

# Northland receives \$1.25 million for endowed chair

## Chapple family, others make donations

By KAREN HOLLISH

The Daily Press

Thursday, March 01st, 2007 09:05:27 AM

John H. Chapple's favorite Northland College memory is when his adventurous grandfather, John B. Chapple, impulsively strapped on vintage skis and swooshed down the campus hill.

"With his long topcoat flowing and his tie flapping in the wind, he just started going down the hill on these old wooden skis from a bygone era," John H. Chapple, 53, remembered in a telephone interview Wednesday. "He just about made it all the way to the bottom, before he sprawled."

Now a Washington state resident, John H. Chapple recently translated his fondness for the northwoods and Northland into a \$1.25 million gift to establish and endow the Chapple Family Chair in Business Ethics and Social Responsibility. His gift coincides with several other smaller donations the college recently received from different donors, said Judy Hanne, Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

"It's just a particularly exciting time, and it's great to be able to share that news with the community," Hanne said Wednesday. "... We're really blessed by having such a generous community and generous donors, whether they're alumni or community or friends."

While John H. Chapple, president of Hawkeye Investments in Kirkland, Wash., didn't graduate from Northland, many of his family members did - including his father and aunt Alice Boland, Northland's first lady grad. His great-grandfather, John C. Chapple, served as a Northland trustee and Daily Press editor, and his grandfather, also former Press editor, was a frequent guest lecturer.

"We've been close to Northland and Ashland for several generations now," said John H. Chapple, who devotes much of his time to philanthropic pursuits. "A large part of our family's heart is in Ashland, and we've been fortunate to be placed a position where we can give back."

The Chapple Family Chair will work to enhance Northland's existing business program, moving the curriculum forward to be more interdisciplinary and leadership-focused, Hanne said.

Only three professorships at Northland are endowed, Hanne said, making the Chapple gift particularly special.

"It won't ever be gone, because it's an endowment," she said.

It may be several years before the new Chapple Family Professor joins Northland and the curricular changes transpire, but two new endowed scholarships should be available for students next year, Hanne said.

Class of 1981 graduates Linda Anderson-Carnahan and her husband, David Carnahan, recently

donated \$25,000 to establish the Nie Albright Endowed Scholarship. Details of the money's allotment are still being determined, but Hanne said the scholarship will offer \$2,000 a year to one student who demonstrates financial need and a commitment to community service.

Donna Arbaugh of Tacoma, Wash. donated \$40,000 to establish the George E. and Donna E. Arbaugh Endowed Scholarship Fund for students focusing on environmental studies or sustainability, a college press release said. Like the Nie Albright Scholarship, this endowment will provide \$2,000 a year to one student, Hanne said.

In related news, additional funding has been secured to complete the Mary Van Evera Visual Arts Center's construction, including a \$200,000 commitment from the Mead Witter Foundation of Wisconsin Rapids and a \$150,000 gift from Mrs. Frederick Townley of Green Lake, college officials said.

John H. Chapple said he's looking forward to visiting his hometown this summer, where he can check in on the college, visit the avenue bearing his family's name and relish in a refreshing Lake Superior swim.

"It's an honor to be able to give back to Northland and also to Ashland, the birthplace of several members of the Chapple family," he said. "It's a long and wonderful heritage, and you'll see me back in Ashland this summer, without a doubt. I love the area."