WILLISTON STATE COLLEGE FOUNDATION:
BRINGING COMMUNITIES & COLLEGE TOGETHER

TETON THUNDER

LISA PETERSON
ALUMNI PROFILE

ATHLETIC UPDATES

HISTORIC BASEBALL
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WHAT A DIFFERENCE FIVE YEARS CAN MAKE.

Spring 2015 saw record enrollment of 1,000 students. Thirty-eight percent of these students were full-time, and sixty-two percent were part-time. During the 2013-2014 fiscal year TrainND, the workforce training division, enrolled 16,205 total (11,696 unduplicated) students and contracted with 381 businesses. Thanks to the Williams County Scholarship, which awards graduating high school seniors a two-year, tuition-free scholarship to WSC, enrollment is expected to increase dramatically. WSC has already had a 117% application increase for the Fall 2015 semester.

Stevens Hall has been redesigned for easy and visible access to Student Services, Instruction, and the Student Success Center. With the completion of the Stevens Hall renovation, the Learning Commons and Student Success Center are now connected, which means sharing of space and resources is simplified for students as well as faculty and staff. TrainND added another 29,000 square feet in training space.

What a difference five years can make. Williston State has prepared itself to be the fastest growing college in the state, in the highest cost region of the country. Williston State has demonstrated that investing in northwest North Dakota can produce significant results, significant returns, and significant access to higher education opportunity in northwest North Dakota.

Dr. Raymond Nadolny
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### INSTITUTIONAL UPDATE

Beginning June 29, Williston State College will have a new vice president for academic affairs. Dr. John Miller holds a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) from University of Idaho, with emphases in supervision of instruction and education leadership. He comes to WSC with a wealth of knowledge and thirty years of experience in education. In his previous position as instructional dean at the College of Southern Idaho, Miller was responsible for the administration of technical and general education programs in agricultural science, trades and industry, education, information technology, and business.

WSC also has a new nursing coordinator. Gail Raasakka has been teaching at the New Town site for two years and has many years of working in the medical community. Raasakka has been working closely with outgoing nursing coordinator Janet Johnson to ensure a smooth transition of leadership.

WSC Foundation welcomes both Miller and Raasakka to their new positions at WSC and looks forward to working with them as they help guide the college into an exciting new school year.

### ATHLETICS UPDATE

Teton Hockey will have a new location come November, when the Raymond Center will open its doors as the new “Home of the Tetons”.

“We are very excited to be able to move Teton Hockey to Raymond Center,” notes Teton Head Hockey Coach John Bowkus. “With this move, we will have a venue that we will be able to call all our own.”

WSC Athletic Director Dan Artamenko is pleased about the move. “The Agri-Sports Complex provides a great rink and atmosphere for hockey, but due to location and ice-time capacity, your fan base tends to be the same people,” Artamenko notes. “Being in a location that is easily visible, closer to major employers such as Mercy Hospital and WSC, we feel fans are more likely to check out our games.”

“Additionally, moving into town allows us access to high-speed Internet so we can video stream our games online,” adds Artamenko. After successful streaming with more than a thousand views per basketball game last year, Teton Athletics appreciates the importance of providing the viewing options for people who are unable to attend games.

### MOVING ON

Two sophomores from the Teton Men’s Basketball team signed their scholarships to play for four-year universities on April 15.

Teyvon Myers, the NJCAA leading scorer, signed with West Virginia University. West Virginia advanced to the NCAA Sweet 16 before losing to #1 ranked Kentucky this year. Myers will bring much needed offensive punch with him, as he averaged over twenty-five points per game on 45% shooting.

Mykle Rud, a sophomore out of Garrison, ND, has signed with Grace University in Omaha, Nebraska. Rud played in sixteen games as a sophomore and scored thirty-two points on 57% shooting.

### GLOW IN THE PARK

Teton Athletics collaborated with Williston’s Band Day committee to host a neon-themed fun run/walk on May 8, the night before Band Day. “Glow in the Park provides a great opportunity for the Teton athletes to get out in the community and help raise money for the programs,” explains Megan Theis, Glow in the Park coordinator. “The Band Day committee works very hard to honor the heritage of the original festival while incorporating fresh ideas into this eighty-four year-old event.”

“This is a great addition to Band Day,” agrees Sabrina Ramey, event and communication coordinator for the Williston Convention and Visitor Bureau. Glow in the Park is for people of all ages and fitness levels to get active supporting Teton Athletics. Participants ran or walked the 5K that started at the fairgrounds and continued through Spring Lake Park.

### RELAY FOR LIFE @ WSC

The Upper Missouri Relay for Life will be held on WSC’s campus this year. Please join us July 31.
Born and raised in Williston, Lisa Peterson knew that Williston State College was where she wanted to take her general education classes. She didn’t know what career she wanted to pursue right away, so she thought living at home and saving money would be better for her future.

Luckily for her, she discovered a family-like atmosphere at WSC, where the classes were small and the teachers were attentive. Neil Westergaard, for example, taught her anatomy and physiology and made a big impact. “I loved learning about the human body and how it works,” recalls Peterson. “I had a great teacher in Mr. Westergaard. After those classes I realized I wanted to pursue something in the medical field.”

After completing two years at WSC, Peterson transferred to Concordia College in Moorhead. “I was a little nervous transferring into higher-level science classes when I didn’t take Concordia’s lower-level classes,” Peterson remembers. “But I was very pleased with the knowledge base I had and how WSC had prepared me. I wasn’t ever behind the students who started at Concordia, and that was because of the great education I got at WSC.”

Peterson also credits her brother Brad for helping her discover the career she loves. After he spent some time shadowing a physician assistant, he recommended she do the same. “My brother knew being a PA might be right up my alley, so I checked it out,” explains Peterson. “I saw that there were a lot of opportunities in becoming a PA. When I was at Concordia a lot of people were applying for PA school, as opposed to medical schools, because it was a relatively new field. It’s a good profession to be able to do a lot of the things I wanted. I wanted to have kids and not be in school for the next decade of my life, but I knew I still wanted to be in the medical field.”

Upon graduating from Concordia in May 2005, Peterson continued her studies at Rocky Mountain College in Billings. Their Master of Physician Assistant Studies program has similar prerequisites to a medical school, but despite the rigorous selection process, Peterson was able to get in right away.

Peterson completed the twenty-six month MPAS program, doing some of her clinical work at the Craven-Hagan Clinic in Williston. After her graduation in 2007, Peterson was hired full-time at Craven-Hagan in family practice. That same year Peterson married her high school sweetheart Steve, who had also attended WSC and played baseball for the Teton. Both had found jobs in their professions, and they were able to be back with their families. “My husband was already working as an electrician in Williston, which is what he went to school for,” notes Peterson, “So I knew I wanted to be in Williston, and I was lucky enough to land the job.”

Peterson has been working for Craven-Hagan for seven years, seeing patients at the clinic much like a typical primary care doctor. “I work under the supervision of Dr. Kemp, who has been here for a long time and has taught me so much,” Peterson explains. “I consult with the doctor if there are any questions or make a referral to one if the patient needs a higher level of care, but I am capable of handling most of the concerns that come in. I handle a lot of chronic medical illnesses, a lot of woman’s issues, and children with coughs and colds.”

Since October, Peterson has also been working as physician assistant to the plastic surgeon in Williston.

“That is another great thing about being a PA; there is a lot of opportunity to move around and try new things,” Peterson notes. “You didn’t have to go to school for a specific specialty. You can find out what area of medicine you like and get on the job training to work in that field.”

Working at Craven-Hagan is not Peterson’s only focus. Since having her son Jace, (almost 4) and daughter Elyn (22 months), Peterson has limited her time at the clinic to three and a half days a week. “It’s great to work at a place that allows me to have such a good work-life balance,” she adds.

Peterson attributes a lot of her success to hard work and the community she grew up with. “I love the sense of community here in Williston and that people know me and trust me to help them with their medical needs,” Peterson explains. “I work hard to help patients. There are a lot of people you cannot help, but the ones that you can really outweigh all the ones that you can’t. When people want to come back to me, it gives me satisfaction that they trust and want me to help them.”

If she had to do it over again, Peterson wouldn’t do anything different. She loved her time at WSC and her suggestion to any students interested in pursuing a medical career would be to consider Williston State College. “I would pick WSC in a heartbeat,” she says. “It is a great school for a two-year degree and is a great stepping stone if you want to transfer to another college, especially for anyone thinking about taking advantage of the Williams County Scholarship.”

Peterson also recommends that students take an active role in choosing their future careers. “If you find something you really love and want to pursue it, try to get involved with opportunities to shadow in that field,” she suggests. “Try to interview people and do more than just read about the profession. See if it is something that still interests you after you shadow someone. I did that and it answered a lot of questions.”

Peterson understands that with the oil boom the bad often comes with good. “It has been hard on healthcare in Williston, mainly just because of a lack of providers and more patients that need to be seen,” she notes. “I would love nothing more than for more providers to come to the Williston area to keep up with the demand.” On a personal level, however, she thinks the oil boom has caused a lot of good growth. “I love raising my family in Williston,” she adds. “There are a lot of young people in the area now and a lot of good programs and activities to do with young kids.” Peterson is proud to see that Williston still maintains the strong sense of community that helped her get to where she is today, and she is glad to be a part of it for future generations.
CIAO ITALIA

WSC students, faculty, and staff, as well as other members of the community, traveled to Italy in March on a school-sponsored trip. Thirteen travelers landed in Rome on March 8, and they hit the ground running. Over the course of their ten-day trip, the WSC travelers experienced Italy at its finest, with Pompeii, Rome, Vatican City, Ostia Antica, the Tuscan countryside, Florence, and Venice among their major destinations.

From driving on roads that are thousands of years old in Naples to taking a hydrofoil to the island of Capri, Italy took the travelers’ breath away. “You would be walking down the street in Rome and there would be buildings 200 to 300 years old, and then you could turn a corner and there was one that was 2,000 years old,” recalls Kim Weissmann, associate professor and chair of the WSC Arts and Human Sciences Department. “It was simply amazing how old everything was and how much it is treasured.”

The travelers experienced Italian culture at its finest. They learned to cook authentic Italian meals, to identify leather, and to determine the value of gold. They witnessed some filming of the newest Bond film in Rome, and even trained to be gladiators after visiting the Colosseum. “We had swords, shields, and bows and arrows,” notes Weismann. “At the end of training there was a duel. It was a lot of fun.”

From museums and gondola rides to piazzas and food, each moment provided a new learning experience. “My absolute favorite part of the trip was spending time on a family farm in Tuscany,” says Andrea Heller, former WSC Bookstore manager. “Lunch was planned for us and we were able to sample the cheese, bread, salami, pasta, olive oil, and wine all produced there. If I ever get the chance to go back that will be my first destination.”

Katie Peterson agreed, “I enjoyed getting to experience some true Italian culture. We were able to learn to cook Italian food, visit an Italian farm, have an Italian BBQ prepared for us by our tour guide’s friends, and learn about Italian culture from our amazing tour guide.”

WSC worked with WorldStride, a company that specializes in travel packages for schools. WSC has worked with them on past trips to Norway and Spain, as well as the upcoming trip to Peru in March 2016. For more information about the Peru trip, please contact Kim Weismann at 701.774.4503.
April was Sexual Abuse Awareness month, and this year several WSC students, faculty, and staff participated in the “It’s on Us” initiative, an awareness campaign to help put an end to sexual assault on college campuses.

To start off the month, WSC Counseling Services created a video promoting the campaign, which streamed on WSC’s YouTube channel and Facebook page.

“I think a campaign like this shows our community that sexual assault is a topic on our radar at WSC, and we are capable of addressing it,” says Leah Hoffman, mental health counselor at WSC.

If it’s not talked about, it becomes a taboo topic. If a person is assaulted, they may reflect back on these efforts and feel more comfortable getting the appropriate help. I hope it shows our community that we are proactive, and it instills confidence in us that we are capable of addressing these sensitive issues.”

For the final event of the month, WSC Counseling Services and Student Life hosted the “Walk a Mile in her Shoes” event on the front drive April 30.

“You can’t really understand another person’s experience until you’ve walked a mile in their shoes,” says Hoffman. “For this event we challenge men to literally walk one mile in women’s high-heeled shoes. It’s not easy or comfortable, but it is a creative and fun way to get the community to talk about this important issue.”

“We felt the walk would be a good opportunity to continue to promote our It’s On Us initiative, which focuses particularly on motivating college men to make a commitment to preventing sexual assault,” explains Hoffman. “By getting men involved, they can set new standards and become role models for younger classes. Our goal is to have each attendee walk away with more knowledge and understanding of the bystander effect and to feel more comfortable challenging each other to do the right thing.”

Walkers were asked to make donations, and some local businesses also sponsored employees by making donations on their behalf. All proceeds raised from the event went to the Family Crisis Shelter.

This spring, Williston State College Professor Richard Stenberg once again taught his course on historic baseball from the Nineteenth century. “It’s an eight-week course,” Stenberg says, “Studying 1870 rules and the distinct differences in baseball from when it began until today.”

Differences in the game as originally played range from lack of gloves and fair foul balls to dime fines from the umpire for excessive and uncomplimentary cranking (cheering from fans). These differences go on display with the capstone for the course: a full 1870s-period baseball game played on campus.

The event is a springtime classic at WSC. “It is awesome to see how interactive the game used to be,” says WSC Director of Creative Services Jenny Wolf, “and Stenberg is just so passionate and realistic that it is fun to watch.” Students, faculty, staff and their families attend every time the course comes around. The veterans who really want to get into the game bring their dimes.
THE NEW STEVENS HALL

STEVENS HALL REOPENED FOR CLASSES IN JANUARY 2015. IF YOU GET THE CHANCE STOP BY AND CHECK OUT THE CHANGES.
WORKFORCE TRAINING GRANT

In April, the North Dakota Department of Commerce announced workforce enhancement grants for Williston State College totaling $300,000. Workforce enhancement grants enable two-year colleges to access funds to create and enhance training programs addressing the workforce needs of North Dakota’s private-sector employers. The projects require a dollar-for-dollar match of all state money with private funds.

WSC received this grant to provide program enhancements and equipment funding for their oil field training and yard equipment training programs. “Oasis Petroleum donated equipment to support the TrainND Northwest Williston State College oil and gas training programs,” notes Oasis Vice President Finance and Treasurer Richard Robuck. “Oasis Petroleum has actively partnered with TrainND over the past three years.”

“Thanks to industry leaders like Oasis and the investment by the Department of Commerce, over 350 oil-related industry partners are supported in a challenging economy at a critical time in the industry,” adds WSC President Raymond Nadolny.

“The workforce enhancement grants help increase the capacity of our higher education institutions like WSC to provide a consistent stream of qualified workers educated right here in North Dakota,” explains Wayde Sick, workforce development director at the North Dakota Department of Commerce. “The partnership of industry, education, and state and local governments is needed to meet the developing workforce needs of North Dakota.”

Grant funds may be used for curriculum development, equipment, recruiting participants, and training and certifying instructors. Funds may not be used to supplant funding for current operations.

The Workforce Enhancement Council reviews all proposals and provides funding recommendations to the commissioner of the North Dakota Department of Commerce. The council consists of the private-sector membership of the North Dakota Workforce Development Council, the state director of the Department of Career & Technical Education, and the division director of the Workforce Development Division of the North Dakota Department of Commerce, who serves as the chair.

The North Dakota Department of Commerce works to improve the quality of life for North Dakota citizens by leading efforts to attract, retain and expand wealth. Commerce serves businesses and communities statewide through committed people and partners who offer valuable programs and dynamic services.
STUDENTS IN THE FIELD [TRIPS]

Students from Williston State College’s diesel and transportation program attended a series of field trips this spring, including tours of Gooseneck Implement on May 6 and Tractor & Equipment Co. on May 12.

These were the last two in a series of field trips arranged for the students by Brian Rencher, transportation instructor and TAACCCT grant director. “I learned that our students were tending to seek employment only at smaller businesses because they were feeling intimidated by dealerships’ size,” notes Rencher, “So I met with the advisory board and we decided to add dealership field trips to the program.” Students went on six field trips over the semester.

GOOSENECK IMPLEMENT

Students were greeted with a hot breakfast and warm sweatshirts, and Gooseneck Implement’s hospitality continued to be felt throughout the two-hour tour of the facility. Store Manager Brad Meyer discussed the history and success of Gooseneck Implement. Students learned about work on large agriculture machinery during their tour by meeting with Chris Muse, a John Deere Master Technician, and seeing his current projects firsthand. They also met with Dan Stadick, Gooseneck’s recruiter from Minot, who made the trip to share employment information and opportunities.

According to Stadick, Gooseneck’s interest in employing WSC graduates is really a testament to their teacher. “These students are receiving instruction in the diesel technology field from a fantastic instructor in Brian Rencher, so we know they will have a great understanding of the diesel engine when they come to work for us,” says Stadick. “Gooseneck considers their relationship with local schools to be critical and important for their future. There is a strong value in WSC students to our organization in the Williston and Stanley area because they are, for the most part, from the region and are aware of the challenges of living in the Bakken area.”

TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT CO.

Rencher and his students were met with smiles and welcomes from everyone at Tractor & Equipment Co. Project Support Manager Lance Bevier took the class to T&E’s boardroom and provided a history of CAT and Tractor & Equipment in the Williston area.

Later, Bevier provided CAT hats to the students as they went to explore the building. Students peered through safety goggles at the massive machinery while learning about the training T&E provides to their workers. “Opening the students’ eyes to the potential job opportunities with a great company like Tractor & Equipment Co, was just what this course needed,” Rencher says. “Students need to see the business firsthand and meet with employees to understand that dealerships are not intimidating but are welcoming.”

T&E has already hired one of Rencher’s students, Bobby Squires. “One of the best things that students can do is find employment while still attending school,” Rencher explains. “Squires is taking advantage of the job opportunities here and has found success with skills he learned in the classroom at WSC.”

The field trips appeared to be a big success, not only making the big dealerships a little less intimidating to students, but also showing students that they have value to these businesses. Rencher adds, “The commitment these businesses are showing to WSC and the transportation program by investing in the future Williston workforce is exciting.”

BY NATALIE POPKO
Williston State College made a big impression at SkillsUSA in Wahpeton April 19-21, with two students attending as state officers and one student winning gold.

“To have two state officers from one post-secondary school is very uncommon,” says Ken Quamme, chair of Business Technology at WSC. “We were lucky to have Jordan Cooley and Ryan Seidel elected last April, not to mention Dakota Hunter, who competed in Wahpeton and won gold. For a small as our team is, we are successful and well-represented in SkillsUSA on behalf of Williston State College and North Dakota.”

The WSC Business and Computers program has been involved with SkillsUSA since 2008. SkillsUSA can be best described as a partnership between students, teachers, and industry with the goal of preparing students for careers in technical and service occupations. “Everyone has a different perspective of what SkillsUSA is,” explains Quamme. “There is a local, state and national chapter and even international. It encompasses leadership for students in that secondary and post-secondary level.”

Each year, students elect officials to represent their state. “In North Dakota there are three representatives for post-secondary, two of whom were from Williston State College, Jordan and Ryan. The fact that we had two students was a tremendous honor,” notes Quamme.

“Training began last June in Bismarck to prepare us for the experiences we would encounter throughout the year at banquets, awards, and Nationals in Kansas City,” adds Seidel. “We were the face for SkillsUSA ND.”

WSC was also successful in the competition. Typically in the IT category, students are asked to dismantle and reassemble a computer as well as complete written and oral questions. Dakota Hunter won the gold in this competition and received a $1,000 scholarship from ITND (Information Technology for North Dakota), which will be applied to his tuition at WSC next year.

“I would recommend SkillsUSA to everyone,” says Cooley, who recently graduated from WSC. “I used to struggle to talk to people in large groups, but now I lead my peers at events. I am excited about my future with the leadership skills I learned from SkillsUSA. I enjoyed my time so much that I will be returning as an alumna next year.”

Quamme agrees, “I have watched my students in the past year and there has been tremendous growth. I have seen how SkillsUSA has made them better leaders.”

Though North Dakota has been participating in SkillsUSA for nearly forty-two years, little is known in the public about this group. Cooley is hoping to change this. “We would love for the community to become more involved, both financially and through community service projects.”

For more information about SkillsUSA, please contact Ken Quamme at ken.quamme@willistonstate.edu.

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A CHANCE TO SHINE AT SKILLSUSA

BY NATALIE POPKO
WSC SPRING SEMESTER IN REVIEW
Who better to become the new manager of the
Williston State College bookstore than someone
who has seen it grow over the last fifteen years?
Once a seasonal worker lending a helping hand,
Kayla Anderson has been in and out of the WSC
bookstore since she was in sixth grade, when her
mother first began working as its assistant manager.
Anderson transitioned into her new role just as her
mother, Kay Anderson, retired April 30.
Growing up in Williston, Anderson not only worked
in the WSC bookstore but attended WSC classes for
dual-credit in high school before attending NDSU.
“I have always loved the small atmosphere here at
WSC,” notes Anderson. “When I was at NDSU, if
you were going to take a test you had to bring your
ID; the classes were giant. Here at WSC, the classes
are smaller and the instructors actually know who
their students are. It seems more like a family.”
The bookstore was recently dedicated to Andrea
Heller, who is retiring as manager after twenty-
five years of service. She feels great leaving the
bookstore in Anderson’s hands. “Kayla is young and
there is much to learn about running a business, but
I think her passion and commitment to the job will
make her a great manager,” says Heller. “She is very
intelligent and also willing to try new things, and
she brings a young, fun vibe to the bookstore.”
Anderson has a big semester ahead of her in this
new role, with the Williams County Scholarship
starting Fall 2015. With free tuition, fees, and books
to any Williams County graduate, it is inevitable
that the bookstore will be busy in ways that are
not entirely predictable. Anderson is ready for the
challenge. “There are lots of unknowns with the
bookstore, with the Williams County Scholarship
beginning this fall,” she says. “With this time to
make preparations, and with always having my
mom and Andrea as references, I am feeling like I
can handle this.” Anderson adds, “The scholarship
is huge! I would have loved to have that option
when I was going to college. You can automatically
eliminate a bunch of student loans, and you
get a degree or can transfer. What an amazing
opportunity; it is great to be part of that.”
Anderson’s parents, Greg and Kay, are longtime
Williston residents, with Kay having worked at
the WSC Bookstore for fifteen years. Anderson’s
boyfriend, Adam Schneider, works in the oilfield.
When away from the bookstore, Anderson spends
most of her time with Adam and their son Jacob,
who was born in September.
Gary Bickel understands the importance of how an educator can change someone. If not for some encouragement from his academic advisor at Minot State University, Bickel might not have impacted those thousands of students over his thirty-five years of teaching, twenty-seven of which were at Williston State College.

Bickel began his college career studying business. Frustrated with his shorthand class, he was ready to give up and drop the course. “I thought it was the worst class I had ever taken,” Bickel recalls. “I went to my advisor to drop the course, and instead of accepting my request, she asked me to read some shorthand, and simply stated ‘you are doing wonderful.’ With that, I decided to not drop the class. I got straight A’s in shorthand for the next four quarters.”

Without her simple words of encouragement, Bickel is sure he would have dropped the class and not realized his calling: to help students as his advisor helped him. “I always told my students that if they ever thought of quitting, they should remember my story. Sometimes it is as simple as saying that they are doing a great job,” Bickel explains. “Every time I see my advisor to this day (she is in her nineties and doing great), I have to remind her how important she is. I really owe a lot of my success to her.”

Successful he was. After deciding to pursue education and earning a master’s degree from University of North Dakota, he began his teaching career in Epping in 1964. “A small school is a wonderful way to get experience,” says Bickel. “I would highly recommend it. I got involved in a lot of things, like prom, annual, yearbook, and band, and I even became principal. There are just so many more opportunities in a smaller school like that, and you can do more than just teach a bunch of classes.”

Bickel remained at WSC until April 1999. “When I retired, I said I never had a bad year in my thirty-five years; a bad moment, but never a bad day. I know many people might look at me and wonder what was wrong with me, but I just had such a good experience teaching,” Bickel says.

Bickel remains active in the community, selling antiques at Larry Lynne Antiques and playing the piano and singing at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. More than anything though, he just loves to be able to help people. “If someone needs help, I want to be there and support them,” adds Bickel, “Just as others have done for me.”
The quest for a third straight title, a prestigious feat in the NJCAA, provided an exciting season for Teton Hockey. With a new coaching staff and only five returning players, the learning curve was steep. The Tetons won five games and lost thirteen before the spring semester, but like most young teams, the second semester brought more maturity and awareness, and the team was able to rack up some wins, going nine and four in the spring semester, with wins over Dakota College at Bottineau, Weber State, and Midland University.

With two wins over Bottineau, WSC qualified for the national championship held in Binghamton, New York. The Tetons earned the #2 seed in the Frozen Four bracket and had to face host team SUNY Broome in the opening game. Maybe it was New York, maybe it was the bright lights of the championship rink, but anyone watching that game could tell the Tetons were playing at a higher level. They won the semi-final game against SUNY Broome 7-0 in the best defensive effort of the entire season. The Tetons advanced on to play Erie CC out of Buffalo, New York.

In the Championship game, the Tetons came out with a sense of urgency. They controlled the play of the game and impacted their size advantage against Erie. In the first period, the Tetons finally broke through Erie’s All-American Goalie William Korczynski when Taylor Jones took a puck behind the net and found Chris West wide open in front of the net. A quick pass and a slap shot sent the buck into the back of the net as the Tetons took a 1-0 lead. The turning point of the game came in the final seconds of the second period. With the score tied 1-1, the Tetons were applying heavy pressure. On a deflection, Jarrett Stark knocked down a puck into the net. It was a high stick, however, and the goal was not allowed. Early in the third period, All-American Trevor Evans netted Erie’s second goal, which ended up being the game winner as the Tetons couldn’t crack Korczynski.

Two Teton Hockey players were named All-American this year: sophomore Spencer Peratalo and freshman Shain Scheschuk. The Tetons will return quite a few players from the team, including Scheschuk, starting goalie Tanner Swift, and defensive anchor Tanner Fricke. The Tetons will return in the fall with a home game against the University of Colorado on October 15.
SEND US YOUR PICS

SUMMER
Furry Tetons
Dress your pets up in some Teton/WSC gear and send us some pictures.

Former Tetons
Whatever the decade, send us pictures of your “good old days.”

WINTER
Teton Weddings
Recently married? Anyone in the wedding a Teton? Let us know.

Tiny Tetons
Any new (or not so new) addition to your family that you want to show off? Send us a photo!

Send high-resolution photos to tetonthunder@wscfoundation.com.

1. Sly & Cory
   Cory Fehringer
   Head Basketball Coach

2. Sly
   Kola Bear Hoffman
   Leah Hoffman
   Mental Health Counselor

3. Kola Bear Hoffman
   Hogan & Sampson
   Heather Fink
   Financial Aid Director
The 2015 Teton baseball season brought a lot of excitement and anticipation for both the players and the community. This was the first season that the Tetons were able to use the brand new Williston ARC for winter indoor practices, and it appeared to be a major contributor to their success. The numbers show the Tetons starting the season 0-4, but the team had opportunities to come away with three of those four games in Sterling, Colorado.

Next the team headed to Tucson, Arizona, for a ten-day trip in the desert, playing the likes of Madison College (ranked #3 in the nation in preseason polls), M State - Fergus Falls, St. Katherine College from San Diego, and other good quality NAIA JV teams. The Tetons went 6-4 in Arizona, taking two of three games from Madison College.

The team’s first victory against Madison also started a seventeen-game winning streak that lasted almost an entire month, with the Tetons outscoring their opponents 223-34 and averaging just over thirteen runs per game. This offensive explosion pushed the Tetons to #19 in national polls, #1 in the nation in team batting average, #3 nationally for on base percentage, and #4 nationally in slugging percentage.

The Tetons went on to win the Mon-Dak Conference, finishing 14-2 and earning a #1 ranking in the regional tournament in Minneapolis. The regional tournament started off well for the Tetons as they rolled over Southeast CC 12-2 in their opening round game. For their second game, the Tetons faced Dakota County Technical College, in a rematch of last year’s regional championship game. After dropping a heartbreaking 11-4 loss to DCTC, the Tetons faced Southeast CC again for a chance at the regional championship against DCTC. Southeast CC came out with one of their top pitchers on the mound and held the Tetons to three hits, closing out the Tetons’ season on a 4-0 loss.

Despite coming up short at the regional tournament the Teton baseball team finished the season at 28-15. Parker Kinkade, Skyler Sylvester, Jarrod Adams, Palmer Powis, and Hunter Trowbridge were all named to the Mon-Dak All-Conference Team. Sylvester was named Conference MVP Pitcher and Kinkade was Conference MVP.

LOOKING BACK:
[RECAPS]

BY TETON ATHLETICS
Teton Softball started out the season an unbelievable 3-0 after playing three games in Rosemount, MN, in the Irish Dome. They beat an NJCAA Division I team (Marshalltown) and two NJCAA Division II teams (Ellsworth and Iowa Central). Iowa Central was ranked #12 in the nation at the time, and the Tetons were able to hand them their first loss of the season with a 7-5 victory in eight innings.

After the great start to the season, the Tetons took off on their Spring Break trip through Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska. They were slated to play a total of sixteen games in ten days, but the team was plagued by some injuries that resulted in two games being forfeited. The Tetons were handed their first loss of the season in game one versus Northeastern CC and also took a huge hit in losing Tina Marquardt from the line-up. The team would not get her back until conference play. On day three of the trip, they began to find their groove against a very good Garden City CC team. Even as they won the first game in extra innings, however, the Tetons were hit with another injury in the circle with Alyssa Affleck. With Jalen Creech as the only remaining pitcher, the Tetons battled hard and were able to come back to WSC 7-8 after taking two from North Platte on the final day.

After canceling the trip to Montana for two games each against Great Falls College MSU and Carroll College, the team was able to get healthy for conference play. With Affleck back in the line-up, the Tetons gained the momentum they needed to take four from Dakota College at Bottineau in run-rule fashion, which started them off on an unbelievable 25-3 run through the rest of the year.

The next conference match-up proved to be one of the biggest of the year against Dawson CC. The Tetons were back to eleven strong, getting Tina Marquardt back in the line-up, and pulled out a 2-2 split in the match-up. It was at this point in the season that run differential became important. Without having a Region XIII Tournament due to a scheduling conflict, run differential with Dawson gave the Tetons the advantage if they won out the rest of the season.

After Dawson, the Tetons took four from Lake Region in comfortable fashion, 3-4 by run-rule. After taking four more from the University of Jamestown JV team, again 3-4 by run-rule, they were set for their last eight conference games. Next up was Dakota County Technical College in Rosemount, MN. The Tetons were able to get the sweep on the road, leaving only Bismarck State College in the Tetons’ way for a second straight Region XIII Championship.

Playing at home, the Tetons took game one easily 13-0 in five innings. Jalen Creech pitched one of the best games of the year, resulting in a one-hit shutout. Game two proved to be a different outcome. Bismarck got out to a 5-0 lead in the second, and the Tetons were not able to find their groove at the plate, dropping the game 5-1. They would finish the series with two more run-rules in Bismarck, but it was not enough to overcome Dawson CC for the Region XIII Championship. The Tetons finished their season with a four-game sweep of North Dakota State College of Science, again 3-4 were run-rules, to end the season 32-11.
The 2014-2015 Teton Men’s Basketball season was filled with exciting accomplishments for Williston State College. The Tetons finished the regular season with back-to-back Mon-Dak Conference Championships and capped off the season with an overall record of 25-5, the highest win percentage in school history.

Over the year the Tetons finished #2 in the country in scoring, averaging 98.5 points per game, completed the conference schedule with an 11-1 record, and managed to win eleven consecutive contests. The team created an identity for themselves as an offensive juggernaut, ranking nationally in the Top 20 in nine separate categories, including #1 in free throw percentage, #2 in points per game, and #4 in FG made per game.

This outstanding record allowed the Tetons to make national news as the team climbed NJCAA National Polls all the way to #14 in the country. The way the season was going, it seemed clear the Tetons would be heading to the national tournament, but it wasn’t meant to be. In the Region XIII tournament, a last-second play from Dawson Community College brought a 73-75 upset, and this incredible season was brought to a sudden close.

Moving forward the coaching staff will reload with a new set of student-athletes to take the floor at Williston State College with the same target in mind: Successfully complete the regular season with a Conference Championship, earn a Region XIII title, and make a trip to Hutchinson, Kansas for an opportunity to compete at the NJCAA National Tournament.

Teyvon Myers, Aakim Saintil, and Ayob Ayob were all named to First Team All-Region, WSC Head Basketball Coach Cory Fehringer was named Coach of the Year, and Teyvon Myers also earned an All-American Honorable Mention and the distinction of being the leading scorer in the NJCAA with 25.1 points per game.
Sports provide glimpses of the ups and downs of life, and the Teton Women’s Basketball team sure enjoyed a roller coaster ride this past year. With a heavy sophomore class, the Tetons began the season strong with six out of eight wins. The only two losses came from Gillette College out of Wyoming.

Coach Luanne Axelson was excited about having so many sophomores, as the Lady Tetons travelled to Scottsdale, Arizona, over Christmas break to face the top teams in the state. The sophomores came through big time, winning two out of three games. One of those wins came over Central Arizona College, who was in the Final Four the previous year, and who, after losing to the Tetons, went on to win seventeen straight games to make it to Nationals.

The Tetons, tallying a major win on the national stage for the second year in a row, continued to play well after the break. After avenging a prior loss to Miles City, the Tetons opened conference play with a great comeback against Lake Region State College. With the Tetons trailing by ten points with less than four minutes to go, Taylor McGrady was clutch from the free throw line to send the game to overtime. The significance of this win grew bigger throughout the season as Lake Region went on to win the conference and region championships.

By mid-January the grind of the season seemed to kick in as the Tetons lost five of their next eight games, including a twenty-three-point loss at Bismarck State. This was when Axelson relied on sophomores Emma Keller, McKayla Haugeberg, and Jaylen Newman. Newman scored seventy-one points in the final three games as the Tetons clinched the #2 seed (which included a big home win over Bismarck State) and home court in the opening round.

The playoffs set up a much-anticipated rematch between Bismarck State and Williston State, and the game lived up to the hype. Newman scored thirty-one points and grabbed thirteen rebounds, and the Tetons won the game in double overtime. Despite losing to Lake Region in the championship game, the Tetons left everything on that court in the Well, and the loyal fans gave them a standing ovation. The Tetons finished 18-10 for the year and will return starting forward Jamie Gleason for next year.
THE TETON BOOSTERS CLUB

BY TETON ATHLETICS

The Teton Booster Club had another successful year fundraising for Teton Athletics.

The Boosters started things off with the Donn Skadeland Golf Tournament in September with nearly 120 golfers. In December they hosted their annual gun raffle, with Mark Telehey taking home the grand prize, a Benelli Ethos 12-gauge shotgun. February saw the first Tetons ice fishing tournament, the Beat the Heat tournament out in White Tail Bay. The event was a huge hit with over $2,000 in cash prizes given away, as well as some very nice door prizes. The Boosters look forward to continuing this event in future years.

The Boosters ended the school year with another high note in April: the annual dinner and fundraising auction, better known as Casino Night. This year’s Casino Night had record registration. Lee Halvorson returned to do the live auction, which was a resounding success. Casino Night wouldn’t be complete without the annual Truck Raffle, which featured a beautiful, fully loaded 2015 GMC Sierra this year. Williston’s Abby Siewert was the grand prize winner, and Troy Johnson got the second prize, a Yamaha Viking EPS side by side.

The Booster Club is looking to expand over the next couple years and would like to extend an invitation to you to become the newest members of the club. Boosters receive the most current news and information about Teton Athletics directly, and they have many opportunities to help the Tetons in a variety of ways. Join the Boosters and be part of Teton Nation as we shoot for our new goals!

For more information about joining the Teton Booster Club, please contact Athletic Director Dan Artamenko at 701-774-4546 or dan.artamenko@willistonstate.edu.
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The Final Countdown

Williston State College’s 54th Annual Commencement was held Friday, May 15 in the Thomas Witt Leach Center (The Well).

This year’s graduation speaker was Kathleen Neset, president of Neset Consulting Service, Inc., which has provided well site geologic/geosteering services to the oil industry since 1980. Neset is currently the State Board of Higher Education vice chair and will be taking over as president as of July 1. After receiving her BA in geology from Brown University, Neset continued her work as a seismologist in Michigan and worked for Core Laboratories in Texas and Wyoming before moving to North Dakota to work as an independent petroleum geologist.

In addition to Neset, two students were chosen to speak at the ceremony. Emma Keller from Velva, ND began her career at WSC when she was recruited to play basketball for the Tetons. Keller graduated this year with an AA and AS and will continue her education at North Dakota State University, with plans to earn a bachelor degree in civil engineering.
Dan Plucknett came to WSC after spending a few years in the work force. “My time at Williston State was a wonderful experience, and what made it so great was the teachers,” Plucknett says. “I was amazed how every teacher I had would do whatever they could to help me understand the course material and even answer my questions that were beyond the scope of the courses.” Plucknett graduated with an AS degree and will major in physics as he transfers to the University of Colorado.

WSC awarded 203 students an estimated 261 degrees, and approximately 130 students participated in this spring’s commencement. Of these 261 degrees, 117 were transfer degrees and 144 were CTE Associate in Applied Science degrees, certificates, and diplomas.

Nursing students participated in their own pinning ceremony after graduation. The class consisted of sixty-four nursing students, thirty-six with an associate degree in nursing and twenty-eight with a certificate in practical nursing.

The pinning ceremony is a symbolic event that marks the student’s official start into the nursing profession. Students are pinned by a significant person in their life, ranging from husbands and grandparents to friends and instructors.

The pinning was followed by the lamp lighting ceremony, a nod to Florence Nightingale. Nightingale served as a nurse during the Crimean War and often made rounds at night while carrying a lamp for light. She became known as the lady with the lamp.

After all the lamps were lit the students recited the Florence Nightingale pledge.

Commencement marks the end of the school year, but things are not slowing down at WSC with preparations underway for the first year with students utilizing the Williams County Scholarship. “For the upcoming Fall 2015 semester, Williston State College has seen a 117% increase in applications,” notes Kaylyn Bondy, registrar and WSC director for effectiveness. “Enrollment has also seen a large increase. Current headcount as of May 4 is 223 students, a number that has not been reached in previous terms until eight weeks prior to opening day in August.”

“Classes are filling up fast and we are excited to help students get registered for our upcoming fall term,” Bondy adds. “We encourage students to participate in one of our upcoming registration days. Our next registration days are June 22, July 22, August 12, and August 24.”

To register for classes, please visit willistonstate.edu/registration

For more information, please visit willistonstate.edu, call 1.888.863.9455, or stop by the college at 1410 University Avenue, Williston, ND.
What’s your favorite word?
Superfluous

What would your super power be?
I would like to participate in multiple timelines simultaneously.

What’s your most embarrassing moment?
One winter day I was in Walmart with my wife, and she went down one aisle for something and I went down another. When I went to regroup with her I recognized the jacket she was wearing so I walked up and put my arm around her, only to realize that it was a different woman wearing the same coat.

Tell us a joke.
A monkey walks into a gas station and asks the clerk for a soda. The clerk says, “We don’t serve monkeys here, go away,” and chases the monkey away.
The next day the monkey goes back into the store and asks for a soda again. The clerk says, “No we don’t serve monkeys here, and if you ask again I will nail your tail to the floor!” and chases the monkey off again.
The next day the monkey goes back to the store again and asks the clerk, “Do you have any nails?” The clerk says, “No this is a gas station,” so the monkey says, “Then give me a soda.”

Who would play you in a movie about your life?
Sid Haig

What profession are you hoping to do?
I would like to do astrophysics research and teach.

What profession are you hoping to avoid?
Fast food

What’s next for you after you finish at WSC?
I will be starting at the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs in the fall, and I will be majoring in physics and minoring in math.

What were you doing before you came to WSC?
Before attending Williston State I worked on the production end of various newspapers and construction.

What has been your favorite class at WSC?
That is hard to say because math/science classes and humanities classes are rewarding in different but equally great ways. My favorite math class was Calculus III and my favorite humanities class was Intro to Film.

Who has been your favorite teacher at WSC?
Mrs. Davis. Not only have I taken the majority of my classes from her, but she has spent countless hours explaining mathematical concepts to me, even when they were much beyond the scope of the classes I was taking.

What has been your favorite activity at WSC outside of class?
I belonged to an unofficial club called The Couch Committee where we discussed films, writing, and music.

What would you tell a prospective student who’s thinking about coming to WSC?
Take advantage of the environment where the teachers care.

What advice do you have for your fellow WSC students?
Use the math lab.

What makes students today better or worse than students fifty years ago?
Students fifty years ago were probably much better students because there was less technology clogging their brains so they could concentrate on learning better.

What makes college easier or harder today than it was fifty years ago?
College is probably easier now than it was fifty years ago because we have so much information that is almost instantly accessible.

If you could invite three people over for a dinner party (anyone, living or dead), who would you invite?
Anthony Bourdain, Jack Kerouac, and Hunter S. Thompson.

Desert island top five: you can take a total of five movies/books/albums with you on a desert island. What are your choices?
For books I would take Jack Kerouac’s Desolation Angels and Friedrich Nietzsche’s Beyond Good and Evil. For music I would bring recordings of Pachelbel’s Canon in D and Mozart’s Marriage of Figaro. For a movie I would have to bring The Big Lebowski.
EMMA KELLER

Tell us a joke.
Why is 6 afraid of 7? Because 7, 8, 9.

What would your super power be?
If I could pick a super power to have, I would like to be able to fly.

What profession are you hoping to do?
Civil Engineering.

What profession are you hoping to avoid?
I hope to never be jobless.

What’s next for you after you finish at WSC?
I will be attending NDSU to finish my Civil Engineering degree.

What were you doing before you came to WSC?
Before I came WSC, I had just graduated from Velva High School.

What has been your favorite class at WSC?
Geology.

Who has been your favorite teacher at WSC?
Mrs. Davis, Mr. Olson, Mrs. Renner, and Mr. Peterson.

What has been your favorite activity at WSC outside of class?
Playing basketball for the Tetons.

What would you tell a prospective student who’s thinking about coming to WSC?
Class size is small; tuition is affordable. Take advantage of that.

What advice do you have for your fellow WSC students?
Never get behind. Go and get help from your teachers; they really do care.

What makes students today better or worse than students fifty years ago?
Students are better today compared to 50 years ago because they are more efficient; on the other hand, students are worse because of the reliance and distractions of technology.

What makes college easier or harder today than it was fifty years ago?
College is harder today than 50 years ago because the standards have been raised, but in some ways it’s easier because of the easy access to technology.

If you could invite three people over for a dinner party (anyone, living or dead), who would you invite?
I would invite Jesus, Einstein, and my dad.

Desert island top five: you can take a total of five movies/books/albums with you on a desert island. What are your choices?
I would bring a survival guidebook, the Bible, a calculus book, a physics book, and a journal to write in.
A large anonymous donation will be making a difference at Williston State College this spring. A local family who prefer to remain anonymous donated $100,000 to WSC for their technical programs.

“The family wanted the donation to be practical, to go for something that these departments would have trouble getting with their budgets and to fall outside any grant specifications,” explains WSC Foundation Executive Director Terry Olson. The $100,000 gift has been equally distributed between TrainND and the diesel, welding, nursing, and agriculture departments.

TrainND’s share of the donation has been allocated for the completion of their new training and educational center, which will provide training for North Dakota businesses ranging from energy and construction companies to transportation and health care.

The diesel program will be using this donation to fill in some gaps. “We looked at what equipment our grants had purchased and based on that, we determined how to best use this donation,” says WSC Transportation Instructor Brian Rencher. “Updating the tools and equipment will keep WSC students trained in current standards and that will help students improve their training experience.”

The welding department’s enrollment had been capped at eleven students because of equipment limitations. Grants had provided funds for welding machinery and booths, but not welders and torches. The donation will allow for new welders and torch setups to be used for these new booths. “This will allow for an increase in the number of students the class can accommodate,” notes WSC Welding Instructor Shelley Rencher, “Ultimately increasing the number of graduates and the amount of welders in our community.”

The nursing department plans on using this donation for high-performing wireless simulators and accessories that will help with their pediatric rotations. According to Nursing Coordinator Janet Johnson, the donation will bring WSC up to speed with all of the other colleges in the Dakota Nursing Program.

The donation for the agriculture department will be allocated when a full-time agriculture instructor is hired.

With community support like this anonymous donation, Williston State College can continue to be where the people make the difference. Williston State College and WSC Foundation give thanks to this generous family.
NEW BOARD MEMBER: RICK MEDALEN

WSC FOUNDATION WELCOMES RICK AS THE NEWEST MEMBER OF THE FOUNDATION BOARD

WSC Foundation welcomes Rick Medalen as the newest member of the Foundation board.

Medalen and his wife Rosalie live in Williston, where he recently retired from his position as vice president of mortgage lending at American State Bank. Born and raised in Williston, he graduated from WHS in 1970 and attended WSC (then UND-W) in 1970 and attended WSC for two years before transferring to University of North Dakota to earn his bachelor degree. In addition to taking his generals at WSC, Medalen also played Teton baseball under Coach Rabon.

WSC plays an important role in the Williston community, according to Medalen, though as a retired banker, he also likes to emphasize the value of community college to students. “I went here for my first two years, and it showed me how important a college education is,” he explains. “And it helped me graduate in four years with no loans.”

With the new Williams County scholarship starting this fall, even more students will have the opportunity to pursue a college education free of student debt, but even without that, Medalen thinks WSC is the best choice for many graduating seniors in the area. “They can go to school in a small environment that gives them time to adapt, so if they decide to move on they are prepared,” Medalen notes. “It’s a great place to do your generals. Everyone from Williston should go here.”

ALUMNI UPDATE: SCOTT MOLANDER

WSC Alumnus Scott Molander wears many hats. His newest is as a 2015 inductee into the Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame.

In 1995, Molander co-founded Hat World, a retail shop dedicated to selling sports caps. The business was an immediate success, and before long Molander’s company had more than 150 stores. In 2001, Hat World bought out its largest competitor, Lids Corporation, and they have continued to expand since. Hat World, Inc., is now a multi-million dollar corporation with more than 1,000 stores across the US and Canada.

The Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame was established in 1989 to honor outstanding men and women who have made significant contributions to the corporate and civic community in central Indiana. At their 27th annual black tie event last February in Indianapolis, Molander was named as a 2015 Laureate to the hall of fame.

A Crosby native, Molander came to WSC (then UND-W) in 1983 to study business and play Teton basketball. After earning his associate of arts, he went on to study agricultural economics at NDSU before earning his bachelor degree in business administration and management from Dickinson State University in 1988.

Molander still visits home to help out on the family farm whenever possible. He lives in Indianapolis with his wife Carolyn and their daughters, Maggie and Sarah.

WILLISTON STATE COLLEGE FOUNDATION

DONATION INFO

DONATE ONLINE AT:
www.wscfoundation.com

CONTACT FOR MORE INFO:
701-572-9275
P.O. Box 1286
Williston, ND 58802-1286
office@wscfoundation.com

NAMING OPTIONS

Want to show your support? WSC Foundation has some new naming opportunities. Benches and trees will serve as the perfect long-lasting memorial for a loved one or as a way to showcase you or your business’s support for WSC. Contemporary wood and metal benches are available for $5,000 each. A variety of trees are available for $500 each.
At Nemont, one of our core principles is ‘concern for community’. Nemont Communications Tech, Scott Copenhaver, takes that principle to heart. As a Williston volunteer firefighter, Scott is the guy running in when most people are running out. And just like Scott, Nemont is here for you when you need us, providing the best voice and data services available. Community and connections… it’s what’s important to us. After all, we’re here… where you are.