

# DISPATCH

Produced by the DCTC Office of the President

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Interior Design Models Excellence  
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DCTC Alums Impress



**DAKOTA COUNTY**  
**TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

**Real Education. Real Results.**

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**The Dispatch is a newsletter published quarterly by the DCTC Office of the President for alumni and friends of DCTC.**



**DAKOTA COUNTY**  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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# President's Message

## CAPITALIZING ON COMPLEXITY



IBM recently conducted a series of interviews with 1,541 CEOs, general managers and senior public sectors leaders from around the world to gain insight into how they are responding to a complex, competitive and economically-minded marketplace.

Four primary findings arose from this study. First, the marketplace is and will continue to be complex. Second, creativity is the most important leadership quality. Third, organizations need to use their customer base to co-create products and services. Fourth, the best performers manage complexity so stakeholders aren't left to figure things out.

As the CEO of Dakota County Technical College (DCTC), I can tell you with assurance my responses to the same line of questioning would not have been much different.

At DCTC, we have responded to complexity by changing, adding and eliminating programs based on the demands of the



market. We have creatively partnered with business, industry and the community to develop new programs and facilities. We have listened to the demands of our customers by adding additional online and hybrid programming to meet the needs of a busy student population. And, we have taken on the complexity of changes in business and industry to develop customized training programs to help companies compete in a fast-moving global marketplace.

These are merely a few examples of the work we have done and will continue to do, but they are critical to ensuring DCTC's success now and in the future.

With our reaccreditation visit approaching in April, we will be further reflecting on our history and planning for our future, and part of that is getting your input. As a member of our customer base, I would be interested in hearing any thoughts or ideas you might have about DCTC's future direction. Please email me at [ron.thomas@dctc.edu](mailto:ron.thomas@dctc.edu) if you have any comments or ideas.

As always, thank you for your continued support of DCTC and its mission.

Ronald E. Thomas, Ph.D.  
DCTC President

# Business & Industry

## DCTC AWARDED \$99,891 MESP GRANT

DCTC was one of 14 grantees to receive a green grant from the Minnesota State Energy Sector Partnership, or MESP.

The grants, totaling more than \$1.1 million, are slated to train Minnesota workers for positions linked to industries focused on energy efficiency and renewable energy. The grant awarded to DCTC and its partners is \$99,891.

The U.S. Department of Labor funds MESP through a three-year, \$6 million grant designed to spur workforce development in industries related to energy efficiency in construction, renewable electric power, and biofuels.

Partnering with Siemens Energy, Inc., Minnesota State Community & Technical College in Wadena, Minn., Lake Superior



College in Duluth, Minnesota West Community and Technical College in Jackson, Minn., and MnTAP, or the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program, DCTC will be working to develop an intentionally integrated mobile training system designed to produce a highly skilled electric power sector workforce in the area of clean-energy smart grid technology.

## DCTC AND UHS AWARDED \$314,106 MJSP GRANT



DCTC and United Hospital Services received a \$314,106 grant from the Minnesota Job Skills Partnership to fund a project to provide training to help UHS continue to meet customer needs by developing more cost-effective goods and services.

The economic development component will focus on training in the emerging technology of mobile media. MJSP officials reported: "Available training for this type of technology is essential to retain and grow technologically sophisticated companies, and the capacity to develop these skills will provide an important advantage for the state."

Pat McQuillan, Customized Training director of trade and industry, noted that more than half the courses offered are new for the college with the remaining courses customized to meet the specific needs of UHS. "This grant will provide an opportunity for DCTC to update existing curriculum in our Biomedical Equipment Technology program. We will be able to advance our ability to deliver industry-crucial skills training for the green manufacturing sector. We will also establish a credentialed certificate for mobile media."

## DCTC NAMED YELLOW RIBBON COMPANY



At an awards ceremony during the Yellow Ribbon Summit, DCTC was proclaimed a Yellow Ribbon Company as part of the statewide Beyond the Yellow Ribbon campaign. Beyond the Yellow Ribbon raises awareness and connects Minnesota military personnel and their families through community support, training, services and resources.

Gov. Tim Pawlenty and Maj. Gen. Larry W. Shellito, adjutant general of the Minnesota National Guard, were present at the ceremony as were representatives from

a number of Yellow Ribbon Communities and Companies.

Yellow Ribbon Companies have developed a sustainable action plan for supporting military families during the deployment cycle and after service members return home. Often families of service members on deployment believe their situation goes unnoticed by their local communities. Families may even feel apprehensive about asking for needed support.

## ACCREDITATION VISIT APPROACHING

For colleges and universities, both public and private, accreditation by a recognized independent commission is a critical measure of accountability.

At DCTC, Gayle Larson, general education instructor specializing in English and computer literacy, and Kelly Murtaugh, vice president of academic and student affairs, are serving as co-chairs for the college-wide effort to achieve re-accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

As part of the reaccreditation process, the college will receive a comprehensive, three-day visit by a team of four HLC consultant-evaluators April 18-20, 2011. The team will make a recommendation to the HLC before departing the campus.

DCTC prepares for the important visit by executing an internal self-analysis called a Self-Study, a three-year undertaking involving critical input and feedback from the entire college community.

"We will be using the Self-Study as a springboard for strategic planning," Murtaugh said. "Published electronically, the Self-Study will provide wonderful information about the college and our role in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system."

Murtaugh noted that the HLC reaccreditation process obliges the college to collect, organize and evaluate materials regarding what its administrators, faculty, staff and students have been doing over the last 10 years. "But more importantly," she added, "the HLC asks us to ask ourselves where we are planning to go in the next ten."

# Campus News

## THOMAS NAMED CHAIR OF NACCE BOARD

In December of 2010, DCTC President Ronald E. Thomas accepted the honor of becoming NACCE president and board chair, a volunteer position that will allow him to work closely with technical and community colleges presidents from around the nation, specifically in the galvanized and promising area of entrepreneurship education.

Founded in 2002, NACCE fosters economic development by serving as the hub for the dissemination and integration of knowledge and successful practices regarding entrepreneurship education and student business incubation.



Thomas has been an active member of the board since helping to launch the college's Business Entrepreneur certificate program at DCTC's Apple Valley location in 2004, which has since helped more than 100 entrepreneurs start new businesses and has received national and state recognition.

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS



*From left to right: DCTC Counselor Nancy Bailey, Scholarship Recipient Leah Lundgaard, Connie Backstrom, Nathan Backstrom, Scholarship Recipient Dina Ryro, Scholarship Recipient Andy Chemisky, and DCTC President Ron Thomas*

The world of the Backstrom family was forever changed October 10, 2004, when they heard the words, "We're sorry to inform you..." Nathan and Connie Backstrom learned that three of their five sons were dead—Matthew, 20, Justin, 17, and Jacob, 16—the victims of an alcohol-related crash, their lives cut short by the conduct of a stranger who chose to drink too much and talk on a cell phone while driving a motor vehicle erratically and too fast.

Since the crash, the Backstroms, with their two surviving sons, Charles and Ryan, have shared their story at mock crashes, high schools, churches and special events, hoping that by putting real faces on the victims, they might help others grasp the terrible reality of drunk driving.

In memory of the three brothers, DCTC has established the Make a Difference Scholarship. Matthew was a Graphic Design Technology student at DCTC. Jacob wanted to be a U.S. Marine helicopter pilot. Justin had career plans to be a chef. Three DCTC students have each been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship in their honor.

"Connie and Nathan Backstrom endured the worst trauma imaginable for parents," said DCTC President Ronald E. Thomas. "Their work to teach the community about the dangers of drinking while driving is making a difference. They also counsel others on how to cope with the loss of child. Their wisdom and fortitude serve to inspire everyone they meet."

# Faculty & Staff News

## KOLLES PRESENTS AT YALE UNIVERSITY

Brett Kolles is a national authority on the Irish writer, poet and playwright, Oscar Wilde. That's why Kolles, an English and business communications instructor, accepted an invitation from Yale University this past September to give a presentation called "Another Wilde Irony: Press Relations and the Commodification of Oscar Wilde" during the Research Society for Victorian Periodicals Annual Conference.



"One thing that always piqued my interest was how clever Oscar Wilde was," said Kolles, who spoke at Linsly-Chittenden Hall on Yale's New Haven, Conn., campus. "He knew how to work the newspapers like there was no tomorrow. This guy was way ahead of his time."

Kolles has a master's degree in English from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn. He also earned his master's in Business Communications and a B.A. in

journalism from St. Thomas, where he currently teaches critical writing. In 2005, he won the University of St. Thomas Fellowship Award.

He has presented at several literary conferences around the country, including the Arts and Humanities Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, the Victorian Conference in Richmond, Va., and the Humanities Conference at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Ill.

## RADDATZ NAMED FRIEND OF WORKFORCE



Larry Raddatz, director of manufacturing, railroad and technical training, has been awarded the Mark McAfee Friend of Workforce Development Award.

The award is presented to an individual who has championed workforce issues at the local, state or federal level.

LaDonna Boyd, WIB member and economic development director at Dakota Electric, who presented the award, noted "Larry is

a very low-key and unassuming individual, but in the spirit of this award - has done so much to help better people's lives with his quiet determination and leadership."

Thirty years ago, Raddatz was a WorkForce Center client. He notes that he appreciated the services and opportunities they provided. Now he enjoys helping job seekers gain skills to pursue new careers.

Professionally, he improves employees' skills by connecting company's training needs to the right classes - even if those classes need to be "customized" for the employer. He was instrumental in developing a highly-successful, short-term soldering program in conjunction with Dakota-Scott Workforce Services. The program has had excellent success in getting people re-employed.

Larry also provides career-related advice by talking to individuals at schools and churches.

## WEIERKE NAMED HR SUPER VOLUNTEER



Lynne Weierke, a human resources specialist at DCTC, received an All-Star Award as an HR Super Volunteer. Weierke was honored at the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Human Resources 2010 Fall Conference at the Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center in Alexandria, Minn., Oct. 13-14, 2010.

"This is a wonderful honor for Lynne and much deserved," said Sue Raddatz, director of human resources. "Congratulations Lynne!"

## PLAISTOW NAMED CFO

DCTC is pleased to announce Vicki Plaistow has been hired as its new chief financial officer.

Plaistow comes to DCTC with an extensive background working in higher education. She most recently served as the director of financial analysis at Hamline University, where she also served in the roles of accounting manager and director of accounting. Prior to that, Plaistow served as a controller/business office manager and interim chief financial officer/treasurer at Northland College in Ashland, Wisc. She holds a master's degree in non-profit management from Hamline University and a bachelor's degree in accounting from Northland College.

# Program News

## OFFICE CAREERS GIVES BACK



Students in Charlotte Kodner's Office Procedures class worked hard during the holiday season on a civic engagement project to collect donations for Neighbors, Inc. that provides food and emergency services to people living in Dakota County. The students collected a total of 653 individual non-food items such as high-demand personal hygiene and household products that are often overlooked during donation drives.

## DESIGN CONNEXION WINS BIG



Lori Balestri and Callie Valtakis

Design Connexion, the Interior Design program's student club, took Best Overall at the International Interior Design Association 11th Annual FUSION+FASHION event. Based on Project Runway, the competition merges fashion with interior design with models showing off original-design dresses on a catwalk. Design Connexion's teams each presented one of the two costumes that gave DCTC the Best Overall Award. Lori Balestri from Eden Prairie, Minn., was lead designer on one DCTC team, which included Kellin Cowles, Kate Stahler and Callie Valtakis, the latter the runway model who wore one of the winning costumes.

## VCOM FALL PORTFOLIO SHOW HELD



After two years of hard work, 14 Visual Communications students showcased their finest projects in graphic design, multimedia and Web design, and applied visual arts at the 2010 Fall Portfolio Show.

"The students in the show are nearing graduation," said Connie Larson, an instructor in the Graphic Design Technology program. "They put tremendous effort into their portfolios. During this last semester especially, they really focused on perfecting their design skills. For me, it's always a lot of fun helping them reach the professional level."

Larson pointed out that VCOM instructors continue to guide and mentor students as they transition from the classroom into the job market. "A major part of our role as instructors is using our industry contacts to help graduates launch their careers," she said. "I'm never happy until I know my graduates are making the most of their education."

Winners of the portfolio show were Alicia Witherill for Best All Around Student; Brian Christensen for Best Graphic Design Portfolio; Tina Schoenke for Best Applied Visual Arts Portfolio, and Tim Leisio for Best Multimedia & Web Portfolio.

## LAHT RECEIVES PLANET ACCREDITATION



After a three-day visit from a Professional Landcare Network accreditation team led by Kent Hammond, associate professor emeritus at The Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute in Wooster, Ohio., PLANET granted full accreditation to the Landscape Horticulture program.

The college's PLANET accreditation status will continue until 2017.

Kent Hammond, the PLANET accreditation team leader, reported that out of approximately 560 horticulture programs nationally, only 60 meet PLANET requirements and just 26 have achieved accreditation.

"DCTC has the reputation as the number one horticulture program in Minnesota," said Hammond, who singled out the program's self-study, an internal critical self-analysis, as the best he had seen in his 20-plus years of conducting site surveys.

# Program News

## INTERIOR DESIGN STUDENTS IMPRESS



Tom Wright, the executive director of Hastings Community Television, was looking at a major remodel of the HCTV office and studio space located in Hastings High School and wasn't sure how to proceed.

"I went online looking for a college interior design program and DCTC was the first website I tried," Wright said. "I was impressed right away with the instructors and the curriculum."

Wright soon met with Kathy Huus, the director of the DCTC Interior Design program. They quickly saw the full potential for a collaborative venture. Wright had found a way to realize his dream of creating a distinctive, expressly functional workspace his staff could call their own, and Huus had found a way for her students to get professional, real-world experience through

an amazing service-learning project.

"The staff at HCTV was seeking to upgrade their space and build a stronger brand identity for their station," said Huus, who enlisted five volunteers to work on the pro bono project from her class of second-year students. At first, the plan was to provide a space efficiency evaluation as well as new finished materials such as carpeting, paint and logo-aligned signage for a more visible presence at the school and in the community.

"As we worked along, the project grew, which was a great learning opportunity for the students," Huus said.

Besides working with an actual client—not a hypothetical client in a studio class, the students also had the chance to test their skills against a tight timeline and a tighter budget.

"There were some challenges," said Huus, who pointed out that the remodel began midsummer 2010 yet needed to be completed by the time Hastings High School started classes at the end of August. "Deadlines and budget issues are very normal in real-world projects so this was a good experience for our students."

## PTK ADOPTS FOUR AREA FAMILIES



Over the holidays, members of the DCTC Phi Theta Kappa Beta Theta Tau chapter adopted four local families through Armful of Love, a charitable program of 360 Communities, formerly the Community Action Council. Beta

Theta Tau members wished to bring joy and happiness to each and every member of the four families as the college and community head into the new year.

Student Life Director Nicole Meulemans stated the drive raised a slew of gifts for the families, including household items, toys, games, clothing, electronics and gift cards.

"Armful of Love is a wonderful program and everyone in our Phi Theta Kappa chapter felt honored to participate. We are happy that we could help out in some way during this special time of year."

## STUDENTS TAKE BRONZE AT NATIONAL SKILLSUSA



From left to right: Clark, Albers and Vovk

Three Auto Body Collision Technology students, Bob Vovk, Rob Clark and Mike Albers, from Dakota County Technical College were bronze medalists at the SkillsUSA Championships, which were held in Kansas City, Mo., June 20–June 25, 2010, during the 46th Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference. The SkillsUSA Championships spotlighted the brainpower and expertise wielded by the top technical and career students in the U.S. The three won for Chapter Display, which "selects the outstanding promotional exhibit designed and constructed by SkillsUSA student members."

## EAST CENTRAL ENERGY SCHOLARSHIPS



From left to right: Spinler, Snyder and Ploub

Jennifer Veese, communications manager with East Central Energy, announced three students in our Electrical Lineworker program each received ECE scholarships for \$667.

The students are Joe Snyder, Cottage Grove, Minn., Dylan Ploub, Pine City, Minn. and Tyler Spinler, Pine City, Minn.

**BETO  
PUBLISHED**



Steven James Beto, a student in the Medical Administrative Assistant program at DCTC, received word that his short story, "The Candy Bar Trees," has been selected for publication in *Nota Bene*, the annual literary journal of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Raised in St. Paul and a resident of Northfield, Minn., Beto, 59, served during the Vietnam War as a U.S. Air Force medical service specialist.

## **FEEDBACK BEING SOUGHT FROM FRIENDS AND ALUM OF DCTC**

The Office of the President is seeking feedback from alumni and friends of the college to aid in future decision-making regarding alumni programs and other institutional advancement.

A survey is available by visiting the main page of [dctc.edu](http://dctc.edu). There, you will find a link in the banner that will take you to the "Friends of DCTC Survey."

The survey takes about five minutes to complete and will help provide the college with critical information.

The survey will close in late January, so please visit [dctc.edu](http://dctc.edu) as soon as possible to complete the survey.

# **Student/Alumni News**

## **HIGH-RISK SERVICE: ATF SPECIAL AGENT MEDIC**



*Students in the EMT program at DCTC*

Before becoming a special agent medic in the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, better known as the ATF, Robert Almgren served as a medic and fireman with the Bountiful City Firearm Department for six years and then for two years as a tactical medic in the Salt Lake County Jail. Almgren, now 38, was also with the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office (now known as the Salt Lake Unified Police Department) for six years as a deputy sheriff. He then served as a violent crimes/homicide detective at the Layton City Police Department, located about 20 miles north of Salt Lake City, Utah.

As an ATF special agent medic, Almgren is attached to an ATF Special Response Team based in Detroit, Mich. SRT agents investigate and apprehend some of the most violent criminals in the United States.

"Our team serves high-risk warrants in the Midwest region," Almgren said, referring to law enforcement operations related to arrest warrants, search warrants, home invasions, armed robberies, buy-and-busts, undercover work, protection details and dangerous vehicle stops and surveillance. "My job as a special agent medic focuses on delivering emergency medical treatment to

ATF agents and suspects who are injured during the course of an activation."

When he's not deployed on an active SRT operation, Almgren is responsible for conducting criminal investigations as a special agent with the ATF St. Paul Field Division. He received EMT certification through the Emergency Medical Technician program at DCTC. The 6-credit program is approved by the Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board, or EMSRB, and involves 130 course hours, including eight hours of clinical experience and skills practice.

Deb Kaye, the EMT program's instructor, remembers Almgren as an exceptionally bright student with a lot on the ball. "Rob had years of on-the-job experience coming into our program," said Kaye, who noted that EMT recertification is required every two years, involving 24 course hours that cost less than \$250 at DCTC. "He really understands the application of advanced medical support in high-pressure situations."

Almgren works in one of the most dangerous jobs found in U.S. law enforcement. SRT agents take part in multi-agency operations targeting outlaw motorcycle gangs, terrorist groups and organized crime enterprises. With teams located in Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles, Miami and Washington, D.C., the SRT averages almost 150 activations annually.



*EMT students after Jaws of Life training with Apple Valley Fire Department Fire Station No. 3 (Instructor Deb Kaye center front in blue jacket)*

# Student/Alumni News

## LOWE'S GRANT AIDES STUDENT WORK



From left to right: LaComb, Gartner, Trimble, Suder, Graff, Droste, Chapdelaine, and Hebert

Lowe's presented DCTC and the Heavy Construction Equipment Technology program with \$10,000 for two new signs and a steam room in the HCET area.

Located at the east and west entrances to the college's back lot, the signs will give directions to program area garage doors. The steam room will be used to steam-clean equipment parts. Students in the Concrete and Masonry program did the block work for the signs.

DCTC Vice President Sharon LaComb, HCET Instructor Roger Gartner, Lowe's Representative Terry Trimble, HCET Student John Suder, HCET Student Ben Graff, Rosemount Mayor Bill Droste, SKB Representative John Chapdelaine and DCTC Dean Gary Hebert took part in the signage ribbon-cutting ceremony. Michelle Tighe, director of business development & events for the Dakota County Regional Chamber of Commerce, was also present.

## CAMPUS LIONS CLUB CHARTERED



DCTC is now the first two-year college to establish a Campus Lions Club in Lions District 5M-6. The new DCTC Campus Lions Club held a Charter Night Celebration Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010.

Ben Bundschu, president of the DCTC Campus Lions Club, reported that his fellow officers and club members will be working hard to earn their new club the visibility needed for effective fundraising. Bundschu noted that new fundraising ideas are already in the works, including one aimed at lowering the cost of books for students.

"At DCTC, we can use our unique capabilities as a college club to better serve students on campus as well as residents in our surrounding communities," he said. "The Lions are about service and we believe in that mission."

## ALUM HELPS DCTC.EDU TAKE TOP HONORS



Cyle Olson, web developer, recently accepted the 2010 National Association of Government Webmasters Pinnacle Award in the State/NGO category for dctc.edu, one of the most prestigious in the Web development industry.

"The NAGW Pinnacle Awards are judged by Web professionals," said Olson, a 2006 DCTC graduate with A.A.S. degrees in Multimedia & Web Design and Graphic Design Technology. "They look at a site from an expert perspective, taking into consideration design, usability, navigational structure, content and many other factors. Winning this award is great recognition for the college and shows what you can do with a topflight technical education."

## LINEWORKER STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPPED

Dale Olofson, the line superintendent of maintenance and construction at Rochester Public Utilities, dropped by Claus Newman's Electrical Lineworker classroom to present student Elliot Evenson with a \$600 scholarship check. RPU employees raised the scholarship funds to honor Jeff Peterson, a 22-year RPU lineworker who died of heart attack while on the job.

**SHOWCASE ON  
ITS WAY:  
APRIL 6, 2011!**



The College Showcase is set for Wednesday, April 6, 2011, at DCTC's main campus in Rosemount.

An annual tradition both loved and anticipated by the DCTC community, the College Showcase provides and opportunity for friends of the college old and new to convene on campus for food, fellowship and fun.

As in years past, the college will host a number of restaurants providing free food samples, program information and entertainment for visitors.

"The Showcase provides an opportunity for people to come to campus and engage with our faculty and staff, and it gives us an opportunity to start a conversation about what we do at this college," said Vice President Sharon LaComb, who founded and coordinates the event. "We welcome anyone interested in learning more about technical education to join us."

To learn more about the Showcase, visit [dctc.edu](http://dctc.edu) and click the Alumni & Friends link.



# Foundation News

## KOPP ENDOWMENT FOR EMPLOYMENT ESTABLISHED AFTER REACHING GOAL



DCTC has achieved its community-wide mission to support students by establishing an \$800,000 Kopp Endowment for Employment. Made possible by a matching grant from Lee and Barbara Kopp and the Kopp Family Foundation, the endowment will provide emergency funds for DCTC students experiencing some form of financial hardship or crisis.

"As DCTC closes out its 40th Anniversary year, our faculty, staff, students and alumni are looking ahead to what we can accomplish over the next four decades," said DCTC President Ronald E. Thomas. "By raising \$400,000 to match a \$400,000 challenge grant by the Kopp Family Foundation, we are off to a wonderful start."

DCTC Vice President Sharon LaComb reported that funding the Kopp Endowment for Employment became a top priority for the college over the course of 2010. She noted that raising \$400,000 wasn't an easy task due to tough economic times, but individuals and organizations throughout the community came through when it counted.

"Through the generosity of Lee and Barbara Kopp along with heartfelt donations from

everyone who helped match the grant, we have created an endowment that will sustain our emergency funds program far into the future," LaComb said. "I would like to thank all the people at DCTC involved in the fundraising campaign for their unswerving commitment to making our goal."

In 2004, the Council for Resource Development, an affiliate of the American Association of Community Colleges, honored Lee and Barbara Kopp as a Benefactors of the Year for their generous support of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system. The chairman and CEO of Kopp Investment Advisors, Lee Kopp often cites a \$200 scholarship he received in 1952 as the key to his success as the first in his family to attend college.

"Supporting students through emergency funds is essential," Lee Kopp said. "The Kopp Family Foundation recognizes the importance of higher education in strengthening our economy at the local, state and national levels. DCTC is focused on programs and skills that enhance employability. By helping provide the means for students to earn their degrees and graduate, we are building bridges to a better future."

# Athletic News

## MOST SUCCESSFUL SOCCER SEASON TO DATE



Each year players, coaches, family and friends of the DCTC Blue Knights soccer programs get together to celebrate the season and recognize individual and team accomplishments at the team, regional and national levels. The event dinner this year was held at Buca di Beppo, a restaurant business in Burnsville, Minn., that proudly supports the Blue Knights men and women's soccer teams.

The DCTC Blue Knights women's soccer team made it to the championship game of the 2010 NJCAA Region XI Women's Soccer Tournament only to lose 0-4 to Iowa Western Community College. The Knights, who were seeded third in the tourney, were shutout by a first-seed Reivers team that went 10-0 in the Iowa Community College Athletic Conference this year with a 14-3-2 record overall. DCTC finished the season 14-7-1 overall with a 7-3-1 record in the conference.

The DCTC Blue Knights men's soccer team lost in the first round of the 2010 NJCAA Region XI Men's Soccer Tournament, falling 0-1 to the Iowa Central Community College Tritons. DCTC was the sixth seed in the tourney; ICC is the third seed. Play was hindered by sleet and strong winds. The winning goal came with eight minutes left in the second half. The Knights had an up-and-down season highlighted by an upset win over the Illinois Central College Cougars, which at the time were ranked #6 in the NJCAA Men's Soccer Division I Top 15 National Poll. DCTC finished the year at 9-10 overall and 5-9 in the ICCAC, competing with nine sophomores and 19 freshmen.

On the women's team, the following players were recognized for being named to the All-Region team: Amanda Olsen (First Team), Katia Galvan (First Team), Ana Brewster (Second Team), Hannah Decklever (Second Team), Hanna Schulzetenberg (Honorable Mention) and Kate Fox (Honorable Mention).

The Leadership Award went to Hannah Decklever and Ana Brewster, Rookie of the Year was Cassie Cournoyer, Most Improved Player was Rain Ozturk, the Golden Boot Award went to Amanda Olsen who had 28 goals and 17 assists, Most Valuable Player was Katia Galvan, and the Blue Knight Award was given to Ana Brewster and Kate Fox.

On the men's team, the following players were recognized for being named to the All-Region team: Ryan Schlittler (First Team), Dylan Urban (Second Team), Faisal Bah (Honorable Mention) and Chester Saba (Honorable Mention).

The Leadership Award went to Korbin Anglin; Rookie of the Year to Ryan Schlittler; Most Improved Player to Dylan Urban; the Golden Boot Award to Ryan Schlittler who had seven goals and five assists; Most Valuable Player to Dylan Urban; and the Blue Knight Award to Korbin Anglin.

"Both our men and women's teams had memorable seasons," said Head Coach Cam Stoltz. "Amanda Olsen and Katia Galvan showed why they are two of the best NJCAA DI soccer players in the nation. Ryan Schlittler, Dylan Urban and Korbin Anglin were all standouts on our men's team. Looking ahead to next year, we expect only great things. Blue Knights soccer is geared up to give our Iowa rivals a run for their money."

## PIVEC HIRED AS BASKETBALL COACH



Jay Pivec, one of the top coaches in the history of NJCAA Division III basketball, has been named head coach of the new men's basketball team. Pivec is best known as the legendary head coach of the Minneapolis Community and Technical College Mavericks.

Pivec and DCTC are gearing up to launch Blue Knights men's basketball in October 2011. The plan for now is to have the team compete as an independent at the NJCAA DII level, but having the Knights join a conference is also a possibility.

## PETERSON HIRED AS VOLLEYBALL COACH



Kari Peterson, the former interim head women's volleyball coach for the University of North Dakota, has been named head coach of the new women's volleyball team at DCTC. Blue Knights volleyball will compete as an independent at the NJCAA Division II level starting fall 2011.



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**Have a story idea? Contact Erin Edlund, DCTC Director of Marketing and Communications, at 651-423-8233 or erin.edlund@dctc.edu.**



## DAKOTA COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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# DISPATCH GOING GREEN

DCTC is asking you to help us go green by updating your contact information with us. Over the next months, the college will begin to transition the *Dispatch* from the fine printed piece you know and love into an even finer electronic piece.

While we are excited to move this plan forward as quickly as possible, we are missing a critical element: your electronic address and updated contact information.

Please help us clean up our database and prepare for the transition to electronic news by visiting [dctc.edu/go/dispatch](http://dctc.edu/go/dispatch) and giving us your contact information today. Thanks for your help!

## NOTICE: PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO AT [DCTC.EDU/GO/DISPATCH](http://DCTC.EDU/GO/DISPATCH)