
NEWS IN BRIEF

Compiled by Lorraine A. Manz, Editor



In the Public Eye: Presentations and other Outreach Activities

John Hoganson, Tour of Paleontology Laboratory, KFYR-TV Morning Show, Bismarck, January 5, 2006.
Ed Murphy, Slope Stability Problems at the Bismarck Railroad Bridge Site, ND Society of Highway Engineers, Bismarck, January 19, 2006.
John Hoganson, Tour of Paleontology Laboratory, KFYR-TV Morning Show, Bismarck, January 25, 2006.
Lorraine Manz, North Dakota Rocks, Fort Yates Middle School, Fort Yates, January 26, 2006.
John Hoganson, Prehistoric Life of North Dakota, Horizon Middle School, 8th graders, January 26, 2006.
John Hoganson, Prehistoric Life of North Dakota, Edu-Tech presentation, Bismarck, January 27, 2006.
Lynn Helms, North Dakota Deep Gas Production and Processing, National Association of Power Engineers, Houston, TX, January 31 – February 3, 2006.
Julie LeFever, Oil Plays in the Williston Basin, North American Prospect Expo, Houston, TX, February 1-3, 2006.
Lynn Helms, Zenergy salt water spill, McKenzie County Commission meeting, Watford City, February 7, 2006.
John Hoganson, Prehistoric Life of North Dakota, ND Game and Fish Wednesday Night program, Bismarck, February 8, 2006.
John Hoganson and Brett Woodward, Tour of Paleontology Laboratory, Miller Elementary, Bismarck, February 21, 2006.
John Hoganson, Primeval Forests of North Dakota, Intl. Society of Arboriculture, Bismarck, February 21, 2006.
Julie LeFever, Tour of Core Library, Cub Scouts, Grand Forks, February 16, 2006.
John Hoganson, The Highgate Mastodon, KFYR-TV Morning Show, Bismarck, February 22, 2006.
Bruce Hicks, ND Activity Update, Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Conference, Bowman, March 2, 2006.
Lynn Helms, The Need for Federal Orphaned Well Abandonment and Restoration Appropriation, IOGCC spring meeting, Washington, DC, March 8-10, 2006.
Lynn Helms, Proposed Changes to Geothermal Regulatory Program in North Dakota, North Dakota Water Well Drillers Association Annual Convention, Bismarck, March 13, 2006.
Fred Anderson, Resource Assessment of North Dakota Shallow Gas, North Dakota Water Well Drillers Association Annual Convention, Bismarck, March 13, 2006.
Lorraine Manz, Geothermal Regulatory Program in North Dakota, North Dakota Water Well Drillers Association Annual Convention, Bismarck, March 13, 2006.
Lynn Helms, Zenergy salt water spill, McKenzie County Commission meeting, Watford City, March 14, 2006.
Lorraine Manz, Birdseed Mining, Gateway to Science Environmental Festival, Bismarck State College, March 15, 2006.
Fred Anderson, Geology as a Career, Elementary School Career Day, Century High School, Bismarck, March 21, 2006.
John Hoganson, Prehistoric Life of North Dakota, Edu-Tech presentation, Bismarck, March 27, 2006.
Lynn Helms, Oil and Gas Activity in ND, USFS oil and gas permitting workshop, Dickinson, March 29, 2006.
John Hoganson, Prehistoric Life of North Dakota, ND Science Teachers, Bismarck, March 31, 2006.
Lynn Helms, Cost and Results of Region 8 VOC Project in ND, IOGCC – EPA task force, Denver, CO, April 6, 2006.
Lynn Helms and Ed Murphy, Oil and Gas Activity and Potential in ND, Burke County Energy Conference, Bowbells, April 11, 2006.
Lynn Helms, Meeting with Legislators re: oil transportation issues, Bismarck, April 18, 2006.
Lynn Helms, Meeting with Governors re: oil transportation issues, Billings, MT, April 19, 2006.
Lorraine Manz, 6th grade career days, Bismarck High School, April 20, 2006.
John Hoganson and Brett Woodward, Tour of Paleontology Laboratory, US Forest Service, Bismarck, April 21, 2006.
Lynn Helms, Oil Pipeline Capacity and Price Differential Impact, Oil Pipeline Summit, Bismarck, April 27, 2006.
Lorraine Manz, 3rd grade water festival, High Prairie Arts and Science building, Bismarck, April 27-28, 2006.
John Hoganson, Geology of the Lewis and Clark trail, Interstate Mining Compact Commission meeting, Bismarck, May 1, 2006.
John Hoganson, Prehistoric Life of North Dakota, ND Rural Electric Cooperatives meeting, Mandan, May 4, 2006.
Bruce Hicks, Complete Well Data from Your Desktop, 14th WB Petroleum Conference and Prospect Expo, Minot, May 6, 2006.
Fred Anderson, Julie LeFever, and Bruce Juenker, Oil and Gas Plays in the Williston Basin, DMR booth, Williston Basin Petroleum Conference and Prospect Expo, Minot, May 7-9, 2006.
Lynn Helms, Moderated Middle Bakken Fracturing Panel, Williston Basin Petroleum conference, Minot, May 9, 2006.
John Hoganson, Public Fossil Digs, Medora Days, Medora, May 15, 2006.
John Hoganson, Prehistoric Life of North Dakota, ND Geological Society, Bismarck, May 16, 2006.
Lynn Helms, Oil Pipeline Capacity, Worker Shortage, and Price Differential Impact, IOGCC midyear meeting, Billings, MT, May 19-23, 2006.
John Hoganson, Prehistoric Life of North Dakota, Summer Reading Program, Bismarck, June 1, 2006.
Lynn Helms, Petroleum Geology, Geophysics, and Engineering, NDPC Teacher Training, Bismarck, June 12, 2006.
Bruce Hicks, ND Activity Update/Energy Panel Discussion, Economic Development Conference, Beulah, June 12, 2006.
Lorraine Manz, Geology of north-central North Dakota, North Dakota Petroleum Council Teacher Seminar Fieldtrip, June 13, 2006.
Ed Murphy, Coal-bearing rocks in the Upper Great Plains, Lignite Energy Council Teacher Seminar, June 13, 2006.
Fred Anderson, Julie LeFever, and Bruce Juenker, Oil and Gas Plays in the Williston Basin, DMR booth, Rocky Mountain Section of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Billings, MT, June 11-13, 2006.
Julie LeFever, Overview of Bakken Stratigraphy in North Dakota and “Mini” Core Workshop, Short Course #2, Perspectives on the Bakken Play Undaunted Exploration of the Rockies, Rocky Mountain Section of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Billings, MT, June 11-13, 2006.
Lynn Helms, Oil and Gas Activity and Potential in ND, Elmer Jespe Counties EDC Conference, Lake Metigoshe, June 26, 2006.
John Hoganson, Prehistoric Life of North Dakota, North Central Regional Soil Survey Conference, Medora, June 28, 2006.
Lorraine Manz, Geochemical Survey of Soils in North Dakota, North Central Regional Soil Survey Conference, Medora, June 29, 2006.

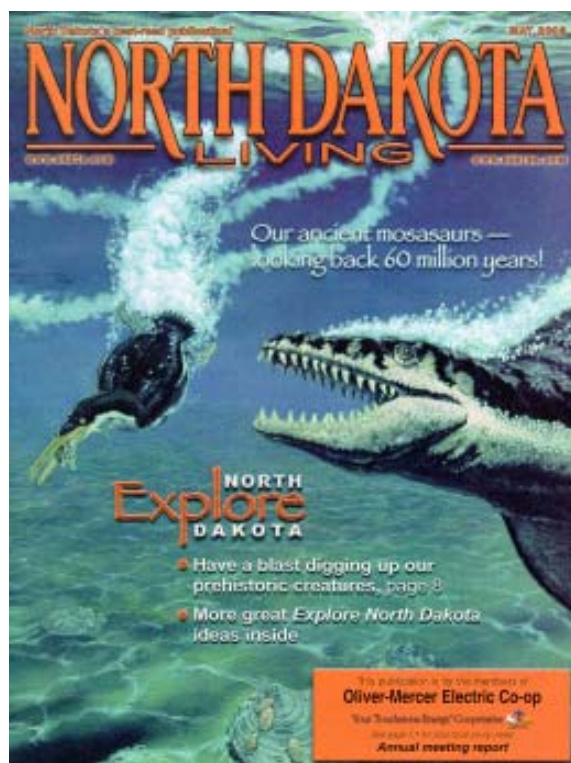
The Geological Survey in the News

By Ed Murphy

The North Dakota Geological Survey is a small agency that manages to accomplish many things. These accomplishments are well known to the mineral industry, geotechnical firms, and governmental agencies that utilize our maps and reports. Our website hits and downloads demonstrate that we have been very successful in producing publications that meet their needs. In spite of all this, we are seldom in the news with the exception of our paleontology program, which has widespread appeal to people of all ages. So far, 2006 has proved to be an exception to that rule, as a number of articles on Survey projects have appeared in North Dakota magazines as well as local, national, and even international newspapers. The subjects of these articles have included attempts to encourage establishment of a cement plant in eastern North Dakota, the 2006 Midwest Friends of the Pleistocene Field Conference, a rare fossil find, the upcoming Corridor of Time paleontology exhibit in the ND Heritage Center, and our attempts to secure the loan of meteorites for that exhibit.

One of the more notable events occurred when Survey geologist Julie LeFever was quoted in the April 5, 2006 issue of the Wall Street Journal. The front-page article resulted in even more attention being focused on the Bakken Formation and Julie has been very busy responding to those additional enquires. As a follow up to the Wall Street Journal article, Julie was interviewed for stories in a French-Canadian and an Italian newspaper.

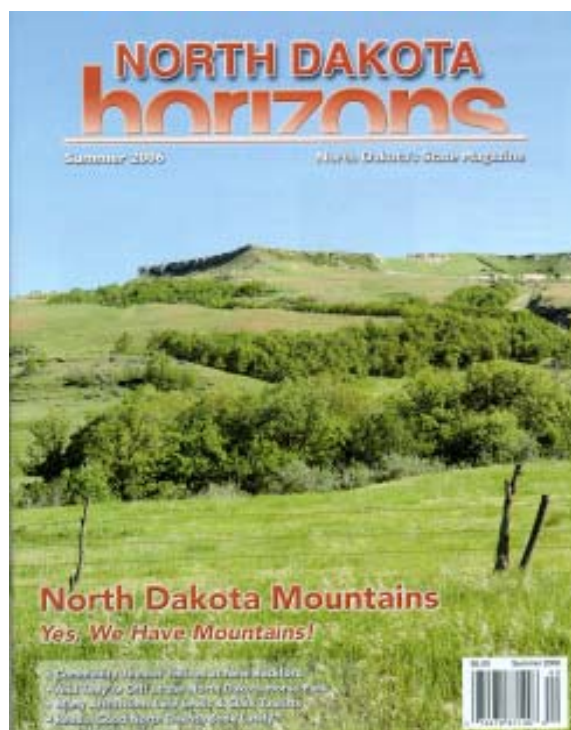
The Geological Survey was also involved in stories that recently made the cover of two of North Dakota's leading magazines; North Dakota Living and North Dakota Horizons.



Cover of the May, 2006 issue of North Dakota Living. The inside story was compiled from an interview with John Hoganson concerning the public fossil digs co-sponsored by the ND Geological Survey.



Julie LeFever was quoted in a front-page story on the Bakken Formation (Wildcat Producer Sparks Oil Boom on Montana Plains) in the Wall Street Journal, April 5, 2006.



Cover of the summer 2006 issue of North Dakota Horizons magazine. The issue contains an article authored by Ed Murphy on the "mountains" and buttes of North Dakota.



Various newspaper clippings on ND Geological Survey projects over the last six months. Five of the articles were written by Eloise Ogden of the Minot Daily News and distributed via the Associated Press to about a dozen North Dakota newspapers.

Comings and Goings

Todd Holweger

Todd began his career with the Oil and Gas Division (OGD) as a field inspector with the Dickinson office in 1996. In May this year, he joined the Bismarck staff after accepting a position as an Underground Injection Control Supervisor (UIC).

Nathaniel Erbele

In July the Bismarck staff also welcomed Nathaniel Erbele, who joined the OGD as a reclamation specialist. Nathaniel also began his career with the OGD as a field inspector, having joined the Williston office in this capacity in August last year.

Cody Vanderbusch

Cody, who is from Dickinson, joined the OGD Dickinson office in May as a field inspector.

Randy Burke

Randy retired from the Survey at the end of January after 27 years of service. He was an outstanding carbonate geologist and a great colleague and friend. We wish him a happy retirement, success in his future endeavors, and good hunting.

Jim Legerski

In February Jim left the OGD to start his own company (His Resources Engineering and Management Services, Inc.) located in Bismarck. Jim was with the OGD for nearly 24 years. We wish him the very best of success with his new company.

Kelly Triplett

The OGD bid farewell to Kelly in July when he left to take a position in Dickinson with Marathon Oil Company. Kelly was with the OGD for just over 17 years. We wish him the very best of success in his new job.

Paws, Claws, Scales, and Tales: The 2006 Summer Reading Kick Off

By John W. Hoganson

For the third year, the North Dakota Geological Survey has co-sponsored the Summer Reading Kick Off Program. As in previous years, this free, all-day event was held on June 1 in the North Dakota Heritage Center and on the grounds of the Capital. The program was conceived by the Bismarck Public Library, Mandan Public Library, and North Dakota State Library with the objective of encouraging children to read books during the summer and participate in the library's summer reading programs. The State Historical Society of North Dakota and North Dakota Geological Survey and many others have co-sponsored the Kick Off Programs. This year's event was an overwhelming success with an incredible attendance of 3,733 people! But stay tuned, next year's Summer Reading Kick Off Program could be even bigger yet. The theme will be **Get a Clue**.

My presentation on the **Rise and Fall of the Dinosaurs** in the Heritage Center auditorium was attended by about 425 people. In addition to my slide show, we also displayed dinosaur bones and other North Dakota fossils. Brett Woodward, our paleontology laboratory specialist, was in charge of the display. Terry Ringland, one of our part-time employees in the NDGS paleontology laboratory, helped guide people through the display. People were also encouraged to bring their fossils for identification. The display and fossil identification kept us busy throughout the day.

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Agriculture Commissioner Comments on the ND Prehistoric Life Poster

By Ed Murphy

On January 26, 2006, John Hoganson presented a lecture on the Prehistoric Life of North Dakota poster that he and Brett Woodward had authored. The talk was given at the North Dakota Heritage Center to a group of eighth grade science students from Horizon Middle School in Bismarck. Their teacher, Sherrie Muse, was one of the first to order additional copies of the poster for her classroom. North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson provided the introduction to the presentation. Commissioner Johnson informed the students that the North Dakota Industrial Commission had sent the poster to every school in North Dakota, all 600 of them. Commissioner Johnson went on to say, *"A copy of this poster hangs in the hallway right outside of my office. I have learned from the poster that 75 million years ago sharks were swimming in several hundred feet of water at our family farm near Turtle Lake. At that time, this seaway covered all of North Dakota. Fossils are among North Dakota's natural treasures because they are the only means by which we know what kind of plants and animals lived here at various times in the past. I hope that this poster and John Hoganson's presentation this morning will encourage you to learn more about our past and how that past impacts our future."*

North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson addresses a group of about 100 students from Horizon Middle School in Bismarck.

