



# Northern HORIZONS

WINTER 2007

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

## Sports

**Behind the scenes**

**Going to extremes**

# Northern HORIZONS

Winter 2007 ■ Vol. 97, No. 2

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

# Good sports

NMU has produced a remarkable number of high-level sports professionals. Some who come to mind include **Lloyd Carr '68 BS, '70 MAE**, University of Michigan football head coach; **Don Waddell, '80**, general manager of the NHL's Atlanta Thrashers; **Steve Weeks, '80 BA**, Thrashers' assistant coach; **Frank Novak, '62 BA, '67 MA**, special teams consultant for the NFL's Green Bay Packers; **Tom Izzo '77 BS**, head coach of the Michigan State University men's basketball team, the 2000 NCAA champions; and **Steve Mariucci '77 BS, '82 MAE**, current Football Network analyst and former NFL coach.

And then there are our superlative athletes, including **Cathy Turner-Bostley '91 BS**, short track speedskating Olympic gold medalist; current student Shani Davis, two-time world champion and Olympic medalist in long track speedskating; **Dallas Drake, '92**, captain of the NHL's St. Louis Blues; **J.P. Vigier, '01 BA**, right wing of the Thrashers; and **Frida Waara '77 BA**, the first Michigan woman to reach the North Pole on skis.

But then there are so many others with Northern ties who do amazing things in athletics—out of the spotlight—that we thought their stories should be told, and the limelight shared with them. We hope you'll be inspired by the folks we've featured in this issue to follow your own passions, however you can.

—Rebecca Tavernini

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Great article by Kristi Evans in *Horizons* (Fall 2006) about my former roommate and good friend Scott Hegerich. Not only did he work for WNMU FM and TV at NMU, he also was a mainstay at Audio-Visual.

When he was in Chicago, we got together periodically, often for lunch at either Manny's Deli or Lou Mitchell's, both near his office in the West Loop. One time he helped me expedite some camp friends of my daughter's through customs at O'Hare. Legally, of course! Thanks! I really enjoyed it.

—**Barry L. Axelrod '69 BA**  
**Past President, NMU Alumni Association**  
**Deerfield, Ill.**

*Northern Horizons'* Law and Order issue left me feeling a large sense of loss. The old pristine, peaceful university in the north woods seems just the opposite today. Yes, 911 was an extremely tragic event, but since then, crime and terrorist statistics show that the U.S. is no less safe than pre-911. It seems that NMU has fallen for the Republican administration's main campaign theme—make Americans feel vulnerable, then talk and walk tough on crime and terrorism. But in the case of your magazine, the world is less safe, but trust NMU's law and order programs to make it safer.

When covering these issues, there is a very fine line on what's appropriate. Be careful not to over-romanticize our new security forces, nor should we be too excited about the opportunities to fight crime and terrorism.

—**Bob Sutherland, '89 BS**  
**Traverse City, Mich.**

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**ON THE COVER:** The 2004 World Snowmobile Association's Polaris Canterbury Snowcross in Shakopee, Minn. Photograph by **Tom Dahlin '79 BS**.

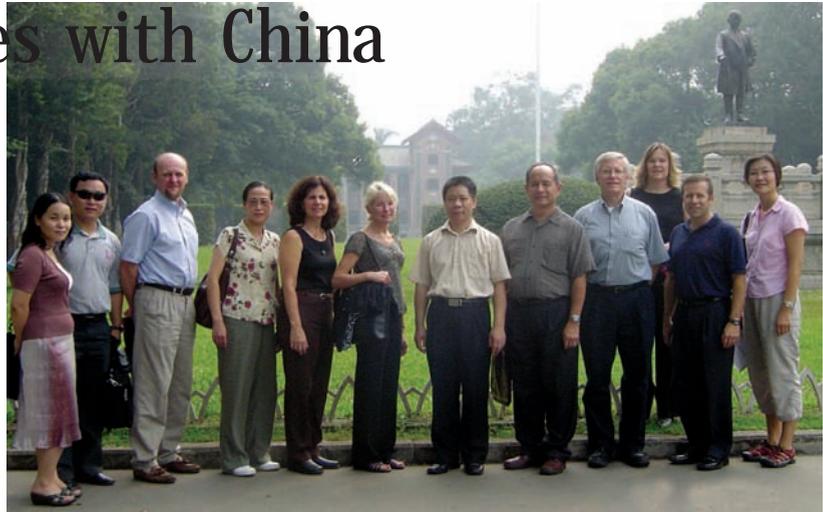
## NMU forges ties with China

A Northern delegation traveled to China in October to explore opportunities for partnering with educational and corporate entities.

One of the main reasons for the trip was to meet with representatives of Lenovo, the corporation that manufactures the notebook computers issued to most NMU students.

“I wanted to put in front of that group two things: becoming a model campus for sales and product development worldwide; and possibly establishing a closer research, development and teaching relationship between NMU and Lenovo International,” said NMU President Les Wong. “Every signal we received—from the corporate structure there to Lenovo USA—was ‘absolutely.’ I said our campus would be more than willing to test any products they develop. Those could include phones, laptops, desktops and servers.

“We also talked about a partnership based on the company’s connection with the Olympics and our connection with the United States Olympic Education Center. Could we leverage their coaches and



The NMU delegation making friends and forming partnerships in China.

athletes training on campus? Could our students be interns at the 2008 Olympics?” Wong said. “We also looked at co-branding. They filmed a commercial here at NMU with the speedskaters. It was so successful, they’re planning to do more on campus in advance of the 2008 Summer Games.”

During the trip NMU established a “memorandum of understanding” with Beijing Sports University to facilitate faculty and student exchanges and to explore additional opportunities.

Wong noted palpable differences associated with China’s “red-hot, hyper economy” compared with his three previous visits to the

country before joining NMU.

“The energy and sense of optimism and knowledge that they are at the center of the world’s economy was so obvious wherever we went,” he said. “The building going on in the cities, the investments they’re making in higher education and K-12, and their efforts to transform into a modern culture all made me speechless.

“I think it was very successful. In many ways, it was a positive first step. You don’t just go to China and expect to achieve something right off the bat. It’s a long process, but we’re positioned well to have future conversations with them in many different ways.”

## Enrollment at all-time high

NMU has recorded all-time highs for both total headcount and undergraduate enrollment. The final fall-semester headcount was 9,689, up from 9,500 the previous year. The number of undergraduate students within that total was 8,880.

“This has been a long, slow climb since enrollment bottomed out at about 7,600 after the closure of K.I. Sawyer in 1995,” said Paul Duby, associate vice president for institutional research. “Despite declining high school

graduating classes in the Upper Peninsula, our enrollment has grown by almost 2,100 students.”

Duby added that the increase has been accompanied by stronger academic credentials among incoming freshmen and an increase in student retention and graduation statistics. Duby credits the latter to support programs for at-risk students.

“Retaining a student through graduation saves a university from having to recruit three new students,” he said.

# Presque Isle Avenue—the new Wall Street?

A new student-managed investment fund has been established and students are already using it as a learning tool. The student-named Superior Fund started with an initial sum of \$200,000, contributed by the university, friends and alumni.

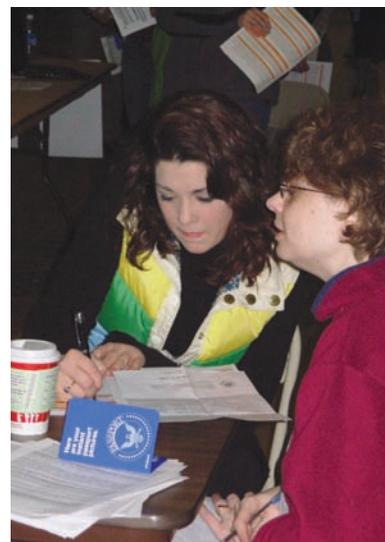
The fund was established by the College of Business to provide students with a hands-on, real-world experience in actively managing the investment of actual monies in equities, bonds and other financial instruments.

As part of their class work, the students conduct research into industries and companies and recommend buying and selling stocks and bonds. The fund is overseen by a team of advisers drawn from both the university and financial services communities.

“The student-managed investment fund is an important component of our goal to offer a first-class undergraduate business education,” said Rajib Sanyal, dean of the College of Business. “It is also designed to complement the creation of a real-time investment trading room, where students will use live market information to simulate the execution of purchase and sale of stocks and bonds.”

The investment goals are to preserve and grow the initial capital amount and use part of the return to support academic and student-related programming.

The name of the fund “reflects our location and our expectation for how the fund will perform,” said Business Instructor Daniel Konku.



## Passport Day on campus

In anticipation of new regulations that now require a passport to travel by air to Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean, along with increased international study opportunities, NMU hosted Passport Day last fall on campus.

Authorized agents from the city library and a photographer set up shop in the Learning Resources Center to help more than 100 students, faculty and staff apply for passports at one convenient location. Here, an agent assists freshman Jeni Schrandt with her application.

## Student immersed in world of publishing



Michelle Menting with “Meet the Press” host Tim Russert at Book Expo America

Every year in Washington, D.C., about 30,000 book-sellers, editors, authors and agents, librarians and publishers from around the world attend Book Expo America (BEA)—the largest book convention in the United States.

Through a grant set up by NMU alum **Mark Dressler '83 BS**, Northern master of fine arts student Michelle Menting attended the BEA. “I met editors and agents and got a crash course on what happens to a written work once it evolves into book form,” said Menting. “I learned about the book-as-product, from the process of publication to publicity, to the book

being placed on the shelf at the library or local bookstore.”

Small and large publishing houses displayed upcoming titles, authors signed books and people discussed poetry, writing and marketing.

“As an MFA student, I study and practice the craft of writing and see books as works of art. At a conference like BEA, I not only met publishing world dignitaries, but received a first-hand glimpse of how the entire book industry operates,” she said. “It was fantastic to listen to writers like John Updike and visionaries like *Wired* magazine editor Chris Anderson and Senator Barack Obama; to hear comedic wits like Amy Sedaris; and to meet a personal long-time hero of mine, Tim Russert. This unique BEA internship was a magnificent learning experience.”

# Fighting a domestic violence myth

**W**omen who believe that alcohol is the cause of abusive behavior and accept it as an excuse might be less likely to seek help. But an NMU project will use women's own stories to challenge the myth of alcohol's role in domestic violence.

The university has received a \$78,000 grant from the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of Michigan to carry out the project.

"Because we live in a drinking society, there's a tendency to blame things on alcohol—particularly behavior that is embarrassing or gets people into trouble," said Ira Hutchison, head of the sociology

and social work department and a principal investigator. "But the fact is that alcohol only heightens predispositions and diminishes inhibitions. You can sober up an intoxicated spouse abuser, but you're still left with a sober spouse abuser. We're trying to undermine women's tendency to believe that alcohol is the cause."

Kerri Schuiling of the School of Nursing is the other project investigator. Her role reflects the fact that nurses typically have more opportunity to interact with abused women than others in the medical profession, putting them in a unique position to help educate victims.

Forty women will be interviewed—some on camera for a video produced by NMU professor Michael Loukinen. The interviews will then be analyzed to flesh out common themes. The video will be distributed to all domestic violence shelters and substance abuse facilities in Michigan.

"Nothing like this has been done before that we can find," Hutchison said. "Instead of addressing the broader issues of alcohol or domestic violence, this project has a very specific purpose. And we're making the point with women's own stories."

## BEAUMIER U.P. HERITAGE CENTER DEDICATED

**John Beaumier '53 BS** and his wife, Mary Jane, were honored on Dec. 15 at the dedication of the Beaumier U.P. Heritage Center, located in the Superior Dome.

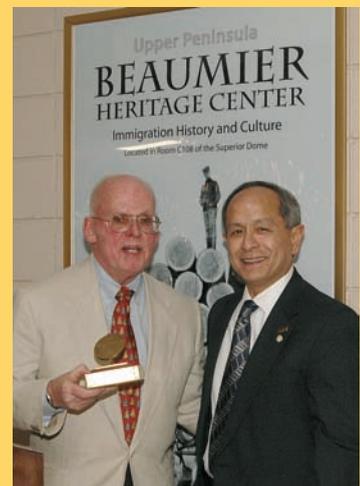
The couple gave a \$1 million gift to NMU in the last fund-raising campaign to create the center, which will feature exhibits highlighting the socio-economic, cultural, religious and industrial heritage of the Upper Peninsula.

Dr. Beaumier, a retired orthopedic surgeon, was also the mid-year commencement speaker and received an honorary doctor of science degree.

Beaumier was born in Escanaba and now resides in Cedar River. He retired in 1998 from the Mayo Clinic, where he served as a director in orthopedic evaluation. He also was an associate professor in orthopedic surgery at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine.

Beaumier has maintained close ties to his alma mater. He has served on the NMU Foundation Board of Trustees since 1999 and was national campaign chair for the university's first comprehensive fundraising campaign. Beaumier is a past recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award. He also was a 1994 inductee into the NMU Sports Hall of Fame for his contributions to Wildcat football.

After graduating from NMU, Beaumier completed medical school at Marquette University before serving in the U.S. Navy and interning at the U.S. Naval Hospital. He completed his residency at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine and began his professional career at the Marshfield Clinic in Wisconsin. Beaumier later moved to North Dakota, where he practiced for 25 years at health-care facilities in the Grand Forks area. While there, he spent several years as the team physician for the University of North Dakota. He also provided orthopedic care and consulting during two overseas humanitarian trips to Bangladesh. He closed out his career at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.



Beaumier with NMU President Les Wong

# Big League Deal Makers

Kristi Evans



courtesy of Zach Wagner

**Bill Hawker and Zach Wagner create winning partnerships for the Packers and Tigers (and get to go to every home game).**

By Kristi Evans

As a native of Bourbonnais, Ill.—less than an hour's drive from the Windy City—**Bill Hawker '95 BS** grew up a devout Bears fan. So how does he explain that anomaly in his parents' photo album? It's a shot of Hawker at about age seven on Christmas morning. He's eagerly opening a gift of Bears apparel, but he's decked out in green-and-gold pajamas emblazoned with the name of Chicago's longtime arch nemesis to the north. "I'm not really sure how that happened," he laughed. "All I can say is that they were probably the ones on sale." (His mother confirmed that was the case.)

The irony of the image isn't lost on Hawker. No one could have predicted then that the young Bears fan in the Packers PJs would end up working for both NFL franchises—back to back—during his career. Hawker became the manager of corporate sales in Green Bay last March after several years with the Bears.

"It was definitely a promotion for me," he said during an interview at Curly's Pub in the Lambeau Field atrium. "But personally it was the right thing to do, too, because my wife [**Sara nee Kamitz '94 BS**] and I had a young daughter and were expecting our second child. It was time to get out of the rat race. We own a cabin in the U.P. and my wife's from Gladstone. This is a much better situation for my family. And I don't mind the shorter commute."



While Hawker's main responsibility is to generate revenue for the club, he's involved in much more than sales. His typical game-day checklist reads like this: report to stadium for 8 a.m. production meeting; review status of atrium hospitality areas and private boxes for prospective and current clients; take lap around perimeter in search of prospective partners among companies throwing private parties; scan parking lot for "ambush marketers" trying to sidestep required fee for peddling goods to tailgaters; escort select clients onto field before kickoff; retreat to Packers tunnel, put on headset and assist with player introductions; direct partner halftime promotions; mingle while watching the game.

Hawker also is in charge of advertising signage in the stadium, which at this time is restricted to the scoreboards in each end zone. There are no promotional banners

encircling the “sacred ground” of Lambeau Field, unlike many other modern facilities. And no corporation has purchased exclusive naming rights to the stadium.

“I just don’t see that happening,” Hawker said. “The day we do that is the day we start losing credibility in terms of what we said we stand for: a statewide, publicly-owned franchise that cares for its fans—number one. There will be subtle ways you might see companies incorporated into themed advertising, but I don’t think it will ever be XYZ company at Lambeau Field or XYZ stadium at Lambeau. We have our gate partners on the exterior. That’s probably the biggest corporate branding you’ll see.

“Corporate sales has become a science because there are so many different aspects of a team that you can technically break off and pitch to an advertiser. The ‘less is more’ approach is definitely the higher perceived value. I think that’s what we’ve been successful with in Green Bay. The less you’re selling yourself out, the more it’s worth.”

Away from the field, Hawker works with clients to develop marketing plans that allow them to use the Packers name and logo in their promotional efforts. For example, Associated Bank sponsors the club level at Lambeau Field and

markets Packers checking accounts and debit cards. Johnsonville Brats sponsors the “Tailgater of the Game” in return for high-profile billing on the Web site and in print publications. In another partnership

Hawker inherited, American Family Insurance

joined with the team to sell ball caps with the familiar block “G” logo, but in distinct colors representing health-related issues: pink for breast cancer research in 2005 and red for heart disease

awareness this past season. Hawker said the key to his profession is relationship development. It sometimes takes months or even a year to close a deal. Timing and connections also help. They’ve certainly worked to Hawker’s benefit—not only in sales, but in advancing his career.

The father of a hometown friend was a high school physical education teacher and moonlighted for the Atlanta Braves. Instead of going to study hall, Hawker would go to the man’s office and help him stuff envelopes to baseball prospects about upcoming clinics.

“I always wanted to work in sports and I asked him how I could get into marketing and game-day type of work,” Hawker recalled. “He said to find a school that offers recreation or sports administration programs and does it successfully. I

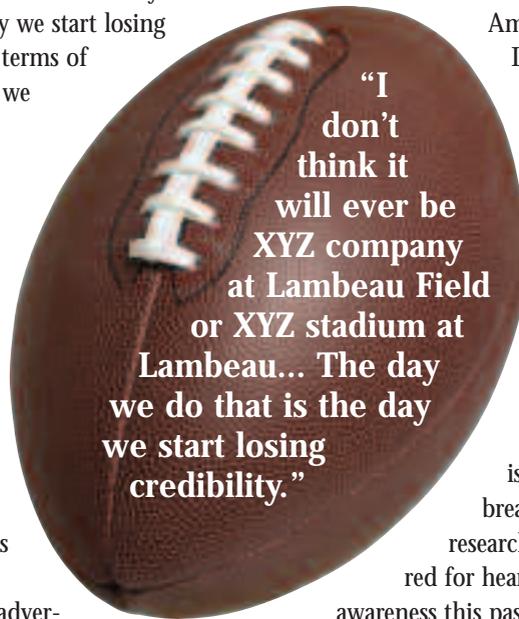
looked at Northern because my family vacationed in the area and it allowed me to do my own thing a nice distance from home. It was a good decision. I got involved in rec services and met lots of great people. Brian Gaudreau was a mentor. We formed a great friendship and have stayed in touch ever since.”

To fulfill an internship requirement, Hawker worked for a summer at the YMCA in his hometown. Administrators were so impressed with his performance that they hired him to fill a vacant sports program director position—despite the fact he had to complete his final semester at NMU before he could assume the full-time duties. Once settled, Hawker did a lot of special-events work with the NFL and became friends with the community relations director for the Bears.

“Over lunch one day I said, ‘Hey, if the janitor job comes open, let me know. I’ll sweep floors to work for the Bears. Two weeks later, he called to tell me the team’s special events and promotions manager was let go.”

Hawker sealed his dream job and later shifted to team sales. He spent more than seven years at Soldier Field before the Green Bay opening surfaced. Any regrets leaving a team that—as of press time—had catapulted to the top of the NFC North division, while the Packers struggled and missed the playoffs?

“You can’t look back and question it,” he said. “We’d be changing jobs every two years if we based our decisions on records alone. The phone rings a lot more when you’re winning, but thankfully we’re not in the business of selling wins and losses; we sell the affiliation with the



team. There are definitely challenges being based in Green Bay because it's a much smaller market than most. But the Packers' name, image and brand are an easy sell overall. There are 72,000-plus fans on the waiting list for season tickets. It's rare to have that level of built-in loyalty regardless of how the team's doing."

A similar reversal of fortunes—to a greater extent and in the opposite direction—greeted **Zach Wagner '99 BS**, a friend of Hawker's and a fellow corporate sales director. Wagner once worked for the hard-luck Lions in Detroit. He ultimately traded the turf at Ford Field for the literally greener grass at Comerica Park. Wagner joined the Tigers just in time to witness the team's remarkable run to the World Series in 2006.

"It was busy, but very exciting. I feel fortunate to have been a part of it," Wagner said. "Last year the team was going through a managerial change and didn't do so well. What I found this year is that people were reliving their childhoods or early adulthoods from when the Tigers were last in the Series in '84. People are very passionate and nostalgic about baseball.

"With success comes greater expectations, but at least now when I'm making phone calls and going out in the community, people are more willing to talk about the Tigers. It's fun. We'll try to strike while the iron is hot and capitalize on the success for the next couple of years."

During the season—extended to about eight months this year as the team played well into

October—Wagner said he focuses on "entertaining clients, executing their contracts and keeping them happy." He attends at least a portion of all 81 home games on the schedule, making sure sponsor promotions or giveaways go smoothly. He also helps coordinate player appearances and autograph sessions.

The most visible components of the corporate sales division's efforts are the promotional signs fans encounter on game day. Wagner cited a deal brokered with a major soft drink company as an example. Pepsi paid to be featured prominently on advertisements in the stadium. The company gets a return on that investment by being granted exclusive "pouring rights" at Comerica Park, which means that only Pepsi products are available at the concession stands.

"They're also given the right to use the Old English 'D' logo in their marketing materials," Wagner explained. "It's powerful to have that association. Many people who are huge Tigers fans see that 'D' on the packaging or see a chance to win a trip. It's intertwining the relationship between business and sports. We work with companies to develop a program that will maximize their expenditure here and give them the most bang for their buck."

In the offseason, Wagner shifts into full sales mode. He negotiates

with existing partners to renew and ideally expand their existing contracts while also prospecting for new sponsors. Such conversations are often held over late-night dinners or between swings on the golf course.

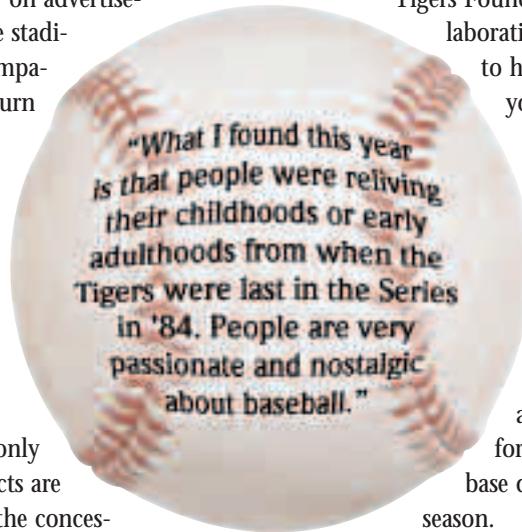
Wagner said one of his biggest challenges is fighting for dollars in the southeastern Michigan economy, which has struggled to recover from the rippling effect of problems plaguing the auto industry.

One of the highlights of his job is a partnership he spearheaded between Starbucks and the Detroit Tigers Foundation. The col-

laboration is designed to help inner-city youth improve their lives through baseball. Starbucks donated \$10,000 up front and contributes an additional \$50 for every stolen base during the season.

"It's a very grassroots company that doesn't do sports sponsorships most of the time, but tying into the foundation made sense and complemented Starbucks' mission," Wagner said. To raise awareness for the youth program, three players were honorary baristas at Starbucks locations last season. "Getting them out there was good. We're hoping to expand it more this year. We try to do our best to give back to the community."

Wagner was destined for a career in sports. As the son of a high school football coach, the pigskin



was—and remains—his true passion. He played center and guard from 1994-98 for the NMU Wildcats while pursuing a degree in public relations.

“All along, I was always asking how I could get into sports,” Wagner said. “My intent was to work in marketing for a professional team or organization. I sent my resume to every sports team in the United States. I’m not kidding you—baseball, basketball, football, hockey. The Lions offered me a season-long internship. That’s kind of how most people get started: at the ground level.”

In his four years with the Lions, Wagner helped with on-field

promotions and coordinated fan activities at the spring training camp.

Professional golf was his next calling. He accepted a sales and marketing position with the PGA Ford Senior Players Championship in Dearborn. Wagner’s goal was to drive as much traffic to the event as possible. He handled advertising, ticket sales and the marketing of hospitality areas.

The PGA tour moved the championship to Baltimore, but Wagner wanted to stay in Detroit. He got his wish, thanks to a former Lions colleague who had made the switch to baseball and gave Wagner an inside track to a corporate sales

position with the Tigers organization.

“I enjoy being able to sit and talk to people from all facets of business,” Wagner said. “It might be a waste company, a beverage company and a lawn turf company all in one day. I try to listen to their needs and customize something that will benefit them. We all have excess inventory we’re trying to sell, but I make an effort to listen and create something that makes sense for them rather than pushing them into something that doesn’t. Many people love sports; it’s an escape from the rest of their lives. But for me, sports *is* my life.” ■

## Running with the Pack

By Kristi Evans

NMU senior Kiejuan Davis received a generous parting gift from some Green Bay Packers at the end of his second summer internship as an athletic trainer. But it came with two conditions: Davis had to run eight 100-yard sprints—each within an allotted time with brief rest periods in between; and he had to perform the feat sporting less-than-flattering spandex tights and a half-shirt supplied by wide receiver Robert Ferguson, who instigated the friendly wager.

“It started as a lot of training room banter,” said Bryan Engel, assistant trainer for the Packers. “Robert is always challenging interns to do something, but it never escalated to the point it did with Kiejuan because he was one of Robert’s favorites and vice versa. As other players walked by and heard what was going on, they got involved, saying they would add money to the pool if he could do it.”

The players issued the challenge all in good fun, not realizing that Davis, from Jackson, Mich., was struggling with serious financial concerns at the time. “I had to spend my [internship] check from the Packers on a summer class and I was trying to figure out how I was going to pay for school in the fall,” Davis said. “They had no idea how much I needed the money. I didn’t tell them

why I was doing it, but it made them feel good afterwards knowing how much they helped me.”

Fueled by the added motivation, Davis said he never considered backing out. He did confess to nervousness on the eve of the challenge as he replayed the ribbing from players and other student trainers about the prospect of not finishing or passing out from over-exertion. “They were cracking jokes about whether I could do it,” he said. “It was the same running test we would watch the players do, only they set different times for me.”

At the end of practice the next day, Davis stripped down to his spandex. He began the first of eight dashes down the middle of the field, with players lining both sides cheering him on.

“On the last sprint, they were very excited he was going to achieve it,” said Engel, who was also on the sideline. “Some of them started running with him and when they crossed the finish line, they tackled him and celebrated.”

Davis added: “Once I got going, I knew I could do it. Before practice, they said they’d give me \$2,000 if I made it. By the end of practice, it was up to about \$4,000. That was really nice. It really helped me out.”



# Shooting Stars

Sports photographer Tom Dahlin is one of the best in the field—and this is just his hobby.

By Rebecca Tavernini

When Brett Favre gets poised for a pass, watching intently on the sidelines **Tom Dahlin '79 BS** isn't necessarily hoping that Donald Driver is going to be open to receive it and run it in, or that, please, it doesn't get intercepted. What he's praying for is Favre to step into a little shaft of sunlight that's just broken through the clouds over Lambeau, pouring radiantly down onto the field, and for the football to sail there from his fingers, flinging off bits of ice and mud above the quarterback's fiercely focused face. What he's hoping for is the perfect sports photo. And if he gets it, there's a good chance that the three million readers of *Sports Illustrated* will see just what he saw in that magical instant.

As a freelance photographer working for *SI*, ESPN and the NCAA, covering such teams as the Green Bay Packers, Detroit Lions, Minnesota Vikings, Timberwolves, Twins and Wild, Chicago Bears, visiting teams, University of Minnesota

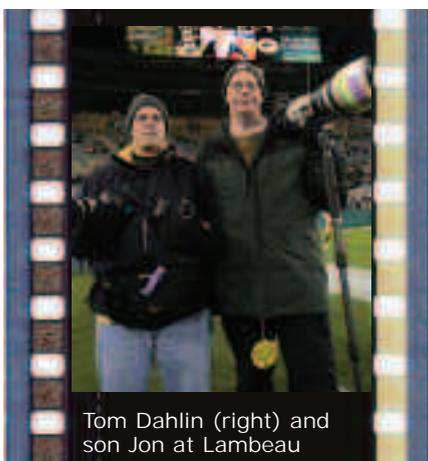
and Big Ten football, basketball and hockey and a number of other sports, Dahlin has the unique opportunity to get close to the action and the players. But usually the last thing he's thinking of is the excitement of the game. "I really enjoy going to the games, but I'm so busy concentrating on getting the shot, on anticipating where the action will be next, that I don't go as a fan at all," said Dahlin, who lives in Minneapolis. "I almost feel like a coach, always focused on what's going to happen in the next play. And like a coach, I find that a lot of times it doesn't work out that way."

On the sidelines, he does enjoy a certain amount of freedom of movement, although with three or four cameras strapped around his neck and lenses nearly the length of his arm, he tries to camp at a few key spots. However, the TV cameras rule. "Everyone has to work around the television crews," he explained. "They get to go where they want because they're paying the bills." Even with errant running backs, flying pucks and cascading clusters of seven-foot-tall basketball players, surprisingly, he and his equipment rarely get injured. "But I did get clocked real good last year at a Vikings game," he said.

Because of the amount and value of camera equipment he brings with him to each game, Dahlin prefers to cover games within driving distance of his home. He especially enjoys shooting at Lambeau Field and Soldier Field because of the natural light available, which during football season has a strong directional angle that makes for richer photographs, and for the real grass and dirt kicked up that provide authenticity. Other venues, like ice hockey arenas or the

Minneapolis Metrodome, are more challenging with their sterile indoor lighting and artificial turf or white ice.

Dahlin has found a way to get around that, however, by using remote-control or infrared photography. "I always try to get something different than other photographers," said Dahlin, whose work has also appeared in *TV Guide*, *USA Today* and *Sports Illustrated Kids*, and who has been awarded first place in the highly respected Nikon-sponsored Sports Shooter Workshop.



Tom Dahlin (right) and son Jon at Lambeau

Reasoning that a photographer can't be at all places at once, no matter how skilled at predicting plays, and that some places are too dangerous to be anyway, Dahlin sets up four to six prefocused remote control cameras in key action areas, such as on the top of a basketball backboard, inside a hockey goal, on a football goal post or arena ceiling. He then presses a button on a transmitter to take the picture. A photo he took of the Timberwolves' Kevin Garnett looking up through the rim with his arms outstretched was blown up to 10' x 20' and displayed in the Target Center Skyway for the season. With a remote camera behind the Milwaukee goal during last year's NCAA Frozen Four, Dahlin captured a frame seconds

after the winning moment—the Badgers' goalie and another player jubilantly leaping at each other in the air—a two-page spread in *ESPN Magazine*. A second camera, focused on the same goal, but mounted directly above, yielded a full-page shot in *Sports Illustrated*.

Infrared photography creates a surreal artistic quality in photographs. Dahlin had one of his cameras converted to an infrared model, which blocks visible light and lets infrared light pass through.

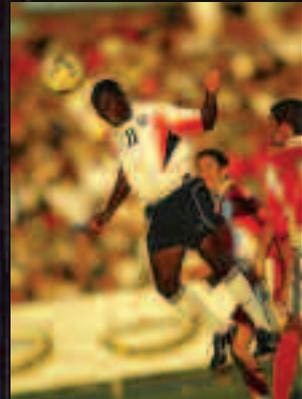
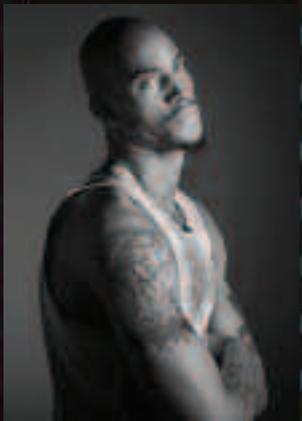
"The infrared and remote control ideas came to me directly from my science and engineering background," he explained. "I thought 'what if' and I tried it, knowing it would be very technical and difficult to do."

That background was honed at NMU, where Dahlin majored in engineering technology and minored in math/computer science. (His father, Gene, taught in NMU's industrial arts and vocational guidance departments from 1957-71.) As a student working in the sports information bureau, Dahlin was able to continue with his interest in photography that started in high school.

"I have to give kudos to Don Pavloski [former NMU photographer] for the great job he did teaching me sports photography, the opportunities he gave me to shoot Wildcat sports, and the trust he had in me," he said. In covering Wildcat football during the late '70s, Dahlin remarked, "Little did I know that I'd be seeing Steve Mariucci on the sidelines 20 years later."

"I also received invaluable hands-on experience as a work-study electronics technician at WNMU-TV under the supervision of Jerry Ely."

During his time at NMU, microprocessors were just emerging.



“Bill Rigby was one of the first guys to get on the bandwagon,” recalled Dahlin. “He had such great enthusiasm for what could be done with them.” Concurrent with the beginning of the microprocessor revolution, there was a great demand for graduates with software skills. Dahlin took an introductory course in programming from Terry Seethof and found he loved that discipline as much as electronics. Several courses later he had a minor in math/computer science.

“I came out of Northern very well prepared to step right into work, and making more money than I ever imagined!” He stepped right into Honeywell in Minneapolis as an electronics engineer working on defense systems projects with microprocessor sensors. It was a job he enjoyed for 10 years, during which time he was named an NMU Outstanding Young Alumnus.

The next 10 he worked at 3M on new product design. He said 3M gave employees a lot of freedom, permission to take risks and permission to fail. He worked on several imaging-related projects utilizing research-quality digital cameras long before consumer-grade versions became available.

After that, he was one of the first employees to join a start-up company, Stratasy, making rapid prototype machines, which create plastic models from 3D computer images.

“Then I got the bug to go off on my own and do freelance engineering,” he said. Not one to burn bridges, he does consulting work for his past employers and others.

Dahlin holds four U.S. patents: two for rapid prototyping systems developed at Stratasy and two for a snowplow guidance system

developed at 3M, which uses conformable magnetic pavement marking tape to allow snowplow operators to sense the road edge while driving in white-out conditions.

He bought his first digital camera in 2000 for \$5,000. It was a one megapixel Nikon D1 SLR. While some photographers have been slow to convert to digital, Dahlin was sold from the start. “The beautiful thing is that you know immediately if you’ve got the shot,” he said. And at halftime or between quarters, he has images he took moments ago already streaming to magazines.

Ironically, after he graduated from Northern, Dahlin pretty much didn’t touch a camera for the purpose of simply taking photographs until his sons started playing sports in high school. “My first assignment came from *Sports Illustrated* to shoot the Vikings because of a photo I took at one of my son’s football games, where his team was playing the eventual NCAA Division 3 national champions, St. John’s University,” said Dahlin. “One thing led to another and I started shooting bigger venues and pro teams.”

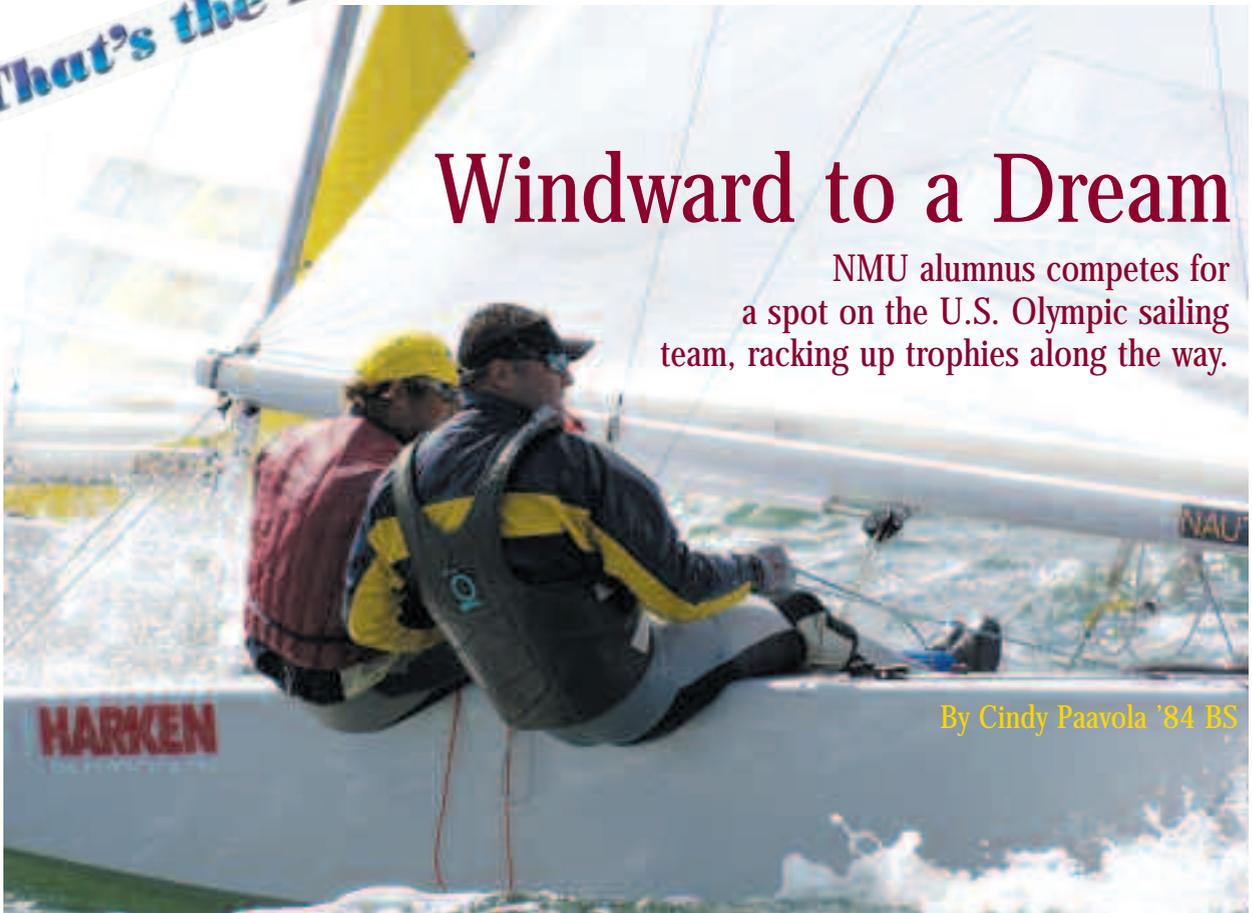
That same son, Jon, now assists his father at games and is following his interest in computer science, in addition to earning a history degree. His other son, Jayme, will be attending medical school. Tom and his wife, **Nanette (Luoma) ’77 BS**, are looking forward to moving back to the U.P., to a log cabin they’ve built near Ironwood, rather close to Tom’s hometown of Bessemer, and a handy location to continue combining his flair for invention with his skill for photography, capturing the defining moments of Midwest sports. ■

That's the Life!

# Windward to a Dream

NMU alumnus competes for a spot on the U.S. Olympic sailing team, racking up trophies along the way.

Walter Cooper/US SAILING



By Cindy Paavola '84 BS

Mark Strube, right, and Mark Mendelblatt competing in US Sailing's 2006 Rolex Miami Olympic Class Regatta.

As a business administration-management major at Northern, **Mark Strube '92 BS** had no intention of becoming a professional sailor. In fact, football and finances were what motivated his future plans.

After graduating, the former Wildcat gridder (1987-91) moved to Florida, where he played as the 1994 Orlando Predators' backup quarterback in the Arena Football League while working on his master's degree in business management at the University of Miami. He then went on to become a stockbroker, and it was in that position that a supervisor provided the impetus for a life-changing career switch.

"I was working as a stockbroker in West Palm Beach and taking a lot

of time off to sail. My boss wasn't happy with that and called me in his office one day. He said I needed to make a decision: stop sailing and make more cold calls or go sailing and stop working with the firm. I had to follow my dream. In 1997, I quit the firm to go sailing," said Strube.

"That summer I met one of the greatest sailors of all time, Buddy Melges. I told him that I was interested in getting involved with the America's Cup. He had ties with a team and told me to give him my resume, which he forwarded to the America True team with his recommendation. Not long after that, I went to San Francisco to try out and made the team. Since then, I have been involved with three other Cup teams: Aloha Challenge in 1999-

2000, One World Challenge in 2001-2003 and currently, the Victory Challenge."

Sailing was a new career but not a new experience for the Milwaukee, Wis., native. His dad, Roger, was an avid sailor, and Strube basically grew up on the water at the South Shore (Milwaukee) Yacht Club.

Today, he participates in three types of racing: match, big boat and Star.

"I enjoy the team aspect of sailing and I get something different from each of these races. Much like playing football, sailors take different positions and perform different sequential maneuvers on the boat. The boat slows down if one person is late."

In match racing, teams compete two at a time in a one-on-one

format. Typically, 10 to 12 teams race in a round robin, which leads to a semifinal, and a final race determines the winner. The most widely known big boat match race is the America's Cup. Strube rates participating in three America's Cups as his most satisfying sailing accomplishment "because of the prestige of the event.

"In match racing, prize money is usually involved, but in the America's Cup there is no prize money. However, crews are well paid and I get to see many old friends in different locations around the world," said Strube, who today calls West Palm Beach home.

In match racing, Strube's teams have won the 1998 New Zealand Match Racing Championships, the 1999 Australia Cup and the 2006 Ficker Cup.

In January, the NMU alumnus traveled to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, where he will train into February. Then he'll return to Valencia, Spain, where he trained last year, to complete his training for April's Louis Vuitton Cup, the qualifying race of the America's Cup. The America's Cup is held June 23 through July 2 ([www.americascup.com](http://www.americascup.com)).

In the Star class, Strube is currently fourth in the world rankings with George Szabo and seventh with Mark Mendelblatt. The latter was named US Sailing's 2006 SportsMan of the Year. Strube has been a part of the Star-class crew that won the 1997 North American Championships, the 2005 Bacardi Cup, the 2006 Kiel Week and the 2006 European Championships.

In this category, Strube has his sites set on Beijing, China, and the 2008 Summer Olympic Games. The

United States will send one team for each qualified Olympic Class. A 16-race regatta will be held in Los Angeles next fall to determine the Star Class representative.

"Sailing the Star is fun for me because all boats are on a level playing field with only a skipper and one crew. In 2000, I was ranked fourth and in 2004, I was third. I am hoping that in 2008, I skip second and get right to the top."

To do so, Strube said he will need to do his "homework."



Strube (right) being awarded the 1st place crew trophy and a navigator watch for the 2006 Rolex Baltic Race.

"There is no substitute for time on the water. You need to study the sails and the rig, and you need to get the best possible equipment to give your team a chance. In addition to knowing the boat inside and out, we study the wind and current information for each racing location. Physical training is intense. I lift weights and do a lot of aerobic exercise. The approach to training and discipline I experienced as part of the Wildcats has served me well in sailing."

Fundraising is also a homework assignment.

"Although small grants are awarded to defray costs, the Olympic Sailing Team is not paid. I will need to make a serious fundraising effort to support my voyage to the Olympics."

What's great about being a professional sailor?

"Sailing in big breezes and big waves is very cool. I've also been able to travel around the world and meet a lot of interesting people, such as Bill Clinton, James Caan, and the King and Queen of Norway."

But Strube said that sailing has its frustrating and frightening moments, too.

"The most challenging thing is sailing in light air. You need to have a lot of patience then. The scariest sailing situation I experienced occurred during a race from St. Petersburg, Fla., to Isla Mujeres, Mexico. We were off the coast of Cuba and a white squall came through. It was blowing over 40 knots and the seas were building to over 14 feet. I was sailing on a 70-footer and, after the squall blew over, the boat crashed through the huge seas that remained. About 30 feet of the bow—nearly half the boat—was coming off the front side of the waves and then crashing down the backside. I thought the boat was going to break in two because it was banging against the waves so hard!"

Regardless of the weather conditions, the water is where Strube knows he was meant to be. He followed his dream and has never looked back.

"It's easy to be motivated when you do something you love and get a paycheck doing it!"

It also doesn't hurt that no daily necktie is required. ■

That's the Life!

## Selling



## Adventure

By Rebecca Tavernini

Love of the outdoors is something that either brings students to Northern or inevitably gets ingrained in them while they're here. For many, it's a dream to find a job that combines their passion for outdoor activities with a life-sustaining wage. For a lucky few, it's a reality. Among the lucky ones is **Paul Conwell '95 BS**, supervisor of an L.L. Bean Outdoor Discovery School.

His day-to-day job involves conducting in-store clinics for customers interested in learning cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, fly-tying, cycling, camping and hiking and using global positioning systems (GPS) devices. This spring, he'll be responsible for hiring, training and supervising a team of instructors who will conduct Walk-On Adventures in kayaking and fly casting—a one- to two-hour experience with all equipment provided.

"At this point, I have only been with L.L. Bean for four months," Conwell said. "The entire time has been a wonderful learning experience for me. I have had the added challenge of being the first person to hold the Outdoor Discovery School supervisor position in the company. This has allowed me to have extra

creative freedom to help define my daily responsibilities, and in blending the Outdoor Discovery Center into the store."

Sometimes his activities take him beyond his Burlington, Mass., retail store, to teaching local boy scouts GPS, map and compass skills or conducting outreach events in the community. And in the store, there's all that cool gear he gets to learn about, train employees on and explain to customers. His favorite part of the job? "All of it!" he enthusiastically said. "I truly love what I do.

"I was able to confirm my passion for the outdoors at NMU," he recalled. Even though he grew up in East Lansing, his mom, Marge Forslin, who now lives in Marquette, encouraged him to go away to school. "He always yearned for friends who loved the out-of-doors as much as he did, so coming to NMU was just right for him," she said.

"I was fortunate enough to have wonderful guidance and opportunities with Jean Kinnear and the outdoor recreation program," he said.

He put his outdoor rec degree to work at DownWind Sports in Marquette and then he moved to Boston and began working for Eastern Mountain Sports, climbing his way up to store manager. Last year, a former co-worker recruited him to L.L. Bean. He and his wife, **Barbara (Paveglio) '97 BS**, an optician, enjoy the active life out east.

"At this point I see the outdoor retail field as one that I will hopefully spend a long time in," he said. "I have had a great time for the last 10 years, and can't think of anything else I would enjoy as much." With more than 500 people having already participated in his recreation clinics, it's clear that his sense of fun is contagious. ■

# Fl a



"I dipped my feet in and said, 'forget this.' As I went in farther, my lips started swelling up and I felt a major head rush."

So begins **Mickey Gopigian's '94 BS** vivid recollection of his first dive in frigid Lake Superior as part of a basic scuba class at Northern. "Once you got underwater it wasn't so bad because you were looking around and not thinking about it," he added. "But we all raced back to the locker room afterwards and took hot showers to warm up."

Gopigian laughs at the memory now. It's easy to have a sense of humor when you're sharing such details over the phone while basking in a sun-drenched, 85-degree afternoon from an enviable perch overlooking the Atlantic. Gopigian lives on the island of Providenciales—Provo, for short—in Turks and Caicos. He leads tourists on scuba sightseeing adventures as the

# Flamingo Divers

By Kristi Evans



operator of Flamingo Divers.

The fact he's turned a favorite hobby into a business proves that Lake Superior's chilly reception during that first scuba outing did not deter Gopigian. He signed up for the advanced class and earned his dive master certification while at NMU, training in the campus pool and in the open water by the ore docks and Presque Isle.

"Superior is awesome for [ship]wreck diving," he said. "Cold water is a great preservative, so once ships go down, they pretty much stay in the same condition. In warm water, coral starts growing on the wreckage and Toredo worms eat the wood. There's nothing left after a while. I did plenty of diving in Munising, which is like an underwater sanctuary for shipwrecks."

Gopigian was a broadcasting major and film minor. A native of the Detroit area, he worked at some television stations in that vicinity after graduation. But he missed diving and preferred filming in a natural environment. He enrolled in the Florida Institute of Technology's

"sport diving operations" program before accepting a job as an underwater videographer in Tortola, British Virgin Islands. Gopigian transitioned to a scuba trainer and guide during his nine-year stay there. He served in a similar capacity in Grand Cayman before moving to Provo.

**A typical Flamingo Divers tour leaves the dock at 8:30 a.m. After traversing the Provo Bank, a wide expanse of shallow water stretching about 18 miles, the boat reaches the drop-off point—known as "the wall."**

"This is the most populated island and the main tourist destination in Turks and Caicos. Back in the '60s, a development company came here and built an airport. Residents here used to rake for salt or grow cotton. Now tourism is the main source of revenue."

Flamingo Divers targets those who want a small-group experience, with no more than eight participants per expedition. Gopigian said diving has evolved from a "military style of instruction" that intimidated some people to a more family-oriented activity that is gaining popularity.

The equipment is safer, too. Instead of only an air regulator hooked to a tank propped on a diver's back, there are pressure gauges and an "octopus" alternate air source to replace the desperation buddy-breathing technique. "But divers should still know how to use the recreational dive tables to know how deep they can go for how long without getting the bends," Gopigian added. "The recreational dive tables have evolved from the Navy's decompression tables. Dive computers are also being used more commonly now, allowing divers to safely extend their bottom time."

A typical Flamingo Divers tour leaves the dock at 8:30 a.m. After traversing the Provo Bank, a wide expanse of shallow water stretching

# That's the Life!



All photographs by Mickey Gopigian

about 18 miles, the boat reaches the drop-off point—known as “the wall.” Instructors typically give a dive briefing before leading their customers to depths of 80-100 feet.

“We have to keep a pretty close eye on people who are diving in an ocean for the first time,” Gopigian explained. “In a lake, you can go down 15 feet and know you’re getting deeper because the temperature starts dropping and it turns pretty dark. In an ocean, where you have 100-200 feet of visibility, you could go down about 150 feet without having a clue unless you’re looking at your depth gauge. That’s one thing about wall diving. The wall starts between 30 and 60 feet, but drops off to 1,000 to 7,000 feet, depending on where you are. Here and in Cayman, it’s all about wall diving. In the Virgin Islands, there aren’t any walls; mainly rock pinnacles and spur and groove coral formations.”

Gopigian’s company offers excursions to three different locations, each with numerous underwater sites to explore. Some have unique or interesting names. At West Caicos—known for its dramatic walls and the chance to spot bigger marine life—there’s “Becky’s Beautiful Bottom,” a site lined with

“This past summer, we saw a lot of big stuff: a whale shark, a hammer head, some manta rays. We also see a number of humpback whales come around here from January through April.”

huge coral heads and barrel sponges inhabited by fish and other creatures. At Northwest Point, the “Thunderdome” wreck site features a partial steel structure covered with scallops, clams and Christmas tree worms. And at French Cay, there’s

Mickey Gopigian in his business attire.



the “G Spot,” named for the large amounts of gorgonian coral growing on the wall.

Taking advantage of his expertise in photography, Gopigian updates the Flamingo Divers Web site ([www.flamingodivers.com](http://www.flamingodivers.com)) daily with shots of impressive marine-life encounters. These range from spotted eagle rays, reef sharks and dolphins to smaller critters like moray eels and spiny lobsters to a vibrant array of tropical fish. “This past summer, we saw a lot of big stuff: a whale shark, a hammerhead, some manta rays,” he said. “We also see a number of humpback whales come around here from January through April.”

Gopigian has found a way to make a living doing what he loves. And he’s working in an environment where wetsuits are optional—not necessities to ward off hypothermia. “I had a lot of fun diving in Lake Superior while I was up there. Once you get a taste of warm-water diving, though, it’s hard to go back.” ■

# Ultra Runner

By Cindy Paavola '84 BS

He doesn't mean to, but **Jim Dawson '91 BS** puts to shame those of us who view leaving the couch for the gym as a major sacrifice.

About seven years ago, Dawson decided to take up running again, something he had done a lot of at Northern.

"I had always been an athlete, but once I got out into my career, I got away from athletic-competitive physical activity. A while back, I decided I wanted to train again, get back to being more athletic, so I started running," said Dawson.

First he trained for shorter competitive races, then marathons, then adventure racing, triathlons, ironman triathlons, multi-sport races involving mountain biking, kayaking and orienteering, then ultra runs.

In November, Dawson finished seventh and was the top American in the Sahara Race, a seven-day, 150-mile ultra run across the White Desert in Egypt. The race was televised on NBC as part of the "Racing the Planet" series. It was a self-supported competition, meaning the 60 competitors from 17 different countries were required to carry all their own food, gear and clothing and do their own cooking at the base camp each night. The only tasks not done by the racers were carrying water and putting up tents.

Dawson said completing the Sahara Race so successfully ranks as his top athletic accomplishment.

"I remember the feeling I had when I finished my first-ever marathon. When I crossed that finish line I felt like I could do anything, there was no goal too big. Finishing this race, which we did at the foot of the Great Pyramids (and that was pretty cool) was just like that. It was a complete rush."

Additionally, he said experiencing the Sahara

Desert is something he'll never forget. "A lot of the Sahara looked just like you'd expect it to. But I was really surprised at how many formations there are out there—just miles of them.

Having been an ocean at one point, it also had big stretches where we were running on carbonized coral, fossils and shellfish—sort of a gravel texture—and then there were other stretches of hard-packed lava surface. But regardless of the surface, it was all very hot."

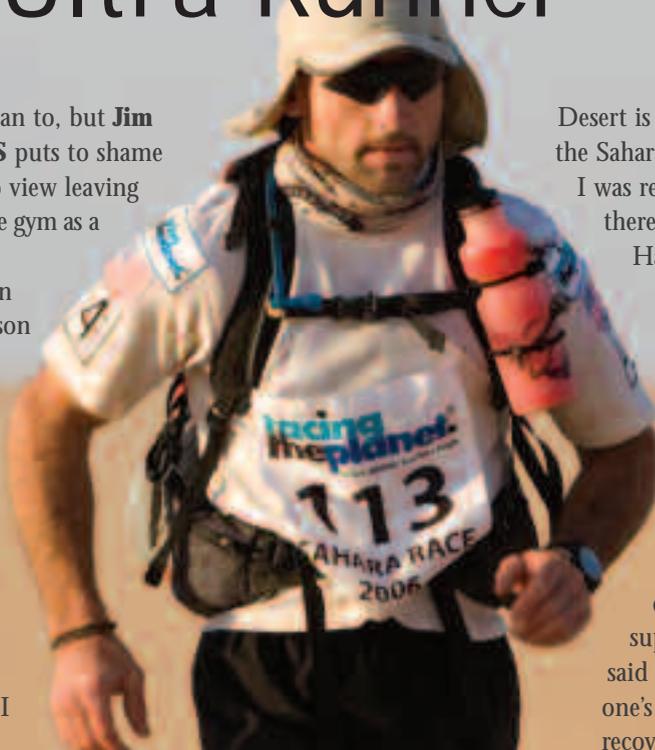
The Plymouth, Mich., resident who has worked in manufacturing quality control with small automotive supply companies for the past 16 years said the most critical tasks were managing one's feet—"blistering was inevitable"—recovery time and sleep, as well as hydration.

During the run he found himself "thinking about everything and nothing at all" simultaneously. And he had a movie-like moment when a sandstorm blew up during one of the stages. "When the storm was over, I looked down at my shoes and they looked as if they were brand new. The storm had sandblasted the dirt right off."

The 39-year-old grew up competing in several of what he calls the Midwestern mainstream sports: football, track, baseball and wrestling. But now he wishes more kids were exposed to some of the other sports that are less well known, like biking, rock climbing and, naturally, cross country running.

Dawson, who often carries his NMU flag during his competitions, admits his family and friends thought he was "kind of crazy" when he started doing adventure racing, but said they have come to respect his athletic endeavors because they understand it's his way of challenging his limits.

"One of the things I've learned through this is that everyone should keep challenging themselves. Figure out what you're passionate about, what brings you joy and pushes you to another level, and then, no matter what that is, keep doing it. Make time in your life for something like that. It will change you for the better." ■



# Calling the Shots

Two pro announcers share their views from the booth



## Mike Gleason

by Kristi Evans

Many former athletes and coaches have parlayed their success and name recognition into second careers as sports broadcasters. ESPN's **Mike Gleason '78 BS** took the direct route to announcing, but it wasn't entirely by choice.

"If I had my druthers, I would have been a professional baseball player," he said. "My dream was to play for the Tigers. I was scouted by them when I was 18, but didn't make it. I realized very few actually get to that level."

A Negaunee native, Gleason also excelled at prep basketball and football. He played the latter for one season at Central Michigan University before transferring to Northern. When Gleason learned from a professor that he could earn college credit doing play-by-play for Wildcat football, he decided to trade his helmet for headphones.

"Northern won the national championship the year I quit. The year after I left CMU, they won it,

too," Gleason laughed. "You know that comic strip 'Born Loser'? That's me. My timing wasn't the greatest, but it turned out to be the right decision."

He was studying to be a high school history teacher and football coach at the time, but Gleason's brief stint in the broadcast booth convinced him to change his major. After graduating from Northern, he worked at television stations in Michigan, California and Ohio before joining ESPN-Plus in Charlotte, N.C.

Gleason calls Big Ten college football and basketball games. He also serves as a studio host for syndicated pre-game, half-time and post-game shows on both ESPN-Plus and ESPNU.

"By doing both, you don't get burned out as fast," he explained. "Hosting in the studio can make for a long day because you have to prep

**One of his biggest challenges is trying to maintain his energy and enthusiasm—not to mention the audience's attention—during a blowout.**

on so many different things. With play-by-play, you just prep on two teams and you get to be at the game, feeling the emotion of the crowd. When the game's over, you're done except for the travel. If push came to shove, I'd rather be out doing the games.

"I really like interacting with the players and getting to know the coaches on a personal level. It's hard to pull against a Tom Izzo because

you know him. But it's hard to pull against the Northwestern coach because he's a nice guy. You just have to be objective on the air and not make your personal feelings obvious."

Whether in an East Coast studio or at a Midwest venue, Gleason's schedule is demanding. He puts in six or seven days per week—particularly when the two seasons overlap. The pace slows down during the summer, when he becomes a "utility" announcer for ESPN. In that capacity, he calls everything from the NCAA men's gymnastics championships with former U.S. Olympian Bart Conner to the Junior League World Series of baseball and girl's softball.

While radio play-by-play announcers have to describe the action in detail to help listeners visualize what's happening, television broadcasters have more flexibility to supplement their game commentary with other content.

"ESPN is really big on storytelling. Every player on a roster has a story. It might be someone who was injured his junior year in high school and didn't get recruited like some expected. Or it might be

someone like Colt McCoy, the freshman quarterback at Texas. He heard someone scream for help across a lake at night, jumped in and swam across the pitch-black water and saved the guy's life."

One of his biggest challenges is trying to maintain his energy and enthusiasm—not to mention the audience's attention—during a blowout. Gleason recalls a Clemson-Temple football game that ended

63-9. The wide scoring margin was compounded by another hurdle: Clemson's jerseys. They were bright orange with white lettering. Gleason had trouble distinguishing the numbers to identify the players.

"I've had great eyesight, but that day my vision just tweaked. It was a surreal feeling being on live TV and trying not to make it obvious. But the guy upstairs must have been looking down because no one at the office noticed."

Gleason said it's rewarding to know that his efforts on grueling football Saturdays are being viewed by friends and family in the Upper Peninsula. His mom watches the games on a Green Bay station. Gleason and his wife, **Lynn '80 BS**—who also hails from Negaunee—visit their hometown regularly, but not as often as they'd like.

While he was not able to fulfill his childhood goal of wearing a Tigers uniform, Gleason did follow the path of one of his favorite idols affiliated with the team: Ernie Harwell. He had grown up listening to the Radio Hall of Fame broadcaster and had his first opportunity to meet him in 1980.

Gleason was working at WLUC-TV in Marquette that year. He had arranged an interview with Milwaukee Brewers manager George Bamberger. While waiting in line with his camera and microphone, Gleason turned around and spotted Harwell. He decided to interview the legendary broadcaster as well and politely requested an opportunity to shoot some additional video in the press box.

"I was a pest for three innings and thanked him for his time. He told me to put the camera down and pull up a chair. During the broad-

cast he announces, 'A friend of mine from the U.P. is here. Mike, what's that restaurant in Marquette...?' I knew the one he meant but I drew a total blank on the name. I was haunted for years and felt like an idiot. When I went to a station in Flint, I saw Ernie at Tigers Stadium all the time. He is one of the finest human beings I've ever encountered in the business. It's a thrill to meet someone famous who's a genuinely nice person and still has his feet firmly planted on the ground."

Harwell proved that if there's one consolation to being a broadcaster instead of an athlete, it's career longevity. He worked into his 80s and two other "old-school" favorites of Gleason's are still in the business at around 70: Dick Enberg and Brent Musburger. Gleason does not attempt to imitate these influences behind the microphone—he said it's important for broadcasters to develop their own announcing style. But one thing he would like to emulate is their staying power. ■



## Bob Chase

by Cindy Paavola '84 BS

**B**ob Wallenstein '52 BS of Ft. Wayne, Ind., wishes legendary Los Angeles Dodgers radio play-by-play announcer Vin Scully would retire, not because he doesn't like

Scully—he's a big fan, actually—but because Wallenstein, a.k.a. "Bob Chase" in the radio industry, is only one year behind Scully as the longest active play-by-play announcer in sports.

**Chase estimates he's probably called close to 4,000 Komets games in his career. "Why the heck would I want to retire when I'm having so much fun?" he said.**

Chase, who turned 81 in January, has been covering amateur and professional sports for 54 years, all for the powerful 50,000-watt talk radio station WOWO-AM 1190 of Ft. Wayne.

"I think Vin is a few years older than me, but I'm right behind him in broadcasting years," said Chase. "I jokingly tell people that he may hold the current record for consecutive years of play-by-play, but I hold the record for play-by-play with one team in one city."

To say Chase's career has been vast is an understatement. He's covered everything from high school sports to NASCAR to some NHL games for the St. Louis Blues, Detroit Red Wings and Boston Bruins. He's turned down NHL announcing jobs several times. He's received numerous honors, ranging from the most prominent citizen award in Indiana to induction into various sports halls of fame. He had the number 40 jersey retired in his honor by the U.S. Hockey League Komets as part of the celebration of his 40th year with the team—14 years ago. At one point, he was even the Komets' general manager.

One of Chase's least known but most historically significant accomplishments is that he was the first-ever radio disc jockey selected to try out the Westinghouse System at WOWO, a revolutionary new radio format in the 1950s that introduced DJs to the airwaves in an attempt to boost the medium's popularity when threatened by the advent of television. During the early portion of his career, Chase was ranked one of the top 10 DJs in the country.

**He still wakes at 3 a.m. and heads to work by 4 a.m.  
Monday through Friday to do the station's  
morning sports show.**

Born in Negaunee and reared in Marquette, Chase was a multi-sport athlete, which included playing hockey, one of his favorites. After high school he joined the Navy. When he was discharged from the military, he enrolled at Northern.

At six-foot-six and nearly 200 pounds, he was noticed one day by a guy who came up to him and told him that he was going to play on Northern's basketball team. "It turned out to be Coach C.V. Money and he didn't really give me a choice about it," Chase said with a laugh. "Then one year, he told me I had to go out for football if I wanted to play basketball, so I went out for football for a year. Again, he didn't ask; it wasn't up for discussion."

Chase got his start with WOWO when an aunt of a Northern classmate heard him broadcasting for WDMJ radio in Marquette. The aunt was a friend of the WOWO station manager and recommended he check out Wallenstein.

"Back then, I never thought of radio as a career; I was in the busi-

ness program. The radio job was just a way to help pay for school," said Chase, who met his wife, Muriel, when she was a student at St. Luke's School of Nursing, taking classes at Northern.

The station manager requested a tape, liked what he heard and offered him a job, but told him he'd have to change his name. "He was ready to pick one out for me, but I had one—Bob Chase, Chase being my wife's maiden name," he said.

"Of course, my father-in-law, who had five daughters, loved that."

Shortly after he started at WOWO he was promoted to sports director, a position he has held ever since. He still wakes at 3 a.m. and heads to work by 4 a.m. Monday through Friday to do the station's morning sports show. His friends, many who retired decades ago, think he's crazy. But Chase isn't looking to retire anytime soon; he's having way too much fun.

"It's the best. I've been having the time of my life for more than 50 years. People say I should retire and I say, 'Retire? Why the heck would I want to retire when I'm having so much fun!' I'm thankful to be healthy, which enables me to be able to continue to do what I love."

Chase estimates he's probably called close to 4,000 Komets games in his career, missing only about 20 games in 1998 when he had open-heart surgery due to a rare heart infection. He loves everything about covering hockey: preparing for the games, covering the games, traveling on the bus with the team.

"People can't understand why I like the bus trips, especially at my age, but they're great. It's a time when I'm away from the phone and I get to read, do crossword puzzles, watch movies and hang out with the guys.

"There's something about the personality of hockey players that never really changes from decade to decade. I love their game and they know it, and I think they appreciate the history I can provide them about hockey. The guys are very respectful, but more importantly, they let me just be one of the boys and that helps to keep me young."

While some may look down on bus travel, it's a drastic improvement from the earliest days of Chase's career when "we all piled into about four cars and drove. Of course, there were only 13 players on each roster back then."

Mode of travel isn't the only thing that changed since Chase started in sports broadcasting. Technology has contributed significant improvements to broadcasting equipment, which is now smaller and lighter.

"Back then, I would haul two huge suitcases to carry everything that was needed to broadcast a game," said Chase. "Now, I can almost fit it all in my briefcase."

While Chase, who still calls Marquette "home" and returns to the area each summer, doesn't know when he'll retire, he does know the exact sign that will tell him to do so.

"The day my wife, Muriel, doesn't like the show is when I'll know to stop. She wouldn't lie and tell me I was doing a good job if I wasn't."

Until then, look out Vin Scully, Bob Wallenstein/Chase is right behind you. ■



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 Kathy J. Hahka '78  
 Hildegard C. Obeshaw '79  
 Diana L. Abbott '82  
 Alexander C. Chavez '83  
 Gwen M. Eastman '84  
 Jennifer A. Ackley '89  
 Melissa A. Dzelak '95  
 Christopher W. Lamb '95  
 John D. Lamneck '04

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

We'd like to thank the following people who have recently joined as lifetime members of the NMU Alumni Association.

Kenneth R. Brown '66  
 Robert Glascott '67  
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 Frederick E. Nelson '73  
 Beth (Peterson) Rubenstein '76  
 James M. Wilson '76  
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To learn about the benefits of membership, 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 us toll free at 1-877-GRAD-NMU.



# Ready, set... network!

Alumni Association launches online networking community

If there is one thing you as alumni want, it's to stay connected with the NMU community. This was clear from the results of a recent survey. Alumni from around the country voiced two clear needs:

- to stay connected to classmates and friends, and
- to regularly receive NMU news and updates.

The Alumni Association has recognized these needs and offers you the perfect solution—an online community complete with a career

you've been up to. You can customize your page, allowing individual sections to be accessible to the entire NMU community or just a small group friends—it's your choice.

• **Another NMU career center option.** You can post your resumé and search for a job or post a job opening here as well as at the NMU JOBSearch Center. This new site is continuously updated by companies around the country so you'll always have new and interesting positions to browse through.

**In a recent survey, 89% of alumni said they would use an online community to stay connected to classmates and friends.**

center, a place for your personal Web page and endless ways to socialize. There's no charge for you to use it. And it's safe, reliable and accessible only to NMU alumni.

This password-protected network, provided by InCircle, allows all NMU alumni and friends to log in, set up a personal profile and begin networking instantly. Of course, it all becomes more powerful as more alumni populate the site. So log in and get connected today!

### Main Features

• **Personal Web page.** You will be able to design your own Web page where you can tell the NMU community who you are and what

• **Online clubs.** Are you wondering what your biology buddies are doing? Looking for a marketing job in Seattle? A fun event in your area? The online community has a "groups" feature allowing you to find alumni who share your interests or educational background or live in your area. If you don't find a group that fits, you can start one.

### How to join

Becoming part of the online community is simple. Go to [www.nmu.edu/alumni](http://www.nmu.edu/alumni) and click on the Northern Network link. This link will bring you to the log-in site.

### Start networking

The first thing you'll need to do is set up your personal Web page. This is how all of your friends and classmates will find you. You don't need any technical knowledge to do this, as the program will walk you through the process. Keep in mind when setting up your privacy features that it might be a good idea to keep some of your information open to the public. This will help your friends and classmates find you, and vice-versa. You can change your privacy settings at any time.

**“Once I started seeing all of the potential of this tool I was really excited and hooked! I found a pledge sister I had not heard from in more than 10 years. We had a good e-mail catch-up session and are meeting this week for dinner.”**

—*InCircle network user*

Next, start searching! Find your friends and classmates by using the search feature on the home screen. Even if your friend's page is blank, you can send them a greeting. This way, when they log in for the first time, they'll have welcome messages waiting for them. Also, you can start looking for community groups to join, or start your own with the easy set-up process.

### Questions?

The Alumni Association is here to answer any of your questions. And please let us know what's working well and if you think any features need improvement. Call our office at 1-877-GRAD-NMU or e-mail [alumni@nmu.edu](mailto:alumni@nmu.edu).

## GREAT NEW MEMBER BENEFITS: DISCOUNTS ON LAPTOPS AND CELLULAR CALLS

We're excited about new partnerships between the Alumni Association and businesses—often formed at the businesses' request. It indicates to us the value they see in NMU and our alumni. As you'll find from these offers, when we team up, it's a win-win situation for all involved.

ThinkPads are now available to NMU alumni at an exclusive NMU price. Lenovo, which makes the ThinkPad laptops that NMU students are provided, is offering incredible deals on brand-new, high quality computers. Visit the online store accessible from [www.nmu.edu/alumni](http://www.nmu.edu/alumni) to see all the models and prices. Here are a few examples of what's offered:

#### *ThinkPad Z61t*

List price: \$2,499

NMU price: \$1,375

You save: \$1,124

#### *ThinkPad T60*

List price: \$2,099

NMU price: \$1,099

You save: \$1,000



Another great partnership involves cell phones. You could get 16 percent off your monthly bill simply by being a member of the NMU Alumni Association.

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Not an Alumni Association member? Join today and become eligible for this great discount. You will earn back your annual dues, and then some! Look at what one member is currently saving.



Monthly bill	\$100
Monthly Discount	\$16
Yearly savings	\$192
Cost of membership	<u>- \$35</u>
YOU SAVE	\$157

Join today at <http://www.nmu.edu/alumni/membership.htm>

*The NMU Alumni Association does not exclusively endorse any business. These are optional benefits for members of our association.*

# Foundation sets stage for new era of giving

**I**ncreasing private giving has always been important to universities, but recently it's become crucial.

"Some universities have private gift support calculated at seven to ten percent of their institution's overall annual operating budget. While Northern has not yet reached that stage, diminished state funds have made private giving more important to us than ever before," said Martha Haynes, executive director of advancement.

This increased emphasis on private support has been a driving force for changes to the NMU

identifying and working with individuals who may have the potential to make a gift to Northern," said Amy Hubinger, director of Foundation operations. "Assigning gift officers to specific areas enables these staff members to really get to know the people associated with that college or unit—students, faculty and staff, alumni and friends—as well as to better understand the college's or unit's goals and needs. This is important when potential donors have a conversation with Northern about how their gifts can make the greatest impact."

cer for the College of Business and Wildcat athletics. **Robyn Stille '00 BS**, previous director of annual giving, has become the development officer for the College of Arts and Sciences. **Maryellen 'Mel' (Poutanen) Charbonneau '02 BS**, who was the assistant director of alumni operations, will take over Stille's past duties in annual giving. Also, Linda Johnson has become the department's senior secretary after a year as its receptionist.

"Though I've worked at Northern for a long time, I'm always amazed by the opportunities available to our students and the variety of interesting and exciting activities



Dave Bammert, development officer for the College of Professional Studies.



Michael Nelson, development officer for the College of Business and Wildcat athletics.



Robin Stille, development officer for the College of Arts and Sciences.

Foundation, including increased staffing and enhanced support systems. One of the more noticeable changes is assigning development officers to individual academic colleges and units.

"Some of our reorganization has enabled us to more effectively begin

## Reorganizing staff

Three of the foundation's staff members have new jobs, but are certainly not new to Northern.

Mike Nelson, former NMU assistant athletic director in charge of marketing, event management and promotions for the past nine years, is now the development offi-

taking place all over campus. I hope that alumni and friends are impressed, too, and are proud of the way Northern continues to evolve," said Stille.

Nelson added, "Departments at NMU are making an effort to provide students with more 'hands-on' and 'real life' experiences. These

types of initiatives require funding above and beyond state support. Private giving is essential for Northern to continue to produce well-rounded, responsible citizens and leaders.”

### New faces

New to the Foundation are **Dave Bammert '88 BS**, Melinda (Mindy) Carlson, Maria Coursey, **Allison Erickson '02 BS**, Vince Grout, Kelly Joerres and **Francine Sanderson '95 AB**.

Bammert, who brings 17 years of experience in public and private sector development to his position, will be the development officer for the College of Professional Studies. “As an alumnus of NMU, I strongly believe that Northern provides students with a competitive and academic edge in the professional market,” said Bammert. “Now, I’ll have a chance to work with other alumni and friends to make sure that such an important NMU tradition is continued.”

Erickson, director of advancement information services, returns to the university from the development and alumni affairs office at Milwaukee School of Engineering where she has worked since she graduated from NMU.

“The social and economic impact that Northern has on the Upper Peninsula alone is impressive. However, when you see all the remarkable things our alumni do, you realize Northern’s impact expands far beyond the borders of the U.P.,” said Erickson, whose duties include managing the alumni and development module of the campus-wide computer data system.

Joerres takes over as director of donor relations and stewardship.

Grout is the campaign coordinator and administrative assistant.

Coursey and Sanderson are account clerks and Carlson is the receptionist.

“I truly believe in the value and necessity of making a college education available to those who desire one, regardless of their circumstances,” said Grout. “NMU is very special in this regard. I continue to be impressed by the number and

variety of scholarships, endowments and programs available to help students and parents meet the financial burdens of college and to help faculty provide a rich, diverse learning experience.”

—Cindy Paavola, '84 BS

*To contact Foundation staff member, e-mail [founndtn@nmu.edu](mailto:founndtn@nmu.edu) or call 906-227-2627.*

## PASSAGE OF PROPOSITION 2 IMPACTS SCHOLARSHIPS

Michigan voters approved the statewide ballot measure known as Proposal 2, the “Michigan Civil Rights Initiative,” in November and it went into effect on Dec. 22. Proposal 2 amends the Michigan constitution to prohibit the state from giving preferential treatment based on skin color or gender in public contracting, public employment and public education. Prior to the law taking effect, Northern assigned a task force to review all university processes, procedures and programs that could have preferential components and implement needed changes.

Since NMU does not have race, ethnicity, color, gender or national origin as a component of its admissions process, the university was less impacted by the change than some schools. However, one area that was impacted by Proposal 2’s passing was privately gifted scholarships with preferences. An example might be a scholarship that indicates a preference that the recipient be a student of Finnish descent.

“While this amendment does not impact the majority of our scholarships, it did impact about a dozen,” said Martha Haynes, executive director of advancement. “We have been in the process of contacting the donors to address these preferences. In some cases, the needed changes have been really quite simple, such as changing a scholarship that previously required the recipient to be a single mother attending NMU to a single parent.”

Haynes added that special attention will be made to ensure that future scholarships, endowments and other gifts established meet the standards of the new law.

There are some gray areas with the new law, such as federally funded programs that have preferential admission policies, which are not affected because federal law overrides state law.

“Where it’s federally required we didn’t have to make changes,” said Cathy Dehlin, NMU’s general counsel and equal opportunity officer. “For instance, the university will continue to comply with federal affirmative action requirements regarding hiring practices. We still have federal affirmative action requirements that will stay the same.”

# INSIDE THE SUIT: LIFE AS WILDCAT WILLY



I called home my freshman year to tell my mother that I had been chosen to be “Wildcat Willy” for the NMU hockey team. She paused and said, “Great, so now I have the only son at Northern majoring in Halloween.”

Being Willy may very well have warranted such comments, but I considered it a privilege.

I lived in Payne Hall that year (1984-85). It was a 24-hour quiet hall and hockey players were required to live there. Ron Chyzowski and Kory Wright played hockey at Northern and lived in the dorm room next to mine. As I got to know them, they learned that I grew up playing hockey in Midland and I had a love for comedy and making people laugh.

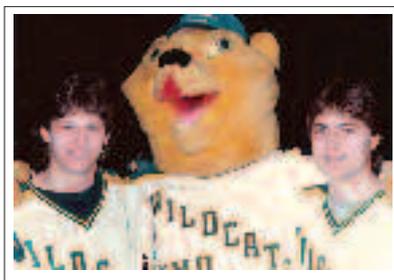
Ron and Kory called me from the locker room one afternoon saying they had a job for me. Coach Rick Comley had asked the players if they knew of anyone who could be Wildcat Willy, and Ron and Kory immediately thought of me. I initially didn’t take them seriously and hung up. They called back and insisted that I grab my skates and come down to the rink. They fol-

lowed with, “Coach Comley wants to see you skate.” I thought to myself, “Coach Comley? OK, I’ll play along.”

I walked into Lakeview Arena still not knowing if this was a joke or a real “audition” of sorts. The equipment manager met me in the locker room and handed me the Willy outfit.

Not a whole lot to this outfit, I thought as I stepped into the one-piece, furry bodysuit with “paws” connected to the sleeves. I tied my skates and tucked Willy’s head under my arm.

As I walked out of the locker room, Coach Comley, Ron and Kory were waiting in the hallway. Ron and Kory laughed. And I waited for Comley to say, “Who are you and what do you think you’re doing?” Instead, he simply said, “Let



McQuillan (as Willy), with instigators Ron Chyzowski and Kory Wright.

me see you take a couple of laps.” Being comfortable on the ice I hammed it up a little bit with some arm waving and fancy footwork. I stepped off the ice, took the head off and Coach Comley said, “OK, we’ll see you at the game on Friday night.” That was it.

Before my first game I was handed an official NMU hockey



A drawing from “The World of Wildcat Wisdom” student handbook of 1966.

jersey with the number one on the back and no name. The next night I was handed one with the number 16. Understandably, there is only one number one in hockey, and that’s the goalie. After a few more games I asked Coach Comley if it was possible to have a special jersey made. He asked me what number I planned to use and I suggested double zero. I also suggested that Willy be spelled W-I-L-L-Y and not W-I-L-L-I-E. He agreed to both.

My first few games were uncomfortable to say the least. It took a while to get over the fact that people were watching the character and not me. The more I stood around and did nothing, the worse I looked. The more animated and active I was, the better the response.

I would hang out at games with the pep band, directed by Kody Birdwell. It developed over time that I would go up to the mezzanine level, stand in front of the band and dance to all the songs. Over the years, we made a different dance or cheer for each of the regular songs.

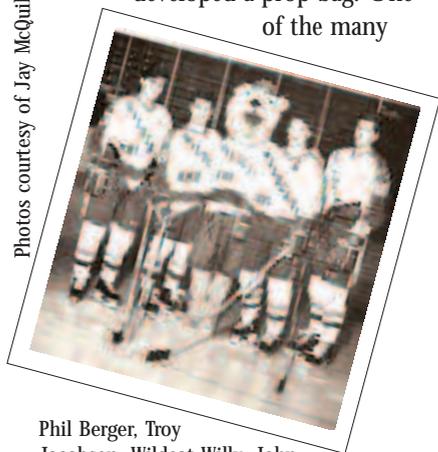
During the game, the band would take what they called “road trips.” A couple of members from the horn and drum section would go to various parts of the arena and

play for different sections. I would go along and take advantage of the opportunity to mingle and goof off with the fans. Maybe also dance to the music, put Willy's arm around a pretty girl, slap high five with the kids, or eat someone's popcorn by grabbing a handful and throwing it into my furry mouth, much to the laughter of the fans.

I became pretty familiar with the band members' faces and what instruments they played. The funny thing was, though, they never saw my face. I would walk through campus and say hello to a band member and he or she would look at me like, "Who are you?"

Hockey fans in Marquette and at Northern are some of the nation's best, if not the most passionate. Being Willy gave me an opportunity to express myself on behalf of the fans and get away with things they wanted to do or say, but maybe weren't allowed to. Over the years I developed a prop bag. One of the many

Photos courtesy of Jay McQuillan



Phil Berger, Troy Jacobsen, Wildcat Willy, John Goode and Daryl Olsen were not only teammates, they also lived in the same house together.

items that became a fan favorite was the eye chart I made from a queen-sized bed sheet that I'd use with a pair of oversized sunglasses when the fans weren't happy with a call.

Throwing a nerf football into the stands and having the fans throw it back on the ice between periods became a regular event at every game.

The all-time favorite had to be when I would spray pictures on the glass with bathroom cleaner. I would make a face with two eyes, a nose and a sad mouth. Next to that I would write R E F, for referee. I would step back to show what was written and the fans would boo. As soon as I would wipe only the eyes from the face, the booing would change to loud cheers.

I was able to help Willy develop into being fully clothed. I took an old shell from some hockey pants, cut a hole in the back for Willy's tail and he became the only one to wear shorts yearround in Marquette. After two years of wearing skates and tennis shoes, paws for his feet were made to match his fur. Also an NMU baseball hat was safety pinned to his head as a joke, and ended up being a good look and a permanent fixture.

After two years as Willy, the Golden Wildcat Club started to market him like never before. They had buttons and 8 x 10 photos of the players but never of Willy—until I borrowed then-goalie John Corrigan's pads and posed in goal as "Wildcat Goalie!"

When I was a freshman there were three different Wildcat Willys—hockey, football and basketball each had their own outfits and own people to wear them. None of the outfits looked alike.



At every home game, Willy sat on the lap of Mary Nault, longtime English department secretary.

As outfits got old and Willys graduated, there became a need to replace Willy in football and basketball. Eventually I ended up being

the full-time Willy for football, part-time for men's and women's basketball and can even add a gymnastics meet to Willy's resumé.

Being Willy for football was awesome! Football fans at Northern had to endure the Marquette Dome didn't exist and

all games were played outside—rain, snow, sleet or hail. NMU football fans are real football fans!

I was able to dress in a Northern football jersey and football pants. Having the furry jump suit on underneath was just as good, if not better, than any thermal underwear you could find. I always looked forward to home games and football Saturdays. Marching with the band from Hedgcock Fieldhouse to the football stadium was always a thrill. Some Saturdays I would have a football game in the afternoon and a hockey game that night.

Another rewarding part of being Willy was public appearances. Reading to children, visiting a hospital, helping with fundraisers, Special Olympics or judging the WGLQ Cardboard Classics were all a part of representing Northern.

Senior Night is always a big night for NMU hockey. It's usually one of the last home games of the regular season and each senior player gets to skate to center ice under the spotlight and give one last salute to the fans.

In my senior year as Willy I was included in the ceremony. To say the least, I was humbled and honored. After the introduction, I skated to center ice, stood there for a moment and took the Willy head off. I waved to the generous and wonderful Marquette/NMU crowd and knew that I was a part of something special.

My experience as Willy led me to being the mascot for the NHL Tampa Bay Lightning and the IHL Orlando Solar Bears.



Modern-day Wildcat Willy with buddy NMU President Les Wong.

Something very valuable that I got out of the experience is that you don't have to play to be involved with or contribute to the sport. Whether it's as a coach, referee, scorekeeper, announcer, fan, band member, mascot, or whatever, a positive contribution can be made to a school or sport just by being involved.

I still keep in touch with many of the great friends that I made at Northern. Most, if not all, of those friends I met one way or another due to my experience as Willy. To this day it's not uncommon for any one of those friends to call, and the first words said are, "Hi Willy!" Not bad for a guy majoring in Halloween.

—Jay McQuillan '89 BS

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF WILLY

NMU's mascot, Wildcat Willy, has not always been the campus charmer and our teams have not always been the Wildcats. At Northern's first football game on Oct. 15, 1904, versus Hancock High, the Normal School was known as the "Teachers." In 1923, we were the "Normalites," in 1931, the "Northerners," and later the "Upstarters."

At the start of the basketball season in 1935, Coach C. B. Hedgcock bestowed his defensive units with names. His man-to-man defense was named the "Cubs" and the zone defense was dubbed the "Cats."

Hedgcock justified his nomenclature in a letter in 1937, in which he said, "In man-to-man you have to be quicker and because the cubs are the natural offspring of wildcats, bobcats, any kind of cat when they're younger, the man-to-man unit will be known as a Cub, while members of the older, more methodical zone defense groups will be known as the Cats... the Wildcats."

The mascot came to life in 1970, when a 38-pound female bobcat—semi-domesticated and declawed—was purchased from a Toronto resident by then-Gant Hall director John Gardner. She was named Bobby. Bobby lived with Gardner in Gant (and in the tunnels beneath) until a cage was constructed near the old steam plant behind Spooner Hall. She was fed raw meat and garbage from Dining Services. The cat would go on the road with teams, taking her first road trip to a football game at Central Michigan University in 1971.

One wintry night she escaped from her cage, and a local radio station set up a hotline. Ore boat workers reported seeing a bobcat on the dock. Gardner and fellow Hall Director Tom Manson grabbed a gunny sack and went to investigate. They cornered the snarling cat at the end of the dock, and as Gardner grabbed its nape and stuffed it in the sack, they noticed it was covered in porcupine quills. They called a veterinarian and met at his office. The vet asked how they came about having this bobcat, and they explained it was their declawed mascot. The vet then informed them that this cat had all its claws. They had captured a wild cat! They set it free in the woods. The real Bobby was never found, and that was the end of NMU's live mascot era.

Wildcat Willy's current image was developed by former student Jay McQuillan (see accompanying story). The art and design department forged the Willy costume under Hockey Coach Rick Comley's direction. Comley used Wildcat Willy to infuse both the team and their games with spirit. Today, a new Willy costume costs about \$1,600.

Since 1995, the NMU mascot has qualified to compete in a national mascot championship in Orlando, Fla., but has been unable to attend due to a lack of funding.

Wildcat Willy not only pumps up athletic spirit—he lends his paws to many campus events and charitable causes. Dozens of students have followed the creed of masking their own identity when in the suit, taking on Willy's persona and spreading his spirit.



—Elizabeth Kramer

Cheryl Hemmla

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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.

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NMU Alumni Association member



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## '30s

**Catherine Been '31 LIFE, '43 MA** of Skanee has endowed a scholarship fund for Baraga County students. She will be publishing her fourth book of poetry this year. She taught for 40 years at L'Anse Area Schools.

## '50s

**Bill Savola '54 BME** of Marquette is the founder of Emerald Nile, Ltd., whose objective is to raise funds to allow disadvantaged students in Indonesia to attend school or college. The company produces and markets Muslim Tasbih prayer beads, head coverings and other items. [www.meccamedina-tasbih.com](http://www.meccamedina-tasbih.com).

## '60s

**John Argeropoulos '60 BA** of Marquette (and NMU emeritus professor of counseling and career development) has created a Web site, [www.thetreeofselfrealization.com](http://www.thetreeofselfrealization.com), which showcases "The Tree of Self-Realization" in contrast to "The Tree of Self-Defeat," a graphic representation

of key components of a healthy, happy life. Posters featuring the tree have been used in schools and treatment centers around the country and also by Mother Teresa's Children's Orphanage in Calcutta, India.

**John Selden '60 BA** of Golden Valley, Minn., is retired and enjoys fishing with his son, **Luke Selden '02 BS** (photo below). Luke is working in the purchasing-estimating department of Ryland Homes in Minneapolis.



**John Kurnik '63 BS** of La Verne, Calif., has retired after 44 years of teaching, most of which were spent in a youth security camp.



**Bob Oust '67 BS** of McCormick, S.C., retired this summer from Dow Corning. [bgoust@wctel.net](mailto:bgoust@wctel.net)

**Frank Wnuck '68 BS** of Green Bay, Wis., retired after 31 years of teaching technology education in the Green Bay Public Schools. Since his retirement, he and his wife have traveled to Italy and Alaska.

## '70s



**Daryl James '70 BA** (below) of Detroit recently retired from DaimlerChrysler as the senior manager of occupational safety and health for North American operations. [dnjames@comcast.net](mailto:dnjames@comcast.net)



**Gerald Klobnak '70 BS** of Somerdale, N.J., recently retired after 34 years of teaching at Gloucester Township public schools. Klobnak spent 24 years as a middle school social studies teacher and 10 years as an elementary school guidance counselor. [gklobnak@comcast.net](mailto:gklobnak@comcast.net)



**Frederick Stonehouse '70 BS, '77 MA**, of Marquette, was recently awarded the 2006 Association for Great Lakes Maritime History Award for historic interpretation. Fred is a member of the NMU Alumni Association Board of Directors. An adjunct instructor at NMU, he has authored 27 books on Great Lakes maritime history.



**Tom Spiegel '71 BS** of Saginaw Township has been named mortgage manager of the Center branch of Chase Bank in Saginaw. He will coordinate the division and handle recruitment and retention.

**Bud Rowley '72 BS** of Oxford teaches physical education at Oxford High School and is head football coach.

**Tom Wender '72 BS** of Iron Mountain, an NMU football assistant coach, was inducted into the U.P. Sports Hall of

Fame. He headed up Iron Mountain High School's football team for more than 20 years, leading them to two state championships.

**Maryka Biaggio '73 BS** (below) of Portland, Ore., Ph.D. psychologist and higher education consultant, recently received the 2006 Distinguished Professional Contribution Award from the American Psychological Association's Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Issues.



**John Cox '73 BS** of Wakefield was recently named supervisor of Wakefield Township.

**Doug Hauser '73 BS** of Onalaska, Wis., retired after 27 years of teaching eighth-grade history. He also taught language arts, initiated and coached a cross country program, coached tennis, served in many leadership roles, was twice voted by his peers as Teacher of the Year and was voted into *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* four times. He and his wife **Connie (Morrison) '74 BS** recently celebrated their 30th anniversary.

**Patricia Miller '73 BS** of Hollywood, Calif., is a leasing coordinator for Raleigh Film and Television Studios. pmiller@raleighstudios.com

**William Stark '73 BME** of Saint Clair is in his 34th year of teaching. Stark taught elementary vocal music for his first 10 years and now teaches fourth-grade general education for the Anchor Bay School District. He has been named Elementary Teacher of the Year, Education Program Teacher of the Year and received the Distinguished

Service Award from a local education association. Stark and his wife, Margaret, raise leader dogs for the blind. Son, **Randall Stark '01 BS**, and daughter-in-law, **Jennifer Mohill Stark '01 BS**, are both NMU grads.

**Marcia (Carlson) Hallfrisch '74 BS, '82 MAE** of Sault Ste. Marie recently retired from the Sault Area Public Schools after teaching for more than 31 years. She has received the Rotary Sault Area Elementary Teacher of the Year Award and the Celebrate Literacy Award. She has also been a supervising teacher for the Lake Superior State University teacher education program.

**Bill Juoni '74 BS** of Whitewater, Wis., along with his wife, Beth, ministered at Hillside Assembly of God this past September. Since 1998, the Juonis have traveled across America and overseas preaching the gospel and ministering in music. They have also ministered on television and radio.

**Mike Lofdahl '74 BS** of Cedarville was selected by the Clark Township Board of Trustees. He is a 32-year teacher at Les Cheneaux Community Schools and has volunteered for local events around the area.

 **Michael Greer '76 AS** of Arlington, Mass., recently rejoined his friends at Powell after having spent some time designing and making modern wooden flutes for both Haynes and Williams. Greer was recently sent to China to help improve the design of a new Sonare flute. He runs an instrument repair shop out of his home. He presented a clinic at NMU last March and plans to return to Marquette soon. magreerflutes@comcast.net

**Mike Finco '77 BS** of Hibbing, Minn., has recently been hired as principal at Hibbing High School, where he was formerly assistant principal.

 **Denise (Williams) Harris '77 BS** of St. Paul, Minn., was named CEO and executive director of North Minneapolis Meals on Wheels,

which provides meals to homebound people. d\_m\_harris2@yahoo.com

**Frida Waara '77 BA** of Marquette, who became the first Michigan woman to reach the geographic North Pole on skis, freelances as a writer, radio and video producer and as a motivational speaker on teamwork, leadership and facing adversity for such organizations as the FBI, human resources organizations and schools.

 **Jeffrey Short '78 BS** of Lansing was named managing partner of the Lansing law firm Farhat & Story, where he specializes in real estate and business law.

jeffshort@farhatandstory.com

**Art Cameron '79 BS** (below) of Hill Air Force Base, Utah, was pinned with the rank of brigadier general of the 309th Maintenance Wing. He is a career aircraft maintenance officer and has held key positions in commands in Europe, the Pacific, U.S. Central Command and at Air Force Headquarters.



**Paul Saaranen '79 BS, '83 MA, '00 EDS** of South Range has been awarded a Fulbright Administrative Exchange grant to conduct observation studies in Estonia. He is the Stanton Township Schools supervisor.

**Judy Setala '79 BS** of Chicago, Ill., is working for J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. as an executive administrative assistant. jsetala@sbcglobal.net

## '80s

**Edward Cook '80 BS** of Zion, Ill., has written two books: *The History of the 104th Combat Engineers: Pacific Campaign: 1942-1945* and *Guiding the Way from Middle Meebish: History of the Middle Meebish Lighthouse*. He is currently a lieutenant for the Northwestern University police. e-cook@northwestern.edu

**Jenny Diebold '80 BS** of Ellsworth has accepted a third-grade teaching position at St. Mary's School in Charlevoix. She has previously taught at Gaylord St. Mary's and Ellsworth Community Schools.

**Debbie Moyer '80 BSN** of Arvada, Colo., is an RN at The Children's Hospital. pcmoye@comcast.net

 **Doug Reese '80 BS** of Marquette was named marketing director for the United States Olympic Education Center at NMU. He will work to expand the Olympic license plate program, increase membership and involvement in the Dream Club and establish an endowment program to ensure continued growth of USOEC programs.

**Walter Scanlon '81 BS, '86 BSN** (below) of Marquette has been named director of radiation oncology at the Marquette General Cancer Center. He supervises 14 employees in the radiation oncology unit.



 **John Beckler '81 BS** has been teaching on the island of Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands for

the past 11 years. pipedrummer04@yahoo.com

**Mark DeLaurence '82 BSW** of Hickory Corners has been named president of LGT Enterprises.

**Judi Bjork '83 BSN, '96 MSN** of Kingsford was named Special Mention Employee of the Month at Dickinson County Healthcare System. Judi is the manager of patient education. She has been part of a team that hopes to establish a congestive heart failure clinic and work with respiratory therapy to expand outpatient programs for smoking cessation.

**David Gemignani '83 BS** of Hancock is a public defender for Houghton and Baraga counties. He specializes in divorce, drunken driving and criminal defense cases.

**Rich Ward '83 BS** of Fort Gratiot was recently named partner of Haley and Associates. He has 10 years of experience in the health insurance industry and 10 years in hospital administration.

**Ann Horsman '84 BS** of Waterbury, Vt., is employed with the State of Vermont as a latent fingerprint examiner and enjoys living in the heart of the beautiful Green Mountains. redtoads@yahoo.com

**Janice (Bilky) Wierschke '86 BSN** of Sheboygan, Wis., graduated with an MSN-nurse educator degree from Cardinal Stritch University (correction from last *Horizons*).

**Brent Eads '87 BS** of Chicago is a chief technical officer/principal for Technology Solutions, Inc., a business he recently purchased from its former parent company and hopes to move to Traverse City next summer. beads@emptsolutions.com

**Tim Jensen '87 BS** of Mio accepted a position with Children's Protective Services for the State of Michigan. jensent2@michigan.gov

 **Fred Bratumil '88 BS** of Mt. Pleasant is the vice president

and general manager of CBC Credit Services. He was recently named the top membership recruiter and retention specialist in the nation by the American Collectors Association and is the recipient of the Michigan Association for Collection Agencies' Red Coat Award. Fred was voted to the latter's board of directors. fred@cbccreditmp.com

**Kimberly Maki '88 BS** of White Plains, N.Y., was hired as executive director of the Society of Cable Telecommunications Engineers.

**Michelle Witthoef '88 MBA** of Charlevoix recently joined Synergy Investment Group as a financial planner and life settlement adviser.

**Christopher Kennedy '89 BS** of North Providence, R.I., has joined the faculty at Francis Marion University as an assistant professor of history.

## '90s

 **Christine Bowerson '90 BS** of Standish is being featured, along with her family, in a traveling photographic exhibit for the Michigan Heart Gallery. This exhibit focuses on children in foster care who are waiting for a permanent family. Christine and her husband have been foster parents for three years and are in the process of adopting their fifth child. They also have three children of their own. Their picture and exhibit information is at <http://www.miheart.org/index.html>. cb26@speednetllc.com

**Rob Coffman '90 BS** of Flint recently left the office of county clerk to serve as elections director in Forsyth County, N.C.

**Eric LeMarque '90 BS** of Sherman Oaks, Calif., is an electronic marketing director for Cal-Quake Seismic Retrofitting. e@lemarque.com

**Stephanie Taylor '90 BS** of Huntersville, N.C., was recently named the political action committee and

grassroots manager for Wachovia Corporation.

**Shirley Brozzo '92 BS, '06 MFA** of Marquette was promoted from assistant director to associate director of the Multicultural Education and Resource Center at NMU. She plans to receive her MFA in English from NMU this spring.

**Brian Hamerla '92 BS** of Tempe, Ariz., recently expanded the operation of his company, Hamerla Mortgage, to the Phoenix area.

bhamerla@alumni.nmu.edu

**Brian Olson '92 BS** of Chicago, Ill., was recently promoted to director at KPMG in Chicago. Brent oversees global internal audit and Sarbanes-Oxley Section 404 engagements for clients from a multitude of industries including consumer products, manufacturing, energy and utilities, public sector and software. bolson@mailshell.com

**M.L. Zambrana '92 BA** of Garden has two short stories in Amazon.com's Amazon Shorts: "Unwelcome Reunion" and "Confrontation" in addition to three self-published books.

**Andrea Leonard '93 BS** is entering her third season as head coach of the Boston College women's volleyball team.

**Laura Lonergan '93 BS, '97 MPA** of Ann Arbor recently graduated from the Ann Arbor Chamber of Commerce's leadership program. She is a senior technical adviser with TriMedia Consultants and is also certified under the Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Standard issued by the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

**Amanda (Harlow) Kenney '94 BS** of Floral Park, N.Y., and husband are the proud parents of Robin Jean, born March 28. amandah72@yahoo.com

**Rodd Haltunen '95 BS** of Naples, Fla., graduated this past year from Ferris State University's x-ray program and recently attended 21st Century

Oncology's radiation therapy program in Cape Coral, Fla.

rhaltunen@hotmail.com

**Sharon Riegel '95 AB** of Escanaba has accepted a position as rural development technician for USDA Rural Development.

sharon.riegel@mi.usda.gov

**Amy Lynn Spitzley '95 BA** of Traverse City has been writing young adult novels and seeking publication.

amyspitz@juno.com

 **Kelly Finnegan '96 BFA** of Grand Rapids has recently been promoted to business operations manager at Henrickson Financial Group. Kayakchick70@yahoo.com

**Matt McLachlan '96 BS** of St. Petersburg, Fla., was appointed as community development director of Safety Harbor, Fla. He will oversee the planning, zoning, code enforcement and building divisions.

**Anita Phillips '96 BSW** of Crystal Falls is a domestic violence counselor for Caring House, Inc.

phillips\_anita@sbcglobal.net

**Kevin Phillips '96 BS** of Seattle, Wash., is general manager for the Matador.

**Greg Wood '96 BS** of Erie, Pa., is now a lecturer in U.S. and European history at Pennsylvania State University. He recently published an article based on his dissertation in the journal *Labor*. gjw12@psu.edu

 **Jason Graunke '97 BS** of Naperville, Ill., has taken a new position within International Ink Co. as a senior research chemist.

**Erika Justus '97 BS** of Iron Mountain was recently named the executive director of development/fund raising for Dickinson County Hospital Foundation.

**David Kagabitang '97 BSW** of Harbor Springs is a mental health therapist with the Little Traverse Bay Bands substance abuse and mental health program. Kagabitang also served in

the Marines where he was a corporal.

 **Paul Thomas '97 BS** of Kingsford and his wife, Deborah, had a son born March 29, Aaron Thomas. pwt1997@charter.net.

**Michelle Young '97 BA** of Negaunee has accepted a position as youth and school program coordinator for Child and Family Services Inc. of the U.P. sly1973@charter.net

**Kristine Boley-Morse '98 BS** of Marshall is obtaining her master's degree from MSU in the Fisheries and Wildlife Department. She is currently employed by the Calhoun Conservation District as the Battle Creek River Watershed coordinator and the Michigan Regional Curves coordinator for the Michigan Stream Team. kristine.boleymorse@macd.org

**Bridget Gazlay '98 BSW** of Coopersville is a consumer information coordinator for Hope Network Rehab Services. Gazlay is the author of *Fabric Cards*, published in 2005, and is a devotional writer for Rest Ministries and Comfort Café, both online ministries. Her Web page can be viewed at <http://home.ccci.org/gazlay>. quiltforhim@yahoo.com

**Robin Kennedy '98 BA** of Alpha was the guest speaker at the Gogebic Range Genealogical Society meeting in Ironwood. She has served as a project archivist at NMU and was the acting archivist while the archivist was on sabbatical. She is also director of the Iron Mountain/Kingsford Family History Center in Dickinson County.

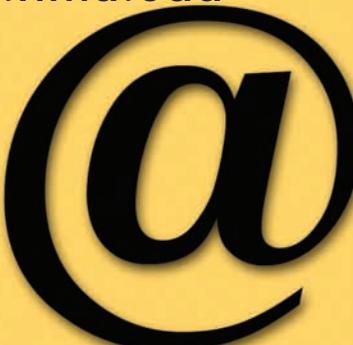
**Patricia Kremer '98 BFA** of Chicago is a graphic layout specialist for Moss Inc. patrickremer@hotmail.com

**Lisa (DeMilio) Harmon '99 BS** of Bellingham, Wash., graduated with a master's degree from Western Washington University, received her national certification in mental health counseling and is employed with Interfaith Health Systems. She has also entered into private practice in Bellingham.

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<http://alumni.nmu.edu>.


**John Srutowski '99 BS** of Gladstone has performed with professional ensembles including the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra, the Marquette Symphony Orchestra and the Lake Superior Chamber Players. He has also led local ensembles and taught music at Bay College in Escanaba. [johnsrutowski@yahoo.com](mailto:johnsrutowski@yahoo.com)

## '00s



**Bridget (Mitchell) Dodson '00 BS** of Kasilof, Alaska, completed her master's degree in community mental health this past fall.

**Brian Gibson '00 BS** of Grand Blanc is a special agent for the United States Secret Service. [gibbybj@comcast.net](mailto:gibbybj@comcast.net)



**Benjamin McCracken '00 BS** (below) of Warren joined Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss as an associate in the firm's litigation practice group.



**Joe Sharkey '00 BS** of Gilbert, Ariz., is a district sales manager for FedEx Services. [jsharkey14@hotmail.com](mailto:jsharkey14@hotmail.com)

**Aaron Bedford '01 BS** of Saginaw has been promoted to marketing manager at Spicer Group. He previously worked as a marketing assistant and technical writer.

**Star Darpel '01 BS** of Covington, Ky., has spent the past five years living in Australia coordinating a mentoring program for at-risk youth. She currently lives in Northern Kentucky and is working as an intervention specialist for students with autism. [starmaried@hotmail.com](mailto:starmaried@hotmail.com)

**Kellie Gillis '01 BS** of Gladstone recently opened a new business, North Bluff Chiropractic. She earned her doctor of chiropractic degree from Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa.

**Jim Hagerl '01 BS** of Lake Mills, Wis., has relocated from Vermont back to Wisconsin with his wife, **Jessica '02 BS**. He is teaching fourth grade at Johnson Creek Elementary School and Jessica is a family case manager.

**Jeremy Pickens '01 BS** of Marquette graduated from Michigan State University College of Law and accepted a position with Plunkett and Cooney, PC in Marquette. [jeremypickens@hotmail.com](mailto:jeremypickens@hotmail.com)

**Bill Saunders '01 BS** of Cadillac was named principal of Superior Central High School. Previously he taught a range of subjects at Lake City High School.

**John Tkaczyk '01 BS** of Oakley is the new executive director of Durand Union Station, a Michigan Railroad History Museum.

**Jonathan Larson '02 BS** of Southfield recently started a new position at Lawrence Tech University as a residence hall coordinator. [j\\_larson@ltu.edu](mailto:j_larson@ltu.edu)

**Layla Wright '02 BS** of Chevy Chase, Md., works for WETA Public Broadcasting where she manages a national Web-based project aimed at helping Latino children and struggling readers to develop literacy skills.

**Braden Tapani '03 BS** of Brooklyn Center, Minn., is an account executive for NCSI. [taps4\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:taps4_2000@yahoo.com)

**John Fitzgerald '04 BS** of Williamstown, N.J., is a financial planner at Merrill Lynch. [john\\_fitzgerald@ml.com](mailto:john_fitzgerald@ml.com)

**Alyse Hoyt '04 BS** of Niles accepted a new position at Niles High School teaching graphic arts and "Freshman Connection."

**Craig Kowalski '04** of Smiths Creek was a nonroster practice goalie for the 2006 Stanley Cup champion Carolina Hurricanes. Prior to joining the Hurricanes, Kowalski played for Florida of the East Coast Hockey League and Lowell of the American Hockey League.

**Brandon Peabody '04 BS** of Brighton, has been promoted to commercial sales at Smith Peabody Stiles Insurance Agency. He will specialize in providing commercial insurance to Livingston County businesses.

**Karissa Toupin '04 BS** of Calumet served in Iraq as a sergeant in the 107th Engineer Battalion motor pool.

**Chris Ajlouny '05 AB** of Westland is a realtor for Remerica Hometown. [cajlouny@alumni.nmu.edu](mailto:cajlouny@alumni.nmu.edu)



**Alice Buckingham '05 BS** of Tampa, Fla., is a math inclusion teacher at Trinity School for Children. [abucking@alumni.nmu.edu](mailto:abucking@alumni.nmu.edu)



**Carly Koivisto '05 BS** of Madison, Wis., is an executive selling manager for Marshall Fields. She is married to **Josh Anderson '05 BS**.

**James Johnson II '06 BS** of Marquette, is kitchen manager at Casa Calabria in Marquette. [jjohnson@alumni.nmu.edu](mailto:jjohnson@alumni.nmu.edu)



During Homecoming 2006, WNMU Public TV 13 hosted the "George Lott Memorial Lost Weekend" for former broadcasting students, many of whom were involved with Public Eye News. Lott was a speech department professor in the 1970s and general manager of TV 13 and Public Radio 90.

## Marriages

**Paul Nyquist '85 BS** to Kerry Wheeler.

**Julie Maki '89 BS** to John Peterson.

**Brian Cleven '91 BS** to Kate Marston.

**Barry James '92 BS** to Cheryl Pantti.

**Mindy Sylvester '94 AS, '95 BS** to

**Eric Pellinen '96 AS**.

**Philip Francomb '96 BS** to Linda Spencer.

**Matthew Haight '97 BS** to Jodi Massey.

**Paige Weting '97 BS** to Jeffrey Bennett.

**Maria D'Ambrosio '98 BS** to Jim Swane.

**Todd Coolman '99 AS** to Nicole Barbieri '02 BS.

**Amanda Johnson '99 BS** to Julius Cavira.

**Megan Chasteen '99 VOC** to Richard Jungquist.

**Todd Wills '99 BS** to Sarah Heymoss.

**Brian Gibson '00 BS** to Cara Cruz.

**Rene Schwemin '00 BS** to Michael Allyn.

**Jessica Durfee '01 BS** to Joshua Thompson.

**Paul Heino '01 BSN** to Lindsay Rector '05 BSN.

**Nola Kent '01 BS** to Craig Asgaard.

**Maureen Meadows '01 BS** to Corey Webber '02 BS.

**Jennifer Rokuski '01 LPN** to Kevin Ballard.

**Jessica Jennings '02 BS** to David Bienvenue.

**Jessie LaCasse '02 BA** to Daniel Helman '02 BS, '04 CER.

**Melissa Wacławski '02 BS** to Alan Butterfield '03 BS.

**Brian Bacon '03 AAS** to Amber Stanek '06 BS.

**Krista Bobnock '03 BS** to Nathan Schley.

**Kimberly DePetro '03 AB** to Ryan Poupore '04 BS.

**Laura Spens '03 BS** to Patrick Tighe '03 BA.

**Amanda Wikman '03 LPN** to David Barber.

**Andrew Buckmaster '04 AT** to Amber Lancour '05 BS.

**Samuel Galvin '04 BS** to Sara Marble '05 AB.

**Ryan Halvorsen '04 BS** to Katie Pascoe '04 BSN.

**Ryan Elizabeth Hennigan '04 AAS** to Joshua Barker.

**Jenny Swanson '04 AB** to Jeffery Taisto.

**Aimee Burke '05 BSN** to Jonathan Grant '05 BS.

**Stacy Henrion '05 BS** to Chad Harrison.

**Jason Veaser '05 BS** to Trisha Otradovec.

## Deaths

**Gustav Carlson '32 LIFE**, June 18, 2006, Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Edwin Sutter '42 BS**, Nov. 13, 2006, O'Fallon, Ill.

**Mary C. Hedberg Cannon '46 BS**, Oct. 5, 2006, Aurora, Colo.

**Vivian Abercrombie '48 BS**, Oct. 16, 1969, Iron Mountain (recently reported per listing in "Lost Alumni" section).

**Ila Ford '48 BA**, July 8, 2006, Iron River.

**William Medlyn '49 BA**, Sept. 10, 2006, Bloomington, Ill.

**David Ernest Pearce '50 BA**, Sept. 15, 2006, Charlotte, N.C.

**Douglas Fredrickson '51 BS**, Aug. 2, 2006, Flint.

**Wallace Ollila '51 BS**, Aug. 6, 2006, Cedarville.

**Philip Hiney '52 BS, '60 MA**, Sept. 30, 2006, Escanaba.

**Matt Haukkala '53 BS**, July 8, 2006, Traverse City.

**Violet Baij '55 BS**, Sept. 23, 2006, Munising.

**Beverly Stanaway '56 BS, '63 MA**, Aug. 22, 2006, Las Cruces, N.M.

**Denis Harju '58 BS**, Sept. 22, 2006, Woodstock, Ill.

**Josephine M. Schnurer '59 BS**, July 28, 2006, Manistique.

**Joseph Vestich '59 BS, '64 MA**, June 25, 2006, Wakefield.

**Dominic Bertucci '60 BS**, Sept. 10, 2006, Ishpeming.

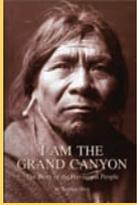
**Rene Hansen '60 BS**, Aug. 29, 2006, Marquette.

**Kenneth O'Connor '61 BS**, Aug. 1, 2006, Sault St. Marie.

**Leno Pieropon '61 MA**, Aug. 23, 2006, Escanaba.

**Iлона Maria Arntzen '63 BME**, Sept. 19, 2006, Ocala, Fla.

## FACULTY IN PRINT



Stephen and **Lois Hirst**, former professor of professional administration tell the story of the Havasupai people,

who live below the rim of the Grand Canyon and on the surrounding plateaus. (Grand Canyon Association, 2006) [www.grandcanyon.org](http://www.grandcanyon.org)

**Beverly Matherne** (English) has published *The Artist (L'Artiste)*, a portfolio edition of poetry by the late U.S. Poet Laureate Stanley Kunitz. She translated the work into French with **Nicole J. M. Kennedy**, a former NMU professor of French. The book features original lithographs and sells for \$1,500. (Cross Cultural, 2005)

**Marek Haltof** (English) published a book in Polish on Australian Cinema. *On the Screen Construction of Australia*. This is the second, updated and expanded edition of the book. (Gdansk: Slowo/obraz terytoria, 2005)

**David Cooper** (Philosophy) wrote *Sharing the Practical Wisdom: A Dictionary of PBSP Insights and Concepts with Philosophical Commentary* which was published on CD. It addresses the philosophical significance of Pessó Boyden System Psychomotor Therapy. (WS Architecture, 2005)

*No Social Studies Left Behind*, facilitated by staff and students at the **Northern Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship**, by local teacher Iris Katers, helps educators in grades three through eight easily add economics and geography instruction to their daily literacy lessons. (NMU, 2006)

**Dick Corn '63 BME, '67 MA**, Aug. 22, 2006, Iron Mountain.

**Dorothy Bays '64 MA**, Aug. 20, 2006, Manistique.

**Alex Ramsay '64 BME, '79 MAE, '86 MAE**, Oct. 9, 2006, Rogers City.

**Lois Ann Masters '65 BS**, Aug. 13, 2006, Waterloo, Iowa.

**James Bohn '66 BS**, Sept. 6, 2006, Petoskey.

**E. Marjorie Byers '68 BS**, Aug. 9, 2006, Traverse City.

**Eldon Handrich '69 BA, '72 MA**, Oct. 6, 2006, Grand Marais.

**George LaPointe '69 BA, '77 MA**, Oct. 29, 2006, Quinnesec.

**Judith Chard '70 BS**, Oct. 2, 2006, Petoskey.

**Donald Greene '71 BS '75 MAE, '78 MAE**, Sept. 19, 2006, Niagara, Wis.

**John McAllister '71 BA**, Aug. 2, 2006, Munising.

**George Anderson '72 BS**, Oct. 20, 2006, Iron Mountain.

**Kristine Gerard '72 BS**, June 21, 2006, Gladstone.

**Shirley Valli '74 MAE**, Aug. 6, 2006, Saginaw.

**Charlotte Johnson '77 BSN**, Oct. 29, 2006, Grand Junction, Colo.

**Reverend Frank Hawthorne '77 MAE**, Aug. 18, 2006, Ishpeming.

**Michael Marra '77 AB**, Aug. 25, 2006, Ishpeming.

**Roy Kronquist '78 BS**, Oct. 24, 2006, Peshtigo, Wis.

**Jeffrey Frisbie '79 BS**, Sept. 19, 2006, Durango, Colo.

**Anton Lehotsky '79 BME**, June 10, 2006, Wakefield.

**Thomas Radloff '79 BSN**, July 28, 2006, Munising.

**Patricia Balog '80 MAE**, Sept. 5, 2006, Houghton.

**Michael Russell '81 BSW**, June 29, 2006, Jackson, Wyo.

**Pat Murphy '82 BS**, July 11, 2006, Anchorage, Alaska.

**Dale Juchemich '84 VOC**, Oct. 14, 2006, Gwinn.

**Thomas Twichell '84 BS, '87 MS**, Aug. 22, 2006, Marquette.

**Mathew Michael Mattila '85 VOC**, Oct. 6, 2006, Orlando, Fla.

**Michael Wright '86 BSW**, Oct. 2, 2006, Sault Ste. Marie.

**Kenton Hodges '87 BS**, July 30, 2006, Walworth, Wis.

**Robert Villeneuve '88**, Sept. 3, 2006, Iron River.

**Vivian Kallatsa '91 LPN**, Oct. 25, 2006, Sebring, Fla.

**Mary Rochelle LaBonte '91 LPN**, May 22, 2006, Apache Junction, Ariz.

**Bryce Roland '91 BS**, Aug. 30, 2006, Hartland, Wis.

**Patricia Veker '92 BS**, July 10, 2006, Wildomar, Calif.

**Lillian Brooks '93 BSN**, July 27, 2006, Marquette.

**Gary Lee McGhee '93 (ND)**, Aug. 16, 2006, Traverse City.

**Richard Pelto '96 BS**, Sept. 15, 2006, Traverse City.

**Kerri MacPhail '97 BS, '98 AT**, June 10, 2006, Manistique.

**Matthew Hultman '00 BS, '01 LPN**, June 20, 2006, Rochester, Minn.

## Friends

Leonard Beck died Oct. 1, 2006, in Champion. He taught construction and surveying at NMU for 16 years.

Idamae Mattson, friend to NMU, died August 4, 2006, Marquette.

David L. Poindexter, former NMU professor, died July 31, 2006, Big Rapids.

Louise Sprau O'Dell, former faculty member, died Sept. 27, 2006, Alden.

Del Parshall, former HPER professor, died Jan. 12, 2006, Marquette.

*May the circle*

*Keep in touch*

*be unbroken*



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Gwyn, 15, Reese, 9, Roni, Paris, 13, and Jerry Woods.

Jerry is a lifetime member of the NMU Alumni Association since 2003  
and Alumni Association board member from 2003-06.

# Of course I'm a member.

## Are you?

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**My NMU coaches had a great impact on the person I've become.** Herb Grenke, Jerry Rosberg, Jim Driscoll were like father figures to me. It was never about Xs and Os or statistics with them. It was about discipline, effort, courage, enthusiasm and pride. Having those principles embedded into my mind while I played Wildcat football was one of the greatest experiences in my life. It set the foundation to be the father, husband, brother, friend, co-worker, coach and the man that I am.

I'd like to think that I, too, serve as a good role model for young athletes. My day job is as a senior designer for Cummins Generator Technologies in the Twin Cities, but in my free time, I coach everything my kids are involved in: baseball, soccer and football, and serve as coordinator of our area's youth football program. The key ideas I stress with kids are work hard, give great effort, be disciplined, be enthusiastic and have fun.

Northern teachers and coaches taught me how to define and achieve success. So, when I have the chance to give back to NMU, I do, such as serving on the Alumni Association board and staying involved. I have even worked two college fairs in the Twin Cities and really enjoyed it!

When I'm coaching, Northern is on the field, too, because I always carry the values of my NMU experience with me.

**Jerry Woods '89 BS**



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