Schallenkamp’s presidency begins

Cook wins Milken award
Alumni reunions
BHSU offers master’s degree in genomics
Alumni will be honored during Swarm Week
Greetings to all BHSU alumni

I am honored to serve as president of Black Hills State University. Since arriving in July, I have met a number of alumni and have gained a deep appreciation for your accomplishments. I look forward to meeting many of you as I travel the state and nation and hope you will make plans to visit your alma mater in the near future to see firsthand the many changes on campus, renew acquaintances, and meet new faculty and staff. You will find Black Hills State University to be a dynamic campus that is making a significant impact.

Please stay connected to BHSU. Your support is greatly appreciated as we strive to get the word out about the university. Wearing BHSU university shirts, jackets or caps demonstrates your pride in being an alumnus. Customized BHSU license plates are also available for South Dakota residents. See page 22 for details. Our goal is to have the license plate visible throughout the state.

Thank you for everything you do for BHSU. If we can assist you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Warm regards,
Dr. Kay Schallenkamp
Alumni News

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Schallenkamp will lead a student-centered effort

Dr. Kay Schallenkamp, who began as Black Hills State University’s ninth president in July, is looking forward to leading the university.

“BHSU makes a significant difference for our students as well as for the state and nation. Our size, our role and mission as well as our unique location, provide many opportunities for us,” Schallenkamp says. “I want BHSU to be recognized as a premier university in the South Dakota system and the region and nation. To be known for our outstanding, high quality academic programs as well as our flexibility and our innovative approaches in responding to change.

Schallenkamp lists stabilizing and growing enrollment along with increasing fundraising as her immediate priorities at BHSU. These efforts will be rooted in the academic excellence that has been established at BHSU.

We are fortunate to have outstanding faculty and staff who provide high quality academic programs, she says.

Schallenkamp notes that she will be leading a grassroots approach to accommodate these goals. She added that every decision she makes will be based on the needs of the students.

“It takes the entire campus to recruit and retain students,” Schallenkamp says. “We must constantly remember why this university is here; it’s to prepare students for a successful career and productive citizenship.”

Schallenkamp, who arrived on campus this summer, is committed to finding ways to make BHSU emerge as a leader in the higher education landscape.

Schallenkamp recognizes that higher education, in the state as well as on a national level, is changing, and she is dedicated to making sure that BHSU is ready to respond to the changes in technology and society.

She looks forward to the challenges with enthusiasm and great appreciation for her job.

“There is not a better job in the world than being in higher education,” Schallenkamp says. “Working in higher education, I’m surrounded by young people who are full of hope, promise and enthusiasm. Frequently when I’m meeting with business and industry leaders, I tell them they need to spend some time on campus to see the future of this country and to find comfort in knowing we will be in good hands.”

Schallenkamp is impressed by the work and enthusiasm of today’s students. She noted that her generation, which was heavily influenced by the Vietnam War, was very different than the current generation, which has been impacted by the events of Sept. 11, 2001. In recent years Schallenkamp has witnessed students’ commitment to volunteerism and service.

“Yes, students are different, not worse, not better, but different and our country is in good hands with these students,” Schallenkamp says. “I treasure that I have been able to witness these changes. Being in higher education is an exciting place to work.”

Schallenkamp says it’s important for faculty and students to embrace the ongoing changes in the information age and be ready to accept the challenges.

“Technology is impacting every area of our lives. As a university we need to ensure our students are prepared and have the skills to be competitive in that environment. To prepare students for the information age and the global economy we need to ensure that students are flexible and willing to embrace change,” Schallenkamp says.

She notes the ongoing impact of the information age and reiterates that we should be proactive in our efforts.

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Schallenkamp believes the relationship between the university and region is important. BHSU is a significant resource for educational opportunities, cultural experiences, athletic programs and other outreach activities. The university also serves a consultative role for the community and region, and she sees a growing role for BHSU throughout the state.

"We must be a player in the state. As the president of BHSU, I’m the external face of the university. I’ll be attending statewide meetings and working with legislators and regional policy makers. However, it’s not me, it’s everybody here, that will make that work," Schallenkamp says.

"There’s a wealth of knowledge and expertise at Black Hills State," Schallenkamp says. "We have exceptional faculty and staff, and we need to be assertive in getting our story out. We need to be active in talking about all the wonderful things happening at BHSU and let others know that we are engaged in the community and region."

I want BHSU to be recognized as a premier university in the South Dakota system, the region and nation.

With a full time commitment to the university, Schallenkamp dedicates most of her time to university related duties.

"I don’t have spare time. My commitment to the campus is really a 24/7 job," Schallenkamp says.

Since moving to the Black Hills meant moving away from family members, she and her husband are making concentrated efforts to stay connected with their children, and especially their grandchildren, as they become accustomed to their new location.

"Ken and I enjoy our Saturday mornings. We have a room in the house where we drink tea and watch the birds. It’s a special time for us," Schallenkamp says. She is also looking forward to spending time enjoying their new location in the Black Hills.
Robert Cook for excellence

Robert Cook, Class of 90, who is now a teacher at Central High School in Rapid City, got a $25,000 surprise this fall when Gov. Mike Rounds and South Dakota Education Secretary Rick Melmer presented him with a Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award. The national award includes a $25,000 cash prize.

"Milken award winners represent some of the best teaching professionals in the country," said Melmer, secretary. "We are extremely proud to be presenting this award to one of our own."

The South Dakota Legislature also passed a house commemoration honoring Cook for his achievements in the classroom.

Among his many accomplishments, Robert was instrumental in developing Central’s Lakolkiciyapi Room, an experimental classroom for at risk ninth grade students. Approximately 70 percent of the students served in this program are Native American. Cook incorporates Native American culture and history into the classroom and makes it relevant for all students. Cook and his fellow teachers are credited with doubling the retention rate of these students in just two years which has helped the Rapid City Area School District achieve the largest number of Native American high school graduates in its history. Cook also gives dropouts a second chance through the Drop In Center, a program he was instrumental in developing and implementing that helps these students get back into school and earn missing credits.

A Native American himself, Robert invites Native American writers and speakers into the classroom to share their perspectives, trains students to work as cultural interpretive guides to tourists at Mt. Rushmore; organizes an annual Back to School Powwow to foster cul
receives Milken award in teaching

tural understanding; and leads a filmmaking program he helped create to get students involved in issues past and present related to their heritage. With the motto, "Teach students to succeed because success motivates them to do better," the teacher has guided many a student to a more promising future.

Described by one of his colleagues as a "breath of fresh air," Cook is credited with engaging his students and connecting with their families, positively impacting student achievement and drop out rates, and providing "inspiration for all ages."

In addition to the cash award, Cook received an all expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., to participate in a professional development conference.

The Milken National Educator Awards were created by Lowell Milken in 1985 to celebrate, elevate and activate the highest caliber professionals in the nation's schools. Each year 100 unsuspecting K-12 teachers, principals and specialists throughout the United States are surprised with the news of their $25,000 awards.

Robert says he was totally surprised when presented with the award.

It was a total surprise. I never expected it. It is a great honor to be recognized as the Milken Award winner. It's a very humbling experience. It reaffirmed my commitment to education and my work with students to provide them the opportunity to be successful, Robert says. The Milken Award helps students realize that there are rewards if you work hard. By seeing a teacher honored, they see firsthand the value of doing a job well.

Before he received the Milken Award, Robert was known locally for projects he's been involved with. Now he's finding he has a greater audience both statewide and nationally for his programs. He says the award designation has provided him with opportunities for speaking about programs for student success. He has already been contacted by several state and national organizations requesting that he present about his programs for student success.

An enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Cook has taught for 17 years. Before moving to Rapid City, he taught at Red Cloud, Crow Creek and Little Wound. He and his wife, Daphne Richards, have two sons, Lamont and Caleb.

In 2002, fellow Rapid City teacher Kari Jung was one of 100 teachers nationwide to receive a Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award. Other BHSU alumni who have been honored with this prominent award include Kathleen Engle, Class of '80, who received the award in 1997; David Buus, Class of '74, who was honored in 1994; and Thomas Williams, Class of '75, who was named a Milken award winner in 1991.

The teaching field is a huge responsibility. There are a lot of opportunities to make a difference in the lives of the children and in the community, Robert says. He encourages teachers to take advantage of their creative ideas and continue to learn.

Think outside the classroom, don't be afraid to try something different, Robert says. Get as much education/training as you possibly can. Always be willing to enhance your knowledge level because the number one factor in student development and student success is teacher quality and teacher knowledge.
By the time Judy Olson joined the National Park Service in 1992, women had been working as rangers for nearly 30 years and a few were even running national parks. But the chief of interpretation at Mount Rushmore National Memorial, along with all women rangers, works in what used to be a male dominated profession that was slow to respond to equal rights in the workplace.

"This was definitely a male oriented world," Olson, 57, said of the NPS, which historically outfitted its female employees in uniforms that made them look more like stewardesses and fast food workers than rangers.

It was only in 1978, about 10 years before Olson first worked for the NPS as a seasonal fee collector in Badlands National Park, that female rangers won the right to wear the standard park ranger uniform, complete with its Smokey Bear Stetson and official ranger badge.

Although women are still under represented among law enforcement rangers, the organization’s culture is changing, and her advancement is proof of that, Olson said. She has risen from an unpaid college intern to chief of interpretation at the Shrine of Democracy in her 15 years there. Her career is unusual in that Mount Rushmore is the only NPS site where Olson has ever been employed. She has been promoted from within the memorial’s staff, never having worked at any other national park. "I credit that to my passion for Mount Rushmore," Olson said. "I am very passionate about this mountain. I think my bosses have always seen my enthusiasm for it."

Before deciding that her life’s ambition was to be a park ranger, Olson worked in the banking and legal fields for many years. In mid career, she went to college as a nontraditional student, accompanied by a daughter and a son. She and her son earned degrees from Black Hills State University. Mom notes that she graduated with the highest grade point average of the trio. In fact, her GPA earned Olson a place in the NPSS...
Outstanding Scholar Program at Mount Rushmore.

Olson had planned on teaching as a career, but a college visit, from a park service ranger helped change her plans. She got a degree in tourism, instead, and went to work in what she calls, "the best career in the world."

Working in interpretation and education services at Mount Rushmore, she became a teacher of sorts, she said. "Interpretation means that we interpret the resource. We tell people about the mountain," Olson said.

As a ranch girl from the Lemmon area, Olson was raised on family summer vacations to Mount Rushmore. She has annual snapshots of herself in front of the memorial, but no real recollection of her first visit to it.

Paperwork is the worst part of her job, but even that can’t dampen her enthusiasm for what she loves the most, talking with tourists who are experiencing the memorial for the first time, or those who are back for a repeat visit.

"It’s a very emotional place for people," she said. "Even though Mount Rushmore doesn’t mean the same thing to everybody, it means something to everyone who sees it. It creates an emotion in everyone that sees it."

Interpreting Mount Rushmore, with all its symbolism, history and patriotic meaning, is a harder task than it is at some of the more natural parks, Olson said, but also a more fulfilling one.

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Kudos & Announcements

The 50s

Leonard Robinson, Class of 57, Henderson, Nev., retired from the Clark County School District as a teacher and administrator. At the time of his retirement, he was principal of all Juvenile Court Schools.

The 60s

Billy Bates, Class of 68, Kingman, Ariz., was recently appointed vice chancellor of student services at Mohave Community College.

Bill Beshara, Class of 61, Rapid City, received exposure on 60 Minutes from Andy Rooney about a box of Dakota Pride candy made at the Colonial House Restaurant. Bill is the owner of both Dakota Pride and the Colonial House. For a link to the commentary, see www.dakotapride.com.

Karen (Prentice), Class of 61 and 77, and Niel Hinek, Class of 66, Bowman, N.D., recently retired from teaching. Karen taught school for 45 years, and Niel taught for 30 years.

Dennis Howell, Class of 67, Wheatland, Wyo., an art instructor at Wheatland High School, has been invited to show his original artist trading cards in October 2006 at the Kootenay Region’s First International Mail Art Show in British Columbia, Canada. He was also named to Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers for 2006.

Lee Hulm, Class of 64, Goodyear, Ariz., is the author of Songs of the Meadowlark, a book of poems about the South Dakota prairie in the 1940s and 1950s. The poems are intended to give the reader a new and deeper insight into the true flavor of farm and ranch life on the high plains.

Robert Julius, BS in 60 and MS in 70, Sturgis, retired Sturgis school counselor and former high school basketball coach, has been named to the board of directors of the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association. He has been promoting the athletic talents of young people to a statewide audience for over 40 years.

Patricia (Pratt) Wilson, Class of 69, Aiken, S.C., retired from teaching physical education in Eden, N.Y., in 2004 after 35 years of service.

The 70s

Constance Craft, Class of 79, Riverton, Wyo., was promoted to national sales manager at Hi Mountain Seasonings. She is responsible for developing and managing house accounts, developing sales programs and promotions to further enhance product sales, and trade shows.

Rapid City area alumni gather

A group of Rapid City area alumni recently gathered for a reunion. Those in attendance included: Dennis Haan, Class of ’73; Don Herrmann, Class of ’72; Jim Fletcher, Class of ’67; Kim Templeton, Class of ’76; Dan Dryden, Class of ’68; Pete Cappa, ’74; Rod Cowling, Class of ’99; Mark Nore, Class of ’99; Nila (Gasseling) McGruff, Class of ’86; Donna (Austin) Fletcher, Class of ’79; Jhett Albers, Class of ’87; Steve Meeker, Class of ’84; Gary Larson, Class of ’72; Courtenay Klein, Class of ’00; and Jason Smiley, Class of ’99.
Kudos & Announcements

Rickey Dale Crain, Class of 78, Shawnee, Okla., is the author of Xtreme Squatting, a book about competitive weightlifting. This is his third book.

Dawn (Henderson) Geppert, Class of 79, Sturgis, was named to Who's Who Among America's Teachers for 2005-06. Dawn is a teacher for the Meade School District and helps her husband design, build and decorate homes.

Linda Griffin, Class of 76, Holyoke, Mass., was recently named associate dean for the School of Education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Richard Hobernicht, Class of 78, Cedar Mill, Ore., was appointed head of the Department of Assessment and Taxation in Washington County June 20, 2006. He is a retired U.S. Army Colonel, who most recently commanded 1,200 troops in the Portland District.

Robert (Bob) Jackson, Class of 72, Bison, is the athletic director for the Bison School System and a job coach for the Northern Hills Training Center. He retired from running the Bison Lumber Co. after 28 years. His wife, Gladys (O'Rourke), Class of 70, is a customer service supervisor at the local rural electric and telecommunications companies.

David Landom, Class of 73, Bellbrook, Ohio, was recently named senior budget analyst for Sinclair Community College (SCC). Since 2004, he has served as project manager in the SCC Strategic Project Management Office. He is a member of the International Project Management Institute and its PMI chapter.

The 80s

Marla (Hershey) Barnard, Class of 81, Houston, Texas, testified at the Enron trial regarding a redeployment of employees, which took place in Enron Broadband Services while she was vice president of human resources there. In her new role as vice president of human resources for Time Warner Cable, she threw out the first pitch at the Houston Astros game for Time Warner Night.

Aileen (Gallagher) Crawford, Class of 87, Rapid City, was named communications director for the Crazy Horse Memorial in March 2005.

Carol Gee, Class of 80, Stone Mountain, Ga., recently wrote a chapter on living younger and smarter in the book, Age Smart Discovering the Fountain of Youth at Midlife and Beyond. Carol is the editor at Emory Business School in Atlanta.

Spearfish teachers Deb Hrinda, Class of ’85, Pam Ruhnow, Class of ’90, Pam Gillespie, Class of 00, and Sue Hall Martin, Class of ’02, accepted the Exemplary Reading Program Award at the International Reading Conference in Chicago. This award was presented to 21 schools across the nation.

Mark Naugle, Class of ’88, Hill City, was named superintendent of the Hill City School District and was selected as the South Dakota Middle School Principal of the Year for 2005-06.

Dan Olson, Class of ’83, Spearfish, is the new principal at East Elementary School. Prior to this, he taught in the Spearfish School District, served as the assistant principal at Sturgis Williams Middle School, and served as the head principal at Whitewood Elementary.

Pam (Riddle) Vitense, Class of ’83, Cache, Okla., was named Teacher of the Year for Cache Public School, where she teaches special education.

Leora (Surrell)

Wildberger, Class of ’84 and ’88, Sheridan, Wyo., graduated from the University of Wyoming with a master of arts in music education and is now a music specialist at Tongue River Elementary and Middle School.

Donna (Hansen) Pascoe, Class of ’85, Devor, Pa., was named sales and recruiting manager for the pharmacy division at Staffing Plus, Inc., in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware.

The 90s

Carrie (Gienger), Class of ’97, and Frank Bowers, Class of ’95, Rapid City, recently started the business Black Hills Adventure Tours. They offer biking, hiking, kayaking, and sightseeing tours in the Black Hills.

Jeannie Clark, Class of ’98, Box Elder, began her new position as principal of Francis Case Elementary School Aug. 1, 2006.

Patrick Gaines, Class of ’92, Spearfish, was awarded the state high school VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher’s Award, which recognizes the nation’s top K-12 teachers for teaching citizenship education topics and promoting American history. Patrick is a Spearfish High School government teacher.

Delain Johnson, Class of ’95, Whitewood, received her master’s degree in human resource development and counseling from SDSU in May 2005 and opened Center for Hope, a private practice in Sturgis.

Bruce Kessler, Class of ’96, Pierre, is working as a cattle rancher, restaurant manager and financial advisor. He and his wife have two children.

Former faculty and staff

John Gritts, former director of financial aid at BHUSU, recently accepted a position as the head of Admissions, Recruiting, Records and Financial Aid at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, N.M. He is currently in charge of a staff of six people, but plans to expand to eight or nine in the next couple years.
Colleen Lecy, Class of 93, Rapid City, was recently selected as the new elementary and middle school principal for the Rapid City Catholic School System. She has taught at St. Elizabeth Seton since 1994.

Carlene Schlup, Class of 92, Spearfish, was selected to Who's Who Among America's Teachers for 2005-06. She is a fourth grade teacher for the Spearfish School District.

Jeff Simmons, Class of 91, Timber Lake, was recently hired as principal of Sturgis Brown High School. He had been the principal and athletic director at Timber Lake High School since 2004. He and his wife have two children.

Kenneth Thompson, Class of 97, Wall, was presented the Department of Interior's Award for Valor for pulling two people out of a burning car and saving their lives. He works for Badlands National Park.

Michael Wells, Class of 97, Sterling, Colo., was named the head men's basketball coach at Northeastern Junior College. He was the assistant coach before he assumed the head coaching position.

The 00s

Carol Armbrust, Class of 01, Springfield, Ohio, received her master's degree in creative writing from Antioch University McGregor in June 2006. She wrote a novel for her thesis.

Nate Brown, Class of 04, Spearfish, recently opened the South Dakota Press Play by Play Announcer of the Year Award. He is beginning his fourth year of broadcasting high school sports in the Black Hills and is currently employed as the sports director for The Eagle 95.9 FM radio station.

Leonard Hopper, Class of '02, Spearfish, recently opened a new dental practice in Deadwood. He and his wife have two boys and are expecting a girl in July.

Mike Iversen, Class of 02, Custer, is the area director for Young Life in Custer, Hill City and Keystone. He is also working toward his masters in pastoral ministry at Fuller Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Kate, are expecting their third child in September 2006.

Martin Lemke, Class of '05, Sturgis, is the new 4-H coordinator for Sturgis. He plans to bring new programs to the community, including Clover Buds, a pre 4-H program for ages 5-7, and an after school program.

Shannon Moore, Class of '00, recently joined the SDSU football staff in Brookings as assistant coach for tight ends and running backs.

Kudos & Announcements

Dr. Jesse Dana, Class of '96, received the Young Alumni Achievement Award from the BHSU Alumni Association this spring. After graduating summa cum laude from BHSU in the spring of 1996, Dana went on to complete his dental degree. At BHSU, he was named the Academic Top Male Freshman and was a member of the Pre Professional Club and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA).

Dana played four years on the BHSU men's varsity basketball team. During that time, he was named the most valuable player (MVP) of the Perkins Classic basketball tournament, an academic all American, a first team all conference selection.

Currently in the private practice of orthodontics in Spearfish and Rapid City, Dana also guest lectures and has authored several papers. Dana and his wife Traci (Schenk), who also graduated from BHSU in 1996, reside in Spearfish with their son and are well known for their loyalty to the Spearfish community and the surrounding area.

Dr. Jesse Dana (right), a 1996 graduate of BHSU, was awarded the Young Alumni Achievement Award at the fourteenth annual Student Volunteer Awards Banquet at BHSU. Presenting the award are Larry Vavruska (left), president of the BHSU Alumni Association.
Elaine’s family attends BHSU

Elaine Doll Dunn, Class of 80, says her family has enjoyed a long history of attending BHSU and she’s anxious to see that tradition move into the future as she encourages the next generation of family members to consider attending her alma mater as well.

After graduating from BHSU, Elaine began teaching. She went on to earn a master’s degree and is now the middle school counselor, a position she has had since 1994. Elaine says her spare time is spent running marathons, climbing mountains, inspirational speaking, writing for the local paper, publishing a book and enjoying her seven children and 18 grandchildren.

According to Elaine, there’s many reasons so many of her family members have chosen to attend BHSU. Her family is from the Harding County area, and she admits that proximity was probably a factor but she knows that the quality education combined with the life enriching activities offered by the athletic the fine arts programs were major considerations. That, along with the personal attention students received at BHSU accounted for the family’s loyalty to the university.

“My children are all athletic, musical and dramatic,” Elaine says. The family also has a strong tradition of educational careers, and she notes that even those who are not instructors serve as coaches or work with children in some way. Elaine adds that her mother and grandmother were both teachers as well.

Elaine says her granddaughter, Mackenzie Trask, is absolutely thrilled with the prospect of attending BHSU this fall.

“I encourage students to attend BHSU. I tell them it’s all here. Your dreams, your goals, your aspirations can all be launched from this beautiful, friendly, academically superior university. The instructors will know your name, the school will record your fame, the setting will fit your ‘game’. It’s all here,” Elaine says.

Guy Doll, Elaine’s father, attended BHSU in the late 1920s. According to Elaine, he played football and ran track. He became an outstanding rancher in Harding County and is now deceased. All of Elaine’s children have a BHSU connection as noted below:

Tom Olson, Class of ’81, secondary education degree, now teaches and coaches in Norfolk, Neb.

Tim Olson, Class of ’82, industrial technology degree, and his wife, Laura (Halligan) Olson, Class of ’81, accounting/business, now own Olson Construction Company in Buffalo.

Dan Olson, Class of ’83, elementary education degree, is now the elementary principal in Spearfish. Dan’s wife, Marcia (Orwick) Olson, Class of ’86, accounting and business degree, is now financial director for Regional Hospital in Spearfish.

Samra (Olson) Trask, Class of ’83, elementary education degree, is now an elementary teacher in Wall. Samra’s daughter, Mackenzie Trask, is enrolled for the fall 2006 semester and is planning to pursue a degree in math education.

Pat Gillaspie, attended from 1985 198, history and pre law, now owns Gillaspie Woodworking in Nantucket, Mass.

Erin (Gillaspie) MacIver, Class of ’92, music and theatre degrees, now teaches middle school music in Nantucket, Mass.

Jim Gillaspie, attended from 1988 to 1991, is now a chemical engineer with BHP Mining in Phoenix, Ariz. Jim’s wife, Stacie (Meink) Gillaspie, Class of ’91, business administration, is now a personal trainer in Phoenix, Ariz.

Other family members who are BHSU alumni include:

LeVay/Blinkie (Doll) Byers, Elaine’s sister, who graduated in 1963 with an elementary education degree. She now owns and operates a gas station and convenience store in Wheatland, Wyo.

Doug Doll, Elaine’s brother, graduated in 1982 with a business administration degree and now owns and operates Hadkamore Ranch in Harding County. His wife, Janet (Lammers) Doll, graduated in 1982, with an elementary education degree and is a homemaker and ranch owner/operator.
Engagements & Marriages

The 80s

Tina Farmer, Class of '89, married Bill Clarke Aug. 13, 2005. Tina is an elementary school teacher. They live in Richmond, Va.

Kara Edwards, Class of '93, married Brice Stapert, Class of '98, March 25, 2006. She is a physical therapist assistant, and he is a teacher at South Middle School. They live in Rapid City.

Nannette Gibson, Class of '97 and '03, married Serkan Kalman July 22, 2006. Nannette is an English teacher. They live in Istanbul, Turkey.

Noel Sayles, Class of '99 and '03, married Alan Johnson, Class of '97, June 3, 2006. Noel is a special education teacher at Central High School and is pursuing a masters. Alan is a firefighter and paramedic in Rapid City.

The 90s

Ryan Aalbu, Class of '06, Spearfish, will marry Mackenzie Ehly July 1, 2006. Ryan is a direct support professional at the Northern Hills Training Center.

Ryan Allard, Class of '00, married Jennifer Metcalfe June 17, 2006. They own a canoe business in Rogue River, Ore.

Clint Anderson, Class of '00, married Ann Rinas April 22, 2006. Clint owns Diversified Drafting in Belle Fourche, where the couple resides.

Melanie Angel, Class of '04, married Ben Schumacher Nov. 12, 2005. She is a LifeWays advisor at Southwest Middle School. They live in Rapid City.

Anne Nicole Baker, Class of '02, Towanda, Kan., is engaged to Captain Robert Taylor Thompson. She is an accountant at Bird and Company. Chartered in El Dorado.

Rachel Baran, Class of '05, Rapid City, married James Clayton June 16, 2006. She is a substitute teacher in Rapid City.

Melissa Braegger, Class of '02, and Mark Nore, Class of '99, Belle Fourche, were married May 6, 2006. She is a teacher in Belle Fourche, and he is a BHSU professor and women's basketball coach.

Carrie Burnison, Class of '05, and Ryan Fremont were married May 27, 2006. She is a third grade teacher at Otero Elementary in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Lisa Cornelius, Class of '00, Hill City, and Jesse Huschle will marry Aug. 18, 2006. Lisa is a cellular sales representative.

BJ Curtis, Class of '05, Brookings, married Teresa Geisler Dec. 31, 2005. BJ is a mechanical designer in sports products engineering at Daktronics, Inc., and is pursuing his master's degree in industrial management at SDSU.

Allison Doud, Class of '01, married Ryan Crago March 9, 2006. Allison is a banquet coordinator. The couple lives in Rapid City.

Andrea Ellwanger, Class of '00 and '05, married Shane Byrd June 18, 2005. They live in Munchweiler, Germany.

Sheridan Hansen, Class of '02, and Amartuvshin Borjigon will marry July 10, 2006. Sheridan teaches at Dakota Middle School in Rapid City.

Amy Harter and Patrick Fink, both Class of '06, married July 22, 2006. They live in Sturgis.

Crystal Hawn, Class of '05, and William Lind were married May 27, 2006. Crystal is attending graduate school. The couple lives in Houston.

Lesley Hoff, Class of '03, married Ryan...
Engagements & Marriages

Van Kley receives award from Harvard

Tina (Beguin) Van Kley, Class of ’04, recently graduated from Harvard Divinity School and received the John E. Thayer Scholarship for Meritorious Students for the highest ranked master of theological studies scholar, based on academics and financial need.

The Thayer Award, established in 1857, includes a $6,500 award which Tina will use to continue her education in a fellowship at Brandeis University. She is pursuing a Ph.D. in English and American literature with a focus on the 18th and 19th Century British novel, and religion literature. She says the program will take five to seven years to complete. After that she plans to teach at the university level, preferably “where there are mountains, lots of trees, and access to outdoor activities.”

At BHSU, Tina earned a bachelor’s degree in English with minors in philosophy and music.

“I think I determined in high school that I would like to be in academia, and lately the question has been whether I wanted to focus on religion (especially Reformation and early modern Christianity) or literature. The nature of applying to graduate programs has ‘helped’ narrow down that choice somewhat,” Tina says.

Tina earned her bachelor’s degree in English with minors in philosophy and music. She is pursuing a Ph.D. program, with interests in 20th century American literature.

The couple lives in Somerville, Mass. Tina says although they are still adjusting to city life and miss the natural beauty and quiet of the Hills, they appreciate the diversity and cultural offerings of the Boston area.

Anna Mehlhaff, Class of ’05, and Dustin Guss, attending, were married May 20, 2006. Anna is employed by the Game, Fish & Parks, and Dustin works at the Northern Hills Training Center. They live in Spearfish.

Andrew Miller, Class of ’02, will marry Amanda Nicole July 1, 2006. Andrew is a commercial loan officer with American National Bank. The couple resides in Laramie, Wyo.

April Oedekoven, Class of ’02, plans to marry Kelly Halter, attending, Rapid City, July 1, 2006. April is a CPA.

Angie Prostrollo, Class of ’03, and Jesse Bruns will be married Aug. 19, 2006.

Janelle Rank, Class of ’02, will marry Jacob Kleinschmidt July 22, 2006. She is a learner service representative for National American University. The couple lives in Rapid City.

Sara Ridl, Class of ’03, and Matt Hartley are engaged to be married. Melissa is a third grade teacher at South Park Elementary School.


Melissa Strand, Class of ’06, and Anthony Wachs, Class of ’05, were married Feb. 18, 2006. Anthony has a teaching assistantship at Kansas State University, where he is pursuing his master’s degree. They live in Manhattan, Kan.


Niki Thorsgaard, Class of ’06, Sidney, Neb., will marry Rich Tuzicka July 22, 2006. She works for Cabela’s New Store Construction Department.

Jessica Tinant, Class of ’05, married Andrew Scull Feb. 3, 2006. She is the manager of Learning Solutions of the Black Hills. The couple lives in Rapid City.

Kari Woerman, Class of ’04, will marry Jesse Gibson Sept. 15, 2006. Kari is a case development coordinator for financial advisors.
Births

The 90s
Casey Wayne Besler, Class of 97, Billings, Mont., and his wife are expecting a little girl in July. They are also the proud parents of Riley Wayne (1). Casey works as a pharmaceutical representative for Johnson & Johnson.

Christopher Houlette, Class of 92, Pierre, and his wife, Denice, announce the birth of their second child, Brayden Thomas, who was born July 10, 2006. He joins big brother Justin (4). Chris is an attorney with S.D. Advocacy Services.

Patricia (Nickisch) LaMont, Class of 97, and husband Mike, Hilliard, Ohio, had a girl, Alyssa Grace, May 9, 2005. She joins a sister, Leah Nicole. Patricia is a marketing coordinator for Andrews Architects.

Jonna (Wheaton) Lorenz, Class of 97, and husband James, Shawnee, Kan., had a baby girl, Hannah Mae, May 5, 2006. Jonna is a reporter for the Topeka Capital Journal.

Gwen McClure, Class of 97, and fiancé Joe Martin, Deadwood, had a girl, Alyssa Grace, May 9, 2005. She joins a sister, Leah Nicole. Patricia is a marketing coordinator for Andrews Architects.


Jodi (Randall), Class of 99, and Weston Neiffer, Class of 00, Spearfish, had a baby girl, Charlie Ann, April 2, 2006. She joins big sister Elle. Jodi is a stay at home mom, and Weston is an admissions coordinator at National American University.

Olaf Solve, Class of 94, and his wife, Cindra, Rapid City, welcomed their first child, Lillee Ann, April 3, 2006. Olaf is the assistant manager of Kusler’s Conoco.

The 00s
Nick Gottlob, Class of 00, and wife Sara (Stilwell), Class of 95, Spearfish, are the parents of a baby girl, Emma, who was born April 23, 2006. Nick recently became principal of the Lead Deadwood Middle and High Schools.

Misty (Turner) Holzwarth, Class of 05, and her husband, Greg, Marion, Iowa, recently had their first baby, Alexa Dawn, Sept. 27, 2005.

Amy (Morgan) Miklos, Class of 04, and husband Tom, Custer, had a baby girl, Rachel, April 6, 2006. She joins brother Remington, who was born April 25, 2005. Amy works as a youth counselor at STAR Academy.

Missy Urbaniak, Class of 02, Sturgis, and her husband, Joe, had a baby boy, Cooper, July 20, 2005. He joins a brother, Bailey, who was born Feb. 6, 2003. Missy is a fifth grade teacher at Sturgis Williams Middle School.

Rebecca (Patocka) Vitek, Class of 00, and husband Andrew, Scotland, had a baby girl, Kailley Marissa, Feb. 15, 2006. She joins a sister Bailey Anne. Rebecca owns the Scribbles N Giggles daycare.
Obituaries

Olive Peggy Bacon, Deadwood, died April 26, 2006. After receiving her teaching certificate from Spearfish Normal School, Peggy taught at the Hay Creek School.


The 20s

Helen Ercel Ercel
Mathieu, Class of 28, Yucca, Calif., passed away Feb. 25, 2006. Ercel was a member of Eastern Star and Phi Beta Kappa. She received her teaching certificate at Spearfish Normal School and taught piano. She also held a real estate license.

The 30s

Blanche (Oldfield) Keller, Class of 31, Rapid City, died June 6, 2006. She taught eight grades in a one room prairie school for several years. She later served as the postmaster of the U.S. Post Office in New Underwood and operated a small ice cream parlor.

The 40s

Herma Marsden, Class of 45, Wall, died Aug. 6, 2005. She taught elementary school in Custer and Wall, and then took an active role in operating the family ranch. She was also very active in the community.

The 50s

John (Don) Bloedel, Class of 48, Spearfish, died June 6, 2006. He taught school in Coos Bay, Ore., before returning to Spearfish, where he worked in general construction. He later opened and operated Bloedel Construction.

The 60s

Palma Hurley, Class of 58 and 69, Sioux Falls, died Jan. 30, 2006. She was the supervisor of special education for BHSU and started the first all denominational Sunday school for retarded children. She authored the Retarded Children’s Bill of Rights and was coordinator for obtaining state aid for the children in public schools. She received the Special Achievement Award and The Albert Schweitzer Award for Humanitarianism from BHSU.
Alumni News

Obituaries

Ruth (Johnson) Whisler, Class of 61, Gillette, Wy., passed away April 5, 2006. She taught almost entirely in one room country schools. After retiring, she served as a deacon for 15 years and volunteered at the Campbell County hospital.

Shirley (Smith) Castor, Class of 63, Spearfish, passed away July 3, 2006. Shirley began her teaching career in a one room schoolhouse north of Belle Fourche. She later taught first and second grades in Lead; Knoxville, Tenn.; and Albuquerque, N.M.; before retiring in 1990 after 29 years of teaching.

Gunner Earley, Class of 62, Sturgis, died Feb. 10, 2006. He owned and operated Gunner’s Lounge on Main Street in Sturgis from 1965 to 2001. He was also a member of many organizations and was the founder and first chairman of the Sturgis On Sale Liquor Association.

M. Eleanor (Zimmermann) Gukeisen, Class of 65, Spearfish, passed away June 20, 2006. Eleanor taught at Lead High School until 1968. She then received her master’s in guidance and counseling and worked in schools in Arizona and Wyoming until her retirement.


Fay Mitchell, Class of 73, Vermillion, passed away March 14, 2006. She taught school in Lead and Sioux Falls. She also played the viola for the Sioux City Symphony Orchestra.

Louis Simons, Class of 66, Rapid City, died May 17, 2006. Louis worked for Texaco Oil Company in Denver, Colo., before returning to South Dakota to teach near Martin and Eagle Butte. He then taught at Rapid City Central High School until he retired in 2000.

Carol (Carson) Anderson, Class of 75, Riverside, Calif., passed away on March 27, 2006. She was a kindergarten teacher for 17 years. She also was a member of the women’s association of AIME and worked with a scholarship program. She is described as being loving, caring, elegant, forgiving and very dedicated to the work of the church.

Danny Claud Haslip, Class of 86, Sturgis, died June 17, after a fierce battle against cancer. He was a level III S.D. Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor. He was the Clinical Director of Timberline Treatment Center in Custer and also worked at Newcastle Correction Facility. He then opened a small private practice designing behavioral management treatment for drug and alcohol programs.

Leonard Lennie Jones, attended 86, 88, Deadwood, died April 30, 2006. Lennie was a great sports enthusiast. He coached traveling basketball teams and the Deadwood Middle School boys and girls basketball teams.

Calling all BHSU alumni

The Alumni Association relies on student callers to contact BHSU alumni for scholarship gifts. Because the federal government realizes that private giving is essential for campuses to cover unmet tuition costs and other enhancements, universities are exempt from the “Do Not Call Registry.”

For updated classnotes see www.bhsu.edu/classmates+news.aspx
On April 22, the third Native American Alumni Gathering took place in conjunction with the Annual Lakota Omnicye Powwow. Those who attended are as follows: front row, Carmelita Two Elk, ‘75, Oglala; Mona Bettelyoun, ‘80, Rapid City; Lynda One Feather; Norma (Janis) Grignon, ‘91, Spearfish; Rosalie Little Thunder; Beverly Running Bear, ‘00, Rapid City; Jace DeCory, BHSU faculty, Spearfish. Middle row, Marlyce Miner, ‘70, Rapid City; Rachel Jacobs, ‘01, Gillette; Gerri (Farmer) LeBeau, ‘96, Box Elder; Delmar W. One Feather, ‘91, Oglala; Jeri Lemke; Carol Johnson, ‘70, Faith. Back row, Bill McCloskey, ‘71, Mission; Nora Danforth, ‘02, Spearfish; Lowell Amiotte, Faculty, ‘64, Rapid City; Leona White Hat, ‘02, Bismarck; Charles Grignon, ‘96, Spearfish; Bryan Brewer, ‘76, Pine Ridge.
Let us know what you are doing.

We’d like to know your news. Send address updates and news items to the Alumni Office so we can update your file. Also we appreciate help locating lost alumni. Check out the lost alumni list at <www.bhsu.edu/alumni>.

If you, or someone you know is on the list, please let us know where they are so we can update the files.

Update alumni news

Name ________________________________

Graduation year _______ Major _____________________

Spouse’s name____________________________ A BHSU graduate? (If so, list year) ____________

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Former baseball competitors play ball at reunion

Former long-time Black Hills State University baseball coach Cliff Papik, shown here behind the plate while Yankee great Joe Dimaggio swings away during an Army Air Corp game in the 40s, was honored at the first-ever baseball reunion.
More than 45 former Black Hills State University baseball players were on the campus recently for a baseball reunion that featured a baseball game, campus tour, picnic, golf tournament and silent auction.

Cliff Papik, former longtime baseball coach at BHSU, was honored at the reunion. Papik coached for 30 years at the university (1948-1978), including coaching baseball, basketball, football, golf and tennis. Remembered by many as a popular and successful coach, Papik started a baseball dynasty that produced eight conference championship teams and five All-Americans. His career baseball record at BHSU stands at 326-179. Papik became a member of the Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame in 1985. He was inducted into the South Dakota Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame in 1974. The college baseball field was named after him in 1978, and in 1980 Papik was inducted into the NAIA and SDIC Baseball Hall of Fame.

Those who played in the baseball reunion game included: (Above) Kneeling, front row, left to right: Paul Hayashino, Class of ’74, Woodbridge, Calif.; Kevin Nowotny, Class of ’80, Adrian, Minn.; Pat Peters, Class of ’75, Spearfish; Greg Deville, Class of ’77, Spearfish; Wayne Johnson, Class of ’77, Rapid City; Darrel Hardcastle, Class of ’79, Sherman, Texas; Leonard Petoske, Class of ’79, Las Vegas, Nev. Back row, left to right: William Hughes, Spearfish; Paul Burleson, Class of ’76, Hartville, Ohio; James Stanage, Class of ’72, Salem, Ore.; Alan Nagel, Class of ’72, Las Vegas, Nev.; (identify not known) Gary Bereiter, Class of ’73, Zion, Ill.; Brian Johnson, Class of ’84, Rapid City; Roger Riley, Class of ’80, Spearfish; Jerry Johnson, Class of ’76, Rapid City; Everett Follette, Class of ’78, Spearfish; Larry Lawler, Class of ’80, Wadsworth, Ill.; Coach Cliff Papik, Spearfish; Matt Henkener, Class of ’82, Loveland, Colo.; Stan Negaard, Class of ’57, Rock Valley, Iowa; Dan Adams, ’79, Casper, Wyo; LeRoy Cliff, Class of ’59, Zion, Ill.
Black Hills State University recently received $50,000 from the Merideth “Dolly” Petersen estate to establish a scholarship fund for students in the College of Education.

Petersen graduated from Belvidere High School and then attended Augustana College in Sioux Falls. She later earned a degree from Black Hills State University in Spearfish.

For many years, she and her husband, Peter Peterson, lived in Moorcroft, Wyo., where she taught second grade. After Peter’s death in 1970, she moved to Spearfish.

The scholarship will be dedicated to Project Select, a relatively new program at BHSU in which students earn teaching certification in secondary education while serving as a student intern in a classroom setting and completing coursework. The first scholarship will be awarded in the fall of 2007.

For more information on establishing a scholarship at BHSU contact Steve Meeker, director of institutional advancement, at 642-6446.

**Sprague gives historic items**

Donovin Sprague, Class of 82, Spearfish, donated a historical photograph and a hand carved flute to the Case Library for Western Studies at BHSU.

The photo Chief Hump and Two Wives was taken in 1879 when Hump and his band surrendered from Canada. The flute symbolizes the story of the Lakota Sioux Flute Legend that Sprague adopted from Henry Crow Dog, Lakota.

Sprague serves as an adjunct instructor at BHSU and Oglala Lakota College.

**Message from Steve Meeker**

Wall Street has not always been kind to some shareholders. Stock appreciation may not be what it once was, causing you to wonder, “Is now a good time to donate stocks?”

If you are among those who have owned stocks for many years, in all likelihood you hold some low cost stocks in your portfolio. If you fear a drop in their market value, now is an opportune time to give some shares to the BHSU Foundation. Frankly, we may decide to sell them for the same reason, but you can have some benefits by making a charitable donation of the poor performers.

For more information, please contact a financial advisor or feel free to email me at SteveMeeker@bhsu.edu or call me at 605 642 6385.

**Creating a legacy**

Dolly Peterson donates scholarship funds

Black Hills State University Alumni Magazine  Page 22
A donation of $20,000 from Nadine Fidler will provide ongoing music scholarships for Black Hills State University students.

In recognition of the donation, the keyboard lab in Clare and Josef Meier Hall will be named the Raymond H. and Nadine M. Fidler Piano Lab.

According to Mrs. Fidler, she decided to make this significant contribution to the BHSU music department as a token of her tremendous appreciation of the performances at BHSU through the years.

Music has always been important to me. When my husband and I came to Spearfish many years ago to establish a business, we were both delighted to discover the excellent music and theatre events at BHSU. We enjoyed attending concerts and plays throughout the years, Nadine says. I’m pleased that I was in a position that I could make this donation in memory of my dear husband.

Dr. Janeen Larsen, chair of Department of Fine and Applied Arts at BHSU, praised Fidler for her generous donation.

Mrs. Fidler is a talented musician, and she has always been a patron of the arts. Her family’s name on the door of the keyboard lab will be seen by every music student in our department. We are all so pleased and grateful that she is leaving this legacy to future music students, Larsen said.

The vocal and instrumental scholarships will be awarded to BHSU students beginning in the fall 2007 semester.

Contact Steve Meeker at 642 6228 for additional naming opportunities at Meier Hall.

Equipment sought for students to learn outdoor education

There is a growing need for trained professionals in outdoor education, according to Dr. Nancy Hall, dean of the College of Education at BHSU.

Many jobs exist in the field of outdoor education for people with the right combination of knowledge, skills, and experiences. Nature centers need naturalists to teach young people to appreciate and value the outdoors. Resource agencies need educators to communicate appropriate land use. Non profit organizations need advocates skilled in working with people. Parks need interpreters to tell the story. Camps, youth programs, and recreation agencies need leaders skilled in safe outdoor programming.

Black Hills State University is uniquely situated to provide this training according to Hall.

Our setting in the beautiful Black Hills, the excellent faculty and many partnerships with area organizations provide a strong foundation. The potential exists for this program to grow and benefit not only students but the local economy as well. The state of South Dakota provides a portion of our funding for programs like the Outdoor Education program. However, we are seeking donations to purchase equipment for BHSU students, Hall says.

If you are interested in donating to this fund, please contact Steve Meeker at stevemeeker@bhsu.edu or Chris McCart at christinemcart@bhsu.edu.
David Diamond, professor at BHSU, recently received the Mark Twain Award for his distinguished contributions to Midwestern literature.

The Mark Twain Award is the highest and most respected literature prize given by the society.

Diamond, when asked to comment on the award, said: “I was totally stunned. You work in solitude when you write and have no idea if there’s anyone out there reading or admiring your work. This is confirmation that all the lonely hours and hard work have paid off. This is perhaps the pinnacle of my writing career.”

Diamond’s latest novel, “Cool Hand in a Hot Fire,” was cited in the award. He is also the author of the “Slade Western Series,” written under the name Link Pennington. His book of short stories, “Street Scenes,” was adapted into a successful play in Los Angeles that received excellent reviews. He is also, as Claudia Davison, the author of the “Unholy Ghost” series, a suspense thriller series published by Lynx Books in New York City.

Diamond is a South Dakota native who teaches classes in writing, broadcast journalism, and radio and television production at BHSU. He has bachelor’s degrees in journalism and history from the University of Southern Mississippi. His graduate degrees are from Northwest Missouri State University and the University of Southern California.

Diamond, who joined the BHSU staff in 1995, is planning to retire after the 2006-2007 school year.

**Wheaton is now alumni director at BH**

Tom Wheaton, Class of 87, was recently named director of alumni at BHSU.

Wheaton, who is both an alumni and longtime employee of the university, is looking forward to the opportunity to extend the BHSU alumni family.

“I came to BHSU as a student from Florida, so I was without a family. The people of BHSU were so wonderful to me that they became my family. Now it seems fitting that I take on the responsibility of maintaining and preserving the BHSU alumni family.”

Steve Meeker, vice president of institutional advancement, says he is fortunate to have an alumni director with Tom’s experience and background.

Tom previously served as assistant director of enrollment at BHSU. He has also held several other positions at BHSU including time as a hall director and apartment director and sports information director. Tom has a strong communications background including past employment as a radio personality and information specialist.

Tom earned a speech degree with minor in music 1987 and has also taken graduate level courses. In his spare time, Tom serves as an official for high school football games in South Dakota. Tom and his wife, Kristin (Schamber), Class of 99, and their daughter, Kylie, live in Spearfish.
Royer named distinguished faculty

Dr. Randall Royer, Black Hills State University music professor, was recently chosen by his peers to receive the prestigious Distinguished Faculty Award.

Royer teaches music courses and presently directs the BHSU Jazz Ensemble and the Dakota Chamber Orchestra in residence at BHSU.

Since joining the BHSU faculty in 1997, Royer has taught nine different classes ranging from freshman level music classes, to non music major general education courses, to upper division, almost graduate, seminar type classes. Royer’s teaching and service also includes leading music ensembles; doing one on one lessons for students on the following instruments: flute, clarinet, oboe, saxophone, bassoon, guitar, string bass, bass guitar and percussion; and supervising student teachers.

Royer is described by his peers as an outstanding teacher who shows excellence in teaching, active research, scholarship and other creative endeavors.

Royer says the award is a great honor but knows the real reward for him and other teachers is the difference they make in the lives of their students.

“The real reward is seeing students succeed either in the classroom or out of the classroom. Then you can say I had a little part in that. That’s the reward,” Royer says.

Royer is involved in many professional activities including serving as a guest conductor for local and regional groups. He has judged music contests and/or guest conducted music clinics in Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota. He was guest conductor for the International Music Camp in the summer of 2002.

Royer remains an active performer. His major instruments are oboe and English horn, but he also performs frequently on guitar, bass, saxophone and flute. He has given or conducted many concert and jazz performances for the university and community.

Royer received his bachelor’s degree from SDSU in Brookings, his master of arts degree from the University of Wyoming in Laramie, Wyo, and a Ph.D. in music education from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah. He also has a degree in audio engineering from the Institute of Audio Research in New York City. Before joining the BHSU faculty as a woodwind specialist and band director, Royer taught and directed public school instrumental music in Wyoming for over 17 years.

Steve Meeker receives national award

Steve Meeker, vice president for institutional advancement at BHSU recently received a national award recognizing his fundraising work.

Meeker, was presented the College Division of the Year Fund Raiser of the Year award. Meeker has worked at BHSU, his alma mater, for 20 years. He oversees an effort that has increased the annual athletics scholarship program from $44,000 in 1990-91 to $435,000 this year. He has brought in close to $3 million in athletics scholarships and, in the last five years, has increased the amount of scholarship money awarded by 92 percent. In 2005, he secured a $100,000 pledge for football scholarships and, to create equality, he secured a matching gift for the women’s department. He has also cemented close to $1 million in future gifts to BHSU athletics.

Recently he initiated an effort to raise funds to create the Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame room which opened this spring.

When he served as the university’s athletics director, in addition to fund raising, he guided the department to six individual national champions, one national champion runner up, five Region III team championships and six conference championships. Meeker was honored in 2001 when he was selected as the National Association of Collegiate Marketing Administrator’s Marketer of the Year.

Prior to his development work, Meeker worked with the BHSU admissions department for four years as the enrollment management coordinator and director of admissions and records. He received his bachelor’s degree in speech from BHSU in 1984.

Mutter earns Spirit of BH award

The BHSU Alumni Association honored Theresa Mutter, a senior political science and mass communications major from Oehningen, Germany, with the Spirit of BH Award.

While completing all of her course work in three years, Mutter maintained a grade point average of 3.9. She has been involved in many campus organizations and has served as a resident assistant. Mutter’s leadership roles have included officer positions of University Programming Team; the Swarm Days Committee; the Honors Program; the Honors Advisory Committee for Academic Affairs; the Student Ambassadors; and the Today Newspaper.

In addition to her leadership responsibilities, Mutter has also been a member of the Chi Theta Xi sorority, KBHU FM staff, and Student Senate. She has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, the Oxfam Hunger Banquet, Make a Difference Day, Relay for Life Samaritan’s Purse Operation Christmas Child, Make a Wish, and the Salvation Army. Mutter was the first student to win the prestigious Chiesman Foundation Award for her research on American foreign policy.
Megan Wyett, Class of '06, knew as a high school student that she wanted to attend Black Hills State University. At that time, she had no idea how her extensive involvement in student activities, while attending BHSU, would eventually lead to a promising career encouraging future students to take a similar path.

In her final semester as at BHSU, when Megan was doing her student teaching, her career path expanded and an opportunity arose that Megan had never really considered even though it seems to be a perfect match for her talents. Megan, who served as student body president, epitomizes the involved student with an extensive list of student leadership activities and volunteer involvement. Megan recently began a two year graduate assistantship at Central Missouri State University.

Two major projects her senior year, being a member of the BHSU presidential search committee and spearheading an expansion project for the Student Union, opened Megan’s eyes to the world of higher education administration and awoke in her the desire to make a difference in the lives of future students.

As Megan began her student teaching, she found that she missed the day to day interaction with fellow college students. One of her friends was exploring the option of going into higher education student services, and that eventually led her to consider the career area as well.

Megan says the entire application, interview and acceptance process for this prestigious graduate assistantship went by very quickly.

"It was God driven. I totally believe that doors open sometimes, and it all just connects. I just believe it was meant to be," Megan says.

The graduate assistantship at CMSU includes full ride tuition as well as room and board for two years. Megan will work on event planning with the student affairs staff at the university while earning her degree.

A first generation college student, Megan always loved school, so it’s no surprise that she decided to pursue a degree in education. That career path was inspired early when Megan, as a sixth grade student, worked with a blind student in her school.

"That’s when I decided I wanted to become a teacher. I wanted to do things to help others learn," Megan says.

Megan says the positive influence of several high school teachers in Casper, Wyo., who had graduated from BHSU, made the decision to come to BHSU her first and only choice.

"I didn’t consider any other colleges. I knew I wanted to come here," Megan says. Although she is leaving BHSU with a somewhat different career in mind, Megan knows she will still have the opportunity to influence students’ lives in a positive way.

"I'll still be teaching, just in a different way in student affairs," Megan says. "I see the skills I’ve learned, and I know getting students involved in organizations will help them learn life skills that are going to shape their lives."

Always a planner, Megan already has her eye on the future. "After graduating with my master’s degree, I’d like to work in student affairs for seven to 10 years and then pursue my Ph.D. Then I’d like to be vice president of students affairs."
The South Dakota Board of Regents has approved a master of science degree in integrative genomics at Black Hills State University, signaling a new direction for master’s degrees offered by the Spearfish university.

“This is Black Hills State’s first master’s degree in the sciences,” Regents President Harvey C. Jewett said. “The deep underground lab project at Homestake is right down the road, and there will be excellent opportunities there for genomics research. At a time when there is substantial state interest in expanding research and graduate education at South Dakota public universities, this degree is an excellent fit for our system and for BHSU in particular,” he said.

Black Hills State already offers master’s degree programs in education and business. The genomics degree will help recruit students for graduate level study in a technology rich area of emerging science, Jewett said. “This program is likely to have significant benefits for BHSU, with minimal risk to existing system programs,” Jewett said.

Integrative genomics is a new area of biological research that seeks to place the functional significance of an organism’s many genes into an ecological and evolutionary context. In a practical sense, integrative genomics allows scientists to understand the success story that each species represents.

According to Dr. Holly Downing, dean of the College of Arts and Science at BHSU, the new master’s degree in integrative genomics is one of only a handful nationwide.

This is a field that is breaking new ground in biology because it can help us understand the interplay between genetics and the ecology and evolution of organisms, Downing says.

She added that a unique feature of the new degree is the option to do either research leading to a thesis or an internship with a biotechnology company. The two tracks afford students more choices from building a stronger foundation for success in a doctoral program to gaining business training and experience for a career in biotechnology.

This new graduate degree expands the mission for the College of Arts and Sciences, which opens the door to exciting new possibilities for Black Hills State University, Downing says.

The new degree will be offered starting this fall. Five students are expected to enroll in the first year, with an average of four students graduating each year once the program is fully operational.
Several Black Hills State University alumni will be honored during the annual Swarm Week activities Sept. 17-23. The 2006 Distinguished Alumnus Award will be presented to Tim Penton, Class of 80. The 2006 Special Achievement Award will be awarded to Craig Katt, Class of 75. The 2006 Excellence in Education Award will be presented to Ron His Horse is Thunder, Class of 85, from Fort Yates, N.D. The 2006 Special Service Award will be presented to Mary and Ed Furois. These alumni will be honored at the annual Swarm Day breakfast Saturday, Sept. 23 at 8:30 a.m. at the Jacket Legacy room in the David B. Miller Yellow Jacket Student Union.

Craig Katt, Class of 75, is owner and partner as well as president of Solare Solutions, a visual communications company with headquarters in Atlanta, Ga., and a manufacturing site in Wiggins, Miss. The multi layered company is comprised of a multi million dollar signage manufacturer; an award winning creative design team; an animation/content creation media group; and a video systems integration division for hi tech indoor and outdoor display systems.

Prior to joining Solare, Katt was the national market manager for the international Belgian video display manufacturer Barco after serving 10 years as one of the company market managers for Daktronics.

Katt is recognized as one of the industry experts in LED (light emitting diode) technology and is a frequent contributor of technical articles dealing with the technology. Katt’s consultant efforts are manifested in some of the nation’s most advanced large screen video designs.

Katt and his wife, Beth, have four daughters.

Ed and Mary Furois, longtime supporters of BHSU and the entire community. Ed graduated from BHSU in 1959 with a degree in business and economics. Mary earned an elementary education degree in 1960. The couple entered the local retail business world in 1962 with the purchase of the Spearfish Bootery which they operated together until it was sold in 1999.

Ed and Mary were both active members of the Spearfish Chamber of Commerce and the Spearfish Retail Trade Association. Ed was also a volunteer fireman, a member of the Spearfish School Board and a member of the local hospital board of directors and Norwest Bank board of directors. He is currently serving on three boards. Mary taught school for one year in Lead and served as religious education teacher at St. Joseph’s Church for many years. She was also president of the church ladies group and served on the church council. Mary is a charter member of Zonta and a member of the BHSU Alumni Board.

The Furois couple was honored as South Dakota Retail Couple of the Year in 1997 and received the Spirit of Spearfish Award in 1999. They raised four children.

Tim Penton, Class of 80, country manager for Williams International, began working in the oil fields near his home town of Casper, Wyo. That was the beginning of what would become a long and successful energy career that has included assignments in the western part of the U.S. as well as in several international locations.

Tim oversees the Venezuela, South America, operations for Williams International, an energy business that produces, gathers and transports natural gas across the U.S. as well as in some international locations.

Tim and his family embarked on a series of assignments which included stays in Kansas, Texas, and eventually Gabon, in west Africa, his first overseas job, and later in Mauritania and Congo. During this time, Penton continued his education through graduate courses in international finance.

Tim has been actively involved in the development and advancement of an English speaking school in Venezuela.

Tim and his wife, Lisa, have two grown children.
Yellow Jacket inductees named

Five individuals and two teams to be inducted into the Hall of Fame Black Hills State University will induct five individuals and two teams into the 2006 Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame Friday, Sept. 22 during the annual Swarm Week activities. Inductees are Terry Burgess, Jeff Englund, Leslie Deutscher, Ernie Mecca and Jim Alcorn. The 1970 football team and the 1928 men’s basketball team will also be honored.

Leslie Deutscher competed for the Yellow Jackets in women’s basketball from 1992-96. Leslie’s name appears multiple times in the Yellow Jacket record book. Her achievements include:
- 1,426 career points (fourth all time)
- 556 career field goals made (fourth all time)
- 837 career rebounds (first all time)
- 7.6 career rebounds per game (fourth all time)
- .732 career free throw percentage
- 314 career free throws made (second all time)
- 143 career blocked shots (first all time)
- 185 career steals (fourth all time)
- 249 single season rebounds (second all time)
- 44 single season blocked shots (first all time)
- 39 single season blocked shots (second all time)
- 36 single season blocked shots (third all time)
- 7 single game blocked shots (tied for second all time)
- 6 single game blocked shots two times (fourth all time)
- 1,000 single game free throw percentage (tied for first all time)

Jeff Englund ran his way into the record books as he competed for the Yellow Jackets football team from 1988-91. Three times Jeff scored 30 points in a single game. His other accomplishments include:
- 264 career points scored (first all time)
- 39 touchdowns (first all time)
- 2,835 career rushing yards (first all time)
- 1,147 single season rushing yards (first all time set in 1991)
- 1,037 single season rushing yards (second all time set in 1990)
- 117 single season points scored (first all time set in 1990)
- 115 single season points scored (second all time set in 1991)
- NAIA Honorable Mention All American in 1991

Over the past three decades, Terry Burgess, Class of 72, has established himself as one of the most highly respected coaches in the state of Wyoming. Terry was named Wyoming Wrestling Coach of the Year five times. Terry coached a pole vault state champion while in Sheridan, Wyo., and also coached the distance runners and was an assistant football coach at Sheridan High School. He was a member of the football coaching staff that led Sheridan to five state championships.

Terry was inducted into the Wyoming Coaches Hall of Fame in 2006. He also coached football and wrestling at Dickinson State University. At BHSU, Burgess was a multi-sport athlete, playing football, baseball and wrestling for the Yellow Jackets.

Ernie Mecca, Class 78, who taught and coached at DuBois, Wyo., guided both track and field as well as basketball in his coaching career. In 1995, the National High School Athletic Coaches Association awarded him as the Region 7 Coach of the Year Award for girls track. Mecca led the boys track team to five regional championships and three state championships. The girls track team won four regional championships and two state championships under Mecca’s direction. Mecca was also an outstanding basketball coach, guiding the boys basketball team to two regional titles, and he was awarded the Class 1A Coach of the Year Award in 1990. He also coached girls basketball and was an assistant football coach.

Jim Alcorn is being inducted into the Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame for his contributions to the BHSU athletic program. In the past he served as a president for the Yellow Jacket Foundation and is currently a member of the Yellow Jacket Foundation Board of Directors. Alcorn’s loyalty to the Yellow Jackets runs deep. He served as an assistant football coach at Black Hills State in the 80s and was president of the Yellow Jacket Foundation from 1991-1999.

The 1970 football team ended their season as SDIC Tri Champions with a 5-1 conference record and an 8-2 overall record. Coach Gene Schlekeway led what is considered by many to be the best football team ever to compete for BHSU. Team members included Bob Langten, Dean Fudge, Jim Falter, Harvey Krautschun, V.J. Hirsch, Kent Waugh, Lanny Swisher, Rich Schlekeway, Ed Sheridan, Pat Lavery, Galen Dannenbring, Sonny Brooks, Dan O Connor, Randy Langdon, Norm Anderson, Tom Stewart, Gary Peters, Bob Worth, Terry Danielson, Bob Gibson, Chuck Sisk, Bill Fleak, Mark Berdaal, Mike Murphy, Mike McMahon, Bill Shell, Norb Weisbeck, Mike Stafford, Bob Templeton, Keith Schultz, Craig Leckner, Doug Roseth, Keith Glanzner, Ron Young, Roger Risty, George Kuhler, Jerry Pfeiffer, Gary Bereiter, Jon Haberman, Mike Hughes, Ralph Meyer, Kirk Stradinger, Terry Burgess, Eldon McNabb, Kent Mauck, Mike Berg, Jim Holwenger, Jerome Lee, Mike Savoy, Ken Richardt, Al Kelley, Paul Georgas, and Dennis Herndon.

Once hailed as the best college basketball team in South Dakota, the 1928 Yellow Jacket men’s basketball team will be honored this year at the 2006 Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame banquet.

The Yellow Jacket men provided enthusiasm and excitement during the incredible 1928 season. Then known as the Black Hills Teachers College, the team played in 22 games, winning 17 and dropping only five conference tests. They lost only three games to collegiate opponents.
Sports
Athletes place at national track and field

The BHSU women’s track and field team finished 10th with 22 total points at the 2006 NAIA Outdoor Track and Field Championships this spring in Fresno, Calif. The Yellow Jacket men tied for 42nd place with four points. Five BHSU athletes finished in the top 10 in their individual events and one relay placed in the top five at the national meet.

Senior Crystal Hostetter placed fourth for the Yellow Jackets in the women’s 3,000 meter steeplechase in 11:10.65, while freshman Kerry Washburn finished third in the finals of the women’s 5,000 meter run in a time of 17:30.90. Junior Wesleigh Jastorff placed eighth in the finals of the women’s 800 meter run in a time of 2:14.69. Jastorff’s semi final time of 2:12.35 in the 800 meter broke the school record of 2:12.89. Senior Callie Ackerman qualified for the semi finals in the women’s 400 meter dash; however, she failed to qualify for the finals.

The BHSU freshmen throwing duo of Amber Brodersen and Lacey Haughian excelled. Brodersen placed seventh with a shot put of 44 8.25 in the women’s event and also placed 11th in the discus after a toss of 137 11. Haughian placed sixth in the women’s javelin after posting a mark of 138 6. Brodersen earned All American status in the shot put and Haughian received All American honors in the javelin.

In the women’s 4x800 meter relay, Jamie Hahn and Liz Woodruff combined with Hostetter and Jastorff to propel the Yellow Jackets to a fourth place finish in a time of 9:18.74.

The men also had many success stories in Fresno. Junior James Hansen placed fifth overall in the men’s 3,000 meter steeplechase with a time of 9:21.20, and sophomore David Czerny tied for 14th in the pole vault after clearing a height of 15 3. Junior Zach Kintzley finished his season in the 1,500 meter run with a time of 3:57.47, and senior John Williams ran a time of 3:56.66 in the 1,500 meter run to wrap up his career as a Yellow Jacket.

Walkinshaw said, “This meet was a good experience for everyone. The seniors were rewarded for their hard work and the underclassmen had a chance to compete with some of the finest athletes in the country.”

Expectations growing for football team

The BHSU football team has experienced tremendous improvement over the past three seasons and is now receiving much deserved respect. The recent success of the Yellow Jacket football program can be correlated with the arrival of head coach John Scott.

Scott, now entering his fourth season at the reign of a once struggling football program, is leading the BHSU team into a 2006 campaign full of expectations. The Yellow Jackets are coming off a 7 3 (5 2 DAC) season and a third place finish in the Dakota Athletic Conference.

Since Scott has taken charge of the program, the Yellow Jackets record is 16 13, and they enter the fall 2006 season ranked 17th in the Victory Sports Network Preseason Poll.

The preseason ranking really does show how far this program has come, said Scott. Our goal now is to move up in those rankings and reach the playoffs when the season ends.

The Yellow Jackets will not have an easy road ahead as they look forward to the season opener with four time defending national champion, Carroll College.

It will be an awesome chance for us to play the number one team at home. We must come ready to play and be confident that we can win. Carroll (College) is an outstanding team and has shown what they are capable of by winning four straight national titles. They know how to expose a team’s weakness and attack it without any hesitation, said Scott.

Under Scott’s guidance, the BHSU football program is continuing to grow and expand their goals. When I first got here, our team had two goals, said Scott. We wanted to finish the season with a .500 record or better and be playing for more than just respect at the end of the season. Those are still important goals for us; however, we now have our sights on being the first football team in the history of Black Hills State to reach the post season playoffs. We want to be the team that got it done.

Alcorn is playing for the Packers

Former BHSU tight end Zac Alcorn, who is currently playing for the Green Bay Packers, caught a touchdown pass during a pre-season game against Atlanta. Alcorn is attempting to make the Packers’ active roster after signing as a free agent earlier this off-season. Alcorn was the Yellow Jackets leading receiver in 2005. He caught 43 passes for 689 yards and seven touchdowns, all team highs. Alcorn is in the running to become the first football player ever from BHSU to make an active NFL roster.
Cross country looking to continue winning tradition

The BHSU cross country teams are looking to repeat last season's exceptional performances. Last year, the Yellow Jacket women earned a second place finish and the men placed eighth overall at the NAIA Championships.

Head Coach Scott Walkinshaw, entering his ninth year with the Yellow Jackets, will lead the Yellow Jacket runners into competition.

The cross country program has achieved many great accomplishments during Walkinshaw's tenure. Both men's and women's cross country teams won Dakota Athletic Conference titles last season. The women have taken home the first place trophy six out of the last seven seasons, and the men have grabbed first place honors five out of the last six years. Last season, both teams also placed first at the Region III Championships. In addition, the Yellow Jackets finished third in the combined team score for men and women. BHSU has finished in the top five in five of the last six years.

The women will return five all conference athletes from a year ago. On the men's side, the Yellow Jackets will return three all conference performers from last season's campaign.

We obviously want to contend for the conference championship and get back to the national meet on both sides, said Walkinshaw. Even though we lost outstanding student athletes, I feel with the experience of the returners and the addition of our newcomers we will be competitive.

Volleyball team looking for a breakthrough season in 2006

The BHSU volleyball team will have a great mix of experienced upperclassmen and talented freshmen when they take the floor for the first time this season.

As they prepare to enter the 2006 campaign, the Yellow Jackets have eight returnees with experience at the college level and eight freshmen. BHSU has finished in the top five in five of the last six years.

Even with the youth that abounds on the floor for BHSU, a core group of juniors will also be returning.

Albers said, We have a lot of work to do if we want to become an elite team in the region. This team really began to gel in practice this spring. Now we need to transition that to the competition floor this fall.
Hall of Famers attend grand opening

Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame members were honored at the grand opening of the remodeled Hall of Fame Room in the Donald E. Young Sports and Fitness Center.

"This room is a long overdue recognition for all of the individuals inducted into the Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame," said Steve Meeker, vice president of institutional advancement. "Now there is one location where we can honor the great players, coaches and contributors for Black Hills State athletics throughout the years."

Meeker expressed his thanks to the generous donors who contributed to the remodeling project and noted that it wouldn’t have been possible without private donations.

Plaques commemorating all inductees as well as a mural depicting legendary past coaches at BHSU are now on display in the Hall of Fame Room. The mural contains photos of Lyle Hare, Don Young, Bill Hughes, Gene Schlekeway, Robin Schamber, Mike Olson, Lea Totten, Paul Rose, Tony Schavone, Cliff Papik, Bill Jordan and Dave Little.

Future plans for the Hall of Fame Room include the addition of display cases that will house memorabilia from past athletes and sport programs. The display cases will also hold many of the trophies earned by Yellow Jacket teams. For more information or to make a donation, contact the Yellow Jacket Foundation at 642-6385 or JohnKietzmann@bhsu.edu.
Looking ahead

Homecoming Week
Sept. 17-23
   Sept. 22 Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame Banquet
   Sept. 23 Alumni Breakfast, Swarm Day parade and football game (see complete schedule on page 28)

Alumni Art Show
Sept. 21-Oct. 20

16th Annual Gold Dust Yellow Jacket Auction
Nov. 3

Alumni Mile
Feb. 3

100-Years of Basketball Reunion
Feb. 3

BHSU events
See www.bhsu.edu then choose Campus Calendar from the quick links menu for a complete list of campus activities.

For athletic information see www.bhsu.edu/athletics.

Looking back
Black Hills State University will host a reunion commemorating 100 years of basketball at the university. This group of players, known as the “Big Five” played in the 1926-1927 season. Pictured are, left to right, Coach Dan Root, Allan “Fox” Malcolm, Jim Norton, Art Sullivan, Maurice “Mere” Lodge, and Charles “C.P. Brick” Owen.
Fall is a perfect time to take a hike up to the Devil’s Bathtub area in Spearfish Canyon.