1996-97 Senior Awards

Each year faculty in the Mathematics Department select Moorhead State University seniors to recognize for their outstanding achievements in mathematics. The results of the ETS Major Field Test in Mathematics were used as one factor in making the selection. Other criteria were overall GPA, mathematics GPA, performance in difficult mathematics courses, and service to the department and university. This year the seniors selected were Gretchen Carlson and Cynthia Doss. In addition to the recognition by the faculty, each student will be awarded membership in a professional society of their choice.

Gretchen Carlson, the daughter of Bruce and Kathy Carlson, is a graduate of Moorhead Senior High School in Moorhead, Minnesota. She is completing a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics. Gretchen was an Honors Apprentice for four years and served as the student coordinator of the Honors Apprentice program for a period of time. She also served as a tutor in the Mathematics Department. Gretchen is seeking a mathematics teaching position in a high school or junior high school. She chose membership in the National Council for Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM).

Cynthia Doss, the daughter of Larry and Cheryle Doss, is a graduate of Alexandria Jefferson Senior High School in Alexandria, Minnesota. She will receive a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics after Fall semester 1997. She will also complete a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science at the same time. Cynthia has worked for three years as an office assistant in the Computer Science and Information Systems department. She has also served as a member of the Student Advisory Committee for the Social and Natural Science Division. After graduation Cynthia wishes to find a job that utilizes both her mathematics and computer training. She chose membership in the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM).

Senior James Johanson won this year’s Bill V. Ritchie award for graduate study. The award is available to seniors who are going on to graduate school, and is in memory of mathematics professor Bill Ritchie, who died shortly after his retirement in 1884. Johanson, a South Dakota native, has been accepted for graduate study at the University of Iowa.
Professor Legg Retires
Professor Milton Legg retired in December after 26 years of teaching in our mathematics department, including 17 years as chair of the department. Professor Legg graduated from the University of Minnesota and earned a doctorate from New Mexico State University, doing work in group theory. He taught for six years at the University of Minnesota-Duluth before coming to Moorhead State. Professor Legg and his wife, Ruth, will continue to live in Moorhead, but also plan to do some traveling. We wish Professor Legg a happy retirement, and will miss him greatly around the department.

McLaren named State Teacher of the Year
Professor Christine McLaren was named 1996 College Science Teacher of the Year by the Minnesota Academy of Science and the Minnesota Science Teachers Association. Professor McLaren was cited for her ability to show students practical uses of statistics and her involvement of students in research projects. She has had many students helping her in various research projects over the years she has been here.

James Wallen Dies
It is with great sorrow that we report the sudden death of faculty member James Wallen on April 29, 1997. Wallen collapsed at school and died soon afterwards.

Wallen, a Wisconsin native, joined the Moorhead State faculty in 1967 after receiving a B.A. from Wartburg College and a master’s degree from the University of Nebraska. For many years he served as faculty advisor for the math club and he was well liked by students. Faculty members appreciated the benefit of his long experience teaching linear algebra and statistics and would seek his opinions on these courses. Students and faculty alike will miss Professor Wallen—his kind words, his genuine concern, his good nature and friendly presence.

There are plans underway to establish a scholarship in Wallen’s memory through the MSU Foundation. Details will be publicized in the fall.

Other Faculty Notes
Christine McLaren presented papers at a national conference in Atlanta and an international conference in Amsterdam. She and her husband, Dr. Gordon McLaren, got a $90,000 grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop disease screening processes.

S. J. Drouilhet was awarded a fourth summer fellowship at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, to work on modeling of orbiting material.

Walter Sizer gave an address on mathematical ideas in traditional Pacific cultures at a regional Mathematical Association meeting in Pennsylvania. He was also one of about 40 participants to complete a six-week program as part of the Institute for the History of Mathematics and Its Use in Teaching, held in Washington, DC.


One of our alumni asked that we list department faculty so you would know who is (still) here. So, here we are: Derald Rothmann, Carl Carlson, Marvel Froemming, Don Mattson, James Hatzenbuhler, Walter Sizer, Ronald Jeppson (chair), S. J. Drouilhet, Dennis Rhoads, Ari Wijetunga, Christine McLaren, Vernon Wolff, Sayel Ali, Wayne Chen, Tim Peil, Bonita Schmidt, Harley Reed and Tim Harms. Living retirees are Marion Smith, Warren Thomsen, Fike Zehroon, Shields Warren and Milton Legg. Bette Midgarden continues as Academic Vice President.

Mathematics News—
Paul Erdos dies
The most colorful noted mathematician of the century, Hungarian-born Paul Erdos, died last fall of a heart attack while attending a mathematics conference in Poland. Erdos did work in a variety of areas but is probably most noted for work in number theory. He collaborated with anyone he could find to work on problems with, and published over 1500 mathematical papers. Erdos for many years was a wanderer, traveling from meeting to invited lecture to conference but with no long-term employment or home. He stayed with friends, exchanging mathematical insights for food and shelter. He was noted for posing problems and offering rewards for their solution, saying for example, "This is a $200 problem." He paid up on some problems but was never concerned that all his problem debts would come due at once. In Paul Erdos the mathematics community lost a great thinker and a rare individual.
Alumni Notes

Wally Aas, ’52, served two years in artillery at Fort Sill near Lawton, Oklahoma after graduation from MSU. He attended UNC at Greeley and received an M.S. in ’56. At CSU, Fort Collins, he worked toward a Ph.D. in physics while teaching in the Physics Department at UNC. He stayed at UNC for 33 years, serving as chair for 15 years, before retiring in 1991.

Richard (Dick) Mullen, ’53, retired in 1994 after teaching for 34 years in the University of Wisconsin system. Since then he has done volunteer work and teaches one class at UW. He has also had two Fulbright Lecture assignments during his career.

Herbert N. Johnson, ’55, retired from the Department of Mathematics at Winona State University in July of 1993. He received his D.Ed. from the U of O and taught at WSU from 1966 to 1993 with the exception of two years of teaching in Malaysia. He and his wife moved to the high desert country of Arizona and absolutely love it and manage to stay very busy in their retirement.

Ronald D. Kragness, ’58, retired from teaching on February 28th after 36 1/2 years. The last 34 years were at Moorhead High School teaching mathematics, health and physical education. After 28 years Ron also retired from his second profession, the U.S. Army Reserve, obtaining the rank of LTC/O5. He and wife, Mary Anna, will continue living in their 16-sided home with adjacent triangular garage, but will travel extensively.

Ron Welch, ’58, taught high school math for six years in Fertile, MN and at Moorhead H.S. Then, he and wife, Loretta, took off for California. Ron earned a masters degree at San José State University and taught high school mathematics at San José H.S. until 1986. He became a stock broker also. In addition, he has an income tax preparation business which he started when he quit teaching. Ron and Loretta took a "roots" trip to Norway to find his relatives and to Northern Germany to find Loretta’s.

Robert MacGregor, ’59, has retired from teaching and gone on to vegetable farming. He graduated from MSC with B.A. and B.S. majors in Mathematics, Physical Science, Business Administration and Education. He states he was five hours short of a major in Accounting, also. Robert went on to do graduate work in Botany and Zoology, as well as Atomic & Nuclear Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science at SIU, U of Wyoming, U of W at River Falls and Oshkosh. He taught all high school math, science, accounting economics and Business Law during his years of teaching in North Dakota, Iowa and Wisconsin. He states that MSU has played a big part in the MacGregor family - his mother was an MSU graduate and taught school and all but one of his children were MSU graduates.

Sharon (Lee) Gustin, ’61, began a new position in August as Assistant Professor of mathematics at Bismarck State College in Bismarck, North Dakota.

Thomas C. Smith, ’61, retired in June of 1995 from South Junior High School in St. Cloud, Minnesota, after 34 years of teaching mathematics and chaired the department. His wife, Lois, and he will continue to live in St. Cloud and travel as much as possible.

Marie (Tri) Finney, ’62, is starting her 25th year with Digi-Key Corporation (Thief River Falls, Minnesota) where she is the Vice President of Administration. Her two daughters both graduated from MSU. Pam Rochlin, an English major (1987), is now an attorney practicing in St. Paul and Kristi Brandt, an elementary major (1989), is teaching at Agassiz Middle School in Fargo.

John Peterick, ’62, still enjoys teaching junior high mathematics and assisting in football in Mahnomen, Minnesota. Since he has reached the Rule of 90, though, he plans on retiring.

Eldon Bergman, ’63, retired from teaching July 1, 1996. During his teaching career he taught one year in Cyrus, MN, seven years in Adrian, MN and 25 years in Frazee, MN. He intends to continue coaching baseball at Frazee.

Robert K. Williams, ’63, has been teaching in Eau Claire, Wisconsin since the fall of 1963. He also is currently finishing up his 34th year teaching Algebra at Eau Claire Memorial High School. They have a math department of 14 and a student body of 1800. If the Governor has his way, Robert may retire this year, or next year for sure!

Charles A. Bass, ’64, served 22 years as an Air Force officer. Currently he works in financial services. His wife, Judy (Skog) ’64, is a college instructor. They have three children, Aaron (29), Mark (26) and Jennifer (18).

George Cowman, ’64, taught mathematics, physics and computer science at the Springfield Public Schools retiring in 1988 on full disability due to Parkinson’s disease. He married Sharon (’64 - Elem Ed) in 1964 and they have three grown children living in Minnesota.

Thomas A. Bertek, ’65, taught junior high math for one year in Pomona, California after graduating from MSC. He moved on to Oregon and became involved with street and highway design and construction. Thomas moved to Seattle in 1968 and started with the King County Department of Public Works. Having worked in many facets of street design and construction, Thomas is now the Road Standards Engineer with the King County Department of Transportation. He plans to retire in a few years.

Steve Walters, ’65, has taught math at the Marshall Junior High School since leaving Moorhead State in 1965. He is married to Sharon Sunde (Glyndon, MN) and they have two grown children, Laurie and Joy.

Allen Hanson, ’66, taught high school math at Waubun Public Schools from 1966-72. He then taught high school math at Mora Public Schools until 1975 and from 1975-81 was the principal at Waubun High School. He is currently in the home construction business. Allen and wife, Loree, have three sons.

Gary Melby, ’66, is a member of a 14 member test team as a software test engineer at Medtronic, Inc. in Fridley, MN. He designs and writes tests that verify 65/2 based software applications which perform the programming of implantable cardio defibrillators, a medical device that treats dangerous heart arrhythmias. Steve's wife, Carol, also works at Medtronic in the Device Registration Department.

Richard Cochran, ’67, has taught continuously since 1969 at Bemidji Public Schools in Bemidji, Minnesota. He did take a four year break for military service, but otherwise has been in Bemidji the entire time.
Richard C. Jensen, '67, recently moved back to the Los Angeles area after living for nine years in southwestern New York. He has been employed by the Dexter Electronics Materials Division of the Dexter Corporation for 20 years. Richard is a Vice President and General Manager. His company is a specialty materials manufacturer selling the world wide electronics industry. Richard and wife, Lu Ann, have been married 33 years and have three grown children, Kathleen, Keith and Kristen.

Terry L. Bartness, '68, went to Appleton, MN, after graduating from MSC, to be a math teacher, computer coordinator, assistant principal and coach. He moved on to Maryville-Portland, ND as the Jr-Sr. High School Principal. Terry received a master's degree in School Administration from NDSU. After that he became Junior High School Principal in Williston, ND and was elected President of the ND Association of Secondary School Principals. From there he became Superintendent of the Larimore, ND Schools where he earned a Minnesota Credential in School Administration. Terry and his wife, Margo, have now moved on to Park Rapids, MN where he is Superintendent of the Park Rapids Area Schools. They have two grown children, Tammy ('95) and Tim. Terry feels fortunate to work with many graduates of MSU and currently works with two other Mathematics majors, Al Judson and Leo Jacobson.

Alfred Huebner, '68, has retired after 28 years as a senior programmer from IBM in Rochester, MN. He is now running a home marketing business with his wife, Margaret. They have three children, all in college.

David L. Jacobson, '68, is a Statistical Analyst with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in St. Paul. He and his wife, Carol, have one daughter, Kristin (16).

Duane G. Lura, '68, is completing his 27th year of teaching at West Fargo High School. He had taught at Frazee, Minnesota prior from 1968-70.

Bob Bjore, '69, is teaching 8th grade algebra and geometry at Franklin Junior High School in Brainerd, Minnesota. Since MSU, he has been teaching in Brainerd for 27 years. He also teaches Driver’s Education through the Community Education in Brainerd.

Vicki DeVoss, '69, is currently working in the Twin Cities for ScI Math MN as a mathematics framework specialist. Under the direction of Anne Bartel, Mathematics Project Manager, Vicki is helping develop a state framework for K-12 mathematics curriculum. This project has involved mathematics teachers kindergarten through college in its development and helps align mathematics standards with Minnesota’s graduation requirements. It is developing a policy document to help districts, schools and teachers implement new mathematics curriculum to meet the changing needs of students for the 21st century. Vicki is “on loan” from the Minneapolis Public Schools where she’s taught for 26 years. She’d like to encourage people involved in math education statewide to look at the “Math Frameworks”.

Linda [Bliegen] Johnson, '69, and husband, Bruce ('69) have spent 25 years teaching overseas at American-curriculum international schools. They have taught in Bolivia, Greece, Pakistan and for the last 12 years at the Jakarta International School in Indonesia. Linda taught middle and high school mathematics with some BASIC programming and computer literacy courses. Last June, Linda and Bruce retired from overseas teaching and are now residing at their lake home near Park Rapids. They have two sons who both attend the University of Minnesota - Morris.

Kendall E. Nygard, Ph.D., '69, is professor and chair of the Department of Computer Science & Operations Research at North Dakota State University in Fargo, North Dakota.

Lyle Thorstenson, M.D., '70, lives in the “oldest town in Texas” - Nacogdoches - and is a Board Certified Ophthalmologist where he has been a solo practitioner in the Thorstenson Eye Clinic, Optical Shop and Surgery Center. About 25 years ago he married Pam Reardon of Devils Lake, ND and they have two children, Leah (15) and Luke (12). Lyle is involved in organized medicine and is a delegate to the Texas Medical Association House of Delegates, alternate delegate to the American Medical Association House of Delegates and was President of the Texas Ophthalmological Association 1996-1997. Lyle believes that without a doubt his MSU education provided him the basic skills and self-confidence to achieve his goals. He lists such professors as Warren Thomsen, Marion Smith, Bill Ritchie, the Shaws, Jim Wallen, Carl Carlson, Patty Reske and the lab school supervisor, Nancy Smith as all having made a profound difference in his education. He tells us he is grateful to them and MSC for the opportunities for success and suggests that despite the protests and strikes at MSC in the late 60’s, he and most of his classmates got a great education at MSC - thank you!

Vince Felchle, '71, received his masters degree from the University of Missouri-Rolla in 1973. Since then he has been employed by Texas Instruments of Dallas as a computer systems analyst specializing in PCs, UNIX and network administration. He plans to retire in 10-15 years. Vince’s hobbies include golf, softball, travel and music.

Ted Saxman, '71, retired from IBM at the end of 1996 after working for them for 32 1/2 years. He was on an educational leave of absence from IBM while attending MSU. He is looking forward to spending more time with his wife and two sons and pursuing his hobbies of reading, investing and bicycling.

Jerr~ Jensen, '72, completed his doctoral degree in Educational Leadership in 1990 from the University of St. Thomas. He has been the Superintendent for Lake City Schools in Lake City, MN, for the past five years. Jerry and wife, Susan, have two daughters, Jamie (15) and Kristi (11).

Denise (Pulkrabek) Oppegaard, '72, is in her 21st year of teaching math at Sacred Heart High School in East Grand Forks, Minnesota. She teaches grades seven through eleven including Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, II and III, and Pre-Calculus. Denise and husband, Roger, have one son, Jared (11). She was on campus last summer to take the graphing calculators class. Denise cites how good it was to see the old spots again, but didn’t recall the dorm rooms (Neumaier) being so small!

Ardelle (Swanson) Jacobson, '73, has lived in Bismarck with her husband, Dennis, for 24 years. For many years she was an at-home mom and now is the Director of the Noah’s Ark Learning Center. They have two daughters. Jennifer is a junior at Bethel College in St. Paul and Ericka is a freshman at Northwestern College in Orange City, IA.
Julie Davies Hansen, ’75, and her husband, Jeff, are partners with Julie’s brother and his family in the Davies-Hansen Dairy Farm near Aitkin, MN. They have dairy, beef and feed out steers making a total of 450 head of livestock. Julie enjoys substitute teaching at the local high school. They are very active in their church and have a 5 1/2 year old son, Michael.

Mary McIntyre Gustafson, ’75, is married to Terry Gustafson, a professor of chemistry at Ohio State University in Columbus. They have two daughters aged 16 and 13. Mary is the Accounting Manager at North American Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Wholesalers Association (NHRAW) and is active in the Girl Scouts.

Elaine (Spiegel) DeGroot, ’75, is living in Moorhead and working at the VA Medical Center in Fargo. Her husband, Mike, is now the Flight Supervisor for U.S. Air Force Recruiting out of North Dakota and western Minnesota.

ViAnn Olson, ’76, is in her 21st year as a mathematics instructor, the last nine of which have been at the Rochester Community and Technical College in Rochester, MN.

Kraig A. Ward, M.D., ’76, lives in Shreveport, Louisiana and is a staff physician at Lagniappe Hospital practicing pain medicine.

Phillip Myhre, ’77, is currently living in Omaha with wife, Abbie and their three children, Andrea, Kaysha and Melanie. Phillip has been employed by Mutual of Omaha since 1985 as an actuary. He is a Senior Vice President in charge of individual health and accident rating.

Lester C. Olson, ’77, lives in Pennsylvania and has published a new article on Andre Lorde which appeared in the February, 1997 issue of Quarterly Journal of Speech.

Maris Shields O’Connell, ’77, lives in Two Rivers, Wisconsin and reports that she is not employed away from home at this time. However, she does enjoy volunteer work at their eight year old daughter’s school.

Steve Cyr, ’78, is an Advisory Programmer with IBM in Rochester, Minnesota. He and his wife, Susan Marie, have three sons, Brad (6th grader), Pete (5th grader) and Tom (2nd grader). Steve is active in school, church and coaching activities.

Gary S. Krenz, ’78, went on to graduate school at Iowa State, earning a Ph.D. and then to a position at Marquette University. He notes his teacher training paid handsome dividends when, last May (1996), he was presented with the Marquette University Father John P. Raynor, S. J. Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence. This award came with a $2500 check and a bit of prestige at the University. In addition to teaching, Gary is active in mathematical biology with research at the Clinical Physiology Laboratory (Zablocki VA Medical Center). This lab studies nonrespiratory functions of the pulmonary circulation. Gary does reviews for the NIH and the NSF Computational Biology division and referees manuscripts for the Annals of Biomedical Engineering and Journal of Applied Physiology on a regular basis. He is married to Sally, who is a technical writer for a small computer graphics firm. Gary keeps busy also trying to create his own beer with a beer brewing kit, a gift from his wife.

Steve Versoi, ’78, is the Produce Redistributor Center Manager for Nash Finch Co. of Minneapolis. During his employment he and his family have been relocated to Sioux Falls, SD to Rocky Mount, NC to St. Cloud, MN and now to Salt Lake City, Utah – all since 1978. He and his wife have two sons aged 16 and 14 years. They all enjoy the natural beauty of this area and especially like the skiing.

Dave Bergstrom, ’79, is employed at The Mutual Group (US) in Fargo as Vice President and Actuary. His responsibilities are in the Corporate Actuarial and Financial Accounting Departments. Dave received his FSA designation in 1985. He married Trish (Richardson - '79 Social Work) and they have two children, Matthew (8) and Kaylee (7). In 1993 Dave was inducted into the Dragon Hall of Fame (All American High Jumper 1977-1979).

Julie Carlson, ’79, and her husband, Scott Henry (Mass Comm ’80) live in Roseville with their two daughters, Jessica (10) and Kate (7). She has worked at Hewlett-Packard for 17 years in both technical support and sales positions. For the last two years Julie has been a Strategic Proposal Developer assisting sales teams to respond to customer requests for proposals or information.

JoAnne (Groff) Gerdes, ’79, is married to Brad (79 - Psychology) and lives in the Twin Cities area. They have a third grade daughter, Cassandra. JoAnne is the Director of Service Management at American Express Technologies, a part of American Express Financial Advisors in Minneapolis.

Dave Jacobson, ’80, continues as an advisory reliability engineer with IBM in Rochester. In 1996, he assumed the role of the AS/400 Division’s Hardware Reliability Focal Point. He also continues to serve as an adjunct professor for St. Mary’s University in Winona teaching statistics classes in the Graduate Management Program and the Bachelor’s completion program in Industrial Technology. He and wife, Deb, have two children, Justin (grade 5) and Emily (grade 2). Much of his free time is spent coaching them and their friends in youth sports programs such as basketball, baseball and soccer.

Duane Van Den Broeke, ’80, lives in Eden Prairie, MN and works as a Software Systems Analyst II for 3M in St. Paul. His department writes and supports software that supports the business processes used by the Engineering Division.

Claudia (Brainard) Wiebold, ’81, is a Senior Systems Analyst in Individual Systems at Minnesota Mutual insuring that their systems will work in the year 2000 in addition to all the other projects that must be completed as usual. Claudia and her husband, Don (’80 Comp Sci) continue to live in Shoreview, MN with their two children. They enjoy cross-country skiing and biking.

Jon Jellison, ’81, is employed at MSU through MnSCU as an Information Technology Specialist 2. Prior to that he held a similar position with the North Dakota University System at NDSU. Jon is married to Barb, who is a systems analyst at Blue Cross in Fargo and they have a son, Alex, who was born in August of 1996.

Daryl Spartz, ’82, has worked at IBM in Rochester, MN since graduating from MSU. Currently Daryl is an Advisory Programmer working on Internet-related products for the AS400 system. With this full-time job, he is a part-time Graduate student at the University of Minnesota, working towards an M.S. degree in Computer and Information Sciences. He and his wife, Julie, have two young children, Ryan (5) and Ellen.
(2), who keep them very busy. Julie also works at IBM since her graduation from the University of Southern California.

Debbie (Foley) Sauer, ’83, is a stay-at-home mom. She and her husband, Jeff, who is a veterinarian, have four children. They live in Long Prairie, MN.

Ilo (Lewis) Myhra, ’83, has been employed since 1992 at Kearke, Inc. in Rochester, MN as Principle Software Consultant. She provides technical software support for the AS/400 midrange business computer, specializing in communications software. Ilo and her husband, James, live in Rochester with their dog, Woody.

Steve Riewer, ’84, celebrated 10 years of “wedded bliss” to Catherine on Valentine’s Day. Their fourth son, Preston, was born last August. He joins Patrick (5), Marcus (7) and Michael (9). Steve teaches high school math and Cathy teaches 6th grade, both at Bertha-Hewitt Public Schools.

Theresa (Fedor) Resnick, ’85, has completed the requirements for Fellowship in the Society of Actuaries. She has also been promoted to Associate Actuary at Allstate Life Insurance Company in Northbrook, IL. Theresa also continues her role as Valuation Actuary in the Direct Response Profit Center, as well as taking on additional responsibilities associated with her new promotion. She is married to Mike, and they have a son, Peter (3). Mike works at an advertising agency in Chicago. Being a two career family doesn’t leave much free time, but when it avails, they enjoy traveling to New Mexico or Minnesota.

Kathryn R. (Carlson) Noel, ’86, is a math teacher at Harlem Junior/Senior High School in Harlem, Montana. She is married to Tom and they have two sons, Andy (9) and Trent (16 months). Tom has a Small Engine Repair business they operate together. They live on a small farm with cows, dogs and cats.

Rebecca Lewin, ’86, is currently an Associate Professor of Mathematics at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. She is especially busy this semester planning her wedding which will occur in May of 1997.

Gary Seiler, ’86, lives in Sioux City, IA with his wife, Mary Ann and their three daughters, Monica (6), Megan (3) and newly arrived Emily. He has been working for IBP ($12 billion producer of fresh beef and pork) for 10 years. Gary manages the sales and marketing areas: database integrity, diverse data analyses, hedging basis, computer systems development and support, and promotional programs.

Stephanie (Davis) Cundiff, ’87, has been teaching for three years at Janett Junior High School in Widesfield, CO. Stephanie earned her master's degree in education last spring from the University of Phoenix. She will head the mathematics department of Mesa Ridge High School which is scheduled to open in 1997-98. Stephanie and her husband are expecting their first child.

Robert J. Dosch, ’87, received his Ph.D. in business administration from the University of Iowa in 1996. Robert is currently teaching auditing courses for the Accounting Department at Florida State University. He and his wife, Karen, reside in Tallahassee.

Kathy (Kochmann) Kurtz, ’87, is back to work this year after a maternity leave last spring. Kathy and her husband, Matt, had their first child, Ryan Matthew, on April 13, 1996. Kathy states that as the child of a good mathematician should, Ryan arrived on his due date! She is teaching Algebra II at Waconia High School and is adjusting to the 4-Block (90 minute classes) schedule.

Joel Langenfeld, ’87, is a computer consultant at Connect Computer in Edina, MN. Joel’s wife, Karen (’87) is hoping to finish her Ph.D. (Ed Psych) at the U of MN in the next 12-18 months. Their son, Nathan, is almost two years old now.

Beth (Bauman) Thompson, ’88, is a ninth grade math teacher at Ben Franklin Junior High School in Fargo. She and her husband, Bruce (’87), have a 2 1/2 year daughter and are expecting a second child at the end of June.


Cindy Lysne, ’89, is an actuarial analyst with American International Group in New York City and has been employed there since October, 1989. She has completed all three exams as well. Cindy and her husband, Mike Christianson (MSU alumnus and freelance trombonist), live in New Jersey with their children, Joseph (6 1/2) and Michelle (4). They are expecting their third child in July.

Karla Rothmann Herz, ’89, after six years as a stay-at-home mom, is an Assistant Librarian for the Page Public Schools in which she works with students K-12. She also enjoys doing a lot of mathemtics tutoring. Even after this winter, Karla and her husband Glenn still enjoy living the in country and are kept busy with their two daughters, Kaitlyn (6) and Morgan (3).

Patricia Smidt, ’89, is working as a vocational tutor in the Thief River Falls School District. She works with students in the shop classes on their reading and math skills.

Heidi Anderson Driscoll, ’90, lives in Abilene, Texas, with her husband Michael and their active two year old son, Patrick. Heidi teaches geometry and algebra I in a small town about 20 minutes from Abilene. She has taught here for five years and believe it or not, she sometimes misses the snow!

Jeff Riewer, ’90, is in his seventh year of teaching at the Walker-Hackensack-Akeley High School. He teaches everything from 7th grade general math up to Applied Calculus. During the summer his time is spent working at a youth camp.

Partha Dass, ’91, works in Hershey as a methodologist (something to do with numbers) for the Intersearch Corporation. Prior to that he worked at Chilton Research Services in Radnor, PA as an analyst. Partha lives in Wayne, PA, a suburb of Philadelphia.

Todd Griebentrog, ’91, is in his sixth year of teaching Jr./Sr. high School mathematics at ACGC (Atwater-Cosmos-Grove City) Public Schools. His wife, Shari, is enrolled in the U of MN Mortuary Science Program and will
finish in the fall and then intern. They have a two year old son, Evan, whom they enjoy very much. Todd and Shari ran a Foster Care Home for the mentally handicapped for two years but have since sold the business.

Peter Shea, '91, lives in Fort Collins, Colorado and is working on his Ph.D. in Mathematics at Colorado State University. He expects to be done by the end of summer or next fall. Peter hopes to find a job teaching, but is prepared to work in industry if necessary.

Sharon Hintgen, '91, has completed the coursework for her masters in mathematics education at BSU. She is currently working on her thesis which is now in rough draft form. Sharon has been teaching math courses for five years at Fergus Falls Community College in developmental algebra and liberal arts math.

Daniel Carberry, '92, received his Masters degree in Mathematics at Iowa State University in May of 1995. His thesis was entitled "On the Location of Eigenvalues of P-Matrices". He worked as an underwriter with Liberty Mutual in Taylorville, Illinois until January, 1997. He has taken a position with Paragon Reinsurance Risk Management Services, a subsidiary of E. W. Blanch in Minneapolis. Dan works as an analyst, responsible for modeling insurance companies risks to catastrophes including hurricane, earthquake and tornado. Dan writes that he is an avid runner and microbrewery enthusiast.

Greg Falla, '92, and his wife, Deirdre, moved to her hometown, New Britain, CT in 1992. They have two children, Caitlin and Ethan. Greg is a Junior Mechanic Engineer at Pepin Associates, an architectural/engineering firm in Bloomfield, CT. He is applying to graduate school at Central Connecticut State University to enroll in the teacher certification program. Greg would like to teach math at a middle or high school level.

Debra A. (Frank) Haglund, '93, was transferred in October of 1996 to the Center for Human Resource Management within the Colorado Department of Transportation. This move proved positive with the advancement opportunities it provided. Debra's husband of three years, Dave, was promoted to Assistant Manager of Good Times Drive Through Burgers ("Burger Time"-esque) last September, 1996, making him second in command of the restaurant. No children to report of as yet.

Carol Diane-Livingston Smith, '93, has been working for America Online since June of 1995 as a Systems Analyst. Carol writes that she loves her work and the people she works with, and states that it's very exciting to be a part of this company.

Tracey (Ose) Lyons, '93, was a math tutor at the Lisbon High School from 1994-96 and then started full time in the fall of 1996. She teaches advanced algebra, pre-algebra and consumer math as well as being a Junior class advisor.

Laura (Schuette) Solarz, '93, married Gary in August of 1996. She is currently the Cost Accountant/Inventory Analyst at MedAmicus, Inc. in Plymouth, MN, a position she has held for two years now. MedAmicus manufactures vascular lead introducer kits and fiber optic pressure transducer catheters and monitors.

Tim Doyle, '94, is currently working as an Actuarial Analyst for Oxford Life Insurance Company based in Phoenix. He is in the process of achieving his Associatehip from the Society of Actuaries. Tim sends a "hello" to all of his professors at MSU.

Dennis Fischer, '94, is in his third year of teaching at Wheaton High School in Wheaton, MN. He is married to Nancy Byer and they have a son, Austin, who is 22 months old.

Vanessa Jones, '94, is a Technical Associate in the Information Services division of a global investment bank called Credit Suisse First Boston. She started working for this firm on July 15, 1996 after completing an M.Sc. degree in Applied Mathematics at the University of Virginia. Vanessa's company has offices all over the world including London, Paris, Tokyo, Milan, Frankfurt, and Singapore. She works in the World Trade Center office, but has had opportunities to travel to the London office three times since she joined the firm.

David Noel, '94, is in his third year teaching 7-12 math in Vebien, South Dakota. He has also coached every level of boys and girls basketball (5-12), as well, and most recently the varsity boys team. In the summer David has a summer basketball camp in Vebien for boys and girls grades 3-8.

Connie Skarpohl-Oleson, '94, was married to Eric (NDSU graduate) on October 19, 1996. They live in Fargo and Connie is working toward her teaching license. Currently she is student teaching at West Fargo High School.

Jody Hillberry, '95, married Christy Greenwall ('95) in July of 1995. Jody has been working on his Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Iowa for the last two years. In addition to his coursework and papers, he is leading two discussion sections in a calculus based Econ course.

Micky Klocow, '95, lives in Cheyenne, Wyoming and is an Information Specialist with Options and Choices, Inc. (OCI). His company does health integration for large corporations who are self-insured and for manage care organizations. Micky's work involves providing critical integrated health information so that companies can effectively manage their total health costs and productivity loss. He states that his job is very challenging, the people he works with are really nice and the pay is excellent. He adds: We are hiring!

Nels Onstad, '95, in his second year, teaches high school math in the Greenbush/Middle River School District and coaches 7th and 8th grade football and is head wrestling coach. He was married in October, 1996 to Brenda Bjornson of Wheaton. His teaching and coaching have united him with his teammate, Matt Clark, a Health and PE graduate of MSU.

Joseph D. Procopio, '95, is a computer programmer at Federated Insurance in Owatonna, Minnesota.

Barrett Prody, '95, live in Duluth with his wife, the former Emily Rude ('95), and is employed at State Farm as an automobile claims adjuster. Barrett states that he misses college and the mathematics department, citing that the business world is a whole different ballgame than doing proofs in abstract algebra.

Paul Rozman, '95, will graduate this spring from Montana State University with a M.S. in mathematics. He hopes to have a community college teaching position by this fall.
Emily (Rudh) Prody, ’95, is a Customer Service Representative/Credit Manger at Norwest Financial in Duluth. Emily married fellow classmate, Barrett Prody (’95). She is planning to take the first of three actuarial exams and is looking for a new position in Fargo-Moorhead with Norwest Bank.

James A. Saari, ’95, is teaching mathematics to 9th and 10th graders in the West End School District in Nucla, CO (southwestern Colorado). James also assists coaching in varsity football and basketball. He is engaged to be married to Julie Olesse (who attended MSU from 1991-95 and is from Detroit Lakes, MN) on December 27, 1997. Although people are nice and the view even better, James may elect to move out of the area and pursue another career.

Chris Copeland, ’96, has spent the year expanding his knowledge of actuarial science, specifically pensions, as he continues to work at Towers Perrin in Minneapolis. Chris cites passing SOA exam 150 on his first attempt in November as his major accomplishment so far. Chris is now studying for the 141 (EA1-A), 151 (Risk Theory) and 160 (Construction of Survival Models and Tables). This has been a busy year for him and appears to be continuing likewise in 1997.

Tammy (Hansen) White, ’96, is teaching at Richland #44 in Colfax, ND. She is teaching 8th grade math, Algebra 2, advanced math, earth science and 7th grade life science. Tammy is the yearbook advisor and participates on a few committees. She and her husband, Paul, will be moving to Reno, Nevada this summer.

Nathan Nysether, ’96, accepted the Math Department Chairman position at Norman County West last spring. He teaches Geometry, Algebra II, Functions and Trigonometry and Pre-college Discrete Math. Next year he will trade geometry for 7th grade General Math and will pick up a half-year college-prep class for non-math bound students. Nathan, not officially involved in any specific extra-curricular activities, helps out where needed. He states that he is leading an overhaul of the K-12 math curriculum and the 7th grade general math is one addition under the new plan.