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Math Department Newsletters

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Fall 1993

## **Σary**

Moorhead State University, Mathematics Department

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Prospective Moorhead State University students who are interested in mathematics often are unaware of the many career choices that are open to mathematics majors and of the enrichment opportunities available to undergraduates at Moorhead State University. This newsletter is designed to provide information in these areas.

## Erpelding Wins Fellowship



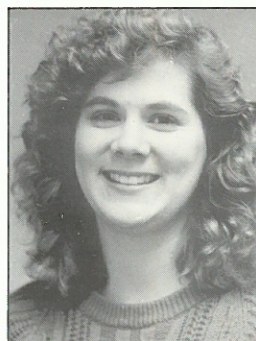
**Lisa Anne Erpelding**, as a junior mathematics major, was selected as one of twenty women undergraduate students from across the United States to participate in the National Science Foundation's 1993 Summer Mathematics Institute (SMI) held at Mills College in Oakland, California.

The SMI offered seminars led by active research mathematicians. The seminars were organized to enable students to obtain a deep understanding of the topic of the seminar, to learn how to do independent research and to gain experience in expressing mathematical ideas orally and in writing. In addition to the seminars, Mills SMI participants joined students from the University of California (Berkeley) in two colloquium talks given each week by research mathematicians.

Erpelding, a 1990 graduate of Totino-Grace High School in Fridley, Minnesota, is the daughter of Kenneth and Judith Erpelding of Columbia Heights.

Her immediate plans include student teaching next winter quarter in the Pharr-San Juan Alamo School District in Texas.

## Smith Wins NASA Fellowship



**Carol Livingston Smith** was selected as a senior mathematics major to be one of twenty-eight students from across the United States and its territories to participate in NASA's 1992 Space Life Sciences Training Program (SLSTP) held at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

The purpose of the SLSTP is to attract college students interested in research in the Space Life Sciences area. Participants learned how life sciences flight experiments in space are conducted and explored future research opportunities in the field.

After completion of the program and subsequent professional training, NASA hopes to establish a pool of talented research scientists to be employed in universities, industries and NASA.

The six-week SLSTP curriculum involved morning lectures by leading research scientists and afternoons spent in the planning and execution of Life Sciences research experiments.

Smith, a graduate of Cloquet (Minnesota) High School is the daughter of Donald Kellett and Judith Livingston Kellett and is married to Jeff Smith.

## The Honors Apprenticeship Program

Moorhead State University's new Honors Apprentice Program is designed to give top students scholarship help, hands-on career training and a head start on academic studies. Students who rank in the top 5% of their high school graduating class and above the 95th percentile on ACT test scores receive scholarships covering full tuition and fees, renewable for three years.

An "apprenticeship" is tied to the scholarship. It is basically a mentoring process, where, from the freshman year, students work and study closely with faculty or administrators in an area of interest to them. They are expected to apprentice for 80 hours per quarter (8 hours each week) during the regular school year.

There are now four apprentices in the Mathematics Department. Freshman **James Johansen** will study graph theory with Dr. Peiyi Zhao while junior **Stephanie Aakre** and sophomore **Marivel Danielson** are investigating topics in graph theory and combinatorics under the direction of Dr. Derald Rothmann and Dr. Timothy Peil. Dr. Wanxi Chen is directing **Lisa Earle** in a statistical project.

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## Alumni News

**Kathy Koss Haukoos (1983)**—An Actuarial Statistician with CUNA Mutual Insurance in Madison, Wisconsin, Kathy is in charge of the financial analysis of credit products.

**Jeff Riewer (1990)**—Jeff is a secondary mathematics teacher and assistant boys' basketball coach for the Walker-Hackensack-Akeley Public Schools.

**Lonni Schultz (1982)**—A Biostatistician at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Michigan, Lonni has finished her coursework and passed the qualifying examinations for a Ph.D. in biostatistics at the University of Michigan. She currently is researching possible topics for a dissertation.

**Theresa Fedor Resnick (1985)**—Theresa is an Actuarial Associate with Allstate Life Insurance Company in Northbrook, Illinois, working with Asset/Liability Management in the Investments Department. She reports that she recently passed exams 160 and 162 in the series of examinations of the Society of Actuaries.

**Ilo Lewis (1983)**—A Customer Service Engineer III for NCR Network Products Group of St. Paul, Ilo provides software support for Comten front end processors to the NCR international country organizations. Last year she spent six months assisting with system installations in Zurich and was able to spend her free weekends skiing in the Swiss Alps.

**Paul James Johansen (1990)**—A graduate teaching assistant and graduate student at Montana State University, Paul will receive a master's degree in mathematics in May, 1993. He is now working towards the Ph.D.

**John Hilgers (1978)**—John is employed by Cray Research Incorporated in Egan, Minnesota as Manager of Systems Test Group. He is responsible for system testing and performance of the UNICUS operating system. Last year John attended the Cray Research Technical Symposium where he presented a paper on the System Test Driver, used on Cray supercomputers.

**Allan Ward (1976)**—Allan is Medical Director of St. Alexius Physical Medicine Clinic in Bismark, North Dakota. He is a member of the American Academy of Pain Medicine and a fellow of the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

**Claudia Brainard Wiebold (1981)**—As a Senior Systems Analyst/Actuarial Programmer with Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance Company of St. Paul, Claudia designs and maintains systems for the Individual Insurance-Actuarial Department.

**David Bergstrom (1979)**—Dave is Vice President and Corporate Actuary for The Mutual Groups (US), formerly Western States Life, in Fargo.

**Mike Pischke (1987)**—A Programmer Analyst for Alpha Soft in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, Mike writes and supports application software for video and equipment rental stores.

**Gary S. Krenz (1978)**—Gary spent last year on sabbatical leave from his position as Associate Professor of Mathematics at Marquette University. He spent the year at a Veteran's Administration Medical Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin where he worked on a modeling project related to determining "good" candidates for heart transplants. In 1992 Krenz published three articles on biomathematical modeling.

**Rebecca Lewin (1986)**—Becky is an Assistant Professor of Mathematics at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse and reports that she has just had a paper accepted by the *Journal of Algebra*.

**Marci Goldade (1989)**—A very busy graduate student and teaching assistant at Colorado State University, Marci is working towards a Ph.D. in partial differential equations.

**Donna Hodenfield Hoffman (1989)**—A mathematics teacher at Southwest High School in the Green Bay (Wisconsin) School system, Donna recently married Patrick Hoffman.

**Martha Moore (1988)**—Martha recently finished the coursework for a master's degree in medical physics at the University of Minnesota and will complete the degree this spring after an oral examination. She currently works in Fargo as a physicist for Midwest Radiation Physicists, Incorporated.

**Jean Walker (1987)**—A mathematics and computer teacher at Highland Junior High School in St. Paul, Minnesota, Jean also chairs the Mathematics Department and is a coach for students in the Math League.

**Gregory Falla (1992)**—Greg is a Designer/Drafter for Sgorbati and Associates, an engineering consulting firm in Cheshire, Connecticut. He says that he does miss Moorhead State but he is enjoying his job and Connecticut.

**Brent Rognlie (1985)**—A Systems Analyst for Somatogen, Incorporated of Boulder, Colorado, Brent is responsible for customizing and implementing a Laboratory Information Management System. Somatogen is, according to Brent, "a fun and interesting place to work with an exciting future outlook." The young, biotechnical company's first product was recombinant human hemoglobin.

**David Sederquist (1983)**—Dave, who is a Senior Financial Analyst for Northern States Power Company's North Dakota Operations, recently transferred to Fargo-Moorhead from Minneapolis-St. Paul. He works with budgeting, financial forecasting, rate regulation, performance reporting and business planning.

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