Opportunity. It’s out there.

Right now, the future is brighter than ever for your financial growth and you need advisors who see the right opportunities.

Our wealth management team offers well-designed, carefully crafted plans to fit your goals and comfort levels. Raymond James Financial Services complements American State Bank’s Trust Department services. Together, we identify the right opportunities in today’s economy to help you reach your goals—and far beyond.
**Board of Directors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Kenneth Heen</td>
<td>President, American State Bank &amp; Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Jerry Zunich</td>
<td>Owner/Agent, Farmer’s Union Insurance Utility Man and Locator, Mountrail-Williams Electric Cooperative Owner, DeMars Foods, LLP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Duane DeMars</td>
<td>Electric Cooperative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Pete Furuseth</td>
<td>Attorney at Law, Furuseth Law Firm, PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dean Aafedt</td>
<td>Co-owner, Kasmer &amp; Aafedt Oil, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Greg Everson</td>
<td>Owner/Director, Everson Funeral Home Pharmacist, White Drug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jerry Gratz</td>
<td>Owner, Triangle Electric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Donn Hoffelt</td>
<td>(retired) Owner, McKenzie County Abstract &amp; Title Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charlotte Schikle</td>
<td>(retired) Manager, National Oilwell Varco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bruce Stoner</td>
<td>General Surgeon, Mercy Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Brett Vibeto</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Staff**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Terry Olson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Manager</td>
<td>Carmin Klein-Papineau</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Teton Booster Club Members**

- Hunter Berg
- Rick Clemes
- Shawn Cote
- Rita Ann Deichert
- Robb Floco
- Pete Furuseth
- Jerry Gratz
- John Kasmer
- John Liffrig
- Janet Tangedal
- Tammy Lyson
- Brett Vibeto
- Larry Grondahl
- Lee Halvorson
- Brion Norby
- Zach Waitman
- Chet Hill
- Alissa Hochn
- Jan Skadaland
- Ricky Waitman
- Penny Soiseth
- John Wesoloski
- Tom Suelzle

**A Note From the Executive Director**

Greetings from the Williston State College Foundation. We are proud to bring you this year’s annual report and hope you find it interesting and informative.

The 2009-2010 year was a good one. Your response to our “Make the Promise” appeal was outstanding. Through your generosity, the upgrade and beautification of our campus has begun and will continue.

We give special thanks to everyone who contributed in the form of memorials, memberships and endowments. Every gift is appreciated. From the $10 memorials to the $100,000 gift, they all show the same common thread—that people care about Williston State. Ardean and Coke Aafedt continue to support WSC with their generous gift for the construction and furnishings of a state-of-the-art conference room in the new residence hall. Gate City Bank and Roger and Dean Rien gave generous unrestricted gifts that will be used to upgrade our campus as well.

Our board has been very engaged and supportive in efforts to move the college forward. Dr. Nadolny and I have worked diligently to inform the public and gather feedback about the college’s master plan. The master plan is visionary and generates excitement and enthusiasm wherever we present it. This plan creates an expanded campus that not only includes the tech center and residence hall that are going up now, but also a science wing addition, corporate center, and fine arts center. The plan really aims to bolster quality of life, first for the students, and also for everyone in the entire region.

This year’s most exciting board action was to increase scholarships to almost one million dollars. The gifts from donors Otto and Alma Boss, Charles Ball, and Olaf and Bertina Nelson really helped to spearhead the increase. Oil income from production and leasing generated the revenue from these funds, which are designated for scholarships. Scholarships are available for almost all regional students. The Scholarship Celebration was well attended and gave students an opportunity to thank donors. Remember, a gift of $1,000 or more gets you an invitation to our President’s Circle dinner. Last year our guest speaker was former Miss North Dakota, journalist Roxana Saberi. Her presentation added a remarkable educational element to a very enjoyable evening.

Our board will change as we lose three members who have served out their terms. Ken Heen, Donn Hoffelt, and Greg Everson have contributed a great deal of time and energy to the foundation and Williston State College. They deserve our thanks for a job well done.

We are confident that future news from the WSC foundation will be even bigger and better. And it is only possible because of your support and your confidence in Williston State College.

Till next time, go Tetons!
## Statement of Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue Gains &amp; Other Support</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Unrestricted - Designated</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted - Gaming</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted Foundation</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>$71,246</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$18,090</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$274,993</td>
<td>$364,429</td>
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<td>Assets Donated from WSC - Trailers</td>
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<td>$156,964</td>
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<td>$40,800</td>
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<td>Interest and Dividends</td>
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<td>$273,029</td>
<td>$673</td>
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<td>$302,098</td>
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<td>Gain on Sale of Assets</td>
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<td>Oil Income</td>
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<td>$524,259</td>
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<td>Bingo Income</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>Pull-Tabs Income</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>$1,891,712</td>
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<td>$1,891,712</td>
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<td>Machine Pull-Tabs Income</td>
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<td>Blackjack Income</td>
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<td>$2,063,895</td>
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<td>Special Benefit Funds</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
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<td>Unrealized Gain on Investments</td>
<td>$14,203</td>
<td>$2,864</td>
<td>$413,942</td>
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<td>$431,009</td>
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</table>

### Net Assets Released from Restrictive Transfer of Restricted Funds

- $6,167,873 - ($1,792,181) ($4,375,692) $103,504 -

Total Revenue, Gains & Other Support

- $6,745,203 $2,864 ($513,774) $20,785 $378,497 $6,633,575

## Statement of Activities - Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Unrestricted - Designated</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted - Gaming</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted Foundation</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$4,414</td>
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<td>Bingo Packages</td>
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<td>Bad Checks Expense</td>
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<td>Depreciation</td>
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<td>Donations to Other Charities</td>
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<td>Equipment Expense</td>
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<td>Gaming Licenses</td>
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<td>Gaming Payouts</td>
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<td>Gaming Short</td>
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<td>Gaming Taxes</td>
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<td>Insurance</td>
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<td>Legal &amp; Accounting</td>
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<td>Net Capital Losses, Realized on Investments</td>
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<td>Office &amp; Postage</td>
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<td>Payroll Taxes</td>
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<td>Property Taxes</td>
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<td>Pension Expense</td>
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<td>Premiums &amp; Prizes</td>
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<td>Public Relations</td>
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<td>Pull Tabs Expense</td>
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<td>Rental</td>
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<td>Repairs</td>
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<td>Salaries</td>
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<td>$329,863</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarships &amp; Grants</td>
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<td>$560,620</td>
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<td>Scholarships &amp; Grants-Gaming Trust Fd.</td>
<td>$340,155</td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
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<td>$4,338</td>
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<td>Trust Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest Expense</td>
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<td>$636</td>
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<td>Teton Thunder Newsletter</td>
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<td>$36,632</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Events</td>
<td>$27,989</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>$27,989</td>
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<td>Contract Services</td>
<td>$18,580</td>
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<td>$18,580</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utilities &amp; Telephone</td>
<td>$9,014</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>$9,014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vehicle Expense</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>$2,148</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Investment Loss</td>
<td>$4,999</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>$4,999</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loss on Sale of Assets</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>$19,941</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$10,914</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$10,914</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL EXPENSES**

- $5,437,903 $2,864 ($513,774) $20,785 $378,497 $1,195,672

### Change in Net Assets

- $1,482,024 $2,864 ($513,774) $20,785 $378,497 $1,195,672

### Net Assets, Beginning of Year

- $1,109,247 $2,864 ($513,774) $20,785 $378,497 $1,195,672

### Net Assets, End of Year

- $1,591,270 $2,864 ($513,774) $20,785 $378,497 $1,195,672

### Financial Statements

For the year ended June 30, 2010

The Foundation is audited annually by Brady, Martz & Associates, P.C.
### Scholarships & Grants

#### A & R Scholarship
- Academic Excellence Day Scholarship
- Alvin Heem Scholarship
- Amelia Evanston Information Technology Scholarship
- Amelia Evanston Scholarship
- Amy & Steve Yttredahl Rova Senger Goddard Memorial Scholarship
- Art Jackman Scholarship
- Art Wood Grant
- Arthur M. & Margaret Augedahl Scholarship
- Aurthur Opol Memorial Fund
- Calvin Hysen Memorial Scholarship
- Carol Shahin Scholarship
- Carroll Sinnness Scholarship
- Cathleen L. & Dean R. Striden Scholarship
- Charles Ball Scholarship
- Tuition Grant
- Cheryl A. White Scholarship
- Christian Estunen Memorial Scholarship
- Clyde & Hilda Nose Scholarship
- Colleen (Coke) Aafedt Athletic Scholarship
- Crighton, Dickson, First National Scholarship
- Colleen (Coke) Aafedt Athletic Scholarship
- Colette Home Scholarship
- Christian Estunen Scholarship

#### FACULTY GRANTS

- Dr. Willard & Hazel Wright Distinguished Professorship Award
- Ronald C. & Austril L. Crighton Scholarship
- Williston State College Foundation Scholarship
- Williston State College Employee Tuition Scholarship
- Williston State College Foundation Scholarship

### Liabilities

#### Current Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taxes Payable - Gaming</td>
<td>$29,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$2,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFLAC Withholding</td>
<td>($1,337)</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Income Tax Withholding</td>
<td>$718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Tax Payable - Gaming</td>
<td>$59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unreported Gaming Income</td>
<td>$1,663</td>
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</table>

#### Long Term Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annuities Payable</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Related Party Payable (Net of Current Portion Above)</td>
<td>$109,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Total Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$2,149,386</td>
<td>$3,112,779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$799</td>
<td>$1,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<td>$30,827</td>
<td>$33,147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$7,930,003</td>
<td>$5,807,671</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Investments

#### Agency Accounts
- $3,474,895
- $2,761,850

#### Other Stocks & Bonds
- $3,941,579
- $2,881,116

#### Mineral Rights
- $190,887
- $190,887

#### Building
- $225,000
- $225,000

#### Less Accumulated Depreciation
- ($11,531)
- ($6,406)

#### Total Investments
- $7,930,003
- $5,807,671

### Pledges Receivable

- $18,609
- $21,960

#### Allotment for Doubtfull Accounts
- ($12,527)
- ($7,573)

#### Total Pledges Receivable
- $6,282
- $14,587

### Other Assets

#### Loans Receivable (Net of Allowance for Loan Loss of $1,400 in 2010 and $2,500 in 2009)
- $173,368
- $214,812

#### Related Party Receivable (Net of Current Portion Above)
- $4,000
- $0

#### Total Other Assets
- $177,368
- $214,812

### Total Assets

- $10,985,634
- $9,820,671

### Financial Position

- Current Assets 2010: $2,149,386
- Current Assets 2009: $3,112,779
- Cash on Hand: $799
- Net Property and Equipment: $372,562
- Total Assets: $10,985,634

- Total Liabilities and Net Assets 2010: $9,820,671
- Total Liabilities and Net Assets 2009: $8,242,671

- Total Net Assets: $10,768,047
- Permanently Restricted: $5,984,919
- Foundation: $10,985,634

The Foundation is audited annually by Brady, Martz & Associates, P.C.
INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Andean & Colleen (Coke) Aafedt
Ardean & Colleen (Coke) Aafedt
Gary & Caral Adamson
Jeff Alitzer & Lynn Adamson
Jerald & Diana Alritz
Diane Anderson
Dr. Wayne & Jennifer Anderson
Kacey Anderson
Ken Anderson
Orvela P. Anderson
Rodney & Sharon Anderson
Shirley J. Anderson
Gary Ammon
Stephanie & Lisa Ash
Jon W. Bockes
Anne & Judy Barbeau
Jerald & Dana Basol
Gerard & Ruby Bauer
Paul & Kristin (Aammon) Beamichman
Ellis & Carol Berg
Hunter Berg
Gary Beckel
Clifford & Suzanne Banks
Charles & Andrea Black
David & Cindy Brown
Joan Burns
Connie Cottodina
Lisa Dalley
Michael & Barbara Danoels
Doune & Joanm Demers
Don “Chip” Derin
Larry & Elaine Dionnen
Dellin & Lorena Easton
Fred Eberle
Robert J. Eyeron
Mitch Fearing
Sandra Feating
Adeline Folksold
Gary Folkstad
Pete & Lance Forsathi
Jared & Hollee Gaffin
Daphne Garrett
Larry Guinland Family
Wallace & Sherry Germundson
Everett Gilbert
Jay & Lisa Gilbert
Carol Szczeznik Grund
Jennie Gramani
Gerard & Kim Grad
Robert Groupe
Dorothy E. Graves
Stanley & Nina Gravo
Erling & Phylis Groene
Denis Gunlikson
Latinia Guinland
Roger & Pamela Guinland
Wally & Ruth Gunlikson
Diane Hagen
Clarat J. Hamon
Elian & Tino Harshous
Bruce & Sarah Haugen
Dale Haugen
Michael & Janice Haugen
Nick Haugen
Denise & Jan Haely
Ken Heen
Kelly Hell
Andrea Hellier
Maxine Heller
Dilebier Hellman
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Left to right: Dr. Raymond Nadolny, WSC President; Roxanne Llewellyn, Manager, Lake City Bank - Williston; and Terry Olson, WSC Foundation Executive Director.
Who can you trust in today’s financial marketplace?

By Douglas E. Taylor

The ongoing recession. The Bernie Madoff swindle. A rattled stock market. Increasingly complex financial instruments. All of these factors have worked together in recent years to introduce considerable doubt and uncertainty into the minds of Americans. Talk to investors today and they will ask: What should I do now? Who can I really trust?

These are the right questions for prudent investors to be asking. The truth is that you can’t afford to trust your financial future to just anyone. And the problem today is that there are a blizzard of terms being used by individuals – self proclaimed “financial advisers,” “financial planners,” “wealth managers,” and so on – that sound impressive but actually require little or nothing in terms of special training, licensing or professional certification.

So what’s an investor to do? The good news is that there is a place to turn: a financial professional who has acquired the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ certification awarded by Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards Inc. There is no doubt whatsoever about who has done the hard work necessary to earn the right to call themselves a “CFP® professional.”

The CFP® mark is a meaningful credential that has evolved over 25 years. It is a recognized professional distinction. The CFP® certification is evidence that the financial professional in question has met strict standards for education, examination, and experience.

The CFP® professional is not only knowledgeable and experienced. The holder of CFP® mark is actually obligated to put the interests of his or her client first – this is known as the “fiduciary standard.” It means that the No. 1 job of the financial planner is to take care of your bottom line and look after your interests – unlike some financial professionals who may be primarily motivated to profit at your expense, regardless of how your fortunes fare in the process. CFP® professionals meet stringent competency requirements (exam, experience and continuing education) and adhere to a fiduciary standard in which they put their client’s interests first and foremost. Nearly 350 educational programs at more than 200 institutions across the country offer financial planning curricula registered with CFP Board. Individuals who complete the course of study offered by one of these programs satisfy the coursework component of CFP Board’s certification requirements and become eligible to apply to take the CFP® Certification Examination.

This is no “walk in the park” for would-be CFP® certificants. The CFP Board’s rigorous education standards are designed to make sure that individuals possess the core knowledge needed to practice personal financial planning. Individuals seeking CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ certification are required to complete wide-ranging coursework that covers the seven major financial planning areas – general principles of financial planning, insurance planning and risk management, employee benefits planning, investment planning, income tax planning, retirement planning and estate planning.

As you might expect from a process that is so demanding, not everyone in the financial planning community can “make the grade.” In fact, there are now more than 62,000 CFP® professionals in the United States, but according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are more than 149,000 “personal financial advisors.”

Research shows that once investors learn about the rigors and demands of CFP® certification, they will want to deal with a CFP® professional. It’s not difficult to understand why: If the worlds of law and medicine were organized in such a way that anyone could hang out a shingle, wouldn’t you pick a professional with a recognized license or other certification over a self-proclaimed expert?

We live in a risky world today when it comes to financial matters. Sometimes, it seems as though you can’t pick up a newspaper without reading about a new financial swindle, a major downturn in the stock market or some complicated new financial instrument. As more and more Americans take on greater responsibility for their investments and financial future, they need more than just help. They will need a real partner in whom they can invest their trust. That is where the CFP® professional comes in.

Douglas E. Taylor is President of Williston Investment Group, Inc. which is located in Williston, ND. He has been a CFP® certificant since 1993.

“The truth is that you can’t afford to trust your financial future to just anyone.”

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In just six months time, we will be celebrating our fiftieth year as one of North Dakota’s eleven colleges and universities. Our career and technical center opens in April. We open a new front door in July. We open a new, state-of-the-art residence hall in August. And there is no better time.

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Join the President’s Circle for a gift of $1000 or more and enjoy a relaxing dinner with WSC President Dr. Nadolny, 2 mugs, tote bag, first aid kit, and a travel bag.
For Celeste Lindberg of Sidney, Montana, the dream of getting a degree in Massage Therapy is within grasp. The dream started when she worked as a CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) in a Sidney extended care center. “I love to care for people and make them feel better, and Massage Therapy lets me do what I love to do.”

Celeste will finish her Massage Therapy degree in the spring of 2011 and she is one student who is “excited to enter the world of work.”

“Williston State has been a learning experience, in a lot of ways,” according to Celeste. Her career path started back in Sidney High School where she was active in speech, drama and softball. As a high school student she found herself to be undecided going into the spring of her senior year at SHS, but all of that would change with a tour of Williston State College. “Yes, it was a last minute decision. I wasn’t quite sure what all of my options were,” according to Celeste, “But the minute I took a tour of Williston State College it fit me perfectly!” She had always wanted to stay in this area so in the fall of 2009 she enrolled at Williston State College.

Celeste has found the Massage Therapy program to be challenging, and fulfilling. This year she has started her clinical training, which allows her to put her skills to work on volunteer patients ranging from faculty members and students to community members who are able to give an hour or two of their time to let students practice Massage Therapy techniques. “At first I would get tired and stiff, but now I am stronger and I feel like my patients are benefitting from what I am doing. You get attached to your patients and several of my patients continue to schedule with me. That makes me feel like I am doing a good job.”

Celeste has high praise for the Massage Therapy program at Williston State College, and especially for the faculty in the program. “The faculty are here to help you succeed. We even have an Academic Skills Center where students can go and get help if they are having challenges in their school work.” The one-on-one tutoring in the Academic Skills Center is just another important service provided to students at WSC.

But as we all know, academics is only part of student life on campus. Celeste said that Williston State has a lot of campus activities for students: dances and contests just to name a few, along with various clubs to keep students active during down time and on weekends. But student involvement doesn’t stop there. When Celeste was a freshman she was part of the ambassador program that gave tours to potential students and their parents. “When I was an ambassador I would share that Williston State College is like a family, and the campus is a very friendly environment where everyone knows your first name.”

Of course parents wanted to know about the financial aid part and I would tell them that Williston State is the most cost effective college in the state, “They get a lot for their money here.”

The new buildings have the campus excited, according to Celeste. She is currently a Resident Assistant in Dickson hall, but on our tour we were able to see a display of furniture combinations for the new dorm. Students were being asked to take a survey on which furniture they liked best. “The students like being part of change. It will be exciting to have a new dormitory on campus with fresh, new furniture.” For Celeste, Williston State College has given her a great start on her career as a Massage Therapist. When asked if she had anything else to add to her thoughts about Williston State College, Celeste smiled and with a clenched fist said “Go Tetons!”

“Williston State College is like a family, and the campus is a very friendly environment.”
Her smile is contagious, as is her attitude. When Teton head volleyball coach Alissa Hoehn tells you about her first year guiding the women’s volleyball program, you can feel the pride in a year of accomplishment that may have fallen short in goals, but you know it was not because her team did not work hard. Their final game, a loss to rival Wahpeton, was hard fought, “I was really proud of our team, Wahpeton, was hard fought, “I was really proud of our team, but you know it was not because they lost, it was because they contributed both on and off the court.”

When they leave Williston State they should not only be better players, but better people.” Alissa feels that Williston State is a great place to mold her players into good citizens. “I loved my time at Williston State as a student, and when there was an opportunity to come back, it was an easy decision.” That decision was made even easier in that Alissa still has strong ties to her family. Her parents Becky and Wally still live in Saskatchewan, and travel to as many of Alissa’s games as possible. “I had such a great career at WSC, and after being at nationals, it seemed like a good time for my playing time to end, but it was also a good time to get into coaching.” Did she think she was going to coach? “I coached a 7th and 8th grade team in Saskatchewan and that was fun.”

After graduation it seemed natural for Alissa to return to her home in Saskatchewan and begin her teaching career. She then took a job at WSC Athletic Director Hunter Berg and an interview for the head volleyball coach position. “I knew immediately that this was the position for me” and so she hit the recruiting trail right after Christmas of 2009 to begin building the Teton for 2010 season. “The challenge every year is to replace half of your team. You are bringing in 6-7 kids every year.” And for a season that begins in late August and ends before Thanksgiving, the student athletes have to be prepared to work hard in every aspect of the game to achieve success – and success in the form of winning is what Alissa expects. “Beneath the smile and the nice personality I want there to be no question. I want to win.”

But winning on the court is only a one expectation of Alissa has for her team. “I want them to contribute both on and off the court. When they leave Williston State they should not only be better players, but better people.” Alissa feels that Williston State is a great place to mold her players into good citizens. “I loved my time at Williston State as a student, and when there was an opportunity to come back, it was an easy decision.” That decision was made even easier in that Alissa still has strong ties to her family. Her parents Becky and Wally still live in Saskatchewan, and travel to as many of Alissa’s games as possible. “I had such a great career at WSC, and after being at nationals, it seemed like a good time for my playing time to end, but it was also a good time to get into coaching.” Did she think she was going to coach? “I coached a 7th and 8th grade team in Saskatchewan and that was fun.”

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“20/20 Hindsight.” It’s easier to look back and relate as to how you would have changed your life based on experiences and reflections. For Stephanie Perdue Wetmore the journey to Park City, Montana, about 20 miles west of Billings, Montana, took her through several cities, a battle with cancer that has recently been declared cured, an undergraduate degree from UND, Masters Degree in Kinesiology and Health from the University of Wyoming, Doctor of Physical Therapy degree in Williston with the help of an academic scholarship. There are many fond memories of those two years at Williston State College. There were gatherings at Mom’s House and Pop’s house, the housing units on campus for athletes. One more memorable evening was when a biology lab teaching assistant held a study session, with whoever wanted to attend, to help the students study for a test the next day. “He came over and helped us all. He wasn’t getting paid, he just wanted to see us all succeed,” according to Stephanie, “That’s something you wouldn’t find in a larger school.” Her most memorable class was Camping Class with Phil Rabon. It was a lot of fun and Phil made it a great experience.” But it wasn’t all academics. “There was always something going on; always something to do. When I was there, there were enough people interested in playing in pep band that we were allowed to start a pep band even though one did not exist. We talked Mr. Doug Barta (then the junior high school band teacher) into being our pep band instructor. It was loads of fun!” Stephanie and her teammates also started a Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She also was able to earn money working at the local hospital as a Physical Therapy Aid. The money she earned helped pay for her education. “When I graduated from UND I owed a total of $2,700. I had classmates at UND that owed over $40,000. I had received a great education and was able to save money by starting at Williston State and living at home.”

“We had small class sizes and that allowed us to get a lot of individual attention.”
Her years after Williston State would find her finishing her Physical Therapy degree at UND. She and her husband, Mike, would move several times and start a family. They have two boys; Jim, now eight and John who is almost seven. They have settled in Park City, Montana and Stephanie now works at Stillwater Community Hospital in Columbus, Montana, where she is the Director of Rehabilitation Services, a job she loves and sees herself staying in for some time. She is in charge of Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy as well as Cardiac Rehab.

Recently Stephanie was declared cured of her battle with non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma. She continues to help others who battle cancer by getting involved in Relay for Life. She proudly shares that “My incredible team of 12 women raised $28,000 last year for Relay. It is one of my current passions.”

A goal is to expand the department as the hospital grows. “They are talking about building a new hospital in Columbus. It will be fun to be part of planning that campus. Maybe some day I can see myself teaching online courses.

And her years at Williston State? “I would not have changed a thing. Williston is a great place to go to school. It’s a great city with clean water, clean air. Whether you live there for 2 years or 20 years, it’s a great place to raise a family.”

And when it comes time, what will you tell your sons? “I will want them to look at Williston State. I suggested WSC to both of my nephews—I wanted them to take a look before they made a decision.”

So when it comes to her decision to attend Williston State College there are no regrets for Stephanie Wetmore, only a lot of great memories; “when we were able to travel in basketball we went to Phoenix, and we got a chance to travel to Minneapolis in volleyball. We were all very proud to wear the green and white and represent our school and our state. And later we had a chance to travel to Canada and there we represented our country.”

So according to Stephanie, Williston State was everything she expected, and more. “My experiences at Williston State are something I won’t forget.”
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