slopes, Thoren hit a plateau and knew something was wrong.

"I wanted to ski even better, but no matter how hard I tried or trained, I just couldn't pull it off," she said. "Then it occurred to me that the problem might be with the equipment. Men and women are built differently, yet they were using the same gear designed for the male body. You can't change anatomy, so it seemed logical to change the apparatus."

So Thoren began experimenting. She drilled different holes in her skis and put heel lifts in her boots. In customizing her own equipment, she realized other women were no doubt experiencing similar problems. She set out on a mission that took her to the mountains.

Thoren has spent the last 30 years researching the way women ski. She is a pioneer and crusader who revolutionized an entire industry with her Thoren Theory — the belief that equipment modification can help women skiers radically improve their technique.

"This isn't a feminist issue; it's purely anatomical," she said. "The principles make sense, and they've been applied to other sports. The women's basketball is smaller, and the seat is wider in women's cycling."

Thoren designed the first woman's ski in 1986 in Austria. European manufacturers — initially offended by her ideas — have come around now that marketing targeted toward female athletes is more common. She works with most of the major ski companies to promote the benefits of modified equipment.

"If I weren't a native Yooper, I probably wouldn't have



Jeannie Thoren Photo by Tim Hancock, *Ski* magazine.

put up with everything I did," she said. "I didn't let people tell me I was wrong when I came across something that didn't make sense. I somehow found myself trying to revolutionize the thinking of an entire industry."

A biology and chemistry major at Northern from 1964-68, Thoren originally planned to be a doctor. After graduation, she and a friend left for Switzerland for one year to "get skiing out of our blood." Thoren ended up spending four years in the country; her friend stayed six.

"I never made it to med school, but I use my Northern education every day, trying to figure out what other people's problems are and

helping them make adjustments," she said. "This whole thing started at home on Marquette Mountain and developed because of my education, my love of skiing, and my desire to stick with something."

Away from her Duluth, Minn., home nine months out of the year, Thoren travels the country with a 28-foot trailer in tow. It is filled with 100 pairs of skis and 80 pairs of boots. She holds clinics at ski areas to teach women how to diagnose and correct equipment problems for optimum control and performance. She is also a veteran ski and boot tester for two industry magazines.

Her efforts have been recognized. Thoren recently was named one of the top 100 most influential skiers of the century and one of the top 25 most influential people in skiing in the last 50 years by *Ski* and *Skiing* magazines, respectively. She was also the first inductee in the women's ski hall of fame established by *Skiing for Women* magazine.

It's a good thing Thoren never quite managed to get skiing out of her blood. Her life has been all downhill ever since she turned her favorite pastime into a 30-year passion; and she wouldn't have it any other way.

For more information on the Thoren Theory, visit [www.jeanniethoren.com](http://www.jeanniethoren.com)

—Kristi Evans

*Passionate for the Pasty, continued from page 13*  
played with us. To this day we have not tasted a pasty as good as hers!"

**Sue Hewitt '69, '72 MA, '86 MA** recalls her days of eating pasties in the car when she was a college student at Northern Michigan University.

"A group of us students used to carpool home on the weekends. Our journey lead us through Chatham, Michigan. It was usually around supertime, and we were usually hungry and always rather poor. Our favorite place to stop on cold winter Fridays was a gas station store for the purpose of picking up pasties. On many occasions, there would be no clerk present to sell the pasties. There was a warming box in the entry filled with fresh, warm pasties. The aroma was wonderful. You could pick out your own and put what you owed in a tin box. I believe the price of each was \$2.00, maybe less. I thank the cook for providing us with a satisfying home-like meal that could be eaten in the car."

Family tradition, days of youth, college days, and journeys beyond the Upper Peninsula are not the only places people's memories of the pasty have taken them. They also include the time-honored tales of love and marriage. **Joe Holman '78** of Marquette recalls his parent's courtship.

"My parents started dating in 1929 when my mom was 14. The first dish my mom ever made for my father was a pasty as it was the favorite meal my grandmother, who came from Cornwall, made. My mom proudly sat the pasty down in front of my dad; my dad said it looked like a crumpled boxcar. She cried. He ate the whole thing. I'm not sure she ever forgave him, but they were married for 51 years."

Gail Anthony of Marquette wrote about her "romance" with the pasty. "My husband's first career was as a

pasty maker in the Copper Country. He left for work every day for almost 10 years at 2:30 a.m. so the pasties would be ready for the noon rush. He also proposed to me 21 years ago after an intimate dinner of (you guessed it) pasties!"

It is evident that the Cornish pasty holds a very special place in the hearts and memories of the people who love them. Whether or not they are of Cornish descent, the people of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan have claimed the Cornish Pasty as "the number one U.P. food." There are many people whose lives take them far away from the U.P., but they never forget what the pasty means to them, their lives and their families, and they either search for a reasonable facsimile when not available, try to make their own if possible, or they just wait until they visit the U.P. again — and head straight for the nearest pasty shop!

It seems only fitting to conclude with the following poem that expresses our passion for the pasty. It was written by Henry Rogers, who came from Cornwall, England, to work as a Methodist pastor in the U.P. in 1896. His only living descendent, Mrs. Marilyn Frank, of Ironwood, Michigan, sent this poem to me.

How dear to my lip  
is a hot Cornish pasty,  
When fondly my missus  
presents it to view;  
It makes my mouth water  
to see it there steaming,  
The most delicious  
that I ever knew.  
The twist on its edges,  
the hole in the middle,  
The sight of it gives me  
an appetite keen;  
Someday they may find out  
a meal that is better,  
But up to this time it has  
never been seen.  
A good Cornish pasty,

a hot Cornish pasty,  
A big Cornish pasty,  
its praises I'll tell...

*Leslie Cory Shoemaker is an instructor of culinary arts for the College of Technology and Applied Sciences at NMU.*

*Leading by example, continued  
from page 21*

commitment to student leadership opportunities," said Duby.

The Dubys didn't want to just talk about how great they thought the SLFP was, they wanted to put their support in action.

"The student leader program has an impact on the students now while they attend NMU and throughout their lives," Duby said. "Betty and I are excited that we can play a small role in the future success of SLFP."

The SLFP, which began in 1981, is designed to develop competent, ethical and community-centered leaders. Over a two-year period, students participate in six component areas focusing on self-development and community involvement. The program has 339 graduates who have donated nearly 38,000 hours of community service.

Last year, Northern's SLFP program received national citation in the *Templeton Guide: Colleges that Encourage Character Development* and the recently published book *Powerful Programming for Student Learning: Approaches That Make a Difference*.

The campus portion of Northern's first-ever comprehensive campaign publicly kicked off on Oct. 12. The Duby gift is among 13 campus campaign gifts of \$10,000 or more.



# The elements of success

## A conversation with Mike Geary

By KRISTI EVANS

In his 13th season as head coach of the Wildcat women's basketball team, Mike Geary has never had a losing season. He is one of the most successful coaches in Division II women's basketball, and the most successful coach in NMU women's basketball history. How does he keep his competitive edge?

**Northern has lost some high-impact players to graduation over the last several years, yet you never seem to have a rebuilding year. You simply reload and set off on another season of 20-plus wins. Is this year's squad capable of continuing that pace?**

**MG:** I think we're capable. It is an

interesting challenge every year. We have been fortunate because we've had people step up when it counts. These are players who don't get the minutes when the veteran players are out there performing. They wait for their chance and work every day so that when their opportunity arises, they are ready. I think that's the case with this year's team.

**You are one of the most successful active coaches in Division II women's basketball, with a career winning percentage of .785, more than 300 career victories, and multiple tournament appearances. Is the national Division II crown the only thing missing?**

**MG:** We certainly would love to win it, but I think what I'm more after is consistency; to be a team that is in there every year. I think that those are the teams that end up winning championships. We see some teams that are in the tournament for the first time and the players are talking about "just being happy to be here." We don't want our players to be happy just to be there. We want our players to go in and perform, to compete and move on.

**How has the game changed in your tenure as head coach, in terms of the skill level and the style of play?**

**MG:** I think that the major change is in the athletic ability of the players — there is much more quickness. There was quickness when I first got started in the women's game, but usually in the point guard position. Now there are quicker post people. Three-point shooting has also improved and has become much more of a weapon.

**With your success, you've no doubt fielded offers to accept coaching assignments elsewhere — perhaps at the Division I level. Do you plan to move onward and upward some day, or are you content with riding out your career at Northern?**

**MG:** I'm a day-to-day person. As long as I have a team to coach, that's what counts. It's honestly very difficult for a male coach to move on in women's basketball. If I was fortunate enough to have this kind of success coaching a men's team, I think people would be coming to me and asking if I'd be interested in moving. But in the women's game, I've only had a couple of different schools offer me jobs. One was Division I and one was Division II. In both cases, the situation here was better.

**You've had many coaching highlights; is there one that particularly stands out?**

**MG:** I guess one of the highlights for me was the first season, when we took over a team that had gone 9-18 and we won 24 games and got to the NCAA tournament for the first time in Northern's history. That was an awful lot of fun. Tangibly, of course, getting to the Elite Eight a couple of times and getting to the Final Four are great things. But there is a lot more to it than that. My joy comes from being in the gym a couple hours a day with the players, working with them to improve and become the best players they can be.







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## **Why I'm a member of the NMU Alumni Association.**

# Gil Ziegler '60

*Alumni Association member since 1982.*

"I am proud to tell people my lifetime membership number is 0001. That means I have supported the Alumni Association since its inception. By helping NMU in this way, I really stay connected to what is happening. Many things about Northern are different than the days when I was on campus, and I like to keep up with those changes. One thing that really hasn't changed, though, since my days on campus, is the good, solid educational experience that students get. It has always been a great school and always will be. I give Northern some credit for the success I have seen in my professional career. Without the degree I earned there, I might not have been equipped with the skills I needed to create and grow my company. Northern is an important part of my life, and I still feel like I am an important part of Northern — that's probably what means the most to me."

—Gilbert Ziegler '60

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