

Northern HORIZONS

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS
OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Winter 2013



Exploring New Frontiers

Mailbox

“Enjoyed your recent publication, but noticed a couple of mistakes—which by now others may have discovered also! On page 20, Dr. Mildred Magers was not a NMU French professor. She was an English professor. I personally knew all of those pictured on pages 20 and 21. Then on page 21 under West Hall you have Dr. Luther West pictured instead of Wilbur D. West. Dr. [Luther] West was a biology professor, and a very good one.”

—*Wilma Petrosky '46*
Belleville, Mich.

You're right, we did hear from many others on our photo mixup of the two Wests. West Hall is indeed named after Wilbur West. West Science is named for Luther West. Gant and Spalding Halls both opened in the fall of 1964 (not in 1965 as stated). Also, the streakers photo on page 33 was actually one from the University of Minnesota (though we do it better).



Wilbur West

"I read your article in the summer 2012 issue on the state-of-the-art brain tumor research on campus. The roots of Northern's relationship with the UMBTC [Upper Michigan Brain Tumor Center] can be traced to initial funding, training and work provided by my former biotechnology company, Seattle-based Dendreon Corporation. The omission of this part of the story was a missed opportunity to inform alumni and friends of Northern of what might come of collaboration between alumni and friends of Northern and imaginative and willing university administrators, faculty and students."

—*T. Dennis George '60*
Issaquah, Wash.

We apologize for the inadvertent omission. The article's intent was to focus on the current status of NMU's involvement in the UMBTC and did not explore the NMU-Dendreon partnership that paved the way for brain tumor research.

Dendreon offered paid internships to students, furnished materials, transferred equipment to the university and supported Rob Winn's role as supervising faculty. The Dendreon project faded away, but its impact continues.

"The Horizons article you wrote saved my life."

There was stunned silence on my end of the phone when Don Clewley uttered those words. My colleagues will confirm it's not easy to render me speechless, but Don managed to do it—at least for one treasured moment on a Friday afternoon in late September. He was calling from his lake home near Pembine, Wis., to share the remarkable story of how he is now cancer-free, despite an initial diagnosis that he had an inoperable brain tumor and only six months to live.

Don suffered a stroke and began having seizures over Memorial Day weekend. He was rushed by ambulance to his local hospital, then to Green Bay. An MRI revealed hemorrhaging in his brain. When a physician told him a tumor also was detected and that nothing could be done, Don went home prepared to plan his funeral and get his affairs in order.

"I was willing to accept that's what I had and didn't want to dwell on it," he said. "I wasn't despondent because I have a firm belief in God and eternal life. I also knew I have a network of friends and family who would support and pray for me."

As a graduate of the former NMU-affiliated Northern Michigan School of Banking, Don is on the mailing list for *Horizons*. The summer issue included what proved to be a timely story on NMU's involvement in the Upper Michigan Brain Tumor Center. When Don learned about this collaboration with Marquette General Hospital's Brain & Spine Center, he called neurosurgeon Rich Rovin's office on the same day he received the magazine.

"Friends had been urging me to get a second opinion and I figured I owed it to myself," Don said. "At my appointment three days later, I had another MRI and Dr. Rovin told me the tumor was in fact operable. When I met him and his staff, I was totally impressed. They were friendly, laid back and took time to talk with me. I felt encouraged and confident they could do something for me and they did. The quality of care I've received in the

U.P. is excellent."

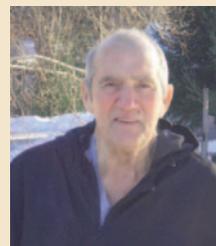
Don underwent surgery on Sept. 12, and was cleared to return home two days later. He requires no follow-up radiation or

chemotherapy, functions completely on his own and returns to the center every six months to ensure that the tumor doesn't reappear.

"I've been called the miracle man because I had an earlier stroke last January [2012] and almost died then, too," he added. "My local doctor said it's like I've won the lottery twice. With the first stroke, I lost 130 pounds and some of my ability to talk, walk and use my right hand. That all returned to normal, but the second stroke was more serious and limited those abilities to a much greater extent. I had been with hospice after the inoperable tumor diagnosis. When a volunteer came to pick up the things I didn't need anymore after my successful surgery, he said, 'We don't usually have people leave hospice on these terms; you graduated!' The power of prayer does bring miracles. I am a walking testament to that."

My byline may have appeared on the *Horizons* article, but I can't take personal credit for Don's 180-degree health turnaround. If I hadn't volunteered for that assignment, one of my colleagues would have. We've written many stories with the simple goal that some people read them—stories to inform, enlighten or perhaps entertain. But save a life? That's a new one not likely to be repeated. I am humbled and grateful that Don made an effort to track down my phone number to thank me. It's the most rewarding reader feedback I could imagine. Don plans to do some writing of his own in the near future: a book about his experience. We already know it will have an awesome ending!

—*Kristi Evans*
NMU and Horizons news director



Brain tumor survivor
Don Clewley

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ON THE COVER: Cross-section of the proposed SKYway™. Courtesy of Innov8 Transport. iStockphoto background.
This page: Red pines at Little Presque Isle.

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On campus today



Northern has streamlined the Foundation scholarship process, making it much easier to match students with scholarships. Here, two students chat with June Schaefer '67 BA, '68 MA, NMU Foundation trustee and scholarship donor, at the annual scholarship brunch and awards ceremony, where students and donors have a chance to meet each other.

NMU honored as 'Model of Efficiency'

NMU is one of nine colleges and universities nationwide being recognized by *University Business* magazine as "Models of Efficiency." Sponsored by Higher One, a company that assists in college business office operations, the program recognizes innovative approaches for streamlining higher education operations through technology and/or business process improvements. Northern is cited in particular for its creation of a streamlined, online scholarship application.

"Universities everywhere today need to generate more productivity with fewer staff, and Northern Michigan's automated scholarship application system does an excellent job of achieving that goal," says Tim Goral, editor in chief of *University Business*. "We applaud Northern Michigan not only for their improvements in efficiency, but also for creating a scholarship system that is more student-focused."

Previously, the university's Foundation scholarship application and selection process was difficult and time-consuming for students and inefficient and labor intensive for staff. It took two staff members nearly four weeks to process more than 5,000 paper applications. Brian Larson, senior web developer, and Robyn Stille '00 BS,

'09 MCert., executive director of alumni relations and annual giving, collaborated to create a web application that matched students' profiles to scholarship selection criteria. Students see three levels: scholarships that exactly match their attributes, close matches and those that do not match (in the event there was some extraneous circumstance not provided for within the system, such as plans to change their major). The system includes directions for scholarships with unique circumstances and FAQs. Students can track the status of their application.

The new system reduces data entry, paper, time and labor costs, increases data accuracy and provides more information to selection committees. Processing time by Financial Aid was reduced by 88 percent, from two staffers working full time for four weeks to one staff member working five days. There has been a 36 percent increase in the number of applications submitted and a 19 percent increase in the number of students submitting one or more applications.

University Business is the leading publication for senior managers at colleges and universities throughout the United States.

Leadership programs receive national awards

Northern's two student leadership and community involvement programs have once again earned honors. The Superior Edge program was chosen as a silver award winner by the Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education. It received the honor in the category of careers, academic support, service learning, community service and related.

"It is truly an honor to be recognized nationally as one of the most innovative, creative, effective student development programs in the country," says **Rachel Harris '91 BS**, associate director of NMU's Center for Student Enrichment and director of Superior Edge. "Northern Michigan University has established itself as an institution that encourages student engagement in and out of the classroom. Many of our students' life-changing

involvements deepen their learning and prepare them to contribute in a global society. We are developing educated, community-centered leaders."

Also, NMU's Student Leader Fellowship Program was selected as the 2012-13 bronze award winner by the group for student union, student activities, Greek life, leadership and related category.

"These awards are made by the most respected organization in Student Affairs," says **Dave Bonsall '73 BS**, director of the Center for Student Enrichment. "To win one of them is a significant achievement; to win two of them is remarkable. We have a very genuine, committed student body at NMU who embrace the opportunities they have to learn and grow."



College of Business named 'Rising Star,' maintains accreditation

NMU's College of Business has maintained its business accreditation by AACSB International, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Less than 5 percent of the world's business programs have earned AACSB accreditation, which is the hallmark of excellence in business education. Founded in 1916, AACSB International is the longest-serving global accrediting body for business schools that offer undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees in business and accounting.

"AACSB International accreditation offers the most prestigious academic accreditation available for business schools," says Jamal Rashed, dean of the NMU College of Business. "This achievement is a reflection of the high-quality programs the college offers at both the undergraduate and MBA levels." Only about 650 business schools in 45 countries and territories have succeeded in doing so.

"Our MBA program is named among the 'most promising business schools' globally," says Dean Jamal Rashed.

Additionally, the college's master of business administration program was ranked 23rd out of the top 35 international MBA programs named Rising Stars by findyourmba.com. The 2012 ranking is based on noteworthy improvements, current data and plans for the future.

"Our MBA program is named among the 'most promising business schools' globally," says Rashed. "Northern attracts highly qualified students, with an average GMAT score of 620, and our MBA students rank above the top 30 percent overall in the nation of MBA students taking the graduate Educational Testing Service (ETS) exam."

Findyourmba.com critiques business schools from a student's perspective. Some data included in other rankings is used for the Rising Stars, but the site also includes forum and Internet activity among MBA students and consideration of the political climate, a university's long-term investment in the business school and its strategic choices.

On campus today

NMU pilots MI-VetSuccess program



NMU is the host campus for a new campus-based outreach service, MI-VetSuccess, a pilot program supporting student veterans. The initial program will reach out to almost 800 students who have recently served in the military and are now enrolled at higher educational institutions in the Upper Peninsula.

“We are proud to launch MI-VetSuccess as partners with the U.S. Department of Veteran’s Affairs vocational rehabilitation program to assist veterans on campus with enrolling in the VA health care system or with filing for disability benefits,” says Jason Allen, senior deputy director, Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. “This program will provide necessary services to on-campus veterans and provide them with information, support and access to benefits they need to successfully transition from military to college, and eventually into civilian employment.”

The program establishes six geographic regions across the state, with one college or university in each region designated as the hub from which a designated campus counselor operates. Each host college or university, by signing a memorandum of understanding, commits to providing space and resources necessary for

conducting direct veteran outreach and advocacy.

“Helping veterans transition from the military into educational programs is a privilege Northern Michigan University takes very seriously. That is why being a part of this pilot program is so exciting for our campus. It’s especially important that this type of assistance is available in the Upper Peninsula—an area with a very high rate of military service—so that veterans and veteran students throughout the U.P. have local access to this kind of help,” says NMU President **David Haynes ’72 BS**.

Veterans on campus say that this program is timely and necessary. “What a benefit this will be to have a veteran rep at the university to give further assistance to students working their way through the benefits process. Every student veteran has a little different situation that makes choosing from the benefits available difficult at times,” says Daniel Braund of Marquette, an NMU senior criminal justice major. Braund is a staff sergeant in the Michigan National Guard 107th EN Battalion. He served nine years of active duty with the 101st in Ft. Campbell and did three tours in Iraq and one to Afghanistan with the 1430th Engineer Company of Marquette.



NMU Baja Team records best finish ever

NMU’s SAE team.

A field of 19 cars from universities nationwide competed in the four-hour, off-road race, which takes place on a motocross track and demands a fast, reliable car, skilled driving and

great teamwork. The NMU Baja team also took second place in the “fastest car” four-lap sprint. The event featured an exciting “Le Mans” style start in which the drivers were required to

sprint 50 yards, belt into the safety harness, start the engine and go.

Racing the cars is just a small part of the competition. Participants spend hundreds of hours designing the cars on the computer and building them in the shop. The NMU team designed and built the current No. 23 car during the 2011-12 academic year. Its first competition was the International Race in June in Burlington, Wis. The team spent the early winter preparing an additional car for Michigan Technological University’s Winter Baja Race Feb. 16 in Houghton.

The Society of Automotive

Engineers (SAE) Baja team opened its racing season with a second-place finish at the UW-Stout Backwoods Baja Endurance Race in November. It marks the best finish of all time for

Wildcat athlete drowns in PEIF pool

Accidental drowning has been cited as the cause of death of Wildcat freshman soccer player Arianna Alioto, according to the autopsy report provided to NMU Public Safety and Police Services by the Marquette County Medical Examiner's Office.

Alioto, 18 and a native of Columbia, Mo., participated in a practice with her teammates in the PEIF pool on Nov. 30. She was later found unresponsive in the pool.

"The autopsy report did confirm what we stated earlier, that there was no physical trauma to the body. However, it did not have any other conclusive findings related to the incident other than that Ms. Alioto's death was due to drowning and the nature of the incident was accidental," said Mike Bath, director of NMU Public Safety and Police Services, which oversaw the investigation.

The investigation's interviews confirm there was a lifeguard present at the practice session and that none of the persons in the pool during the training period saw or heard anyone in distress during or at the conclusion of the practice.

"Information gathered through the investigation interviews lead us to believe that Ms. Alioto never left the pool and most likely drowned between 4:45 and 5 p.m.," said Bath.

It was approximately 5:35 p.m. when a student in the second-story workout area, which overlooks the pool, identified the possible drowning situation. According to the police report, Alioto's teammates were looking for her throughout the complex, hoping to leave together as they had come to practice, when emergency personnel arrived, responding to the 911 call placed by the facility's employees.

Details provided through the interviews indicate that the recreation sports staff who responded to the emergency call did so quickly and performed emergency first aid procedures appropriately until EMS arrived on the scene to provide advanced emergency care. Alioto was transported to Marquette General Hospital where she was pronounced dead at 6:18 p.m. ET.

"Arianna's drowning is a tragedy," said NMU President David Haynes. "The Alioto family, Arianna's friends, the Wildcat soccer team and the NMU campus continue to deal with the shock of her death. While the investigation is completed as far as the police report goes, I don't know yet



Arianna Alioto

what kind of changes might come out of our ongoing discussions about the drowning. What I do know at this time is that Arianna Alioto was a wonderful young lady and her loss is felt deeply, both here at NMU and back in her hometown. She is dearly missed."



On our minds

Visiting experts sparked thought and discussion on many fascinating topics throughout the fall semester. Some topics and their presenters included:

Communism and Women—Ann Cudd, associate dean for the humanities at the University of Kansas

Cross-race Police Shootings—Mikhail Lyubansky of the University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign

A Thai Perspective on the U.S. Election—Kittipong Keatwatcharachai, public administration professor with Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University

Canada's Incredible Turnaround: What the United States Can Learn from Its Northern Neighbor—Niels Veidhuis, president of the Fraser Institute and co-author of *The Canadian Century*

Why Are Good People Divided by Politics and Religion?—Jonathan Haidt, a social psychologist at New York University Stern School of Business and best-selling author of *The Righteous Mind* and *The Happiness Hypothesis*

One Revolution: It's not what happens to you, it's what you do with what happens to you—Chris Waddell, most decorated male skier in Paralympic history

Where Soliders Come From—Heather Courtney, Emmy-award winning director of the eponymous film

Visiting creative writers included Jack Driscoll, Elena Gorokhova and Nahid Rachlin

On campus today

Two new trustees join NMU Board

Michigan Governor Rick Snyder has appointed **Steve Mitchell '67 BS**, of West Bloomfield, and Thomas Zurbuchen, of Ann Arbor, to the Northern Michigan University board of trustees, the eight-person governing body.

Mitchell is chairman of Mitchell Research and Communications Inc., a position he has held since 1985. In this role, he has provided public relations, public affairs, marketing research and political consulting services to corporate, association and government clients. Mitchell holds a bachelor's degree in political science and history from NMU, and received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 2004. He replaces **Jack LaSalle '71 BS**.



Zurbuchen is associate dean of entrepreneurial programs at the University of Michigan's College of Engineering and founding director of the Center for Entrepreneurship. He also serves as a professor of space science and aerospace engineering at the university, where he has worked for more than 16 years. Zurbuchen received a master's degree in physics, mathematics and astronomy and a Ph.D. in physics, both from the University of Bern in Switzerland. He replaces Brian Cloyd.



The appointees will serve eight-year terms that expire Dec. 31, 2020.

Students help teens prepare for future



Leading a recent session are NMU students (standing from left) Parker Foss, John VanEizenga, Jessica Parker, Maria Syreini and Adriano Da Costa.

Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) is presenting a series of workshops to teenagers from the residential program at Great Lakes Recovery Center in Marquette designed to prepare them to enter the workforce. According to SIFE adviser and business professor Ray Amtmann, the GLRC participants have a history of substance abuse or behavioral health issues for which they are receiving treatment, but typically have no shortage of creativity and energy—major requirements for successful entrepreneurs.

“Access to the skills they learn in these workshops will help give them confidence to apply their resources in a constructive way, which will increase their odds of achieving a successful recovery,” Amtmann says.

Topics covered include dressing for success, building a resume, interviewing skills and basic accounting/finance. SIFE received a \$2,088 grant from Michigan Campus

Compact to support the project.

“We’re trying to show them that, even though they’ve experienced adversity, they should keep looking forward because they’re young and can still have a bright future,” says SIFE member Matt Croschere. “We’re giving some helpful advice for when they do start looking for a job. They’re not going to have a lot of experience to include, but they need to build a good resume with what they have.”

Writing resumes and cover letters was the focus of the most recent workshop. NMU students distributed sample job applications from area employers and helped the attendees fill them out.

A female GLRC participant found the session was “really helpful. Most of the teenagers here don’t know how to fill out an application. I took a class on it once, but can build from that. It’s a good refresher. You can never learn enough about getting a job, and it’s nice to have it presented by people close to the same age.”

Paul Trdan, a teacher at GLRC, agreed that it is beneficial for the teens to interact with college students. “It’s good for them to see what the next level of education looks like, in addition to the skills they will need to secure future employment. This project reinforces what we do in class but applies it in a different environment. It’s nice for our students to get a different perspective outside of the classroom.”

SIFE is an international organization that brings together a diverse network of students from various disciplines, academic professionals and industry leaders around the shared mission of “creating a better, more sustainable world through the positive power of business.”



NMU goes on the road

As part of his “Rethink, Renew, Reconnect” initiative, NMU President David Haynes led a group of about 30 administrators, staff and faculty to events in Iron Mountain and Escanaba in October as part of his 2012-13 U.P. Bus Tour.

“We have been road— r-o-a-d—scholars this fall,” says Haynes. “Our goal with these trips was to reconnect with business, community and alumni leaders across the Upper Peninsula to find out what their economic development, training, technology and educational needs are now and looking into the future, and to see what role NMU can play in meeting those needs.”

In Iron Mountain, the NMU contingent broke into smaller groups to tour the Oscar G. Johnson Veterans Medical Facility, Dickinson

Memorial Hospital, Systems Control Inc. and Boss Snowplow. In Escanaba, the groups toured OSF St. Francis Hospital, EMP (Engineered Machine Products), Saykly’s Confectionery & Gifts, Besse Forest Products, Delta Manufacturing and the Bonifas Arts Center.

In both cities, the group met with downtown area businesses and K-12 school administrators, as well as with members of the economic development and Chamber of Commerce organizations. Haynes was the guest speaker at the Rotary lunch in each place, while NMU athletic director Forrest Karr spoke to the Iron Mountain Kiwanis. An alumni reception was held at the end of each day.

According to **Dale Kapla ’90 AS, ’01 MPA**, assistant provost for undergraduate programs, the discus-

sions on the bus tour have already led to some new plans.

“It was great to reconnect with NMU alumni working in the U.P. We learned that many of our current programs can assist in the furthering of their professional development needs, as well as those of their employees,” says Kapla. “We also shared ideas for future programs to ensure we meet the changing demands of U.P. businesses and community members, and look forward to continuing those discussions.”

Nanci Gasiewicz ’80 BSN, associate dean of NMU’s School of Nursing, said the visits were valuable to her programs.

“It was good to speak to the nursing directors in their own environments to fully gain an appreciation of the need for nurses in their areas,” she says. “It allowed me to be confident that our reactivated LPN program will produce nurses who will be entering a good job market. In addition, our BSN graduates will be able to remain in the Upper Peninsula and work as registered nurses if they are willing to relocate outside of the Marquette area. Our family nurse practitioner graduates from our master’s program will continue to enjoy a good job market in the U.P. [They] are crucial to the rural healthcare environment.”

At least two more bus trips are planned for the spring, to the Copper Country and to Menominee/Marinette.

“The needs of the U.P. are always changing. As the peninsula’s largest and most academically comprehensive university, we feel it’s important that we stay up to date on what NMU can do to help the U.P. and what new opportunities there are for NMU students, faculty and staff in areas beyond Marquette,” says Haynes.



Part of the NMU group on their tour of Besse Forest Products in Gladstone.

On campus today

Trio programs give students an extra edge to succeed in college

More than \$1 million in grants each year go to support Northern's three federal TRIO programs: McNair Scholars, Upward Bound-Math Science and Student Support Services. The programs are designed to assist low-income individuals, first-generation college students and individuals with disabilities progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to post-baccalaureate programs. All three were recently notified that their federal funding has been continued or renewed.

The **McNair Scholars program** serves students who are first generation and low income, or belong to a group traditionally underrepresented in graduate education. Participation in the program affords undergraduate students the opportunity to work with a faculty mentor for a summer research project while earning credit, a \$2,800 stipend and a living allowance. McNair participants also benefit from GRE-prep workshops, graduate school campus visits, opportunities to present research at conferences and individual academic counseling. Since the program began in October 2009, 16 students have successfully completed all of the necessary components and graduated. Of those, 11 have enrolled in graduate and doctorate programs across the country, with the majority receiving full or partial funding packages to continue their education.

Northern's **Upward Bound Math-Science program** (UBMS) through the Seaborg Center is a year-round academic program that includes an intensive, six-week sum-

mer experience. It exposes students to a variety of career fields, improves problem-solving skills and enriches their appreciation for science and mathematics. To be eligible, students must meet federal low-income guidelines or come from a family in which neither parent or guardian holds a four-year college degree. UBMS is not to be confused with the general Upward Bound program at NMU, which did not have its funding renewed and ceased operations at the end of August.

TRiO

Student Support Services is designed to help increase retention and graduation rates of first-generation, low-income students and students with disabilities. Participants must be enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program. They receive comprehensive academic support and personal advisement, access to cultural and leadership activities, assistance in making a positive transition to campus life and requisite skills to make appropriate career choices as NMU graduates and lifelong learners.

A Trio triple play

NMU has its first graduate who completed a TRIO program Triple Play. Andrea Selmser participated in NMU's three TRIO programs.

As a member of the McNair Scholars Program inaugural cohort, Selmser completed research in the area of traumatic brain injury in veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. She presented her research at NMU, the regional McNair Scholars conference and at the Federal Interagency Conference on Traumatic Brain Injury in Washington D.C.

As an Upward Bound student, Selmser regularly participated in student leadership conferences, was a three-year participant in the UB summer program and was a UB Bridge Scholarship recipient.

She also took advantage of a broad range of opportunities while a Student Support Services (SSS) participant. She was an active member of its student advisory board, served as a tutor in the program, and was a Freshman Seminar teaching assistant for SSS. In her spare time, Selmser consistently excelled in academics, earning Dean's List honors on a regular basis. As an NMU student, she also maintained her connections with UB by serving as a tutor-counselor, office assistant and newsletter editor.

Andrea is currently in the speech-language pathology master's program at Michigan State University.



Andrea Selmser (right) with her McNair mentor, Debra Morley, neurologist at the Iron Mountain VA Medical Center.

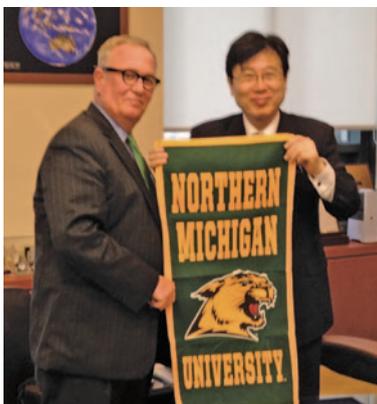
Forging relationships in Asia and the Middle East

NMU is extending its global outreach efforts under President David Haynes. He traveled recently to Seoul, South Korea, where he signed memoranda of understanding with two institutions: Seoul National University of Science and Technology and Hankuk University of Foreign Studies. This builds upon the previously signed agreement with Myongji University.

Haynes was accompanied by Provost Paul Lang and Sook Wilkinson, an NMU trustee who was born in Seoul, graduated from the city's Ewha Womans University and speaks fluent Korean.

"The schools were impressed we had a Korean-American on our board who would take the time to travel there to help Northern through this," Haynes says. "We identified four universities, met with their staffs to compare what we offer and what they offer and came away with two signed agreements. We will continue to pursue partnerships with the others. The Seoul Institute of Arts is unique and has a lot of the same programs as we offer in art and design and in communications and performance studies. We spent a full day with NMU graduate **JiHun Chang '95 BS**, who came here on an exchange program and is now a professor in the SIA Broadcasting Department.

"Student and faculty exchanges are certainly possible, but we also want to move beyond exchanges to actual degree programs. Maybe two-plus-two



NMU representatives recently traveled to Korea and signed memoranda of understanding with Seoul National University of Science and Technology and Hankuk University of Foreign Studies.



Al Hameli, a senior economic adviser with the Abu Dhabi Council for Economic Development, with Jamal Rashed, NMU College of Business dean, and David Nyberg, director of the Governor's Office for Northern Michigan.



NMU Trustee and Korean native Sook Wilkinson, left, and NMU President David Haynes creating more partnerships in South Korea.

programs where Korean students could spend the first two years there and finish up the last two years here, receiving a Northern degree. If students are here more than a semester or two, they're more connected to U.S. students and it enhances diversity on campus."

In October, NMU hosted Mohamed Rashed Al Hameli, a senior economic adviser with the Abu Dhabi Council for Economic Development. He was invited to the Marquette area to discuss the possibility of NMU collaborating with United Arab Emirates' institutions to offer courses and

"Student and faculty exchanges are certainly possible, but we also want to move beyond exchanges to actual degree programs."

programs in the capital of Abu Dhabi and other UAE locations. He also met with business and community leaders. Haynes will be traveling to Al Hameli's homeland in February.

"We're very excited about the opportunities that may be available for NMU programs in Abu Dhabi, and we appreciate Mr. Al Hameli traveling to the Upper Peninsula to learn more about our university," says Haynes.

Sports

Wildcat Women Roar in Title IX Milestone Year

It may be in honor of the 40th anniversary of the passing of Title IX, the federal civil rights law that prohibits sex discrimination in education and had the biggest impact in promoting the growth of girls and women's sports. Or, it may be motivated by seeing the impressive female performances of the London Summer Olympic Games. Whatever the reason, the Wildcat women's teams have had a strong showing so far in the 2012-13 season.

The NMU cross country squad finished fourth of 16 schools at the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship, a climb of four places from a year ago. Coach **Jenny Ryan's '02 MA** team also finished ninth of 38 divisional opponents at the Roy Griak, the largest national cross country invitational. Nine of the top 10 runners return in 2013.

The Wildcat volleyball squad posted a 20-win season—its 10th straight winning campaign. Coach Dominic Yoder's team went 20-12 overall and 12-6 in GLIAC play for fifth place in the conference. NMU also appeared in the GLIAC Tournament for the ninth consecutive year. Juniors Lina Lopes and Kellisha Harley were selected to the GLIAC first team

In soccer, senior forward Amelia Johnson was a first-team all-conference pick, representing a young Wildcat team that went 4-13 overall and was 11th in the GLIAC (3-10).

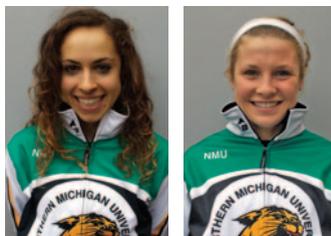
The NMU swimming and diving team has ranked as high as No. 9 in the Division II Endless Pools/College Swimming Top 25 during 2012-13. Over the semester break, the Wildcats competed at the Puerto Rico Invitational and won the women's competition, becoming the first Division II team to take the meet title in 10 years.

The women's basketball team has been enjoying a strong season. Coming into the new calendar year, NMU had a 7-3 overall record. Coach **Troy Mattson's '86 BS** squad is eyeing a fourth GLIAC playoff berth in five years when tourney time rolls around in early March.

NMU's women Nordic skiers have dominated many of their early season meets. At the 2013 U.S. Cross Country Ski Championships in January,



NMU had two top 20 finishers in the 20-kilometer classic with junior Rosie Frankowski finishing 10th and freshman Mary Kate Cirelli 18th. In the 5K junior classic race,



Rosie Frankowski Mary Kate Cirelli

freshman Hannah Boyer was 25th. In the sprints, junior Jordyn Ross was 19th in the women's under 23 age group (51st overall), just 23.35 seconds behind the first-place winner.

The indoor track and field team began its indoor season in January at No. 23 in the national preseason rankings. First-year head coach Chereé Hicks looks to build on the recent successes of the program, including last year's 14th place finish at the NCAA Indoor Championships and three student-athletes earning All-America status.

"It's been a great year so far for women's athletics at NMU," says NMU Athletic Director Forrest Karr. "We are very fortunate to have so many female student-athletes who excel in the classroom and in competition. The coaches of our women's teams consistently find ways to establish a culture where everyone works toward a common goal to achieve success."



Football players earn region, all-star game honors

Four Wildcats were among the 80 players chosen to the 2012 Don Hansen NCAA Division II All-Super Region 4 squad, announced in January.

Junior Christian Jessie was named to the second team as a return specialist. Seniors Jace Daniels and Rockne Belmonte were named to the third-team offense while senior Zach Anderson was a third-team defense selection.

Anderson, Daniels and Belmonte were also selected to play in national all-star games that took place in December. Anderson and Daniels competed on opposite teams in the third annual National Bowl Game at J. Birney Crum Stadium in Allentown, Pa.

Belmonte played in the D2 vs. NAIA Scout Bowl in Myrtle Beach, S.C. and is participating in several combines. In addition to football, he was commissioned a Second Lt. in the United States Army following his NMU graduation and participation in ROTC.

"It's critical whenever you can get our university all-star game exposure and it's a feather in their cap that they were invited to play in these games and be recognized as one of the best players in the country at their position," says first-year Wildcat coach Chris Ostrowsky. "It's fantastic for our program to get notoriety and to see our players being celebrated."

NMU wrapped up its 100th season of Wildcat football with a 4-7 record. The 'Cats went 1-5 in the first six games and 3-2 in the final five contests.

Lifters make elite teams

USOEC weightlifter Breanne Carlson captured sixth place in the 58-kilogram weight class at the World University Championships in Eilat, Israel, in November. She had a 149kg lift total. She completed all three snatch lifts, topping her personal record by 4kg with a 67kg lift. In the clean and jerk, Carlson exceeded her personal record by 1kg with an 82kg lift.

Three USOEC lifters earned a trip to the 2013 National Junior Championships held in mid-February: Brian Budd (94kg), Ann Bengry (53kg) and Chris Young (85kg).

Additionally, 19 USOEC team members have qualified for the University Nationals to be held April 4-7.



Hicks hired as track and field coach

Chereé Hicks was hired in September as NMU's track and field coach. She comes to the Wildcat program after 11 years as an assistant coach at the University of Miami, Syracuse University and Portland State University.

Hicks was an NCAA runner-up in the shot put and discus as a student-athlete at Syracuse and an Academic All-American and All-American in discus at California State University-Northridge.



Bratrud skis for Team USA

NMU sophomore Nordic skier Kyle Bratrud competed for Team USA at the U23 World Championships in Liberec, Czech Republic, in late January. Bratrud was 46th in the 10-kilometer freestyle and led Team USA finishing 34th in the 20k skiathlon (combined classic and freestyle) event. He and his USA teammates were 12th in the 4 X 5k classic/freestyle relay with Bratrud having the fastest leg.

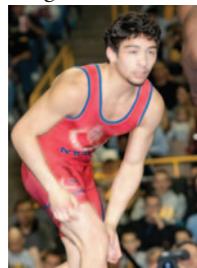
Bratrud earned one of six slots on the national team based on points accumulated during the first three races held at the 2013 U.S. Cross Country Championships in early January.

Twenty-nine Wildcats have been selected to the Junior World Team under coach **Sten Fjeldheim '86 BS, '92 MA**. Current NMU skier junior George Cartwright was the most recent selection in 2011.



Ranked wrestlers

Fifteen United States Olympic Education Center Greco-Roman wrestlers earned top 10 senior ranking by TheMat.com, the official website of USA Wrestling, this past fall. Max Nowry (left) was No. 2 in the 55kg weight class. Nowry won the University World Championships in October.



In December, the USOEC wrestlers finished third overall at the Lila Malar Cup in Stockholm, Sweden, with seven athletes taking top 10 spots in their weight categories. Ramon Moreno (55kg) and Mike Mioni (60kg) won silver.

Oh, Pioneers!



“We are all one. In the human form we are pioneers embarked on a wonderful journey, exploring and experiencing the physical world.”

Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh

By Rebecca Tavernini '11 MA

Remarkable advances in technology, health and social issues in the last few decades have brought us not only closer to the imagined future of the mid-20th century, but in many ways beyond what anyone could have envisioned.

Yet, 95 percent of the ocean remains unexplored, 96 percent of matter in the universe is unknown, 1.3 million people die each year of preventable and treatable tuberculosis and 1.2 million from traffic accidents. Not to mention that if you need a cab when it's raining, you're going to get wet.

Enter NMU alumni, those fearless explorers, visionaries, inventors, movers and shakers.

In this issue, meet **Lisa (Trotter) Kelley**, who dives beneath Antarctic ice to glide through a world surprisingly rich with life and bursting with color and magnificent creatures—some that may turn out to be newly discovered species.

Ben Scheelk is a fellow aquaphile, whose work with Blue Legacy seeks to protect, preserve and improve the world's essential water resources, by using new ways to educate and collaborate.

Celestially, student **Matt Menze** worked at NASA to help develop tools to simulate a possibly revolutionary type of robotic anatomy that may also have terrestrial uses.

In an unbelievably short period of time, **Kyle Ortiz** moved heaven and earth to save hundreds of lives by setting up community tuberculosis treatment centers in the capital of Cambodia, demonstrating a growing model of affecting large-scale change with a small-scale staff and budget.

Speaking of large-scale, **John Fleming** and partners are thinking big when it comes to U.S. transportation, garnering support for an elevated transportation system that allows cars and freight to travel on both roads and automated high-speed rail, easing congestion, pollution and accidents.

At Northern we are working to expand the borders of our classrooms, by partnering with other universities, such as Macomb Community College and Lake Superior State University to offer courses they don't, in-person, online or via interactive TV. In addition, by working with game theory expert **Ron St. Martin** we are charting our best-best countries and strategies for bringing significantly more international students to our Marquette campus.

And as for advances in hailing a cab, thanks to **Martin Heikel**, there's an app for that.

Enjoy the ride to these new frontiers...

The McGoff Distinguished
Lecture Series Presents



The Director and Chairman of the Hudson Institute and the world's best known futurist, Herman Kahn is a specialist in the research of what to expect in socio/economic, political, and technological trends for the United States and other countries throughout the world. His insights, gathered from a team of researchers around the globe, may astound you. Many of the world's largest corporations and governmental agencies use the services of Herman Kahn and the Hudson Institute. Don't miss this "exciting view of the future." There is no charge for this lecture.

Herman Kahn

A look into mankind's future with

"Perspectives on the Future"

8:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 20, 1980

Forest Roberts Theatre
Northern Michigan University

When futurist Herman Kahn came to Marquette in 1980, he had a luncheon with faculty and staff, talked with a social science class, went on a tour at Cleveland Cliffs Mining Company, met with local high schoolers and held a public presentation at Forest Roberts Theatre.

Here's what Kahn prognosticated in his speech:

- "Very square, right wing fundamental groups will restore the 'can do' attitude to America and eliminate excessive government regulations."
- In 2030 (50 years from his speech) the population will stabilize at 10 billion people and per-capita world income will be \$25,000.
- The world is in a period of "great transition where the rich will get richer and the poor will get richer."
- The best job prospects will be in computer science and service industries.
- The U.S. and U.S.S.R. will decline in power and Japan, China, West Germany and France will grow.
- "The most likely scenario for WWII would be a revolt in East Germany and Poland against Soviet domination."
- "Two hundred years ago mankind almost everywhere was scarce, poor and at the mercy of the forces of nature. Two hundred years from now, barring bad luck or bad management, mankind should be almost everywhere numerous, rich and in control of the forces of nature."

Diving



to the End of the World

By Kristi Evans

According to the readers' choice awards in *Scuba Diving* magazine, tropical destinations are by far the most popular. Frigid exceptions are British Columbia's Pacific coastline, ranked first in the North American region, and the Great Lakes for best shipwreck diving. Antarctica is nowhere on the list, but Lisa (Trotter) Kelley '99 BS considers it a best-kept secret. She is the only person on record who both learned to scuba dive and completed her certification in Antarctica. She also wrote the first and only dive guide to the region. Kelley now accompanies travelers to the White Continent as an expedition leader aboard *National Geographic Explorer*.

Once the exclusive realm of military and scientific divers, the Antarctic has recently attracted recreational types eager for an unconventional experience. The extreme environment—water temperatures around 30 degrees F throughout the year—requires added preparation and about 150 pounds of gear. Kelley wears a long-underwear base layer topped by a 500g Thinsulate jumpsuit and finally a drysuit made of either crushed neoprene or trilaminate. The air tanks on her back have two regulators in case one stops working properly. Kelley also carries a camera in a waterproof housing.

“It is an incredibly rich environment with lots of invertebrates and colors you wouldn't believe,” she writes in an email from the boat during a recent expedition. “I've been around the world, and Antarctica is still my favorite place to dive on the planet. On any given day, you never know what you will find. There has been so little research underwater here that it is possible we might find something that has never been seen before.”

Kelley almost had an earlier initiation to cold-water diving, albeit in Lake Superior. She had to drop the scuba class at NMU before its first session because it conflicted with soccer practice (Kelley was team captain).



After earning a bachelor's degree in health education and human biology, she completed post-graduate work in immunology before her career path took an unexpected turn.

“My grandparents, who raised me, were longtime Lindblad Expeditions travelers,” she explains. “When I finished my post-grad work, they asked if I wanted to go on a trip with them to Western Europe, starting in Portsmouth, England, and ending in Lisbon, Portugal. I was the youngest person onboard, and

because my grandfather had some physical constraints, I was always back at the landings early and ended up helping people in and out of Zodiacs.

“Towards the end of the trip I asked the crew how they got into this line of work and they said they had a position open in the gift shop if I wanted to apply. I did and ended up getting the job.

“Because I like to keep busy, I asked the undersea specialist if he would train me to dive. So while I was the gift shop manager, I learned to dive in Antarctica.”

Kelley has since logged more than 900 hours exploring the region via scuba and a remotely-operated

“There has been so little research underwater {in Antarctica}, that it is possible we might find something that has never been seen before.”

vehicle (ROV). This experience led her to write *Below Freezing: The Antarctic Dive Guide*, first published in 2006 and now in its second edition. Kelley also served as the winter 2010 station manager at Palmer Station, a U.S. research complex located on a protected harbor off the Antarctica Peninsula. “I made sure everyone was happy and healthy, and that the station continued to run smoothly and be productive.”

Now Kelley spends most of the year working aboard *National Geographic Explorer* as an expedition leader, naturalist and undersea specialist. Such a nomadic career typically is not conducive to finding a spouse, but Kelley discovered about the only

A Harpagiferidae, or spiny plunderfish, (left) and leopard seal (below) are among the undersea creatures Kelley (above) encounters in Antarctic waters.



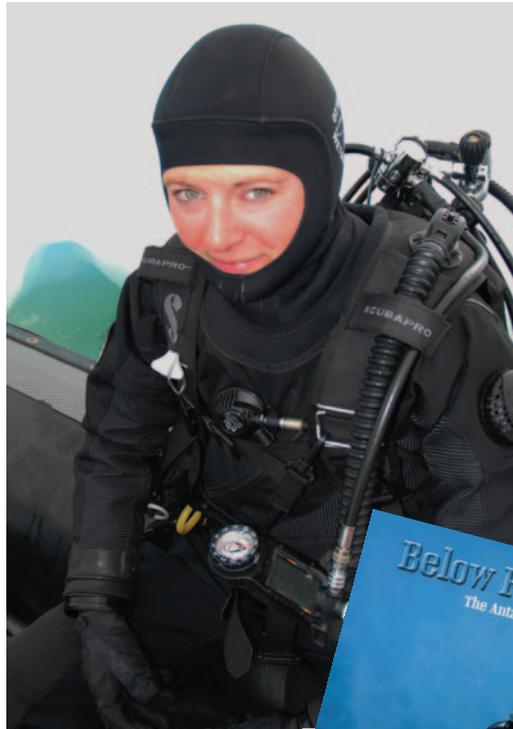
Photos courtesy of Lisa Kelley

workable solution for her situation: she married a Lindblad naturalist, Jason, works on the same vessel and has the same schedule.

“Because my husband is usually one of the staff I supervise, we definitely have to be careful to keep work separate from the personal. We do pretty well. Half the time, the guests don’t realize we’re married, as we are professional when outside the cabin. But I do find that being away from shore-based friends and family is difficult.”

Kelley has traveled from the remote islands of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge to Europe, as well as both coasts of South America and Africa. Most of her voyages are to polar regions, and she prefers it that way.

“Any itinerary in Antarctica is my favorite because it is an incredibly dynamic area,” says the Buffalo, N.Y.

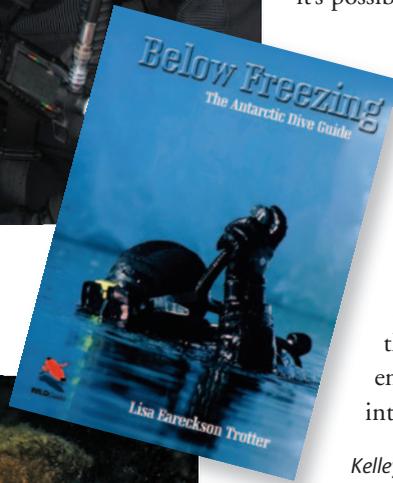


native. “Every week the ice and animals change. A rewarding part of my job is to see the smiles on people’s faces after being face to face with a penguin or seeing an iceberg for the first time.”

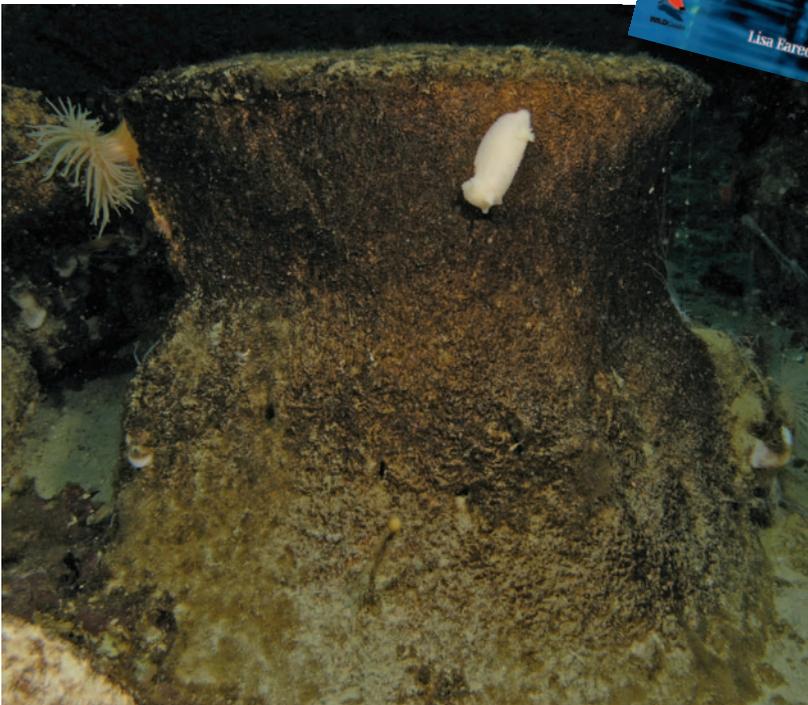
Written or spoken words will likely fall short in describing the environment of Antarctica, much less what it’s like to venture below the water’s surface. Few have experienced the invigorating thrill of diving there, but it’s possible to do so vicariously

through Kelley. A

fascinating 2008 video that shows her exploring the undersea beauty and diversity can be viewed on YouTube. Enter her maiden name, Lisa Trotter, in the search field and enjoy your own journey into the frigid deep. ■



Kelley’s book, *Below Freezing*, details 25 dive sites on the Antarctic Peninsula and South Georgia and includes diving techniques for those up to the challenge.



Encrusted whale vertebrae provide habitat to a nudibranch and an anemone in Port Lockroy harbor, which was a haven for whalers. The sea bed is as deep as 62 meters in this area, and is home to limpets (circular sea snails that look like alien spaceships), sea stars, worms, isopods (14-legged crustaceans resembling armadillos or wood lice), sponges and leopard and Weddell seals.

At press time, another Wildcat explorer, David Branson '97 BS, was on a research cruise aboard the R/VIB Palmer off the west coast of Antarctica sampling benthic invertebrates. He is working on his doctorate at Auburn University, focusing on marine molecular ecology.



Our water legacy

By Kristi Evans

Alexandra Cousteau, granddaughter of famed undersea explorer Jacques and a global water advocate in her own right, has said, “There’s remarkably little we can do to shape productive conversation on water issues until we return to a simple truth we all learned as children: we share a single hydrosphere and are connected through the water cycle—each of us positioned quite literally downstream from the other.”

Cousteau’s point is illustrated by a satellite view of Charlevoix, situated on a strip of land sandwiched between the interconnected bodies of Lake Michigan, Round Lake and Lake Charlevoix. **Ben Scheelk ’11 BA** credits his hometown with instilling an appreciation for the outdoors and reinforcing the importance of protecting natural resources. Those interests led him to NMU and ultimately a position with Cousteau’s non-profit Blue Legacy International, which inspires people to take action on water issues through traditional and new media projects.

“Alexandra’s father and grandfather were primarily focused on marine ecosystems, or oceans,” Scheelk says. “Alexandra is often referred to as the ‘freshwater Cousteau’ because she looks at the entire water cycle and promotes ‘watershed-first thinking.’ Water impacts every aspect of our lives, from food security to community health. It’s the vehicle through which we’ll feel the effects of climate

change,” explains Scheelk. “But a Nature Conservancy poll recently showed 77 percent of people surveyed don’t know where their water comes from. When we don’t have that connection to the source of our water, we tend to ignore the impacts of our daily activities and how they work their way downstream. We ignore that at our own peril.”

Scheelk first met Cousteau when he was president of NMU’s geography honors society and

secured student finance committee funding to bring her to campus for a presentation. After studying abroad in Chile, finishing his final semester at NMU and volunteering in India, he contacted Blue Legacy. Based on the organization’s immediate need for a new website and fueled by his commitment to the cause, Scheelk taught himself to build websites as a volunteer and was rewarded with a paid position in Washington, D.C. He is currently on leave, but continues to volunteer as the webmaster and provides technical support. In his 18 months with the organization, Scheelk served as head writer/editor, managed its social media accounts, supervised content licensing and presented Blue Legacy’s latest film about the Potomac River, *Our Nation’s River: A System on the Edge*, at



Water activist Ben Scheelk

fundraising galas and a film festival. He also was Cousteau’s executive assistant.

Scheelk helped to organize two major Blue Legacy events. One was a congressional film briefing on the 2012 Global Water Security Intelligence Community Assessment. “Water has a big impact on foreign policy,” he says. “If shared, it can bring countries together. If scarce, it can cause instability and put pressure on a weak regime or democracy.” For the other event, he worked with the Waterkeeper Alliance on a Clean Water Act 40th anniversary panel discussion.

“A major impetus for the 1972 legislation occurred in 1969, when Ohio’s Cuyahoga River caught on fire and caused major devastation,” Scheelk adds. “There was almost no federal oversight. The primary intent of the act was to make U.S. rivers fishable, drinkable and swimmable. While we have come a long way, there’s major concern that we’ll slip backwards if House Republicans succeed in diverting regulatory authority from the federal government to the states.

“But it’s important for everyone to be a part of this; it can’t be just the government or environmental organizations. If communities rally around the idea of taking back the watersheds that have been neglected so long, it not only ensures future protection, but also brings that community closer together. Social media has made that easier. It’s led to a democratization of activism and conservation.” ■



TIME TRAVEL OF A DIFFERENT KIND

By Cindy Paavola '84 BS

For Northern Michigan University alumni old enough to remember the Hanna-Barbera television cartoon series *The Jetsons*, you may recall how father, George Jetson, would zoom in a matter of seconds from his home to work via his 2062 aerocar that resembled a flying saucer with a glass bubble top.

The Dual Mode SKYway™ transportation system project that alumnus **John Fleming '64 BS** is involved with isn't quite fast-flying saucers, but he chuckles when he admits "it's pretty close."

Fleming, a 1994 recipient of the NMU Distinguished Alumni Award, is part of a company called Innov8 Transport, which is advocating the idea of an elevated electric and automated high-speed rail system that has the potential to revolutionize modern transportation.

The Innov8 project would involve both public and private transportation. The SKYway system would accommodate dual-mode vehicles known as SKYbrid™ vehicles that could function both on the traditional roadways as well as the new elevated rail platform. The system would also service commercial freight and buses (SKYtrains).

"We're talking about creating a roadway and vehicle system that uses a magnetic levitation mode of movement by connecting the rail to a structural component built into the car or attached to the car or the car's tires. Basically, the car and SKYway would interface to facilitate

magnetic levitation and the car would pretty much float over the roadway," says Fleming. "A side benefit is that because it's a natural-gas-generated electronic roadway, it will be possible to use the energy system from the road itself to regenerate vehicle batteries."

Travel speeds on the SKYway would reach up to 130 miles per hour, but no driver input would be necessary. The cars would enter the SKYway and align with other vehicles in platoons. Each platoon would be monitored and controlled by interconnected computer systems. And, given the state of the art in autonomous vehicle development, the computers in each vehicle could communicate with other vehicles and the SKYway system. So, much like riding a current commuter train, once a driver has entered the SKYway, they can use that time in their vehicle to do things other than focus on driving, such as read, work on their wireless devices, take a nap or apply their makeup.

"Past attempts at high-speed personal vehicle travel failed to resolve the challenges with how to enter and exit the high-speed roadway safely. Innov8 Transport has been able to address this issue through both its inherent design using the MagLev conveyance and electronic controls built into the ingress and egress infrastructure, which takes away the potential for human error that has always been a part of high-speed travel when vehicles are controlled individually."

Fleming says that the discussion about long-distance,



John Fleming of Innov8 Transport

high-speed travel is also not a new topic. Studies have been done on it by corporations such as General Motors, Ford and Chrysler, as well as by state and federal transportation agencies. The Transportation Research Board convened the first workshop in 1994. He says these studies explore the idea of Automated Highway Systems (AHS) and what it would take to “leap frog the current American transportation system into a system of smart roads or smart cars, or some combination of both.”

He stresses that people don’t realize how inefficient our current transportation system is. A 2008 government report states that the “U.S. government wastes \$608 billion annually to current high inefficiencies, and must solve growing traffic congestion, environmental, safety and energy problems.” (For report, see <http://tti.tamu.edu/documents/0-5827-1.pdf>)

“The trouble with a lot of the early studies is that they didn’t have a sound business model,” says Fleming. “What we’ve tried to do is to address the business component. We’ve also taken the work that was done in the 1990s regarding automated highway systems and we’ve updated it with today’s new technology.”

What Innov8 Transport hopes to see happen next is to secure a funding source that would help the company build a test rail to further develop the components and provide proof of concept data.

“Just focusing on the Texas Triangle (encompassing Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and Austin), one can easily see the tremendous economies of scale in productivity and jobs growth from a transportation system that is many times more



Vehicles would enter the Skyway from existing roads, and with a special component connect to the rail system, which magnetically and automatically transports the car at high speeds until the programmed exit is reached and the driver re-engages control.

efficient than the ones today,” says Fleming. “I think if people, especially investors and policy decision-makers, could actually see this concept working, they’d be more willing to make the kind of investment that will be needed to take this from the test model point to an actual U.S. transportation system.”

Fleming says two particular pressures may make funding hard to come by. One is that the SKYway model would directly compete with the Obama administration’s proposal for a national high-speed train system. The second is that the regional airlines would fight the SKYway model since it would impact com-

muter plane service.

“However, the SKYway would better serve the entire country and would provide safe and fast movement of people and goods to airline hubs,” Fleming says. “The SKYway system allows people to remain with their cars, and Americans love their cars—they love being able to stay in their own space with their own stuff, and have both the flexibility and utility of their own vehicle at their destination.”

Going outside of the United States with the SKYway system may be one way to see it become a reality.

“It may be easier to go to a third-world country that doesn’t have a legacy transportation system like the U.S. does and build the highway and SKYway system simultaneously,” says Fleming.

Fleming says that he and the Innov8 Transport team members realize they may never actually see the SKYway system in place in the U.S. or anywhere else in their lifetime, but they are undeterred in their belief in the importance of moving the idea forward.

“This is our dream and, ideally, we’d like to see the dream come true in the way that we’ve developed it. However, realistically it may be that only parts and pieces of our idea come to be. What’s important to us is that this idea helps advance the discussion and other ideas and, ultimately, the movement to change the current transportation system to a better, safer, more environmentally and financially sustainable system.” ■

For those who may like to research this subject further, Fleming suggests that a good place to start would be with the studies that came from the Transportation Research Board workshops. U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration, Publication No. FHWA-RD-95-043, November 1995.

Martin Heikel '81 BS is giving New York City cab drivers a new set of eyes on city streets. He created the smart phone application, ZabKab, which better connects taxi drivers and passengers.

“There was a problem that existed in NYC that could be solved with new technology: Taxi drivers who are cruising around empty 30 to 40 percent of the time without a passenger. So you have these two parties that are searching for one another with an inefficient system,” says Heikel, who has a marketing management degree. “We gave some

thought to that and thought geez, there's got to be a better way, and that's how the idea got started.”

The ZabKab app was designed to improve upon a system that has worked for generations. Heikel acknowledges that there isn't much simpler than just putting one's arm up to hail a cab, but he said problems arise when people aren't on main streets where cabs typically run. The app will help drivers see people on sidestreets, and passengers will no longer have to walk to busy thoroughfares in order to find a cab.

“Taxi!”



By Lucy Hough '12 BA

“If the cab only knew where you stood in the sidestreet, then they’d be more than willing to make the attempt to go pick you up,” Heikel says.

Building on the tradition of simplicity, the ZabKab app is straightforward in its design. Though Heikel says it involves complicated programming, the goal was to make the interface easy to use.

“We wanted to make sure that when you open the app, whether you’re the consumer or the driver, it’s clean, intuitive and doesn’t take a lot of study. We’re trying to make getting a cab easier, simpler and save someone time.”

When downloading the app for a smart phone or tablet, users choose whether they are a passenger or a driver.

The app is free for passengers, who simply press a button to notify drivers of their location (the number of presses indicates the number of passengers). Drivers, after a 60-day free trial, pay between \$10 and \$15 per month for the service, which allows them to see the exact location of passengers within a few blocks. Both the driver and passenger are anonymous on the app.

Passengers aren’t required to wait for a ZabKab-hailed taxi if another cab comes along sooner. Drivers are not obligated to pick up a ZabKab fare if they see another passenger first.

Since the beta launch in August 2012, the app has seen a lot of media and user success. Within 10 days, 2,000 drivers downloaded the



Inventor Martin Heikel, cofounder of Flatiron Apps Company

It's a 'wow, why didn't I think of that' concept.

app. And within the first couple weeks, 40,000 passengers downloaded it.

“I think it drew so much media attention because as a New Yorker where there’s 8.5 million people, almost everybody has used a yellow cab on occasion so it’s something that everyone could relate to,” Heikel says. “Because our app is relatively simple to explain, and it’s a ‘wow, why didn’t I think of that’ concept, it made it highly intriguing for a lot of people.”

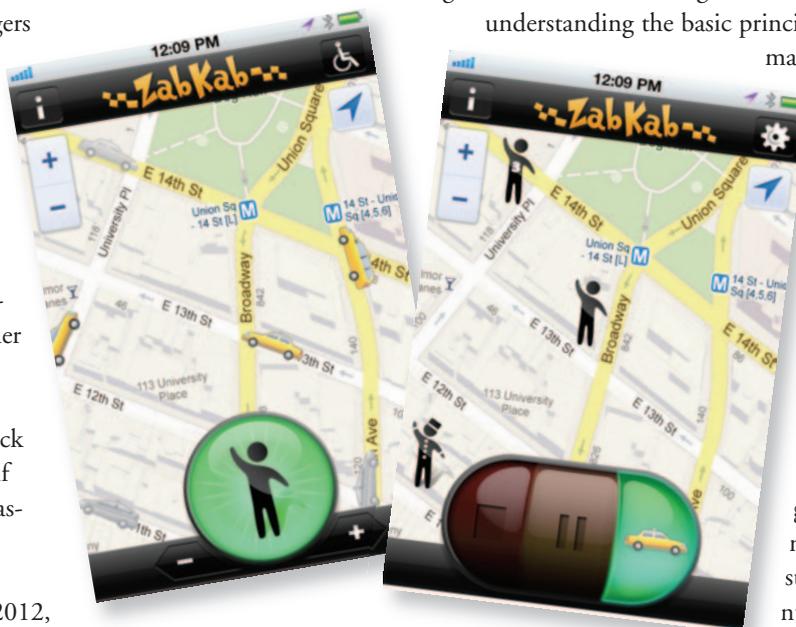
To make the app usable by both drivers and passengers, Heikel had to learn a lot about the taxi industry, including unions, various stakeholders, interest groups, regulatory issues, some New York City politics and more. Heikel, who has previously held positions as director of global account sales for MCI, director of Verizon Financial Network and executive

director of Verizon Enterprise Integration Services, said that continual learning is integral to his business success.

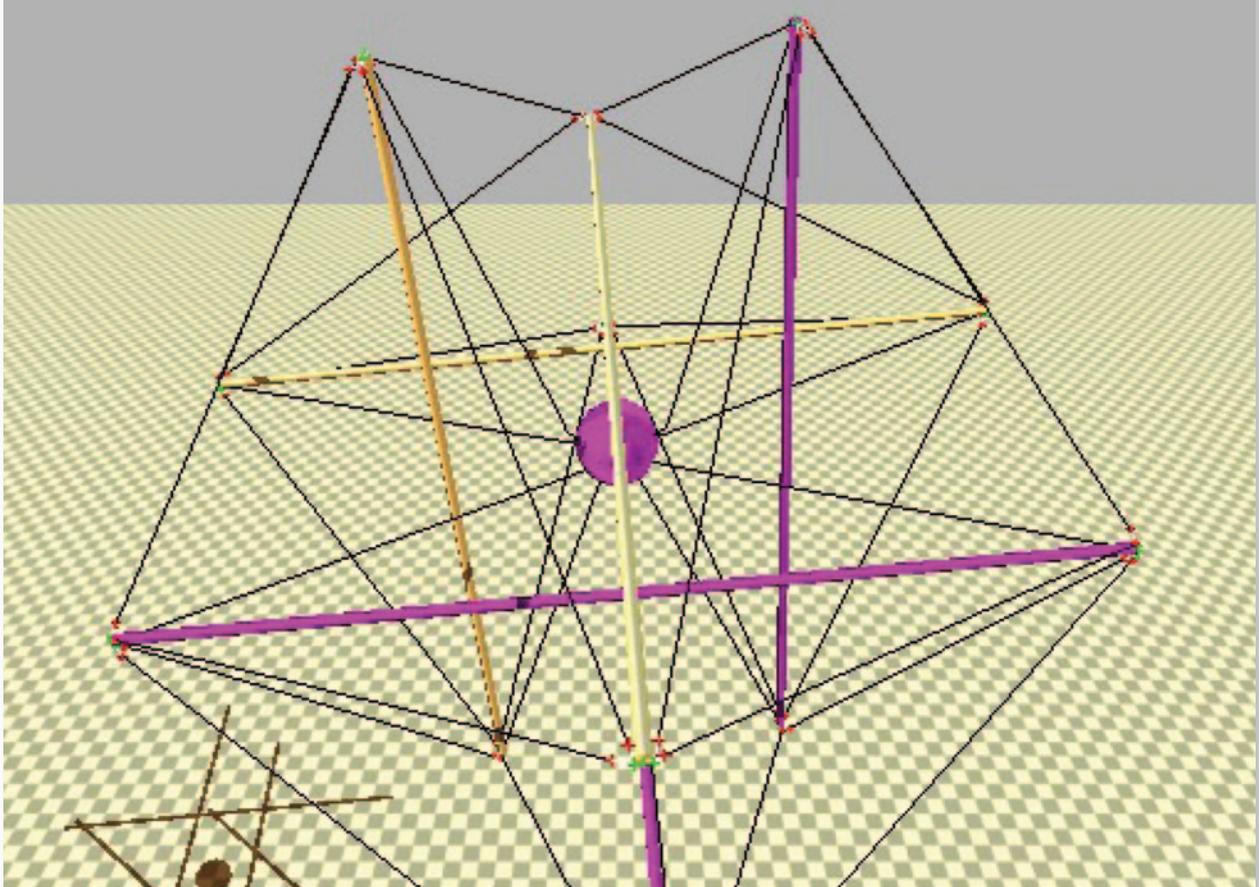
“What I learned in the marketing management program at Northern was a good business foundation— understanding the basic principles of business and

marketing in particular. To understand the language, the terminology, it provided a good baseline.”

Heikel and his team plan to expand awareness for the app to other urban areas throughout the world. Technically, the app will work in any location (and any language on a user’s mobile device), but its success depends on the number of drivers and passengers who download it. For now, they are focusing primarily on New York City. ■



An example of the passenger app screen is shown on the left; a driver’s screen on the right. The ZabKab site explains that “when passengers touch the screen’s ‘hail’ button, nearby cabs hear a ping to notify them that a potential fare is nearby.” For safety, drivers can only view the location of the potential passenger when their vehicle is stopped.



Graphics courtesy of Matt Menze and Vytas SunSpiral

NEXT-GEN SPACE ROBOTS

By Rebecca Tavernini '11 MA

Working at NASA seems a dream as unreachable as vacationing to other galaxies, but for Matthew Menze, a junior at NMU, it couldn't be more real, or more cool. He spent the fall semester as an intern at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Ames Intelligent Robotics Group in Mountain View, Calif.

"Growing up I have always taken in everything related to space with a sense of awe; endless sci-fi books have embedded in my head this idea that space is the ultimate goal of humanity," he says. "However, it wasn't until I had this opportunity that I truly understood the positive impact space research and exploration has had on social and technological advancement."

His work in the Intelligent Robotics Group focused on the technical side of that. As Menze explains it, "The IRG is a research-oriented group that

works to explore and test theoretical concepts that are being proposed for future missions. The idea is that the information gained from experimenting with methods of accomplishing a given mission profile will allow future missions to be designed based on previous experience,

rather than attempting to execute it purely on theoretical concepts. By the time any NASA mission is flown, it has been iterated through numerous incarnations and design phases."

Menze's mission at NASA was contributing to a team effort of laying the groundwork for a novel concept that may lead to a more nimble form of robots and exploratory vehicles, by incorporating tensegrity design principles. "Tensegrities are structures that are composed of rigid elements (rods) connected by a network of tension elements

(cables) in such a way that all of the rods experience pure compressive forces, while all of the cables experience stress



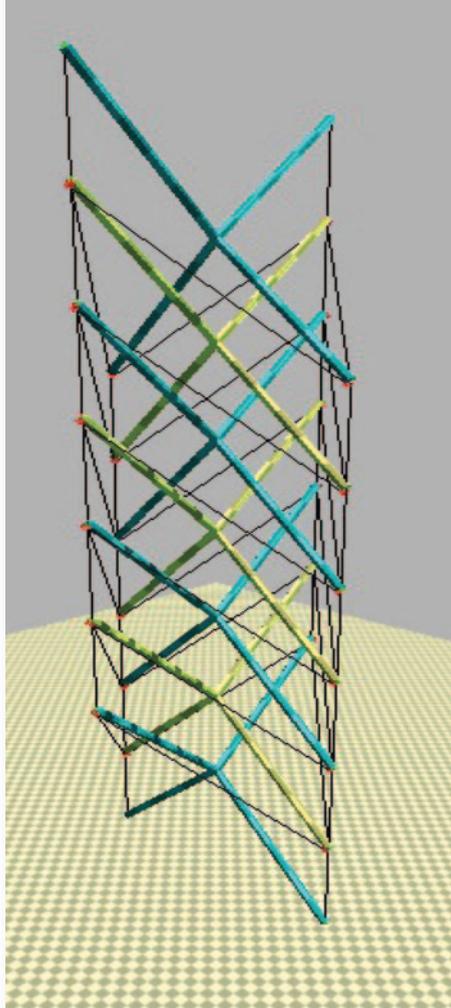
NMU junior Matthew Menze's I.D. photo from his NASA internship

only from tension,” says Menze. It may more easily be thought of in terms of human anatomy, where the rods are bones, and cables are muscles and ligaments.

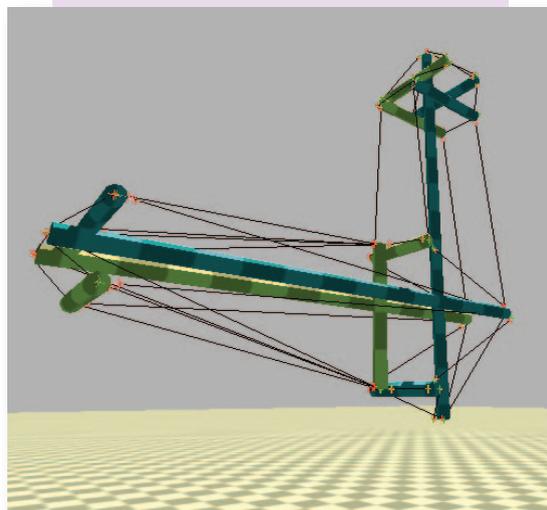
On his blog (www.magicalrobot.org), Menze’s mentor at NASA, Vytas SunSpiral, explains “the inspiration for this research comes from the idea of ‘Biotensegrity’ pioneered by Dr. Steven Levin, which holds that tensegrity structures are a good model for how forces move through our bodies. Thus, instead of the common sense ‘bone-centric’ model where force passes comprehensively from bone to bone, one should take a fascia-centric view that looks at the global fascia network (i.e. continuous chains of muscles and ligaments) as the primary load paths in the body...they have many qualities which make them well suited for motion, especially the type of motion required of a robot (or animal) moving in the real world outside the safety of factories or laboratories.”

Menze says, “While biological examples exist of tensegrities in animal physiology, little is known about controlling these non-linear structures from a robotics standpoint.”

Menze, a dual major in computer science and electronics engineering, worked on building up a catalog of models to be used with a computer-generated tensegrity simulator—structures of varying shapes, rod and cable lengths, points and tensions. He also worked with another team member to assist with the development of a tool set aiding researchers to more quickly and easily create and simulate these models. From there, engineers and programmers can build actual, functioning models to test in the real world.



Menze helped develop tools in a simulator to construct complex tensegrity structures using only a few key parameters. The structure above resembles the forces and movements of a spine-like model. The pink ball on the opposite page represents a payload added to explore the effect of added mass. Below, the “ligaments” of an arm and elbow-like model may provide keys, as the others do as well, for constructing robotics that can better handle impacts, motion and varying terrains. These computational models are inspired by physical prototype models made by artist and inventor Tom Flemons.



While this work at one of the world’s most venerated institutions may have serious implications, Menze, a Marquette native, was surprised by the fun work environment, which is a hallmark of Silicon Valley creativity. “It’s completely orientated around maximizing project progress while still managing to be one of the most laid-back and low-stress work settings. There is also a huge emphasis on expanding your own horizons. NASA is constantly putting on seminars with experts from Ames, as well as guests from such organizations as Google and the Department of Defense.

“I really cannot say enough about how positive an experience Vytas created for me. He and everyone I was able to work with are doing an amazing job. Going to NASA, and Silicon Valley in general, was like stepping a few years into the future. Honestly, the most challenging thing I found about being there was just trying to live up to the level of the people around me.”

Menze saw a microcosm of Earth’s population, with great minds from all over the world working toward the common goal of expanding our knowledge. “I have never seen anything even remotely as effective at breaking down cultural barriers as the environment of learning and exploration that NASA has created. At the same time, I have not seen a single project that didn’t hold the promise of numerous terrestrial applications despite being developed with space exploration in mind.” ■



KC Ortiz, photojournalist and Kyle's brother, captured these moments in Cambodia. Above left, an Operation ASHA treatment provider administering TB Cambodia, most TB patients had to trek many miles to one of the few government hospitals for their daily pill, making it challenging to complete their

“It will be accomplished.” This became **Kyle Ortiz’s** ’04 BS mantra when he volunteered to build a tuberculosis treatment program from scratch in Cambodia and had only five months to complete the task before returning to the United States. In that brief time, Ortiz arranged a meeting with the country’s minister of health to develop a collaborative relationship with the government, hired the first employees and set up three treatment centers in the capital of Phnom Penh.

Ortiz had helped grad school friend Sandeep Ahuja develop a similar program in India titled Operation ASHA, named after the Indian word for hope. The organization’s goal is to eradicate TB from disadvantaged communities through treatment, education, supportive services and preventive measures. When his friend expressed an interest in expanding to another country, Ortiz agreed to launch OpASHA in Cambodia. He had been teaching there while on a paid public service leave from his New York City law firm and was eager to do something “impactful.”

GRASSROOTS

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), Cambodia has one of the highest TB rates and a health system weakened by decades of civil unrest and economic hardship. Diagnosis and treatment services used to be available only in hospitals, but many people were deterred by the cost of travel and accommodations. Or they waited until they were very sick, infecting others in the meantime. The decentralized, grassroots approach adopted by OpASHA relies on small community health centers and neighborhood counselors.

“It’s a tricky treatment that requires one pill every day for seven months,” says Ortiz. “We tried to take away the hurdle of requiring a doctor or hospital staff member to dispense the medication. Why not an employee at a little store in a dense urban slum close to where they live? The WHO provides the medicine free, so there’s no black market. And Microsoft donates biometric devices that patients swipe with a finger to show they took

a pill that day. Neighborhood counselors can closely monitor use, check in personally with those who have missed a dose and encourage them to continue treatment.

“It costs OpASHA only \$30 to diagnose and treat a patient for the full seven months. The challenge is that two months in, they feel like they’re cured. But if they stop taking the pills, they can develop a scary super-resistant strain that costs \$6,000 to treat. That’s why it’s critical to reduce the default rate. Many organizations have a default rate around 20 percent, but OpASHA’s is 1 percent in India and zero in Cambodia.”

Ortiz says he developed his can-do mindset at Northern. As ASNMU president, he organized a project that generated 2,000 letters from students at all of Michigan’s public universities, expressing concern over impending budget cuts to higher education.

“NMU showed me that you can actually go out and accomplish something big; that if you go for it, great



medication to patients at a treatment center in Phnom Penh; center, a TB patient at a government hospital. Before Operation ASHA began work in seven-month treatment. Right, an OpASHA counselor making a home visit to check on a patient.

By Kristi Evans

HEALTHCARE

things can happen,” says the 2011 Outstanding Young Alumni Award recipient. “My plan was to go into politics after obtaining my master’s in public policy, but I got frustrated with the process of trying to affect change through politics. No one is making it through that path without selling out; that’s just the way the system works. Practicing law offers flexibility, new opportunities to get involved and connections with people.”

While enrolled in law school in his hometown of Chicago, Ortiz further demonstrated his commitment to public service, which was nurtured by what he witnessed during U.S. and international travel with his parents. “I always felt a responsibility for those not fortunate by the pure chance of where they were born,” says Ortiz. He taught basic law and human rights to inner city high school students with Street Law, worked with the consumer watchdog group Kids in Danger, taught English as a second language (ESL) through a

community college and helped the Parkinson Association of Illinois increase its exposure and donor base.

Ortiz is an associate with Weil, Gotshal & Manges in New York City. He represents chapter 11 debtors, with most of his time split between American Airlines’ parent company, AMR Corp., and Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc.



Kyle found a language instructor, ally in his mission and life partner in Cambodia native, Sophea

“In response to market conditions in 2009, the firm offered recent hires the opportunity to take roughly 18 months off and receive a public service stipend. They basically said, ‘We’ll give

you a stipend if you’re willing to go do something good and not come back until January 2011.’ How many people in their 20s are given that opportunity? I planned to teach ESL in China, but learned you could train for that and take Chinese language classes in Cambodia. I figured doing it that way would allow me to check another country off my list. My language instructor was Sophea, a Cambodian native who is now my wife. I went to China as planned, but Skyped her every day and returned to Cambodia for the sole purpose of seeing where that relationship would lead.”

A status update from his friend in India gave Ortiz a second purpose: starting an OpASHA program in Cambodia. Sophea’s language skills proved invaluable in dealing with high-level officials to gain government support for the effort.

OpASHA now has more than 50 treatment centers in the country and plans to extend its reach with 75 mobile centers by December. Ortiz continues to be involved by serving on the organization’s U.S. board of directors. ■

More than a GAME

By Rebecca Tavernini '11 MA

New frontiers for NMU are being explored through a strategy that's been a staple in military and government planning, but a first in a university setting. Game theory may sound like something requiring an Xbox and nimble fingers, but in fact is a thoughtful conversational procedure used to analyze a theoretical or competitive situation—or “game.” In it, participants work to identify the players in a current or future situation and their possible actions and reactions, addressing the “what ifs” and “then whats.”

Ron St. Martin '63 BA has been doing just this since 1979, drawing on a career with the U.S. Navy, and positions with the National Security Council, U.S. Defense Secretary and Northrop Grumman. He is currently a senior consultant for Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), working in the Center for Gaming Excellence, which helps government clients identify and manage change in the national security policy environment.

“It is basically helping to devise a go-forward strategy shaped around what problems a customer is having,” says St. Martin, who was on campus in late January with two members of his staff of 16 to conduct a gaming session to identify ways that NMU can increase its international student enrollment by 25 percent for each of the next three years.

While St. Martin has designed and directed hundreds of gaming sessions for government agencies and major corporations, he says, “I have not heard of or participated in any at a university. It was masterful for David [Haynes] to say ‘let’s do a game on this.’”

At NMU, teams worked to identify the top six countries that the university should target and articulate effective recruitment and marketing strategies. Twenty-nine invitees participated in the session, which included international students, faculty and staff, the Marquette city manager, a city commissioner, eight alumni and others from around the country, many who traveled a great distance at their own expense. “The variety of people who took part made for a great experience,” says Brittany Andrews, who along with St. Martin’s other staff assistant

on this trip, Justin Guiffre, was charged with not only keeping the gaming dialog on track in the breakout sessions, but also building a brief in real time for use at the following plenary discussion. “When you get a group of smart people together you can’t help but have a great outcome,” adds Andrews.

Guiffre explains that most of their sessions provide insights of a probable future. Such as one they did the previous week for NATO to determine if the alliance would hold up over the next five years (it was determined that it is sustainable), or one they had done on the eve of the Arab Spring, which suggested that the government of Syria would fall in three to four years. “More often than not, the way ahead that’s articulated in these sessions occurs,” says St. Martin.

“Unfortunately, what that is is almost always a crisis. Even so, talking about it in advance helps prepare for what’s happening.”

The session at Northern, however, was more for strategy. “It gives you insights, but not the final answers,” says Guiffre.

“The go-forward strategy is often different than you think it will be,” says St. Martin, adding

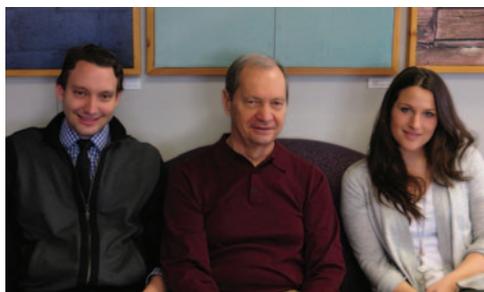
that many participants take with them new perspectives and a more open mind that is helpful in other endeavors.

This session was a learning experience for St. Martin’s team as well. “I got out of it the sense of community that’s so evident on this campus,” Andrews says. That’s something they don’t often encounter.

“Ron made a huge donation of time and expertise to help us get more international students,” says NMU President David Haynes. “It started a dialog and brought consensus on how to prioritize our international programs and determine where we’re going—for strategic reasons.

“I am always amazed by the talent of our alumni,” says Haynes. “And by how they’re so willing to give back to Northern and keep us moving forward.”

Work continues on the details of the plan crystallized during the session. And St. Martin has promised to return to conduct more games to lead NMU into a clearly envisioned future. ■



Ron St. Martin, center, flanked by game strategists Justin Guiffre and Brittany Andrews

Illuminating research

When Kodak stopped making an emulsion used for DNA marking, a Lundin research fellow found a new method for NMU By Vince Grout

Assistant professor of biology Erich Ottem calls it “a sea change.” He is referring to current and forthcoming expansions in research, instruction and opportunity at Northern Michigan University. Rozemary Howard is right in the thick of it. A junior zoology major from Gaylord, in the pre-veterinary studies program, she is pioneering a system of research that could have wide-reaching consequences. It is hands-on research often reserved for graduate students at other universities.

Ottem says, “As faculty advisers we provide guidance and best-practice protocols, but the students are doing the work. When NMU students go on to graduate programs, they often have more research experience than students from larger schools.”

Howard’s research, conducted through the McNair Scholars Program at Northern, focuses on applying fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) using mouse brains. She explains it this way: “All cells have DNA, which contain genes, which are then transcribed to messenger RNA (mRNA), which will code for proteins. When studying gene expression, it is much easier to determine the abundance of mRNA rather than the abundance of proteins.” She says there was an excellent procedure for this that used a silver emulsion produced by Kodak. However, Kodak has discontinued production of this emulsion and remaining alternate methods do not produce the same level of results. Howard believes that FISH will be a good replacement for the emulsion-based method.

“The target mRNA for us is BDNF, which stands for



NMU student Rozemary Howard working on a cryostat machine that allows her to make very thin sections (12 micrometers) of a mouse brain, which she then places on slides and freezes at -80°C to analyze messenger RNA, which may lead to advances in understanding neuromuscular diseases.

Brain-derived Neurotrophic Factor, a protein that promotes the growth of sensory and motor neurons, and an mRNA that Dr. Ottem is very familiar with.” Howard’s

research supports Ottem's work aimed at providing a better understanding and treatment of pathology associated with neuro-muscular diseases such as ALS, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's Disease.

In addition, according to Howard, "If we can figure out a protocol that will enable us to quantify low abundance mRNAs, it will help scientists everywhere because currently there is not an extremely reliable method."

FISH can have applications in many fields including medical research and diagnosis, biology, pathology and plant breeding. Some FISH applications include determination of chromosome structure, function and evolution, chromosomal gene mapping, expression of genes, localization of viral DNA sequences, diagnosis of viral diseases, localization of oncogenes and sex determination. The uses and different approaches for FISH continue to increase. According to the National Human Genome Research Institute, "FISH is useful, for example, to help a researcher identify where a particular gene falls within an individual's chromosomes. The first step is to prepare short sequences of single-stranded DNA that match a portion of the gene the researcher is looking for. These are called probes. The next step is to label these probes by attaching one of a number of colors of fluorescent dye... When a probe binds to a chromosome, its fluorescent tag provides a way for researchers to see its location."

Howard and Ottem are helping to advance the use of FISH overall and, specifically, to develop FISH protocols for use in a variety of research applications at NMU.

Howard says, "The ultimate benefit of my work with Dr. Ottem is that we will have a new protocol that will be available to anyone who would like to use it for scientific purposes."

Last year, she received critical support to contin-

"The ultimate benefit of my work with Dr. Ottem is that we will have a new protocol that will be available to anyone who would like to use it for scientific purposes."

ue her research over the summer thanks to the Anna and Rich Lundin Summer Honors Research Fellowship.

Roze was one of four fellowship recipients. The \$5,000 fellowships are granted to students in the NMU Honors Program.

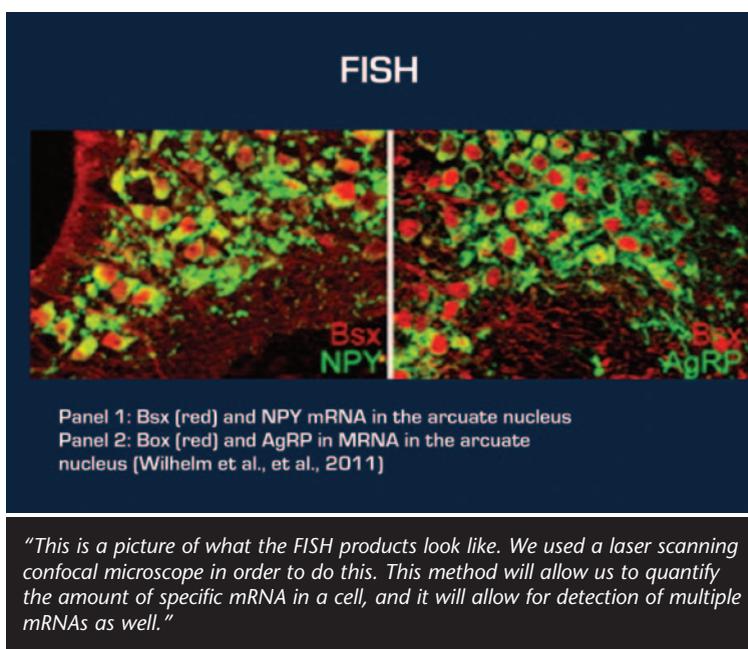
The Lundins created the fellowship to provide meaningful and immediate support to NMU Honors Program students who have proposed or are engaging in exceptional research.

Rich Lundin graduated from NMU in 1973 with a bachelor's degree in business administration. **Anna** also graduated from NMU in 1973 with a bachelor's in nursing. The Lundins are long-time philanthropic supporters of Northern and its students. In 2009, they established the Margaret Kay Lundin Nursing Scholarship to provide financial help for non-traditional students pursuing a baccalaureate degree in nursing. In addition, Rich has dedicated his time and experience to the NMU Foundation Board of Trustees as vice president and finance committee member.

The 2012 fellowship recipients are doing work in a wide variety of fields. David Wood, director of the NMU Honors Program, says, "The students selected for these fellowships, and the faculty who agree to mentor them, demonstrate that groundbreaking undergraduate research spans the academic divisions at NMU." Such fellowships attract high-achieving students to NMU, who in turn

help drive more advanced research and a culture of excellence, increase graduation rates and enhance the university's reputation and global footprint.

"The award was one of the greatest honors I have ever received, besides being accepted into the McNair program," says Howard. "I was so excited to be chosen. The fellowship money saved my project." ■





New hall creates naming opportunities

When new **Jamrich Hall** opens for the 2014 academic year, it will be an iconic building representing NMU's dedication to promoting efficiency, creativity, collaboration and the ever-changing academic needs of our students and faculty.

The new hall will also offer very special opportunities for the university to acknowledge transformative gifts that will make an indelible mark on NMU's future and leave a legacy for generations to come. Each state-of-the-art classroom, lecture hall, lab and student gathering area will be named and feature a plaque to

commemorate generous donors who provide resources to ensure that technological and structural upgrades, innovations and enhancements for this central campus landmark will be available now and in the future.

The new Jamrich Hall and the gifts that it honors will represent a lasting commitment to providing enhanced learning and study environments with access to technologies, methods and experiences that will ensure the competitiveness of NMU graduates in the academic arena and global marketplace. In addition, both will provide critical resources

necessary to continually raise the level and value of an NMU education and to attract the best and brightest students and outstanding faculty members.

Exciting new buildings don't come along every day, nor does the chance to become a permanent part of NMU's future. For more information about naming opportunities at the new Jamrich Hall, contact the NMU Foundation at 906-227-2627, toll free at 877-472-3668, foundtn@nmu.edu or www.nmu.edu/foundation.

NMU Foundation Board welcomes new trustees

Four new members joined the NMU Foundation Board of Trustees at its fall meeting.



James Davis '72
Managing Director/
COO,
JPMorgan Chase
Naperville, Ill.



James Johnson '77
Co-Owner,
Casa Calabria
Marquette



Penny Larsen '91
Retired from education
Au Train



Stephen Latus '78
Self-employed
communication
specialist
Hillsborough, N.J.

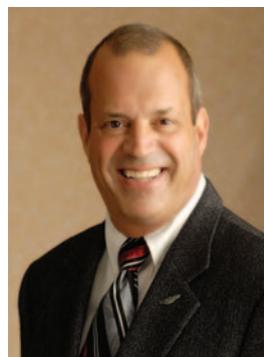
Alumni news



Bruce Avenall



Amanda Cross



Keith Hutcheson



Angela Thompson

NMU Alumni Association Board of Directors welcomes new members

Four new board members joined the NMU Alumni Association Board of Directors at the annual meeting during Homecoming. The board's responsibilities are to evaluate the effectiveness of programs and services for alumni of NMU and advise alumni staff on new programming.

Bruce Avenall '98 BS majored in zoology and works as a process support engineer. He and his wife **Doreen '96 BA, '99 MAE**, live with their two sons, Bryce and Ben, in Brighton. His favorite NMU memory? Meeting his wife for the first time.

Amanda (Jayska) Cross '03 BS, '05 MA lives in Chicago with her husband, **Josh Cross '05 BS**, and their furry children Bently, Dempsey and Chi-Chi. With a degree in public relations and a master's in administrative service, Amanda works as a budget officer for the federal government. As a student, she spent many long, happy hours at WUPX.

Keith Hutcheson '79 BS is vice president for campus and corporate affairs at the Michigan Colleges Foundation. He came to NMU to pursue a degree in criminal justice while working as a U.S. Air Force

policeman at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base. He and his wife, Marietta, live in Novi, with daughter, Lowell.

Angela Thompson '97 BS graduated with a degree in management and works as quality auditor and trainer for premiums at Priority Health in Grand Rapids. She and her husband, **Andrew Thompson '98 BS**, live with their daughter, Alexandra, in Cedar Springs. As a student, Angela was involved in Campus Cinema and helped start the NMU Paintball Club.

Reunions

1965-1972 NMU Football Reunion

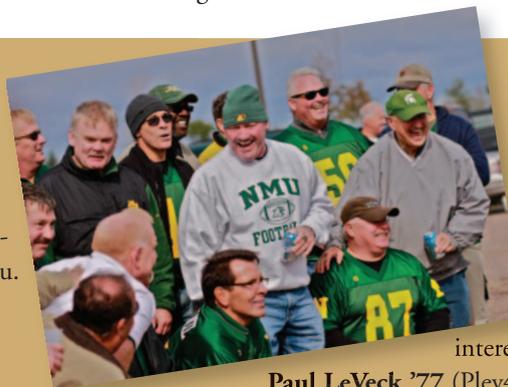
April 19-21

Watch your mailbox for more information or contact alumni@nmu.edu.

Employees and Friends of the Center for Student Enrichment / Student Activities and Leadership Programs / Student Activities Office Reunion

June 28-29

Watch your mailbox for more information or contact Bernadette Norden at bnorden@nmu.edu.



Band Reunion / Music Alumni and Friends of Music

June 2013

A group of NMU alumni are hoping to put together a reunion concert, possibly in June 2013. Do you have an

interest in participating? Please contact

Paul LeVeck '77 (Plev40anch@yahoo.com) **Dennis Ormsbee '72** (dormsbee@charter.net) or **Gary Stutzman '69** (gstut46@gmail.com).

Are you planning a reunion?

E-mail us at alumni@nmu.edu and let us know. The Alumni Office can help!

Upcoming alumni events

Alumni Reception - Tampa, Florida, Wednesday, March 13

The Rusty Pelican, 2425 North Rocky Point Drive, 5:30-7:30 p.m., \$15 per person. RSVP by March 4 to 1-877-GRAD-NMU.

Alumni Luncheon - Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Friday, March 15

Timpano Italian Chophouse, 450 Las Olas Boulevard, \$20 per person. RSVP by March 4 to 1-877-GRAD-NMU.

If you're in these regions, watch your mailbox for more information or contact the Alumni Association at alumni@nmu.edu or by phone.

WildCATS: Connecting Alumni To Students

March 18-19

This new initiative by the NMU Alumni Association Board of Directors aims to heighten students' awareness of the NMU Alumni Association. CATS, with events happening both days, will offer an opportunity for students to hear about the career paths alumni have taken since they left NMU and learn valuable skills that will help them as they begin their own professional journey. Visit the Alumni Association website (www.nmu.edu/alumni) to learn more about CATS events and how you can be involved.

Homecoming 2013

September 20 - 21

Plans are already under way for Homecoming 2013. What activities or events do you want to see? Tell us at alumni@nmu.edu.



In a Homecoming parade tradition, friendly residents of Fair Avenue hand out freshly grilled hot dogs and other treats to students, including one dressed as a hot dog.



Alumni receptions

Parade

2nd annual Game
Day community
block party

Reunions

Alumni awards

Sporting events

And more

Join us!

HOME COMING!

Keeping track

Share your news.

Just get married? Get hired? Have a baby? Retire? Receive an award? Tell us, so we can share with fellow alumni in Keeping Track. Submit your story, and photo, to www.nmu.edu/update, horizons@nmu.edu or NMU Horizons, 1401 Presque Isle Ave., Marquette, MI 49855.

Socialize!

Links at www.nmu.edu/alumni

Connect on NMU's alumni networking sites, too



'50s

Orton Melchoir '59 BS of Warren retired from coaching in 2010 due to cancer surgery. He coached high school baseball for 36 years and football for 42 years.



'60s

Tom Renier '62 BS, '63 MA is being honored by the Michigan High School Athletic Association for his 45 years as a football official.

Lorelei (Wolter) Kraft '64 BS of Park Rapids, Minn., owned and operated her own business, Candle Enterprises Inc., for 39 years and is now a speaker and author. She has written *Anything is Possible* and *Letting go of Mommy Guilt*, as well as co-authored *Succeeding in Spite of Everything* and *Fearless Women: Visions of a New World*, which hit No.1 on Amazon.com.



'70s

Chuck Swanson '72 BS of Swanson, Mercier and Associates, an appraisal firm in Marquette, has been named U.P. Realtor of the Year by the Upper Peninsula Association of Realtors.

Garry R. Parrett '73 BS, '78 MAE, '82 MAE retired from the Wausaukee School District after 34 years. He currently is the curator for the Land of Oz Museum in Wausaukee, Wis.

Suzanne L. Smedley '73 AS was recognized by "Stanford Who's Who" for her work in social services for the past 30 years. Suzanne currently works for the Arizona Department of Health Services, specializing in providing counseling services to individuals with disabilities.

Mary Jo (Blaskowski) Myers '78 BS retired in 2012 after a 34-year elementary school teaching career in the Cheboygan area. During that time she was honored with several recognitions, including "Outstanding Person in Education." She and husband, Rod, welcomed their first grandson, Declan, in July.

Esther LaVoy Barrington '79 BME '88 MA is currently at work as a lyricist on a commissioned choral requiem with her son, emerging composer Thomas LaVoy. Esther has been a private piano teacher in Marquette for many years. She has also taught vocal music K-12 in local public and Catholic schools and has been a music director at First Presbyterian Church since 2010.



'80s

James Porras '80 BS received the Rising Star Award through State Farm Bureau Insurance Agency twice in 2012. He is an agent in Menominee and won the award in July and October for his ability to help clients and provide exceptional service.



Ron Beacom '82 BS is the manager of Midland Community Television and Library Communications for the City of Midland. He is pictured here with his father, **Robert '49**, son **William '11 BS**, and son Charlie, who is a sophomore at NMU studying biology.

Kenneth King '83 BS of Chesterfield, Va., retired as a colonel from the U.S. Army in August. He started in the Air Force at K.I. Sawyer AFB, and then joined NMU ROTC and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1984. He thanks LTC Taylor, who oversaw the NMU ROTC program at the time, for the opportunity.

'90s

Dawn Crawford '90 BS served 10 years in the U.S. Army Reserve and Michigan National Guard. She is currently teaching 6th-grade math in Sanford.

Mike Livingston '90 BS has been named regional director for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's south central location, based in Yakima.



Scott Carhoun '05 BS married **Sarah Crebassa** on the beach at Wetmore Landing, then headed to Presque Isle on a windy day. (Not really. Scott explains this is the "human flag" and promises no Photoshopping was involved.)



Jaime Beebe '09 BS married **Greg Rogers '09 BS** on July 27, 2012 in Lake Leelanau. Jamie is head athletic trainer for Lawrence Athletic Training and Greg is the business development manager for Masterson Staffing Solutions. Both work in Appleton, Wis.

In the picture with the newlyweds are: Gordon Beedle '09, John Leech (attended), Dan Swan (attended), Jessica White '10, Erinn (Fetterman) Swan (attended), Tyler Weber '07, Jessica Hilgendorf '08, Luke Whitley '08, Bethany Pearson '10, Amanda Gadomski '08, Ali Saheb '11, Fatima Saheb (attended), Pat Mathieu '08, Ryan Grunlund '08, George McMahon III '09, Jim Hutton '08 and Steve Eck (current student).



Sarah Cempel '10 BS and **Daniel Fornetti '10 BS** chose a beautiful Wildcat day to wed.

Marriages

Greg Elliott '07 BS to **Chelsea Skellenger '08 BS**.

Matthew Latterman '07 BS to **Marissa McDonough**.

Ashley Bartkowiak '08 BS to **Adam Sohasky**.

Dan Nylund '09 BS to **Holly Nicholson '08 BFA**.

Kyle Piatt '09 BS to **Neena Getzloff**.

Deaths

Hazel A. Trebilcock '28 Cert. (approx.), June 11, 2012, Lansing.

Elizabeth Peterson '37 AS, Dec. 17, 2012, Hastings, Minn.

Margaret Jane Larson Sawyer '37 AS, Oct. 8, 2012, Stephenville, Texas.

Norman Olav Peterson '38 BS, Nov. 27, 2012, Gladstone.

Jean Carolyn (Nee Belstrom) Guenther '42 BS, Nov. 20, 2012, Brookfield, Wis.

Vincent J. Villa '47 BS, Dec. 6, 2012, Negaunee.

Paul Lemin '49 BS, Sept. 6, 2012, Grand Rapids.

Donald A. Baldwin '50 BS, July 26, 2012, Grandville.

George William Ferns '50 BS, Oct. 3, 2012, Haslett.

Clifford Edwin Puckett '50 BS, July 22, 2012, Camarillo, Calif.

Albert Anderson '51 BS, Nov. 29, 2012, South Range.

Gil A. Anderson '51 BA, Nov. 10, 2012, Traverse City.

Dorothy E. Drozdiak '51 BS, Nov. 1, 2012, North Huntingdon, Pa.

Faye Dykstra '51 BS, '67 MA, Oct. 28, 2012, Iron Mountain.

Donald Wachter '51 AS, Oct. 23, 2012, Naubinway.

Robert William Tapio '52 BS, Oct. 15, 2012, Republic.

Thomas L. Knauss '54 BS and NMU math professor emeritus, Oct. 7, 2012, Marquette.

Gary A. Arvo '56 BA, '60 MA, Oct. 5, 2012, Suttons Bay.

Lorraine Morgan '59 BS, Nov. 12, 2012, Winthrop Harbor, Ill.

Robert Pedo '59 BME, Sept. 24, 2012, Iron Mountain.

Carolee Grace Sormunen Jones '60 BS, '64 MA, Sept. 23, 2012, Tucson, Ariz.

Jerold L. Saundri '61 BS, Dec. 6, 2012, Marquette.

Kathleen Grudnoski '63 AS, '63 BS and former NMU adjunct professor, Sept. 22, 2012, Marquette.

Paul W. Kaarre '64 BA, Oct. 5, 2012, Osprey, Fla.

Waino A. Liuha '64 BS, '73 MAE, Dec. 24, 2012, Negaunee.

Lucinda Baldwin '66 BME, Sept. 12, 2012, Grandville.

Timothy E. Hollihan '66 MA, April 16, 2012, Green Bay, Wis.

Marcus C. Kronauer '66 BS, Feb. 11, 2012, Menominee.

Chester Arthur Sipsock, Jr. '66 BS, Nov. 4, 2012, Lincoln.

Frank W. Stokes '67 BS, April 25, 2012, New Smyrna Beach, Fla.

Martin Logan '68 BS, Oct. 22, 2012, Chassell.

Russell Daniel Hemingway '69 BS, Oct. 15, 2012, Christmas.

Michael E. Turino '69 BS, '81 MAE, '87 MA and coordinator of NMU Academic Support Services at the Jacobetti Center, Oct. 29, 2012, Negaunee.

Jeanette Dryden '70 BS, Oct. 14, 2012, South Bend.

Robert B. Dyble '70 BS, April 18, 2012, Cedarburg, Wis.

Robert Leemon '69 BS, '70 MAE, Nov. 13, 2012, Marinette.

William Malandrone '71 BS, Sept. 23, 2012, Harvey.

Vincent Moon Reed '71 BS, Aug. 16, 2012, Marquette.

Ellen L. Jensen '73 BS, Oct. 17, 2012, Gladstone.

John Charles Ball '74 BS, Nov. 29, 2012, Port Charlotte, Fla.

Gary Antonetti '76 BS, Nov. 28, 2012, Kingsford.

Elizabeth Stephenson '76 BA, Oct. 22, 2012, Marquette.

Mark Arnett '81 Voc., '89 BS, Oct. 24, 2012, Oakland, Calif.

Shelly Marie Johnson '81 AB, '84 BS, Aug. 31, 2012, Marquette.

Michael D. Treder '83 BS, '87 MA, Oct. 24, 2012, Escanaba.

Gabrielle L. Sorber '86 BSN, Sept. 24, 2012, Spring Lake.

David N. Gouin '87 BSN, Oct. 8, 2012, Skanee.

Philip J. VanElsacker '87 BS, Oct. 12, 2012, Escanaba.

Warren H. Nye '90 BS, Nov. 19, 2012, Escanaba.

Eric Mason '96 BS, Jan. 39, 2013, Marquette.

Grant Ebling '04 Cert, Oct. 26, 2012, Norway.

Amy L. Cook, '07 BS, Nov. 29, 2012, Marquette.

Kyle Daniel Wydra '09 Voc., Nov. 22, 2012, Gladstone.

Irene E. Stratton '81 BS, died Sept. 14, 2012, in Marquette, at age 103. She and her late husband, Ed, started attending NMU when they turned 65, the first year that free tuition was offered for senior citizens. Ed passed away a year later, but Irene continued her studies in earth science and geography with gusto, often hosting study sessions at her home. She graduated magna cum laude at 71 years old.



Friends

Arthur E. Pennell, NMU English professor emeritus, Nov. 5, 2012, Marquette.

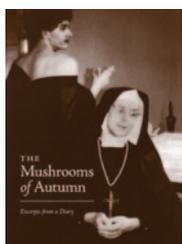
Reynold C. Knuttila, retired custodian at NMU, Nov. 27, 2012, Negaunee.

Alvin Beyer, former vocational skills instructor at NMU, Oct. 2, 2012, Menominee.

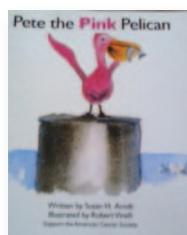
Robert Derleth, former Trustee of the NMU Development Fund, Dec. 16, 2012, East Lansing.

Alumni in print

Edited by Mackenzie Myers



Mushrooms of Autumn
Friesen Press, 2012, friesenpress.com
In his second novel, Don Gardner (also known as **Don Giesen, '56 BS**) shares one woman's tale as she struggles to search for happiness and save herself from the shame and guilt of her Catholic upbringing.

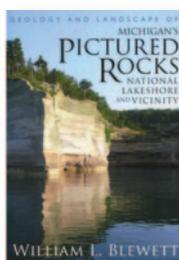


Pete the Pink Pelican
2012, suearndt1@att.net
Pete is a pelican who is bullied because he's pink. But with a little help from his friends, he overcomes this challenge. Proceeds of this children's book, written by **Sue Arndt, '71 BS**, benefit the American Cancer Society.



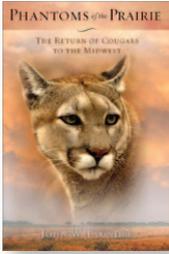
What are You Waiting For? A Beginner's Guide to Weight Training
Tate Publishing & Enterprises, 2012, tatepublishing.com
Upper Peninsula native **Jeff Hauswirth, '98 BS**, wrote this book to help people of all ages improve their health. Within its pages, he breaks down the elements of weight

training in easy-to-understand instructions to make fitness a possibility for anyone.



Geology and Landscape of Michigan's Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore and Vicinity
2012, Wayne State University Press
William Blewett, '81 BS explores one of the Upper Peninsula's most popular gems: Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. He examines the history and geology of the area, and includes a hike map to major geologic sites,

color photographs and detailed diagrams.



Phantoms of the Prairie

2012, University of Wisconsin Press

Since the 1880s, cougars (or mountain lions) haven't appeared in Midwest habitats, but that is changing. By applying GIS technology, historical data and more than 20 years of research, **John Laundre, '74 MA** examines their past, explains the

present and estimates what the future holds for these mysterious creatures.



Lake Superior Profiles, People on the Big Lake

2012, Wayne State University Press

Combining biography, history, folklore, science and humor, **John Gagnon, '92 MA** explores the diverse population that calls the shores of Lake Superior home. Included are interviews with a tugboat captain,

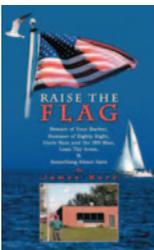
Native Americans, a voyageur re-enactor, a monk, fishery biologists and more.



Tanner the Dragon

2012, Herrin House Publishing

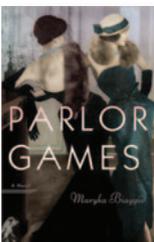
Tanner is a young boy who wishes to become a dragon. What happens when his wish comes true? Find out in this colorful children's book by **Aaron Krieger, '09 AAS**.



Raise the Flag

2012, AuthorHouse

In this collection of autobiographical and fictional stories by **James More, '92 BS**, the author shares his own journey on finding value in an education. During this era of self-discovery, he also finds identity, a career and purpose.

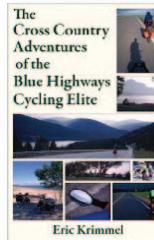


Parlor Games

2013, Doubleday

In her first novel, **Maryka Biaggio '73 BS** tells the true story of May Dugas, a young Michigan woman who climbs the social ladder at the end of the 19th century. She finds herself in places around the world, pursued not only by men but by an enemy who intervenes

with her plans. Her cunning nature ultimately gets her into trouble, and the reader is left to ponder May's guilt before finding out what fate has planned for her.

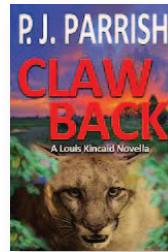


The Cross Country Adventures of the Blue Highways Cycling Elite

2012, Eric Krimmel

A true account of three friends who take a cycling trip across the country—their first time doing so. They endure all sorts of challenges together: winds, rainstorms, tough climbs, injuries and malfunctions,

among other things. But they never lose their determination to complete the 4,200-mile journey. **Eric Krimmel '82, BFA** portrays what it means to endure hardship—and to keep smiling while doing it.

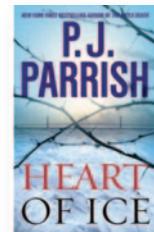


Claw Back

2012, Panther Books

This novella by P.J. Parrish (pen name of sister duo **Kristy Montee and Kelly Nichols '72**) is a prequel to *Heart of Ice* (see below). It tells the tale of protagonist Louis Kincaid, who is assigned to find a missing person named Grace who is lost in

the Everglades. He is shocked to learn that Grace isn't actually a girl, but an endangered panther, and the case draws him in more than he thought it would.



Heart of Ice

2012, Panther Books

In this full-length novel by P.J. Parrish (see above), Louis Kincaid returns to Michigan to reunite with his family. But a relaxing vacation to Mackinac Island holds a chilling twist. When old bones are found in an abandoned building, Louis is sucked into the cold case of a

teen who has been missing for 20 years. In the midst of a powerful family trying to gain answers and cops looking for redemption, Louis struggles with trying to reconnect to the people he loves most.

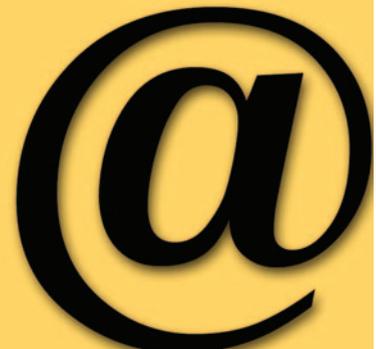
Sign up at <http://alumni.nmu.edu>.

yourname@alumni.nmu.edu

E-mail for you.

E-mail for life.

E-mail for free.





*Are you
making plans
for the future?*



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www.nmu.edu/foundation

There are many ways to plan for the future through your will or trust. A good plan will help you care for your loved ones after you are gone, plan for your own care or even make a gift to charity.

If you would like to include NMU in your planning, please call to discuss any of these charitable estate planning options or visit our website for more information.



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I'M HERE BECAUSE OF N M U.

Tom Ungrodt, '76 BS majored in marketing and management

*President & CEO,
Ideation, Inc.
Ann Arbor, Mich.*

Tom loved his NMU experience. The skills he learned at NMU prepared him to become president and CEO of his family's business, Ideation, Inc. Tom donates annually to NMU to help make sure students have a great Northern experience like he did. "I really have a passion for NMU and if I can help, even in a little way, it really makes me feel good." Every year, more than 3,000 alumni give back to NMU. Giving after you graduate creates opportunities for students of today and tomorrow to achieve personal and professional success.



To make a donation or to learn more, visit www.nmu.edu/foundation.