North Dakota Air Guard firefighters from the 119th Wing deployed in Iraq showed some Bison spirit when painting a t-wall – a concrete barrier used for protection from shrapnel.
Describing NDSU as a “place of impact,” President Joseph A. Chapman outlined bold initiatives for the future during his 10th annual State of the University Address on Oct. 2.

Chapman said NDSU has used five themes in its transformation: “It’s About People,” “Students are Paramount,” “The University Is Doing, All the Exciting Things.”

Chapman outlined several goals for the future, including:

• NDSU will further raise the caliber of its research enterprise.

• NDSU will be among the top 15 computer centers in the world, with computing power approaching 100 teraflops. A teraflop is a computing speed equal to one trillion floating-point operations per second.

• NDSU will continue to be one of the leading agricultural research programs in the world.

• NDSU will make advancements in the arts, humanities, health sciences, material science and science, and engineering and mathematics educational programs.

• NDSU will become one of the top 100 universities in the number of National Merit Scholars enrolled.

Chapman said NDSU will hire and promote more women on the faculty, and reward the good work of faculty and staff. He said university officials will meet with Student leaders in the fall and report to them how NDSU can further assist with economic development. Chapman will revisit all of NDSU’s departments during the next year and the university will continue to involve students in decisions that affect them.

“Is our responsibility to further the excellence of this institution. The people of NDSU are our greatest strength, the reason to be optimistic about continuing our transformational journey,” Chapman said. “People are drawn to success. People are drawn to be a part of something meaningful. You are our greatest asset and the ongoing contribution of NDSU. You are carrying forward the best traditions of the best land grant institutions.”

Chapman outlined plans for global impact

Every one of you is an important contributor to the past, present and future of NDSU. You are making a difference. You are making NDSU a place of impact.

The full text is available at www.ndsu.edu/ndsu/administration/president/chapman/address.

Appareo Systems groundbreaking held

Appareo Systems groundbreaking ceremonies were held Sept. 29 for Appareo Systems LLC in the NDSU Research and Technology Park. The new 40,000 square foot office and manufacturing facility is expected to be completed by July 2009.

“Appareo’s new building is significant for many reasons,” said NDSU President Joseph A. Chapman. “The company is a perfect example of how a public/private partnership can prove highly successful. Appareo is a ‘graduate’ of the incubator facility here in the park, showing how effective that effort can be in assisting fledgling companies prosper. Appareo’s success highlights and reinforces the Research and Technology Park’s mission to stimulate entrepreneurial growth.”

Appareo president and chief executive officer Barry Batcheller was president and CEO of Phoenix International Corp., now a John Deere Company, when the park was created. The company’s new product introduction facility became the first building in the complex. Batcheller’s new company was provided office space in NDSU’s first research building, later expanded to the second research building and is now located in the Technology Incubator Building. Appareo employs 40 people, with plans to double in size during the next three years.

“This is a hugely important facility for us,” said President Joseph A. Chapman, who acknowledged the support of the State Board of Higher Education, state legislature and Gov. John Hoeven for making the $4 million project a reality. “As NDSU has grown as a research university, we generate a lot of chemicals and other things that need to be properly handled. This is a facility that will service the institution and the needs of the state for many, many years to come!”

Approved as a state-bonded project during the 2005-07 legislative session, the facility will handle such things as flammable and combustible materials, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizer and chemical waste. It also includes a large equipment wash facility.

“Education is the key that will carry us forward in our future, for each and every one of us, in a global, high-tech economy. It is how we will compete and create jobs of the future,” said Hoeven. “This facility is vitally important to the growth, research and development that the university is doing, all the exciting things. We need these kinds of facilities.”

The facility is state-of-the-art and the only one of its kind in this region. The second phase, requested for the 2009-11 biennium, will include receiving and storage of all chemicals, radioactive waste and a central location for the University Police and Safety Office operations.

Dedication held for Material Handling Facility

Dedication ceremonies were held Oct. 24 for NDSU’s new Material Handling Facility. The 9,600-square-foot building at 1880 Centennial Blvd. houses waste chemicals generated by the university and serves as a receiving and storage area for selected new chemicals.

“This is a hugely important facility for us,” said President Joseph A. Chapman, who acknowledged the support of the State Board of Higher Education, state legislature and Gov. John Hoeven for making the $4 million project a reality. “As NDSU has grown as a research university, we generate a lot of chemicals and other things that need to be properly handled. This is a facility that will service the institution and the needs of the state for many, many years to come!”

Approved as a state-bonded project during the 2005-07 legislative session, the facility will handle such things as flammable and combustible materials, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizer and chemical waste. It also includes a large equipment wash facility.

“Education is the key that will carry us forward in our future, for each and every one of us, in a global, high-tech economy. It is how we will compete and create jobs of the future,” said Hoeven. “This facility is vitally important to the growth, research and development that the university is doing, all the exciting things. We need these kinds of facilities.”

The facility is state-of-the-art and the only one of its kind in this region. The second phase, requested for the 2009-11 biennium, will include receiving and storage of all chemicals, radioactive waste and a central location for the University Police and Safety Office operations.
Miller, Reynolds named University Distinguished Professors

NDSU President Joseph A. Chapman has recognized J. Ann Miller, professor of music, and Larry Reynolds, professor of animal sciences, as University Distinguished Professors. “To recognize the accomplishments of our faculty, we established the University Distinguished Professorships. These professors have at least 15 years at NDSU and outstanding standing in research, service and reputation within their disciplines,” Chapman said. “This is the highest honor we have to celebrate our outstanding faculty.”

Miller joined NDSU’s faculty in 1989 as director of choral activities. She conducts the Concert Choir and University Chorus, and teaches undergraduate and graduate conducting and literature courses. She is also the graduate coordinator for NDSU’s Master of Music and Doctor of Music Arts programs. Prior to coming to NDSU, Miller was on the music faculty at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse where she founded the La Crosse Chamber Chorale.

She earned her bachelor’s degree at NDSU, master’s degree at the University of North Dakota and doctorate at the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music.

Reynolds joined NDSU after holding a post-doctoral position at the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center/SDS, Clay Center, N.D., from 1983 to 1985. He is the director of the Cell Biology Center and co-director of the Center for Nutrition and Pregnancy. Reynolds is widely recognized as one of the world’s leading placental physiologists, with his research focusing on mechanisms regulating placental growth and vascular development by using in vivo and in vitro approaches.

Reynolds earned his bachelor’s degree, master’s degree and doctorate in reproductive physiology at Arizona State University.

Center and new programs are approved

NDSU’s Center for Disaster Studies and Emergency Management and several new academic programs have been approved by the State Board of Higher Education.

The mission of the Center for Disaster Studies and Emergency Management is to provide research, training, outreach, service and education on issues related to disaster studies and emergency management. It will focus on disasters such as tornados, floods, earthquakes, extreme events and other man-made disasters.

The board approved a doctoral program with a major in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education. The program will help meet the need for science and mathematics teachers at both the grade school and post-secondary levels.

Bachelor’s degree, master’s degree and doctoral programs in range science were approved. NDSU expects to have 40 students in the program, with five to eight bachelor’s degree graduates each year. An estimated 15-20 graduate students are expected per year. Flange scientists pursue careers in livestock production and range management, natural resource conservation, wildlife habitat development, mine land reclamation and soil conservation.

The board approved a doctoral in English: Practical Writing, which is expected to fill a niche in technical communication and provide students with employable skills. The program will be housed in the English department and also rely on contributions from communication, history and sociology.

The board approved master of science and master of arts degrees in anthropology. No other higher education institution in the state offers a graduate degree in anthropology. The program opens opportunities to occupations related to cultural and human services, research, education, consultation, contract work and management.

The board also gave its approval to an upper division program certificate in animal health management. The courses mesh well with majors in animal science, equine studies, veterinary technology, microbiology, biology and zoology.

Distance and Continuing Education announces new online degrees

NDSU Distance and Continuing Education has announced four new online degrees. The new degrees are a bachelor’s in sociology, bachelor’s in university studies, a master’s in communication and a master’s in construction management.

The bachelor’s degree in sociology offers curriculum flexibility that allows majors to pursue various interests. Areas of study include small groups, population, inequality, diversity, gender, social change, families, community development, organizations, health care and aging. The online bachelor’s in sociology consists of 38 core credits with additional credits required.

The online bachelor’s degree in university studies is tailored for individuals who wish to meet unique needs of a particular student. The student designs each degree plan with the assistance of an academic advisor. The degree is not designed to replace any existing NDSU major and all students should seek an existing campus major whenever such a major is available.

Graduate study in communication is beneficial for those seeking advancement in business, industry, education and the allied health professions. The online master’s degree in communication consists of 30 credits, including advanced study in communication theory and practice, as well as research methods.

The master’s degree in construction management prepares students for managerial opportunities in the construction industry. Students focus on key elements of estimating, scheduling, equipment and project management. The degree consists of 31 credits, which can be completed in nine months.

NDSU Distance and Continuing Education now offers a total of 16 fully online degree and certificate programs. Other master’s degree options offered include community development, dietetics, family financial planning, family and consumer sciences education, gerontology and merchandising. Online graduate certificates are offered in family financial planning, food protection, gerontology, merchandising and software engineering. Our additional online bachelor’s degree level program is offered, which is a licensed practical nurse/registered nurse to a bachelor’s of science degree in nursing.

For more information, contact NDSU Distance and Continuing Education at 701-231-7915 or 1-800-728-3724 or visit www.ndsu.edu/dce.
6 7

[Image 66x494 to 127x572]

6 7

[Image 66x749 to 127x827]

6 7

[Image 858x119 to 919x198]

6 7

[Image 1102x964 to 1293x1075]

6 7

[Image 1346x640 to 1405x718]

6 7

[Image 1529x44]
CHAD OSTY, B.S. ’96, sociology, joined the Circle of Phi Delta Theta International Fraternity and was president of the Finance and Investment Committee in Fargo. He previously was a recruiter for Cabela’s and a marketing supervisor at American Bank of Commerce in Mandan.

LAURA (HANGEN) VEDA, B.A. ’91, history, is director of the City County History Society, Moorhead, Minn. She joined the organization in 2007 and has been its director and librarian for six years.

MICHAEL GULSTEN, (Ph.D.) ’94, is program director for agriculture, engineering and technology at the Medical College of Georgia at the University of Georgia.

KENT KANEJ, B.S. ’98, education administration, was appointed associate vice president for information technology and chief information officer at Western State Colorado University in Gunnison, Colo.

TANNIA SOTO, B.S. ’97, community and social services, and MA. ’98, social work, is a social worker, a licensed master social worker and a clinical social worker in Fargo.

JONAS BEUGEN, B.S. ’03, biological sciences, graduated from the University of Montana in Missoula and is a member of the Montana National Guard. He lives in Helena, Mont.

JEREMY ZWINGER, B.S. ’06, biology, and MA. ’08, education, is a science teacher at the North Dakota School for the Deaf in Minot, N.D. He lives in Minot.

SANDRA (KOGAN) UTTERMHOFF, B.S. ’94, psychology, was named South Dakota School Psychologist of the Year by the South Dakota Association of School Psychologists during the group’s annual conference in September. She has worked for the South Dakota Special Education Program for 12 years and has been a school psychologist for 16 years since 1994. She married Robert Uttermoehl, her current partner.

JACOB (ROHLAND) ARNOLD, B.S. ’94, agribusiness, is working a summer camp counselor at Camp Minneopa near New Ulm, Minn.

ROBYN (ANDERSON) JEREMIE, B.S. ’97, education administration, is employed at Minot State University. She previously was a teacher in Minot Public Schools.

JEREMY CHRISTENSEN, B.S. ’97, mechanical engineering, was promoted to Lead Engineer in Energy and Environmental Remediation. He is employed at Holtec International Inc. in Florence, S.C.

JEFF SINNER, B.S. ’97, environmental design, is employed at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City. He previously was a systems analyst at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology.

SCOTT SPRINGHAM, B.S. ’97, biology, a science teacher at the North Dakota School for the Deaf in Minot, is teaching positions at the North Dakota School for the Deaf.

SCOTT PRIGGEL, B.S. ’97, biology, joined the faculty of the North Dakota School for the Deaf in Minot, where he is teaching science and technology.

TODD DOBER, B.S. ’96, mechanical engineering, was named associate professor of physics at College of St. Benedict and St. John’s University in St. Joseph, Minn.

TOM MAHONEY, B.A. ’94, business administration, was the chief financial officer for the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. He lives in Mandan, N.D. He is a member of the Mandan-500 Club.

SAMANTHA WEDD, M.Ed. ’94, counseling, is a fifth-grade counselor at Clearwater Elementary School in Waconia, Minn.

JOSEPH CONNOLLY, B.S. ’94, biology, is employed at the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. He lives in Mandan, N.D. He is a member of the Mandan-500 Club.

DAVID HAINS, B.S. ’95, mechanical engineering, is employed at the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. He lives in Mandan, N.D. He is a member of the Mandan-500 Club.

ADRIAN ALSTROM, B.S. ’97, English education, is employed at the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. He lives in Mandan, N.D. He is a member of the Mandan-500 Club.

BRAD BALTRUSCH, B.S. ’06, electrical engineering, is employed at the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. He lives in Mandan, N.D. He is a member of the Mandan-500 Club.

JOHN DRIETH, B.A. ’90, English, joined Ulteig Engineers in Fargo. He attended Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn.

MATT HARRIS, B.S. ’96, chemical engineering, is employed at the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. He lives in Mandan, N.D. He is a member of the Mandan-500 Club.

JONAS GUNDERSON, B.S. ’97, biology, microbiology, and chemistry, is employed at the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. He lives in Mandan, N.D. He is a member of the Mandan-500 Club.

JESSY BRAZ, B.S. ’07, geology, is employed at the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. He lives in Mandan, N.D. He is a member of the Mandan-500 Club.
PHILIP EDMAN, 76, B.A., general agriculture, was a farmer in McHenry County, Minn., from 1971 to 2008. He was a member of the Minnesota Farm Bureau, Farm Credit, and American Electric Cooperative. He was a member of the St. Ursula Catholic Church in Osseo, Minn. He lived in Osseo, Minn.

LORI KRAMER, 54, B.A., biology and environmental studies, worked as a research assistant at the University of North Dakota. She lived in Bismarck, N.D.

JOSEPH M. WASHINGTON, 79, B.A., education, was a high school teacher in St. Paul, Minn., and teacher of blind students. He lived in St. Paul, Minn.

WILLIAM LAFAYETTE, 83, B.A., mechanical engineering, worked in the aerospace industry. He was a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He lived in Madison, S.C.

GORDON WALTZ, 81, B.A., home economics, was a food service assistant at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He lived in Madison, Wis.

JOSEPH J. MURPHY, 82, B.A., history, was a newspaper editor in Illinois. He lived in Elgin, Ill.

RICHARD E. SPENCER, 73, B.A., refereeing, was a referee in soccer and baseball. He lived in Mankato, Minn.

ROBERT H. REED, 88, B.A., education, worked in the field of vocational education. He lived in Bismarck, N.D.

RICHARD E. MARX, 80, B.A., education, was a high school teacher in Chicago. He lived in Chicago, Ill.

PHILIP A. MILLER, 81, B.A., general agriculture, was a farmer in Kandiyohi County, Minn. He was a member of the Minnesota Farm Bureau. He lived in Middle River, Minn.

DAVID NELSON, 79, B.A., education, was a high school teacher in Bismarck, N.D. He lived in Bismarck, N.D.

DANIEL K. ROSS, 78, B.A., business administration, was a member of the Minnesota Farm Bureau. He lived in Williston, N.D.

ERNEST J. DOLAN, 80, B.A., general agriculture, was a farmer and owner of Dolan’s Produce, Inc., in Buffalo, Minn. He lived in Buffalo, Minn.

ROBERT L. PEARSON, 79, B.A., general agriculture, farmed in the area of the Flaxberg, N.D., area. He lived in Flaxberg, N.D.

LINDA KARLSTROM, 78, B.A., health and human services, was a home health aide. She lived in Fargo, N.D.

ROGER C. ANDERSON, 70, B.A., agriculture, was a farmer in the area of Hendry, N.D. He was a member of the North Dakota Agri-Business Association. He lived in Hendry, N.D.

JOHN L. HESS, 78, B.A., general agriculture, was a farmer in the area of Belcourt, N.D. He was a member of the North Dakota Agri-Business Association. He lived in Belcourt, N.D.

PAUL S. RAY, 76, B.A., education, served as a high school guidance counselor. He lived in Bismarck, N.D.

JAMES M. TURNER, 76, B.A., education, was a high school teacher in Thief River Falls, Minn. He lived in Thief River Falls, Minn.

DAVID L. GROSS, 78, B.A., agriculture, was a farmer in the area of Fairview, N.D. He was a member of the North Dakota Agri-Business Association. He lived in Fairview, N.D.

ELEANOR C. HUMPHREY, 80, B.A., education, was a high school teacher in Williston, N.D. She lived in Williston, N.D.

WILLIAM J. LINDEMAN, 80, B.A., general agriculture, was a farmer in the area of St. Mary’s, Minn. He was a member of the North Dakota Agri-Business Association. He lived in St. Mary’s, Minn.
Tuesday, February 17 – Tuscon
Fred 70 and Linda (Kane) ’73 Paavola invite alumni and friends to their home for a “Taste of North Dakota” social. Enjoy North Dakota foods and Bison spirit.

Thursday, February 19 – Sun City Area
Golf tournament
Ted Gunkelman ’47, Ray Home ’55, Myers (Joehnken 77) and the Department of Athletics invite NDSU alumni and friends to participate in an 18-hole, four-person scramble tournament at Sun City Golf Course, 9008 Longhorn Avenue in Sun City. The shotgun start is at 11:30 a.m. Cost is $100 per person. Lunch, cart, greens fees and range balls are included.

Glendale outing
Not interested in golfing? Take a trip to historic Glendale offered as an alternative to golf on Thursday hosted by De (Shanks) Gunkelman ’47, and Bev Home ’55. After lunch at Sun City Golf Course, a bus will take the group to Corona Candy Company for a tour and chocolate tasting. Cost is $25 per person; lunch and transportation are included. Call 701-231-8807 to RSVP.

Five elected to NDSU Alumni Association Board of Directors
David Berg is chief executive officer for Crystal Sugar Company in Moorhead, Minn. Prior to joining Crystal Sugar, he was a commodity market analyst and ingredient buyer for General Mills, Inc. Berg earned his bachelor’s in management in 1978 from the University of Minnesota Moorhead, and a master’s in agricultural economics from NDSU in 1982. Berg and his wife, Bevly, have two sons and one daughter, and live in Fargo.

Mike Factor is principal at Robinsondale Cooperative High School in New Hope, Minn. He earned a bachelor’s of university studies degree from NDSU in 1991, and continued his education at Hamline University earning a master of arts degree in education. He completed his sixth year license and certification and superintendent license at St. Cloud State University.

Factor began his career in education as co-director of St. Joseph’s Home for Children and then moved to St. Louis Park High School. He has served on the City of Minneapolis Violence Prevention Steering Committee, Patchwork Quilt Board, P-16 Partnership’s City of Minneapolis Violence Prevention Steering Board, of St. Joseph’s Home for Children and then moved to the board for the Charitable Gaming Association of North Dakota and is the chair of the North Dakota Attorneys General’s Gaming Advisory Board. Meagher and her husband, Jerry, have two children and live in Grand Forks, N.D.

Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Working Group, and the Interdisciplinary Advisory Committee with the University of Minnesota. He has dedicated his career to reining the equity of all people. Factor has two daughters and lives in New Hope, Minn.

Scott Handy earned a bachelor’s degree from NDSU in 1988 with a major in agricultural systems management and a minor in agronomy. He is a president and chief executive officer of Cass County Economic Development Coopertive Inc.

Handy serves on many community boards including: chairman of the board, Great River Farms-Moorhead Economic Development Corporation’s Gorum Growth Initiative fund, director, quarter N. Burdick Center for Cooperatives; past chairman of the board, Chamber of Commerce of Fargo-Moorhead, Valley City State University Foundation Board; Cass County Community of Care steering committee; and North Dakota Alliance for Renewable Energy Board.

Meagher is a native of the Forum, Minn., area and her husband, Maury, in rural Fargo. They have two married daughters and one granddaughter.

Saturday, February 21 – Mesa
Join NDSU Athletics for a golf outing at Red Mountain Ranch Golf Course, 8425 East Teton. Shotgun start is at 12:30 p.m. Cost is $150 per person, includes greens fee, golf cart, dinner and range balls. Register at 701-231-7447.

Saturday, February 21 – Tuscon
Show your Bison pride and cheer on the women’s softball team at the University of Arizona’s/Weiler Invitational at Hiilandirlllwood Stadium. The NDSU team will take on Utah at 3:10 p.m. For game tickets, call 520-621-2287 or 888-415-2287. Go to www.gobisons.com for a complete tournament schedule.

Sunday, February 22 – Maricopa
Join NDSU Athletics at The Duke at Rancho El Dorado, 40688 West Rancho El Dorado Parkway for a golf outing. Shotgun start is at noon. Cost is $75 per person; includes greens fee and cart. For questions about Arizona, or to ensure you are on the invitation list, contact Beth Reybel. Stephanie Martin or Kiri Wonson at the NDSU Alumni Association at 800-279-9711. For more details and registration information, visit www.ndsualumni.com.

NDSU Career Center provides alumni options

Since July 2007, more than 700 NDSU alumni have registered with the NDSU Career Center. The electronic alumni job board weekly posts an average of 10 to 20 jobs.

Alumni are encouraged to register with the Career Center at www.nsu.edu/career to access job openings and post their resume online. For questions, contact the NDSU Career Center at 701-231-7111.
Volleyball team earns first Division I tournament appearance

For the first time, the Bison competed in the NCAA Division I women’s volleyball tournament. NDSU’s appearance came after the squad won the Summit League tournament championship.

Head coach Erich Hinterstocker said few people would have expected an NCAA Division I appearance so soon after NDSU completed the five-year process to join Division I. “We’ve got to make sure that we look at that and we cherish what we did this year because we were fortunate enough to go undefeated in our conference and that doesn’t happen very often. And we’ve done it with a lot of young players in our program,” Hinterstocker said at the NCAA post-game news conference. “I’m proud of our team. I’m proud of our program, and I’m really fortunate to be a part of it and to work with those young ladies every day has been something I’ve really enjoyed.”

The Bison qualified for the NCAA Division I post-season tournament by winning the Summit League tournament championship Nov. 22 in Tulsa, Okla. Helping lead the Bison were Summit League All-Tournament Team selections outside hitter Kristen Hille, middle hitter Chrissy Knuth and outside hitter Brooke VandenBergh. NDSU’s last post-season tournament appearance was in 2003 when the Bison finished second in the Division II North Central Regional behind national runner-up Concordia St. Paul.

Woodside becomes Bison career scoring leader

Senior guard Ben Woodside became NDSU’s career scoring leader on Dec. 22 during a 90-48 victory over Northern Arizona University in men’s basketball. He broke Denver TenBrook’s six-year-old record of 1,013 points at the 13:10 mark of the second half when he blew past two defenders for a layup.

Woodside is majoring in business management. He is the son of Paul and Bobbi Woodside of Albert Lea, Minn.

Woodside named to Capital One All-America Mascot Team

College football fans across the nation now know the name of “Thundar.” The force, fun and fury Bison mascot was named to the seventh annual Capital One All-America Mascot Team and finished second as voting for National Mascot of the Year.

Thundar was one of 12 mascots selected for the All-America Team, which was announced in August. A season of national voting followed, and a series of play-offs narrowed the field to the last two contenders — Thundar and Cy of Iowa State University. In the final round held Dec. 8-15, Thundar received 38,096 votes among the ballots cast at tww.capitalone.com, finishing behind Cy by 4,042 votes.

“Thundar was one of the most closely watched and fiercely fought competitions to date, featuring two mascots with varying talents,” said Steve Schooff at Capital One. “This contest was designed to recognize the unsung heroes of college football, so we’re thrilled to see so many fans get behind their mascots with over 4.5 million votes cast. We’re proud of all our All-Americans, who sacrifice their tail feathers, sweat, fur and tears to support their schools.”

The contestants were an interesting bunch, including three birds, three cats, one bison, one horse, one wolf, one turtle, one bear and a dog.

In addition to Thundar and Cy, the All-America Team included Aubie from Auburn University, Buster Beavers of Boise State University, Brigham Young University’s Cowbucker, Mike the Tiger from Louisiana State University, University of Maryland’s Terrapins, Mr. Wuf of North Carolina State University, UCLA’s Joe Bruin, Cody of the University of South Carolina, Smokey from the University of Tennessee and U.S. Air Force Academy’s The Bird.

“The Capital One Mascot Challenge was a great opportunity for Bison fans and Thundar to take on great mascots from across the country,” said Stephen Thomas, NDSU assistant director of marketing and promotions.

Thundar is one of 12 mascots selected for the All-America Mascot Team, which was announced in August. A season of national voting followed, and a series of play-offs narrowed the field to the last two contenders — Thundar and Cy of Iowa State University. In the final round held Dec. 8-15, Thundar received 38,096 votes among the ballots cast at www.capitalone.com, finishing behind Cy by 4,042 votes.

“Thundar was one of the most closely watched and fiercely fought competitions to date, featuring two mascots with varying talents,” said Steve Schooff at Capital One. “This contest was designed to recognize the unsung heroes of college football, so we’re thrilled to see so many fans get behind their mascots with over 4.5 million votes cast. We’re proud of all our All-Americans, who sacrifice their tail feathers, sweat, fur and tears to support their schools.”

The contestants were an interesting bunch, including three birds, three cats, one bison, one horse, one wolf, one turtle, one bear and a dog.

In addition to Thundar and Cy, the All-America Team included Aubie from Auburn University, Buster Beavers of Boise State University, Brigham Young University’s Cowbucker, Mike the Tiger from Louisiana State University, University of Maryland’s Terrapins, Mr. Wuf of North Carolina State University, UCLA’s Joe Bruin, Cody of the University of South Carolina, Smokey from the University of Tennessee and U.S. Air Force Academy’s The Bird.

“The Capital One Mascot Challenge was a great opportunity for Bison fans and Thundar to take on great mascots from across the country,” said Stephen Thomas, NDSU assistant director of marketing and promotions.

For more details, visit www.ndsualumni.com