



# inTouch

for alumni and friends of North Iowa Area Community College



## First Class Inducted Into NIACC Athletic Hall of Fame

North Iowa Area Community College has created the NIACC Athletic Hall of Fame in an effort to recognize significant contributions to the College's proud athletic history. Ten initial inductees were recognized March 4 during a banquet in their honor. The class was also introduced during the home women's basketball game later in the day.

"Choosing our initial inductees was a difficult task, but our committee did an amazing job of sorting through many deserving individuals," said Ryan McGuire, NIACC Athletic Director. "This will be an annual process now that we have it underway."

Candidates may include former student-athletes, coaches, administrators and other supporters of NIACC Athletics. Nominations are accepted on the NIACC website ([www.niacc.edu/athletics](http://www.niacc.edu/athletics)).

The initial class includes several former players, a few of whom had not been back to North Iowa or NIACC since their playing days, and a number of retired coaches. During the ceremony, each inductee took time to reminisce about their experiences, speaking humbly about their achievements and favorably about the important role NIACC has played in their lives.

Family members spoke on behalf of the two individuals honored post-mortem. NIACC alumni Phil and Kurt Lundblad accepted the honor on behalf of their father, Art Lundblad, former coach and AD; and Joyce Konigsmark spoke on behalf of her late husband and former men's basketball coach Herb Konigsmark, who passed away earlier this year.

Below are brief biographies of the ten initial inductees.

### Ron Angell

A Mason City native, Ron Angell played basketball for the Trojans from 1976 until 1978. He was named 1st-team All-Region, 1st-team All-Tournament, and 3rd-team All-American as a sophomore in 1978. He averaged 22.2 points per game as a sophomore, good for fifth all-time at NIACC, and is the 3rd-leading all-time scorer in school history (1101). He ended his career as the school's career assist leader. Angell went on to play at Drake University. He was inducted into the Iowa High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame in 1999. Angell lives in West Des Moines and is the Vice President of Marketing for Frontier Leasing Corporation.

### Joe Corso

A native of Des Moines, Corso wrestled for NIACC between 1971 and 1973. He placed fifth in the 118-lb. weight class of the NJCAA National Tournament in both 1972 and 1973 and helped the Trojans win the NJCAA team title in 1973. Following NIACC, Corso wrestled at Purdue University, earning Big Ten Conference Wrestler



of the Year and All-American honors in 1975. He went on to make the U.S. Olympic Wrestling team in 1976, competing in Montreal, Canada. Corso has coached numerous programs over the past 30 years as he has dedicated his life to the sport of wrestling. In 1981 he was inducted into the NJCAA Hall of Fame. Corso is currently a teacher and Head Wrestling Coach at Brother Martin High School in New Orleans, Louisiana.

### Jerry Dunbar

A 1964 graduate of Mason City Junior College and Forest City native, Jerome "Jerry" Dunbar was known as a hard-nosed football player who achieved honorable mention All-American status in 1962. He went on to become the face of NIACC Athletics during his 25 years of service. He was the school's athletic director from 1983 until 2001. Highlights during his tenure include a national championship in men's basketball in 1995; 6 bowl game appearances by the football team between 1990 and 2000; national tournament appearances by women's basketball in 1983 and 1994; and national tournament appearances by the volleyball team in 1986, 1994, and 1995. Dunbar also coached NIACC football from 1977 until 1985 and NIACC baseball from 1983 until 2001. He is currently retired and resides in Mason City.

### Herb Konigsmark

A Cedar Rapids native, Herb Konigsmark came to NIACC in 1967 as the men's basketball coach. He retired in 1993 as the school's all-time coaching wins leader after compiling an overall record of 443-273. He had 17 winning seasons, coached 7 NJCAA All-Americans, and helped 67 of his players earn scholarships to 4-year colleges and universities, 25 of these to Division I schools. Konigsmark was best known for his fiery demeanor, both on the basketball court and in the classroom, where he was an American History instructor. He passed away on February 5, 2006.

### Art Lundblad

A native of Odebolt, Art Lundblad served two separate stints as the head football coach at Mason City Junior College/NIACC, compiling an overall record of 62-44-4. He coached an undefeated Trojans team in 1963 (7-0), the first undefeated season in 25 years and the last in school history. Lundblad also served as the school's athletic director from 1967 until 1970. During that time he hired two fellow inductees,

Herb Konigsmark and Kaye Young. A graduate of Morningside College (BA) and the University of Denver (MA), he served his country in World War II from 1942-1945. Lundblad passed away in December of 1993.

### Terry McKissick

A native of Milwaukee, McKissick made a great impact on NIACC basketball in his two year stint between 1971 and 1973. He led the Iowa JC Conference in scoring as a freshman, averaging 27.7 points per game. McKissick is first and third on the NIACC single-season scoring average list (27.7 and 24.5), second and third on the single-season total points list (749 and 737), and holds the top two single-season marks for rebounds



It was an emotional reunion for Hall of Famers Dennis Shaffer and Terry McKissick, who were a powerful force on the NIACC basketball court between 1971 and 1973. Though 3-pointers came later, both former players still hold several school records today.

(415 and 389). He is also the school's career leader in free throws made, rebounds, and total points. McKissick went on to play at Drake University, where in 1975 he earned first-team All Missouri Valley Conference honors for a Bulldog team that finished the season ranked 14th in the country. He is currently the Principal at Garden Homes Elementary School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

### Dennis Shaffer

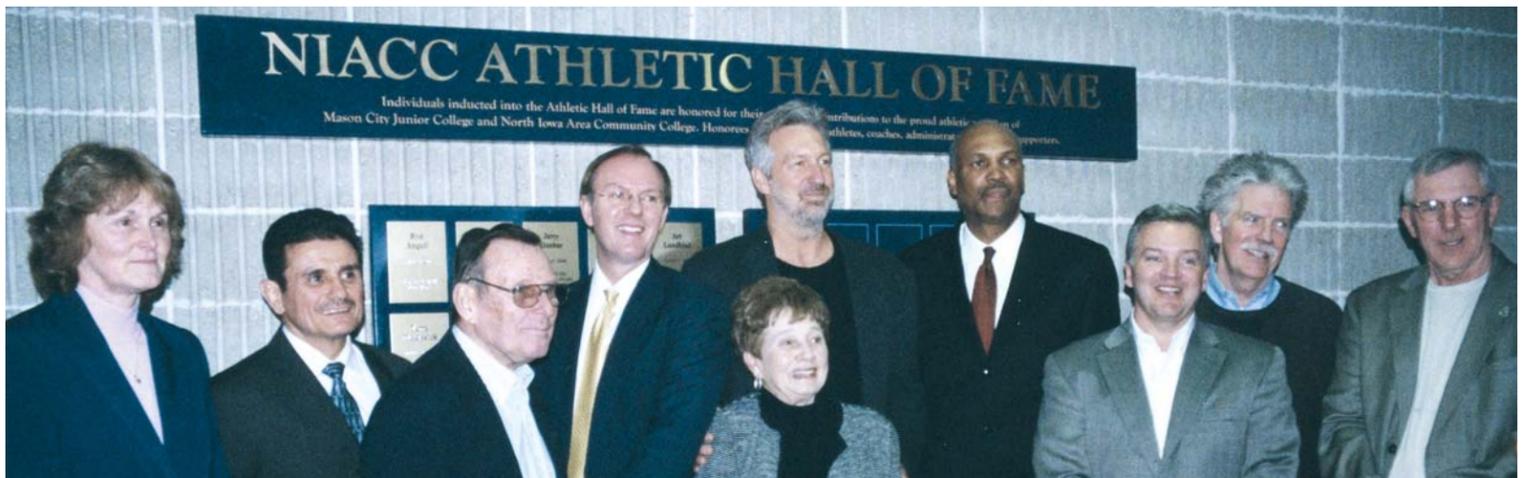
Dennis Shaffer came to NIACC from Mason City High School and proceeded to average 27.1 points per game and earn All-American honors as a freshman. As a sophomore he was named to the first team NJCAA All-America. He holds NIACC records for most field goals in a game (24), most field goals in a season (340), and most field goals in a career (670). He was a part of the 6th-highest scoring team in the nation as a freshman in 1971-

1972. Shaffer went on to play at the University of Minnesota for legendary coach Bill Musselman. Shaffer is a painting contractor and lives in Newport Beach, California.

**Individuals inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame are honored for their significant contributions to the proud athletic tradition of Mason City Junior College and North Iowa Area Community College. Honorees include student-athletes, coaches, administrators, and other supporters.**

**During the ceremony, each inductee took time to reminisce about their experiences, speaking humbly about their achievements and favorably about the important role NIACC has played in their lives.**

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Standing in front of the newly-unveiled NIACC Athletic Hall of Fame display by the NIACC gymnasium are from left: Marla (Shuey) Bebbrens, Joe Corso, Kaye Young, Ron Angell, Joyce Konigsmark, Dennis Shaffer, Terry McKissick, Kurt Lundblad, Phil Lundblad and Jerry Dunbar.

## NIACC Grad Biking Across South America to Support Rain Forest

### Paraguay's San Rafael Forest Preserve is Winter Home to Local Birds

By Lowell Washburn, public information specialist with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources in Clear Lake. Reprinted with permission from the Globe Gazette.

Dan Schutte, a 2001 NIACC graduate, is tackling the biggest challenge of his life. The task at hand is a 3,500-mile bike ride leading through some of the most hostile terrain on the entire South American continent. The grueling trek traverses the windswept, high-altitude plains of Patagonia, rugged backroad trails of the Andes mountain range, and the grassy pampas of northern Argentina. The ride will end in Paraguay's San Rafael Preserve. The preserve is comprised of interior Atlantic rainforest — a tropical, forested ecosystem noted for its unfathomable biodiversity.

The marathon ride began early January in Ushuaia, Argentina, which is literally the southernmost city on earth. Schutte hopes to conclude the event around mid-April. The purpose of the three-and-a-half month adventure is to raise funds and increase awareness for the plight of South America's rapidly diminishing forests. (Schutte has studied rainforest ecosystems in Central and South America, and since 2003 has served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Paraguay.)

"While working as a Peace Corps volunteer, I've had a firsthand opportunity to be exposed to some of the world scale environmental and social-economic problems that exist across much of South America," said Schutte.

"What I've come to realize is that many of these issues (such as large scale deforestation) do not just affect me or the other people living in this part of the world. Many of the things that go on here directly effect people in America, and vice versa."

"There are lots of examples. Every single day, the United States imports things like sugar, sesame, and even soy from the country of Paraguay. One of my goals is to have people start thinking about where their food comes from and how it was grown. Back home, people criticize the third-world farmer for cutting down the

rainforest but then turn around and put that same farmer's sugar on their table and don't even realize it. That's why I think it's so important to globally raise the level of environmental awareness toward major world ecosystems. That's one of the main reasons I decided to do the bike ride."

Planning for the ride began early in 2004 when Schutte and fellow volunteer, Iain Clark, discussed what they would do when their Peace Corps service ended. Both had a passion for biking and were interested in a big ride. Determined to "achieve something positive" with that ride, they eventually decided to turn it into a fund-raiser for the San Rafael forest system. The bikers decided that every penny raised during the ride would go directly toward the preservation of this unique ecosystem.

PARAGUAY'S SAN RAFAEL FOREST PRESERVE is a world class natural resource. Dominated by humid, subtropical (deciduous) hardwood forest, the rugged landscape supports an extraordinarily high level of biodiversity. Easily ranking as one of South America's most significant examples of interior Atlantic forest, the preserve is home to more than two dozen globally threatened or near-threatened bird species. It also harbors more endemic bird species than any other site in Paraguay.

During the winter months, local bird populations are bolstered by migrants from across North America. Barn swallows, purple martins, sedge wrens, nighthawks, snipe, warblers, and others all flock to this food-rich environment. It's no stretch to imagine that some of these travelers are birds that will nest in your neighborhood this summer.

So far, around 10,000 acres of the San Rafael forest have recently been protected. Schutte hopes to raise funds to preserve an additional 2,500 acres of this unique ecosystem. Considering



Schutte takes a break during his 3,500 mile ride across South America. He and a Peace Corps friend are making the trek to raise money for the San Rafael Forest Preserve.

current land values, the goal does seem reasonable. A single, one-time donation of just \$210 will purchase (save) 2.5 acres of San Rafael's Atlantic forest habitat.

Unfortunately, those land prices cut both ways. Those who wish to slash and burn their way across the landscape can, of course, buy rainforest acreage for the same price. Consequently, the San Rafael region is becoming rapidly degraded as large scale Brazilian ag interests clear forests — mainly for soybean production — to the north while independent farmers cut from the south.

"When I was back home (in Iowa) it was easy to read about people destroying the rainforest and get mad about that. But now I've actually been working with the people who are doing that and I see that they don't have any other options. They're just poor farmers who get no help from any government program and are just trying to feed their kids. What seemed like a simple issue has become very complicated. It definitely changes your perspective."

"There are currently some very big, global issues that we all need to be aware of. For example, whether we all want to believe it or not, global climate change is happening and those changes will eventually affect everyone. The rapid deforestation of South America contributes to that change and should be a concern of everyone."

"The preservation of migratory and endemic birdlife is obviously important, but there are much deeper issues tied to the rainforest. Lose the forest and you lose biodiversity and impact global climate change. You also lose significant supplies of fresh water. Cutting the forest to gain a couple of years of marginal farming isn't the answer. We're all in this together and that's the message I want to come across back home."

*NOTE: To learn more about Dan Schutte's bike ride and the importance of preserving South American rainforest for Iowa birds, look in the Jan/Feb issue of The Iowa Conservationist magazine online at [iowadnr.com](http://iowadnr.com). To learn more about the San Rafael Preserve, follow the ride's progress through a trek diary, or to contribute to the ride; visit the official website at [www.pla.net.py/sanrafael](http://www.pla.net.py/sanrafael).*



Dan Schutte '01, with local Paraguayans, displays a natural bee colony full of honey. Schutte was trained by the Peace Corps as a bee-keeper to help rural communities develop sustainable enterprises.

## Three Local Companies Secure Venture Capital Funding through NIACC Pappajohn Center

Three North Iowa companies have been awarded venture capital funding recently through the John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center at North Iowa Area Community College. Corcoran & Associates, Inc. of Mason City, StowMaster, Inc. of Lake Mills, and Freedom Fuels of Hampton will benefit from various financial tools accessible through the Pappajohn Center.

Corcoran & Associates, Inc. was awarded funding from Wellmark, who pledged \$25 million for Iowa-based economic development opportunities. Owner Mick Corcoran said his firm will use the Wellmark funding to expand. Corcoran's award marks the first approved Wellmark Venture Capital Fund project in North Iowa. Corcoran & Associates, Inc. is an independent insurance agency and insurance brokerage firm with offices in Mason City and Des Moines.

StowMaster, Inc. received investment capital from Wellmark, the North Iowa Venture Capital

Fund (NIVCF), and matching funding from the Iowa Department of Economic Development. StowMaster, which manufactures and sells a full line of patented landing nets to sporting goods stores and distributors, was identified by the North Iowa Business Accelerator program as a candidate for both technical and financial assistance.

Part of StowMaster's venture capital funding will be invested in marketing, according to owner Matt Larson. "With this help, StowMaster now has the ability to shout louder than our competitors about what a great product we have," Larson said.

Freedom Fuels LLC is the most recent beneficiary of the NIVCF. The company plans to build a 30-million-gallon biodiesel plant in Mason City that will process soybean oil into biodiesel with a byproduct of glycerine used in soaps and laundry products.

For more information about resources available through the Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center, visit [www.niacc.edu/pappajohn](http://www.niacc.edu/pappajohn).

## NIACC Faces

North Iowa Area Community College welcomes Ted Bair who has recently joined the NIACC team of employees!



Ted Blair

Ted Bair is the new Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Director in NIACC's John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center. He replaces Rich Petersen who served in this role for over 20 years. A graduate of the University of Iowa, Bair's business background includes starting companies as well as managing companies which will prove valuable in counseling new and existing business clients of the SBDC. He has also served as a Certified Substance Abuse Counselor at Prairie Ridge Addiction Treatment Center.

## NIACC Alumnus Dan Latham is Honored Guest, Keynote Speaker for Upcoming Pathways to Success Program

Successful businessman Daniel W. Latham, who recently moved back to North Iowa with his family, will be the honored guest and keynote speaker during the 16th Annual Pathways to Success Program at North Iowa Area Community College on April 20th.



Dan Latham

A Mason City native, Latham graduated from Mason City High School then spent three years in the military before attending North Iowa Area Community College. He played football for the College and earned his Associate of Arts degree in 1972. He also has a bachelor's degree in marketing and finance from the University of Northern Iowa.

His wife, Debi, is also a NIACC graduate. They live in Mason City with their two daughters. Currently, Mr. Latham is chairman of the board for the LXI Corporation, a Texas-based company which recently opened an operation in Mason City.

Latham has a reputation for turning around declining businesses and positioning them for growth in new markets. Prior to returning to Mason City, he was president of the enterprise division for a Boca Raton start-up known as Seisint Inc. There, he targeted a new innovative technology to the federal government's intelligence community, accomplishing many firsts...first time technology sold, first time sold to federal government, first time sold to state government, first time sold to commercial customers, and first time sold to law enforcement. Seisint was sold to LexisNexis in September 2004 for \$775,000,000.

His success stories also include Imagelinks in Melbourne, FL, where as CEO he turned around the unprofitable company in one year, growing their revenue 250% and placing them in the top 10 of the Fast 50 growth companies in Florida. As President of Coyote Network Systems, he grew revenues from \$5 million to \$32 million, acquired four strategic companies while selling non-strategic assets, and secured listing on NASDAQ national markets.

Latham also handled large account sales for IBM; served as VP of marketing and service for Ameritech (growing the operation from \$40 million to \$280 million in annual revenue); was VP of worldwide telecom marketing for Digital Equipment Corporation (growing the business from \$450 million to \$1.2 billion in sales); led the worldwide sales effort for Racal-Datacom; and grew Frontier Communications International to three times the industry average as president of their long distance services.

"We look forward to recognizing Mr. Latham and learning more from him," Michael Morrison, NIACC President, said.

## 43 Students to be Honored

Over 40 NIACC students will be recognized for their scholarship, leadership and character during the 2006 Pathways to Success Program. They are: Christopher J. Meyer of Belmond; Jennifer L. Johnson and Jeremy L. Purvis of Britt; Benjamin J. Buck, Stephanie D. Gittins, and Jennie R. Sorensen of Clear Lake; Beau A. Ellingson of Dyersville; Elizabeth A. Klein of Forest City; Bret M. Bredlow, Sarah K. Buck, and Kelly C. Ihrke of Garner; Dustin L. Dalluge and Tyler M. Johanns of Grafton; Ashley A. Jensen of Greene; Steven G. Moretz of Hanlontown; Daniel J. Sherman of Lake Mills; Debra K. Hamilton of Latimer; Jeffrey A. Keen of Marshalltown; Jonathon R. Braden, Timothy J. Cahalan, Jennifer L. Cole, Jessica A. Cornett, Kathryn S. Dahl, Eli R. Flieth, Adam J. Haines, Justin J. Johnson, Christelle E. Lauen, Joseph C. Nelson, Matthew L. Orton, Brian C. Vine, and Brock R. Watson, all of Mason City; Brenda J. Mahoney of Nashua; Sharon D. Tanke of Nora Springs; Travis D. Sprague of Osage; Chelsie D. Anderson of Plymouth; Samantha T. Donisi and Jacque J. Smith of Rockwell; Thomas J. Mousel of Sioux City; Abbee C. Dickman and Ross R. Ostendorf of Thornton; James N. Bruen of Austin, MN; Daniel R. Reed of Lindstrom, MN; and Hiroko Hattori of Tokyo, Japan.

Volleyball was a big part of Amy Curley's life at North Iowa Area Community College. Today, it's no less important to her.

"I have not stopped playing volleyball since I left NIACC 10 years ago!" she said.

The former Lady Trojans volleyball standout and 1996 NIACC graduate plays volleyball year round – indoor volleyball in the winter and sand volleyball in the spring, summer and fall. Her husband, Jarrod Jaspersen, shares her love for the game.

Last year she even coached 14-year-old girls for the Junior Olympics.

"It was very challenging and I have a lot of respect for all of my coaches now," said Jaspersen, who is also a Mason City Newman graduate. "I wanted to teach them that volleyball is a lifelong sport, and I wanted them to love the game as I do."

Besides volleyball, Jaspersen clearly loves her work as a registered nurse. She currently administers chemotherapy to patients at the North Memorial Medical Center's Hubert H. Humphrey Cancer Center in the Twin Cities.

"It is a very rewarding job, but it's also a very emotional and demanding job," she said. "I have learned so much from my patients about life and how we take so much for granted. It puts things into perspective for me, that's for sure. I take care of the best and most appreciative patients that I have ever come across."

Jaspersen began her nursing career at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, upon earning her BSN from the University

# 10 YEARS AGO

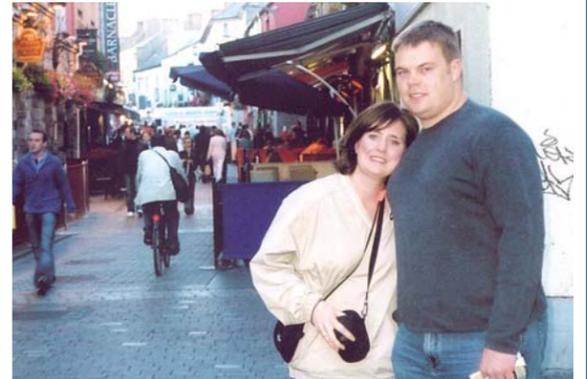
## 1996

**Amy (Curley) Jaspersen**  
Nurse  
Fridley, MN  
*Featured NIACC Alumna  
Class of 1996*

of Iowa two years after NIACC. The lure of big city life took her to Minneapolis, where she met Jarrod, her husband of three years and an architect.

The young couple, who makes their home in Fridley, MN, pays regular visits to family and friends in Iowa and Nebraska and has had an opportunity to do some world traveling. Two years ago they went to Italy with Jarrod's family, and last year they visited Ireland.

And of course, the volleyball duo loves all kinds of sports. "We always try to catch some Hawkeye, Timberwolves and Twins games during the year," she said.



Amy (Curley) Jaspersen with her husband, Jarrod, in Galway, Ireland.

## Public is Invited to April 20th Pathways to Success Luncheon

The public is invited to attend the 16th Annual Pathways to Success luncheon on Thursday, April 20. The event will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in NIACC's Muse Norris Conference Center.

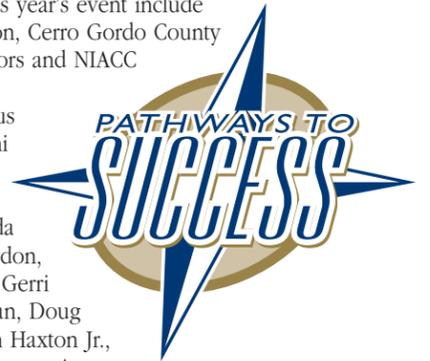
The NIACC Alumni Association hosts Pathways to Success annually to honor a select group of students for their scholarship, leadership and character. An accomplished NIACC graduate is invited back each year to share his or her "pathway to success" with the students and audience. This graduate is named NIACC's outstanding alumnus for the year.

Tickets for the Pathways luncheon are \$8.50 and may be purchased in advance at the NIACC Box Office (641-422-4188 or 1-888-GO NIACC, ext. 4188).

The meal will include beef roulade, green beans amandine, buttered dill baby red potatoes, roll, gourmet dessert bar and raspberry iced tea.

Sponsors for this year's event include the LXI Corporation, Cerro Gordo County Board of Supervisors and NIACC Student Senate.

NIACC's previous outstanding alumni speakers include Jerry Currie, John Pappajohn, Melinda Masson, Glen Haydon, Marvin Goldstein, Gerri Fiala, Paula Statman, Doug Opheim, Donovan Haxton Jr., Bill Swift, Dan Thomas, Ann Madden Rice, Dave Johnson, Dan Copeland and Dr. Robert Keith.



## Browns and Hanes Named 2006 Distinguished Alumni

The NIACC Distinguished Alumni for 2006 are James and Helen Brown of Mason City and Edward Hanes of Clear Lake. They will be recognized during the 16th Annual Pathways to Success Program at NIACC on April 20.

**Jim Brown** graduated from NIACC/Mason City Junior College in 1939 and his wife, **Helen (Stoecker) Brown**, graduated the following year. Helen was one of four individuals named "outstanding student" each of her two years at the College.



Jim & Helen Brown

Jim went on to earn his bachelor's degree and law degree from the University of Iowa before serving in the U.S. Air Force during World War II. As a B-17 pilot, he was shot down over Holland, captured and imprisoned by the Germans.

After the war, Jim spent his career as an attorney with Brown, Kinsey and Funkhouser in Mason City. He retired in 1995, after 50 years with the firm.

Helen was a school teacher and then a stay-at-home mom, raising the couple's four children. Their son, Scott, currently practices law in Mason City, carrying on the family name in the Brown, Kinsey, Funkhouser and Lander law firm. Their daughter, Sue, is an art teacher in Orlando, Florida, and their son, Marc, is a physician in Phoenix, Arizona. Their eldest child, James, a chemical engineer, passed away in 1991.

Besides his private law practice, Mr. Brown was a three-term county attorney, city attorney, and elected to the Mason City Council. Both he and Helen volunteered countless hours of community service. Jim was a long-time board member of the YMCA and the North Iowa Medical Center, and Helen was a dedicated volunteer for both of these organizations. In addition, the couple has been very active in the First Congregational United Church of Christ, with Jim serving on various boards and Helen singing in the choir and as a soloist on many occasions over the years.

Jim has been recognized with the Mason City High School Distinguished Alumni Award and the Willis Patton Award for

YMCA volunteer of the year. The Browns are faithful members of the NIACC Alumni Association.

**Edward Hanes** graduated from NIACC/Mason City Junior College in 1952. He was a charter member of MCJC's Alpha Chapter of the Iowa Junior College Honor Society, and he is a lifetime member of the NIACC Alumni Association. He finished his education at Iowa State, where he earned a BA degree in Mechanical Engineering.



Ed Hanes

After a stint in the US Army, Ed returned to Mason City to join a family business, Yelland & Hanes, which he and his brother Joel purchased. They opened stores in Clear Lake, Hampton and Albert Lea before starting a wholesale stationery business known as Midwest Wholesale.

An expert sailor, Ed serves as head judge and commodore for the Clear Lake Yacht Club, with which he's been involved for over half a century. He has built and sailed many a boat, and his excellent craftsmanship earned him an opportunity to represent Iowa at the Smithsonian in Washington DC.

Ed successfully conducted the first oral polio vaccine clinic as president of the Mason City Jaycees and was elected to the state Jaycees office as vice president. He also served as president of the Clear Lake Boosters Club and the North Iowa Huskies Hockey Club. His family's dedication to the Huskies was recognized by the United States Hockey League in 2004. His honors also include the Jaycees' Outstanding Young Man Award and the Iowa Volunteers Hall of Fame.

Billie Hanes, Ed's late wife of 51 years, served on the NIACC Foundation Board of Directors in the '80s, and the Hanes family has faithfully supported the NIACC Foundation over the years. Their children include three daughters: Jacque Ward of Monroe, Connecticut, and Sandy Rolland and Nancy Lundeen, both of Clear Lake. The Hanes legacy also includes seven grandchildren.

## Local Elected Officials Attend Regional Economic Development/Entrepreneurism Symposium

"Every community has exciting treasures and assets that have the potential to generate economic activity and jobs...and communities working together and thinking like a region will move forward in the 21st Century," said June Holley, one of the presenters at the Elected Officials Symposium held late 2005 on the NIACC campus.

Holley is President and founder of the Appalachian Center for Economic Networks (ACEnet) in rural southeastern Ohio. ACEnet is a catalyst for small business success and entrepreneurial thinking. "Businesses

**"Every community has exciting treasures and assets that have the potential to generate economic activity and jobs...and communities working together and thinking like a region will move forward in the 21st Century."**

that innovate create more jobs, higher quality jobs, and are more resilient to downturns in the economy," she explained.

More than 100 county supervisors, city council members, mayors, legislators, and other community leaders from 26 communities across North Iowa heard from Holley and other speakers during the symposium focusing on regional economic development and entrepreneurship.

"Few things are more important for North Iowa than progressive economic development," said NIACC President Michael Morrison. "The Elected Officials Symposium brought key stakeholders together to promote initiatives that improve the quality of life in North Iowa."

## CEO Club Raises Dollars for Scholars, Attends National Conference

The NIACC Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization (CEO) participated in the Governor's Cup Race/First Lady's Walk for Dollars for Scholars held in Des Moines earlier this school year. The CEO Club donated a \$500 scholarship to the Dollars for Scholars organization, which provides scholarship assistance to local students.

Club members and advisor Tim Putnam, Associate Director of the Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center, also attended the 2005 National CEO Conference in Orlando, FL. Speakers included Richard Tait, founder of the Cranium game company; Steve Wozniak, founder of Macintosh computers; and John D. Goeken, founder of MCI, FTD and Airfone.

"These students heard that in order to be successful, you have to have a lot of passion, good networking skills, integrity and a belief in yourself," said Putnam. "The entrepreneurs who spoke at the conference hit a grand slam with the students. It was wonderful hearing their stories."



NIACC students involved in the CEO Club met the Vilsacks at Terrace Hill during the Dollars for Scholars fundraising event. Pictured (L-R) are First Lady Christie Vilsack, Patrick Finnegan of Clear Lake, Governor Tom Vilsack, Josh Dockum of Nora Springs, and Erica Berte from Brazil.

## NIACC Teacher Preparation Program in Nation's Top 10

North Iowa Area Community College has received national recognition for its Teacher Preparation Program. The National Science Foundation and Phi Theta Kappa (the international honor society for two-year colleges) selected NIACC as one of the top 10 American community colleges in meeting the needs of students who will become future K-12 teachers of science and mathematics.

NIACC showcased its Preservice Teacher Program during Phi Theta Kappa's Best Practices in Teacher Preparation Conference March 16-17, in Atlanta, GA. Representing NIACC were education program leader Kacy Larson; math instructor/division chair Adriana Attleson; science instructor Craig Zoellner; NIACC students Nick Lang and Nikki Wyborny; and NIACC graduate Ashley Graf.

NIACC will be among the schools featured in a nationally-distributed publication showcasing the achievements, experiences, and perspectives of community college students as they prepare to become teachers.

NIACC's Teacher Preparation curriculum includes courses such as Introduction to Teaching, Educational Psychology,

Educational Media and Classroom Computing, Math for Elementary Teachers, and Inquiry to Life Science, besides a complete offering of freshmen and sophomore math and science courses. All are transferable to senior institutions.

Larson has introduced a new Education Club for future teachers, and Attleson and Zoellner are currently guiding a learning community of elementary education students through the Math for Elementary Teachers II and Inquiry to Life Science courses, enabling them to apply mathematics to their scientific research.

Approximately 140 students are currently enrolled in NIACC's Education Program. Another group of students is taking advantage of the new Teacher Academy at Forest City High School which enables students to transfer to a teacher education program at a university after one year at NIACC. The College is also developing additional partnerships to recruit and prepare future teachers.

For more information, contact Larson at 1-888-GO NIACC, ext. 4236 or larsokac@niacc.edu.

named First-Team All-American by both the NJCAA and the California Junior College Association. He then transferred to the University of Arizona and was named All Pac Ten before being drafted by the Detroit Lions in the 5th round of the 1980 draft. He played two years with the Lions and had a long career in the Canadian Football League. Streeter is a salesman in Hampton, Virginia.

### Kaye Young

Kaye Young, a Waterloo native, came to NIACC in 1967 as the College's first wrestling coach. He quickly turned the program into a national power, earning NJCAA runner-up finishes in 1970, 1971, and 1972 before winning a national championship in 1973. Young coached three national champions (Bob Fouts, Tom Garcia, and Joe Hatchett), as well as one Olympian, fellow inductee Joe Corso. He was named NJCAA national coach of the year in 1973. Young taught at NIACC for 31 years and has been inducted into the following Halls of Fame: NJCAA Hall of Fame in 1981, Waterloo East High School Hall of Fame in 1985, and the University of Northern Iowa Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005. He is retired and lives in Mason City.

## Congratulations and Best Wishes to our Recent or Soon-To-Be Retirees!



**Adriana Attleson**  
Math Instructor and Division Chair  
27 Years



**Irma Foell**  
NIACC Food Service (Residence Halls)  
29 Years



**Larry Hibbs**  
Marketing Instructor  
25 Years



**Ann Kuhlman**  
Philosophy/Eibics Instructor & International Student Liaison  
21 Years



**Larry Mozack**  
Registrar  
32 Years



**Richard Petersen**  
Small Business Development Center Director  
21 Years



**Karmen Shriver**  
Director of Learning Services  
17 Years

## Niemants Joins College Board

James Niemants of Clear Lake has joined the NIACC Board of Directors. He replaces Terry Cobb from Clear Lake, who served on the Board since 1998.

An investment representative for SWS Financial Services, Niemants is a 1973 graduate of Drake University. He and his wife, Cindy, have three grown children.

Niemants has been involved with boards and committees connected with the Mason City Chamber, Hospice of North Iowa, Good Shephard Health Center, Mason City Economic Development, Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa, YMCA, First Presbyterian Church and Community National Bank.

Niemants was a Mason City resident for approximately 28 years before moving to Clear Lake.



**James Niemants**

## African American History Course Introduced

NIACC introduced a new course this semester. African American History chronicles the experience of African Americans in the history of the United States. Topics include African heritage; the slave trade; the Civil War and emancipation; and the struggle for civil rights, political power, and cultural expression from the mid-20th century to present time. It is instructed by Dr. Jeff Pilz.

Continued from page 1

### Marla (Shuey) Behrens

Marla (Shuey) Behrens, a Colfax native, attended NIACC between 1973 and 1975, and during that time became one of the most prolific women's basketball players in NIACC history. She was named All-American in both 1974 and 1975, and left NIACC as the school's career leader in rebounds. Behrens holds the single-game record for free throws made (14), is second on the single-game rebounding list (24) and also holds single-season records in field goals made (253) and rebounds (389). Behrens was named the Most Valuable Player at the 1975 NJCAA Tournament and averaged nearly 18 points per game for her career. She was inducted into the Iowa Girls Basketball Hall of Fame in 1981. She is the Chief Financial Officer for the Calvert County Health Department in Prince Frederick, Maryland.

### Mark Streeter

Mark Streeter hails from the football hotbed of Massillon, Ohio. In his one season at NIACC, Streeter became known as one of the top defensive backs in the country. He was

Marcus Spotts has received nothing but good news this year. So far, the 1986 graduate of North Iowa Area Community College has been recognized by the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) and won an online farm market competition.

As a state winner in the 2005 National Corn Yield Contest (his yield of 248.9615 bushels per acre placed him first in the ridge-till category for Iowa), Spotts received an all-expense-paid trip to the Commodity Classic, an annual farm trade show featuring successful speakers, vendors and producers.

His family – including wife Cathy (Blake) Spotts, also a NIACC graduate, and sons Blake (11) and Mac (7) – accompanied him to this year's event in Anaheim, California, for the awards ceremony as well as a side trip to Disneyland.

(By the way, after returning home Spotts found out he had won a video iPod as a door prize. Country music singer Michael Peterson called from Nashville to congratulate him.)

Spotts, who went through NIACC's Ag Program 20 years ago, farms 1400 acres (half corn, half beans) near Nora Springs, Iowa. He assumed full responsibility for the farming operation following his father's passing in 1991. The century farm has been in the family for 135 years.

"I seem to have had success on our farm by using ridge-till tillage practices that save time, soil and money," he said. "I've entered the NCGA yield contest several times and have had good luck placing in the state."

The other big news this year is Spotts will have free use of a 2006 Massey Ferguson combine (a \$12,000 value), the top prize in the MarketMaxx.net contest that he won. Over 3,500 growers played the online commodity game, attempting to market fictitious grain at

## 20 YEARS AGO

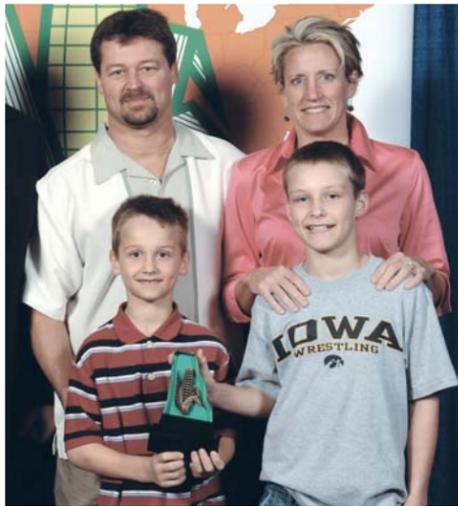
### 1986

**Marcus Spotts**  
Farmer  
Nora Springs, IA  
*Featured NIACC Alumnus*  
*Class of 1986*

the highest price. *Corn and Soybean Digest* sponsored the contest and sent Spotts to Louisville, Kentucky, to the National Farm Machinery Show, where he was given keys to the brand new combine.

The recently-turned 40 year old shows no signs of slowing down. Spotts serves as president of the North Iowa Coop and is involved in the planning for Absolute Energy, a 100-million-gallon ethanol plant that will be built in the area. He has played for River City Rugby since finishing his football career at NIACC, and he has volunteered as an assistant high school and youth wrestling coach at Nora Springs-Rock Falls School nearly every year since graduating. He also flies a Cessna 182 based on the home farm.

More good news will come his way this summer, as Spotts is anticipating the birth of his third child in July.



*Marcus and Cathy Spotts with sons Mac and Blake in Anaheim, CA, with the award from the National Corn Growers Association.*

## Janssen Joins NIACC Alumni Board

Marilyn Janssen of Belmond has joined the NIACC Alumni Advisory Board. She graduated with honors from North Iowa Area Community College in 1998 and received her B.A. in Elementary Education from the Buena Vista University-Mason City Center in 2000.



*Marilyn Janssen*

Janssen is a Broker/Associate with the First Gabrielson Agency in Belmond. A member of the real estate Million Dollar Club since 1997, she was honored as Top Sales Agent and Top Listing Agent in both 2004 and 2005.

Janssen served on the Belmond-Klemme School Board from 1996-2005, and she is currently a member of the Church Council and the Youth Choir Director at Trinity Lutheran Church in Belmond.

She and her husband, Steve, have three children and one grandchild.

The Logos student newspaper staff received numerous awards during the 2006 Iowa College Media Association/Iowa Newspaper Association Convention. *Paul Peterson*, Logos adviser, received the 2006 John



Eighthmey Service Award for his many contributions in serving journalism education in Iowa. Katie Schmitt earned first place in the News Story category for an article about plagiarism. Jeremy Koenigs received second place in the Sports Story category for an article covering NIACC's 10-year anniversary of the national men's basketball title. Megan VerHelst received honorary mention in the Columnist category for her regular column. Logos is a student-published publication released every other week at NIACC.



## Hiroko Hattori Shares Her Japanese Language, Culture

Hiroko Hattori is used to being in the classroom. During the month of February, however, the NIACC international student wound up teaching her own class.

Hattori, an outgoing and enthusiastic performing arts major from Tokyo, Japan, has been studying at North Iowa Area Community College the past two years.

She didn't waste any time getting involved in college life. Her activities have included volleyball, choir, NIACC Singers, theater, and student ambassadors. Last fall, she was voted Homecoming Queen.

When Hattori's Spanish instructor, Charlie Schroeder, suggested she teach a Continuing Education class on Japanese language and culture, she decided to give it a try.

Hattori covered a lot of ground in just five class sessions. One of the activities involved helping her students learn what their names look like in Japanese, then having them find their seats identified by nametags. Hattori even brought some of her favorite Japanese food on the last day of class so her students could sample it.

Hattori said teaching the class is one of many memorable experiences she's had during her time at NIACC that she will take back with her to Japan.



*International student Hiroko Hattori from Japan (center) surrounded by some of her friends from NIACC Singers. After the group's Caribbean Cruise in May, Hattori will return home to Tokyo.*

## Global Diversity Dinner Planned

The NIACC Global Diversity Committee is planning a dinner on April 18 to support students who bring diversity to North Iowa Area Community College.

Hiroko Hattori from Japan is one student very appreciative of her scholarship assistance through the NIACC Foundation.

"My scholarship has allowed me to enjoy college life without worrying about tuition," said Hattori, who was a foreign exchange student at Newman High School in Mason City before returning to North Iowa to attend NIACC. "Without that help, I wouldn't be involved in as many activities, and I probably would have missed a lot of great experiences. I've met tons of great people through these activities, and I've learned so much from them."

"The scholarships have helped lift a lot of the financial burden off my parents too," she said. "I went to private high school in Japan, I was in activities when I was in high school, I became a foreign exchange student, I went to prep school for one year in Japan, and now I am going to college in a different country. I am a very expensive daughter!"

For more information about the Global Diversity Committee dinner, contact Kathy Rogotzke at 1-888-GO NIACC, ext. 4154.





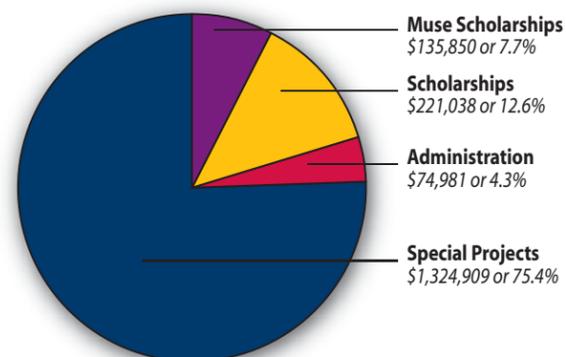
The NIACC Foundation supports the mission of the College by serving as a financial resource in

The NIACC Foundation received \$1,684,660 in 2005. Total assets are over \$15 million. Approved membership corporation organized and operated by and for its member colleges, universities and institutions. A member since 1985, NIACC is the first community college in Iowa and one of the

### BALANCE SHEET

<b>Assets</b>	
Cash and Certificates of Deposit.....	\$ 1,986,116
Investments - The Commonfund .....	11,675,738
Pledges .....	718,856
Other Assets .....	1,025,903
<b>Total Assets.....</b>	<b>\$15,406,613</b>

### EXPENDITURES AND ALLOCATIONS - \$1,756,779



## 2005 NIACC Foundation Donors

Thanks to the following alumni and friends who have demonstrated their support for North Iowa Area Community College through tax-deductible gifts to the NIACC Foundation during 2005.

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Will F. Muse Fund

#### Diamond Club (\$100,000+)

Elizabeth Muse Norris Charitable Fund  
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#### Gold Club (\$50,000+)

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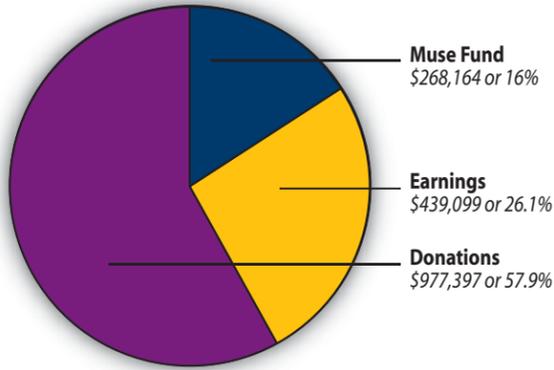
### Timely, Helpful Information Every Month

Do you have questions about estate planning? Planned giving? Wills? Each month, the NIACC Foundation website features new articles and interactive features that cover such topics. For more information, visit [www.niacc.edu/foundation](http://www.niacc.edu/foundation) and select "Planned Giving" in the box on the left.

in a variety of areas including program development, building construction, cultural opportunities, and student scholarships.

Approximately 13 percent is invested in North Iowa financial institutions. The rest is in The Commonfund, a nonprofit and independent schools. The Commonfund provides investment management services exclusively for educational and the few community colleges in the country to belong to The Commonfund.

**RECEIPTS - \$1,684,660**



**Liabilities & Fund Balances**

Liabilities.....	\$104,595
<b>Fund Balances:</b>	
Unrestricted Funds.....	\$1,289,875
Charitable Annuity Fund/Trust.....	1,268
Permanent Endowments.....	3,392,399
Endowment Challenge Fund.....	3,628,863
Term Restricted Funds.....	6,192,936
Board Designated Funds.....	796,677
<b>Total Fund Balances.....</b>	<b>\$15,302,018</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Fund Balances.....</b>	<b>\$15,406,613</b>

**Support the NIACC Foundation Annual Fund See Business Reply Envelope Enclosed**

As a friend of NIACC, we invite you to support the NIACC Foundation Annual Fund. Gifts to the Annual Fund are tax deductible and provide ongoing support for College priorities. A postage-paid response envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Thanks in advance for your support; it does make a difference.

*Note: Online giving to the NIACC Foundation will be available soon!*

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## All in the Family, Brothers Become Teammates

By Jonathon Braden, Assistant Editor/Sports Editor, Logos student newspaper. Reprinted with permission of Logos.

If he's striving for a family-like atmosphere, Head Baseball Coach Todd Rima won't have to preach about one this season. All his team will have to do is take a look around at their teammates.

There are three sets of brothers on the NIACC baseball squad: the Mousels, the Heithoffs and the Rehnstroms. None of them are twins, but all of them have distinct similarities besides their family ties.

All six of the brothers are Catholic and went to Catholic high schools in Iowa. The Mousels went to Sioux City Heelan; the Heithoffs, Kuemper Catholic in Carroll; and the Rehnstroms, Sioux Central in Sioux Rapids. And as if that weren't enough, each brother lives with the other brother.

Yet, similarities aside, it's fair to say that each relationship definitely has its own thread of individuality.

### The Mousels

Tommy and Danny say they've have been doing everything together since they were little. Only a year apart in age, the two played many sports together in high school.

"Every sport we've been in, it's kind of neat to do that in college," Tommy said. "Everything we've done is pretty much together."

Yet, when it came down to if the two would live together, their parents had other ideas about them being together. "At first, they were a little hesitant because they thought we might fight a little bit," Tommy said.

But the brothers won out. Although both Mousels have good baseball talent, the brothers have different baseball achievements to date. A first team all-region selection last year, Tommy has Danny beat so far in the statistical field. But Danny won a state title while at Heelan; something that eluded Tommy.

"We're real close. We've got each other's back all the time," Tommy said. "We're always there for each other, we've always been there for each other." Even when it comes to arguments, the two have each other's back.

"It's pretty special, anytime you get to be with your brother and do something," Danny said.

### The Heithoffs

Like many brothers, the Heithoffs consider each other their own best friend. "It's a great opportunity to play with my best friend," Danny said about playing baseball with his younger brother Tom.

But their journeys to NIACC were anything but normal along the way. Danny spent his first year out of high school at the University of Northern Iowa and then transferred to Briar Cliff University to play baseball. From there, Danny went to UNI again and now he's at NIACC.

His younger brother Tom's story took less time, but to some may be more confusing. After

finishing up a 14-1 record on the mound last season as a senior for Kuemper Catholic, Tom said that the University of Iowa offered him a scholarship to pitch for the Hawkeyes.

"I wanted to play a position and pitch and they (Iowa) just wanted me to pitch," Tom said. NIACC offered Tom the chance to do both and he accepted, turning down Iowa's Division I offer. After NIACC, Tom plans to go D-I and eventually transfer to the University of Nebraska.

But on the field now, the two battle each other. "Danny and Tommy Heithoff are going to be competing against each other," Rima said.

### The Rehnstroms

As different of a brother duo as can be found, the Rehnstroms say that sometimes people don't even believe that they're related. "It's true, Alex is really outgoing and loud," Kyle said of his younger brother. "(He) just tries to be friends with everybody."

"Kyle is more laid-back, quiet and serious, but he can still have a good time, but not as much as me I guess," Alex said. "We have different

personalities, but, hey it works."

The brothers' personalities may not resemble each other's, but their baseball skills certainly do. Together, they nearly rewrote the entire Sioux Central record book, setting 16 new school records; Kyle with 10, Alex with six. But their records were far from lucky, for the Christian household the Rehnstroms were brought up in taught them that everything happens for a reason. "Christianity and God comes number one in both of our lives," Alex said. "Everything's a blessing, don't take anything for granted."

While their beliefs are the same, their D-I experience differs. Kyle chose to transfer from D-I UNI this season. "It's actually pretty much the same thing," Kyle said of the two different levels. "Just a lot more up-tempo (at NIACC)."

All six brothers may even be on the field at the same time this season, Rima said. A confusing sight for fans; a frightening picture for NIACC's opponents.

"They are six outstanding people," Rima said. "I'm so thankful they're at NIACC."



### Baseball Bros

The three sets of brothers on the NIACC baseball squad even share some first names. They are from left (back row) Tommy Mousel, Danny Mousel, Alex Rehnstrom, Kyle Rehnstrom, and (front row) Danny Heithoff and Tom Heithoff.

## Fans Come in Drove for Automotive Careers Night

Nearly 150 people including 82 students from 16 area high schools attended the 14th Annual Automotive Careers Night the end of February. Following dinner in NIACC's Muse Norris Conference Center, the event moved to the automotive lab in the Buettner Careers Building for ice cream, a vehicle showcase, and games. A favorite activity included "wrench races" where contestants raced to see how fast they could unscrew spark plugs.

The annual event has grown over the years and introduces area students to NIACC's nationally-recognized program. The NIACC Automotive Service Technology Program, instructed by Greg Arrowood, Rob Heimbuch and Jack Rohde, earned the ASE Automotive Award of Excellence one year ago.



Head Baseball Coach **Todd Rima** was named runner-up Junior College Coach of the



Year for the state of Iowa. The award is voted on by high school baseball coaches. Rima led NIACC to its first ever conference baseball championship in 2005 and to a No. 9 ranking in the final regular season poll. In four years as the Trojans' head coach, Rima is 129-87 and has three consecutive 30-win seasons.



## Athletic Season Recap

### Cross Country

The men's and women's cross country teams finished outstanding seasons under Head Coach Curtis Vais in just their second year of existence. The women ran to a second-place finish in the Region XI Championships and followed that up by finishing 20th at the NJCAA National Championships in Lawrence, Kansas.

Freshman Elly Meyer (Lincoln, NE) led the way, winning the Region XI championship and earning All-American status at the national meet. Four women earned Academic All-Region honors: Kristen Molander (Mason City), Trudy Stensland (Lewisville, MN), Stacy Allen (Mason City), and Leah Bruns (Mason City).

The men also finished second in the Region XI Championships. A solid team top to bottom, the Trojans just missed a top ten finish at nationals, finishing 11th. They were led by Jimmy Lanik, a freshman from Cottage Grove, MN, who earned All-American honors. Justin Rustvold (Audubon) and Brian Haeflinger (Alta Vista) were both named Academic All-Region.

### Soccer

The men's soccer team showed improvement in Head Coach Colin Murphy's third season. The team finished 4-12, losing in the first round of the Region XI Championships. Ido Barzilay, a sophomore from Ramat-Gan, Israel, earned first-team All-Region honors and honorable mention All-American honors for his efforts. Chris Conley, a freshman from Forest Lake, MN, was named to the second team All-Region. Jorge Rojas, a sophomore from Miami, FL, was an Academic All-Region selection.

### Football

NIACC football completed a 2-6 season under first-year Head Coach Scott Strohmeier. The Trojans recorded a Homecoming win over College of DuPage, a road win at conference rival Ellsworth in the season finale, and were a part of the longest game in NJCAA history, a home loss to Joliet JC in 6 overtimes.

Five Trojans were named All-Region: Kyle Dunn (St. Louis, MO), Kevin Hart (Clinton), Michael Liggins (St. Louis, MO), Juan Martin (St. Louis, MO), and Eric Young (Shiocton, WI). NIACC also had six Academic All-Region honorees: Ben Alford (Dade City, FL), Wes Brommel (Norwalk), Cole Fister (Riceville), Jason Hemmingsen (Alden, MN), Grant Lilly (Riceville), and Adam Shirley (Waterloo).

### Volleyball

Under first-year Head Coach Ted Bieth, the NIACC volleyball team made great strides on the court. The Trojans finished 7-24, but qualified for the conference tournament for the second straight season. Saira Morgan (Anamosa) was named Honorable Mention All Region.

Off the court the Trojans earned the prestigious NJCAA Academic Team of the Year Award after posting a 3.07 team GPA. The team was headlined by seven Academic All Region selections: Hiroko Hattori (Tokyo, Japan), Rachel Herman (Mason City), Jennifer Thomas (Des Moines), Tara Hansmeier (Fertile), Kasie Christensen (Belmond), Deb Hamilton (Latimer), and Morgan.

### Men's Basketball

First-year Head Coach Bryan Martin directed the Trojans to a 15-17 finish in 2005-2006. The win total was a ten-game improvement over 2004-2005. Season highlights included a fifth place conference finish (best since 2002) and a quarterfinal win over traditional power DMACC in the Region XI Tournament.

Three Trojans earned All-Region honors, headlined by first-team selection Justin Redman-Trotter (Milwaukee, WI). Master Irvin (Waterloo) was a second-team selection and Yusuf Vinson (Lincoln, NE) was an honorable mention pick. Five team members earned academic honors by virtue of their 3.0 or better GPA: Jeff Keen (LeGrand), Chris Meyer (Belmond), Jayson Ralston (Fairbank), Ryan Sones (Laurens), and Redman-Trotter.

### Women's Basketball

Head Coach John Oertel's Lady Trojans finished the season 15-15, good for a 6th-place conference finish. Three team members earned All-Region honors, with Abbee Dickman (Thornton) gaining first-team recognition. The sophomore led the team in scoring, assists, and blocks; she finished second on the team in rebounds and steals. Joining her on the All-Region teams were honorable mention selections Jordan Stiles (Rockwell) and Saira Morgan (Anamosa). Five team members earned academic honors by virtue of their 3.0 or better GPA: Teresa Christ (Lakota), Kaeanna Wood (Atlantic), Dickman, Morgan, and Stiles.

Logos student newspaper news editor **Brandon Watson**, of Milwaukee, WI, has earned an all expense paid trip to New York University and a 10-week paid internship at the Rockford Register Star in Rockford, Illinois. Watson is one of 16 students from over 600 applicants to receive the Dow Jones Minority Business Reporting internship. To apply, Watson submitted writing samples, took a written test on current events and math problems, and wrote a story based upon information provided on the test. He will graduate from NIACC this spring. Following his summer internship, he plans to transfer to Minnesota State University in Moorehead, MN to pursue his BS in mass communications with an emphasis in print journalism.



As Houston, Texas welcomed droves of people in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Terry Farghum, a 1976 graduate of NIACC and longtime resident of the Houston area, didn't hesitate in volunteering to help.

Farghum and his son, Matthew, a high school senior, assisted with Red Cross relief efforts and spent several weekends helping Habitat for Humanity build homes for the victims.

Farghum enjoys building model railroads as a hobby and doing projects around the house, so working with his hands isn't something new.

"It's been very satisfying to help in this way," said Farghum. "Our city has been very generous."

Besides devoting his time to community service, Farghum, a chemical engineer, has devoted his career to the Shell Oil Company. The straight A NIACC student chose to join the company at its refinery in New Orleans after completing his engineering degree from Iowa State in 1978.

Since then, he has held various positions with Shell in California and Texas, with the past 20 years spent in technology management. In his current role as Business Team Manager-Hydroprocessing for Shell Global Solutions, he supports Shell and non-Shell customers in the United States, Canada and South America.



**Terry Farghum**  
Chemical Engineer

Katy, Texas  
Featured NIACC Alumnus  
Class of 1976

Though Farghum met Colleen, his wife of 22 years, in Houston, she is also a native Midwesterner (from the Detroit area). The former teacher home schooled Matthew between 4th and 7th grades. She has also supported a home schooling group, along with her many other volunteer activities.

The couple is currently busy investigating and visiting potential colleges as their only child prepares to begin college. (He has narrowed his search to two schools in California and two in Texas.)

"Once Matt is off to school in the fall, we will be empty nesters...except for our dog," said Farghum. "The next stage of our lives will definitely be different."



Terry Farghum with his son Matthew and wife Colleen.

## Hotel Rwanda's Real Life Hero Comes to NIACC

By Mary Pieper of the Globe Gazette. Reprinted with permission of the Globe Gazette.

Paul Rusesabagina told an audience at the North Iowa Community Auditorium (on February 22) how he managed to save more than 1,200 people during the Rwanda genocide in 1994.

But the North Iowa Area Community College Leadership Series speaker also pleaded with them to help raise awareness of mass killings still going on in Africa.

"The whole world stands back and doesn't say, 'no,'" said Rusesabagina, who recently visited the Darfur region in Sudan where more than 200,000 people have been killed and 2.5 million more are fleeing across the border.

During the Rwanda genocide, Rusesabagina – the manager of a luxury hotel – bartered items such as gold, cigars and aged bottles of wine from the hotel for the lives of those who sought refuge there. No one housed at the hotel died.

Rusesabagina's story was told in the 2004 movie, "Hotel Rwanda."

More than 800,000 members of the Tutsi and moderate Hutu tribes were killed by extremists in just 100 days.

During the first few days of the massacre, Rusesabagina saw dead bodies in the streets of his neighborhood, "some of them missing their heads" and others mutilated.

Before the massacre, 2,500 international peacekeeping soldiers were in Rwanda. But once the killing began, all but 260 were withdrawn.

Rusesabagina called people he knew in Brussels and other places looking for help, "but no one seemed to be willing to say, 'we are coming,'" he said.

Finally, a refugee exchange was arranged. But when trucks arrived at the hotel, Rusesabagina put his wife, Tatiana, and their children in them and stayed behind so he could continue to protect the remaining refugees.

He said if he didn't stay behind, "I would be a prisoner to myself." If anything had happened to the refugees still at the hotel, "I would always think of myself as guilty."

Word got out about the trucks leaving the hotel and they were attacked by the Hutu militia. Peacekeeping soldiers fought the militia and brought the refugees back to the hotel.



Paul Rusesabagina (left), who is portrayed in the film "Hotel Rwanda" by actor Don Cheadle, spoke at the College recently as part of the NIACC Leadership Series.

This incident was portrayed in the film "Hotel Rwanda," but the reality was even worse than it appeared on screen, according to Rusesabagina. He said his wife was lying in the truck covered with her own blood as well as the blood of others.

At that point "all the small hope I had vanished," Rusesabagina said.

The refugees had to start drinking water out of the hotel pool.

"That water was so precious, more precious than gold and diamonds," he said.

The militia broke into the hotel and had the refugees on the floor with their hands up "waiting to be slaughtered," Rusesabagina said. He negotiated with a General in the militia to save their lives.

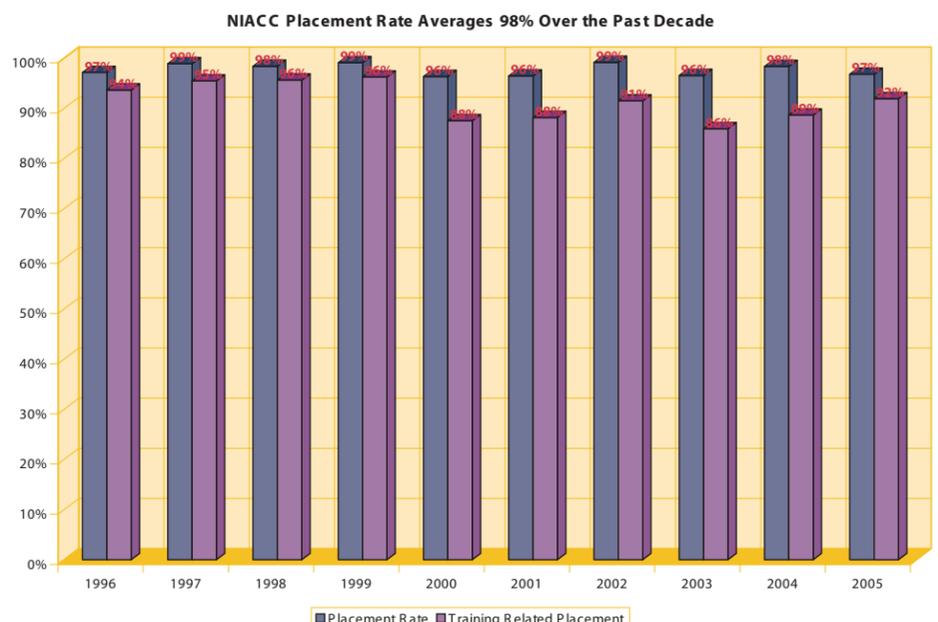
The next day, the refugees finally were evacuated.

Today, Rusesabagina lives in Belgium. He has written a book about his experiences entitled "An Ordinary Man," which came out early April. He hopes his story will serve as a call to action to stop genocide occurring today.

"Ladies and gentleman, we are the only people who can change the world," he said.

## Practically Perfect Placement

Nearly every graduate of NIACC technical and career programs from last year is employed. The 2005 Career Placement Report shows a 97% placement rate for the 231 graduates of programs in NIACC's Business, Health, Agriculture and Industrial Technology divisions. The majority of graduates (86%) are working in Iowa.



## Forest City Elementary Students Become Entrepreneurs for a Day

Forest City fifth graders came to NIACC for a day full of activities that introduced them to the concept of starting their own business.

North Iowa Area Community College piloted the Entrepreneur for a Day Program with Forest City Community Schools due to the overwhelming popularity of a class during NIACC's Mind Mania summer camp which focused on entrepreneurship.

Elementary students from Mason City public and Mason City Newman as well as Forest City will benefit from the program during the 2006-07 academic year. Coordinators hope the program will continue to expand throughout NIACC's nine-county service area.

"We've appreciated the opportunity to help pilot the program," said Dwight Pierson, Forest City Community Schools Superintendent. "Our students have learned a great deal and had a great time. Entrepreneur for a Day is a terrific educational tool, and I would encourage other schools to get involved."

Schools participating in NIACC's Entrepreneur for a Day program also are taking advantage of an opportunity to meet some of the requirements for the No Child Left Behind laws while also providing new horizons for elementary students.

For more information, contact the Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center at 1-888-GO NIACC, ext. 4342.



Forest City "Entrepreneur for a Day" students purchase Play-Doh materials from program leader Kris Meyer. The fifth graders used the materials to produce various products that were marketed and sold at the end of the day.

## Stoeckel Helps Hurricane Katrina Victims with Disabilities

Sheila Stoeckel, disability program navigator at the local Workforce Development Center and a part-time NIACC instructor, spent time last fall helping disabled victims of Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi.

Stoeckel was one of two disability program navigators from Iowa Workforce Development Centers providing on-the-ground support necessary to provide services to people with disabilities and their families in the affected areas and host relief states.

Stoeckel's role was to identify areas where people with disabilities had been placed, assess their needs, assist with provisions and access services needed immediately. She also connected them with the workforce development system and other services that lead to employment.



Sheila Stoeckel

ALUMNI ALMANAC | 1950s | James Paxton '54 and Mary (Gaffri) Paxton '54 live in Lake Forest Park, WA. | 1960s | Richard Morton '62 lives in Newport Beach, CA, and is employed by Haight Brown & Bonesteel LLP in Santa Ana. | Richard E. Angell '63 is vice president and general manager of Schaeffler Group USA, Inc., in Ft. Mill, SC, where he has worked since 1978. He lives in Charlotte with wife, Beverly. | Jeanne (Nelson-Loberg) Cooley '63 is a retired youth services librarian from Cranberry Public Library in Cranberry Township, PA. She is enjoying retirement with husband, Ed. | Geraldine (Heivili) Sharp '63 is a second grade teacher at the American International School of Abuja in Dulles, VA. She lives in Dulles with husband, Bruce. | Marilyn (Elwood) Woelke '64 lives in Colona, IL, with husband, George. She is employed by Alternatives for the Older Adult as a caregiver counselor. | Jon Broers '65 is retired from Sears Roebuck and lives in Tucson, AZ, with wife, Patricia. | Diann (Wilkans) Fortson '65 works for the Laramie County Board of Education as a 4th grade EIP in Barnesville, GA. | Richard (Dick) Hayes '66 received a 2004 outstanding achievement award from Iowa Realty based on personal sales of more than \$5.5 million. He is owner/broker for Lake Iowa Realty in Clear Lake. | Darrell Ludwig '66 is retired from John Deere Product Engineering Center in Waterloo, IA, and lives in Cedar Falls with wife, Sall. | James Axteen '67 is living in Gaithersburg, MD. | Ronald Markham '69 has joined the staff of Hogan-Bremer-Moore Colonial Chapel. He and wife, Kris, live in Mason City, IA. | 1970s | Allen J. Blume '70 has returned to Mason City, IA, to open North Iowa EyeCare, PC, after practicing optometry 13 years in Fort Dodge. | D. Joseph Clausen '71 lives in Mulvane, KS, with wife, Mary. He teaches computer aided drafting at Mulvane High School. | Charles Norris '73 was recently re-elected to a fourth 3-year term as District 2 Director of the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation. | Stephen Standing '73 and wife Carolyn are both retired and reside in Fort Collins, CO. | William McDowell '74 is a technical publications manager at Maytag in Amana, IA, and lives in Coralville with wife, Lori. | John Stock '76 is a service area executive with the American Red Cross, in charge of 5 states - TX, AR, LA, OK, and NM. His office was responsible for establishing the Red Cross shelter in Houston's Astrodome following Hurricane Katrina. | Jean Torgeson '76, RN, CRNFA, CLNC successfully completed the national certification for legal nurse consultants. Torgeson Consulting is North Iowa's first independent legal nurse consulting practice providing services to attorneys, insurance companies, healthcare facilities and private corporations by organizing and interpreting medical records involved in medical-related cases. | Phillip Barker '77 is a senior consultant with ES and J Corporation in Palatine, IL. | Donna Eckard '77 is an associate with Lake Iowa Realty and lives in Clear Lake, IA, with husband, Bill. | 1980s | Elizabeth (Kuehn) Ehlers '80 is director of Christian Education at First Presbyterian Church in Mason City, IA. | John Cowin '81 is a certified general real estate appraiser and broker and is part-owner of Central States Agency, a real estate and insurance agency. He and wife, Sharon, live in Ledyard, IA. | Dawn Collins '83, senior registered investment assistant at Piper Jaffray of Mason City, has completed the registered para-planner program through the College for Financial Planning. | Curtis and Margaret Gentry '83 live in Glendale, AZ. Curtis is a teacher at Ironwood High School in the Peoria Unified School District and an adjunct faculty member at Glendale Community College. | Kim (Fredricks) Bowman '84 resides in Maplewood, MN. She is employed by Fraser in Minneapolis as a training and volunteer administrator. | Lt. Col. James Clapsaddle '84 is a Commander, 49th Medical Support Squadron, at the Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico. | Martin Foxen '84 and '93 lives in Cedar Rapids, IA, with wife, Lori, and is employed as a staff therapist at Linn County Physical Therapy. | Marsha Kneuppel '84 lives in Westland, MI, with husband, Alan, and is a RN at Trinity Health Telemanagement. | Sandra (Geer) Whitehurst '84 was promoted to consumer banking officer at Clear Lake Bank and Trust Co., where she has worked since 1984. | Melani (Morgan) Caron '85 resides in Queen Creek, AZ. | Timothy Jones '85 is an auto technician at Jerry Seiner Cadillac and lives in West Jordan, UT. | Darrell Sterling '85 is Transport Officer at Beaufort County Detention Center in Beaufort, SC, where he has worked for 16 years. He lives in Port Royal. | Ken Draper '86 of Mason City, IA, is employed by Iowa Mold Tooling Co. Inc. (IMT) in Garner as a supervisor of the paint line. | Paul Hubbard '86 and Stacey (Klemp) Hubbard '89 live in Mason City, IA. Stacey is a clinical leader at Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa. | Karla (Shafer) Sexton '86 lives in Ames, IA, and is employed as an administrative supervisor/registered investment assistant at Piper Jaffray Inc. | Tim and Monica (Dunbar) Steinauer '86 now reside in Clarinda, IA. Tim is the quality assurance manager of NSK Corporation, and Monica is employed as a pharmacy tech at Easter's Pharmacy. | Ronald (Ron) Andrews '88 is a longtime employee with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and resides in Clear Lake, IA. | Lon Grettillat '88 is vice president of business development for LXI Enterprise Storage, one of Mason City's newest businesses. | Ladawn (Olson) Kiley '89 lives in Eagle Grove, IA, where she is a consumer and real estate loan officer at First State Bank. | Cheryl McLaughlin '89 lives in Clarion, IA, and works as an administrative assistant to the Avon District Manager in northwest Iowa. | Bruce Steinberg '89 is a self-employed farmer in St. Ansgar, IA, where he lives with wife, Meagan. | 1990s | Angela (Thronson) Glaser '90 is an office assistant at Keystone Area Education Agency and lives in New Hampton, IA. | Joan (Wessling) Hanson '90 has been promoted to commercial banking loan officer/credit analyst at Clear Lake Bank and Trust Co. of Clear Lake, IA. | Michael "Bulldog" Moore '90s lives in Houston, TX, and is the owner of a record company, Beltway 8 Records. | Jeff Rooney '91 and Karla (Smit) Rooney '94 live in Sheffield, IA, where Jeff is a self-employed electrician. | Stephanie (Graff) Schroeder '91 lives in Omaha, NE, and is a director at Premier Gymnastics. | Kurt Buffington '92 and Stephanie (Bailey) Buffington '95 and family recently returned to North Iowa. Kurt is the new store director of the Mason City Hy-Vee Drugstore. Previously store manager at Fort Dodge, he returns to Mason City where he began his Hy-Vee career 16 years ago. | Matt Ritter '92, vice president/cashier of Clear Lake Bank and Trust Co. of Clear Lake, IA, graduated with distinction from the Bank Administration Institute's Graduate School of Bank Operations and Technology. Commencement was held at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. | Andrea (Griffith) Olson '93 and husband Brad Olson '94 live in Osage, IA. Andrea is a 2nd grade teacher and a coach in the Osage School District. | Jane (Praska) Proffitt '93 is an interventional radiographer at the Aurora Sinai Medical Center in Milwaukee, WI. | Susan Adams '94 is administrator of the Rockwell Nursing Home in Rockwell, IA. | Debra Friest '94 is employed by the First Schoneman Realtors/GMAC Real Estate Agency in Mason City, IA. | Anthony Harper '94 lives in Hampton, IA, where he works as a CPC service coordinator at Community Services of Franklin County. | Jami (Peterson) Maifeld '94 resides in West Des Moines, IA, with husband, Troy. She is employed at Wells Fargo as a business process analyst. | Laurie (Smith) Wendel '94 and Greg Wendel '92 live in Mason City, IA. Laurie is employed by First Citizens National Bank. | Kim (Seiler) Etherington '95 is a physician's assistant at Kossuth Regional Health Clinic. She resides in Algona, IA, with husband, Ryan, and family. | Jason Putney '95 is a teacher with the Waterloo Community School District and lives in Readlyn, IA. | Bryan Turner '95 is a real estate and lending attorney with Bryan Cave LLP in Kansas City, MO. He lives in Kansas City with wife, Cori. | Christopher Weiland '95 and Linda (Hassebroek) Weiland '95 live in Britt, IA. Chris is a patrolman with the Britt Police Department. | Cher (Kober) Anderson '96 of Mason City, IA, is director of nursing at the Mason City Ambulatory Surgery Center. | Tracy (Howe) Anderson '96 lives in Mason City, IA, with husband, Tim. She is employed by First Citizens National Bank. | Aaron Coe '96 lives in Rapelje, MT, with wife, Angie. He is the manager of Schulz Grain-Molt Elevator. | Amy (Fleming) Elwood '96 lives in Mason City, IA, with husband, Troy, and is employed at KIMT as a TV news anchor. | Eric Gruenhagen '96 is a police officer with the Davenport Police Department in Davenport, IA. | Monica (Johns) Harman '96 lives in South Kansas City, MO, with husband, Donald. She is self-employed as a massage therapist. | Wendy (Daniels) Rish '96 lives in Mason City, IA, with husband, Christopher. She is employed by Wells Fargo Bank. | Christopher Scuffham '96 is employed by Combined Insurance in Waterloo, IA, where he lives with wife, Jessica, and family. | Matt Wolff '96 of Clear Lake, IA, received a 2004 outstanding achievement award from Iowa Realty based on personal sales of more than \$3.5 million. | Jeffrey Fahrman '97 is an examiner with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in West Des Moines, IA. He lives in Ankeny with wife, Mollie. | Kristi Fommelt '97 is a registered nurse at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. | Dr. David Haas '97 is employed by Haas Chiropractic Clinic in Mason City, IA. | Jon Huebner '97 lives in Tama, IA, and is employed by the South Tama Community School District as a 5th grade teacher. | Matthew Kirkpatrick '97 and Jamie (Hyde) Kirkpatrick '02 are at home in Mason City, IA. Matthew works for NSB Bank and Jamie is an employee of Gerard Treatment Programs. | Darryl Kuhl '97 and Wendy (Kruger) Kuhl '99 reside in Clear Lake, IA. | Patrick Ruitter '97 of Mason City, IA, is employed by Slumberland as a sales associate. | Douglas Slings '97 lives in Hiawatha, IA, and is an account executive with KCI. | Melissa (Hrubes) Einertson '98 is employed by Trinity Information Systems and lives in Mason City, IA, with husband, Tim. | Emily Ernst '98 of Cedar Rapids, IA, is employed in the Secretary of State's Office as a precinct surveyor. | Frank Hodak '98 and Tracy (Manning) Hodak '02 live in Manly, IA. Frank is employed by the City of Manly and Tracy works for Horizons, A Family Service Alliance, in Mason City. | Emily (Kittleson) Libbey '98 is a Spanish teacher at Chatfield High School in Littleton, CO. She lives in Centennial with her husband, Brian. | Addie (Harmon) Rugland '98 of Mason City, IA, is the public relations and membership specialist for the Mason City YMCA. | Carmen (Meyers) Wickering '98 is employed by the Globe Gazette and lives in Mason City, IA, with husband, Patrick. | Jennifer (Keel) Cole '99 lives in Forest City, IA, with husband, Michael. She is employed by Manufacturers Bank & Trust. | Chris Dobel '99 lives in Ellsworth, IA, with wife, Jennifer. He is employed by LGI. | Melinda Hogrefe '99 of Higley, AZ, is a human resource administrator for SWCS Development. | Brooke Langlitz '99 lives in Cedar Rapids, IA, and is employed at J. Lloyd International, Inc. as corporate counsel. | Kiley (Dannen) Logan '99 resides in Mason City, IA, with husband, Benjamin. | Melanie (Albers) Ralston '99 has a degree in Animal Ecology and lives in Webster City, IA, with husband, Scott. | Jeff Reimers '99 was promoted to assistant vice president and lending officer at First Citizens National Bank in Latimer, IA. | Kelly (Walston) Wenzel '99 is a pharmacy technician at St. John's Hospital in Saint Paul, MN. | 2000s | Jennifer (Bugge) Fleis '00 is a medical assistant at Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center in LaCrosse, WI. She lives in Onalaska with husband, Adam. | David Hansen '00 is a supervisor in the body installation department at Iowa Mold Tooling (IMT) in Garner, IA. | Zachary Kaduce '00 lives in Augusta, GA, with wife, Katie. He is employed by Hertz Rental Equipment. | Christian Lacour '00 and Whitney (Carlson) Lacour '00 live in Manly, IA. Christian works for McNeilus in Kensett and Whitney is employed by Menards in Mason City. | Jason Squier '00 is a teacher with the Nora Springs-Rock Falls school district and lives in St. Ansgar, IA, with wife, Rachel. | Maren Van De Water '00 lives in Houston, TX, where she is employed by the Alief Independent School District as a kindergarten teacher. | Chad Eastman '01 and Aimee (Bergan) Eastman '05 reside in Plymouth, IA. Chad is employed by Fleet Farm and Cell-u-Byte and Aimee works for Mercy as an RN in the Birth Center. | William Ferjak '01 lives in Farmington, MN, and is employed by Best Buy Co. | Travis Heimbuch '01 is employed by Community National Bank in Waterloo, IA, where he lives with wife, Lori. | Jeremiah Prazak '01 and Krista (Ohden) Prazak '01 are employed by Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa in Mason City, IA. | Justin Overland '01 lives in Lake Mills, IA, and is a mechanic at Dave's 66 Service. | Bryce Rosel '01 and Michelle (Boelman) Rosel '02 live in Johnston, IA. Both are employed as actuaries with the Principal Financial Group in Des Moines. | Brooke (Cline) Schwanke '01 is employed by the Mayo Clinic and lives in Rochester, MN, with husband, Nicklas. | Robert Scott '01 and Kimberly (Kester) Scott '04 live in Nora Springs, IA. Robert farms near Rockford and Kimberly is employed by Cartersville Elevator, Inc. in Rockwell. | Billy Abundis '02 of Clear Lake, IA, is employed by Fareway. | Krisann Bergo '02 works as a graduate teaching assistant in Sociology for University of Kansas, where she is finishing her Masters Degree in Sociology. | Justyn Ferris '02 is an avionics and installation technician at Spencer Avionics in Spencer, IA, where he lives with wife, Jennifer. | Tiffany (Benson) Finke '02 resides in Britt, IA, with husband, Dave. She is a dental assistant at Tesene, Young, Maurer and Maurer Family Dentistry in Garner. | Daniel Grimm '02 works for the Walnut Creek YMCA and MOAB Construction in Des Moines, IA. He lives in West Des Moines with wife, Alisha. | Melissa Hennings '02 lives in Oelwein, IA, where she is employed at Kwik Star. | Ryan Hirsch '02 lives in Mason City, IA, and is employed by Mills Fleet Farm. | Amanda (Caspers) Hobbiebrunke '02 lives in Mason City, IA, and is employed by Mercy Pediatric & Adolescent Clinic. | Reid Peterson '02 is a personal banker at Wells Fargo in Mason City, IA. | Alicia (Peterson) Pueggel '02 and Mark Pueggel '03 live in Cedar Falls, IA. Alicia is a graduate of Iowa State University and Mark is a student at the University of Northern Iowa. | Brent Anderson '03 and Sherri Anderson '92 recently moved to Nixa, MO. | Kristin Brietzke '03 is employed by Mason City Community Schools. | Erin (Lindsay) Crum '03 lives in Nora Springs and is employed by Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa in Mason City. | Joshua Halverson '03 of Cedar Rapids, IA, is employed by John Deere in Waterloo. | Allison (Faaborg) Muhlenbruch '03 of Sheffield, IA, is employed by the Mercy Cancer Center in Mason City. | Carissa (Silver) Otto '03 lives in Ames, IA. She is substitute teaching in the Ames Community School District. | Jennifer Timmerman-Brown '03 is a supervisor at I.C. System's Health Care Division in Mason City, IA. | Seth Young '03 and Tiffany (Severson) Young '03 live in Mankato, MN. Seth is an education major at Minnesota State University and Tiffany is employed by the Mankato School District as an English teacher. | Justin Kruger '04 and Katie (Hansen) Kruger '05 live in Manly, IA. Justin is employed by Advanced Component Technology in Northwood and Katie is employed by Farmers State Bank in Grafton. | Marie (Runge) Morud '04 lives in Mason City, IA, with husband Nick. | Thomas Newton '04 and Jennifer (Milton) Newton '05 reside in Little Cedar, IA. Tom is a self-employed farmer and Jennifer is a certified daycare provider in Osage.

Send us YOUR update by visiting the NIACC website at [www.niacc.edu/alumni.htm](http://www.niacc.edu/alumni.htm) and choosing "Alumni Update Form." We look forward to hearing from you!

IN MEMORY | Alumni (by class) 1936 John B. Dougan, 89 | 1939 Marian P. Dickinson, 86 | 1939 Francis R. Rampton, 86 | 1939 Elizabeth A. (Justin) Siessesger, 86 | 1941 Rosie H. (Heimbuch) Ficken, 83 | 1942 George C. Gooder, 82 | 1943 Kathryn (Wagner) Douglas, 82 | 1946 Hazel (Faulk) Krell, 79 | 1948 John F. 'Jake' Burke, 81 | 1951 Ruby L. (Wood) Godfredson-Holt, 88 | 1952 Noreen H. (McMahon) Barkema, 83 | 1952 Gloria A. Walker, 72 | 1954 Leona (Wismar) Garlock, 34 | 1966 Billie R. (Gorman) DeVoll, 61 | 1967 Harriett M. (Thompson) Eng, 82 | 1970 Terry E. Lassahn, 61 | 1974 Eugene 'Bussy' Buss, 54 | 1976 Richard D. Bergan, 67 | 1979 Linda A. (McCauley) Boelman, 56 | 1981 Kimberly L. Mahaffey, 43 Other NIACC Friends | Merlin J. Ackerson, 73 | Durwood D. Baker, 84 | Allen G. Borchert, 79 | John A. 'Jack' Bork, 75 | Lewis T. Bowcock, 89 | Opal B. Browning, 82 | Margaret L. (Thurston) Carroll, 88 | Walter F. Cooper, 77 | Robert E. Ellingson | Marie H. Fallgatter, 95 | Edwin W. Ficken, 92 | Laurie H. Hankenson, 55 | Bethany A. Hanson, 21 | Murray A. Klobberdanz, 56 | Avil L. Knudtson, 90 | Herbert D. Konigsmark, 74 | Hazel S. (Anderson) Kurtz, 92 | Michelle L. (Gabel) Lee, 32 | Larry R. Luker, 67 | Rachelle E. Lundblad, 88 | Maxine G. (Wicks) Maland, 90 | Jan L. McLinn, 48 | Kelly B. Ollman, 51 | Barbara J. (Christianson) Penny, 51 | Hugh O. Roberts, 90 | Raphael J. Rottinghaus, 84 | Charles A. Sandusky Jr., 83 | Earl W. Schutz, 78 | Duane E. Shanks, 78 | Ronald A. Sheffner, 64 | Kurt S. Sprau, 41 | Harm M. Uken, 90 | Roger Whitt, 85

Constance "Connie" Deets has had experiences most people only dream of. Yet, when she graduated from NIACC/Mason City Junior College in 1966, three weeks after giving birth to her son, she wasn't sure where her life would lead.

Within two years, her marriage fell apart; and she and her son were on their own. Despite the challenge of being a single mother, she continued her college education, graduating magna cum laude from Upper Iowa University in the summer of 1970.

"After college, I made a leap of faith and moved to Washington, D.C. with no job, money or contacts," said Deets.

Within three years she remarried and became Assistant Director of a national children's organization dealing with juvenile justice, day care regulations, and children's health. Her son eventually got a sister, and Deets took over as director of her daughter's preschool, a position she held for 10 years.

When her husband, Horace Deets, was named Executive Director of AARP in 1988, her life entered "a whole new arena."

She had an opportunity in 1992 to address single parent issues directly to then candidate Bill Clinton, and the following year she dined at the White House, one of her most cherished moments.

"I was so aware of the history that had transpired there, and I was truly moved to have the opportunity to be in that house," she said.

Her experiences also include helping to organize the Stand for Children March in Washington, D.C.

"I remain a strong advocate for children and single mothers and contribute to those causes in every way possible," she said.

Her husband's work gave her an opportunity to travel the globe and learn firsthand about issues facing the older generation as well.

"None of these experiences would have been possible without the educational foundation I received from my schooling in North Iowa, and I am grateful to the many teachers who challenged me and mentored me along my way," said Deets, who has created a NIACC Foundation scholarship with her brother, Richard Schinnow, in memory of their mother.

Deets believes that learning is a lifelong process, and she puts that

## 40 YEARS AGO 1966

**Constance (Schinnow) Deets**  
Annandale, Virginia  
Featured NIACC Alumna  
Class of 1966

belief into practice. She is currently taking a course designed by a group of scientists to improve memory and potentially delay cognitive impairment from Alzheimers.

She also attends conferences, like TED MED, where many of the leading minds in Technology, Entertainment, Design and Medicine discuss the newest discoveries and trends. It is here that she has had an opportunity to meet and talk with individuals such as Jonas Salk, who developed the polio vaccine, and television producer Norman Lear, to name a few.

"While I've had some amazing opportunities and experiences, my greatest accomplishment has been to raise and sustain a healthy, close-knit family that includes three grandchildren," she said.

Deets' entire family is traveling to Holland this spring to visit the house where her great grandparents lived and to meet her relatives who still reside there.



The Deets family includes (from left): son-in-law Benny, daughter Jennifer, grandson Patrick, Horace, grandson Michael, Connie, granddaughter Madeline, son Jamie, and daughter-in-law Maureen.

## Track and Field Resumes After 30 Years

The NIACC Track and Field program is up and running again after a 30-year hiatus. The Trojan men and women kicked off the indoor season in January at the Minnesota State Alumni Open in Mankato, MN. Head Coach is Curtis Vais.

Men's and women's Track and Field was dropped as a varsity sport at NIACC after the 1975 season. Under the direction of Head Coach Arlo Stoltenberg, the Trojans won three consecutive regional championships between 1973 and 1975.

The current Trojan Track and Field team had just begun their outdoor season at press time.

For more information, visit [www.niacc.edu/athletics](http://www.niacc.edu/athletics).

## Pappajohn Finances New Quest for Entrepreneurs

NIACC alumnus John Pappajohn is offering attractive financial prizes to aspiring or new business owners in Iowa. The top three winners in the Iowa Business Plan Competition currently underway will receive \$25,000; \$15,000; and \$10,000, respectively.

The competition is sponsored by Pappajohn, Equity Dynamics, Inc. and the five John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Centers across the state.

Entries will be accepted between now and June 30 at the University of Iowa's Pappajohn Center, with the winners announced at the fall 2006 Iowa Venture Capital and Entrepreneur Conference. Assistance with business plan entries is available at various locations, including NIACC's Pappajohn Center.

"That John Pappajohn continues to show his support and love for the state of Iowa and entrepreneurial growth is one of the true blessings this state has received over the past several years," said Jamie T. Zanos, NIACC Pappajohn Center Director. "The successes of the Pappajohn Centers and businesses they have assisted are a direct result of his vision and financial support. This new event adds to the effort to drive entrepreneurial growth throughout the state."

For more information, visit [www.iowabusinessplancompetition.com](http://www.iowabusinessplancompetition.com).

## John Pappajohn to Receive National Outstanding Community College Alumni Award

John Pappajohn, a 1948 graduate of NIACC/Mason City Junior College, will receive the National Outstanding Community College Alumni Award this spring. He will be recognized during the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) National Convention in Long Beach, California, on April 24.

Pappajohn joins a prestigious contingent of community college alumni from across the nation honored for their outstanding professional contributions and generous philanthropy.

Pappajohn, the president of Equity Dynamics, Inc. of Des Moines, is among NIACC's most accomplished alumni and top benefactors. He and his wife, Mary, encourage and support the development and growth of new business ventures through John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Centers (JPECs) at NIACC and around the State. They also fund entrepreneurial scholarships for NIACC students, and in 2001, they helped dedicate NIACC's Pappajohn Business Center, which bears their name (and houses JPEC offices and NIACC Business Programs).

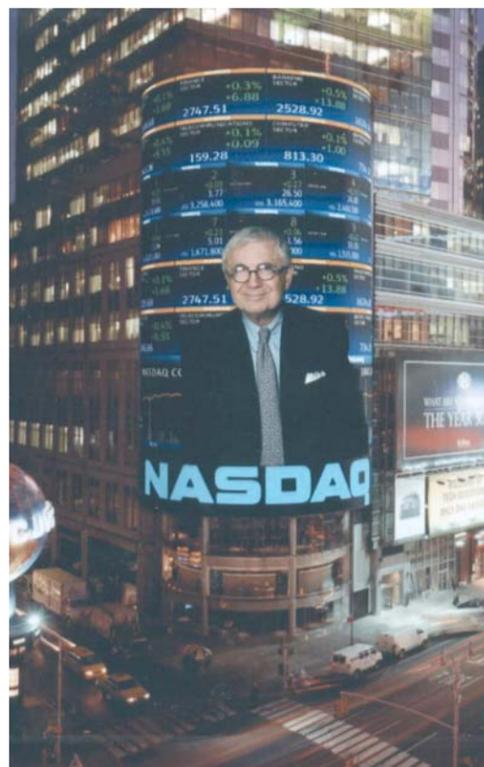
The eldest son of Greek immigrants, Pappajohn grew up in Mason City and graduated from NIACC before completing his college education at the University of Iowa.

"John Pappajohn represents what community colleges stand for and provides opportunities for new Iowa entrepreneurs to live the American dream," said NIACC President Dr. Michael Morrison. "His vision and philanthropy will have long lasting and far reaching effects in Iowa."

Mr. Pappajohn has achieved many honors and accolades in the course of his career, including the Iowa Business Leader of the Year, Oscar C.

Schmidt Iowa Business Leadership Award, Brotherhood Award, Hellenic Heritage Achievement Award, Iowa Business Hall of Fame, Entrepreneur of the Year, Ellis Island Medal of Honor, NIACC Outstanding Alumni Award, and Horatio Alger Award.

On March 15, 2006, the Iowa Legislature passed a resolution honoring Pappajohn's contributions to Iowa and his national community college award.



## NIACC Faces

North Iowa Area Community College welcomes David Lief who has recently joined the NIACC team of employees!



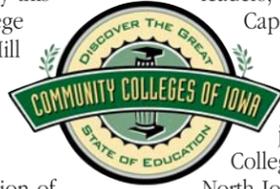
David Lief

David Lief has joined the NIACC Physical Plant staff. A native of Minnesota, he was formerly employed at Roto Rooter in Mason City.

# Community Colleges of Iowa Celebrate 40th Anniversary

The Community Colleges of Iowa are celebrating their 40th Anniversary this year. Over 250 Community College students converged on Capitol Hill for an anniversary celebration opportunity in January, and Governor Tom Vilsack proclaimed the 2006 Legislative Session "The Session of Celebration of the Iowa Community College."

Legislation establishing a statewide community college system was passed in 1965. Long-time Senator Jack Kibbie from Emmetsburg, who floor managed the enabling legislation (Senate File 550) and is the acknowledged champion of the community college cause, was recognized



mid-March by Vilsack, community college leaders, and fellow legislators at the Capitol.

Many of the 15 schools composing the Community Colleges of Iowa had roots as junior colleges. Mason City Junior College, operating since 1918, became North Iowa Area Community College in 1966.

The NIACC service area includes the counties of Butler, Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Mitchell, Winnebago, Worth and Wright.

*Note: Look inside for feature stories about alumni who graduated 10, 20, 30, and 40 years ago!*

NIACC students *Stacy Allen* of Rockwell and *Jonathon Braden* of Mason City have been chosen by North Iowa Area Community College to receive the All-State Academic Award. Phi Theta Kappa, USA Today, two-year college presidents and community college state associations co-sponsor an All-State Academic team recognition program in 34 states. Allen's and Braden's selection was based on academic achievement, NIACC involvement and community involvement. Both were recognized during the Phi Theta Kappa awards banquet March 15th in Des Moines and are nominees for the All-USA Academic Team.



*A Proud Past... and Vital Future!*

Community College trustees from across Iowa will converge on the NIACC campus this summer as North Iowa Area Community College hosts the 2006 Iowa Association of Community College Trustees (IACCT) Conference and 40th Anniversary celebration.

## NIACC

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## Driven High School Senior Among Youngest NIACC Alumni

Seventeen-year-old Mackenzie Lowry of Clear Lake will graduate from North Iowa Area Community College on May 5...more than two weeks before she receives her diploma from Clear Lake High School.

Lowry is among a handful of students who has accomplished this feat. Her ability to earn an Associate Degree from NIACC by age 17 can be attributed to hard work, determination, and excellent time management.

In the last 11 months, Lowry has supplemented her high school curriculum with college-level courses at Clear Lake High School and on the NIACC campus.

To say that Lowry has found time to be involved in activities outside school is an understatement. Her involvements include Just Eliminate Lies (JEL) Iowa, Partnership for a Tobacco-Free Cerro Gordo County, Model United Nations, North Iowa Community Action, North Iowa Coalition for Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Iowa Lung Cancer Association, Relay for Life, North Iowa Central Gardens and TRACES Historical Education Program, to name a few.

A classical flutist and master gardener, Lowry serves on several councils and boards such as the Clear Lake Teen Library Council, Clear Lake Arts Council, and Mall of America Teen Board.

Despite her young age, she has already received numerous honors and awards. Most recently, she became one of 15 teenage girls across the nation recognized by "Seventeen" magazine for making a difference in their communities. The magazine's All-Stars Contest

chose the winners based on their academic record, community involvement, appraisal letters from teachers and a personal essay. Lowry's essay talked about the death of her father, Jack, from lung cancer three years ago.

"The most tragic thing is that it was so preventable. Since his death, I work hard to improve the lives of others by putting a face with the statistics while also striving to excel academically. I think of him every day and now dedicate my time and energy to anti-tobacco efforts hoping to make a difference," Lowry wrote. "I want to be a role model to teens by showing that it's possible to be academically successful and help others, even in the wake of tragedy."

Lowry plans to get her bachelor's degree in Political Science and to end up with a PhD in Social Philosophy so she can work as a policy advisor (or the like) and possibly do work in third world countries.

"NIACC has given me a solid foundation and great start toward my goal," said Lowry. "The College is such an asset to the community and I'm very lucky to be able to be a part of something that encourages personal growth and the progression of our community as a whole."



## NIACC Receives \$1.25 Million for Business Incubator

North Iowa Area Community College has received \$1.25 million in federal funding for the creation of a business incubator. The Congressional appropriation, secured by Iowa Congressman Tom Latham, will be used in part to remodel space in NIACC's Buettner Careers Building in preparation for start-up and fledgling companies to occupy the facilities. The incubator will not only save overhead, but facilitate networking with other start ups and provide hands-on assistance and support through NIACC's John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center (JPEC).

"By offering North Iowa firms a business incubator to use as they begin operation, we're providing an additional level of support to get them past their early stages," said JPEC Director Jamie T. Zanios. "This is like the farm-club model in sports – once companies leave the incubator, they are ready for the big leagues."

The number of businesses that may occupy the incubator space depends on the amount of space each business needs, and the space will be flexible for different types of firms.

Companies could begin occupying the space as early as this fall.



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