It's HOT & We GOT IT
Southeast Adds Three New Programs to the Fall Line-Up

Living on the CHEAP
Living in Sioux Falls and Saving Money

NOAH Diercks
Hangin' with the Milwaukee Brewers

www.southeasttech.edu
Change is interesting. On one hand, it presents turmoil and unease. On the other, it creates new opportunities and ways to look at situations that can be very beneficial to many.

As we’ve all witnessed, the tumultuous marketplace in the last year has encouraged businesses to become more operationally and fiscally responsible. It has also made us take a step back and scrutinize how each one of us can also become more responsible as parents, community members and business leaders.

At Southeast Tech, our commitment has always been to provide top-quality education that is affordable and meets the needs of South Dakota’s economy. That commitment has proven to benefit not only more than 2,500 students every year, but the community as well.

Take a moment to read through Living Blue Southeast Tech Times to see how our alumni and business partners have used their knowledge and partnerships to impact our community every day.

Jeffrey R. Holcomb
President, Southeast Technical Institute

Cracking Crime
Lyndsey Dubbelde keeps the streets safe.

She’s a Winner!
Kristi Adams scores the BIG Alumni Prize.

Pedal to Metal
A) Nelson puts his career in high gear.

Following Her Heart
EMT graduate follows her passion to save lives.

Plugging In
Brenda Lehman finds her place at Midcontinent.

Campus Visits
Discover if a campus is the perfect fit for you.

Featuring:

On the Cover
They’re Hot
Three hot new programs arrive at STI.

Living Cheap Students get VIP treatment.

Noah Diercks Loving life and working for the Milwaukee Brewers, Noah Diercks fulfills his love for baseball up close and personally.

Southeast Tech proudly embraces green printing.
Southeast Launches Exciting New Programs for Fall 2009

Southeast Tech has added three new programs to its line-up for this fall semester. The degrees include an Early Childhood Specialist, AAS degree and diploma; Mechatronics, AAS degree; and a Health Information Services, diploma.

Southeast Tech President Jeffrey R. Holcomb shares, “We hope these programs will fill a need for potential students who have expressed an interest in these areas. We’re excited to offer these new programs and we anticipate a very positive response from them.”

Lyndsey Dubbelde Vows to Keep the Streets Safe with the South Dakota Highway Patrol

Not a timid young woman, Lyndsey Dubbelde has known for years that she would one day be helping to keep the streets safe. In fact, at the tender age of 23, she has already earned her degree in Law Enforcement Science, has worked as a Correctional Officer at the Minnehaha jail and has also been a member of the South Dakota National Air Guard. Today, she works as a Trooper with the prestigious South Dakota Highway Patrol.

The first student at Southeast Tech to land one of South Dakota’s most sought after law enforcement positions, Lyndsey works patrolling the Minnehaha County area. She notes, “This is something I’ve always wanted to do. By attending Southeast Tech, I thought I could learn essential laws that I would need to know entering the field. My experience was great because my instructors had real life experience that they shared with the students. It made a huge difference for me to know what to experience in the field.”

Although new to her position, working as a Trooper has been very fulfilling for Lyndsey. “I enforce traffic laws, investigate accidents and patrol. The reason I went into this field is because I wanted to make my community safer by keeping drugs and criminals off the street. I’m happy that I have the privilege of doing that, I really enjoy my job.”

Lyndsey keeps in close contact with her mentor, former Southeast Tech instructor Jeff Talbot, retired Captain of the South Dakota Highway Patrol.

Endearing, challenging and rewarding. As an Early Childhood Specialist, you can embrace your love for working with young children and their families providing qualified, knowledgeable and professional care. Get your degree in just 2 years for less than $11,000 or a diploma in under a year for less than $5,500!

If you’ve always wanted to enter the exciting world of healthcare but didn’t want to spend years achieving your dream, the Health Information Services program is for you. Developed to prepare professionals to manage and coordinate the flow of patient information in a healthcare setting, this is a wonderful opportunity for a first career, change in career, or even a way to build healthcare experience onto your current resume! Get your diploma in under a year for less than $7,000!

A combination of many traditional manufacturing methods, Mechatronics is a new and rapidly growing field that integrates mechanics, electronics, pneumatics, hydraulics and computer control systems to create new and improved automated manufacturing production systems. Get your degree in just two years for less than $14,000!
Launched in the fall of 2008 on www.southeasttech.edu, ’Techville’ allows alumni to register and reconnect with Southeast Tech. To promote the new site and get alumni excited about it, a drawing for a prize generously donated by area businesses was offered.

Mary Freiborg, STI Foundation’s Institutional Advancement Officer shares, “The BIG Alumni Prize promotion was part of STI’s 40th Anniversary Celebration as a way to let alumni know that we’re proud of them and want to reconnect. To get the word out, we sent postcards to approximately 8,000 STI alumni. More than 400 people registered in Techville to win the prize.”

Alumnus Kristi Adams was thrilled to get the call that she had been chosen to win the BIG Alumni Prize. A graduate of the Financial Services program, Kristi lives in Beresford with her husband Jeramie who recently graduated from Southeast Tech and her two children Jace and Alex. She has worked in Vermillion as a Customer Service Representative at Clay-Union Electric for the past 10 years.

Kristi smiles, “Thank you so much for the awesome package I won. My family and I have had fun using all the gift cards!” Making her husband’s graduation ceremony even more special, the BIG Alumni Prize was awarded to Kristi at Southeast Tech’s graduation in May.

Alumni can register on Techville by visiting www.southeasttech.edu and clicking on Alumni & Foundation. Don’t forget to check the website in November for our newest alumni interaction opportunity!

“\[quote\]I was very excited to get the call that I had won the Big Alumni prize. With two kids whose needs get put before my own wants, it’s nice to be able to go out with my husband and enjoy ourselves with the prizes I won. Thank you!\[quote\]”

–Kristi Adams, Southeast Tech Alumnus

THE 2009 BIG ALUMNI PRIZE PACKAGE INCLUDED:

Empire Mall Shop & Stay Package:
• One night stay at the NEW Courtyard Hotel by Marriott, adjacent to Sioux Falls Empire Mall
• $500 Empire Mall Coupon Book
• $150 Empire Mall Gift Card
• Texas Road House Grill Dining Certificate
• Two movie passes at West Mall 7 Theatres

The BIG Alumni Prize also includes:
• One night stay in the Executive Wing at the Sheraton Sioux Falls Hotel
• HyVee Gift Card for groceries or gas
• Two tickets to the Sioux Falls Storm for any game through June or the playoffs
• WalMart Gift Card
• Four movie passes at Cinemark Theatre

From baseball player and avid enthusiast, Brookings native Noah Diercks takes his passion and turns it into a career as a major league grounds crew member. Now in his second season working for Major League Baseball, Noah is loving life and getting a close up view of some of today’s hottest players.
For the Love of the Game

Noah Diercks Realizes his Dream of the Big League with the Milwaukee Brewers

For Noah Diercks, baseball isn’t just a game, it’s a passion. As an avid player since he was in little league, Noah anticipated playing for Wayne State after he graduated from high school. Unfortunately, just weeks before the season started, he broke his arm and had to undergo extensive surgery. The injury, although not debilitating, was severe enough that Noah realized his future playing baseball on a college level and above was over. Not ready to give up his dream of having a career focused around baseball, Noah decided to look into the Sports Turf Management program at Southeast Tech. “I decided to enroll at Southeast because I wanted to have a career where I could still enjoy sports and be outside,” shares Noah.

A program that Noah has completed in just two years, he applied and landed an internship with the Boston Red Sox last summer. “There are several teams in major league baseball that offer summer internships on their grounds crew for turf management majors,” he notes. “My first year at STI I applied to every team I knew had internships, and inquired with about 40 other minor and major league groundskeepers to ask about job opportunities. My experience in Boston was incredible.”

This summer following graduation, Noah took his experience from Fenway Park and moved into Milwaukee with the Brewers with another internship opportunity. “The Brewers only hire about four turf management interns every year, so I take great pride in knowing I was one of the few out of the many applicants who got the chance to work at Miller Park.”

As to whether or not Noah feels that he chose the right career? “Getting paid to groom any professional baseball team’s park gives you an incredible sense of pride and confidence when the field is ready for play,” smiles Noah. “The best part is watching highlights on ESPN and being able to tell your family and friends you mowed that pattern in the outfield.”

Behind the Scenes
What Noah Does on a Daily Basis

• Patch home plate and the mound with clay to make it level and gauged
• Hand water infield grass and foul territories
• Rake the warning track to pick up seeds and peanut shells
• Mow the outfield and infield, hex plugs (hexagon shaped tool that pulls plugs of grass out, usually that are damaged or infested with annual bluegrass, and then take a new piece of sod from the sod farm to replace it)

Noah Diercks, Sports Turf Management Graduate

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STI grads get smooth path to bachelor’s degrees with Bellevue University.

When STI grads want to earn their bachelor’s degrees, Bellevue University gives them a fast, affordable, and convenient way to do that. Bellevue University accepts ALL the credit earned with every STI associate of arts, science, general studies, and applied science degree. This means students don’t have to repeat courses already taken and paid for. And it means they start with more credit—and finish sooner. Bellevue University’s accelerated bachelor’s degree can be completed in as little as a year.

Best yet, students attend class conveniently right here on the STI campus, or in Bellevue University’s award-winning active learning online classroom. With both options students learn with other adults and professors with real world experience in engaging, interactive classrooms. The class curriculum covers lessons and case studies applicable to the marketplace today, and students are encouraged—and expected—to add to the discussions and learning with perspectives from their experiences.

A leader in adult learning, Bellevue University offers more than 20 career-relevant majors in healthcare, business, security management, IT, and more.

In addition to the major courses, students take the Kirkpatrick Signature Series, a unique nine-credit hour cluster of courses on American Vision & Values considered essential learning for every STI associate of arts, science, general studies, and applied science degree. Each bachelor’s degree requirement is 127 credit hours.

FAST – Bellevue University accepts ALL the credit in your STI associate’s degree so you start with more credit and complete your bachelor’s degree in as little as a year!

AFFORDABLE – There’s NO repeating courses you’ve already taken—and paid for.

CONVENIENT – Learn in class right here on the STI campus, or 100% online in Bellevue University’s award-winning online classroom.

Bellevue University’s Accelerated Bachelor’s Degree Completion Program
Each bachelor’s degree completion is 127 credit hours:

STI associate of arts

STI associate of science

STI general studies

STI applied science

About 60+ credit hours

Approximately 45 Total Credit Hours

22 Credit Hours

= 127

Credit Hours* (CLEP, DSST, cluster courses, or other flexible options)

This program is intended for adults who are looking for a bachelor’s degree in a minimum of time.

To learn more about how STI associate’s degrees move smoothly into Bellevue University bachelor’s degrees, contact Heather Knight at 335-8010 or see bellevue.edu/siouxfalls.

The SMOOTHEST path to your bachelor’s degree.

Enroll today!
Contact Heather Knight
heather.knight@bellevue.edu
335-8010

AJ Nelson has always been a driven person. So driven, in fact, that to put himself through Southeast Tech, he worked long hours and long days at a dairy farm near Harley, South Dakota in addition to taking full-time classes. “I’m from the area so Southeast Tech was convenient for me to attend while keeping my job at the dairy farm. I had a desire to own my own business, and I was always interested in the automotive field,” shares AJ.

Choosing Southeast over other renowned automotive schools such as WyoTech was a choice AJ was happy to make. He notes, “I know other schools have phenomenal reputations, but Southeast Tech offered everything I wanted and needed to know to start my business. You really learn an incredible amount of information in two years and you know what you’re doing when you graduate. Other schools spend a minimum of time on really important skills and I didn’t want that.”

Today, AJ has more than attained his goal of owning and operating his own business. The proud owner of AJ’s Automotive in Canton, South Dakota, he has worked hard to build an excellent reputation with automotive repair, customized engine work and vintage restoration. A reputation, that has garnered him an extensive waiting list.

Another benefit to AJ is that his wife Tami, also a Southeast alumna with a Financial Services degree, works at his side taking care of the bookwork and completing upholstery work. According to Tami, “This business is wonderful for us. We have worked really hard over the past several years and now we are looking forward to taking a little more time for us. Owning your own business is not easy, but it’s very rewarding.”

Today the Nelsons are expecting their second child and are exceptionally happy with the path they have chosen. Tami shares, “Together with the skills we earned from Southeast we have been able to build a very rewarding business. Having it work for our family and lifestyle is a wonderful benefit.”
FOLLOWING HER HEART and HER GUTS

Kandi Krausman Follows Her Passion to Become an Emergency Medical Technician

A graduate fresh out of the Business Administration program at Southeast Tech, Kandi Krausman was exceptionally proud to be the first person in her family to have achieved a degree. And though she was more than ready to start a new career, she had become intrigued with healthcare.

She shares, “I’ve always wanted to help people in some way, and at first I thought of becoming a counselor. But I decided that I wanted to do something that would put me into completely different situations everyday. That’s why I checked into becoming an EMT. I liked the intensity it offered.”

After researching the 17-week Emergency Medical Technician course offered through the Business & Industry Training division at Southeast Tech, Kandi decided it was an excellent fit. However, it wasn’t without apprehension that she attended the first day of class. “It was kind of nerve wracking because I didn’t know what to expect, but Chad the instructor was amazing. He told us flat out it wasn’t going to be easy, but if your heart says yes, you know you can do it,” smiles Kandi.

Finished with her training, Kandi is making plans to become nationally certified as an EMT before she moves on to becoming a paramedic. “I like everything, it makes sense. It’s something I was meant to do and I want to learn everything I can and use that to help people.”

Brenda Lehman Leads the Pack at Midcontinent Communications

After working in customer service and electronics for a number of years, Brenda Lehman knew she wanted more out of her career than she was getting. That’s when she decided to look into going back to school. She shares, “I wanted to gain a better respect for advancing technology. After looking over the options available my interest peaked when I discovered I could learn how to create websites with a degree from Southeast Tech.”

Not settling for just one degree, Brenda doubled up and earned two degrees in Internet Applications Development and Computer Programming to increase her skills and make herself more marketable. A choice that paid off very well for her when she landed an excellent position with Midcontinent Communications as a Process Support Specialist.

“My primary responsibility is to communicate information including instructions, announcements, etc. to our Customer Service team through the use of an intranet site. I help create and maintain any written documentation that is used in conjunction with the website for communication. I design and develop the web pages that contain this information, which provides the Customer Service team a tool to help them be successful at their job.”

As to whether she regrets investing the time and money it took to gain her degrees, Brenda couldn’t be happier with her decision. “With the continuous lean towards new technology in the work place, I believe that there is no better way to put yourself ahead of the game then by getting the education you need. The technology field is a great way to do this. Putting yourself in the forefront of technology is both beneficial to you and your future or current employer. Southeast provides the foundation you need to be successful.”
Living on the CHEAP

Southeast Tech Students Get Extra Special Treatment in Sioux Falls

Students are famous for making every penny count and stretching out every dollar as much as possible. Fortunately for Southeast Tech students, the Sioux Falls community is welcoming them with open arms. For the first time ever, Southeast Tech will distribute VIP Packs to every incoming student this year. The VIP Packs are filled with a Welcome to Sioux Falls guide in addition to special offers and discounts for students from generous area businesses. VIP Packs are available for all Southeast Tech students in the Admissions office. Read on to see how being a Southeast student can really pay off!

The following are just a sampling of the specials being offered.

ACCENTS 3101 HAIR SALON - 15% off services with student ID

ALL TUNE & LUBE - 10% off oil change and repair with student ID at check-in

AMERICAN BUDGET LODGE - Week Rates of $149.95+tax for 2 beds
- Regular Price: $249

ANYTIME FITNESS - $28.95 per month with 12 month agreement
- Regular Price: $36 per month

BLACK SHEEP COFFEE HOUSE - 25% off any drink with student ID

BODYWORKS - $24.95+tax per month with a 12-month membership
- Regular Price: $35.95
- 9-month contract Sept-May for $27.95+tax per month

CANARIES BASEBALL - Buy one get one free general admission ticket (Sunday through Thursday only)
- $7 discounted ticket with student ID
- Regular Price: $9

CICI’S PIZZA - $1.00 off Buffet and Drink with student ID

CINNABON - 15% off total purchase with student ID

THE COOKIE JAR - 10% off total purchase

FITNESS 19 - $49 enrollment price and $17 per month after that

KELLY INN - $49.00+tax for one night

PIZZA INN - 10% off entire purchase

QUALITY INN & SUITES - August-May: $65.00
- Summer: $75.00
- Regular Prices: vary from $79-129

RESIDENCE INN MARRIOTT - 15% off Regular Price ($54.99)

SLEEP INN - State Rates

SUPER 8 ON RUSSELL STREET - Weekdays: $49.00
- Weekends: $59.00
- Regular Price: $79.00

TIRES PLUS - 10% off everything

VALUE PLACE - $159.00 per week
- Regular Price: $179.00

VARIABLE DATA PRINTING
Call to see how Demo Printing can help you reach new potential customers

www.southeasttech.edu
Get your hands on the big tools that make your blood hum. As a Machine Tool professional, you’ll work with cutting-edge technology making materials and parts that are necessary for every day conveniences from toasters and autos to NASA rockets!

Call Southeast Tech to speak with Admissions to enroll this fall.
Hurry, classes start August 17!

Estimated Cost Machine Tool Technology
AAS Degree: $15,061
Estimated Cost Machine Tool Operations Diploma: $9,836