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CARBONNEAU DONATES \$2M TO DCB FOUNDATION

Dakota College at Bottineau Alumni Newsletter

BRANCHING OUT



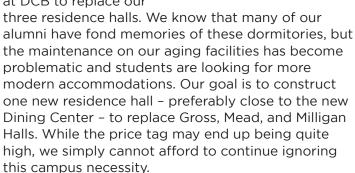
We Are Proud at DCB

by Dr. Carmen Simone, Campus Dean

Spring has finally arrived in northcentral North Dakota. For Dakota College at Bottineau (DCB), our thoughts have certainly turned to successfully finishing this academic year. In Minot, our first cohort of Dental Assisting students will be graduating from a program that is fully accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA), and we could not be more pleased. To complement this program, we will be adding Dental Hygiene beginning this fall. After many years of planning, this new program recently received initial accreditation from CODA in February. Two years from now, our first Dental Hygiene cohort will be graduating from DCB.

Our Nursing students in Bottineau have benefitted from a completely renovated space in Old Main this year. The official ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on October 7, 2024 and many of our donors and supporters gathered to celebrate the occasion. In addition, the Nursing students in Minot also have new space in Health Center West thanks to a partnership with Trinity Health. There is no doubt that this has been a great year for the health professions programs at DCB.

This legislative session, we have focused our attention on sharing the critical need that we have at DCB to replace our



We are proud to be an affiliate campus of Minot State University and one of eleven public institutions within the North Dakota University System. It is a privilege for me to be leading the DCB team into the future. Our vision is clear. We adapt to the changing educational landscape to empower students and impact communities. With your support, we will continue serving northcentral North Dakota for many years to come.



Three DCB Students Recognized as New Century Workforce Pathway Scholars

Three DCB students were recognized by Phi Theta Kappa Chapter of Beta Rho Etta for their selection by the State of North Dakota to the 2025 All North Dakota Academic Team.

Based on the outstanding academic performance and service to the college community, the following New Century Workforce Pathway Scholars are Monica Yoder, Rugby, ND, natural resource management; Skyla Louttit, Melita, MB, and Ava Flannery, Reston, MB, both Associates of Science in liberal arts.

The New Century Transfer Pathway's top performing students are eligible for academic scholarships to four-year North Dakota universities. The New Century Workforce Pathway Scholar's topperforming students are entering the workforce after completing a certificate or associate degree.

Students who are members of Phi Theta Kappa are considered some of the best caliber of young adults in the campus community. Students are nominated by their chapter adviser to All State, based on outstanding academic performance and service to the college and community.





50 Years of Hockey & Carbonneau's Legacy

by Leslie Stevens, Foundation Director

Get ready to lace up your skates—because we're celebrating a major milestone! The Men's Lumberiack Hockey Team

is celebrating its 50th anniversary, and we couldn't be more thrilled to honor this incredible legacy.

We're inviting all former players, families, and loyal fans to join us in Bottineau from June 12-14, 2026 for a special reunion weekend. Mark your calendars now-it's going to be a time to reconnect with teammates, reminisce about unforgettable moments on (and off) the ice, and celebrate five decades of Lumberjack pride.

More details will be coming your way soon, but for now, start spreading the word and planning your trip. We can't wait to see you back in Bottineau, where the heart of Lumberjack Hockey still beats strong.

In addition to this celebration, we want to take a moment to recognize and honor the extraordinary generosity of George Carbonneau. George's remarkable gift to Dakota College at Bottineau will provide tuition and fee assistance for 100 students every year, opening doors to education that may have otherwise remained closed. See the story on page 8 of this magazine. His legacy of kindness and vision will impact lives—and futures—for generations to come.

As proud alumni, we share more than memories—we share a responsibility to uphold the spirit of DCB. Whether you're mentoring students, attending events, or contributing to scholarships, your continued involvement strengthens our community and helps keep the Lumberjack legacy alive.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to celebrating together in 2026—As Coach Rybchinski says, "Long Live Those Lumberjacks". #LLTL



Please support the Alumni Association scholarship fund by sending in your contribution as soon as you can. Every dollar raised goes back to the students at DCB for returning student scholarships. Please use this slip and update your information. Thank you for your support!



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Contribution Amount:	☐ \$25 Dues	☐ Other	☐ \$250 Scholarship
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Make checks payable to DCB Alumni Association and mail to 105 Simrall Blvd., Bottineau, ND 58318 or pay by credit card online by visiting: www.dakotacollege.edu/foundation or calling us at 701-228-5613.

Former Lumberjack Hockey Player Enjoys International Career Success



The Selch family (L-R) Finn (8), Brenden (20), Heidi, Vivian (11), Derek, and Macsen (17).

A proud member of the 1998 national champion Lumberjacks hockey team says attending Minot State University - Bottineau changed the trajectory of his life. Derek Selch is happy he attended what's now known as Dakota College at Bottineau for many reasons, including winning the National Junior College Athletic Association National Championship 27 years ago.

The Lumberjack hockey program is what initially drew Selch over the Canadian border to Bottineau. "My dad was a Mountie, so I grew up in a few places. When I was born, we lived in a town called The Pas, Manitoba. When I was three, we moved to Tisdale, Saskatchewan, where we lived until I was twelve. I still consider Tisdale my hometown. At twelve, we moved to Winnipeg, where I graduated from Westwood Collegiate High School."

He initially started out at the University of Winnipeg with about 9,000 other students, attending freshman classes in full auditoriums. "It was a terrible fit for me. At Bottineau, it was a little more like high school. Teachers took attendance, they cared if you came to class, and they cared how you did on your exams," explains Selch. "In short, they held you accountable.

Bottineau's size allows it to operate like this, and for certain kids—probably most kids—it is a much more conducive learning environment."

The opportunity to play hockey coupled with affordable tuition sold him on MSU-B. Nearly three decades later Selch is still in contact with his teammates. "I believe the sport of hockey creates closer teammate friendships than any other sport. While physically far apart, players from that team are still some of my best friends."

Due to the 1998 Lumberjack's national success, Selch and several teammates were recruited to play hockey at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn. "I had fully intended to return to Canada after the 1998 season. Instead, I found myself back in the United States," he says. "At Bottineau, I had a number of professors with multinational and international experiences. They shared examples about their work and time in other cities and overseas, and it certainly piqued my curiosity to see more of the world."

Little did Selch know how much of the world he would see. After graduating from Bottineau with an Associate's Degree in Marketing and Management, he went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting from Concordia. Bemis Inc., a large Minneapolis-based packaging company, hired Selch to work in the internal audit department. In 2005, he was given his first international opportunity to be an accountant at a Bemis facility in the United Kingdom. Selch worked in Swansea, Wales, from 2005 to 2006. The following year, Bemis moved its corporate headquarters to Neenah, Wisconsin. Selch and his family moved to Wisconsin where he became a financial manager for a Bemis division called Curwood Inc.

Three years later, Selch seized another international opportunity to work in Hong Kong, where he became the Vice President of Finance for Asia Pacific. He oversaw the company's sites in China, Malaysia, New Zealand, and Australia for five years before returning to live in Wisconsin with his family in 2016. Selch has worked for a private equity-owned company called Hoffmaster since 2022. He is currently the Vice President of Finance Supply Chain for the company which makes napkins, paper plates, and other disposable entertainment and catering products.

Selch says living overseas with his wife, Heidi, and their children was an experience like no other. "For five years it felt like our life wasn't real because we were so far away from home in a very different culture," he says.

The family of six includes four children - Brenden, Macsen, Vivian, and Finn. Hockey is a major part of their lives. "I have coached all the kids at all levels," says Selch proudly. "I usually coach five or so separate hockey teams each year. Hockey is the schedule driver in our house almost year-round."

When they are not playing or coaching hockey, the Selches enjoy visiting family and traveling. Trips to Winnipeg include a Jets game for the family hockey fans. Last summer, they visited England and Wales, where Derek's internation career began. The family also tries to visit their cabin on Lake Metigoshe whenever they can to enjoy the water or hunting in Bottineau County.

It is yet to be determined whether the Selch children will one day be Lumberjacks too. However, there is plenty of family history in Bottineau beyond Derek attending school there. Heidi's parents and grandmother are also alumni.

"I recommend going into careers that are vocations such as nursing, accounting, engineering, etcetera. In fact, I encourage my kids to consider the trades as well," says Selch. "In many cases, a school like Bottineau is a great way to start. Once you get a two-year diploma, you can put 'some college' on your resume. Often this is enough to get into the job market—and then you can prove vourself."

Good advice from Lumberjack who has found success on the ice, in the classroom, and in corporate offices around the world.



Derek, Macsen, Vivian, Finn, Heidi, and Brenden at Swansea Beach in Swansea, Wales.



Hunting with Macsen and Brenden in Bottineau County in the fall of 2024.



Selch family selfie in front of Big Ben.

Biberdorf Finds Success at ND Game & Fish Department



Zach Biberdorf

A 2022 Wildlife and Fisheries Technology graduate of Dakota College at Bottineau (DCB) landed his dream job with the North Dakota Game & Fish Department. When Zach Biberdorf graduated from high school in his hometown of Rolette, he already knew he

wanted to become a game warden. DCB offered the degree he needed to get on his way to achieving his professional goals.

"

"DCB was a smaller college that is recommended for a wildlife degree," says Biberdorf. "It feels like you are a small step up from high school versus a university, which I wanted."

"

While attending DCB, Biberdorf was able to job shadow game wardens to get a taste of his future career. "The people that were most influential to me when I was in college were the game wardens who brought me on ride-alongs. They taught me what it takes and what it is like to be a game warden."

He took advantage of opportunities to work out of state during the summer breaks to get experience outside of North Dakota. "I highly recommend that someone going into this field look into other states to gain different outdoor opportunities and experiences."

After graduating with his AAS degree, Biberdorf went on to earn a bachelor's degree in Conservation Law from Valley City State University. He began his career with the Game and Fish Department in 2023. "I enforce laws and regulations when it comes to hunting, fishing, trapping, recreating, and boating," says Biberdorf, who already knew some colleagues thanks to connections he made at DCB. "I made friends in Bottineau who are in my field that I will see for years to come."

Overall, Biberdorf says his career is off to a great start thanks in part to starting out at DCB.



Zach enjoys hunting big game. This black bear was harvested near Shell Lake, SK.





Women's Basketball Athletes Hit **Milestones During Season**



Amari Butler

Amari Butler scored her 1,000th career point on February 10th, in a 79-63 win over Lake Region State College. She joins Imani Scott who played from 2013-2015 as the only known players in the history of the women's basketball program to surpass 1,000 career points. Amari finished her DCB career with 1,100 points. She also holds the two best single season steal numbers in program history. In her freshman season, she tallied 160 steals and

swiped 146 steals in her sophomore campaign for a career total of 306. Amari earned the MonDak first team allconference honors for her efforts.



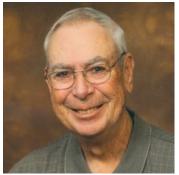
Kiara Comeaux

Kiara Comeaux achieved two milestones for the women's basketball team this winter. In a December game against the University of Jamestown JV, Kiara scored 45 points, the most points scored in a game since 2015. On February 23rd, in an 89-43 win over Miles Community College, Kiara broke the single game assist record with fourteen. She had previously tied the record twice with thirteen assists. Kiara broke the single season record and finished the season with 199

assists. The previous record was 190 assists. Kiara also tallied four triple doubles this season and earned MonDak second team all-conference honors.



George Carbonneau Leaves \$2 Million Gift to DCB Foundation to Support Scholarships and Nursing Program



George Carbonneau

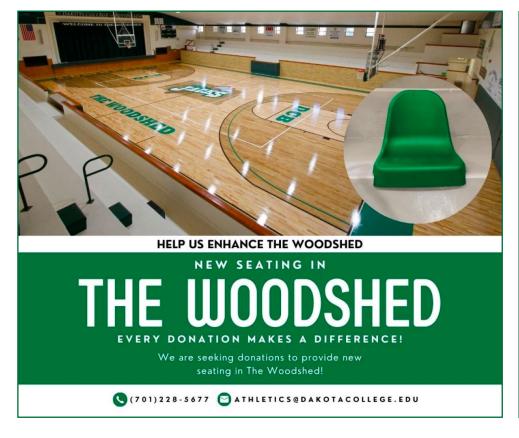
DCB is honored to announce a transformative gift from the estate of George Carbonneau, a lifelong resident of Bottineau. The gift, totaling \$2 million, will support general scholarships, nursing scholarships, and the college's nursing program.

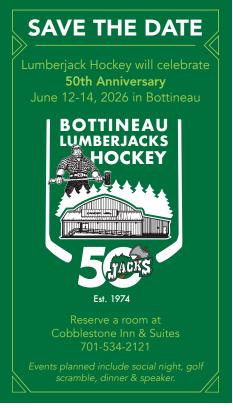
The funds from Carbonneau's estate will be distributed through the DCB Foundation, offering a game-changing opportunity for students from North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Minnesota, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan. A portion of the gift has been allocated for general scholarships, with a \$1,000 award available to a select number of students each year.

In addition, sizable portion of the donation will support the DCB nursing program. Nursing students attending classes on campus in Bottineau may receive up to \$4,000 per academic year through scholarship. Students must meet the application requirements for the nursing program.

DCB Foundation Director, Leslie Stevens, expressed gratitude for the remarkable contribution: "George Carbonneau's gift will leave a legacy at Dakota College at Bottineau. His generosity will open doors to students who might not have had the opportunity to attend college, and it will have a significant impact on the nursing program, which is vital to the health of our communities. We are incredibly grateful for his foresight and support."

George Carbonneau's gift marks a milestone for the DCB Foundation, and his legacy will continue to empower students across multiple states and provinces for years to come.





Thank You for Making a Difference at DCB!

(All donations were made from September 16, 2024-March 31, 2025)

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FUTURE LUMBERJACKS -



Trevin and Kristen (Kjelshus) '12 Hall welcomed Walker Lee Hall on February 27, 2025.



Paul and Whitney (Brandvold) '15 Lucken welcomed Jayce Robert Lucken on January 31, 2025.



Connor '22 and Jenna (Lamatta) '22 Beck welcomed Nathan Ryan Beck on January 19, 2024.



Jason '03 and Alyssa Proper welcomed Klete George Proper on May 31, 2023.

FAREWELLS -

Shelley Bowers, '71, August 18, 1952-March 31, 2025

Courtney Reddish, '02

July 19, 1981-March 27, 2025 Roger Feldner, '63

November 4, 1943- March 17, 2025

Mitchal Prellwitz, '10 September 16, 1990-March 8, 2025

James Frykman, '62 April 13, 1944-February 5, 2025

Jami Anderson, '92 January 18, 1972-January 27, 2025

Nancy Wittmayer, '73 December 8, 1953-December 14, 2024

Janice Schepp, '75February 17, 1926-December 29, 2024

Robert Flanagan, '55 February 28, 1933-November 29, 2024

Karen Moldenhauer, '63 June 15, 1944-November 26, 2024

Marcoe Vrem, '54 January 11, 1935-November 20, 2024

Ona Monson
October 7, 1941-November 18, 2024

Donald Indvik, '60 October 25, 1940-November 15, 2024

GOOD NEWS

Angie Bartholomay, '78, was awarded the Project Leaning Tree Leadership in Education Award.

Scott Johnson, '89, was awarded the 2025 Dale P. Parnell Faculty Distinction Recognition Award through the American Association of Community Colleges.

Sally Jelleberg, '88, married Lonnie Henke on July 20, 2024, at Lake Metigoshe.

Chad Geisinger, '06 & '18, graduated from Herzing University with a Nurse Practitioner degree. He serves as the Acute Nurse Practitioner in the ICU at Trinity Health, Minot.

Heidi (Hall) Hauf, '11, has been promoted to an Associate Professor. She teaches in the DCB Allied Health program.

Sam Paszek, '17, has joined Ackerman-Estvold engineering and architectural firm in Minot as an environmental specialist.

Peter Keane, '18, graduated from the Royal Horticultural Society in London, August 2024 with a Master of Horticulture degree. He is an adjunct instructor in horticulture for DCB.

Jenna Lematta, '22 and Connor Beck, '22, were married on October 26, 2024.

Anita Gable, '22, accepted the position of Accounting Clerk for the Dakota College at Bottineau Business Office.

Adyson Jelleberg, '22, is teaching at the elementary school for the Surrey, ND School District.

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UPCOMING DCB EVENTS

May 16	Commencement	
June 13	Axes & Ales Alumni Social	
July 8	Logrollers Golf Tournament	
August 9	Lake Metigoshe Wine Trek	
August 25	Classes Begin - Fall Semester	
September TBA	Turtle Trot 5K & Fun Run	
September 27	DCB Foundation Evergreen 42	

For more information on events scan the QR code below or go to www.dakotacollege.
edu/foundation









Cobblestone Inn & Suites

Tickets \$60 per person