

# Northern HORIZONS

WINTER 2003

THE MAGAZINE FOR NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY



# Northern HORIZONS

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

Last night, the temperature in Marquette reached a record low of 22 below zero. The night before last was balmy in comparison—only 15 below—but that didn't seem to bother a group of NMU students who gathered between Payne and Halverson Halls for a game of broomball.

Now I've lived here long enough that it didn't really surprise me to learn that many of these students were running around Payne/Halverson field in shirt sleeves. Heck, just the other day I saw a man who was jogging wearing shorts and a t-shirt and another man shoveling snow, who was wearing, well, less than that. But when someone from a substantially warmer climate asked me how on earth someone could run around in sub-zero temperatures without full Arctic gear, let alone live here during the winter, I didn't even pause before saying, "Things are just different up here."

I have to admit that part of me was just looking for a quick, easy reply, but it got me thinking about how living in the Upper Peninsula and working at NMU has changed my own perceptions of college students and college student life.

About six years ago, I interviewed an NMU faculty member for a profile and asked her what motivated her to stay at Northern. Without hesitation she said it was the students. She said that most students who come to study here are different. Heartier. Driven. Of course there are motivated, driven college students all over this country, but what sets NMU students apart, I think, is the environment.

Things *are* different up here. The temperatures are a little colder, the snow banks are a little taller, and the winters last a little longer. And the people who live here or come to live here, either as students, faculty, or in other professional capacities, can't help but be affected by the environment. NMU students graduate and go on to live their lives, but in many ways, regardless of where they go, this place stays with them.

The stories in this issue reflect that. Some of the people you'll read about inside have followed an unexpected or unpredictable path. Some have followed a predictable path that has taken them in an unexpected direction. But they all share a singular, driven, entrepreneurial spirit—the same kind of spirit that faculty member described to me all those years ago. The stories in this issue, I believe, embody the essence of what it means to be an NMU student and an NMU alum. Enjoy.

—KW

## Correction

On page 5 of the fall 2002 issue of *Horizons*, we incorrectly listed Mark Curtis under the College of Professional Studies. Mark is the dean of the College of Technology and Applied Sciences. —KW



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### 10 Two men and a truck

In high school, **Brig '86 BS** and **Jon '88 BS Sorber** were like most of their peers, holding part-time jobs to earn extra spending money. The brothers probably never imagined that their home-grown high school business would evolve into a multi-million dollar company.

### 13 Harvesting the entrepreneurial spirit

Political science professor Bill Ball has spent four of last five summers in Thailand teaching classes and studying how governments in the region are working to help migrant workers pull themselves out of poverty through training and incentives for starting small-scale industrial operations.

#### ON THE COVER

Peter and **Therese (Greene) Bartlett** leading their team of sled dogs at the 2002 Idita-rider, a fundraiser that allows fans to bid on the opportunity to ride with a musher for the first 11 miles of the race. The man riding on the Bartlett's sled paid \$800 for the experience. Photo by Steven Nowers.

## NMU enrollment hits 9,000

Northern Michigan University's final fall enrollment hit 9,000 for the first time since 1981.

This represents a gain of 423 students, or 4.9 percent, over fall 2001. Credit hours have also increased to 114,000 this semester, up more than 5,000 credit hours, or 4.6 percent, over last year.

"This has been a long recovery from the closure of K.I. Sawyer (Air Force Base) and its devastating impact on enrollment, but we have completely overcome those losses," said Paul Duby, associate vice president for institutional research.

Duby added that Northern is "on track" to reach its future enrollment goal.

"It will not be easy, but the range of 10,400 by 2005 is attainable with an all-out effort from the university community," he said.

## Olson Library receives excellence award

NMU's Lydia Olson Library was selected as a runner-up for the state's top library award.

The Library of Michigan Foundation awarded the 2002 State Librarian's Excellence Award to the Genesee District Library. Fremont District Library and Olson Library were awarded citations of excellence as the runners-up.

The selection panel praised the library staff and cited its unique role in the implementation and ongoing support of Northern's technology initiative. "The library and its librarians assumed the leadership in a new initiative, which certainly is not a traditional library function," according to the selection committee's nomination review.

# A new accreditation model

NMU officially accepted into AQIP program

Northern Michigan University has received notification from the Higher Learning Commission of its acceptance into the Academic Quality Improvement Project (AQIP) and has received an extension of its accreditation until 2009-10.

The notification officially moves Northern from the traditional Higher Learning Commission (formerly North Central Association) model of accreditation to the AQIP program, a subdivision of HLC. Accreditation, as with the previous NCA accreditation, remains in effect as long as NMU remains active in the organization and demonstrates commitment to quality improvement. AQIP differs from the HLC model in its focus on "continuous quality improvement."

"Its focus is not on a small committee documenting what we've done in the past 10 years but rather on broad-based consensus on what we plan to do in the future," said

Leonard Heldreth, associate provost for academic affairs and NMU's AQIP coordinator.

"You work on projects on a three-year cycle, not 10 years, which makes more sense for today's constantly changing society," he added.

Northern has already completed two phases of the AQIP accreditation process—a campus-wide online survey of faculty and staff last September, and a "campus conversation day" in November, which was attended by more than 500 NMU faculty and staff members and generated more than 79 "provocative proposals" for improvement.

Of the 79 proposals created at the campus conversation, five to eight will be selected by NMU and presented to AQIP and other schools for criticism and response in February. From these, three will be selected as NMU's "quality improvement projects" to be worked on over the next three years.

## Hot off the NMU Press

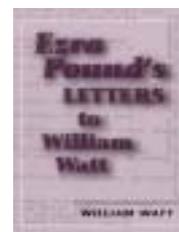
Ezra Pound fans and literature enthusiasts can now experience what it would be like to hold a letter from the poet in their hands courtesy of a book recently published by the NMU Press.

*Ezra Pound's Letters to William Watt* is a collection of personal correspondence written by Pound from 1956-58 while he was institutionalized in St. Elizabeth's Hospital insane asylum. While other volumes of Pound's letters are published in facsimile, this book appears to be

the first to print his letters in their entirety and in their original form—complete with Pound's idiosyncratic spelling

and punctuation and his hand-written corrections and notes between the lines and in the margins.

The second book published recently by the NMU Press is *Poems Sacred and Profane*, a collection of Watt's own poetry.



# Committee formed at Northern to recommend cost-saving measures

In response to a recently-approved executive order that trims \$1.3 million from Northern's state appropriations for Fiscal Year 2003, which ends June 30; the possibility of additional executive orders between now and September; and dim appropriations prospects for the next fiscal year, NMU established a Budget Alternatives Committee on campus.

The BAC is charged with recommending budget reductions, cost avoidance opportunities, operational savings, and identifying additional revenue that total \$8.5 million for Fiscal Year 2004 and \$4.25 million for Fiscal Year 2005. The committee will deliver its recommendations to President Judi Bailey by March 1.

The Northern Michigan University Board of Trustees heard a presentation on preliminary budget-cutting recommendations as part of its Dec. 12-13 meeting.

"We outlined our tentative plan for absorbing the impact of the executive order so that we can achieve a balanced budget," said Mike Roy,

NMU vice president for finance and administration. "It involves eliminating one and a half positions that are vacant, decreasing the designated appropriations to university-supported programs, and reducing the central budget and divisional budgets."

Personnel savings through the two positions and the existing Severance Incentive Plan will amount to \$348,000. Roy said administrators are proposing a 2.5 percent across-the-board reduction in appropriations designated specifically for such operations as the Superior Dome, the U.S. Olympic Education Center, and Northern Initiatives. The combined reduction will be about \$44,000.

Central budget reductions—in funds for capital equipment replacement and learning technologies—will amount to \$400,000. Divisional budgets will also be adjusted downward by a total of \$100,000, in proportion to their percentage of the base budget, as follows: academic affairs, \$72,800; finance and administration, \$21,600; and the presi-

dent's division, \$5,600.

Roy added that some of the adverse financial impact of the executive order will be offset by increased tuition revenue from enrollment growth that exceeded projections. The additional tuition and fee revenue will account for \$407,000 of the reduction.

The recommendations were presented to the board for information and discussion purposes. However, as the NMU board reconvened for the second day of its meeting, members learned that a supplemental appropriation bill passed in Lansing. The bill, which has since been signed by the governor, restored 0.5 percent in one-time funding to higher education—\$260,000 to NMU.

Gavin Leach, associate vice president for finance and planning, said NMU will adjust its budget-cutting proposals based on the supplemental development. A revised budget, including final cost-saving proposals, will be presented to the board for approval at its February meeting.

## Have you been to campus lately?

If not, your next visit to NMU might come sooner than you think. If you'd like to see the latest pictures of campus, Northern's Web site now offers a virtual campus tour in an effort to showcase NMU facilities and the campus environment for those outside the Marquette area.

The tour features building photos and information. There are also 360-degree panoramas of some facilities that allow users to rotate the camera angle and zoom in or out.

Daric Christian, NMU associate professor of art and design, developed the tour. It is available at [www.nmu.edu/tour](http://www.nmu.edu/tour).



# College updates

## College of Arts and Sciences

### Woodcock study involves NMU faculty, students

A three-year study on the survival, habitat use, and fall movements of the American woodcock in Upper Michigan recently received a \$201,000 grant.

NMU biology professor John Bruggink is the principal investigator for the Michigan study. His work will represent part of a regional effort, with parallel studies in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The research will help determine the influence of hunting on the woodcock, a migratory game bird. Bruggink said the bird's population has declined by 1.6 percent per year since 1968.

The research will involve attaching transmitters to woodcocks in areas that are open to woodcock hunting and areas that are closed to it. The birds will be monitored throughout the fall, and the causes of any deaths will be determined when possible.

In addition to a biology graduate assistantship the grant helped to fund, several NMU undergraduate students are participating in the project by taking a field experience course.

The study was made possible by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Webless Migratory Game Bird research program, and NMU.



American woodcock

### Chemistry professor spends 10 months at Johns Hopkins

During her 10-month sabbatical at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, NMU chemistry professor Suzanne Williams was exposed to the process of getting new pharmaceuticals to the market. She also became familiar with state-of-the-art instruments that will allow her to design experiments for NMU students and her own research projects.

To set up her sabbatical, Williams contacted the head of a laboratory investigating potential drug candidates for HIV. Based in the biology department at Johns Hopkins, this lab has a contract with a pharmaceutical company.

"HIV virus proteins mutate often and change form, so they are always looking for new drugs that will trigger the right response," she said. "I used thermodynamics to study drug binding to virus proteins. In order for a drug and protein to interact effectively, they need favorable energy. The principles of energy flow dictate the success of a drug."

Williams used a calorimeter to measure heat exchanges. NMU had recently obtained two of these instruments, so Williams was eager to gain some hands-on expertise in their function and capabilities—expertise she could share with students and colleagues.

"While I was at Hopkins, progress was made toward a new drug," Williams said. "A molecule was designed that, in theory, would work as a drug against an HIV protein."

Scientists in Tokyo then synthesized the drug molecule and sent it back to Johns Hopkins to test its



Suzanne Williams

interaction with the viral protein.

"It was a great experience," Williams said. "I plan to share as much as I can with my students because they love examples of the practical applications of what they are learning in the classroom."

### NMU Center for Economic Education revitalized

Northern Michigan University has revitalized its Center for Economic Education in the hope of preparing Upper Peninsula youth to become effective participants in the global economy. As a member of a state-wide delivery network coordinated by the Michigan Council on Economic Education, the NMU center will develop and implement courses, workshops, and materials for K-12 students.

"We are going to help teachers introduce economics into the curriculum by incorporating the vocabulary into activities they are already completing in the classroom," said Tawni Ferrarini, NMU economics professor and center director. "Economics dominates every aspect of our lives. It's not just part of politics, business, or commerce. It's also strategic thinking through life in terms of the costs and benefits of anything we do."

In October, Ferrarini received the Outstanding Rookie Award from

the National Association of Economic Education. Two months earlier, she assumed the role of center director.

NMU first established a center for economic education in the early '80s. Ferrarini said the revitalized version will enhance Northern's presence in and impact on the Upper Peninsula.

### College of Professional Studies

#### Clinical laboratory sciences program reaccredited

Clinical laboratory sciences at Northern Michigan University has been reaccredited at the bachelor's and master's level for seven years—the longest term available. A site visit report submitted to the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences failed to identify a single deficiency, concern, or suggestion for improvement.

NMU is one of only a few schools in the country to offer both associate and bachelor's degrees in CLS. In 1997, it was singled out by the national publication, *Laboratory Medicine*, for setting a standard that enables students to climb the "perfect career ladder."

"The real selling point for our program is that all of the credits students earn in the first two years are directly applicable to the four-year degree because we only have to articulate within this one institution," said Lucille Contois, CLS director.

An added strength is Northern's affiliation with the world-renowned Mayo Clinic. Both Mayo and Marquette General Health Systems support the baccalaureate program.

Affiliations for the associate degree include several Upper Peninsula hospitals and one medical facility in Duluth. Contois said the department enrolls about 100 students.

#### Sociology and social work department offers new minor

The sociology and social work department at Northern Michigan University began offering a 22-credit gerontology minor this semester.

According to Patricia Cianciolo, associate professor in the sociology and social work department, many schools are developing gerontology programs due in large part to the growing numbers of older adults in our society.

In addition to the job opportunities in the area, Cianciolo said that a gerontology minor can help dispel myths and stereotypes about aging and the elderly.

#### Advanced law enforcement diploma now available

The NMU criminal justice department began offering an advanced law enforcement diploma this semester. This adds a credential for those who successfully complete the existing in-service training available to certified police officers and other law enforcement personnel.

Participants will earn a diploma after accumulating 16 credit hours.

### College of Technology and Applied Sciences

#### HVACR program keeping pace with rapidly changing field

NMU students in the heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration program are learning about the impact of technology on the field.

"HVACR today isn't what it was when their parents might have gone into the profession," said Eugene Stenberg, professor in the technology and occupational sciences department. "Every day there is something new."

In order to keep current, students preparing to graduate from the HVACR program have been attending seminars put on by Temperature Systems, Inc., of Green Bay. The seminars deal with everything from modifications of current products to the handling of products just hitting the market.

"When I started in this field at 19, I learned what I didn't already know by doing my job every day," Stenberg said. "It isn't like that anymore. It's all computer controlled now. Those who know how to work with the new technology are going to succeed."

### College of Business

#### Business professor receives national honor

NMU business professor Carol A. Johnson has been named the 2002 National Business Education Association Teacher of the Year.



Carol Johnson

The committee praised Johnson for being instrumental in replacing the NMU office administration bachelor's degree program with an office systems program.



# The roa

**T**herese (Greene) Bartlett '91 BS calls her home a glorified doghouse. Located in Willow, Alaska, it's a single room—16x24—with plank flooring, no running water and, until just recently, no electricity. The furnishings are basic—an oil stove, refrigerator, bed, sofa, chair, and desk. Pots and pans hang from the ceiling, dog harnesses hang from the walls, and dozens of dog booties dry by the stove. Life in Alaska is simple by necessity. It's a life not many would choose. But if you ask Therese, she'll tell you she's living an ideal life in an ideal location. She and her husband, Peter, built their cabin and started Mawg-Dawg Kennel with the goal of becoming a competitive Iditarod kennel.

The Iditarod—popularly called The Last Great Race on Earth—was started in 1973 by Joe Redington, Sr., and is the longest sled dog race in the world. Although

the official length of the race is 1,049 miles, the true miles run around 1,150. The race is held the first Saturday in March and alternates annually between a southern and a northern route. It takes each team of 12 to 16 dogs and their musher anywhere from 10 to 17 days to travel from Anchorage, in south central Alaska, to Nome on the western coast of the Bering Sea.

The most common type of dog you'll find running in the Iditarod is the Alaskan Husky, which is the type of dog the Bartletts breed. While not a recognized American Kennel Club breed, many mushers think of the Alaskan Husky as more of a hybrid dog. Some call it a Siberian Husky with part setter, wolf, sight hound, or any other breed of dog that would give it speed and endurance for racing. Regardless of what goes into an Alaskan Husky, they all share two traits: they are all native to Alaska, and they all love to run—and run fast.

# d to Iditarod

By KAREN WALLINGFORD '02 MA

Had you asked Therese ten years ago what her ideal life would look like, sled dog racing probably would have been the furthest thing from her mind. After graduating from Northern with a degree in mathematics, she went on to get a master's in applied mathematics from Michigan Tech. While at Tech, she went to a talk about statistical research on whale populations off the coast of Alaska and thought that would be an interesting area to pursue, so she changed her concentration to statistics. She was well on her way to a career in mathematics education, working as a mathematics instructor at both St. Norbert's College in Wisconsin and NMU, when a seemingly arbitrary decision set her life on a very different course.

In 1995, she went to see the U.P. 200, just as hundreds of other spectators like her do each year. It was her first exposure to sled dog racing, but for Therese it became more than just something to do on a Friday night. She followed the race through and then volunteered at a local kennel to learn more about the sport. She learned about caring for and training the dogs and got her first experience riding on a dog sled.

"My adrenaline was pumping—I was amazed at how much power a dog team has," she said. "It always looked so easy, but those dogs are really strong and love to run. After I spent some time doing it, I was just hooked."

But it was more than just the adrenaline rush that drew Therese into the sport—it was also the symbiotic relationship she felt with the dogs.

"When you're out in the wilderness, it's quiet, and it's just you and the dogs. They're relying on you, and you're relying on them. Sometimes it just takes a look and you know you're communicating. And to have a whole team doing that is really awesome."

So in 1997, after Therese had learned that Libby Riddles was looking for someone to help manage her dog kennel, she packed up and headed north to Knik, Alaska.

With Riddles, she would be learning from one of the best. In 1985, Riddles became the first woman to win the Iditarod and has run the race a total of six times. In addition to her Iditarod experience, she has raced in Europe's largest

sled dog race, the Alpirod, and has done both sprint and mid-distance racing. Among the many lessons gleaned from Riddles' war stories, Therese learned the importance of preparation and foresight while out on the trail.

"You might think you are only going on an hour run, but in the Alaskan wilderness, anything can happen. I left Libby's place with an appreciation of Alaska and the beauty and diversity the state has to offer."

Three months after moving to Alaska, Therese met her future husband, Peter, who had just moved from Maine to start his own Iditarod kennel. Peter was also in impressive company, staying with Joe Redington, Sr., the father of Iditarod.

After working with Riddles for a year, Therese joined forces with Peter and started Mawg-Dawg Kennel in 1998. The couple was married in December of 2000. While some mushers will develop a kennel by purchasing an entire team, the Bartletts wanted to breed their own. They started by purchasing a few key dogs from some of the top mushers in the area and now have a thriving kennel of more than 60 dogs. Therese said it's a longer process, but definitely worthwhile.

"We start training the dogs from the time they're puppies," she said. "We play with them, take them for



Therese Bartlett with brothers Waylon and Willie.

# Meet the Mawg-Dawg Dogs

## Sting (lead)

*A 5-year-old, 45-pound wonder, Sting is the top dog in the kennel. He's the main leader along with Inca. He ran lead the entire Iditarod 2002.*



## Inca (lead)

*A 5-year-old, 46-pound leader, Inca is tough as nails with speed to boot. She and Sting make a great pair.*



## Dover (lead or point)

*A 3-year-old, 40-pound leader, Dover is a real crowd pleaser. She looks like a puppy, but works really hard. She's an exceptional young dog.*



## Emmie (lead)

*A 5-year-old, 47-pound leader, Emmie has run the Iditarod three times.*



## Gremlin (point)

*A 4-year-old, 47-pound, perfect specimen of a sled dog. He was a nice surprise on Iditarod 2002—the farther he went, the better he got.*



## Dog Naming

*In order to keep track of their growing number of dogs, the Bartletts developed a theme system to name each litter. Puppies from one litter, for example, were named after each of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.*

walks, develop their minds. We bond with them, so they know everything about us and we know everything about them.”

Training the dogs involves a combination of strength, endurance, and speed training. The dogs start running in harnesses when they are around 6 months old and generally are ready to participate in some of the shorter, one- and two-hundred mile races when they are between 1 1/2 to 2 years old. The ideal Iditarod racing dog is anywhere from 3 to 6 years old although Therese said it's not unheard of to have some 9-year-old dogs still racing.

Not only do the dogs need to be physically fit, the mushers have to be in top physical condition as well. Maintaining control of the team and maneuvering the sled around corners and trees requires both upper- and lower-body strength. Therese said the number one rule for any musher is to not lose his or her team, so maintaining control of the team is crucial.

“If you lose a team, it can be very dangerous for the dogs because then they have no resistance—they're going on their own momentum. If one of the dogs slips or gets tangled, it can do some serious damage, so you always try to hang on no matter what.”

“No matter what” means that occasionally a musher spends some time dragging behind his or her team. Therese admits that she has spent a fair amount of time dragging behind her team, but she has only lost a team once during a training run. The team was quickly recovered, and no damage was done.

After six years of breeding, raising, and training dogs, the Bartletts finally realized their dream and entered Peter in the 2002 Iditarod. While Therese also has her eye on running the race, financing the kennel, not to mention the race itself, has prohibited the couple from entering two teams. In addition to the \$1,500 the Bartletts spend each month on dog food, the combined cost of the entry fee, supplies, food, and equipment needed to run the Iditarod can total up to \$25,000. Most successful mushers have corporate sponsors to help defray the majority of the race expenses, and while the Bartletts are continually sending out proposals, they have yet to secure such sponsorship.

## Dog Mushing Terms

**Lead dog or leader:** The dog or pair of dogs that run in front of the others.

**Point dog:** Dog or dogs that run directly behind the leader. Sometimes referred to as swing dogs.

**Wheel dogs or wheelers:** Dogs placed closest to the sled. Wheel dogs pull the sled out and around corners or trees.

**Team dog:** Any dog other than those described above.

Once they are able to get a corporate sponsor, both Therese and Peter will be able to train full time with their dogs, which will also increase their chances for success in the Iditarod. In addition to a number of smaller sponsors, Therese helps finance the cost of the kennel, race entry fees, and the necessary equipment by working full-time as a paralegal in Anchorage. She trains with the dogs every night after work. Peter trains full time with the dogs in the winter, and during the summer, he supplements the couples' income by taking on construction jobs.

If there's one constant in the Iditarod, it's that anything can happen, and Peter experienced the cruelty of the unexpected first hand during Iditarod 2002. Part way through the race, he lost his team.

"There are some really dangerous stretches of trail in that race, and one of them is very icy—you're going back and forth on these switchbacks. He saw a tree coming and he knew he was probably going to lose the turn. He hit the tree, flew back about five feet, and the team was gone. Your heart just sinks," Therese said.

Fortunately a musher ahead of Peter saw his team coming with no driver and was able to secure his own team so he could stop and secure Peter's. Peter recovered and caught up to his team, finishing the Iditarod in 26th place—an impressive finish for a rookie.

The Bartletts are hoping to improve their standing in Iditarod 2003, but this year Alaskan mushers are at a distinct disadvantage. An unseasonably warm winter has caused the cancellation of a number of races that mushers use to train their Iditarod teams and has even resulted in moving the start of this year's Iditarod from Anchorage to Fairbanks. Right now, Therese said, it's a game of wait and see.

Developing an Iditarod kennel takes a lot of work and dedication, but Therese said she wouldn't have it any other way.

"When you get home and play with your puppies, pet your dogs, and go out on a run, you forget all that work, and it's just fun." ■

For more information about Mawg-Dawg Kennel, Therese and Peter maintain a Web site at <http://quicksitebuilder.cnet.com/mawgdawg/home/>.



### Max (wheel or team)

A 3-year-old, 60-pound powerhouse. Max is a great wheel dog with a hearty appetite. His vocal "cheerleading" was a real morale booster during Iditarod 2002.



### Raphael (team)

A 2-year-old, 47-pound dog. Raphael is one of the best of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle litter.



### Shredder (lead or point)

A 2-year-old, 50-pound dog, Shredder is fast and has a crazy attitude. He is learning to run lead, but is an asset anywhere in the team.



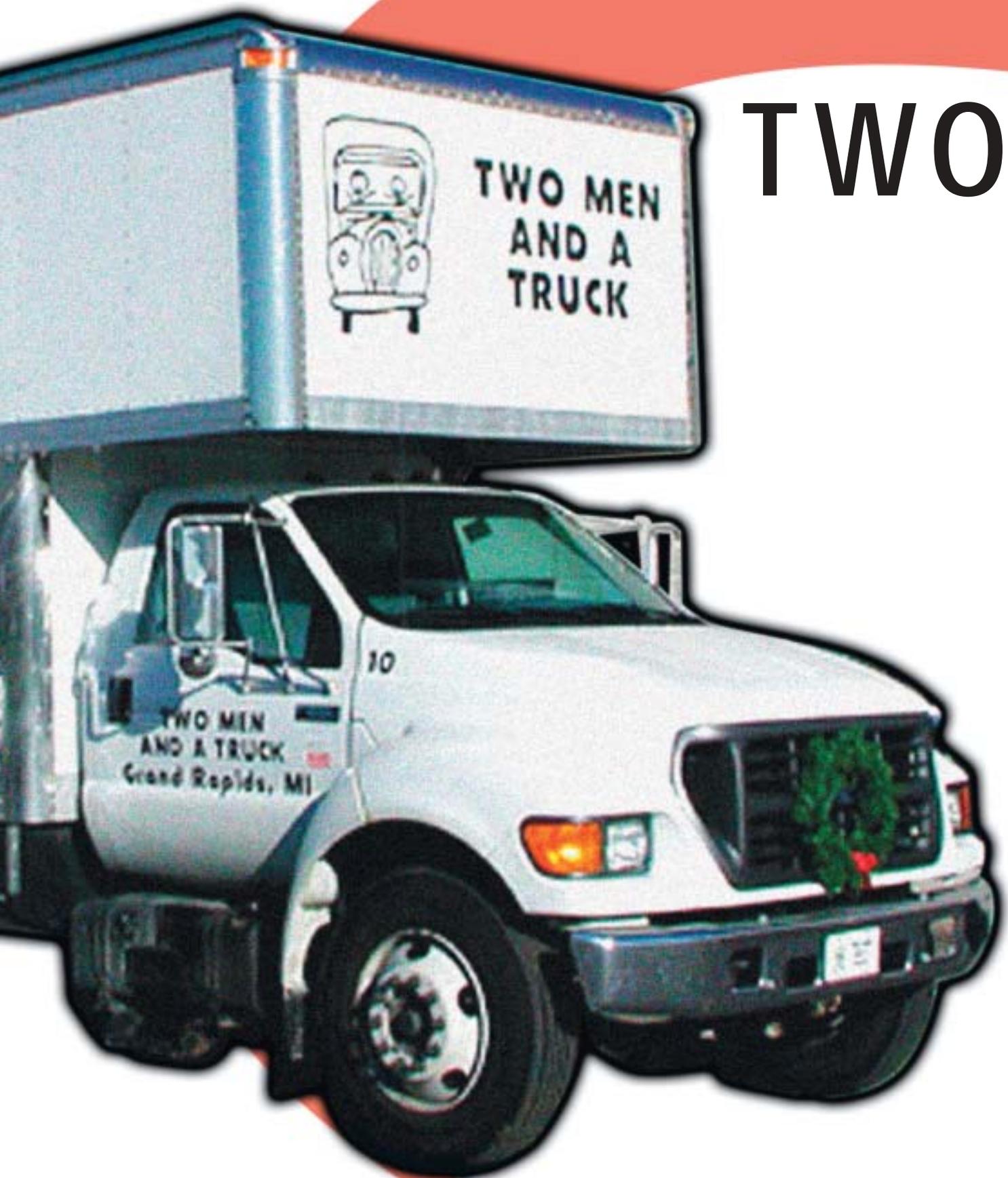
### Snap (team)

A 3-year-old, 54-pound team dog, Snap is the comedian of the kennel. He loves to "attack" his food bowl. He keeps everyone smiling.



### Tango (team)

A 5-year-old, 47-pound team dog. Tango is friendly and fun to have out on the trail. She is always doing her job. She finished Iditarod 2002.



# TWO

# MEN... AND A TRUCK

By KRISTI EVANS

**W**hen brothers **Brig '86 BS** and **Jon '88 BS Sorber** started hauling brush and trash to earn spending money in high school, they had little idea that their humble entrepreneurial venture would spawn a multi-million dollar residential and commercial moving company. Or that they would both attend Northern to pursue diverse careers, only to see their paths make a full circle back to the family business in Lansing. Or that a service originally carried out from the bed of a 1967 Ford pickup would expand to a fleet of 750 vehicles.

Perhaps you've seen their likenesses on the identifiable white trucks. Actually, they bear little resemblance to the stick figures in the company logo, but the Sorber siblings are the original Two Men and a Truck.



Most new business enterprises require some amount of start-up capital. For Brig and Jon, it was \$200 to purchase the green pickup from Michigan State University Extension.

“We used to have lawnmowers in back and people started asking us to haul things for them,” Brig recalled. “We put a sign up, posted an ad on a board at Meyer Thrifty Acres, and ran ads in the local paper. Originally we called ourselves Men at Work (after the '80s Australian band), then switched to Two Men and a Truck.



“Our mom hand drew the logo on a napkin and put it in a cookie jar.

After every job, \$3 went into that cookie jar for advertising.”

They had a winning formula: a cash business with very little overhead. Jon said he and Brig made better money than their friends who had paper routes, worked in restaurants, or held other typical school-age jobs. After hauling brush and trash for a year or two, they moved on to appliances and furniture.

“When we went to college, the calls kept coming in,” Jon said. “Our mom hired a couple of guys and bought a bigger truck to keep the service going. When we went home for breaks, we always had a job to go back to.”

Brig, who is the elder brother by three years, earned a geography degree in land use regulation from NMU. After a brief return to Lansing with lingering questions about what to do with his life, Brig moved back to Marquette. He worked at Prudential while his wife, **Francine (Balduc) '86 BS**, established Two Men and a Truck in Marquette. His mother had franchised the business in 1989. This was about the same time Jon began working for the General Motors loss prevention program after graduating with a dual major in law enforcement and security administration.

Both men eventually answered the call to return to the moving business, which had blossomed into a full-fledged family affair. Their mother was the CEO and a member of the International Franchise Association board of directors. Though no longer involved in the

day-to-day operations, she maintains a busy public speaking schedule. Their sister is the company president. Brig is the head of the licensing department, in charge of bringing in new franchises. Jon is president of the Lansing and Grand Rapids franchises. Each occupies a seat on the Two Men and a Truck board.

Brig said working in close proximity has strengthened, not strained, the family dynamic. “You have to have total trust in each other. We maintain that trust by being honest and keeping the lines of communication open,” he added. “We are constantly bouncing ideas off each other.”

service and two other factors: their knack for surrounding themselves with intelligent people who share their faith in the system; and a collective perseverance that enabled them to rise above the naysayers.

“There were a lot of people who said it couldn't be done,” Brig explained. “Jon and I got the business started. When my mom left her state job after more than 20 years, cashed in her 401Ks and got raked in taxes in order to invest in keeping it going, people thought she was crazy. When my wife Fran and I started the Marquette franchise, they said it wouldn't work.



Two Men and a Truck President Melanie Bergeron (left), Brig Sorber, Jon Sorber, and founder/CEO Mary Ellen Sheets. In the middle is the company mascot, “Truckie.”

Two Men and a Truck has grown to 118 franchises in 25 states. It will soon expand internationally to Taiwan, and officials are exploring similar options in Australia and New Zealand.

When asked what accounts for the company's steady ascent, the Sorbers credit the company's core philosophy of top-quality customer

“When the company reached a low point due to growing pains and other difficulties, my sister came on board to tighten up the franchise agreements. Basically, they thought our family didn't stand a chance of breaking into the moving market because it was so entrenched. But our goal was simple: take something and do it better. That's what we did.” ■

# Harvesting the entrepreneurial spirit

By KRISTI EVANS



While researching family farm operations in the Philippines several years ago, political science professor Bill Ball struck up a conversation with his motorcycle taxi driver. The man had obtained his cycle through a government training program but lived on a subsistence-level rice farm with 47 members of his immediate and extended families. He invited Ball for a visit.

“I told them they should consider expanding and starting a piggery because the government would give them the money for the first two breeder pigs,” Ball said. “They followed through and were doing pretty well until a flood and pneumonia struck. The government doesn’t usually offer welfare, but it is pretty lenient when people have a disaster. The family was able to keep the piggery going.”

Such incentive-based entrepreneurial programs are not unusual in the region. Ball has traveled to Thailand four out of the last five summers to teach business administration and human resource management courses on a part-time basis. When he’s not in the classroom, he shifts into political economist mode, studying government incentives for small-scale industrial operations.

Ball said that subsistence-level rice farmers in Thailand spend two months per year planting and harvesting, leaving 10 months when they could be doing something else to provide additional income for their families.

“Many don’t because they lack the skills or the start-

up resources,” he said. “The government recognizes this and offers training programs to teach them a new skill.”

For example, many Thais are reluctant to master the craft of weaving because they cannot afford a loom. So the government began offering a week-long training session, dorm-style housing, and meals for about 50 cents a day.

“Not only do they learn the basics of weaving, the program also teaches them business and accounting skills,” Ball said. “The government even gives them a loom when they complete the program. It’s not entirely free; they have to pay the cost back gradually as they sell some of their products. But it gets them started.”

Participation in these programs is not limited to farmers. In fact, virtually anyone is eligible to sign up. The initiative has been so successful in Thailand that it moved out from under the Department of Ministry umbrella and became its own entity: the Department of Small-Scale Industrial Promotion. The program now runs extension offices in different provinces, not just Bangkok.

Ball became intrigued with the region in college, but his specific interest in Thailand is not just professional—it’s personal. Ball’s wife, Phannee, is a native of the country. She was a university professor and came to the United States of pursue an educational doctorate degree. They met through a Thai student organization. Now a Marquette realtor, she still has relatives in Southeast Asia. ■

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE

## Carry on a tradition

**H**i. I'm **Rick Popp '88 BS, 90 MPA**, the new NMU Alumni Association president. I am honored to have this position and hope to hear from many of you about what services and events you value most about the Association and what you'd like to see the Association provide in the future.

Since being named to the Alumni Board in 2000, I've spent more time thinking about Northern and its impact on my life than I have in a long time. One idea that has really taken on more meaning is this: When each of us was a student, some alum—often unbeknownst to us—did something that enabled us to have a more enriching college experience.

Alumni did this for us through their continued involvement with Northern, either through financial support, helping with professional opportunities, or even just touting their own success as a product of going to Northern, which enhanced NMU's regional and national reputation and our sense of pride of attending the same school.

To those alumni who supported Northern in the 1980s, when I was a student, thanks.

Let's carry on the tradition of helping current and future NMU students. You don't have to do something monumental, time-consum-



Rick Popp (left) with his sons, Isaiah and Sam, and his wife, Sue (Willson) Popp '90 BS.

ing, or expensive, but do something as a way of honoring those alumni who—known or anonymously—supported you.

I look forward to hearing from you. If you have a comment or a question you'd like to ask, please e-mail me at [rpopp@twmi.rr.com](mailto:rpopp@twmi.rr.com).

—**Rick Popp, President NMU Alumni Association**

## Alumni are getting the word out

Grassroots effort sees growth

**A** grassroots effort is sprouting among Northern alumni willing to help ensure that NMU's mission does not get lost amidst today's often confusing discussions about higher education issues. Alumni are assisting Northern by speaking on the university's behalf to current and prospective students, parents, and community members, and by writing to state legislators.

Alumni can stay informed about higher education issues by receiving the *What's New, NMU?* electronic alumni newsletter; attending forums held on campus, alumni events, or Community Connection gatherings; or simply by asking an Alumni Association

staff member or an NMU administrator about higher education issues.

Today, a college education—whether it be a diploma or certificate, or an associate, bachelor's, or master's degree—has never been more important to opening career doors. Alumni play an integral role

in helping Northern distribute the information needed for others to make informed decisions about higher education. If you're interested in being a part of this endeavor, please contact the Alumni Association toll-free at 1-877-GRAD NMU or by e-mail at [alumni@nmu.edu](mailto:alumni@nmu.edu).

### Alumni Association Services Survey

**WHAT DO YOU THINK** about the programs and services the NMU Alumni Association provides? What programs and services would you like to see the Alumni Association offer?

**LOG ON** to [www.nmu.edu/alumni](http://www.nmu.edu/alumni) and fill out our online Alumni Association Services Survey. All of the information collected will be anonymous and confidential. This is your chance to tell us your ideas and let us know how we're doing.

# NMU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

## NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS

These awards recognize alumni who have received an associate, bachelor's, master's, or education specialist degree from Northern and who have been a positive influence on their professions or their communities through public service, or who have distinguished themselves through outstanding achievements that place them above the norm.

The Alumni Association is currently accepting nominations for the following awards:

### Alumni Service Award

An NMU alumnus/alumna whose volunteerism, contributions, and/or recruitment efforts on behalf of NMU are above the norm.

### Alumni Civic Leadership Award

An NMU alumnus/alumna whose volunteer service to his or her community has been outstanding for a minimum of 10 years.

### Distinguished Alumni Award

An NMU alumnus/alumna who is outstanding in his/her profession and has made significant contributions to society or his/her profession.

### Outstanding Young Alumni Award

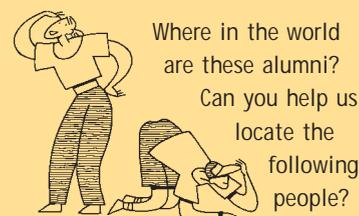
An NMU alumnus/alumna under 36 years of age who has demonstrated achievements in service to NMU, professional success, civic involvement, business, political arenas, or other notable activities.

### Nomination Deadline: April 15, 2003

Awards are given once per year during Homecoming weekend. Nominations must be submitted by someone other than the recommended recipient and are valid for three years. For complete award descriptions and nomination instructions, visit our Web site at [www.nmu.edu/alumni](http://www.nmu.edu/alumni), e-mail us at [alumni@nmu.edu](mailto:alumni@nmu.edu), or call 1-877-GRAD NMU.

The mission of the Northern Michigan University Alumni Association is to cultivate a strong tradition of involvement and loyalty among alumni, students, friends, and community while advancing the interests of the university.

## LOST ALUMNI



Dennis Damon '70 BA  
John Gebauer '71 BS  
Daniel Kalinowski '75 BS  
Carol Rydell '75 BS  
Jennifer Hopkins '80 BS  
Sheila Stack '82 BS  
Catherine Hughes '85 MA  
Linda Marx '85 BS  
Mark Flannery '86 BS  
Andrew Shively '92 BS  
Suzanne Kelley '94 BS  
Steven Langner '96 BS  
Mark Roby '96 Dipl.  
Allison Mack '98 BS  
Kevin Sheard '98 BS

If you can help us, please drop us a note at [alumni@nmu.edu](mailto:alumni@nmu.edu) or call us toll free at 1-877-GRAD NMU.

## LIFETIME MEMBERS

The following people have recently joined as lifetime members of the NMU Alumni Association. Thank you.

John Bottum '48 BA  
Sandra Smith '65 BS  
Patrick '66 BA and Ann '69 BA Cashin  
Katherine Wagester '67 BS  
Susanne Homant '69 BA, '81 MBA  
Michael '69 BS and Kathleen (Williams) '70 BS Mayhew  
John Cozzuol '70 BS  
Richard Little '71 BS  
Norman Bradbury '73 BS  
William Krauss Jr. '73 BS  
Gene '74 BS and Susan (Marcella) '77 BS Autio  
Henry Motes '74 BS  
Douglas '76 BS and Gail Miller  
Michael Nardi '76 BS

Kyra Fedetz '77 BSN  
Paul Kuyper '77 BS  
Joseph Holman III '78 BS  
Peter Biske '79 BS  
Ann Van Dyke '79 BS  
Judith (Sanders) Voorheis '80 BS  
Gary '81 AB, '84 BS and Kimberly (Ericson) '87 BS Brunswick  
Wayne Hanmer '82 BME  
Barbara (Lukkarinen) Ball '84 BS  
Daniel '84 AT, '85 BS and Christine (Marceau) '86 BS Boyle  
Paul Cook '86 BS  
Charles Roberts '86 BS  
Debra Ackley '87 BS  
Brian Hawkins '87 BS  
David Peyton '87 BS  
Lisa Kupfer '89 MA  
Robert '89 BS, '93 MAE and Lisa Mariucci

Amy Molinaro '89 BSN  
Carol Moore '90 BS  
Pamela Pomeroy '90 MAE  
Rhonda (Komsi) Sprague '91 BS  
Jenny St. Martin '93 BS  
Bob Tebeau '95 BS  
Rachel Wisniewski '96 BS  
Chad Devereaux '97 AS, '99 BS  
Todd Schuster '94 BS, '98 MA  
Jacob LaValley '99 BS  
Brendan Bailey '00 MS  
Janel '00 BS and Tim '00 BS Marshall  
Timothy Freiberg '01 BS  
Ryan Kieszkowski '01 BS

To learn about the benefits of being a lifetime member, visit us on our Web site at [www.nmu.edu/alumni](http://www.nmu.edu/alumni), e-mail us at [alumni@nmu.edu](mailto:alumni@nmu.edu), or call us at 1-877-GRAD NMU.

# Taking life in stride

Valentine Manada's drive to succeed began in one of the most unlikely places at one of the most unlikely times: South Central Los Angeles when Manada was just 15 years old.

Horrified by the violence that dictated his life and the lives of those around him, the NMU senior and Wildcat football player left his single-parent home—with his mother's blessing—and sought a calmer, safer existence eight hours north of Los Angeles in Turlock, California. It was here that Manada began a new life with some family friends.

"I knew that life had to be more than straight violence all the time," Manada said. "I knew that my only chance for survival was to leave. Who knows what I'd be doing if I had stayed in L.A. I'd probably be dead by now."

That is not to say that Manada's life was instantly better in Turlock than it was in Los Angeles. Although the family friends he lived with saw that he always had food and shelter, he was basically on his own. And for Manada, being on his own meant that he was without his mother.

"At first, leaving my mother and my home to move so far away wasn't a big deal to me," he said. "I was just trying to do my own thing, trying to survive. But I missed my mother, and our relationship suffered because we aren't the way that moms and sons should be with each other. I was making my own choices and learning from my own mistakes and successes. I learned at the age of 15 what some people may not learn in their lifetime: the real world comes quick."

Manada turned to sports when

he was a sophomore in high school to take his mind off of the real world that was waiting for him when he stepped off school grounds. He began wrestling and playing football and eventually found himself at another crossroads.

"I was going to go into the service so that I could get money for college," Manada said. "But then I decided I would try football and see if I could get a scholarship, and here I am today at NMU."

Before coming to Northern, Manada attended junior college in Modesto, California, fine-tuning his football skills and study habits to get the grades he needed to play and succeed. In addition to balancing the time requirements of being both a student and an athlete, Manada also had to worry about paying the bills, so he took a job as a part-time manager at a Blockbuster video store. After two years in junior college, Manada was offered a scholarship to attend Northern. Once again, he picked up and moved to realize another dream.

"A football scholarship," Manada said, "is like a piece of meat thrown into a pen of hungry animals. All these hungry animals are fighting and brawling for the prize, but only the strongest, the fastest, and the best wins. I was hungry for that scholarship because I knew that it would take me where I wanted to go."

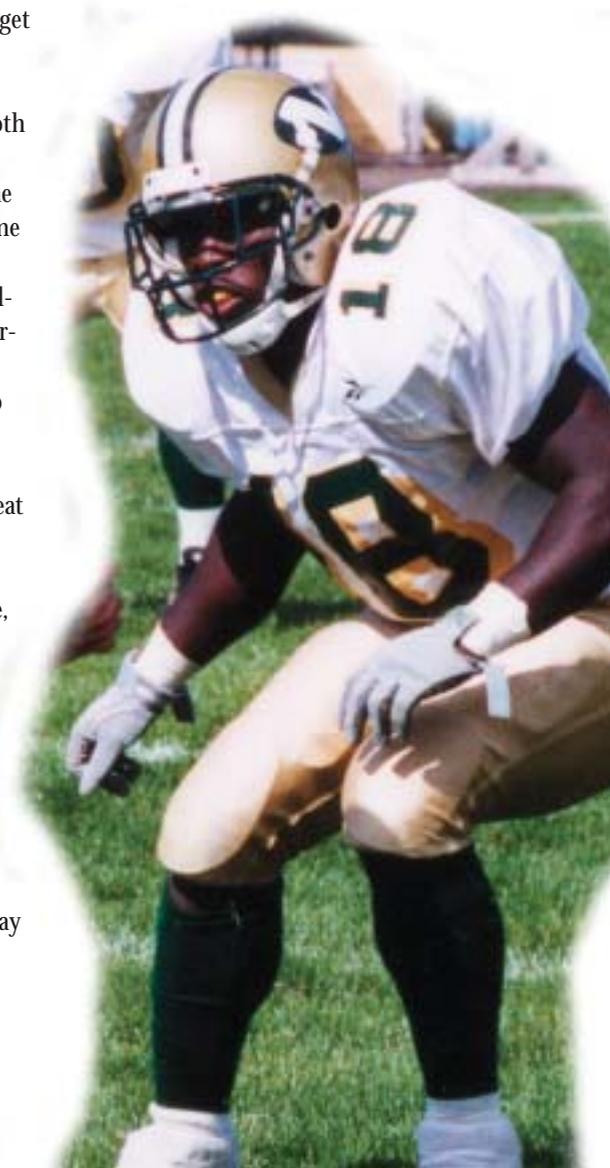
Wildcat football coach Doug Sams is, to say the least, pleased with Manada's decision to attend Northern—both for the play he has gotten from the defensive back and for the potential that he

sees in the young man.

"Valentine is a student athlete a coach can really take pride in seeing succeed on and off the field during his collegiate experience because he's overcome some bumps along the way and he's worked hard to be what and where he is today," Sams said.

Today football has become more than just a release from day-to-day stresses for Manada, it has become a teaching tool and a model against which to measure life.

"My football players are my family," he said. "I reach out to



them and talk to them and they come to me, especially the younger players, when they have something they need help working out. They look to me for advice, and I try to teach them.”

Manada said that teaching is the perfect profession for someone who learned the hard knocks of life on his own, and something he is eager to do once he earns his secondary education degree.

“I have to be a teacher so that I can give back to the kids,” Manada said. “So that I can help try and push them toward the right roads because I know what the wrong roads are. I had to learn all of that on my own, but there is no reason that any other kid has to. At least not a kid who is a student of mine.”

“Kids need teachers who really care about changing someone else’s life and who take the initiative to help kids who are on the edge, like I was. They need somebody to tell them the truth from the start; they need a role model.”

Manada found his own role models while he was out on his own. It is something he credits to his success more than his own inner will and outer strength.

“My [high school] wrestling coach was always there for me, and the couple I lived with was also really cool,” Manada said. “These people looked out for me and were always there. Sure, I still had bad experiences. I’ve been through situations much worse than anything I will experience for the rest of my life. But I’m glad I got these experiences at an early age. Things could be worse than they are right now; I just take whatever comes in stride.”

—Ryan Sjöholm '99 BS

## Life lessons

Casey Young’s dad would be proud. The 2002 football season was a good one for his son, a defensive back who was second among the Wildcats in solo tackles (46), third in overall hits (82), second in interceptions (3 for 42 yards), and a team leader who was instrumental in helping Northern to a 6-5 record under new coach Doug Sams.

Young dedicated the season to his father, **Bob Young '74 BS**, who died of a heart attack just as training camp was set to begin last August. Immediately following his father’s death, Young considered not playing his senior year.

“I didn’t know what to do at first,” said Young. “All I wanted to do was to be there to help my mom and my younger brother.”

But Young’s family and Gladstone, Mich., community members went on the offensive to convince him that his dad would have wanted him to play.

“Ironically, Dad had to make the same decision when his father died,” said Young. “He had a scholarship and was playing football at Ashland, but he moved back to the U.P. to take care of his mother.”

After talking to family members and his father’s closest friends, and with the encouragement of his mother, Young agreed that playing and dedicating the season might honor his father and be a good way to get through the grieving process.

“Nobody loved football more than my dad,” Young said.

After moving back to the U.P., the elder Young came to Northern to finish his degree, playing football and studying to be a schoolteacher—as his son does today. Following a brief career in teaching, Young’s father went to work at Mead Paper where he stayed for the remainder of his career. He became a longtime youth football coach, and recently had a Gladstone sports field named in his honor.

Many Gladstone community members continued to honor Young by attending his son’s games.

“My parents went to almost every game throughout my entire athletic career. I missed looking up and seeing my dad in the stands, but he would have been thrilled to see my fan section—there were about 40 people who came up every game to cheer me on.”

Young described his football style as “old school,” saying, “I just like to hit people. I try to be the toughest person on the field.”

When asked if he’s ever played on the offensive side, Young smiles. “Yeah, but I still hit people and that wasn’t always the best thing.”

Sams agreed that hitting is Young’s forte. “He has a relentless physical style with a knack for getting in the right spot to forcefully take players down.”

Young said he’s learned some tough life lessons this year. “Now, whenever I face hard decisions, I think, ‘What would my dad do?’ That keeps me connected to him. I’m using his life as my example.”



—Cindy Paavola '84 BS

# Investing in students

## Scholarships at Northern Michigan University

Since the start of *This Decisive Season: The Campaign for Northern Michigan University*, 85 new scholarships have been endowed. Northern's scholarships are worth more than \$400,000 annually to NMU students and have an overall investment value of more than \$5 million to the university. Here is a sampling of scholarships created during *This Decisive Season*.

### The Alumni Leaders Scholarship Fund for Entrepreneurs

In 2002, the corporate gifts committee of the NMU Development Fund set a goal to endow a fund that will provide scholarship awards to students of any major with financial need who express a desire to one day own their own business or seek to be a leader in business.

"The members of the committee felt that part of our success in business was due to our experience and education at Northern," said **Mike Nelsen '63 BA**, a retired Amoco Oil Company executive and Development Fund trustee and committee member. "We wanted to create a scholarship to assist NMU students in obtaining their degrees and give them a chance at the same kind of business success we've enjoyed."

### Collision Repair and Auto Refinisher's Endowed Scholarship

Established by the NMU collision repair technology program in honor of Weldon Hart and Michael Libick. The scholarship will be awarded to a student in the collision repair technology program who is in his or her first to third semester and has at least a 3.00 cumulative grade point average.

### The J. Donovan Jackson Memorial Endowment

Established in memory of former NMU dean of continuing education J. Donovan Jackson by his family, friends, and former colleagues. This endowment will provide annual scholarships to Northern hockey players for spring or summer session classes. It will also provide annual support to the

music department for the purchase of musical arrangements or other needed items for Northern's pep band.

**(Raymond) Johnson '33 LC, '56 BS** to honor Johnson's love of teaching. The scholarship will be awarded to a student with a 3.00 grade point average who is majoring in elementary education and is scheduled for student teaching.

### The International Student Fund

Northern received a \$100,000 campaign gift from an anonymous donor couple for the purpose of establishing an International Student Fund in May 2002. The fund will provide both scholarship assistance and emergency grants to Northern's international students.

"Many of the international students who come to school in the United States are able to come because their family, home village, or extended family has made an investment in them to get an American education," said John Weting, director of NMU's International Affairs Office. "But sometimes something happens, and the family can no longer support the expense of their child's international education, so this endowment will help those international students who are serious about completing their NMU degree but for whatever reason can no longer afford to do so."

### The Jilbert Dairy Scholarship

Established by Jilbert Dairy, the scholarship will be awarded over a four-year period to a self-identified student from an Upper Peninsula family in the agriculture business or a profession relating to agriculture.

### The Luella R. Johnson Education Scholarship

Established in memory of **Luella R.**

### The Sten Taube/John Hughes Earth Science Award

Retired geography professors **Sten Taube '61 BS** and John Hughes of Marquette taught a combined 56 years at Northern. Additionally three of Taube's four children and all four of Hughes' children as well as his wife received NMU degrees.

When it came to giving back to NMU, Taube and Hughes knew just where they wanted their gift to go—the recently resurrected earth science program within the geography department.

The Taube/Hughes Earth Science Award will be presented annually to a student majoring in earth science or secondary education/earth science. The award will go to the applicant with the highest grade point average in one of the earth science majors or to the student with the highest overall grade point average in the event of a tie. The minimum GPA to qualify is 3.30.

### **The Roy Lawrence Memorial Scholarship**

Established by the family and friends of Roy Lawrence. The scholarship will be awarded to U.P. high school graduates who are majoring in nursing and demonstrate financial need.

### **The Jim Melka and Knute Wolf Memorial Scholarship**

Established by employees of Frei Chevrolet in memory of Jim Melka, a parts man, and Knute Wolfe, an automotive technician, both employees of Frei Chevrolet. The scholarship award will be given to students in NMU's automotive services program.

### **The Reinhart Foods, Inc., Scholarship**

Established by Reinhart Foods, these annual awards will be presented to two full-time students with a minimum 3.00 grade point average who are majoring in any culinary arts or hospitality management program or are student employees of Northern's dining services department.

### **The Stabile/Day's Inn/Comfort Suites/Hudson's Classic Grill Scholarship**

Established by Frank and Linda Stabile, owners of two Marquette area hotels and developers of Westwood of Marquette, and by Jim and Lisa Stabile. This annual scholarship is awarded to a junior or senior majoring or minoring in hospitality management. The scholarship recipients may also be considered for a paid hotel or restaurant management internship with one of the Westwood of Marquette properties.

*Note: There are two types of scholarships at Northern, endowed and annual. An endowed scholarship requires a gift of \$10,000 from which the general interest is used to fund the scholarship award. An annual scholarship is one where the entire balance is available for awards.*

# A welcome investment

## Sentiments from an NMU scholarship recipient

Michael Simpson '02 BS wrote to NMU's annual fund director, Barbara Burri '92 BS, last fall to tell her how much his scholarship meant to him. We've excerpted portions of Simpson's letter to highlight one of the many ways scholarship dollars help students achieve their academic goals.

I wanted to send you a letter expressing my gratitude for being awarded the Rutherford/Lewis Graduate Scholarship. My academic life didn't start out very promising. I originally went to Alma College in 1988 fresh out of high school with the status of Army scholar/athlete of the year, an All-State status in basketball, and an ego to match. After two years of playing basketball, partying, and chasing girls, I was dismissed for poor scholarship. Having a wise set of parents, they told me since I didn't value my education I could enjoy the benefits of working in the real world. (I didn't think they were so wise at the time.)

Having been raised on a farm, I was taught the value of a strong work ethic, so I was never without a decent job. I started out working various jobs until I found a job working at a sporting goods store, where I worked my way up to assistant manager. I was being moved around to various stores in Michigan and working 16 hours a day until it finally became too much, as they told me I would be transferred out of state. This started me thinking about how nice it would have been to graduate seven years previously and been working in a field that was more to my liking.

I eventually landed a job working at a large RV dealership selling campers and making a good living, but I was not happy. After four years of battling between money and my serenity, I decided to listen to what I was taught by my mother and father. My parents were both lucky to graduate from high school. My father's dad passed away when he was fifteen and left him and my uncle to take care of the family farm. Because of the hardships of my parent's time, they wanted me to have the opportunities they never had. As a cocky, 18-year-old kid, I didn't realize how important education was—for more reasons than simply drawing a better paycheck.

This brings me back to why I'm writing. Having completed my bachelor's degree over the summer where I took 25 credits, the joy of that accomplishment was almost as much as the headaches of studying 12-16 hours a day all summer in 90 degree heat. If I hadn't known what it was like working 16 hours a day at something that wasn't enjoyable for all those years, I wouldn't have had the discipline to finish something that was. By your gracious scholarship to me, which allows me to complete a master's degree, it feels like a huge burden has been lifted off my shoulders.

I can assure you that the opportunity you have afforded me will be put to very good use. You see, it wasn't just me you gave this scholarship to, it was to all the hard-working farmers and Simpson family members who never received the opportunity. I intend to someday pay it back to others in some way because I know how much it has meant to me.

—Michael J. Simpson

## Tell us what's happening in your life

Keeping Track is generated by your submissions and is open to all alumni. Send your submission to the NMU Alumni Association, Northern Michigan University, 1401 Presque Isle Avenue, Marquette, Michigan 49855; e-mail to [horizons@nmu.edu](mailto:horizons@nmu.edu); or send via the Web at [www.nmu.edu/horizons](http://www.nmu.edu/horizons). If you would like to include a picture with your submission, please send a print or digital photograph with a resolution of at least 300 dpi.

[WWW.NMU.EDU/HORIZONS](http://WWW.NMU.EDU/HORIZONS) ■ [HORIZONS@NMU.EDU](mailto:HORIZONS@NMU.EDU)

## Pre-1960s

**Louis Taccolini '52 BS, '63 MA** of Marquette is a retired teacher. He writes that he and Keith Kepler '54 recently completed a 525 mile hiking and bird-watching trip through seven European countries. They saw 135 different species and hiked an average of 15.2 miles per day.

## 60s

**John Bayerl '62 BS** of Marquette retired after working for more than 30 years as a school counselor, mostly with the Ann Arbor Schools, and more than 20 as an adjunct lecturer with the leadership and counseling program at Eastern Michigan University. He has taken a "retirement job" as the director of the NMU K-12 Michigan school guidance counseling program. [jbayerl@nmu.edu](mailto:jbayerl@nmu.edu)

**Errol Moffatt '63 BS** of Rome, N.Y., is a retired international airline pilot. He worked for US Airways.

**Kenneth Bureau '65 BS** of Fridley, Minn., is a senior property manager at Goldmark Properties of Bloomington, Minn. He is in charge of residential and

commercial properties in Minnesota, Iowa, and Nebraska. [kjb2438@msn.com](mailto:kjb2438@msn.com)

**Don Keskey '68 BA** recently joined the law firm of Clark Hill PLC's Lansing office, where he will be practicing in the areas of telecommunications, energy and utilities, administrative, transportation, and environmental law. Prior to joining Clark Hill, Don served as Assistant Attorney General for the state of Michigan for 25 years.

**Susanne (Wendt) Homant '69 BA, '81 MBA** of Tallahassee, Fla., is working on her doctorate in public policy and public administration. [Suehospice@aol.com](mailto:Suehospice@aol.com)

**Albert Lord '69 BS** of Allen Park is a credit union manager for A & P Farmer Jack Credit Union in Redford. [alord2@comcast.net](mailto:alord2@comcast.net)

**Robert Miller '69 BS** of San Jose, Calif., is in his sixth year as an arts commissioner for the city of San Jose. [RHBMiller@aol.com](mailto:RHBMiller@aol.com)

**Charles Wurrey '69 BS** of Kansas City, Kan., was named Distinguished Teaching Professor by the University of Missouri System, where he is a professor of chemistry and executive associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

## 70s

**Ruth (Shipman) Bratcher '70 BS** of Racine, Wis., is a learning disabilities and reading teacher for Fox River Middle School in Waterford.

**John Fallon III '70 MAE** of Potsdam, N.Y., has served as the president of the State University of New York at Potsdam since 1998. [fallonja@potsgdam.edu](mailto:fallonja@potsgdam.edu)

**Don Saunders '70 BS** of Greenville retired after teaching math for 32 1/2 years for the Greenville Public Schools. He also served as president and chief negotiator for the Greenville Education Association. [donsa@iserv.net](mailto:donsa@iserv.net)

**John Bruno '71 BME** of Valparaiso, Ind., is a funeral director and embalmer for the Moeller Funeral Home.

**Frank DeMare '71 BS** of Grosse, Ill., is president of ProCoil Corporation, a subsidiary of National Steel Corporation. [fdemare@procoil.com](mailto:fdemare@procoil.com)

**Kenneth Engelbrecht '71 MA** of Aurora, Colo., is head of the Earth and Atmospheric Sciences department at Metropolitan State College in Denver. He writes that he and his wife maintain a cottage in the Upper Peninsula and try to get back whenever they can.

**Frank Witgen '72 BS** of Erie, Pa., earned the Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor designation from American Express Financial Services. He also received the President's recognition award from the company. This is Witgen's second such citation.

**Mary Sivula '72 BS** of Petoskey received the 2002 Outstanding Person in Education award, representing East Jordan School System. The award is given for above-and-beyond excellence in teaching.

**Scott Goetz '73 BS** of Spring, Texas, is the principal of Coop Elementary, which is in the Houston Independent School District. Coop Elementary received an exemplary rating from the Texas Education Agency for academic performance.

**Richard Hull '73 BS** of Sioux Falls, S.D., is the owner and president of Johnstone Supply. [rick.hull@johnstonesupply.com](mailto:rick.hull@johnstonesupply.com)

**Robert Leonard '73 BS** of Carpinteria, Calif., is a senior manufacturing engineer with Helix Medical. [rleonards1@cox.net](mailto:rleonards1@cox.net)

**Timothy Moran '73 BS** of Green Bay, Wis., is athletic director at Southwest High School.

**John Quarton '73 BS** of Waterford is a clinical psychologist at John Quarton P.C. He writes, "I'm still here with two children and living on a lake in Waterford, Mich., and loving what I do!"

**Richard Cairns '74 BS** of Menominee is

the owner and manager at Cairns Apartments. He writes, "NMU has helped me immensely. Without a degree I am sure I'd still be working in a factory." Duffer\_11@hotmail.com

**Mary (Latus) Nash '74 BSN** of Birmingham, Ala., is the executive director of the University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital.

**Joann (Imislund) Picard '74 BS** of Blowing Rock, N.C., was promoted to manager of Dress Barn. health4u@goboone.net

**Jacquelyn Ingram '75 BS** of Chicago, Ill., is a coordinator for the sports and entertainment division of Seiu Local 1. She writes, "I'm honored to have gone to NMU. The friends that I made at Northern are my friends for life." jmingram@aol.com

**Anne (Conklin) Winjarski '75 BSN** of Linden is a registered nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital in Flint.

**Paula (Mathias) Broullire '76 BSN** of Niagara, Wis., is a school nurse at Niagara Public Schools.

**Michael Greer '76 BA** of Boston works at the William S. Haynes Flute Company in Boston. He recently had a visit from Dr. Elda Tate, his flute teacher at NMU and good friend. They had lunch and caught up on "NMU music department stuff and had a good time." magreerflutes@msn.com

**John "Biff" Jackson '76 BS** of Watertown, S.D., has worked in the insurance industry for the past 16 years; for the last 12 he has also coached hockey in Watertown. Before he went into the insurance industry, he taught and coached high school basketball, football, track, and baseball in Waverly, S.D.; Hartford, S.D.; and Whiting, Iowa. John is a senior claims representative at IMT Insurance. nmubiff@hotmail.com

**Mark Lovell '77 BS** of Pittsburgh, Pa., is a neuropsychologist and the director of the UPMC Center for Sports Medicine concussion program. He is working on a \$3 million, five-year study with researchers and doctors at the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University that is designed to objectively study the effects of single and multiple

concussions on athletes' brains. Their research is being funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health.

**Daniel McAdams '77 BS** of Grand Rapids is the owner of the DMA Group, an investment management firm. dmcadams@ameritech.net

**James Nyquist '77 MM** of Saginaw retired after 29 1/2 years of teaching instrumental music in the Saginaw Public Schools. He is currently a lay minister and principal of S.S. Peter & Paul Catholic School in Saginaw. J.Nyquist@chartermi.net

**Kaaren (Hagen) Ness '79 MAE** of Crystal Falls retired from the Gwinn Area Community Schools.

**Mark Rizzardi '79 BFA** of Minneapolis, Minn., is a graphic design instructor in Minneapolis. He writes, "My wife Tia and I visit Marquette every summer for the superior view."

**Stella Sandy '79 BS of Lakewood, Colo., is an audit director at the Department of the Interior, Office of the Inspector General. She writes, "As a late bloomer I graduated at 35 and am now top management. Looking forward to retirement. Thanks, NMU!"**

## 80s

**David Brothers '80 BS** of Port Deposit, Md., teaches 5th grade at Rising Sun Elementary School. He is also head varsity basketball coach at Elkton High School in Elkton.

**Kenneth Cloutier '80 BS** of Harshaw, Wis., is a certified public accountant and partner with Wipfli, Ullrich, Bertelson.

**David Killinger '80 BS** of Pulaski, Wis., retired after teaching technical education for 22 years at Pulaski High School. He served as department head, coached base-

ball and basketball, and refereed football and basketball. He was also an adviser for the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America.

**Mark Pauluzzi '80 BS** of Ballwin, Mo., is a senior account executive for Alter Trading Corporation. In September 2002, he and his wife had a son, James Anthony. Their daughter Grace will be 3 in January. Mark writes, "I can't wait to show them where their dad went to school as well as the many spectacular sites the U.P. has to offer." Mark.Pauluzzi@altertrading.com

**Laurie (Burry) Blondy '81 BSN** of Northville is a legal nurse consultant and owner of Medlaw Advantage Service. laurieblondy@comcast.net

**Shirley (Dishaw) Beck '82 BSN** of Crystal Falls was the 2002 recipient of the Dickinson Community Hospital Michigan Nurses Association Staff Council Achievement Award. She is a critical care staff nurse at Dickinson Community Hospital.

**William French '82 BS** of Santa Maria, Calif., retired from the United States Air Force as a senior master sergeant in 1990, and in September 2002 he retired from the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department, where he was a deputy sheriff.

**Beverly (Crandell) Hutchinson '82 BSN** of Rockford is an operating room staff nurse at Spectrum Health. Bch619@aol.com

**Carol Krumbach '82 BS** of Northville is the executive director of college advancement at St. Clair Community College.

**Jeanette Maki '82 AB, '86 BS** of Gwinn retired from a 36-year banking career and now volunteers at the Gwinn-Sawyer Chamber of Commerce as acting director and president. The chamber was recently nominated for the 9th annual Governor's Service Awards. Jeanette was also honored recently as the 2002 Marquette County Volunteer of the Year. jeanettemaki@chartermi.net

**Kim Schieldknecht '82 BS** of Milford, Ohio, is president of Clermont Financial. kim@clermontfinancial.com

**Thomas Baker '83 BSN** of Fort Gratiot is a nurse anesthetist at Sinai Grace Hospital. tbak2@juno.com

## KEEPING TRACK

**Bill Balog '83 BS** of Austin, Texas, is director of global human resources, information technology at Dell Computer. His wife **Sheila (Greig) Balog '81 BS, '82 MAE** is director of career services in the School of Architecture at the University of Texas at Austin. [wbalog@aol.com](mailto:wbalog@aol.com)

**Kathleen Duritza '83 BSN** of Uniontown, Ohio, is a registered nurse at Children's Hospital Medical Center of Akron. She is working on a two-year national project through the March of Dimes to develop informational and emotional support material for parents who go through the neonatal intensive care unit experience.

**Leah Hocking '83** of Brooklyn, N.Y., performed the role of Magda in the Broadway production of *Dance of the Vampires*. She has appeared in *The Road to Hollywood* at Goodspeed Musical's Norman Terris Theatre and on Broadway in *The Wild Party*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Grease*, and *Guys and Dolls*. Her off-Broadway credits include *Forbidden Broadway* and *Inside Out*.

**Eric Luttinen '83 BA** of Ishpeming was named to the All-America Team of The American Funds Group of mutual funds.

**Lee Morrison '83 MAE** of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, is vice president and chief operating officer for Canadian Executive Services Organization. [lmorrison@ceso-saco.com](mailto:lmorrison@ceso-saco.com)

**Stella Beck '84 AB** of Marquette is a secretary with Marquette General Health Systems Employee Assistance Program. [tanabar1260@yahoo.com](mailto:tanabar1260@yahoo.com)

**Matt Dubie '84 BSN** of Oshkosh, Wis., graduated from St. Mary's University of Minnesota with a master's in nurse anesthesia with a 4.0 grade point average. He currently practices as a certified registered nurse anesthetist for Anesthesia Services of the Fox Valley. [mjdubie@excite.com](mailto:mjdubie@excite.com)

**Barry Hosking '84 BS** of Green Bay, Wis., is vice president for First Bankers Corporation, based in Indianapolis, Ind. [bhosking@firstbankers.net](mailto:bhosking@firstbankers.net)

**Gordon Post '84 BS** of Grosse Pointe Farms writes that he has been married for 10 wonderful years to his wife

Patricia and has two children, ages 4 and 6. He received his master of business administration from Central Michigan University and is currently an automotive sales manager at Meikle Automation.

**Linda (Potter) Rosenkranz '84 BS** of Nashville, Tenn., is assistant director of campus recreation at Vanderbilt University. After developing an outdoor recreation program for Vanderbilt 13 years ago and opening a \$1.6 million center in 1997, she was able to hire a full-time outdoor recreation professional to supervise and help the program continue to grow.

**Diane Walker '84 BSN** of Wausau, Wis., is a registered nurse at Wausau Hospital. She works as a cardiac rehabilitation and diabetes educator.

**Greg Hunt '85 MBE** of Norway is in his 6th year as director of bands with the Norway-Vulcan Area Schools. The directors of District 14 Michigan (western U.P.) School Band and Orchestra Organization elected Greg Teacher of the Year in 2000 and appointed him the director of the 2000 District 14 Honors Jazz Band. He and Norway Choral Director **Dawn (Spanton) Pierce '83 BME** were involved in overseeing the construction and administration of a \$4 million Fine Arts Center that was completed in 2001. Greg and his wife Diana have three daughters, ages 15, 12, and 9. [ghunt@norwaymi.com](mailto:ghunt@norwaymi.com)

**Steve Marietti '85 BS** of Brooklyn Park, Minn., is an accounts receivable manager at Universal Hospital Services in Bloomington. [sparietti@attbi.com](mailto:sparietti@attbi.com)

**Leslie Cory '87 BS** of Marquette is an assistant professor in technology and occupational sciences department at NMU. [Ishoe@nmu.edu](mailto:Ishoe@nmu.edu)

**Joyce (Derocher) King '87 BS** of Gladstone received the 2002 Distinguished Faculty Award from Bay de Noc Community College in Escanaba, where she is a computer applications instructor.

**Dave Peyton '87 BS** of Farmington Hills is director of visual effects at GTN, Inc. [uppeyts@aol.com](mailto:uppeyts@aol.com)

**James Vass '87 BS, '88 MBA** of Waterford is a computer programmer at Keane, Inc. [jr-vass@comcast.net](mailto:jr-vass@comcast.net)

**Katherine (Pedo) Bond '88 BSN** of Munising is medical case manager and owner of Independent Rehabilitation Consultants.

**Peggy Sue (Borch) Crawford '89 BS** of Frankenmuth is an associate professor of the Health Wellness Division at Delta College. She competed in the Miss Fitness Universe Contest in the Czech Republic and came in 7th place overall. She placed 3rd in her fitness routine category. [pscrawfo@alpha.delta.edu](mailto:pscrawfo@alpha.delta.edu)

**Gerard Holzman '89 BS** of Seattle, Wash., is a principal at Everett Public Schools.

**Keith King '89 BS** of Studio City, Calif., was named counsel for the International House of Pancakes Corporation in Los Angeles. [keithki@ix.netcom.com](mailto:keithki@ix.netcom.com)

**Tim Lambrecht '89 MAE** of Alma was the Michigan winner and regional semifinalist in the NASDAQ/National Council for Economic Education Excellence in Education Teaching Awards. He teaches social studies at Ithaca High School and is the department chairperson. [lambrech@edzone.net](mailto:lambrech@edzone.net)

**Jim Lewan '89 BS** of Spring Grove, Ill., is a global manufacturing engineer with Baxter Healthcare Corp. In October 2002 he and his wife had a son, Jayden Lee. [jim\\_lewan@baxter.com](mailto:jim_lewan@baxter.com)

**Douglas Tew '89 BS** of New Berlin, Wis., is a fire fighter and paramedic for the Greenfield Fire Department. [dtew@wi.rr.com](mailto:dtew@wi.rr.com)

**Gregory Zajac '89 BS** of New Berlin, Wis., is an account executive with Bliss Communications. He writes, "I enjoy my career and living in the Milwaukee area with all its professional and college sports, cultural activities, and fantastic festivals."

# Casualties

ANDY JONES

Andy and Matt Jones have turned their passion into a profession. At 21 and 23 respectively, the Jones brothers own and operate Casualties, a skate- and snowboarding store in Marquette.

Andy and Matt grew up in Marquette, learning to snowboard in the early 1990s, when the sport wasn't very popular yet. Over the years, the brothers worked in snowboard retail stores, and Andy started a sponsorship with a major snowboarding company. Matt got a sponsor a few years later.

"That opened up opportunities and got me into the business of selling snowboards," Andy said. "We learned retail when we were in high school."

Andy, a senior marketing major at NMU, has been a businessman since he was 14 years old, working as a disc jockey at high school dances, church gatherings, and wedding receptions.

Matt and Andy enrolled at Northern in 1998 and 1999 respectively, and while Matt has since stopped attending, Andy is planning to graduate in December 2003. When enrolled at NMU, they both worked full-time at Marquette Mountain—Matt as the snowboard hill manager and Andy as a snowboarding instructor. By the spring of 2000 both of their contracts at Marquette Mountain were coming to an end and they needed something to do.

"One day it just hit us that we wanted to open a snowboard store," Andy said.

They realized they wanted to be their own bosses, so they started a business plan. Since they had been in the snowboarding business for quite some time, the brothers knew the right people, and it wasn't hard to convince companies to send them products. All they needed was money and space.



Matt (left) and Andy Jones standing outside their skate- and snowboard shop, Casualties.

"We found this location [505 N. 3rd Street] and started going to town," Matt said.

The brothers didn't want to rely on their parents for money, and they had no established credit, but despite these obstacles, they tried to get a loan on their own. Andy said it was really tough in the beginning, but with the help of the Chamber of Commerce and the Small Business Administration, they were able to finance the business.

Another challenge was finding a way to differentiate their store from the other snowboarding stores in town.

"We needed to bring in a new image—a young image, aggressive," Andy said.

So they created an atmosphere that would speak to the younger boarding and skating crowd by decorating their store with barbed wire, brand-name signs, and by playing music suited to a variety of tastes. After three months of hard work Casualties Skate & Snow opened on July 1, 2000.

"Fortunately from the day we opened we have been doing well," Andy said. "Right now we're doing awesome. We're taking care of people. Every day I work, I see somebody who has been here before."

Among the reasons for the store's success is that Andy and Matt are doing something they love and they are just as active at snowboarding and skateboarding as their customers. But that doesn't mean they'll do this forever.

"Our goal is to do it until it's not fun anymore," Matt said.

"There are a lot of things I want to do," Andy said. "We are making opportunities for ourselves."

—Miriam Moeller '00 BA, '02 MA  
Photograph by Kim Marsh '80 BS

## 90s

**Tom Baranowski '90 BS** of Birmingham is a regional sales representative for Terminal Supply Company. tbaranowski@comcast.net

**Holly Gottschalk '90 BS** of Ferndale is an associate with the Litigation Practice Group of Clark Hill PLC in Detroit.

**Janet (Mingay) Nyman '90 BSW** of Matthews, N.C., is a supervisor at All-Tel Corporation. Nyman@alltel.net

**Elizabeth Bussiere '91 BS** of Marquette is an accountant manager for the Michigan Department of Corrections. She has three children and three grandchildren. lizbussiere@hotmail.com

**John Stocker '91 BS** of Bensenville, Ill., and his wife, **Lauri (Alimenti) Stocker '90 BS**, write that they are avid Detroit Red Wing fans. They attended the final game of the Stanley Cup playoffs at the Joe Louis Arena and a hockey puck landed in John's drink cup during the second period of the game. John is vice president of engineering at Chicago White Metal.

**Patti (Brown) Brinkley '92 BA** of Schaumburg, Ill., is a figure skating coach at Park District of Highland Park. pattyskate@attbi.com

**Seanan Holland '92 BS** of Oceanside, Calif., is a major in the United States Marine Corps and an instructor at Marine Medium Helicopter (Training) Squadron 164, Camp Pendleton, California. seananh@sbcglobal.net

**Amy (Peyok) Morris '92 BS** of Sheboygan, Wis., is a homemaker. She was previously employed as a medical technologist.

**Marcelaine Lu Winger '92 MA** of Houghton earned her master instructor designation from The National Association of Flight Instructors. She owns Agate Beach Aviation at Houghton County Memorial Airport. She is also a master skydiver, a high school teacher, and she serves as an Aviation Safety Counselor for the Grand Rapids Flight Standards District Office.

**Melodie (Depuydt) Anderson '93 BS '01 MA** of Clare is a campaign communication specialist and proposal writer for develop-

ment and alumni relations at Central Michigan University. Her husband **Jay Anderson '88 BS** is the instructional coordinator of industrial trades for the M-TEC at Mid Michigan Community College.

**R. Gregory "Greg" Corace III '93 BS, '98 MS** of Seney is a refuge forester at Seney National Wildlife Refuge, United States Fish and Wildlife Service. He acts as Refuge research liaison and has taken the lead in Kirtland's Warbler research and management and forest restoration. He is also a doctoral candidate in the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science at Michigan Technological University, where he is studying the biogeography and conservation biology of grassland and shrubland birds in the Upper Midwest.

**Erin (Weber) Holloway '93 BS** of Racine, Wis., is communication manager for Johnson Diversey. Erin.weber-holloway@johnsondiversey.com

**Jay Jerome '93 BS** of Oakdale, Minn., is a database marketing consultant with West Group. He writes, "1993 Mock Trial participants (Minneapolis, Milwaukee): Where are you?" jtj\_duluth@yahoo.com

**Shannon Killinger '93 BS** of Green Bay, Wis., obtained her master of business administration degree from the University of Wisconsin. She is a senior compliance auditor at American Medical Security in Green Bay.

**Michelle (Olson) Lussow '93 BS** of Appleton, Wis., is an import sourcing analyst for Jansport. She works directly with Asian manufacturing facilities for the Jansport backpacks and travels frequently to Europe and Asia. Her husband is **Bret Lussow '93 BS**. Michelle\_M\_Lussow@vfc.com

**Gerri (Harris) Mariano '93 BS** of Caledonia is an accounting manager at Envirotronics, Inc. GLHM@aol.com

**Michele (Van Zee) Strube '93 BS** of Woodridge is a homemaker with two children, ages 3 and 1. Her husband **Jon Strube '93 BS** is a buyer, seller, and assistant vice president of Strube Celery and Vegetable Company, a business that is run jointly by 12 members of Michele and Jon's family. Michele works part-time at the company, dealing with human resources issues. michelestrube@msn.com

**Linda (Pittsley) Vande Voort '93 BS, '99 MAE** of Rochester Hills is an elementary special education teacher at Pine Knob Elementary in Clarkston. teea@gbpackersfan.com

**Kendra (Seney) Knox '94 BSN** of Vassar is a home care nurse with Visiting Nurses Association. She is married with two children, ages 5 and 7, and visits Marquette three to four times a year.

**Sean Krabach '94 BS** of Redford is the director of event operations for the 2003 Junior Olympic Games. nmualumni@msn.com

**Laurie (Let) Kunz '95 BS** of Appleton, Wis., is a kindergarten teacher in Seymour, Wis. lalett@yahoo.com

**Julie Milewski '95 BS** of Ionia is an 8th grade science teacher at Ionia Middle School. Her husband **John Milewski '95 BS** is a computer technician at the same school. They were married after meeting as RAs at NMU in 1993. John was in Hunt Hall and Julie was in Payne Hall. They recently purchased their first home. themilewskis@aol.com

**Greg Wood '96 BS** of Pittsburgh, Pa., successfully defended his dissertation prospectus in October 2002 and is now ABD in history at the University of Pittsburgh. gwood64@hotmail.com

**Rebecca Benson '97 BS** of Alden is a 1st grade teacher. Her husband **Brad Jensen '95 BS** is a watershed coordinator.

**Stephen Forsha '97 BS** of Jefferson City, Mo., completed a master of business administration degree from William Woods University, Fulton. He is a readiness officer in the United States Army. SFMichigan@aol.com

**Deanna (Frisk) LaCrosse '97 AB, '01 CER** of Champion is a licensed practical nurse at Marquette General Hospital. She

is currently pursuing a bachelor of science in nursing at NMU.

**Meghan Marsden '98 BS** of Aurora, Ill., is director of annual giving at the Northern Illinois University Foundation. She writes, "My fundraising career began at NMU when **Barbara Burri '92 BS** hired me as a student caller in 1995. I have been raising funds for the Iowa State University Foundation as associate director of annual giving since 1998. I began my new job on August 15, 2002." [Meghan\\_marsden@hotmail.com](mailto:Meghan_marsden@hotmail.com)

**Joe Nagy '98 BS** of St. Clair Shores works in transportation logistics at C.H. Robinson Company. His wife **Nicole (Seeley) Nagy '97 MA** is a speech language pathologist at Utica Community Schools. They welcomed their first child, Brooke Kaitlyn, in August. [nags10@comcast.net](mailto:nags10@comcast.net)

**Joan Bernard '99 BSW** of Ann Arbor recently started the master of social work advanced standing program at the University of Michigan. [jbernardbsw28@msn.com](mailto:jbernardbsw28@msn.com)

**Daniel Huyck '99 BS** of Copperas Cove, Texas, is an officer in the United States Army. He is married to **Amanda (Miettinen) Huyck '00 BSN**.

**Erik Johnson '99 BS** of Midland is an environmental scientist with McDowell and Associates.

**Allison Watkins '99 BS** of San Antonio, Texas, writes that after two years of serving with the Americorps National Civilian Community Corps, she has taken a position as an AmeriCorps Vista member with Our Lady of the Lake University. She is the Program Coordinator for the OLLU Serves work-study program. [alwatkins@lycos.com](mailto:alwatkins@lycos.com)

**Mark Wolicki '99 BS** of Chicago, Ill., is a market maker at Botta Capital. [Greatrek@aol.com](mailto:Greatrek@aol.com)

## 00s

**Paul Bergstraesser '00 MA** of Chicago is a teacher and a doctoral candidate at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

**Nicole Partica '00 BS** of Bonita Springs, Fla., is a real estate appraiser at Mathes

Realty Appraisal. [npartica95@msn.com](mailto:npartica95@msn.com)

**Todd Dooley '01 BS** of Kingsford was promoted to project manager of the Web development and information technology outsourcing division after one year of employment with Cable Constructors in Iron Mountain. He and his wife **Katie (Beauchamp) Dooley '00 BS** are the proud parents of a daughter, Kalli Grace, born last August.

**Ann (Alexander) Golden '01 BS** is a teacher's assistant for a blind student at Cheboygan Public Schools.

**Jenn Jurewicz '01 BS of Eastpointe will be playing women's professional football for the Detroit Blaze, an independent women's football league team. Detroit's first season begins in March 2003. She will be playing cornerback and wide receiver.**

[Jurewicz78@yahoo.com](mailto:Jurewicz78@yahoo.com)

**Jason Spanier '01 BS** of Kalamazoo is working toward a master's degree in earth science at Western Michigan University after a summer of wildland firefighting with the United States Forest Service. [mojorisen@hotmail.com](mailto:mojorisen@hotmail.com)

**Terri Campbell '02 BS** of Marquette is a corrections deputy with the Marquette County Sheriff's Department.

**Molly (VanDamme) Meyers '02 BS** of Pembine, Wis., is a mathematics and social studies teacher at Crivitz High School. She also coaches basketball and volleyball. Her husband **Brett Meyers '00 BS** is a social studies teacher at Florence High School in Florence, Wis. He coaches basketball and track.

**Justin Young '02 BS** of Montrose is a business systems administrator with Oetiker International. [nmu\\_justin@hotmail.com](mailto:nmu_justin@hotmail.com)

## Marriages

**Kurt Mustamaa '91 BSW** to Valerie Stitzel.

**Cynthia Johnson '92 AA** to Lance Kennedy.

**Linda Pittsley '93 BS, '99 MAE** to Jeff Vande Voort.

**Jeff Jestila '94 AS** to Kimberly Kester '99 BS, '01 MS.

**Daniel Tibaldo '94 BS** to Rachele Stein.

**Timothy Dawson '95 BS** to Julie Rzepa.

**Richard Fraser '95** to Valerie Martin.

**Brad Jensen '95 BS** to Rebecca Benson '97 BS.

**Rebecca Klar '95 BS** to Troy Hills.

**Laurie Lett '95 BS** to Andrew Kunz.

**Lori Nemacheck '95 BSN** to Randy Appleton.

## Stay connected. Join today.

By becoming a member of the NMU Alumni Association, not only will you maintain your connection with your alma mater and receive a host of member-only benefits, you also will help provide valuable programs and services for current students and alumni. Memberships begin for as little as \$35 a year. For more information or to join, contact us at 1-877-GRAD-NMU, e-mail us at [alumni@nmu.edu](mailto:alumni@nmu.edu), or fill out our online membership form at [www.nmu.edu/alumni](http://www.nmu.edu/alumni).



## ALUMNI IN PRINT

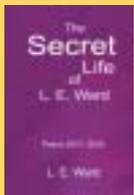
### Animals Around the World



Tabby House, 2002  
**Catherine Been Hansen '31 LC, '43 MA**  
Illustrated by  
**Darlene Falk Fredrikson '74 BS**

This collection of poems uses rhythmic verse and alliteration to give young readers verbal portraits of a variety of creatures—from a hippopotamus, kikajou, and a brindled gnu to impalas, whirligig beetles, and a great grey kangaroo. Many of the animals are represented by Darlene Falk Fredrikson's pen and ink drawings.

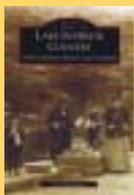
### The Secret Life of L.E. Ward



iUniverse, 2002  
**L.E. Ward '66 BA, '67 MA**  
A lyric poet and humanist, L.E. Ward uses free verse as well

as traditional forms to portray memoirs of his childhood, gay Eros, the ancient world, the movies, the arts and literature, the lives of writers and other artists, world paintings and painters, and human rights.

### Lake Superior Country



Arcadia Publishing, 2002  
**Troy Henderson '97 AS, '99 BA**  
Most visitors to the Upper Peninsula in

the 19th century had to brave frigid and often perilous Lake Superior to gain entrance to the area. Lake Superior Country follows these early travelers, using historic sketches, maps, and photographs to convey what it was like to vacation in the Upper Peninsula a century ago.

**Sarah Thoren '95 BS** to Terrance Tripp.  
**Rebecca Sager '96 BS** to Luigi Torretti '02 MS.

**Kelly Johnson '97 CER** to Kenneth Heaton.

**Lisa Kinnunen '98 AB** to Dominic Jacobetti III.

**Theresa Minkin '98 BS** to Brian Amos.

**Amy Giddens '99 CER** to John Lines II.

**Daniel Huyck '99 BS** to Amanda Miettinen '00 BSN.

**Jason Mattson '99 BS** to Holly Salminen '99 BSB.

**Christine Meyer '99 BS** to Andrew Burnette '02 BS.

**Barbara Parent '99 AB** to Gregory Hellman '01 BSN.

**Matthew Vert '99 BS** to Danielle Nieminen '01 BS.

**Paul Bergstrasesser '00 MA** to Michelle Jarman '00 MA.

**Christy Connors '00 BS** to Daniel Etelamaki '01 BS.

**Julie Ellis '00 BS** to Todd Moore.

**Ryan Grim '00 BS** to Rachel Linn.

**Yasmine Korte '00** to Donald Cook.

**Beth Kosonen '00 BS** to Kraig Nelson.

**Robert Lawrence '00 BS** to Laurel Mathers.

**Jason Yirsa '00 BSN** to Kimberly Manninen.

**Ann Alexander '01 BS** to Thomas Golden.

**Kathryn Ambrose '01 BS** to Ryan Kneueppel.

**Scott Amhaus '01 BS** to Catherine St. Onge '01 CER.

**Brandi Carlson '01 BS** to Thomas Petrocik.

**Courtney Cleary '01 BS** to Aaron Ranta '01 AAS.

**Marguerite Cowell '01 BS** to Craig Moore.

**Tonya Harsila '01 BS** to Michael Irvine

**Amy Little '01 BSN** to Bruce Cram, Jr.

**Jerome Starkey '01 BS** to Renee Pietrangelo.

**Rebecca Strom '01 BS** to Chad

Wilkinson.

**Bradley Cox '02 AT** to Kara Liubakka.

## Deaths

**Claire (Hulsizer) Brissette '30 LC**, Sept. 28, 2002, Escanaba.

**Norma (Johnson) LaFaver '31 BS**, June 19, 2002, Albuquerque, N.M.

**Josephine (Gambotto) Bogetto '34 LC, '60 BS**, Aug. 12, 2002, Negaunee.

**Linnea (Nelson) Negrinelli '34 LC, '66 BS**, Aug. 21, 2002, Gwinn.

**Eero Wiitala '37 BS**, July 26, 2002, Marquette.

**Edna Kielinen '38 BS**, Oct. 15, 2002, Marquette.

**Robert Murphy '38 BA**, Oct. 5, 2002, San Antonio, Texas.

**Louise (Basso) Schultz '40 BS**, Jan. 7, 2002, Devon, Pa.

**Charlotte (McWilliams) Viant '40 BA**, Sept. 11, 2002, Ishpeming.

**Orlando Spigarelli '41 BS**, July 17, 2002, Iron Mountain.

**Leonard West '41 BS**, May 5, 2002, Alamogordo, N.M.

**Edwin Olds '42 BS**, June 29, 2002, Naples, Fla.

**Ira "Hack" Hanson '48 BS**, Oct. 10, 2002, Newberry.

**Lawrence Korpi '50 BA**, July 20, 2002, Marquette.

**Ellwood Mattson '50 BS**, Nov. 30, 2002, Marquette.

**Olive (Lundin) Richardson '50 BS**, Aug. 25, 2002, Stambaugh.

**Gladys Chamberlain '51 BS**, Oct. 20, 2002, Ontonagon.

**Clarence Hammer '51 BA**, Aug. 24, 2002, Marquette.

**Herbert Ladin '51 BA**, Sept. 9, 2002, Escanaba.

**Charles Lahti '51 BS**, Aug. 23, 2002, Palm City, Fla.

**Joseph McMillan '52 BS**, July 23, 2002, DePere, Wis.

**Walfred "Mike" Mickelson '52 BS**, Sept. 22, 2002, Marquette.





# What's next?

By SANDY SPOELSTRA, '81 BSN, '87 MSN

**W**hen I was a teenager, I had no idea what I would end up doing. In the span of my professional life, I have changed careers five times. After getting a BSN back in the early 80s, I started working as a staff nurse at the local hospital. Right away I had leadership roles at the hospital and in the nursing union. This led to several different positions in the hospital.

Ten years later, I started a home health agency. Over the course of 20 years, the agency evolved into a multi-site, multi-discipline operation with more than 400 employees. Eventually, federal regulations changed and I sold the business. I then started a home care consulting business, wrote a book on productivity, and purchased a little coffee shop.

The common thread that runs through all of these career paths is that none of them would have been possible without the connections I made while at NMU. I have been a lifetime member of the NMU Alumni Association since the 80s, and my NMU associates, friends, and acquaintances have helped me in many ways: getting jobs, making career moves, starting and developing businesses, as well as the many personal relationships I have enjoyed.

Eventually all of these contacts led me to a grant writing position at the local Chamber of Commerce, where NMU contacts are imperative to my success. Just last month while working on a significant grant, I had a conference call with The Association of Counties in Washington, DC, and the staff person on the line was a graduate of NMU. We made an immediate connection, and it made a difference!

So the next time you're in town, stop in at Brew Bakers downtown, enjoy a latte, and ask for me! During homecoming week, home sporting events, the first week of school, graduation, and parents weekend, I always hang my green and gold banner, put on my NMU sweatshirt, and hang a sign that says, "NMU Alumni Business Owner."

As for my career, who knows? I am going to stay open to all ideas, and I am sure that I am not done changing. But I am also sure that the core skills and confidence I developed while a student at NMU have prepared me to be successful in any career I choose to pursue. A lot of you can probably relate to this because you remember being a student and thinking you were picking a major that would lead to a career that would never change. Certain skills carry you to the top no matter what the job. ■

Photograph by Kim Marsh, '80 BS

NORTHERN PERSPECTIVE is a guest column open to all alumni, friends, faculty, and current students of Northern Michigan University. We welcome your personal essays, anecdotes, opinion pieces, short-short fiction or fiction excerpts, poetry, or images. Not all submissions will make it into the magazine, and Horizons will not return submissions without a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Text may be edited for space and clarity. If you would like to make a submission to Northern Perspective, send it by e-mail to horizons@nmu.edu, through the Horizons Web site at [www.nmu.edu/horizons](http://www.nmu.edu/horizons), or by mail to Editor, Horizons, Northern Michigan University, 1401 Presque Isle Avenue, Marquette, Michigan 49855. Photographs should have a resolution of at least 300 dpi.

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Special thanks to our models: Wildcat Willy, Deanna Hemmila '88 BS, and Quinn and Evan Kyle.



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# Why I'm a member

of the NMU Alumni Association



There was no NMU Alumni Association when I first enrolled at Northern...

But I am delighted to tell you about the fun get-togethers that preceded such a group.

We had pep sessions on the high rocks by the shore and lit bonfires as big as a house. Sororities had outings at Lautner's Chalet, *Midgaard*, which in Norse mythology means a place between heaven and earth joined by a rainbow bridge. When the sun was setting, we climbed the roof and often saw a rainbow hanging in the sunset over Lake Superior.

When we ran down the rocky hill on the way home after dark, we carried torches made from tin cans and candles. I can still smell the aroma of the trailing arbutus that bloomed in the gullies. Walking the shore in the darkness, the braver girls "streaked" and splashed in the frigid waters of Lake Superior.

In winter we snowshoed around Presque Isle. On warmer days, we climbed Pulpit Rock. The night after commencement, we climbed Sugarloaf and cooked our supper in the twilight.

I have been a proud life member of the Northern Alumni Association since the very start. My sorority always sang the hymn, "Blessed be the Tie that Binds." We should sing it now, too!

Dorothea (Schlechte) Johnson '29 BS,  
Alumni Association Member since 1985



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