

Spring 2014

UNI Today, v.97n2 [v98n1], Spring 2014

University of Northern Iowa Alumni Association

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University of Northern Iowa

UNI Today

SPRING 2014



PURE ADVENTURE
PURE INSPIRATION



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UNI
Alumni
Association
University of Northern Iowa

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In the Winter 2014 issue, CJ Hines was incorrectly listed as C.J. Hines. UNI Today regrets the error.

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PURE ADVENTURE PURE INSPIRATION

You're on skis, hitched to a sled with 220 pounds of food and supplies dragging behind you. There isn't a soul around for hundreds of miles, other than your spouse struggling through the frozen air next to you. You're facing a 570-mile trek across the coldest continent on earth. There are no landmarks, no buildings, no civilization. The silence, and the snow, surround you.

Antarctica is not for the faint of heart – nor the average married couple.

It took three years of training and research for **Chris (Keenan) Fagan, B.A. '87**, and her husband, Marty, to prepare for their expedition. Their goal was to be the first married American couple to ever ski from the Antarctic coast to the South Pole, unguided and unsupported.

On January 18, 2014, the Fagans accomplished their goal and made history.

A UNI marketing alumnae, Chris spent most of her childhood in Des Moines. It wasn't until she moved to Seattle in the '90s that she discovered the thrill of mountaineering. Fully embracing the

world of outdoor adventure sports, she's climbed some of the highest mountains in the world and run numerous 100-mile mountain races as an ultra runner. In fact, it was while climbing Mt. Denali in Alaska that she first met Marty Fagan – perhaps an inkling of the adventure their lives would be together.

The expedition idea started with Marty, who one day casually asked Chris, "What do you think about the South Pole?"

Chris responded with a somewhat surprised, "I don't know. I'd need some time to ponder that."

It took a year of pondering, research and "are we crazy to even try this?" conversations, but eventually the Fagans decided that the South Pole was indeed the perfect next big adventure for them. It would take another two years of intense training and preparation before they set off towards a goal that only about 100 people have ever accomplished.

"We always knew we wanted the pure experience of a self-sufficient expedition," Chris said. "Every

We were *inspired* by past explorers
to question what is *possible*.



decision made was ours to make. It added a tremendous amount of stress to the trip but also a tremendous amount of satisfaction.”

Each morning, they would turn on their GPS to verify their position, then turn it off to conserve battery power. They packed up everything, loaded their sleds and headed off over the ice and snow, using compasses mounted on their waists.

“Some days you’d get vertigo from looking down at your compass and then back up into complete white,” Chris shared. “There was nothing to center your gaze on, no horizon at all.”

They skied about nine hours per day, trading off leading duties, then made camp. It was summer in Antarctica, which meant 24 hours of sunshine plus balmy -35 degree Fahrenheit temperatures. Windy days dropped the temps to -50 F (exposed skin freezes instantly at -40 F).

While the first half was difficult, the second half of the expedition “got really hard,” Chris admitted. “We thought that as our sleds got lighter, we would be able to go faster and make more miles.

But we were also losing weight and strength each day, plus the terrain got harder.”

For the last leg of their 570-mile journey, they struggled across 150+ miles of sastrugi – sharp, wind-blown waves of snow that range from two to five feet tall. Making fewer daily miles than expected meant they had to push on through instead of taking planned rest days, and by day 38 they were down to seven days of food. Marty enjoyed his last cup of coffee on day 45 and they arrived at the South Pole on day 48 with few rations to spare.

Both Chris and Marty had their share of difficult days and emotional breakdowns, but were able to help each other through it. “In hindsight, it gave us a greater appreciation for each other’s strength and character,” Chris said. “You walk away from an intense experience like that with a much stronger bond.”

Despite the white-out conditions and extreme physical and mental challenges, Chris said the hardest part was being away from their 12-year-old son, Keenan.

WE ALWAYS KNEW WE WANTED
THE PURE EXPERIENCE OF A
SELF-SUFFICIENT EXPEDITION.

"We called home every other day with a satellite phone to check in," she said. "But by the end it was really hard to hide how exhausted we were, which made him worry." Back home in Washington state, Keenan and his classmates followed his parents via their website blog at 3belowzero.com.

For the Fagans, the trip was much more than an exercise in endurance.

"It comes down to inspiration and willpower," Chris said. "We were inspired by past explorers to question what is possible. What is your full potential? Everyone can do more than they think they can. It's so gratifying to hear from kids who followed our trip – one wrote us a letter and said 'I saw how hard you were working but you kept going. I always take the easy way but not anymore.'" She paused. "If we can inspire one child through our actions, then it was worthwhile." **UNI**

South Pole rules and definitions

Source: Adventurestats.com/Explorersweb.com

Assisted vs. Unassisted

Assist refers to the outside help received by an expedition. The most common form of polar assist is air-resupply.

Supported vs. Unsupported

Support refers to external power aids used for significant speed and load advantage. Typical aids are wind power (kites), animal power (dogs), or engine power (motorized vehicles). Only human-powered expeditions are considered unsupported.

Usage of equipment such as skis, compass, GPS, radios, satellite phones and location beacons are not considered support.

Guided vs. Unguided

A team is guided if they hire an outside person to provide leadership and guidance during the expedition.

The Fagans' expedition was unassisted, unsupported and unguided.

MARTY & CHRIS AT
THE SOUTH POLE



THE FAGAN FAMILY -
MARTY AND CHRIS,
B.A. '87 WITH
SON KEENAN





INNOVATION AT WORK

The Iowa Waste Reduction Center (IWRC) has worked with Toyota to implement a painter-training curriculum based on the VirtualPaint system in Kentucky where the Avalon, Camry and Venza are made.

"Everyone - in management to the actual trainees - has raved about how it works. Data shows that we have a 47 percent reduction in defects since the virtual trainer has been implemented," said Tom Morford, Paint GPC/TL, Trainer, Toyota.



STRENGTHENING the INDUSTRIAL MARKET

A new chapter is being written at UNI. While the business and education programs often spring first to mind when one thinks of UNI, lately a new focus has emerged - advanced manufacturing.

In February, it was announced UNI would be joining 70 partners across the country to create the Digital Lab for Manufacturing in Chicago, a \$320 million consortium to improve the nation's manufacturing capabilities.

In addition, UNI's Metal Casting Center - with their new \$1.5 million 3-D printer - is the flagship program of the Iowa Advanced Manufacturing Center, located at Cedar Valley TechWorks in Waterloo.

And these are only the most recent endeavors. In Iowa, advanced manufacturing is the state's largest single business sector at \$27.6 billion, according to the Iowa Economic Development Authority. UNI has been building a strong foundation in manufacturing for years, from education to consulting to on-the-job training.

The Manufacturing Technology Program graduates around 20 students every year. These students

are ready to hit the ground running, boasting a 100 percent job placement rate. It is not uncommon for potential employers to contact the program and discover that all of the upcoming graduates have already accepted other positions. These aren't just entry-level jobs; the average first-year salary range for a new graduate is \$45,000-\$65,000. The program's mix of technical and managerial education makes for market-ready supervisors and engineers - an excellent benefit to the state where manufacturing represents 16.9 percent of Iowa's total employment.

While preparing students for the "real world" is the end-goal of many colleges and universities, at UNI, it is just the beginning. The Metal Casting Center and the Iowa Waste Reduction Center have been conducting research and consulting with businesses across the nation for years. The list of clients served ranges from Deere and Company to Emerson Process Management to Toyota Manufacturing, Case New Holland and more.

The Metal Casting Center has been a national leader in foundry and metal casting research and technologies for the last 20 years. Now, with the

addition of the state-of-the-art 3-D printer, it has the potential to advance to a whole new level. The printer has the largest printable area of any 3-D printer in North America and allows for astonishing improvements in the time and efficiency of creating foundry casts. Using pure and recycled silica sands, the printer creates large-scale three-dimensional objects, layering them 1/7,000th of an inch at a time. What traditionally could take weeks and thousands of dollars can now be done in a matter of hours for a few hundred dollars. As UNI students train on the machine, their résumés become infinitely more attractive to employers.

On a similar note, what started out as a research project looking at the painting efficiency of two local body shops has progressed into a full-fledged painter-training program and the development of a virtual-reality training simulator at the Iowa Waste Reduction Center. The IWRC Painter Training program works with manufacturers nationwide, spanning many industries to train and educate spray painters. Additionally, the virtual-reality simulator, VirtualPaint, is integrated into the program, as well as sold as a stand-alone training system to manufacturers and educational institutions.

Watch for UNI's continued efforts in this exciting new chapter as they help manufacture a strong future for the state and beyond. **UNI**



Pages 6-7:

Students at the Metal Casting Center put the finishing touches on parts printed by the new state-of-the-art 3-D printer

A sand cast of the UNI nameplate glows, fresh from the 3-D printer

Page 8, top to bottom:

A student cleans out a mold at the Metal Casting Center

Chris Hernandez of the Iowa Waste Reduction Center demonstrates the VirtualPaint spray-painting simulator

Sairam Ravi of the Metal Casting Center loads a CAD file onto the 3-D machine prior to printing

UNI School of Music

to present International Piano Competition

In June, UNI will host piano aficionados from around the world at the Midwest International Piano Competition — a new, global piano competition and festival created by UNI's School of Music. The biennial event will run June 1-7, 2014. The final competition level of the senior category will be an open concert and gala reception on Saturday, June 7.

Pianists will compete for a collective \$25,000 in donated prize money, with top honors also earning a recording contract with the Blue Griffin record label, valued at \$5,000. The competition is open to outstanding youth and professional performing pianists as well as audience enthusiasts.

"Our piano faculty members, who themselves have successfully competed and won prestigious awards at international competitions, bring real passion and artistic leadership for the competition at UNI," said John Vallentine, M.M. '83, director of the School of Music.

Sean Botkin, faculty pianist, performed with the

Chicago Symphony Orchestra in August 2012, and in Rome, Italy, this fall with the Saint Cecilia National Academy Orchestra. Last summer, faculty artist Dmitri Vorobiev founded an institute for UNI students to study and perform in Leipzig, Germany. Both faculty members will serve as the artistic directors of the competition.

The Midwest International Piano Competition will be held in the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center. Competing pianists will be separated into two categories: junior competitors (up to 17 years old) and senior competitors (up to 32 years old). All selected competitors will perform for an internationally-acclaimed jury on the Great Hall stage.

The competition jurors will be world-renowned pianists Arthur Greene, Alexander Toradze and Miroslav Brejcha.

For more information, call 319-273-2028, visit www.midwestpianocompetition.com, or email pianocompetition@uni.edu. **UNI**





YOU CAN ALMOST *Taste* THE *Memories*

The University of Northern Iowa Dining Services recently released its first cookbook, "Best Bites," which features UNI's most requested recipes.

UNI Dining Services started publishing recipe card packets in 1993 and decided to create a cookbook after receiving continuous requests from staff, students, alumni and guests.

"I am challenged to identify my favorites," admitted **Carol Fletcher, B.A. '87, M.B.A. '01**, assistant director of residential dining. "I have worked on campus for more than 25 years and was a student before that. I can honestly say I like all the recipes in this cookbook."

Panther chefs can rediscover old favorites such as hearty Panther Chili, Monster Cookies and Broccoli Grape Salad, plus new additions like Pita Crisps and decadent Champagne Truffles.

"It was a significant amount of work to convert recipes that are made in volume back to smaller amounts," Fletcher said. The project took three

years to complete and included input from staff, students and guests. More than 175 recipes can be found organized by Appetizers, Dips & Spreads; Breads & Rolls; Salads; Soups; Main Dishes & Sides; Bars; Cookies; and Specialty Desserts.

"One of the recipes that I hold very dear is the Lemon Tart recipe," Fletcher said. "It was a recipe that I made with my grandmother as a young child. When I was the bakery manager, I was able to add that recipe and keep that memory alive. This cookbook is all about the memories many of us have of our UNI experience, whether it is as a student, staff or guest."

The cookbook costs \$12.50 and can be purchased on campus from Biscotti's, 23rd Street Market and Piazza; at University Book & Supply; or online through the Panther Pantry at www.uni.edu/dor/dining/panther-pantry.

For more information, contact Fletcher at 319-273-2333 or carol.fletcher@uni.edu. **UNI**

Strawberry Salad

Yield: 10-12 servings

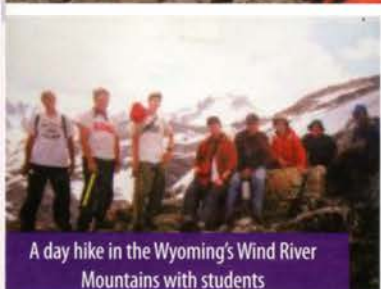
4 quarts fresh spinach
1/2 cup granulated sugar
2 tablespoon + 1 teaspoon sesame seeds
1 tablespoon poppy seeds
1 teaspoon onions, chopped
1/4 teaspoon paprika
1/4 cup salad oil
1/4 cup cider vinegar
12 cups fresh strawberries

- Trim, wash and remove bad spots from spinach leaves.
- In food processor, place sugar, sesame seeds, poppy seeds, onions, paprika, oil and vinegar. Blend thoroughly until thickened, but do not over mix.
- Make one strawberry fan per individual salad and place on a tray in refrigerator
- Cut remaining strawberries in half (or in quarters if large).
- Divide spinach and arrange on individual salad plates.
- Sprinkle cut up strawberries over spinach.
- Garnish each plate with one strawberry fan.
- Drizzle each salad with 2 1/2 tablespoons of dressing.
- Serve immediately.

This cookbook is all about the memories many of us have of our UNI experience.



Richard Worm, B.A. '64, on top of Mt. Aconcagua in Argentina



A day hike in the Wyoming's Wind River Mountains with students

Richard Worm

Hometown: Manchester

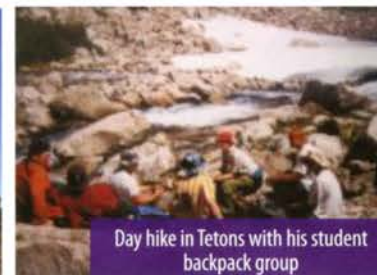
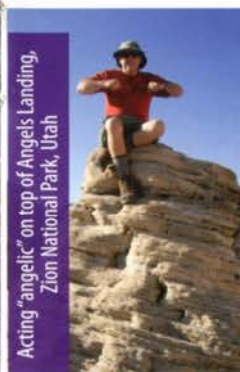
Year Graduated: B.A. '64, University of Northern Iowa
M.A. '69, University of Northern Colorado

Resides: Dubuque, Iowa

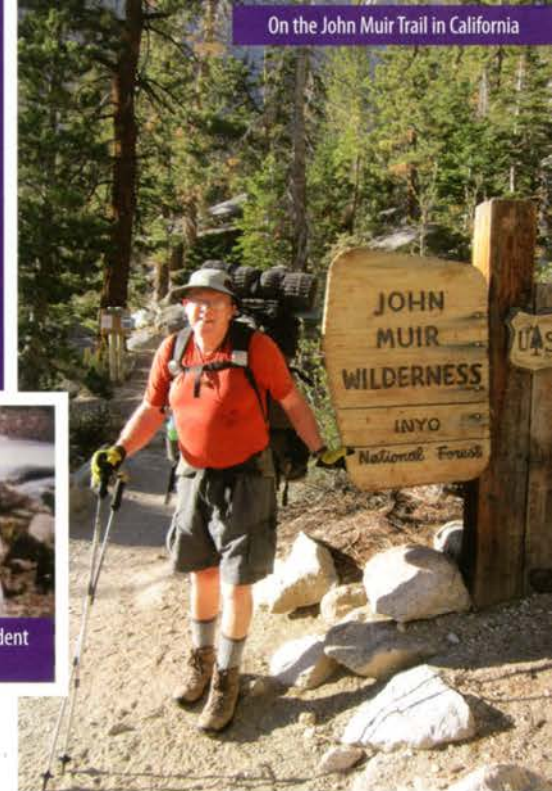
Retired: 1999

Family: Wife, Jane Saylor Worm, B.A. '64, University of Northern Iowa
M.A. '69, University of Northern Colorado; daughter, two grandchildren

Acting "angelic" on top of Angels Landing, Zion National Park, Utah



Day hike in Tetons with his student backpack group



On the John Muir Trail in California

Peak PERSPECTIVE

This is the third story in a three-part series on UNI graduates who are making a difference in their 70s, 80s, and beyond.

After climbing Mount Aconcagua, at 23,000 feet, the highest point in the Western Hemisphere, you'd think there's nothing left on **Richard Worm's** bucket list.

But the 71-year-old has lofty goals. He plans to climb the highest point in most of the 50 states, and has already done 31.

"I plan on the high point in Nevada on my way to the John Muir Trail (in California). I also plan on the highest point in Iowa; a glacial moraine in northwest Iowa," he says. "I'll be 72 this summer. I have the desire but not the skill or ambition to try the others."

That desire began as a farm kid in Manchester, climbing bales of hay and glacial boulders in the yard. A trip to California and the Joshua Tree National Monument's huge boulders intensified his passion.

At UNI, he learned to turn his passion for the outdoors into a career. Through his earth science coursework and extracurricular activities, such

as president of Alpha Chi Epsilon and the Men's Union, he honed those skills.

"I worked as a lab assistant; I graded lab reports and supervised labs. One day, two girls had to dissect a rat and they didn't want to get in there at all. I opened it up; it was pregnant. They pushed me aside to get a look. It was great to see their interest," he explains. "I also student taught in Charles City; I really enjoyed that experience."

After graduation, he began teaching in Dubuque, but his interest in earth science grew. Rather than quit teaching, he opted for summer graduate school sessions at the University of Northern Colorado. During one summer, he climbed his first significant mountain: Longs Peak, one of Colorado's 54 summits higher than 14,000 feet.

In 1973, through the Iowa Academy of Junior Sci-

ence, he began hosting student backpack trips. By the time he retired in 1999, he had led 26 trips. His final trip was leading the high school's Sierra Society to Sawtooth Range in Idaho.

"Those kids were rookies, they hadn't done a lot of mountains. Some had never been out of the tri-state area," he explains. "It was the idea of John Muir (Sierra Club founder) about baptizing people to the outdoors to protect the world. That's what I felt I was doing with those kids."

His passion has also taken him around the world. He has climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania; Mount Huscaran in Peru and Everest Base Camp in Nepal.

"Kilimanjaro was my beginning with big-time climbs. It was a walk-up but you had to acclimatize. In Nepal, the goal was to reach Everest Base

Camp (which sits at 17,590 feet). It wasn't what I thought; there were Internet cafes and millions of people. The Peru climb was more technical. There were two summits. We did the lower one, which was over 17,000 feet."

Not all his trips have been smooth. In February 2010, he took a solo hike to Lake Superior Hiking Trail. After a snowstorm covered the trail, he had to be rescued, spending a day and-a-half in the hospital. But that hasn't deterred him.

"To reach the top of a mountain provides a sense of exhilaration...a major sense of accomplishment that not everyone gets to enjoy. Looking down on the terrain gives you a sense of how small we are in the scheme of things. It's humbling; taking on the planet on its own terms keeps things in perspective." **UNI**

PANTHERS IN THE PROS:

Krista DeGeest



Former UNI volleyball standout **Krista DeGeest, B.A. '13**, was unsure where she would end up after her illustrious career as a Panther came to a close. The Spencer, Iowa, native was recovering from shoulder surgery and she had all but given up on the idea of extending her volleyball career.

That's when a life-changing email graced her inbox.

Luke Reynolds, the coach of a new professional Swedish volleyball team, was asking the former Panther to drop everything and sign a one-year contract to play for his new team, Svedala Volley.

A week later the deal was done. After a grueling two months in the weight room getting back in shape, DeGeest was on a plane headed to Sweden to join the Svedala Volley Club for the next year.



The following is an excerpt from UNI Athletics Media Relations' Q&A with DeGeest.

Q: Now that you've had time to adjust – what has been the most enjoyable part of the living experience?

"Probably one of the best parts of living over here is beginning to learn the Swedish language. I am very lucky because the majority of the population can speak English so I can get around without speaking Swedish, but I have learned a lot. My teammates teach me new words everyday and I am actually getting pretty good at it! Other than that, it is just cool to be able to see and experience some of the differences in how they live their everyday lives. They have sandwiches for breakfast, they have roundabouts EVERYWHERE instead of 4-way stops, they put ketchup on their pasta, they drink coffee all the time, they don't wear their shoes in school or basically anywhere indoors - just to name a few. It is fun to compare with my roommates and laugh about the differences in our cultures."

Q: Where are your teammates from?

"Everyone from our team is from Sweden except for the three Americans because each team is only allowed to have three international players on their team. The other two Americans are from California and Virginia."



Svedala Volley recently won the Grand Prix! tournament, one of the biggest tournaments in the league.



Q: How difficult has it been to mesh as a team?

“It was actually very easy to mesh as a team. All of the girls on the team are amazing people as well as volleyball players and we all get along really well. It reminds me of the team chemistry that I was fortunate enough to have all through my years at UNI.

I am a firm believer that if you want to work hard for your teammates and you get along off the court then you will play even better on the court. I think that our team chemistry has a large deal to do with the success that we have had so far this season.”

Q: What do you think will be the biggest thing you will take from this experience?

“Oh wow, there are so many things that I will take from this experience! First of all, so many friendships! I may have only known some of these people for four months but it feels like I have known them for years.

The next thing I will take with me is the idea of living life more simply. Swedes use what they have and don't waste it. I have realized how many possessions I had that I thought I couldn't live without.

Volleyball-wise, this experience just solidifies how much the sport means to me. I can't believe that I originally did not want to pursue playing overseas. I cannot imagine doing anything else now and I am planning on trying to play as long as I can for the future seasons.” **UNI**

To stay up-to-date with her latest matches and adventures, check out her blog at <http://kristadegeest.wordpress.com>.

PANTHER FOOTBALL HEADING TO HAWAII

Start making your plans to join fellow UNI fans, alumni and friends as our UNI Panthers take on the University of Hawaii Rainbow Warriors on Sept. 13, 2014, in beautiful Honolulu, Hawaii.

The UNI Alumni Association has partnered with Lighthouse Travel to offer customizable packages for alumni and fans. You can work with them to put together your dream trip to Hawaii and take advantage of the exclusive events and perks for our travelers. Game ticket and game-day transportation packages will be included in your itinerary. Don't delay in getting your name on the list of interested travelers now by contacting Lighthouse Travel of Cedar Falls at (319) 427-2060 or Brady@travelwithLighthouse.com.

Aloha and go Panthers!



30 YEARS OF

Laughter AND Learning



“WHEN A CHILD Smiles SO DOES THEIR Parent”

UNI'S KINDERGYM PROGRAM

It started out as the simple wish of a father – and grew into a 30-year-old program that has served 3,000+ children.

In 1984, Professor Ripley Marston was the father of a newborn and a preschooler when he came up with a fun, new concept.

“It was partly selfish,” he said. “I wanted something to give my kids. Preschoolers have so few opportunities to run and play with other kids, especially during the winter months in Iowa. I wondered if we could create a program that worked with parents and students to let kids play and develop their motor skills.”

At the time, he was teaching an elementary physical education methods class. During class, they discussed the Kinderpolka, a children's dance. Marston thought the name fit particularly well, so he named his new program Kindergym – literally, “gym for children” in German.

“My favorite part is seeing the excitement and engagement of all the participants – children, university students and families,” said **Nadene Davidson, B.A. '74, M.A. '79, Ed.D. '07**, a Kindergym parent who first brought her children to the program 25 years ago, and now attends with her grandchildren. “Our grandkids enjoy the balls, the parachute, the trampoline and running the most!”

The Kindergym program began with a pilot session of 10-12 children in the spring of 1984. From then, it has grown to two sessions per year with close to 100 kids per semester involved. For many of them, it's the most kids of their size that they've ever seen.

“I love to see the parents interact with the kids,” Marston said. “When a child smiles, so does their parent.”

Marston's funniest memory goes back to 1999 and the first Saturday session in UNI's new Wellness Recreation Center (WRC). “We had finished up and everyone was getting on their coats when this little guy ran over, climbed up a chair and pulled the fire alarm. We had to evacuate the whole building – sirens going, lights flashing. I never envisioned a three-year-old would shut down the whole WRC!”

Kindergym is built around research that shows the correlation between movement and brain development. “We incorporate numbers, colors and shapes as much as we can with motor skills and the opportunity to practice and advance those skills,” said Marston.

The program also offers UNI students excellent hands-on opportunities to work with preschoolers and their families, which has proven an advantage for some in the career field. “Many students have field experience, but these students have experience with parents, which definitely adds value for employers,” Marston said.

“Rip should be commended for his vision and ongoing leadership to Kindergym,” said Davidson. “His work has provided a wonderful model for future professionals and introduced young children to the value of being active.”

“It's humbling to see it progress through the years,” said Marston. “I'm grateful that it has been so well-received.” **UNI**



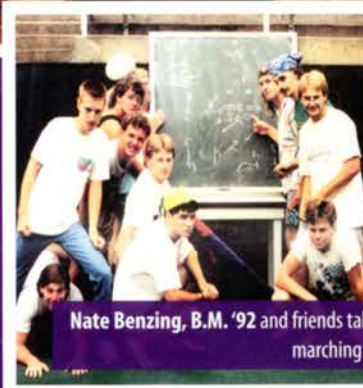
Bessie Thompson, 2-yr Cert.



Diana Benzing, B.A. '65 interviews Gov. Hughes for the ISTC student newspaper



Sarah Benzing, B.A. '00 (lower) and her roommate Cecilia Thomas in Hagemann Hall



Nate Benzing, B.M. '92 and friends take a break from marching band rehearsal



Nate, his wife Laurie and daughters, Katie and Madison, show their Panther spirit

Legacy Family

MEET THE BENZINGS: TEACHERS, MUSICIANS, SAUERKRAUT CHAMPIONS

The Benzing legacy dates back to the 1920s with Bessie Thompson's dream of becoming a teacher. She fulfilled that dream with a Teacher's Certificate from Iowa State Teachers College (ISTC), then went on to teach in a rural school and later married Francis Benzing. They would pass along the passion for education to their son, Nick Benzing, B.A. '65.

While pursuing his social studies education degree, Nick met his future wife, Diana Boone, B.A. '65, at a Young Democrats Picnic in 1960 at ISTC. Diana was studying to become an English and journalism teacher.

By the time Nick and Diana graduated, the college's name had changed to the State College of Iowa (SCI). Nick taught high school social studies for 37 years in the Underwood Community School District in southwestern Iowa. His love of teaching was recognized in 1996 when he was named Teacher of the Year runner-up and appointed by Governor Branstad to serve on the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners.

Diana reflected on the excellent preparation she received at college. "My training at SCI prepared me well for the rigors of teaching adolescents," Diana said. "I still used my class notes from Professor Louise Forest when I taught a play. She had me mesmerized during every class."

Nick retired in 2002 and passed away in 2007. Diana is retired from teaching and now serves as the Statewide Council Chair for the Iowa Lion's Club. Their children both continued the ISTC/SCI tradition for their education, although the name was now the University of Northern Iowa (UNI).

Nathaniel (Nate) Benzing, B.M. '92, son of Nick and Diana, says he was drawn to UNI because of

the excellent music program that focused on the success of undergraduates. "My senior year, I was one of the drum majors for the Panther Marching Band. The first time on the center platform directing the 200-member band, cranking it out with a giant home crowd behind you, was an awesome feeling. Simply amazing!"

Nate recently won the North Iowa Golden Apple award for excellence in teaching. He is a junior high band and jazz band teacher at Garner-Hayfield/Ventura in northern Iowa.

Nate's sister, Sarah Benzing, B.A. '00, also attended UNI but broke away from the education field. "I always wanted to be a Panther," she said. "My first life goal was to be accepted at UNI and to study political science. I started coming to campus when I was a little girl to watch football games with my uncle and cousins. When Nate was a drum major for the marching band, the entire band would turn and wave at me and then play a quick little ditty. Needless to say, I was enamored with student life. My parents shared their college stories as we walked around campus. It was easy to fall in love with UNI when my family had such fond memories."

Sarah earned her degree in political science with an emphasis in writing. She is now the campaign manager for Bruce Braley's U.S. Senate campaign.

Individually, the Benzings have earned many accolades. As a family, they are proud to claim the title of Sauerkraut Champions. They were crowned the first-ever state champions in 2011 by the Des Moines Register for the best homemade sauerkraut entry in the Iowa State Fair. **UNI**



UNI TO PILOT YEARLONG STUDENT TEACHING PROGRAM WITH \$500,000 GRANT

The University of Northern Iowa was selected by the Iowa Department of Education (DOE) as one of two Iowa institutions to pilot a yearlong student teaching program, utilizing a \$500,000 grant.

UNI's College of Education and the grant's second recipient, Dordt College in Sioux Center, will split the \$1 million grant to implement the program, evaluate its effectiveness and offer insight to the DOE at the completion of the initiative.

"The pilot does several things," said Iowa DOE's Larry Bice, an administrative consultant for educator preparation, in the Iowa DOE news release. "It puts student teachers in the classroom for longer periods and gives them more extensive experience, as well as access to more feedback from teachers and university supervisors. The main thing is that it is more experience."

According to educateiowa.gov, similar programs have been launched in other states – most notably in Arizona – which were designed to give teachers a better and more effective first-time experience in the classroom and, ultimately, improve quality.

This program will offer UNI student teachers an authentic teaching experience before graduating and working in their own classrooms. UNI will partner with schools in Waterloo, Hudson and Linn-Mar school districts to implement the program. Student teachers will fully immerse themselves into the host schools by carrying out daily classroom instruction, attending university coursework taught on-site, participating in professional development trainings, joining parent teacher conferences and other activities

done every day by teachers. The student teachers and their host teachers will co-teach, with the students doing more observation early in the program and transitioning to more lead teaching as they gain experience. During the initial year, about 30 student teachers will participate in the pilot program.

With UNI's long history as the state's premiere college for education, it was important to UNI personnel to be involved in the pilot program. "The state wanted a public and a private university to look at this yearlong student teaching option, and we at UNI wanted to be a part of that. We'll get information for the state so they have our findings to determine any next steps," said J.D. Cryer, Ed.D '09, coordinator of elementary education at UNI and primary investigator on the project.

"We are very honored that we are able to showcase the expansiveness of our Teacher Education Program at UNI through this pilot," said Dwight Watson, dean of the College of Education. "We have always taken great pride in being innovators and pioneers in teacher preparation. The awarding of the pilot will allow us to research the feasibility, effectiveness and scalability of yearlong student teaching. Our collaborative school districts are excited about the possibilities."

For more information about the student teaching pilot program, visit www.educateiowa.gov. For more information about UNI's College of Education, visit www.uni.edu/coe. **UNI**

MEET YOUR UNI Alumni Association



CHRISTY DANIELSEN, B.A. '99

Assistant Director of Marketing and Communications

christina.danielsen@uni.edu

Favorite memory of UNI: Sledding down the UNI-Dome hill on a snow day with lunch trays (which we returned!)

BONNIE FARLAND

Clerk IV

bonnie.farland@uni.edu

What you like best about UNI: The GBPAC, which hosts world-class artists and events

CONNIE HANSEN, B.A. '89

Assistant Director of Outreach & Engagement

constance.hansen@uni.edu

Favorite memory of UNI: Meeting my husband

NANCY KOLPEK, B.A. '73

Clerk III

nancy.kolpek@uni.edu

Favorite memory of UNI: Watching a gentle snowfall past the golden lights out my office window on a dark winter day

AMY MOHR, B.A. '99

Associate Director of Alumni Relations

amy.mohr@uni.edu

Favorite memory of UNI: Walking across campus on a beautiful evening and hearing the Campanile bells

LISA ARMSTRONG O'NEILL, B.A. '83

Office Coordinator

lisa.oneill@uni.edu

Favorite memory of UNI: Lawther beach; businesses on the Hill: Steb's, The Paw, The Stein, The Cupboard, Bo's, Berg Drug & Tony's

LESLIE PRIDEAUX

Director

leslie.prideaux@uni.edu

What you like best about UNI: The people. Everyone you encounter is passionate about the university and willing to do what they can to make the institution successful.

PATTY SMITH

Clerk III

patricia.smith@uni.edu

What you like best about UNI: Interacting with the students



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Bill Hood, B.A. '62 with wife, Gwen

ALUM GIVES STUDENTS A BUMP UP WITH GIFT OF *Scholarships*

"I was really overjoyed to attend ISTC (Iowa State Teachers College)," said **Bill Hood, B.A. '62**. "There was an unspoken rule on campus that everyone spoke to everyone. It was very homey. I knew it was where I belonged."

It was 1957 and Bill had just completed a three-year stint in the Marine Corps. Unfortunately, his first quarter of college was cut short when his father passed away. Bill withdrew from school

to help his mother. He returned a year later and lived with his wife and two children in Sunset Village, better known as the Quonset huts.

"My biggest challenge in college was being poor," Bill said. "We really learned what poor was. I grew up in the Depression, but I didn't know I was poor as a child because everyone around us was in the same situation. My wife and I understood poor when I was a student and we were

raising two children. It was quite a sacrifice, but a joyful sacrifice."

Joyful is the attitude Bill brings to all aspects of his life. "My mother instilled in me the belief that if nine doors are shut, one will open sooner or later," he explained.

Doors were shut when Bill applied for teaching positions in secondary education, but opened wide when he found his niche in social work. To help pay for college, Bill worked at the Mental Health Institute in Independence. The superintendent noticed

that he was gifted in working with youth and encouraged him to get a master's in social work. The institute paid Bill's tuition while he worked on his M.S.W. degree.

Bill says he came from humble beginnings, but many people gave him a 'bump up' along the way. With support from people like the superintendent at Independence and his ISTC professor, Dr. Erma Plaehn, he was encouraged to never give up. Bill explains, "She called me aside one day and said, 'Bill, I have a feeling you are having some financial difficulties.'" She pulled out her checkbook and gave him \$100. With the help of his GI Bill, he was able to pay her back.

Following the example of his mentors, Bill has spent his life helping others and continues to make an impact today. His work in mental health has touched lives in Wisconsin, Indiana and Iowa. He is an accomplished social worker, musician and athlete, but he is most proud of his work with youth. Countless youth and adults are living better lives because Bill serves on boards, is a leader in his church, has designed innovative youth programs, started a youth shelter in a high-crime area and has established several scholarships.

Bill and his wife, Gwen, live in Cedar Rapids. They retired in 2004; Bill served as the director of the Jane Boyd Community House and Gwen worked as a secretary at Mercy Medical Center.

Together, they have created three scholarships for African-American students in memory of Bill's sister, Willella Fluellin of Davenport, who died in 2010. Bill said he wanted to do something special for her because she was the kindest person he ever knew.

Most recently, Bill established a scholarship for students in social science teaching. This scholarship is for students of any color or race. The only criterion is need.

"It goes back to my days at Sunset Village and my encounter with Dr. Plaehn," Bill said. "A lot of people helped me along the way, and I've never forgotten that. I believe we are blessed in this world to bless others. It has always been my motto." **UNI**

Captions left to right: Bill and family on graduation day; Willella Fluellin, Bill's sister and scholarship inspiration; Bill in his Marine Corps uniform

Bill's gift of scholarships is part of Focus on Students: UNI Scholarship Initiative. The \$40 million initiative is dedicated to building funds to support current students and attract future students. If you would like to add to a current scholarship or establish a new scholarship, please visit the UNI Foundation website at www.uni-foundation.org.



IF THESE Photos COULD Talk



During the next few issues, we will be reliving memories of students and events all across campus. These are pulled from the Rod Library Special Collections and Archives, who work to collect and preserve the history of UNI. Many of the pictures chosen do not identify specific years or more importantly, the names of our past students.

As you are looking at these photos, remembering your own times on the UNI campus, we ask your help in identifying those pictured. Past, present and future students - we are all part of the Panther family.

If you do recognize anyone or can tell us more about the photo, please contact Christy Danielsen in Alumni Relations at christina.danielsen@uni.edu or Gerald Peterson in the archives at gerald.peterson@uni.edu or by calling 888-UNI ALUM (864-2586).

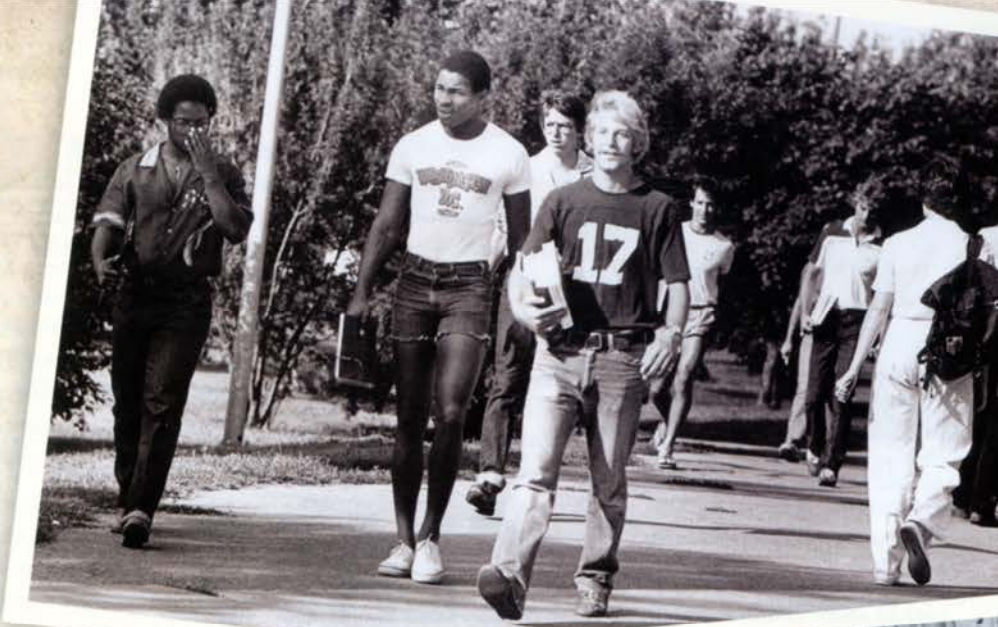
Left: Students playing cards

Right, top to bottom:

Campus scene, September 1980

Girls, 1928

Student group 1909-1913



Honor Your Collegiate Experience with UNI's Class Ring



Your journey is filled with great UNI memories; they are cause for celebration and remembrance. You are invited to become part of a proud UNI tradition by wearing the Official Class Ring of the University of Northern Iowa. Available exclusively to students and alumni, the ring is a privilege you have earned.

Please visit www.balfour.com and select University of Northern Iowa.



Leslie (center) and daughter Zella with members of the UNI women's basketball team at the 2014 Missouri Valley Conference Tournament in Missouri.

Hello Panther Family,

Inspiration comes from many sources, ranging from a thoughtful article to a talented professor. Yet even with the right inspiration, people need a solid foundation to make their goals a reality.

The folks highlighted in this issue are just a few of our alumni who have taken their UNI-built groundwork and done something remarkable. They have truly tested the limits of what is possible in one's life.

I don't know about you, but when I read these great stories I can't help but be moved. Every day I get the opportunity to be surrounded by phenomenal students, alumni, and co-workers, all making our institution proud. The stories I hear of their UNI experiences and where they have taken them are nothing short of extraordinary.

I look forward to hearing about what motivates you and how you have taken your UNI education and put it to work. Your stories can help inspire others and serve as an impetus for greatness. This could be a simple conversation with a high school student about your experience at UNI or serving as a mentor to a UNI graduate who is just getting started.

Never sell yourself short of what you can offer to others. I hope these stories get you thinking of what is possible.

Never stop living Purple for Life!

Leslie Prideaux

leslie.prideaux@uni.edu

Director of Alumni Relations

President, University of Northern Iowa Alumni Association

Class Notes are compiled from information sent in personally by alumni or submitted via news release to the Alumni Association office. If you would like to share your news, go to www.unialum.org/submit-class-notes. Names listed in purple are Alumni Association members. Names that begin with a 🌟 are Lifetime Alumni Association members.

Send address changes and Class Notes submissions to info@unialum.org, www.unialum.org or by mail to University of Northern Iowa Today, UNI Alumni Association, 1012 W. 23rd Street, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0284.

CLASS Notes

1950s

'50 Alberta (Wenndt) Thien, 2-yr Cert., Tipton, taught in Lost Nation, Clarence and Muscatine before her retirement from teaching. She raised six children and now lives in Prairie Hills Assisted Living.

'51 John Carson, BA, Walnut Creek, CA, retired in 1990 as chief geologist at Chevron Corporation. Much of his career was spent living and working in Alaska.

'51 Jean (Conger) Saxton, 2-yr Cert., Oskaloosa, published her third book "The Savvy Sojourner," which is part memoir and part antiquing guide.

'53 Ray Holtz, BA, MA '60, Ashland, OR, was a member of UNI Jazz I, taught instrumental music for 29 years and was a certified financial planner for 21 years. He recently formed and conducts a 17-piece jazz orchestra, performing in many venues and backing Frank Ricci, who sang in Las Vegas for years.

'57 Irene (Haugh) Peterson, 2-yr Cert., Waukegan, moved from Titonka to a retirement apartment complex in Waukegan to be near daughters, Pam and Lisa, both UNI grads.

'58 Harry Nimmo, BA, San Francisco, CA, published "Before Summer," a collection of 16

interrelated short stories about a gay youth's coming of age in Iowa during the 1940s and 1950s.

1960s

'60 Fred Cachola, BA, Ewa Beach, HI, hosted seven AXE fraternity brothers and spouses for a reunion in Hawaii in June 2013. The group included graduates from 1960-1962. The next reunion will be in Des Moines in Sept. 2014.

'62 Paul Jones, BA, Montezuma, was back on the ice of Antarctica over the winter. He operates the water plant at McMurdo Station.

'64 Patsy (Wilson) Martin, BA, Shenandoah, was diagnosed with ALS in the summer of 2013. She taught high school English for 40 years and congratulates her fellow 1964 classmates on their golden anniversary.

'67 Judith (Lauer) Adamson, BA, and **David Adamson, BA '67**, Chapel Hill, NC, ran several theatrical reproductions including "Raisin in the Sun," "Clybourne Park" and "Metamorphoses," which included a seven-ton pool on stage. Judy draped "Anything Goes" at the 2013 Utah Shakespeare Festival, while David directed grad students in two different projects.

'68 Richard Brauhn, BA, MA '70, Dickinson, ND, retired from Dickinson State University in the fall of 2013 after serving at DSU for 21 years, most recently as vice president for academic affairs. His career in higher education spanned more than 40 years and included serving at Clinton Community College, Wabash Valley Community College, Mt. Marty College and the West Plains Campus of Missouri State University.

'69 Dan Fliger, BA, Ankeny, retired in 1999 after 25 years with Bank of America. Both he and his wife Patricia continue to be active in their community and Dan serves on Ankeny's Planning and Zoning Commission.

1970s

'70 Catherine (Krueger) Smith, BA, MA '77, West Des Moines, ran the Gasparilla 5K when she and her husband spent February in Florida. She was the 8th woman to finish out of 137 in her age group of 65-69.

'71 Robert Lee, BA, MA '81, Cedar Falls, retired from UNI in May 2014 after 11 years with the School of Health, Physical Education and Leisure Services and 20 years with Price Lab.

'71 David Messamer, BA, Mason City, retired 11/1/2013, after more than 42 years of service with Mercy Medical Center North Iowa.

'73 Margaret Riley, BA, Durham, NC, retired 8/1/2013 as the assistant vice provost for undergraduate education, associate dean of Trinity College and director of the global education office at Duke University. She will continue her affiliation with Duke as senior advisor to the vice provost for undergraduate global education and visiting professor in the Department of Cultural Anthropology.

'74 Neil Dial, BA, El Dorado Hills, CA, was named senior vice president and chief operating officer for Powell Industries.

'74 Rosemary (Campbell) Geiken, BA, MA '92, EdD '11, Johnson City, TN, is an assistant professor and program coordinator for early childhood development at East Tennessee State University. She is researching early problem solving in toddlers.

'75 Joseph Worden, BA, Bolingbrook, IL, retired as deputy chief of the fire department on 1/1/13 after 30 years of service.

'76 Randy Krejci, BA, MA '83, Cedar Rapids, received the Jack North Award from the Iowa Girls' High School Athletic Union in recognition of his support and dedication to interscholastic athletics for girls in Iowa. He worked as a teacher, coach, administrator and referee for more than 40 years and is now retired.

'77 Diane (Ramstad) Luber, BA, Cedar Park, TX, was named controller for Alchemy Systems, a global leader of innovative technologies and services. She will manage all of Alchemy's accounting and reporting functions.

'77 Kristine (Cheney) Stolba, BA, Cedar Rapids, celebrated 33 years with UnityPoint, St. Luke's Hospital. She is currently the supervisor of nursing.

'78 Dalene (Smith) O'Brien, BM, Boone, retired from Boone Middle School in 2013 after a 34-year teaching career as a band director. She will continue to be active with church music and the Iowa Bandmasters, having served as a mentor, judge, honor band conductor and Major Landers Scholarship coordinator.

'78 Dave Peters, BA, Cedar Falls, recently assumed the position of chairman and chief executive officer with Peters

NATIONAL BOARD for Professional Teaching Standards

SEVEN ALUMNI RECEIVE 2013 NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION

Of the 17 Iowa State Education Association (ISEA) members to receive 2013 National Board Certification, seven are UNI alumni. National Board Certification is the highest recognition a teacher can receive in the profession. The total number of Iowans who have received the NBCT ranking stands at 683.

National Board Certification is a rigorous, performance-based, peer review process created for teachers, by teachers. The more than 106,000 NBCTs nationwide represent just over 3 percent of all U.S. teachers, but they have a positive impact in the classroom. National Board Certification allows teachers to be recognized for their highly accomplished teaching practices and is earned through demonstrating teaching expertise using a voluntary process established by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. The process typically takes one to three years to complete.

Roxann (Hull) Dittmer, B.A. '89, M.A. '91, of Cedar Rapids, with Linn County Child Development Center Tom Laures, B.A. '96, M.A. '02, of Cedar Falls, with Union High School Kerrie (Meyers) Michael, B.A. '97, of La Porte City, with Union High School Carissa (Poskin) Johnson, B.A. '02, M.A. '05, of Davenport, with Central High School Jill (Pagel) Jacobs, B.A. '03, of Parkersburg, with Waterloo East High School Jessica (Peglow) Mooberry, B.A. '08, of Cedar Rapids, with Erskine Elementary Abbie Petsche, M.A. '09, of Anamosa, with Grant Wood Elementary

**MARCIA SMITH
ANTON, B.A. '67, WAS
GLAD TO HAVE HER UNI
UMBRELLA ON HAND
DURING A RECENT TRIP
TO VIETNAM.**

**"MY HUSBAND AND I
HAVE ENJOYED MANY
TRAVELS THROUGH
THE YEARS, BUT THIS
LAST TRIP TO HOIAN IN
SEPTEMBER 2013 GAVE
ME AN OPPORTUNITY TO
SHOW OFF MY COLORS.
IT WAS A LOVELY COM-
PLEX, BUT IT WAS
VERY HOT!"**

Construction Corporation after serving twenty years as president. His new role will focus on strategic planning, business operations and general management of the corporation.

'79 **Lowell Vick, BA**, Saint Joseph, MI, retired after 33 years in sales and marketing with Maytag and Whirlpool. He is now the owner of Sales Effectiveness Consulting.

1980s

'83 **Mary (Weber) Christensen, BA**, Independence, celebrated her 30-year anniversary with Hydrite Chemical Co.

'84 **Richard Coles, MA**, Ripon, WI, was inducted into the Wisconsin Football Coach Association's Hall of Fame on 3/29/14. He is currently the offensive coordinator of football, as well as associate professor and chair of Exercise Science at Ripon College.

'85 **Heather Draper, BA**, Denver, CO, joined the Denver Business Journal's reporting team.

'86 **Deb Vangellow, BA**, Sugar Land, TX, was named a GRAA Top 50 Growth of the Game Teaching Professional and a U.S. Kids Golf Top 50 Teacher, two of the golf industry's top teaching awards.

'87 **Jeff Lorber, BA**, Springfield, IL, received the 2013 Alumni Achievement

Award from Western Illinois University, where he received his master's degree. He currently serves as vice chancellor for development at the University of Illinois Springfield and senior vice president for the University of Illinois Foundation.

'88 **Keith Kluitert, BA**, Irwin, PA, is working as the customer service director of Cleveland/Price Inc.

'89 **Stephanie (Steil) Hoppe, BA**, Castle Rock, CO, is vice president for menu innovation and implementation at Red Robin Gourmet Burgers.

'89 **Jane (Brandt) Lindaman, BA, MA '95, EdD '05**, Cedar Falls, was named superintendent of the Waterloo Community School District effective 7/1/14. She is the first woman to be appointed to this position.

1990s

'90 **Deborah (Carrell) Heck, BA**, Carlsbad, CA, was promoted to senior vice president of innovation solutions at American Specialty Health.

'90 **Robert Hensley, BA, MA '92**, Duluth, MN, was granted tenure at the College of Saint Scholastica and was promoted to associate professor of psychology.

'90 **Sherri (Van Wyhe) Hotzler, BA**, Webster City, received a title change and is now president and CEO of Vantec, Inc., a world-class plastic injection molder. She is also a member of the Marathon Maniacs and 50 State Club, working on running a marathon in all 50 states.

'92 **Jodi (Hansen) Osthus, BA, MA '97**, Des Moines, received the 2013-2014 Yager Exemplary Science & Mathematics Teaching Award. She is currently a math teacher at Meredith Middle School.

'94 **Chris Honkomp, BA**, Cedar Rapids, was elected as the new managing partner of Bergan Paulsen, a certified public accounting firm.

'99 **Roman Briskine, BA**, Zurich, Switzerland, earned his PhD in computer science from the University of Minnesota. His dissertation was titled "Computational approaches for analyzing variation in the transcriptome and methylome of Zea mays." In January he and his wife relocated to Zurich, Switzerland.

'99 **Jaime Copley, BA**, Clear Lake, was on the team that received an Upper Midwest Regional EMMY Award in 2013 in the category of Newscast-Evening. She is currently the news director at KIMT-TV in Mason City.

'99 **Ryan Davis, BA**, Vinton, received the 2013-2014 Iowa Assistant Principal of the Year Award. He is currently with Vinton-Shellsburg High School.

'99 **Fred Hexom, BA**, Sioux City, won an Upper Midwest Regional EMMY Award in 2013 in the category Weathercast. He is currently a meteorologist with KCAU-TV in Sioux City.

'99 **Jason Lau, BA, MA '02**, San Rafael, CA, was elected president of the Asian-American Alliance of Marin and was recently appointed by the World Leisure Organization as program manager of the World Leisure Chapters.

'99 **Brad Meester, BA**, Jacksonville, FL, retired from the National Football League after 14 seasons, all with the Jacksonville Jaguars.

'99 **Jeffrey Timmerman, BA**, Burnsville, MN, was elevated to shareholder status in Littler's Minneapolis office. Littler is the world's largest employment and labor law practice.

2000s

'01 **Brad Best, BA**, Cedar Falls, was named president and chief operating officer of Peters Construction Corporation.

'01 **Allysen (Edwards) Lovstuen, BA, MA '06**, Waukon, was named a finalist in math for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching for 2013.

'02 **Ryan Hannam, BA**, Cedar Falls, owns Financial Designs in Waverly.

'03 **Carmelita (Tyson) Guse, MA, MM '08**, Minneapolis, MN, is an adjunct voice professor at North Central University. She is also a member of the Bravo Singers, a group that performs opera education programs for elementary schools in the Twin Cities area.

'03 **Mavis Njoo Lau, BA**, San Rafael, CA, was promoted to research administrator at the California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC) based at the University of California, Berkeley.

'04 **Josie (Einck) Burg, BA**, Ankeny, was named one of the 2013 recipients of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science teaching. 102 recipients were selected nationwide. Josie will receive the award from President Obama.

'05 **Cary Pint, BS**, Hayward, CA, received the 2013 Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Award from Oak Ridge Associated Universities and the selective honor of being named as a Kavli Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences for his research.

'05 **Marcia (Schwaigert) Powell, MA**, Strawberry Point, was named a finalist in science for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching for 2013.

SNAPSHOTS



GOLDEN GRADUATE SOCIETY REUNION

SEPT. 5-6, 2014

The UNI Alumni Association invites all graduates celebrating 50 years or more since their graduation to return to campus for Golden Graduate Society events. The Class of 1964 will be inducted into the Golden Graduate Society at this year's reunion.

The reunion weekend includes campus tours, the Panther football game, and many special moments to reminisce with your fellow classmates. A detailed schedule of events will be mailed in June, but if you have questions in the meantime, please feel free to contact Amy Mohr at amy.mohr@uni.edu or 319-273-2355.

If you would like a copy of your class directory to connect with your classmates in advance, please call 888-864-2586 or send an email to info@unialum.org.

Hotel Information

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Comfort Suites, 7402 Nordic Dr., Cedar Falls. Call 319-273-9999 and ask for the "Golden Graduate Society" room block. Prices are \$89 for single or double. Unreserved rooms will be released August 4, 2014.

'07 Michael Verlo, BA, Saint Paul, MN, won an Upper Midwest Regional EMMY Award in 2013 for News Producer and was also part of an EMMY award-winning team in the category of Newscast-Daytime. He is currently a producer at WCCO-TV in Minneapolis, MN.

'07 David Weber, BA, Johnston, is audit leader for Wells Fargo Audit & Security.

'08 Micaela (Grob) Greenfield, BA, Sioux Falls, SD, was promoted to customer support manager with Raven Industries.

'09 Joshua Mahoney, BA, Sioux Falls, SD, graduated from the University of Chicago Law School in May 2013 and is currently clerking for Judge Melloy in Cedar Rapids.

'09 Alissa Meskimen, BA, Loveland, CO, is a speech language pathologist at Northern Colorado Rehabilitation Hospital and Medical Center of the Rockies.

'09 Sunni Swarbrick, BA, Des Moines, was selected as a finalist for the 2013 Young Professional of the Year award by Juice in Des Moines. The award honors central Iowans younger than 35 who have made an impact in their communities through social, volunteer, charitable, cultural and other efforts.

2010s

'12 Scott Breon, BA, Windermere, FL, is a financial analyst for The Walt Disney Company.



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Show your UNI pride wherever you go and help support the UNI Alumni Association with every purchase you make, at no extra cost to you.

Marriages

'99 Molly (Graettinger) Chicoine, BA, married Myron Chicoine on 7/29/2012.

'05 Kristi (Leonard) Oliphant, MA, EdD '13, married Terry Oliphant on 10/12/2013.

'07 David Weber, BA, married Maggie (Stalter) Weber on 12/20/2013.

'10 Ryan Hilleshiem, BA, married Kaitlyn Hilleshiem on 12/22/2013.

Births

'96 Wendy (Aldrich) Jans, BA, and **Eric Jans, BA '98**, Nashville, TN, son Caleb Quinn Jans born 07/17/13.

'96 Krista (Voda) Kelley, BA, and Phillip Kelley, Wexford, PA, daughter Emersyn Noell Kelley born 8/22/2013.

'99 Blake Campbell, BA, Ankeny, daughter Grace Sarah Campbell born 11/06/2013.

'00 Jennifer (Noehl) Rusch, BA, and **Jesse Rusch**, Peosta, son Micah John Rusch born 02/23/2013.

'00 Bradley Sudol, BA, and **Brooke (LaCoste) Sudol, BA '03**, Algona, son Brennan and daughter Brylee born 5/20/2013.

'01 Emily (Arnold) Johnson, BA, and Todd Johnson, Windsor Heights, daughter Sophie born in December 2012.

'01 Kristina (Watson) Wieland, BA, and **Cary Wieland, BA '01, MA '09**, Cedar Falls, daughter Kendall Kristine born 5/29/2013.

'03 Sara (Fuglsang) Murphy, BA, and **David Murphy**, Urbandale, son Brady Robert Murphy born 1/31/14.

'05 Ashley (Hamblin) Lang, BA, and **Anthony Lang**, Jesup, daughter Logan Leona Lang born 12/20/2013.

'08 Lea (Schellhorn) Hensel, BA, and **Jason Hensel, BA '09**, Davenport, son Jayden Lee Hensel born 12/04/2013.

Deaths

'36 Dorothy (Wilson) Carver, 2-yr Cert., died 1/16/2013 in Waverly.

'39 James Dycus, BA, died 12/10/2013 in Hammond, IN.

'42 Irene (Fockler) Varvel, BA, died 12/1/2013 in Lincoln, NE.

'45 Victor Varvel, BA, died 9/12/2013 in Lincoln, NE.

'45 Ellen (Hansen) Wilcox, 2-yr Cert., died 8/14/2012 in Davenport.

'46 Wayne Cole, BA, died 9/16/2013 in Silver Springs, MD.

'49 Arnold Grummer, BA, died 10/24/2013 in Appleton, WI.

'49 Lawrence Shepard, BA, died 1/6/2013 in Ottumwa.

'56 David McCalley, BA, MA '62, died 6/9/2013 in Cedar Falls.

'57 Jerry Janssen, BA, MA '59, died 2/5/2014 in Appleton, WI.

'63 Clair Swan, BA, MA '65, Splst '67, died 5/23/2013 in Aurora, CO.

'64 George Coffin, BA, died 7/20/2013 in Gilbert, AZ.

'64 Richard Olson, BA, MA '71, died 11/8/2013 in Montezuma.

'69 David Steinkamp, BA, died 12/22/2013 in Winthrop.

'73 Lawrence McMahon, BA, died 9/28/2012 in Minier, IL.

'73 Jon Moeller, BA, died 12/4/2013 in Altoona.

'78 Joleen (Waller) Siebert, BA, MA '04, died 2/4/2014 in Wellsburg.

'90 Sheryl (Knudsen) Pringle, BA, died 9/9/2013 in Waterloo.

TIGER WOODS CHOOSES UNI GRAD'S DESIGN



Photo Credit: GolfChannel.com

Dane Thompson, B.A. '12, beat out thousands of other entries with his patriotic-inspired TW '14 shoe design for Tiger Woods in the first-ever Nike Golf shoe customization contest. Woods selected Thompson's design personally, and wore the shoes in the first round of the Honda Classic.

Thompson is the manager of the Cedar Falls Other Place and a big Tiger Woods fan. He also received a complimentary pair of the shoes that he designed.

In Remembrance




Lieutenant Robert J. Hibbs, B.A. '64. Hibbs was killed in action in Vietnam in 1966 and received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his bravery and actions above and beyond the call of duty. The UNI Hibbs Memorial was dedicated in 2000 and is located between the Campanile and the West Gym. This year, Hibbs would have celebrated his 50th class reunion with the Class of 1964.

UNI Hibbs Memorial



2013 TRAILBLAZING TEACHER RECOGNIZED FOR WORK ON SUSTAINABILITY



 **Larry Beall, B.A. '80**, was awarded the 2013 Trailblazing Teacher by the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council in recognition of his pioneering work on the Iowa Energy and Sustainability Academy with the Des Moines Public Schools.

The awards are given twice a year to 10 teachers who demonstrate a commitment to advanced ecoliteracy and bring environmental sustainability into the classroom.

Beall, of Urbandale, immerses students in environmental learning and action through a two-year program called the Iowa Energy and Sustainability Academy (IESA). This program teaches topics related to environmental science, energy, sustainability, waste management and related areas through hands-on field experiences. Now in its third year, student demand for the program has risen from 18 to 60. Next fall, it is estimated to be more than 120. Beall proudly points to graduates of the Iowa Energy and Sustainability Academy that have begun further study in wind technology training and Environmental Science majors at many universities.

CALENDAR

of events

[JUNE]

- 14>> UNI Alumni Association Board of Directors meeting, UNI

[JULY]

- 12>> Twin Cities Alumni Golf Outing with Iowa and Iowa State
31>> Okoboji Alumni Reception, Okoboji
TBD>> UNI Day on RAGBRAI

[AUGUST]

- 7>> Chicago Alumni Reception, Chicago
7-17>> Iowa State Fair, Des Moines
14>> TC's Tailgate, Des Moines

[SEPTEMBER]

- 5-6>> Golden Graduate Society Reunion (Class of 1964), UNI
6>> Alumni Tailgate, UNI
13>> UNI Football at Hawaii
19>> UNI Alumni Association Board of Directors meeting, UNI
20>> Homecoming Alumni Tailgate, UNI

[OCTOBER]

- 18>> Family Weekend, UNI
Alumni Tailgate, UNI

[UNIALUM.ORG/CALENDAR]

TRAVEL

The Alumni Association has partnered with **Go Next** to offer several international destination tours each year. Discover some of the world's most exciting destinations or cruise the seas to the most alluring ports of call. The choice is yours!

Looking for a particular trip and don't see it on our list of offerings? **Go Next** would be happy to try to accommodate your needs. Please feel free to contact them at 800-842-9023 and reference that you are with the University of Northern Iowa. They will do their best to take care of our loyal Panther travelers!



UPCOMING TOURS

Canada & New England Fall Foliage
Sept. 16-28, 2014

Pearls of the Mediterranean
Nov. 7-15, 2014

For more information, visit
unialum.org/alumni-travel-program.
If you want to be added to the mailing list for our tours, please email
info@unialum.org.



SAVE THE DATE!

HOMECOMING 2014 IS SEPT. 20

**MAKE PLANS NOW TO GATHER YOUR
FRIENDS AND CELEBRATE TOGETHER.**

UNI
Alumni
Association
University of Northern Iowa

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