Staging a Revolution
page 6

A Tribute to Coach Don Meyer
page 10
DESIGNED AND PRODUCED BY
NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY,
UNIVERSITY RELATIONS
FOR THE NORTHERN STATE
UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

WRITTEN BY
Elissa Dickey
Nathan Geffre
Darla Scarlett

EDITOR
Greg Smith

DESIGN
Jennifer Vaughn

FOUNDATION
PRESIDENT AND CEO
Todd Jordre

ADDRESS FOR MAGAZINE
INQUIRIES:
University Relations
Northern State University
1200 South Jay St.
Aberdeen, S.D. 57401

ABOUT NORTHERN
STATE UNIVERSITY
Northern State University is a premier
residential, liberal arts institution
characterized by outstanding
instruction, extraordinary community
relations and unparalleled co-curricular
opportunities. In August 2014, NSU
was again named by U.S. News and
World Report as one of the best
undergraduate public schools in the
Midwest. For more information about
NSU, visit our website at northern.edu.

SENIOR CABINET
Dr. James M. Smith, President
Dr. Thomas Hawley,
Provost and Vice President
of Academic Affairs
Ms. Debbi Bumpous,
Chief Information Officer,
NET Services
Mr. Greg Smith,
Director, University Relations
Mr. Todd Jordre,
Foundation President and CEO
Mr. Joshua Moon,
Athletic Director, University Athletics
Ms. Veronica Paulson,
Vice President for Finance and
Administration
Mr. Calvin Phillips
Vice President of Student Affairs

CONTACT US
TWITTER NorthernStateU
FACEBOOK northernstateu
EMAIL nsualumni@northern.edu

SUBSCRIBE | GIVE A GIFT
CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS

CONTENTS

STAGING A REVOLUTION
Anthony Rohr
as Jean Valjean in
NSU’s production of
Les Misérables
PAGE 6

WOLVES SPORTS UPDATE
Senior Alison Kusler
PAGE 13

JOHNSON FINE ARTS CENTER
EXPANSION BEGINS
Construction is set to begin on the Johnson Fine Arts
Center project ................................................................................page 4

FACULTY NEWS ........................................................................4

STAGING A REVOLUTION
Couple creates costumes, set for NSU Theater’s production of
‘Les Misérables’.................................................................................page 6

Q&A: DR. SARA SCHMIDT
Dr. Sara Schmidt, assistant professor of accounting, is in her
sixth year of teaching at Northern............................................page 8

WOLVES SPORTS UPDATE
The Northern State winter sports season was a big success
for the Wolves.............................................................................page 9

A TRIBUTE TO COACH DON MEYER
Beloved Northern State University coach Don Meyer, one of
the nation’s most successful basketball coaches of all time,
died the morning of May 18 ......................................................page 10

STUDENTS TO WATCH
Ethan Brown, Katelyn Kippes, Lu Liu, Mike Newman
and Mark Sperry ...........................................................................page 14

GREENHOUSE TO ENHANCE RESEARCH,
TEACHING AT NSU
A greenhouse planned for the Northern State University
campus will significantly benefit NSU.................................page 16

NSU RENOVATION HELPS ART DEPARTMENT
GAIN ACCREDITATION
The Northern State University art department earned full
accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Art
and Design (NASAD) ..................................................................page 16

TONEMAH DELIVERS NORTHERN STATE
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
Dr. Darryl Tonemah remembers his graduation from Northern
State University 25 years ago ................................................page 17

ALUMNI NEWS
2014 Gypsy Day Alumni Awards ..............................................page 18
Class Notes | Celebrations | In Memoriam ....................page 19

ON THE COVER from top to bottom, left to right: Shelby Bauer, Tommy Bader; Kate Jarland, Christopher
Rinkengerber, Sasha Seekins, Kimberly Schilling, Joshua Frachiseur and Tina Hanagan; Joshua Hinkemeyer,
Dominic Meyers; Delayna LaBelle, Kirk Bender, Sam Johnson, Lyndsey Messmer, Davonte Robertson,
Jessica Massa; Kristina Walden, Ryan Puffer, Tyson Meyer, Eric Derington

SETTING THE STAGE
FOR LES MISÈRABLES
Behind the scenes crew
FIRST, LET ME SAY that right now building construction and remodeling is the top subject here on campus. The Johnson Fine Arts Center will soon undergo massive remodeling. The 40-year-old structure will increase in size, add new functionality, become more student-centered in its design, and offer an auditorium that is capable of showcasing the depth and breadth of talent we now have here at Northern.

As the remodeling begins for the JFAC, we also are in the design and development phase for construction of a state-of-the-art greenhouse that will serve needs of science and science education students at all levels of study. This new greenhouse will allow Northern students to investigate biotechnology in ways never possible before on this campus. And, the sophisticated design of this building will add to the massively impressive technological inventory of buildings, classrooms, offices, studios and learning labs on this campus.

Our art department, too, is in the midst of exciting enhancements. The department recently earned full accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, and a major renovation project is under way in Dacotah Hall that is key to maintaining that accreditation.

Although buildings are fascinating to design and talk about, the essence of our work rests with the development of our students. The award-winning play, Les Misérables, was performed to sold out audiences in April. Our students were masterful – their singing rivaled off-Broadway casts and other like touring companies, and their acting was also absolutely superb. Virtually all in attendance were just blown away by the overall quality of this collegiate performance. In our cover story, we have featured a pair of talented faculty members and alums who helped make this production of Les Mis a reality for our campus and community, and you’ll see we’ve done so for very good reason.

Other stories found throughout the publication are important in their display of our forward movement as a campus. The work currently being undertaken by our students, faculty and staff never ceases to amaze me. I hope all of this amazes you as well!

Of course, despite all the recent excitement and momentum, this semester ended on a sad note for our campus community – indeed, for the entire community and beyond – with the passing of our beloved Coach Don Meyer. Don was known as a phenomenal basketball coach, but his excellence was evident off the basketball court as well. He touched countless lives, leaving behind a legacy of leadership and compassion that will never be forgotten. In this issue, we’ve tried to honor this influential and inspirational man. We hope you find it to be a fitting tribute.

I wish you a wonderful summer, and I urge you to keep an eye on the continuous improvements to our beautiful campus!

James M. Smith, President
Johnson Fine Arts Center expansion begins

The cultural landscape at Northern State University is about to change.

CONSTRUCTION IS SET to begin on the Johnson Fine Arts Center project, rejuvenating this cultural hub for the university, community and region. Offices began moving out of JFAC after spring semester ended in anticipation of the project. The instrumental department and choral rehearsal hall moved to Jerde dining hall, said Dr. Alan LaFave, dean of the School of Fine Arts. The theater department moved its activities downtown to the Aberdeen Community Theatre, but will maintain offices on campus, LaFave said.

The expansion project, which has an anticipated completion date of August 2015, is needed to accommodate explosive growth in NSU fine arts departments. Work will include: a renovated main theater; black box theater; expanded practice rooms; art gallery; faculty teaching studios; expanded lobby and foyer space; classroom expansion; bright and creative lighting; and a box office and covered patron drop-off zone.

The Johnson Fine Arts Center, which opened its doors in 1972, hosts thousands of students, parents and visitors each year. Events include NSU theater productions and concerts; world-renowned performers; community recitals; Boys State; and All-State Band.

The NSU Foundation continues to raise money for the project, and several naming opportunities for the main theater are still available and range from $100 to $500,000, said Todd Jorde, president and CEO of the NSU Foundation.

To support the project, visit www.northern.edu, click on “alumni and giving” and then click “Give Now.”

CONSTRUCTION IS SET to begin on the Johnson Fine Arts Center project, rejuvenating this cultural hub for the university, community and region. Offices began moving out of JFAC after spring semester ended in anticipation of the project. The instrumental department and choral rehearsal hall moved to Jerde dining hall, said Dr. Alan LaFave, dean of the School of Fine Arts. The theater department moved its activities downtown to the Aberdeen Community Theatre, but will maintain offices on campus, LaFave said.

The expansion project, which has an anticipated completion date of August 2015, is needed to accommodate explosive growth in NSU fine arts departments. Work will include: a renovated main theater; black box theater; expanded practice rooms; art gallery; faculty teaching studios; expanded lobby and foyer space; classroom expansion; bright and creative lighting; and a box office and covered patron drop-off zone.

The Johnson Fine Arts Center, which opened its doors in 1972, hosts thousands of students, parents and visitors each year. Events include NSU theater productions and concerts; world-renowned performers; community recitals; Boys State; and All-State Band.

The NSU Foundation continues to raise money for the project, and several naming opportunities for the main theater are still available and range from $100 to $500,000, said Todd Jorde, president and CEO of the NSU Foundation.

To support the project, visit www.northern.edu, click on “alumni and giving” and then click “Give Now.”

CONSTRUCTION IS SET to begin on the Johnson Fine Arts Center project, rejuvenating this cultural hub for the university, community and region. Offices began moving out of JFAC after spring semester ended in anticipation of the project. The instrumental department and choral rehearsal hall moved to Jerde dining hall, said Dr. Alan LaFave, dean of the School of Fine Arts. The theater department moved its activities downtown to the Aberdeen Community Theatre, but will maintain offices on campus, LaFave said.

The expansion project, which has an anticipated completion date of August 2015, is needed to accommodate explosive growth in NSU fine arts departments. Work will include: a renovated main theater; black box theater; expanded practice rooms; art gallery; faculty teaching studios; expanded lobby and foyer space; classroom expansion; bright and creative lighting; and a box office and covered patron drop-off zone.

The Johnson Fine Arts Center, which opened its doors in 1972, hosts thousands of students, parents and visitors each year. Events include NSU theater productions and concerts; world-renowned performers; community recitals; Boys State; and All-State Band.

The NSU Foundation continues to raise money for the project, and several naming opportunities for the main theater are still available and range from $100 to $500,000, said Todd Jorde, president and CEO of the NSU Foundation.

To support the project, visit www.northern.edu, click on “alumni and giving” and then click “Give Now.”

CONSTRUCTION IS SET to begin on the Johnson Fine Arts Center project, rejuvenating this cultural hub for the university, community and region. Offices began moving out of JFAC after spring semester ended in anticipation of the project. The instrumental department and choral rehearsal hall moved to Jerde dining hall, said Dr. Alan LaFave, dean of the School of Fine Arts. The theater department moved its activities downtown to the Aberdeen Community Theatre, but will maintain offices on campus, LaFave said.

The expansion project, which has an anticipated completion date of August 2015, is needed to accommodate explosive growth in NSU fine arts departments. Work will include: a renovated main theater; black box theater; expanded practice rooms; art gallery; faculty teaching studios; expanded lobby and foyer space; classroom expansion; bright and creative lighting; and a box office and covered patron drop-off zone.

The Johnson Fine Arts Center, which opened its doors in 1972, hosts thousands of students, parents and visitors each year. Events include NSU theater productions and concerts; world-renowned performers; community recitals; Boys State; and All-State Band.

The NSU Foundation continues to raise money for the project, and several naming opportunities for the main theater are still available and range from $100 to $500,000, said Todd Jorde, president and CEO of the NSU Foundation.

To support the project, visit www.northern.edu, click on “alumni and giving” and then click “Give Now.”

CONSTRUCTION IS SET to begin on the Johnson Fine Arts Center project, rejuvenating this cultural hub for the university, community and region. Offices began moving out of JFAC after spring semester ended in anticipation of the project. The instrumental department and choral rehearsal hall moved to Jerde dining hall, said Dr. Alan LaFave, dean of the School of Fine Arts. The theater department moved its activities downtown to the Aberdeen Community Theatre, but will maintain offices on campus, LaFave said.

The expansion project, which has an anticipated completion date of August 2015, is needed to accommodate explosive growth in NSU fine arts departments. Work will include: a renovated main theater; black box theater; expanded practice rooms; art gallery; faculty teaching studios; expanded lobby and foyer space; classroom expansion; bright and creative lighting; and a box office and covered patron drop-off zone.

The Johnson Fine Arts Center, which opened its doors in 1972, hosts thousands of students, parents and visitors each year. Events include NSU theater productions and concerts; world-renowned performers; community recitals; Boys State; and All-State Band.

The NSU Foundation continues to raise money for the project, and several naming opportunities for the main theater are still available and range from $100 to $500,000, said Todd Jorde, president and CEO of the NSU Foundation.

To support the project, visit www.northern.edu, click on “alumni and giving” and then click “Give Now.”
DR. JOEL FILMORE was recognized as a 2013 ACES Emerging Leaders Fellow. He is president-elect of the South Dakota Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. Filmore was also accepted to present at the National Association for the Education of Young Children Conference in Washington, D.C.; the Hawaii International Conference on Education in Honolulu; and the American Counseling Association Conference and Expo, also in Honolulu.

DRS. JOEL FILMORE, DIANNA KNOX AND ANTONY WHITE announced that NSU has been approved by the National Board for Certified Counselors as a testing site for the National Counseling Examination for Licensure and Certification.

DR. ERIN FOUBERG, professor of geography, was named 2012-13 Outstanding Music Educator. LaFave maintains an active schedule as a guest conductor, adjudicator and soloist throughout the U.S. and Canada. He served as past president of the South Dakota Music Educators Association; has taught at the International Music Camp in Peace Garden, N.D., and Yellowstone Music Camp in Powell, Wyo.; and is director of Rushmore National Music Camp in Keystone.

DR. JON MITCHELL, assistant professor of biology at NSU, was among seven public university faculty members who were awarded competitive state research grants through the South Dakota Board of Regents. Mitchell received a grant of $22,454 for his research topic, “Molecular characterization of insecticidal activity from environmentally-isolated bacterial strains.”

DR. ALAN LAFAVE, dean of fine arts and professor of music/clarinet, was named 2012-13 Outstanding Music Educator. LaFave maintains an active schedule as a guest conductor, adjudicator and soloist throughout the U.S. and Canada. He served as past president of the South Dakota Music Educators Association; has taught at the International Music Camp in Peace Garden, N.D., and Yellowstone Music Camp in Powell, Wyo.; and is director of Rushmore National Music Camp in Keystone.

DR. ALAN L. NEVILLE and NSU alumna Alyssa Kaye Anderson are authors of an essay featured in the fall 2013 issue of the Great Plains Quarterly. The article was titled “The Diminishment of the Great Sioux Reservation: Treaties, Tricks, and Time.” Neville, a member of the South Dakota Commission on Teaching and Learning, also participated in the pilot project draft of the South Dakota Teacher Effectiveness Handbook.

DR. THOMAS ORR, assistant professor of sport marketing and administration, discussed local and national issues on ESPN Aberdeen’s The Sports Hub. Orr spoke about issues around Richie Incognito and the Miami Dolphins as it related to the “mock trial” conducted in his law and ethics class. In May 2013, he spoke on The Huffington Post’s HuffPostLive about the death of a soccer referee who was attacked after giving a player a yellow card for a foul.

DR. JOHN PETERSON, associate professor of finance at NSU, was asked to speak at the opening ceremony of the 2013 Hanyang University International Summer School. Peterson delivered introductory remarks at the ceremony in Seoul, South Korea, in July 2013. Northern has had an exchange partnership with Hanyang University since 2009. Peterson was the only NSU representative at the summer school last year.

DR. CALVIN D. PHILLIPS, vice president of Student Affairs, made a presentation at The New Professional Institute for National Student Personnel Association’s IV West Conference in Hot Springs, Ark. Dr. Phillips co-presented “Charting Your Career: Thinking about the Future in the Field.” He also co-facilitated a discussion: “Creating the Mentoring Relationship: Finding Support and Guidance During Your Early Career.”

KAREN ROSBY of the NSU E-Learning faculty was named South Dakota World Language Association’s 2013 World Languages Teacher of the Year. Rosby was recognized for her broad and deep understanding of teaching and learning in her discipline. The South Dakota World Languages Association promotes the study of world languages and aims to maintain the professional development of language teachers at all levels of education in South Dakota.

DR. JAMES SMITH, president, attended the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration conference, themed “Innovation, Inventiveness and the Imagination: Leading into the Future,” Aug. 6-9 in Meadowlands, N.J. Smith served as a panel member for a session titled “Internationalizing NCPEA.” He discussed all of Northern’s internationalization successes, including the efforts of the Office of International Programs and the dedication of the International Sculpture Garden.
When Northern State University Theater brought “Les Misérables” to life on the Johnson Fine Arts Center stage this spring, you may have marveled at the spectacular set and incredible costumes.

OR, MAYBE YOU DIDN’T – and that’s just fine to Nicole and Joshua John Frachiseur. They would prefer the audience to focus on the production overall, not on their work.

“If my job is done right, the show is what impacts the person, and they don’t even think about where it all came from,” Joshua said.

“I kind of like it when people don’t think about it,” added Nicole. “Then it’s not distracting.”

The Frachiseurs have been creating costumes (Nicole) and sets (Joshua) since their days as students at NSU. Their talents have turned into a successful career that took them around the U.S. and eventually brought them back to Northern.

Natives of Idaho (Nicole is from Boise; Joshua is from nearby Mountain Home), the Frachiseurs met as teens. Together, they traveled to Aberdeen with a Reach Youth Ministries team, and together, they enrolled at Northern State University. Neither came to pursue theater; rather, both were seeking education degrees when they first arrived. But both were approached separately by the same professor, Michael Shiller, about getting involved in theater – though Shiller had no idea they even knew each other.

When Nicole took a theater 100 class, she was required to see plays and write papers on them, but missed the opportunity to do so. So Shiller said she could work backstage for a production instead.

“The next thing I knew, I was sewing and designing costumes as a student,” said Nicole, whose mom had taught her how to sew.

Joshua, who had spent time working as a carpenter building homes to pay for college, was recruited by Shiller to build the set for a show.
“I never really left,” he said. By the time they graduated, they had worked on almost every production. Joshua switched to a history major with a theater minor, while Nicole continued as an education major. NSU had not yet added a theater major.

When they graduated in 2000, a friend suggested they display their work at a University/Resident Theatre Association showcase event. There, they discovered that their extensive experience put them in high demand – most students don’t get to design sets or costumes for entire productions as undergraduates. They had their choice of graduate schools, and selected West Virginia University. After graduating from that university, the couple moved to New York City. Nicole interned at The Juilliard School and Joshua got a job on the set of the TV soap opera “As the World Turns.”

From there, they covered a lot of ground. Joshua was back at WVU working for a few years, then they both took jobs with the Idaho Shakespeare Festival. They worked there in the summer, traveling to Cleveland in the winter to work for the Great Lakes Theater Festival.

Returning to NSU wasn’t in the couple’s plans. But in 2011, Joshua received a Facebook message from Northern history professor Art Marmorstein: longtime NSU theater production designer Larry Wild was retiring.

Within three weeks of applying, Joshua had the job. They moved to Aberdeen with their daughter, Corina, now 5. Nicole is an adjunct faculty member and Joshua is assistant professor of theater (design, stagecraft). They just completed their third year at NSU. Joshua is designing sets, teaching and directing productions – something that wouldn’t happen at a bigger university, where departments are very specialized. “I’m doing things I would never get to do anywhere else,” he said. 

The process involves reading the script and getting the story down, getting to know the characters and scenes, and talking to the director about the feel of the show, Nicole said. They each look at illustrations from the time period. Joshua starts with sketches, then refines his work on a computer drafting program. Nicole pulls costumes from what is already available in the NSU theater department’s collection. She then borrows from Aberdeen Community Theatre and rents from out-of-town theaters such as the Guthrie Theater. She expected to make eight-10 garments for the production, though the number can change based on last-minute needs.

With other productions and duties throughout the year, they had about two months to work on the show. There’s a saying in theater, Joshua said: “It’ll get done because it has to.” But, he added, your definition of done might change. Your original vision may not happen, Nicole said. “At a certain point, it’s not just your vision,” she said. “It’s to tell the story.” Student workers help them create the set and costumes. While they said it’s a pretty big jump to be a student at Northern and go into a career in theater, they have seen a few start out on the same path they took.

“It’s one of those fields that grows on you,” Joshua said. “It’s a calling.”
Below, she answers questions about herself and about working at NSU:

**Q. What brought you to NSU?**

**A.** I worked in public accounting prior to entering academia. When I worked in public accounting, I was involved with the recruiting of new graduates. This allowed me to spend time visiting with graduating students on various campuses. I really enjoyed my interaction with new graduates and the college atmosphere. Also, while in public accounting, I trained and mentored new graduates who came to work for our company. Although training a new graduate in his or her position is a little different from teaching at the college level, it seemed like a great fit. Paul Everson, who is a retired accounting professor from NSU, also was a good friend and great mentor as I began my position at NSU.

**Q. What is the best part of your job?**

**A.** The best part of my job is interacting with the students and watching them as they mature and grow into successful adults. The accounting courses I teach allow me to see the students for the first time as freshmen or sophomores, and then again as juniors and seniors. I get to witness first-hand the increase in the students’ knowledge and confidence as they enter the work force. Part of our mission in the School of Business is to grow students into thoughtful business leaders of the future. This may sound a bit sappy, but, being part of that growth process in people’s lives makes me very happy.

**Q. What is your favorite class to teach and why?**

**A.** My favorite course that I like to teach is advanced accounting. This course is one of the last accounting courses that accounting majors will take before they graduate. By the time students get to this course, I have had them in several classes; therefore, I really have gotten to know the students and understand how they learn. Also, this is a course where the student fully understands the importance of accounting and how the financial statements of a company all fit together.

**Q. Do you have any family members you want to highlight?**

**A.** I am married and have two children. My son is a sophomore at North Dakota State University in Fargo, N.D., majoring in mechanical engineering; and my daughter is a fourth-grader at Roncalli.

**Q. Are you involved with any organizations outside of work?**

**A.** I serve on some nonprofit boards that assist Native American tribes with becoming more self-sufficient in their accounting departments. One of the biggest issues tribes face is not having qualified accountants who are tribal members, and as a result, they spend millions on outside accountants and consultants. Part of the mission of the nonprofits is to develop tribal resources in order to allow the tribes to self-perform technical jobs such as accounting. Although we are in the initial stages in some of these initiatives, my hope and goal is to develop a pathway of training through Northern State. There is a real need out there and Northern State is extremely well-equipped to be a substantial contributing partner to accomplish some great things. We also have recently developed a partnership with the South Dakota Secretary of State to produce a quarterly economic journal that we are very proud of. Under the umbrella of growing our students into thoughtful future business leaders, our students, in addition to having the appropriate technical skill in their chosen field, will also have to be able to understand complex data sets, the macro and micro political economy and its future impacts to their companies, and interactions with government in order to be successful. We kind of hit three birds with one stone being involved with a project like this, not to mention the networking opportunities it gives our students and graduates.

**Q. Do you have any hobbies?**

**A.** When I am not working, I enjoy spending time with my children, traveling and gardening.
The Northern State winter sports season was a big success for the Wolves, not only on the basketball court, but also on the wrestling mat and on the track.

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

**THE NSU WOMEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM** finished with 24 regular-season wins and captured the NSIC North Division Title. That accomplishment ended a nine-year drought, marking the first NSU conference championship of any kind in any sport since 2005. In addition, the women’s team received an NCAA regional berth and traveled to Harding University in Searcy, Ark., where they competed as the No. 6 seed against a team from Central Missouri.

Head Coach Curt Fredrickson also was named the NSIC Coach of the Year for the fourth time in his illustrious career (1991-92, 1996-97 and 2010-11) and has 747 career coaching victories in his 35-year career at Northern.

**SENIOR ALISON KUSLER** was named All-NSIC First Team. It was the third all-conference honor for Kusler in her career for the Wolves. Kusler was fourth in the league in scoring with 17.2 points per game during NSIC play. Her 84.4 percent free throw shooting was 13th in the league and she was sixth in the league averaging 34.14 minutes played per contest. Kusler scored in double figures in 23 games this season and had six efforts where she scored 20 points or more. January 4 against Sioux Falls, Kusler scored a game-high 26 points in the win over the Cougars and became the 29th member of the 1,000-point club at NSU. Kusler’s 1,245 career points is 18th all-time at Northern. 

**RACHEL KROGMAN** was a second-team selection for the Wolves. Krogman ranked 11th in the league in scoring (15.7 ppg), third in rebounding (10 rpg), 13th in field goal percentage (47.8 percent) and eighth in blocks (1.05 bpg). Krogman recorded nine double-doubles during conference play this season and 12 overall. She also had 15 games this season where she registered 10 or more boards in a game. Megan Mutchler was named to the NSIC All-Defensive Team and Paige Waytashek was named All-Freshman NSIC. 

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

**THE NORTHERN STATE MEN** finished the season with an 18-11 record and went 13-9 in conference play, finishing fourth in the NSIC North. Sophomore Skye Warwick was named First Team CoSIDA/Capital One Academic All-District for District Seven. The Northern three-point specialist is a Health and Physical Education major, carrying a perfect 4.0 GPA.

**WRESTLING**

**ON THE MAT, THE NSU WRESTLING TEAM** showed great promise as the Wolves were led by freshman 197-pounder Joe Gomez who finished the season with a 24-15 record. Gomez competed at the NCAA Super Regional in Edmond, Okla., and fell just shy of making it to the National Tournament as he placed sixth at the regional match. Seniors Anthony Bruno (125), Gavin Larsen (141), Blake Lundgren (165), Ian Muirhead (141) and Beau Voegeli (149) all wrestled for the Wolves for the final time in 2014.

**INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD**

**THE NORTHERN INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD** squads had a very solid indoor season in 2014. The Wolves had great showings in all of their meets this season, setting multiple personal records throughout the year. Makenzie Hageman set a new school record in the 60-meter dash and ran a time of 7.82 in the preliminaries of the NSIC Indoor Championships. Andrew Johnson set a school record for the men’s squad in the 200-meter dash. Johnson owns the record with a time of 22.17.

**DISTANCE RUNNER BRANDON KREIN** took home All-NSIC honors at the NSIC Championships with his third-place finish in the 1,000 meters. Krein ran a career-best time of 2:32.26 in the event. Hannah Treinen hit a provisional NCAA mark in the pentathlon at the NSIC meet as she finished fifth with 3,278 points.
Beloved Northern State University coach Don Meyer, one of the nation’s most successful basketball coaches of all time, died the morning of May 18, finally succumbing to cancer after a courageous six-year fight. Meyer was 69.

Meyer Made College Basketball History
In 2009, surpassing Bobby Knight as the career victory leader. For two years, from 2009 to 2011, Meyer held the record for most wins for a men’s college basketball coach. Meyer retired from Northern State in 2010 with an overall win-loss record of 923-324. His most-wins record was topped a year later by another basketball great, Duke University coach Mike Krzyzewski.

Meyer’s battle with cancer began in September 2008 when doctors treating him for injuries sustained in a life-threatening car crash discovered cancer in his liver and intestines during emergency surgery. Doctors amputated Meyer’s left leg below the knee as a result of injuries he received in the crash. Several days later they operated on the cancer.

Despite an eight-week stay in the hospital, Meyer returned to the sidelines for the duration of the 2008-09 season, leading the Wolves to their second straight appearance in the Division II national tournament in March.

Meyer’s challenges garnered national media attention throughout the 2008-09 season. He was awarded the Jimmy V. Award for Perseverance at the 2009 ESPY Awards in Los Angeles. He also received the John W. Bunn Lifetime Achievement Award, given by the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame for significant contributions to the sport of basketball.

Meyer is also the subject of an extensive biography, “How Lucky You Can Be: The Story of Coach Don Meyer,” written by ESPN baseball analyst Buster Olney. Olney has had a close relationship with Meyer since Olney was assigned to cover baseball in Nashville while Meyer was coaching at Lipscomb University.

Early Years
A native of Wayne, Neb., Meyer had aspirations as a youngster of one day being a major league baseball player. Not only was he an outstanding baseball player,
Eagles Don't Fly With Their Legs

I've hesitated to share my personal Coach Meyer story because I did not want those who did not know him to construe his initial remarks to me as inappropriate or politically incorrect, but here goes. As secretary for the student body at Lipscomb University (David Lipscomb College at the time), I would on occasion make some kind of announcement in our daily Chapel gatherings. I have a form of muscular dystrophy and stairs were a challenge, especially in the days before ADA regulations made for more accessibility. I depended heavily on handrails and would go one step at a time, but always kept going.

I had met Coach briefly on occasions, but never had the opportunity to really know him as many did. One particular chapel, I was going up the steps behind the stage. Coach was doing the devo that morning and was waiting behind as I was going up. He asked very candidly as I was managing my choreographed routine to get up the steps, “Hey, I've never asked you before...why are you gimpy?” It never bothered me when people would ask. Really, I preferred it instead of them wondering. I spat out my mantra like I had done so many times, “It's a form of muscular dystrophy. God just made my legs a little weaker than yours.” By then, I was up the last step, laughed while looking at his legs and finished saying, “Well, a lot weaker than yours.” He quickly responded, “Eagles don’t fly with their legs and inspiration. He truly was a blessing to so many. Great game, Coach! You played life well!”

- Ginger Johnson Broslat

For more information about memorial gifts, visit Coach MeyerTribute.com

Meyer’s Bison teams made 13 national tournament appearances, winning the NAIA National Championship in 1986. Meyer was named NAIA National Coach of the Year in 1989 and 1990, and was selected to the NAIA Hall of Fame at the age of 47. He also assisted coach Mike Krzyzewski with the Olympic Sports Festival South Team in 1983.

Eagles Don’t Fly With Their Legs

I’ve hesitated to share my personal Coach Meyer story because I did not want those who did not know him to construe his initial remarks to me as inappropriate or politically incorrect, but here goes. As secretary for the student body at Lipscomb University (David Lipscomb College at the time), I would on occasion make some kind of announcement in our daily Chapel gatherings. I have a form of muscular dystrophy and stairs were a challenge, especially in the days before ADA regulations made for more accessibility. I depended heavily on handrails and would go one step at a time, but always kept going.

I had met Coach briefly on occasions, but never had the opportunity to really know him as many did. One particular chapel, I was going up the steps behind the stage. Coach was doing the devo that morning and was waiting behind as I was going up. He asked very candidly as I was managing my choreographed routine to get up the steps, “Hey, I've never asked you before...why are you gimpy?” It never bothered me when people would ask. Really, I preferred it instead of them wondering. I spat out my mantra like I had done so many times, “It’s a form of muscular dystrophy. God just made my legs a little weaker than yours.” By then, I was up the last step, laughed while looking at his legs and finished saying, “Well, a lot weaker than yours.” He quickly responded, “Eagles don’t fly with their legs and inspiration. He truly was a blessing to so many. Great game, Coach! You played life well!”

- Ginger Johnson Broslat

For more information about memorial gifts, visit Coach MeyerTribute.com

Meyer’s Bison teams made 13 national tournament appearances, winning the NAIA National Championship in 1986. Meyer was named NAIA National Coach of the Year in 1989 and 1990, and was selected to the NAIA Hall of Fame at the age of 47. He also assisted coach Mike Krzyzewski with the Olympic Sports Festival South Team in 1983.

Eagles Don’t Fly With Their Legs

I’ve hesitated to share my personal Coach Meyer story because I did not want those who did not know him to construe his initial remarks to me as inappropriate or politically incorrect, but here goes. As secretary for the student body at Lipscomb University (David Lipscomb College at the time), I would on occasion make some kind of announcement in our daily Chapel gatherings. I have a form of muscular dystrophy and stairs were a challenge, especially in the days before ADA regulations made for more accessibility. I depended heavily on handrails and would go one step at a time, but always kept going.

I had met Coach briefly on occasions, but never had the opportunity to really know him as many did. One particular chapel, I was going up the steps behind the stage. Coach was doing the devo that morning and was waiting behind as I was going up. He asked very candidly as I was managing my choreographed routine to get up the steps, “Hey, I've never asked you before...why are you gimpy?” It never bothered me when people would ask. Really, I preferred it instead of them wondering. I spat out my mantra like I had done so many times, “It’s a form of muscular dystrophy. God just made my legs a little weaker than yours.” By then, I was up the last step, laughed while looking at his legs and finished saying, “Well, a lot weaker than yours.” He quickly responded, “Eagles don’t fly with their legs and inspiration. He truly was a blessing to so many. Great game, Coach! You played life well!”

- Ginger Johnson Broslat

For more information about memorial gifts, visit Coach MeyerTribute.com

Meyer’s Bison teams made 13 national tournament appearances, winning the NAIA National Championship in 1986. Meyer was named NAIA National Coach of the Year in 1989 and 1990, and was selected to the NAIA Hall of Fame at the age of 47. He also assisted coach Mike Krzyzewski with the Olympic Sports Festival South Team in 1983.

Eagles Don’t Fly With Their Legs

I’ve hesitated to share my personal Coach Meyer story because I did not want those who did not know him to construe his initial remarks to me as inappropriate or politically incorrect, but here goes. As secretary for the student body at Lipscomb University (David Lipscomb College at the time), I would on occasion make some kind of announcement in our daily Chapel gatherings. I have a form of muscular dystrophy and stairs were a challenge, especially in the days before ADA regulations made for more accessibility. I depended heavily on handrails and would go one step at a time, but always kept going.

I had met Coach briefly on occasions, but never had the opportunity to really know him as many did. One particular chapel, I was going up the steps behind the stage. Coach was doing the devo that morning and was waiting behind as I was going up. He asked very candidly as I was managing my choreographed routine to get up the steps, “Hey, I've never asked you before...why are you gimpy?” It never bothered me when people would ask. Really, I preferred it instead of them wondering. I spat out my mantra like I had done so many times, “It’s a form of muscular dystrophy. God just made my legs a little weaker than yours.” By then, I was up the last step, laughed while looking at his legs and finished saying, “Well, a lot weaker than yours.” He quickly responded, “Eagles don’t fly with their legs and inspiration. He truly was a blessing to so many. Great game, Coach! You played life well!”

- Ginger Johnson Broslat

For more information about memorial gifts, visit Coach MeyerTribute.com

Meyer’s Bison teams made 13 national tournament appearances, winning the NAIA National Championship in 1986. Meyer was named NAIA National Coach of the Year in 1989 and 1990, and was selected to the NAIA Hall of Fame at the age of 47. He also assisted coach Mike Krzyzewski with the Olympic Sports Festival South Team in 1983.

Eagles Don’t Fly With Their Legs

I’ve hesitated to share my personal Coach Meyer story because I did not want those who did not know him to construe his initial remarks to me as inappropriate or politically incorrect, but here goes. As secretary for the student body at Lipscomb University (David Lipscomb College at the time), I would on occasion make some kind of announcement in our daily Chapel gatherings. I have a form of muscular dystrophy and stairs were a challenge, especially in the days before ADA regulations made for more accessibility. I depended heavily on handrails and would go one step at a time, but always kept going.

I had met Coach briefly on occasions, but never had the opportunity to really know him as many did. One particular chapel, I was going up the steps behind the stage. Coach was doing the devo that morning and was waiting behind as I was going up. He asked very candidly as I was managing my choreographed routine to get up the steps, “Hey, I've never asked you before...why are you gimpy?” It never bothered me when people would ask. Really, I preferred it instead of them wondering. I spat out my mantra like I had done so many times, “It’s a form of muscular dystrophy. God just made my legs a little weaker than yours.” By then, I was up the last step, laughed while looking at his legs and finished saying, “Well, a lot weaker than yours.” He quickly responded, “Eagles don’t fly with their legs and inspiration. He truly was a blessing to so many. Great game, Coach! You played life well!”

- Ginger Johnson Broslat

For more information about memorial gifts, visit Coach MeyerTribute.com

Meyer’s Bison teams made 13 national tournament appearances, winning the NAIA National Championship in 1986. Meyer was named NAIA National Coach of the Year in 1989 and 1990, and was selected to the NAIA Hall of Fame at the age of 47. He also assisted coach Mike Krzyzewski with the Olympic Sports Festival South Team in 1983.
Meyer led the Wolves to the program's second best record in school history in 2007-08, going 29-4 overall and taking second place in the NSIC with a 16-2 record. The only losses for the Wolves came at the hands of eventual National Champion, Winona State.

The 2007-08 season also saw Coach Meyer climb the ranks of the NCAA all-time wins list. On Jan. 19, 2008, an 87-78 win over the University of Mary gave Meyer his 879th victory and put him at second place among the best coaches in basketball history. A thunderous crowd of 5,454 watched Meyer accomplish the feat at Wachs Arena, and even more looked on with the game broadcast on local television throughout the Dakotas.

Under Meyer's direction, the Wolves surpassed the 20-win mark for seven straight seasons until reaching just 19 wins in 2008-09. They reached NCAA post-season play five out of six years and appeared in the North Central Region Championship game twice (2006 and 2008).

Meyer's Wolves won four regular season or NSIC Tournament titles and finished among the top three teams in the league for seven consecutive years.

Meyer retired from coaching at the end of the 2009-10 season, citing the challenges of battling cancer and the fatigue associated with it. His final record of 923-324 ranks 6th on the all-time NCAA career wins list.

Meyer's name is respected nationally in the college coaching ranks. Well over 10,000 coaches from all over the nation have attended the Don Meyer Coaches Academy. Meyer’s featured speakers read as a who’s who in the coaching ranks.

In 2001, he brought the Academy to Aberdeen with Tennessee’s Pat Summit as keynote speaker. In 2002, John Wooden and Dick Bennett were featured in the academy. Tubby Smith and Jerry Krause spoke at the 2006 Academy.

Meyer also produced instructional books and a 30-tape series “Building a Championship Program” that has helped coaches at every level from high school to the NBA. Programs using the tapes include perennial Division I powerhouses Duke, Kansas, Wake Forest and North Carolina; and NBA franchises such as the Utah Jazz and Seattle Supersonics.

Meyer's summer Lipscomb Bison Basketball Camps became known as one of the most successful players' camp in the country, drawing 4,500 campers annually. Meyer's coaches’ and players' camps in Aberdeen have been huge successes as well.

Meyer gave countless motivational speeches throughout the country and published numerous articles for many coaching publications. This spring he spoke to the leadership of the Atlanta Braves baseball organization.

Meyer is survived by his wife, Carmen; son, Jerry; daughters, Brooke Napier and Brittney Touchton; mother, Edna; sisters, Jeanie Shank and Nancy Meyer; brother, Mike; and eight grandchildren.

"Successful programs consist of people working hard, working together, while never worrying about who gets the credit.”
– Don Meyer

"The key component to leadership is this: Your example is not the main thing in influencing others; it's the only thing.”
– Don Meyer
Trip from Texas to Aberdeen leads to success

ETHAN BROWN’S path of success at Northern State University started with a journey from his hometown in Texas to Aberdeen. Brown, a native of Flower Mound, Texas, had a list of 20 schools across the U.S. that were the right size and price, and that had the right study abroad opportunities. He narrowed the list down to five – including Northern – and traveled the country with his parents to visit each campus. NSU’s WolPACT Scholarship, low tuition and the Center for Excellence in International Business were big draws for him. Once he visited, he said, “I couldn’t say no to Northern.” Brown’s achievements have included winning an elite scholarship to attend a conference in the nation’s capital and winning an elite geography competition right here in South Dakota. It’s been quite a year for Brown:

• In November, he was the only student awarded a scholarship from the South Dakota World Affairs Council (SDWAC) to attend the World Affairs Councils of America conference in Washington, D.C. Only 25 students from across the country were selected to attend the conference, which was dedicated to the top six issues facing the national security of the United States, including cybersecurity.
• In January, Brown participated in a personal cybersecurity panel at the SDWAC Cybersecurity Symposium on the South Dakota State University campus in Brookings.
• In March, he and two other Northern honors students who are geography minors, along with an alum of Northern who is in the master’s program in geography at SDSU, won the Geography Bowl at the 45th annual SDSU Geography Convention.
Brown majored in biology and environmental science and minored in chemistry and geography. He started at NSU as an international business major, but he switched when he realized his interests were more in international affairs and less in business. In 2012, he studied abroad in South Korea.
Brown’s college experience has also included an internship with the state of South Dakota as a naturalist at Custer State Park; and an internship with Northwoods Wildlife Center, a nonprofit wildlife rehabilitation and conservation organization in Wisconsin.
Brown graduated in May and plans to go straight into law school. With a superb LSAT score, he had his choice of law schools – he was accepted at the University of Kansas; the University of South Dakota; University of St. Thomas; University of California, Los Angeles; and Tulane University. Ultimately, he chose the University of Kansas because of that university’s excellent scholarship offerings and its career services, including an active alumni network.
Brown said Northern prepared him for his success by helping him realize what he wanted from his future. He went through a lot of different potential career paths – including international business, teaching at a high school or college level, working in the state or federal park system, working as a veterinarian, working as a medical doctor – before deciding to pursue a career in law.

“I was able to find ways to gain experience and insight into each of these fields to decide if it was right for me,” he said. “I am confident that no matter which path I chose, I could have been successful because Northern gave me opportunities in each. Once I did focus, Northern was right there with all of the resources and tools I needed to succeed.”

Kripps appreciates challenges of Northern State University Honors Program

AN ABILITY TO THINK theoretically and ask pointed questions led NSU senior Katelyn Kripps to survey a sample of Northern State University students and ask: Would you have an abortion if your baby tested positive for Down syndrome? The survey added a twist - respondents also were asked whether they knew a person with Down syndrome. Kripps found that respondents’ knowledge of people with Down syndrome did not have a significant effect on their likelihood to choose abortion or prenatal testing.

“The results didn’t prove what I thought, but it did open my eyes to the fact that people who don’t know someone with Down syndrome can feel the same way as someone who does,” said special education major Kripps, 22, whose oral presentation of her work won top recognition at NSU’s 2014 Undergraduate Research Forum. Kripps surveyed female NSU students ages 18-26 for her project, titled “Down Syndrome: The Effects of Knowing on Prenatal Testing and Abortion Decisions.” Her mentor is Dr. Erin Fouberg, professor of geography.

“She has an ability to think theoretically that a lot of my students her age don’t have,” said Fouberg. “She makes connections between ideas that seem disparate.”

Kripps appreciates the challenges and opportunities she’s experienced in NSU’s honors program.

“Northern is known for its great education programs, and it’s going to get even better,” Kripps said. “But the biggest asset I’ve gotten is being in the honors program – it really pushes you to become a better student.”

Soccer and a WolPACT scholarship brought Kripps to Northern, and the atmosphere made her glad she stayed.

“I like the small class sizes, and especially in athletics, it’s a community-based atmosphere,” she said. Kripps switched her major to special education after missing her family and realizing how much they – especially her sister – mean to her. Her sister, 12, has Down syndrome.

“I find her incredibly fun,” Kripps said. “I wouldn’t want her any other way; I love the way she is and the impact she’s on my life and family.

“If no one had Down syndrome, no one would understand what it’s like to be different.”

Kripps graduated in May and is originally from Somerset, Wis. After graduation she plans to pursue a master’s degree in speech pathology.
For Mike Newman, history isn’t just the past; it’s his future

**THE NSU senior honors student, Mike Newman, 23, hopes to teach college-level history and has been accepted to Binghampton University’s Ph.D. history program. He graduated in May with a history major and geography minor.**

“NSU’s departments of history and geography push you to exceed your supposed limits. I have been beyond satisfied – completely happy with the decision to come to Northern,” said Newman, a Vermont native. He said many things about Northern make it feel like home, but most valuable has been the opportunity to develop relationships with faculty members.

“That’s been a huge inspiration in my own interest in becoming an academic – I’ve seen so closely what it means to be a professor and I really like it,” Newman said.

Newman’s honors thesis involved primary research, partially funded through an NSU undergraduate research grant, to trace his grandfather’s fragmented journey across World War II Europe to escape Nazi Germany. He presented the thesis to the public in February at Northern. Newman also presented other research at the recent National Collegiate Honors Conference.

Newman’s research, carefully conceived, nurtured and developed at Northern, has been an additional catalyst for growth for Newman and his family.

“I always knew I had a Jewish history. On Hanukah, we lit candles and said a prayer. It never really had much meaning for me and most of my family. Now that I have a better understanding of what my grandfather went through because of his Jewish identity…over the past few Hanukahs, we all come together and it just feels more involved, more invested with meaning.”

Newman hopes others may discover meaning and answers from his research, if published.

“My hope is someone can just read it if they find it interesting,” Newman said. “I hope that without ever having met me, they can find out about my grandfather, or children during the Holocaust, coming to terms with Jewish identity, European history.”

**Disney grants Northern State student internship**

IT ISN’T EVERY DAY that a representative of Disney emails to request a job interview. Mark Sperry of Bath, S.D., was a sophomore at Northern State University when he applied for an internship at Walt Disney World’s Epcot Theme Park in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

“I was thoroughly surprised when I received an email to set up a phone interview,” said Sperry. Out of more than 150 applications, the biology major was one of only three candidates selected for an interview. Eventually accepting an offer, Sperry spent June 2013 to January 2014 working at Epcot’s the Land Pavilion, an attraction home to working greenhouses and biotechnology laboratories.

Sperry worked both within the flow of park goers and behind the scenes in the laboratories. He acted as a tour guide through “hydroponic greenhouses about once a day.”

It was his responsibility to grow plants in tissue culture as a park merchandise item, he explained, adding that he also packaged and sold the Mickey’s Mini Gardens to park guests.

“While I may have been heading to work these mornings, I feel as though I never truly worked a day I was there.”

The experience ultimately helped him better understand how to conduct lab work and government research.

Sperry acknowledges his experience as an NSU biology student as a positive background for Epcot’s laboratory requirements. NSU’s size has allowed him to maintain active involvement in multiple campus organizations, and he has gotten to know professors on a more personal level.

The junior plans to continue work on his honors thesis, and will graduate in fall 2014 In Honoribus with a bachelor’s degree in biology and minors in chemistry and mathematics. He hopes to either apply for a Disney Greenhouse Internship or apply to return as the Biotech Lab Intern.

Sperry also offered advice to other students who may be considering internships—“apply. The worst thing that can happen is not being chosen.”

**Student finds passion for chemistry**

LU LIU is originally from Shanghai, China. Daughter of Xin Hua Liu and Yu Ping Jiang, she was a student of Shanghai University of International Business and Economics. Interested in spending time overseas, she took advantage of the school’s exchange program and came to Northern State University for the fall 2010 semester.

Liu was able to take classes she couldn’t have in China, immersing herself among both English speakers and literature. Upon returning to Shanghai and graduating with a bachelor’s degree in English translation and interpretation, she chose to continue her education in Aberdeen.

“I didn’t feel fulfilled,” said Liu. “I wanted to learn more about English literature and culture.”

She returned to NSU and enrolled for the fall 2011 semester, dividing her attention between English classes and required generals before having to take a biology class.

“I took biology, and then organic chemistry literature and review tutor under Dr. George Nora. She was awarded an undergraduate research grant in fall 2013 to assist her study to increase the drought tolerance of plants. Liu appreciates the hands-on laboratory experience that NSU has offered.

“The professors are always willing to help or give suggestions,” she said. Liu graduated in May 2014 with both degrees. She was accepted into multiple prestigious graduate programs, such as Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame, and ultimately chose the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She will continue organic chemistry studies there in the fall.
Greenhouse will enhance research, teaching at NSU

A greenhouse planned for the Northern State University campus will significantly benefit NSU biology and biotechnology students, as well as students of all ages throughout the Aberdeen community.

The approximately 960-square-foot greenhouse will be located next to the MeWaldt-Jensen Building. The facility, which was approved by the South Dakota Board of Regents in December, received approval from the South Dakota Legislature this spring.

Since 2008, NSU’s biology and environmental science majors have increased by 66 percent. The greenhouse will allow year-round, hands-on plant study, laboratory instruction and research.

Currently at NSU, the research situation involving plants is very limiting, with plants sitting on window sills or light carts, said Dr. Jodie Ramsay, chairwoman of the NSU biology department.

While the greenhouse will certainly enhance research, Ramsay said, it will also enhance teaching capabilities as students will be able to grow more plants. In addition to becoming an important resource for NSU students, Ramsay said elementary school tours and high school classes can all take advantage of the capabilities of the greenhouse.

Though there is no set timeline, officials hope to start construction this summer and possibly have the greenhouse ready by summer 2015.

The estimated $750,000 cost of the project is being funded through South Dakota’s Higher Education Facilities Fund, money that’s set aside as a percentage of certain tuition and fees for facilities. NSU received an additional allocation of HEFF funds to be used specifically for this greenhouse project.

Key to maintaining that accreditation is a renovation project for Dacotah Hall, Kilian said.

Parts of the building will be reconfigured into classrooms for graphic design and photography, and other spaces will be renovated and upgraded.

Kilian, who has worked at NSU for 19 years, said the art department hasn’t had a major upgrade in decades.

“We’re well-prepared to have a very robust facility,” he said.

Construction began in July 2013. The estimated $1.4 million project includes a $200,000 anonymous gift received in January 2013 and earmarked for photography and digital design equipment upgrades. The first phase was completed in April and involved these areas.

Photography will be centralized in Dacotah Hall, with areas dedicated to photo and video shoots and processing; ventilation and air exchange and water system upgrades to mitigate the entry of photo chemicals into the water supply; and the addition of a secure chemical and supply room.

A 450-square-foot light studio for photo and video shoots will offer track lighting, a mechanized backdrop wall and green screen, Kilian said.

“This is huge – for a college this size to provide a workspace like this is pretty cool,” Kilian said.

NSU campus was home to a greenhouse decades ago. Construction will soon begin on a new greenhouse, which will open in 2015.

NSU renovation helps art department gain accreditation

The Northern State University art department earned full accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) in October 2013.

The Northern State University art department was home to a greenhouse decades ago. Construction will soon begin on a new greenhouse, which will open in 2015.

NSU IS THE ONLY

NASAD-approved college or university in South Dakota with bachelor’s degree programs in art and design, said Peter Kilian, art professor and chair of NSU’s art and theater departments.

Key to maintaining that accreditation is a renovation project for Dacotah Hall, Kilian said.

Parts of the building will be reconfigured into classrooms for graphic design and photography, and other spaces will be renovated and upgraded.

Kilian, who has worked at NSU for 19 years, said the art department hasn’t had a major upgrade in decades.

“We’re well-prepared to have a very robust facility,” he said.

Construction began in July 2013. The estimated $1.4 million project includes a $200,000 anonymous gift received in January 2013 and earmarked for photography and digital design equipment upgrades. The first phase was completed in April and involved these areas.

Photography will be centralized in Dacotah Hall, with areas dedicated to photo and video shoots and processing; ventilation and air exchange and water system upgrades to mitigate the entry of photo chemicals into the water supply; and the addition of a secure chemical and supply room.

A 450-square-foot light studio for photo and video shoots will offer track lighting, a mechanized backdrop wall and green screen, Kilian said.

“This is huge – for a college this size to provide a workspace like this is pretty cool,” he said.

Kilian said the next step will address improvements to the ceramics and sculpture studio classrooms. A centralized printmaking area will allow safer storage and handling for the acids, solvents and other hazardous materials printmaking requires, he said.

Architectural plans and a construction schedule for these improvements are expected to be ready in July.
Tonemah delivers Northern State commencement address

Dr. Darryl Tonemah remembers a lot of details of his graduation from Northern State 25 years ago – his family came from Oklahoma and New York, and they had a big picnic at Wylie Park.

But there was one thing the 1989 graduate could not recall: “Ironically, I don’t remember the speaker!”

The class of 2014, however, will surely remember its speaker: Tonemah returned to campus to deliver the commencement address at the May 10 ceremony in the Barnett Center.

Prior to the event, Tonemah said he was honored to speak.

“NSU is such an integral part of my personal history,” he said. “I hold it in such high regard, to be asked to give the address is amazing to me.”

And while he couldn’t remember who spoke at his graduation, he does remember all the good times he had attending NSU. “Maybe every class feels this way, but I believe I was at Northern at just the perfect time,” said Tonemah, who double majored in psychology and sociology and minored in gerontology. “It was a great combination of people, and activities, and music…oh yeah, and classes! It just made for great memories.”

Tonemah, who has a Ph.D. in counseling psychology and cultural studies, is of Kiowa, Comanche and Tuscarora heritage. He is an advocate for American Indian affairs, and sits on state and national boards addressing disparities in education and health care in native communities. Tonemah recently joined the Stephen Covey group as a trainer for “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People.” He also is an actor and award-winning recording artist.

Tonemah’s recent work with Northern included a “Be U” tour to area schools last fall. On this tour, he encouraged students to say yes to challenges and see how they can bring positive changes into their lives. He also shared the impact that attending Northern had on his life.

Tonemah said he looks forward to continuing his work with the university. “NSU has such amazing potential as an academic, athletic and multicultural institution,” he said. “My work with the ‘Be U Tour’ just reinforced what we have known all along: that many people are looking at Northern as a reflection of the possibilities that exist within themselves. It’s an exciting time to be part of Northern!”

Northern students countries of origin
Alumni news

First Big Ten Tournament victory. The program’s first Big Ten Tournament victory was over a trio of NCAA Tournament teams before capping the season over a win over Purdue in the Big 10. The Huskers posted wins over Nebraska in his first season at NAIA ranks, overachieved with a win over a trio of NCAA Tournament teams before capping the season over a win over Purdue in the Big Ten – the program’s first Big Ten Tournament victory.

Bill Erickson 1983

After receiving his Bachelor of Music Education in Music Plan I and II-Vocal and Instrumental from NSU in 1983, Bill Erickson attended Arizona State University and received his M.M. Erickson retired in 2012 from nearly 30 years in choral music education. He served at Cherry Creek High School 1989-2012, earning the prestigious Teacher of the Year Award, KCNC TV’s Teacher Who Makes a Difference, and NAfME’s One of Colorado’s Accomplished Music Teachers. He was inducted into the CMEA Hall of Fame in 2013. He recently completed a two-year term as CoACDA president. He often serves as guest lecturer/conductor and adjudicator at various festivals, colleges and universities across the front-range of Colorado; the Rocky Mountain region; and Midwest states. Currently, he co-manages Saccomano Academics Inc., an academic support program located in the Denver Tech Center.

Denise (Ruhland) Clemens 1992

Denise (Ruhland) Clemens earned her Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and Biology from NSU in 1992, before returning in 1995 to receive a teaching certificate. As a member of the women’s basketball team, Clemens received NSIC All-Conference nominations in 1991 and 1992, NSIC Scholar Athlete, District 12 First Team nominee, NSU Women Athlete of the Year in 1992, and Academic All-American. Her teams won the NAIA National Championship in 1992 and were Northern Sun Conference Champions in the ’87-’88 and ’91-’92 seasons. Clemens; her husband, Bill; and their five children, Josh, Ashley, Josie, Zachariah, and Will reside in Northville, S.D., where she is a teacher and coach at Northwestern High School.

Rod Kutter 1974

Rod Kutter has a Bachelor of Science in Sociology from NSU. A native of Hecla, S.D., Kutter was a starting defensive end and punt returner in 1972 and was an all-district selection in 1973. In 1973 he was chosen as a team captain. In 1972-73 Kutter led the team in total interceptions. Kutter and his wife, Bonnie (Engen) NSU 1971-72, have been married 40 years and have three children, Ike, Sara and Abbi; and three grandchildren. They currently reside in Warroad, Minn.

Tanya (Frerichs) Sheldon 1995

A Sioux Falls, S.D., native, Tanya (Frerichs) Sheldon received a Bachelor of Science in Composite Health and Physical Education from Northern in 1995. In her four-year stint with the Wolves, Sheldon played in all but five of 107 games and pitched in all but eight. She totaled 615.2 innings pitched with a record of 46-46. In 1993, Sheldon hit the mound for her best collegiate season, where she was 12-7 while recording an ERA of 1.49. She sits atop the NSU career records in innings pitched (615.2), wins (46), strikeouts (354), and complete games (88). Sheldon also appears in top 10 spots in single season seasons (28), single season strikeouts (144), single season complete games (26), single season wins (14), appearances (100), and ERA (2.67). Sheldon and her husband, Kyle, have three children, KyAnna, Savanna, and Alayna; and they reside in Idaho.

Josh Trandall 1996 and 1999

Josh Trandall earned his Bachelor of Science in Education in 1996 before returning for his master’s in 1999. He was track and field national place winner in 1992 and 1993 and track national place winner in 1992 and 1993 and track national place winner in 1992 and 1993. The Huskers posted wins over Purdue in the Big Ten – the program’s first Big Ten Tournament victory.

KRETCHMAN COACHING AWARD

Every year, the NSU Alumni Association honors noteworthy alums with the Distinguished Alumni Award and Kretchman Coaching Award, and also inducts former Wolves athletes into the NSU Hall of Fame.

Tim Miles 1990

KRETCHMAN COACHING AWARD

Tim Miles stepped on the national stage this year; being named the 2014 Jim Phelon National Coach of the Year and Big 10 Coach of the Year. A native of Doland, S.D., Miles graduated from the University of Mary in 1989 and earned a master’s degree in health and physical education from Northern State in 1990. He was inducted into the University of Mary Athletic Hall of Fame in 2007. Miles and his wife, Kari, have one daughter, Ava, and one son, Gabriel. Miles began his career as an assistant at Northern 1989-95 and helped lead the Wolves to five NAIA playoff appearances and five regional titles.

From there, Miles held successful coaching positions at Mayville State University, Southwest Minnesota State University, North Dakota State and Colorado State University. Miles, the only active coach who has taken teams to the postseason at the Division I, Division II and NAIA ranks, overachieved with the Huskers in his first season at Nebraska. The Huskers posted wins over a trio of NCAA Tournament teams before capping the season with a win over Purdue in the Big Ten Tournament – the program’s first Big Ten Tournament victory.

Hall of Fame

Denise (Ruhland) Clemens 1992

HALL OF FAME

Denise (Ruhland) Clemens earned her Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and Biology from NSU in 1992, before returning in 1995 to receive a teaching certificate. As a member of the women’s basketball team, Clemens received NSIC All-Conference nominations in 1991 and 1992, NSIC Scholar Athlete, District 12 First Team nominee, NSU Women Athlete of the Year in 1992, and Academic All-American. Her teams won the NAIA National Championship in 1992 and were Northern Sun Conference Champions in the ’87-’88 and ’91-’92 seasons. Clemens; her husband, Bill; and their five children, Josh, Ashley, Josie, Zachariah, and Will reside in Northville, S.D., where she is a teacher and coach at Northwestern High School.

Rod Kutter 1974

HALL OF FAME

Rod Kutter has a Bachelor of Science in Sociology from NSU. A native of Hecla, S.D., Kutter was a starting defensive end and punt returner in 1972 and was an all-district selection in 1973. In 1973 he was chosen as a team captain. In 1972-73 Kutter led the team in total interceptions. Kutter and his wife, Bonnie (Engen) NSU 1971-72, have been married 40 years and have three children, Ike, Sara and Abbi; and three grandchildren. They currently reside in Warroad, Minn.

Tanya (Frerichs) Sheldon 1995

HALL OF FAME

A Sioux Falls, S.D., native, Tanya (Frerichs) Sheldon received a Bachelor of Science in Composite Health and Physical Education from Northern in 1995. In her four-year stint with the Wolves, Sheldon played in all but five of 107 games and pitched in all but eight. She totaled 615.2 innings pitched with a record of 46-46. In 1993, Sheldon hit the mound for her best collegiate season, where she was 12-7 while recording an ERA of 1.49. She sits atop the NSU career records in innings pitched (615.2), wins (46), strikeouts (354), and complete games (88). Sheldon also appears in top 10 spots in single season seasons (28), single season strikeouts (144), single season complete games (26), single season wins (14), appearances (100), and ERA (2.67). Sheldon and her husband, Kyle, have three children, KyAnna, Savanna, and Alayna; and they reside in Idaho.

Josh Trandall 1996 and 1999

HALL OF FAME

Josh Trandall earned his Bachelor of Science in Education in 1996 before returning for his master’s in 1999. He was track and field national place winner in 1992 and 1993 and track national place winner in 1992 and 1993. The Huskers posted wins over a trio of NCAA Tournament teams before capping the season with a win over Purdue in the Big Ten Tournament – the program’s first Big Ten Tournament victory.
1970 Marian (Syljuberget) Gallipo, Aberdeen, received the Daily Point of Light national award for volunteering at Lincoln Elementary School.

1972 Steve Pelzl, Aberdeen, has been inducted into the South Dakota Golf Association Hall of Fame.

1974 Curt Fredrickson coaches the Northern State Women’s basketball team, which qualified for the 64-team national tourney.

1980 Terry Dosch, Aberdeen, has been inducted into the South Dakota Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

1931 Hazel (Hoien) Murdock, Portland, Ore., is the oldest living graduate of NSU. She will be 102 in February.

1955 Milo Opp, Aberdeen, and wife, Arlene, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Feb. 14, 2014.

1960 Earl Randall, Aberdeen, celebrated his 85th birthday on Nov. 30, 2013.

1970 Lorraine (Schlomer) Fowler, Glenham, celebrated her 80th birthday on Nov. 27, 2013.


2003 Ryan Wilhelm, Sioux Falls, and wife, Sarah, a son, Knox Christopher, on Dec. 8, 2013.

2004 Stacey (LeDuc) Lust, Aberdeen, and husband, Steven, a son, Tiegen Evariste, on Dec. 10, 2013.

2009 Jessica (Deuel) Hagen, Aberdeen, and husband, Eric, a daughter, Rylie Marie Hagen, on Sept. 17, 2013.


1945 Grace (Rabenberg) Beaman, Selby, on Feb. 16, 2014.

1948 Lois (Esche) Beckler, Aberdeen, on Dec. 16, 2013.

1949 Helen Mae (Morrison) Kramlich, Fargo, N.D., on March 6, 2014.


1951 Raymond Schmidt, Aberdeen, on Nov. 29, 2013.


1960 Donald Cassels, Owatonna, Minn., on March 8, 2014.


1964 Sharon (Berreth) McLeod, Brule, Neb.


1984 Austin Neil Dockter, Sioux Falls, on March 5, 2014.


19984 Dan Small Sr., Aberdeen, on March 5, 2014.

Memorials may be sent to the Helen Grabowska Scholarship, c/o NSU Foundation, Beckman Building, 620 15th Avenue S.E., Aberdeen SD 57401.
JOIN ALUMNI, FRIENDS, AND CURRENT STUDENTS TO CELEBRATE NORTHERN TRADITION!

OCT. 4, 2014
GYPSY DAYS 2014

COMMUNITY LUNCHEON
Oct. 2, 11:30 a.m., NSU Student Center

50 YEAR CLUB LUNCHEON
Oct. 3, 11:30 a.m., NSU Student Center

HALL OF FAME BANQUET
Oct. 3, 5 p.m., Dakota Event Center

ALL DECADES FINE ARTS REUNION
Oct. 3, 7 p.m., Dakota Event Center

ALL DECADES TRACK AND CROSS COUNTRY REUNION
Oct. 3, 7 p.m., Dakota Event Center

ALUMNI TAILGATE
Oct. 4, noon, Swisher Field

NSU FOOTBALL VS. MINOT STATE
Oct. 4, 2:30 p.m., Swisher Field