

## A life-changing pilgrimage takes Nordick to Haiti

by Jamie Valley

Haiti – a country where 62 percent of the people are undernourished, 54 percent of the population lacks access to safe drinking water and more than half the children below age 5 die from malnutrition. Most of us will never see this level of poverty. Paralegal Prof. Larry Nordick witnessed these conditions first hand when he went to the slums of Cite Soleil. These slums are home to 300,000 people who live in squalor and subhuman conditions, all within a 27-square mile area.

Sunday, March 16 – Nordick flew to Deerfield Beach, Fla., to join a group of Americans on a pilgrimage with Food For The Poor, a non-profit, faith-based organization providing aid to 16 underdeveloped countries throughout Central and Latin America. Their mission is to link the church of the First World with the church of the Third World in a manner that helps both the materially poor and the poor in spirit.

Nordick is studying to become a deacon for the Diocese of Crookston (Minn.). A significant role of a deacon is to serve and help the poor. This trip was an opportunity for him to see the true suffering of the needy and live out his diaconal responsibilities.

Food For The Poor brought Nordick and the group to what he called the worst of the worst. People lived in conditions that were humanity in its rawest form. He saw people who literally lived in the dirt. Their homes were cardboard shacks almost on top of each other. On this tour the group put themselves right in with the people. They were welcomed into their homes.

Nordick spoke about their sewer system. “Each shack had a bucket in one corner. When they were done going they just dumped it out in the field and waited for a heavy rain to wash it away into the ocean.”

Nordick said he felt there was nothing left of these people but their souls and heartbeats, yet they shine forth as kind and generous people who like to touch and be touched, to love and be loved.

Often children are abandoned because the parents cannot

afford to take care of them. He told of an abandoned, 3-pound, premature baby found on the side of the road. The baby was brought to a hospital run by Food For The Poor. He held the baby, wiped the vomit from his face and changed his diaper. He found



**Paralegal Prof. Larry Nordick volunteered with children in Cite Soleil through the Food For The Poor program.**

out later that night the baby had died. Leaving a premature child on the side of the road is inhuman to most of us. But for these people of Cite Soleil, subhuman conditions are all they know.

Friday, March 21 – Nordick returned from his pilgrimage. To say his week was a life-changing experience would be, to him, an understatement. Through this experience Nordick learned not to sweat the small stuff. Now he relaxes about things he used to get worked up about.

His experience affected him emotionally and spiritually. Overall, it was an experience that has made him rethink what he wants to do with the rest of his life.

## VITA program provides practice

by Brad Feldman

Eleven Minnesota State University Moorhead accounting students will never forget the 2003 tax season. This was the year they got their big break.

The accounting department has offered its students the chance to prepare tax returns for predominately low-income families for many years. The program is called Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA).

Director Mary Bader said the hands-on experience students receive through the program is crucial when they start looking for jobs after graduation. Mass communication students need to work on a newsletter or education majors student teach just as accounting students need to work on real tax situations while still in school.

The program runs during March. Students were required to work a two-hour shift each week. During the four weeks the students processed about 155 returns, an

average of 14 per student.

But it wasn't all work for the students. Bader said the students enjoyed the fact they were helping people who were not in position to pay their own tax consultant.

The students learned from the program. Brooke Kallenbach said it was nice to move from the classroom and use what they learned in real life situations. "It has helped me so that I am able to understand the tax system and tax forms better and it is a good experience to see if you are cut out for this field," said Kallenbach.

One major challenge they faced was turning away just as many people as they were able to help because there were not enough students to fill out the returns. But that didn't stop the students from helping as many people as they could.

One of the biggest problems for low-

income families is not knowing the tax laws. That is what makes the VITA program beneficial to everyone involved.

Bader says during the last few years the tax law has become more complicated for low-income taxpayers. There are many different federal and state credits a low-income taxpayer may be eligible to receive.

In the end this program is a win-win situation. Those who use VITA have an alternative option when preparing their income taxes, and the students get valuable experience filing tax returns.



Mary Bader

## CPA exam heading online in 2004

by Melissa Eastgate

Minnesota State University Moorhead 2002 accounting graduate, Amber Valan, will take the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam in November. Valan will be in the last group of CPA exam takers using the traditional paper and pencil version. The CPA exam is heading to online test taking in 2004.

Valan says she believes the change from paper to computer is much needed, "The main reason, in my mind, is the turn around time it takes to get results back. Right now, it takes three months to get results, with the computerized test it allows you to take one section at a time and results will be much sooner."

The traditional version had been offered in May and November. The 14-hour computer version will be available six days a week, every two to three months. Candidates for the computerized CPA may retake the exam up to four times a year. There will be designated testing sites throughout the state. The official start date of the computerized test is April 5, 2004.

Cost will also change when the new test is put into effect. Currently, the paper and pencil version is between \$140 and \$250. The online test will approximately cost \$600 to \$900. These costs

vary state by state, determined by the overhead price each state decides is needed and \$100 for each of the four sections of the test.

From 1998 to 2001 MSUM's pass rate for first-time candidates was 12 percent above the national average. Fewer than 20 percent of people nationally who take the exam pass on the first try. About 20 students a year from MSUM take the CPA exam. MSUM also had an exceptional rate in November 1998 with a rate of 39.6 percent; it was the fourth highest rate in the nation. Data from 2002 is not available until this summer.

The CPA is an important accreditation for accountants. Qualifying for the exam and passing it enhances the accountant's resume and pay scale. Job security is also an important factor because a company is much more likely to keep an accredited CPA on staff.

Valan has taken the Becker-Convissor study course and says the extensive course was helpful. This course goes step-by-step through all elements of what will be on the exam. The course encompasses the use of video, workbook and reading. Valan says, "studying to take the test is a lot of work, but it's worth it for the accreditation."

While there are study courses offered via the Internet and a national study course, MSUM does not offer a study course. Students may also buy their own books and study independently.



Amber Valan

# Accounting students honored

by Melissa Eastgate

Exceptional accounting students were honored with scholarships at the annual accounting recognition dinner held April 7 in Comstock Memorial Union.

At the same recognition dinner recipients of the Bookin' It Awards were also honored. The purpose of the award is to recognize students for superior academic performance in Accounting 230, as well as to match them with local professional accounting professionals. This mentoring program allows students to view first-hand what goes on in the day of an accountant. In addition, each student is awarded a \$200 scholarship.

## Accounting Scholarships

Accounting Faculty

Don & Phyllis Wirries

Eide Bailly

Eldon Reinke (ND CPA Society)

John & Sandy Fiebiger

Howard Lysne

IMA Red River Chapter

KPMG

Maynard Helmeke Endowed

Mid-State Chapter of Mn CPAs

Roman Meal-Peggy LaDuke Memorial

## Recipients

Katie Lassig, Nicolas Miller,

Rachel Shea, Carmen Barth

Nicole Hasse

Julie Lehrke

Brandon Stanina

Jennifer Morken

Ryan Larson

Andrew Lund

Amanda Krauth, Heidi Petersen

Andrea Ashbaugh

Melissa Anderson, Anthony Schloesser

Mitch Walter, Tami Piekarski

## Additional Scholarships and Awards

•Recipients of R.D.Koppenhaver Exam Scholarship honored through the North Dakota CPA Society Foundation: Sadie Hanstad, Matt Herbranson, Jennifer Pederson.

•U.S. Seamless Inc. Exam Scholarship honored through the North Dakota CPA Society Foundation: Michael Grage.

•James Pasch (Outstanding Graduate): Holly Jorud

## Bookin' It Awards

Ag Country

American Crystal

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota

Border States Electric

Case New Holland

Community First National Bank & Trust

Eide Bailly

Gremada Industries

MeritCare Medical Center

Minnesota State University Moorhead

US Bank

Joseph Larson

Ryan Churness

Shauna Slabik

Jamie Woodward

Jody Whiting

Lisa Brewster

Courtney Foldesi

Linda Burckhard

Erica Hauck

Kerry Plath

Pushpakantha Rajapakse

# MSUM alumnus in ElderCare vanguard

by Melissa Eastgate

Steve Maag, 1977 graduate of Minnesota State University Moorhead's accounting program, is a shareholder in the Certified Public Accounting firm of Giddings and Associates, Ltd., with fellow MSUM graduate Mark Giddings. Giddings and Associates offers, along with traditional CPA firm services, a specialized service of ElderCare. ElderCare is a service focusing on managing personal and financial needs of the aging population.

"Our focus in this area is to give all family members peace of mind and freedom from worry by providing care at the level of quality expected. Family members are usually the first lines of support for the elderly, but for many adult children, family, work obligations and location make assisting aging parents a stressful, and often times impossible task. We provide a combination of services to allow the elderly to live independently while their children have peace of mind knowing their parents are maintaining a suitable standard of living," Maag says.

ElderCare is a service offered to families and the individual. This service sets Giddings and Associates apart from other accounting firms.

Giddings and Associates, Ltd. was founded in 1990. Maag joined the firm as shareholder in 1999. Giddings and Associates is a Certified Public Accounting firm with offices in Fargo and Barnesville. The firm offers a full range of services including tax planning and preparation, estate planning, attestation services such as audits of financial statements, accounting and payroll services.

Maag says MSUM provided him with the educational background, through its great accounting professors, to do what he really likes to do, and says, "I really like this often hectic and sometimes crazy life as a Certified Public Accountant. The diversity of the challenges that a person is confronted with makes the work unique and new almost every day."

# Kalra stays ahead of textbooks

by Ann Hennemann

Off-campus opportunities enrich Rajiv Kalra's classroom. Holding Ph.D., CFA and CFP titles, Kalra stays ahead of the textbooks by getting involved with international opportunities. Kalra, professor of business administration, uses his experience to strengthen his classes at Minnesota State University Moorhead.

Kalra left this spring for six weeks in Thailand, hoping to learn more about a large group of financial academics and practitioners. Kalra believes he will benefit from the training and experience. He will teach a graduate course in strategic financial management at Thammasat University. Kalra has been associated with the Securities Analysts



Rajiv Kalra

Association of Thailand for the Certified Investment Security Analysts System.

Kalra says he will "blend theories with current practices and provide a more complete information package to my students." Textbooks often carry information that is two or more years old.

In 1993 Kalra earned his Chartered Financial Analyst designation. He publishes two to five items a year in the CFA Digest.

Since 1994 Kalra has served with the Association for Investment Management and Research and is a member of the CCC Working Body. In 2001 Kalra completed his Certified Financial Planner certificate and has since served as the content area specialist for the CFP examination.

He has volunteered in Croatia, Lithuania and Macedonia for the Financial Services Volunteer Corps, an agency of the United States Department of State.

## technology

# Seven highly effective habits brought to workplace

by Justin Eiler

The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People program teaches individuals how they can reach their full potential at work and at home. Experts from Minnesota State University Moorhead have been facilitating the FranklinCovey system since 2001. Through classes and seminars, MSUM facilitators have provided area business people and many others with habits that have changed their lifestyles and work.



Karen Mehnert-Meland

In 1998 Karen Mehnert-Meland, director of Student Union and Activities, attended a leadership conference hosted by the FranklinCovey company. At the conference, she learned about the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People. Dr. Stephen R. Covey created the concept to help organizations change the way employees do their jobs.

The seven habits and what they can do for your organization are:

- Be Proactive. Fosters courage to take risks and accept new challenges to achieve goals.
  - Begin with the End in Mind. Brings projects to completion and unites teams and organizations under a shared vision, mission, and purpose.
  - Put First Things First. Promotes getting the most important things done first and encourages direct effectiveness.
  - Think Win-Win. Encourages conflict resolution, helps individuals seek mutual benefit, increasing group momentum.
  - Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood. Helps people understand problems, resulting in targeted solutions, and promotes better communication, leading to successful problem-solving.
  - Synergize. Ensures greater "buy-in" from team members and leverages the diversity of individuals to increase levels of success.
  - Sharpen the Saw. Promotes continuous improvements and safeguards against "burn-out" and nonproductivity.
- After Mehnert-Meland learned about the program she knew it was something that could be taught at MSUM. She

brought the idea to her staff and President Roland Barden. This course was taught by Schuette as part of the Industrial Technology curriculum.

The nod was given in January 2001. The FranklinCovey company then certified her, along with Greg Toutges, coordinator of Disability Services; Thomas Lane, associate director of the Student Union and Activities, and Cliff Schuette, director of the Counseling Center. Schuette has taught the Seven Habits through a Continuing Studies class for credit. His classes always fill to the maximum of 20 students.



Cliff Schuette

Mehnert-Meland and Schuette were also given special permission by FranklinCovey to teach the Seven Habits curriculum to Swanson Health Products of Fargo. Swanson's contacted Kathleen

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# Andersen first woman educator on ACCE Board

by Ann Hennemann

Norma Andersen, associate professor in technology, will serve on the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE) Board of Directors beginning next February. She will serve four years. Involved with the organization since 1992, Andersen pioneers as the first female educator appointed to the board.

Andersen believes getting involved within the profession and being an active member is extremely important, something she teaches her students. "I feel that it sets an example for my students," she says, "because professionalism is essential in the construction management profession."

Andersen recently trained to be a team chair for accreditation

visits. She enjoys the opportunity to participate in the decisions regarding policies and procedures for ACCE, something that impacts the construction program nationwide. This helps set the path for construction management programs.



Norma Andersen

## 'Mean' wins Festival honor

by Justin Eiler

In a world of guns, drugs, deceit and murder, Brex and Lyle, two ruthless hit men, must seek, destroy and return what is due to Georgie, their boss lady. But in this world of mean people, no one is to be trusted. No one.

This is the plot of *Mean*, a short film written and directed by Charles Hinton. The film received the Second Venue Audience Award for Best Short Film during the Fargo Film Festival in March.

Hinton, a 1990 Minnesota State University Moorhead mass communications graduate, said it took him and his crew about a month and a half of shooting to complete the film. The crew was filled with locals and was low budget all the way around.



Hinton asked MSUM Prof. Michael Ruth, Ph. D., to join his crew. Ruth had the task of sound producer and also made the final edit of the film. Ruth said producing the sound effects was a big challenge because of the violent nature of the film. There were a lot of stabbing scenes repeatedly to match the stabbing and sound effects. He said he likes doing documentary pieces but thought this film would be interesting.

Hinton said MSUM helped by giving him a great education and by always having its doors open to his needs. He also said for any filmmaker wannabes, "Grab a camera, write a script and make a movie. Good or bad, it's yours, you did it, and no one can take that from you."

## HABITS, from 4

Paulson, customized training program coordinator in the Continuing Studies Department at MSUM. Paulson organized a class for 12 Swanson Health Products employees. Among the 12 employees attending the first class was Swanson Health Products CEO, Rick Rayl, a strong supporter of the program.

Swanson's wanted to create a better culture among its employees. They wanted to be able to prioritize better, improve supervision skills and create better communication among all departments.

"The class was extremely successful because all of the goals were met and everyone enjoyed the class," said Jennifer Cossette, Swanson's human resources manager. The employees who went

through the program spread the habits to other employees and two more classes were soon in demand.

Mehnert-Meland and Schuette have enjoyed teaching the classes. Not only have the seven habits changed the Swanson Health Products employees at work but they have also used the habits at home. Wendy Ruscheinsky said, "I'm trying to be more proactive on my reactive teenager." Others focused on their health and some used the habits to reduce their stress by learning to plan ahead.

Swanson's has 36 employees on the FranklinCovey program and is planning one more session along with a refresher course to help their employees renew and revisit the seven habits material. They also

plan to have a library equipped with FranklinCovey materials so their employees can review the information and learn how to keep the habits alive.

Mehnert-Meland and Schuette plan to continue facilitating the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People to Swanson's and potentially to other businesses. Long-term vision at MSUM includes creating a leadership minor based on the seven habits and other materials.

For more information on how The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People and other leadership development programs can impact your organization, contact MSUM Customized Education and Training at 218.477.5051.

# Campus News: 20 years of excellence

by Brad Feldman

If you watch a newscast in the Fargo market it is impossible to not see a Minnesota State University Moorhead graduate. The main reason for this is the Campus News program, which this year celebrated its 20th anniversary.

Mass communications students at MSUM have an opportunity available to them second to none. Students take classes in the TV News workshop to help prepare for a career in broadcasting. The classes range from TV news producing to photography, to reporting and video editing. The final product is aired weekly on Prairie Public Broadcasting Saturday mornings at 8:30.



**Martin Grindeland**

business, DVC PRO, and edit on computers. This allows students to fine tune their skills before leaving school.

While the equipment keeps changing, one key ingredient has remained the same. Martin Grindeland has served as the executive producer of Campus News since 1984. He is the main reason students have this opportunity.

When Grindeland came to MSUM, he had a dream of starting a weekly newscast. Trying to find people to work on it was a major challenge. "Martin came to me and said he wanted to start a 30-minute news program and wanted my help," said Erik Blumer.

Once the team was assembled the work began. Kevin Wallevand was the first producer of Campus News, setting the benchmark for future producers. "Everyone had to do their

part. It was a lot of work but it prepared us for the real business," said Wallevand.

Campus News has covered many stories, leaving a lasting impression on many students. "Martin had no limits for the stories we could cover," said Kerstin Kealy. "He came to me and said we are going to go cover President Clinton coming to Grand Forks to talk about the flood of '97. I just remember him negotiating with the guard at the gates of the Grand Forks Air Force Base to get us in the press conference. We got in and were on the press stage with the national media," said Kealy.

Campus News has reported the top stories from college campuses around the region. It has helped mold young journalists into professional journalists. The program has seen hundreds of students come and go. While some decided to stay in the broadcasting business, others chose a different path.

Students in the program don't have to look far for people to model their work after. Campus News has some of its alumni among the best journalists in the nation.

Erik Blumer was the National Press Photographer Association (NPPA) photographer of the year in 1995. In 2002 he was the runner up for the NPPA photographer of the year. He has also won many more awards on the state and regional level, including numerous regional Emmys for his work.

Kevin Wallevand has been a reporter at WDAY TV in Fargo since graduating. He has been a model for young reporters in the program, winning numerous awards on the state and regional level, as well as a handful of regional Emmys.

Besides being a reporter at WDAY, Wallevand teaches a TV news reporting class spring semester. He gives students that extra little touch to help them improve their stories.

Another year of Campus News closed spring semester, adding another successful chapter to a program already filled with success.



**Campus News students prepare for their future through the on-air program.**

Visit the College of Business and Industry Web site  
[www.mnstate.edu/cbi](http://www.mnstate.edu/cbi)  
 Links to the departments in the college are included

# Radniecki named one of the Fellows

by Melissa Eastgate

The Institute of Journalism Excellence, a program of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, has chosen 20 fellows. Minnesota State University Moorhead's Regene Radniecki is in this elite group.



**Regene Radniecki handles the duties of picture editor during her fellowship at the San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News.**

Photo by Akili Ramsess

Radniecki worked at the San Jose Mercury News for six weeks this past summer. Her time on staff included working as a picture editor and photojournalist. Her job responsibilities came from the four picture desks: photo assignment editor, local and business picture editor, A-section photos and sports photo editor, and as a staff photographer. She also spent part of her time with the Mercury News online coordinators.

The fellowship goals are to provide the educator hands-on experience, knowledge and skills to bring back to the classroom. "This fellowship allowed me to get caught up in the changes of technology that have occurred since I left the field," Radniecki says. Radniecki was a staff photographer for the Minneapolis Star Tribune and a former graphics editor at the Naples (Fla.) Daily News.

Along with the excitement of becoming a fellow, Radniecki took six undergradu-

ate students to a photojournalism workshop at the Echo Press in Alexandria, Minn., during spring break. Students worked as staff photographers, covering local stories and events. Radniecki coordinated the workshop and served as photo editor. Several of the photo packages have been published.

Radniecki launched MSUM's first online magazine in spring 2002. The first edition of Horizonlines.org was a collaboration between the online journalism workshop and magazine-writing students. The second edition was produced solely by the workshop students.

College of Business and Industry Dean Carol Dobitz presented Radniecki with an Excellence in Teaching award in fall 2002. Radniecki has also taught at Bemidji State University, University of Missouri, Ohio University, The Rochester Institute of Technology and University of St. Thomas.

# Valley Associates earns Bateman Case Study recognition

by Jamie Valley

Valley Associates, a group of Minnesota State University Moorhead seniors, earned honorable mention for their work in the annual, national Bateman Case Study competition. Six MSUM teams participated.

This year Ferrero, Inc., created the challenge of finding a way to effectively market Nutella to college students. Nutella is a hazelnut, chocolate spread.

Competing students had six months to gather research and one month to execute an effective campaign. They had to accomplish three goals: create an awareness of the product,



create a demand for the product and convince food services to stock the product.

Campaigns were conducted utilizing integrated marketing and public relations. The purpose for the Bateman Case Study competition is to provide the opportunity for seniors in public relations to apply their academic courses to a real project. The project also adds to resumes.

Valley Associates were Rachel Ballanger, Alicia Derby, Britta Larson, Kyle Ness and Jamie Valley. Associate Prof. Suzanne Williams was their adviser.

# Wells Fargo alumni ride stages of their lives

by Jamie Valley\*

With the 2002-2003 school year ending, another group of new alumni joined the job market. An MSUM business degree launched many into the Wells Fargo company. The MSUM degree fits the criteria of most available positions. The following are a few of the many successful Minnesota State University Moorhead business graduates.

**Deneen Axtman, '88, vice president community banking district retail manager, business administration specializing in management, marketing and psychology.**

Her schooling prepared her to analyze and communicate with customers and employees. What she found most beneficial from her degree was the accounting skills, which allow her to analyze financial statements, and psychology. These skills allow her to look at things from different viewpoints.



**Glen Deeton, '88, home mortgage consultant, business administration with a minor in mathematics.**

Numbers are a huge part of his job. Some aspects of his education that help him with his day-to-day work are business skills, mathematics and statistics. He also sees the experience with working and studying at the same time beneficial in preparing him for his current position.



**Michael Edenberg, '90, store manager, finance.**

In his position he is responsible for managing retail sales for the bankers and customer service representatives. He enjoyed the business department instructors and found the course selection fulfilling. Edenberg received his first job with Wells Fargo, formerly Norwest, when he was in college. He started as a teller. When he graduated he went to work for another company and shortly after returned to Wells Fargo.



**Chad Backes, '92, vice president commercial banking relationship manager, corporate finance and business administration.**

He is responsible for all-sized business customers of Wells Fargo. Some of his duties include credit underwriting and administration, deposit and cash management services, and working with his partners within Wells Fargo to meet the insurance, 401K and estate planning needs of his customers. He strives to meet all of the financial needs of the commercial businesses in his portfolio. The more he gets into his career, the more he learns.



**Sonja Anderson, '94, investment manager, finance and marketing.**

She is responsible for discretionary money management for personal trusts, agency, IRA and foundational accounts, and said college prepared her conceptually. She is studying for her certified financial planner degree. Anderson finds the finance skills of her degree are helpful with her daily job requirements. Her marketing degree helps her to be an effective seller. She says you need to have a degree to get where you want to go, and once there, the learning never stops.



**Andrea Burkhardt, '94, store manager, business administration with emphasis in marketing, finance and management.**

She enjoyed school. It was a large part of her four-year commitment, but a small part of her day. Like many students, she worked during school. She started with Wells Fargo, which was Norwest during her college years, as a teller. School taught her time management and how to listen effectively to a situation.



These employees have utilized the skills and knowledge they have attained through their life experiences, but most of all through the education they received at MSUM. They unanimously said involvement was key to a successful college career.

As Anderson says, "If you are willing to learn, you can climb the corporate ladder. Your four-year education is just a base. What we do from there is all up to us."

\*Valley, who graduated in May, worked at Wells Fargo during her college years. She now works for the company in Minneapolis.

# Alumni updates

**Ronald Price** (BA '73 Finance) has been named controller of Liberty Business Systems Inc. of Fargo.

**Chris Champ** (BS '81 Accounting) health care industry director with Eide Bailly Certified Public Accounting Firm, has been awarded the Founders Medal of Honor by the North Dakota HealthCare Financial Management Association. He has served on the board of directors of the North Dakota Chapter of HFMA for six years and served for two years as president. He was named outstanding member two years and received the Muncie Gold Merit Award in 1998.

**Dean Johnson** (BS '81 Accounting) has joined the staff of SK Realty, Fargo.

**Deanna Linstad** (BS '81 Finance and Management) has joined Alerus Financial as a retirement plan administrator in Fargo. She will design retirement plans for employers, analyze for compliance testing, conduct employee education and provide customer service to employers and their employees. Linstad has 11 years experience in the banking industry.

**Greg Adams** (BS '83 Business Administration) has been named a business banker at Bremer Bank of Fargo.

**Joan Penner** (BS '83 Accounting) has been promoted to finance director with Goldmark in Fargo.

**Greg Thibert** (BS '83 Mass Communications and AS Marketing) has been hired by Sungold Foods to manage the North American sales of sunbutter.

**Audrey Deihl** (BS '84 Accounting) has joined the staff at Park Company/GMAC as a licensed real estate agent.

**Scott Green** (BS '84 Finance) has been promoted to senior vice president and senior lender for the Community First National Bank, Fargo. He will be responsible for the management and supervision of the business banking department. He will also oversee the underwriting and administration of the bank's commercial loan portfolio. Green began his banking career in 1981 and has been with Community First since 1993.

**Terese West** (BS '84 Accounting) has been hired as an attorney in the Minneapolis firm of Moss and Barnett.

**Tim White** (BS '84 Management), the owner of Image Pros, has won the Small Business of the Year award from the

Oshkosh (Wis.) Chamber of Commerce.

**Michael Toelle** (BS '85 Industrial Technology) is the new chairman of the board of Cenex Harvest States Cooperatives.

**Chad Gruhl** (BS '87 Management) recently received his Ph.D. in management and is teaching at a small private college in Wilmington, Del.

**Ann McConn** (MBA '87 Business Administration) has been hired as the new president at F-M Alerus.

**Kevin Tweeton** (BS '88 Business Administration) has joined the staff at Valley Ford in Fargo.

**James Nyhof** (BS '88 Finance) of Dawson Insurance Agency in Fargo has earned membership in the million dollar round table.

**Jeff Restad** (BS '88 Finance) has been named commercial lending officer/vice president at the State Bank of Fargo.

**Tamara Hoffman** (BS '90 Mass Comm) has joined the staff at ARC of Cass County as program coordinator.

**Chad Backes** (BS '92 Business Administration and Finance) has been named a vice president with Wells Fargo Business Banking.

**Julie Gerving** (BS '93 Accounting) has been promoted to assistant controller with WBI Holdings.

**Stephanie Strand** (BS '93 Finance) has been promoted to assistant vice president at Northern Capital Trust in Fargo.

**Matt Thomason** (BS '93 Finance) has been named vice president and branch manager of the downtown office of State Bank of Fargo.

**Brad Sturn** (BS '93 Management) has been hired as a lease account executive by Kinetic Leasing.

**Andrea Burkhart** (BS '94 Business Administration) has been named a vice president in retail banking for Wells Fargo Bank in Fargo, Moorhead and West Fargo.

**Tonya Kiland** (BS '94 Accounting) has been promoted to senior manager of Dale Carnegie training division and is a certified Dale Carnegie instructor.

**Stuart Carlson** (BS '95 Marketing) was named executive director of the North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association. He has worked as a training specialist with NDEWSA for the past three years and was previously employed by Amoco Corp.,

Tampa, Fla. The NDRWSA coordinates rural water system programs on a statewide basis, and also provides training and technical assistance to help municipalities under 10,000 population and rural water systems comply with the federal safe drinking water act.

**Shanna McArthur** (BS '95 Accounting) has been hired as payroll accountant at Clarica Insurance, Fargo.

**Leith Devier** (BS '96 Accounting) has been hired as a senior support specialist at Workforce ROL.

**Brady Markuson** (BS '96 Finance) has been hired by Midwest Bank of Detroit Lakes, Minn., as a loan officer.

**Dan Staller** (BS '96 Finance) has been named a vice president with Wells Fargo Business Banking.

**Nicole Strom** (BA '98 Economics) has been hired by Gate City Bank as a customer service supervisor. She will supervise customer service reps and Gateline, Gate City Bank's telephone banking system.

**Benjamin Weerts** (BS '99 Management) has been appointed as a financial associate with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

**Corey Brenden** (MBA '00) has joined Goose River Bank as its Investment Centers of America, Inc. representative.

**Michele Heier** (BS '00 Accounting and Finance) has passed the certified public accounting exam. She works as an associate in the accounting services department at Eide Bailly, Minneapolis.

**Amy Lammers** (BS '00 Business Administration) has been hired as assistant to the controller at Industrial Builders Inc. of Fargo.

**Crystal Myers** (BS '01 Accounting) has joined the staff at State Bank Mortgage and Loan in Detroit Lakes, Minn.

**Mary Bakkegard** (BS '01 Mass Comm and English) has been hired as director of sales and marketing by the Holiday Inn Riverside in Minot, N.D.

**Jennifer Huotari** (BS '02 Accounting) has earned her CPA designation. She works as an associate in the audit department at Eide Bailly, Fargo.

**Jessica Mather** (BS '02 Business Administration) has been promoted to executive assistant to the president at Clinical Supplies Management.

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**Pippi Mayfield** (BS '02 Mass Communications) has joined the staff at the Detroit Lakes, Minn., newspaper as a reporter/photographer.

**Kariann Seeger** (BS '02 Graphic Communications) has joined the administrative team at Eide Bailly, a regional consulting and certified public accounting firm in Fargo.

**Dana Spiekermeier** (BS '02 Mass Communications) has been hired as a graphics coordinator for R.L. Engebretson.

## Faculty news notes

Susan and Peter Geib (Business Administration) had an article accepted for presentation and publication at the March meeting of the International Applied Business Research Conference. The title of the article is "Singapore: Leadership, Culture and International Business."

Shelton Gunaratne (Mass Communications) has contributed two articles to the four-volume encyclopedia of International Media and Communications, an Elsevier Science (USA) publication, scheduled for release in March. Gunaratne's first article ("Freedom of the Press in Asia" (nine pages) will appear in volume 2. His second article, "Status of Media in Pakistan and Bangladesh," (14 pages) will appear in Volume 3. Prof. Donald H. Johnston of the Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs is the editor in chief of the encyclopedia. The articles are written by scholars who approach each topic from an analytical, research-based perspective rather than merely providing subjective opinions. Details are available at: [www.academicpress.com/worldmedia/medopen.htm](http://www.academicpress.com/worldmedia/medopen.htm)

### College of Business & Industry faculty promoted and tenured

Promoted to professor status: Marsha Weber, Business Administration and Bill Violet, Accounting.

Promoted to associate professor: Norma Andersen, Technology; Deb Kukowski, Paralegal; Jerry Kuperman, Business Administration and Judy Streich, Paralegal.

Receiving tenure: Norma Andersen, Technology and Jerome Kuperman, Business Administration

## Homecoming 2003

The School of Business  
Awards Brunch  
will honor

***Tammy Miller***

Accounting  
Alumnus of the Year

&

***Kevin Carlson***

Business Administration  
Alumnus of the Year

Saturday  
October 18

Call Betty Gunderson, director of Alumni  
Relations, for further information  
218.477.2497

Alumni,  
Please contact Dean Carol Dobitz with your  
news and comments for B&I attaché at  
[biattach@mnstate.edu](mailto:biattach@mnstate.edu).

## Educational voyage

by Justin Eiler

Just as Magellan sailed the world centuries ago, Kerri Sagedahl, paralegal major, set sail on her own journey to learn about new cultures and to see different countries. Sagedahl took part in the Semester at Sea program fall semester.

The S.S. Universe Explorer served as the “floating” campus for Sagedahl and her 600 undergraduate peers. The ship made 10 scheduled stops including Japan, China, Vietnam, Malaysia, India, Kenya, South Africa, Brazil, Cuba and Florida.

The students studied sociology, theater, geography and political science of each country. The classes were tailored to the country they were scheduled to visit next. “I learned a lot. We always went to countries and then came back and studied the next one,” said Sagedahl.

*This has been a record year for MSUM students studying abroad with 63 students using various programs.*

Sagedahl and the other students learned about life in poorer countries and how fortunate Americans are. “We have it 100 percent better,” said Sagedahl of those living in countries like India.

Onboard the campus, Sagedahl kept busy participating in student organizations like Students of Service and Adopt-a-Grandparent.

The Semester at Sea program is administered by the Institute for Shipboard Education and academically by the University of Pittsburgh.

This has been a record year for MSUM students studying abroad with 63 students using various programs. The MSUM International Programs office has information on the Semester at Sea program as well as many other abroad opportunities.



**2003 Spring Semester attaché staff from the left: Melissa Eastgate, Jamie Valley, Ann Hennemann, Brad Feldman, Justin Eiler.**

## Ryan wins Minnesota College Photographer of the Year



**Cory Ryan**

The portrait of a young, Amish boy helped win College Photographer of the Year for MSUM senior mass communications major Cory Ryan. He took second place in picture story. He topped entries from The Minneapolis Star Tribune and the St. Paul Pioneer Press. Next fall Ryan will complete his education with an exchange to the University of Lincoln in England where he will study media production and digital photography.

## College of Business and Industry



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## mission statement

The College of Business and Industry, building on a strong foundation of liberal studies, provides professional career and leadership preparation through student-centered learning that incorporates technology, experiential learning, and interaction with industry and community.

This newsletter was written and produced by students in Mass Communications 327, *Creating a Newsletter*.  
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