See inside

Roy Wilson knows what it takes to keep the greens green
eFitness writer
Michele Batz advises millions
Business program achieves national accreditation
Make plans for Swarm Day
Five national champions ringed
Kevin Costner leads rally ride for scholarships
Fall is a remarkable time in the Black Hills and even more so on the campus of Black Hills State University. Those of us who live in this scenic area know that fall is a special time and we revel in the beauty and enthusiasm of the changing seasons. At Black Hills State University we are full of anticipation for the academic year. It’s a time of looking ahead and there is much to look forward to at BHSU.

This summer the campus buzzed with special events including summer classes, several conferences, a three-week visit by a group of students from Gifu, Japan, as well as the annual Summer Institute of the Arts, which draws participants and spectators from across the country. We were pleased that Johanna Meier, world-renowned opera performer and owner of the Black Hills Passion Play, took time from her busy schedule as renowned opera performer and owner of the Black Hills Passion Play, to play a major part in the opera production of Hansel and Gretel. Many other director of the summer institute to play a major part in the opera production of Hansel and Gretel. Many other groups including a group of high-ranking high school seniors, took part in activities on campus this summer. These groups included a group of high-ranking high school seniors, while many others used the break to further their learning through internships and summer jobs.

Now as the summer semester draws to a close, I am looking forward to the beginning of the school year because I know that means a return of students, faculty and staff as they begin another year of learning and teaching. It’s a time of looking ahead at what is to come and I am excited to see what the new academic year will bring. We expect another strong year of attendance at BHSU, which has grown consistently in the last decade which to reinforce our position as the third largest university in the state.

This year the university received nearly $3.5 million in grants and outside funding. These funds are being put to good use enhancing the learning experience for students and increasing the research projects conducted by faculty and staff. This is a testament to the commitment of our students, faculty and staff.

Homecoming, a time of remembering and renewing acquaintances, is just over the horizon. We are proud to recognize alumni for their many accomplishments. Keep in mind that this fall, especially homecoming weekend Oct. 1-2, would be an excellent time to visit your alma mater and see the many changes and improvements to the campus.
In a time when performers are often a flash in the pan, famous one day and unknown the next, the unique humor of Terry Ree and Bruce Williams, who first teamed up at the suggestion of BHSU music professor Merlyn Aman, has sustained the test of time and remains a fresh and favorite entertainment choice of people throughout the country.

Although they insist their show hasn’t changed a bit through the years, it’s obvious that their attention to the state of the world and changes in society has had a dynamic effect on their material and remains a major factor in how they are able to continue to entertain crowds year after year.

“We don’t make everyone laugh,” Bruce points out. “You can’t please everyone.”

However, it’s obvious that their blend of humor and music continues to please many people as they are sought out for shows throughout the country, appearing on designated cruise ships and, in recent years, have found great demand for performances in American Indian casinos.

It all began in the late ‘60s when the two met as freshmen on the campus of Black Hills State. Encouraged by a music professor, the two agreed to play during freshman week. Bruce, who was attending on a theatre and music scholarship, and Terry, who had been introduced to Aman during a high school music festival, both had come to BHSU with plans for a career in education. Bruce made his debut on the Woodburn Auditorium stage. Terry, although he says he never acted, showed up to watch and “heckle the performers” occasionally.

At BHSU, the duo paired up to entertain and also joined forces to serve as class president and vice president, defeating a popular opponent who had the good luck of having instant name recognition with the moniker Charlie Brown. Williams and Ree said their campaign platform was “run from platform shoes,” the fashion of the day, and after elected “they didn’t get to a lot of meetings or anything but ran the office more like Gary Hart would have.”

The comedy duo, who will be honored at Swarm Day festivities this year (see page 28 for additional details), have many homecoming memories including the time they coyled the “the best float ever,” a huge Yellow Jacket created by using a cement truck to form the body of the mascot. The float was ready to roll down Main Street in the annual homecoming parade, when a late night rain destroyed the hours

Bruce Williams and Terry Ree
There's nothing holding Michele back

Michele is straightforward and direct with her advice, which often reflects her take on the state of fitness in our country today. Her advice moves from motivational quips to a bit of self-esteem counseling to exercise expertise and always has a goal of enhancing readers’ fitness level. At a time when more and more Americans are overweight and not exercising, Michele calls upon people to "take responsibility for their fitness."

"We’ve become too computerized but the Internet is wonderful if you use it right," Michele says. "You found I can reach out to people, especially women who feel like they are stuck at home, and tell them, "You deserve an hour."

She noted that women often feel guilty for taking the time to exercise. "Most people say they have no time to exercise. They are always putting themselves at the bottom of the list of things to do," Batz said. "I say ‘find the time. There’s a time that will work for you. Brainstorm, find a way.’"

She noted that some restaurants are now fighting the trend of huge portions and offering more healthy fare, but ultimately she knows that an individual’s fitness level remains with that individual. While she is full of ideas and suggestions, she isn’t offering a quick fix and knows fitness has to be a lifetime activity.

"Get up, get moving and eat less," Michele says. "I stress how to slowly and positively change your lifestyle."

Start today with writing down what you want to accomplish in your life, and it doesn’t have to be health/fitness related. You will do this for the rest of your life.

This is a lifestyle change, whatever you decide to do, whether it is walking, jogging, aerobics, etc.

You will do this for the rest of your life.

Michele says she went full circle - at BHSU. Her parents, both BHSU graduates who went on to long teaching careers in Zion Park, Ill., married when they were juniors, and she was born while they were attending. "I walked the campus in the womb and knew I wanted to come back to BHSU to attend college," Michele said. Her father, Leroy Cliff, (inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1991) graduated from BHSU in 1955 and her mother, Kay (Gilland) Cliff, who was originally from Rapid City, is also a BHSU graduate. The two educators always remembered the positive educational experience they had at BHSU and suggested their alma mater repeatedly to high school seniors. Subsequently nearly 100 of their students have chosen BHSU. During the years that Michele attended there was an all-time high number of students from Zion, 15. Michele also has fond memories of her years at BHSU and says it was a wonderful experience for her. "The people are wonderful at Black Hills State and willing to help you in any way they can," Michele said. "People at BHSU talk to you like you’ve known you for years."

Michele says she was active and participated in sports events in high school and college. In fact, her volleyball team at BHSU won the district title. After graduating from Black Hills State, Michele went on to teach and coach. She now teaches first through fourth-grade physical education and works to inspire the younger age group to be fit.

"I love teaching. The kids are great," Michele says. "They are so enthusiastic. We play all kinds of games and I encourage them to stay active." She has noticed that kids today don’t play in the active care-free way she remembers and need encouragement to be active.

"They are either afraid to go outside or don’t know how to play games on their own," Michele said. "We play a lot of games and I encourage active play."

Through the years, she also enjoyed serving as a personal trainer for people who were trying to get into better shape. As a trainer, she noticed that many of her clients, many of them young mothers, had similar questions and concerns about finding the time to exercise and making the most of their exercise time. A working mother, Batz understands those concerns and she addresses these types of questions in a weekly newspaper column in the News-Sun. She later decided to expand on that writing and authored a book, ‘What’s Holding You Back,’ which was published this summer. Michele, who married at 35 and now has an eight-year-old son, has firsthand experience with exercise time limitations but she encourages people to find the time for fitness. She said that she and her husband, Dale, try to instill healthy eating habits for their son and make time for active family outings.

Michele returned to teaching after her son was born. She now teaches first through fourth-grade physical education and works to inspire the younger age group to be fit.

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Keeper of the greens

Stepping onto a beautifully designed golf course, few people consider the behind the greens actions that it takes to create and maintain the picturesque setting. For Roy Wilson, a 1986 graduate of BHSU, it’s that behind the scenes effort, specifically landscaping and irrigation, that makes the game of golf, and his profession, so interesting and challenging.

Roy is president of irrigation for Landscapes Unlimited, a nationally known golf and recreational development company. With some experience in landscaping as well as experience working outdoors on the family farm, Roy hit a hole-in-one when he joined the company more than two decades ago as it was just beginning to emerge. He has found unlimited opportunities for his career with the company and is looking forward to future developments.

Roy grew up in Plankinton and began working for Landscapes Unlimited in 1977 when the company was building their first golf course in nearby Mitchell.

“Bill Kubly had just recently started Landscapes Unlimited and it was really a one-man operation with a couple pieces of equipment, a pickup truck and some tools,” Roy said. “I was one of the first employees of the company and literally started in the trenches. It was great timing for me to start with the company then and grow with it over the years.”

He continued working with the company on other golf course projects around the country before enrolling at BHSU to earn a business administration degree. While at BHSU, he also met his future wife, Mary. Pat Stramsky, Class of 79, from Watertown. After the couple graduated, Roy returned to the company and eventually advanced to president of the irrigation division.

While most golfers seldom consider what keeps the greens green, Roy and his colleagues at Landscapes Unlimited know that without proper irrigation plans the course is doomed. In fact, Roy refers to the irrigation system as the heart of the course. While most courses come with its own set of challenges, demands and potential.

“People assume because I am in a golf-related business that I do a lot of golfing and must be a scratch golfer. I wish! I love the game and love the environment in which we work, however, time is the key word here,” Wilson said. “I have a hard time dedicating the amount of time it really takes to play at a consistent and satisfactory level. I play some, but most of my free time is spent with my wife and three-year-old son.”

Roy is quick to point out that he cherishes his time with his wife and their son John Paul.

“Trevor has been married 24 years now and I count my blessings everyday. Anyone who knows Mary knows that I am a lucky guy,” Wilson said. The couple adopted a baby boy and Wilson is enthralled with his new role as a father.

Given a mulligan in his game of life, it’s easy to see that Roy wouldn’t make many changes.

Among the projects Roy Wilson has been involved with are these great golf courses:

- above, The Bridges at Rancho Santa Fe near San Diego; left, Sutton Bay, a golf, hunting and fishing club built just north of Pierre; below, East Lake Country Club in Atlanta, the home course of Bobby Jones; and right, Cross Creek located in Maryland.

Wilson

Keeper of the greens

Landscapes Unlimited, a nationally recognized premier golf course builder, has also gained the same reputation for its quality irrigation system installations. With a home office in Lincoln, Neb., and regional offices in Phoenix, Houston, Denver, and Pinehurst, N.C., the company generally

Black Hills State University Alumni Magazine
of time they spent placing crepe paper in the form of a giant wasp. After the rain shower, their self-proclaimed "best float ever" became nothing more than a cement truck draped in soggy paper.

Musical comedy is what they liked to do, but they had no idea at the time that they would be entertaining for years and would never have thought it would take them so many places. From entertaining at the Comedy Store in Los Angeles in the 70s to touring the nation sharing the stage with acts such as Garth Brooks, The Oak Ridge Boys and Randy Travis to their frequent television appearances on The Nashville Network, their unique blend of music and their trademark comedy continue to provide entertainment and laughs for audiences throughout the country.

Williams and Ree, or the Indian and the White Guy as they have become known, share a unique ability to make people laugh, a quality that began as a form of laughing, at themselves and finding humor in the everyday aspects of life. Their show offers a fresh look at the sometimes absurd way we live and the intricacies of the world we live in.

During a show in Lead this summer, the duo drew upon recent news events, both nationally and locally, as well as recent developments in medicine and science in the form of a giant wasp. After the rain shower, their self-proclaimed "best float ever" became nothing more than a cement truck draped in soggy paper.
Researching for the cause

The sociologist has conducted local applied research projects which have had a positive impact on the local community. She is particularly interested in testing ideas which, in her words, “are somewhat contentious, and engaging in research and getting to know people.”

The research has included a number of controversial topics, designed to provide an evidence-based understanding of gender roles and gender inequalities in various societal arenas. The research has involved the collection and analysis of large, complex survey data, as well as the creation and interpretation of qualitative interview data. The sociologist has also co-authored articles based on this research, providing an evidence-based understanding of gender roles and gender inequalities in various societal arenas.

Since 1999 she has served as president, vice president of membership, and most recently, vice president of professional development for this organization.

Wenona Cook Hall has been the return address on letters from college for four generations of the Edwards family. Edna Cook, who recently turned 95 years old, has fond memories of her time at BHSU and specifically the time she spent as a resident of Wenona Cook Hall.

The Edmonds family including Guy Edwards, Class of ’72; Sturgis; Edna Cook, attended in the 20s; Randy Edwards, Class of ’99; and Bob Edwards Class of ’64, all lived in Wenona Cook Hall on the campus of Black Hills State University. Tommy Edwards, from who recently visited with his family may be a fifth generation resident of the residence hall.

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Kudos & Announcements

in Training) is known as a ‘girlfriend’ book because the first-person essays are reflective of the subjects that women discuss when they get together. Gee has been a soldier, counselor and educator but her first love remains writing. Her work has appeared in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution and other magazines. Previous books include Aparis Raising, a book of poetry, and The Venus Chronicles.

Jim Phillips, Class of ’94, Deadwood, recorded eight first place finishes from the United States Air Force after 21 years of service. Gregory Patton, Class of ’80, Carmichael, Calif., was recently promoted as president of American River Bank. He has over 22 years of banking experience and had previously worked as senior vice president and senior commercial loan officer.

Sharon Plumley, Class of ’98, Belen, N.M., has taught English at Manzano Vista Middle School the past eight years. She also designs silk-screened and gold jewelry with her husband. She recently received a master’s degree in education with an emphasis in art and English from New Mexico University.

Starla Sierveke-Pearson, Class of ’96, recently received her doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Colorado. Darin Pearson, Class of ’97, received his master’s in information systems in 1999 and teaches at ITT Tech. The couple lives in Castle Rock, Colo., and have two children, Drew and Kaitlin.

Victor Valeski, Class of ’80, has been appointed assistant superintendent of Cassas-Round Field School District in Camden-Wyoming, Delaware.

The Joel Chase ’90s

Dorothy Snowden’s Sea of Secrets, oil painting was one of nearly 30 entries in last year’s Alumni art show.

The alumni association and the art department invite alumni to submit artwork for the eighth alumni art show, which will be featured at the Black Hills Gallery Sept. 29 through Oct. 15.

Last year the annual event featured sculptures, drawings, paintings, photographs, pottery and even a temascal. This event is being planned in conjunction with Swarm Week, Saturday in Storms, Oct. 2. For information contact Jim Knutson, art director, at 622-6104 or call toll-free alumni office at 622-6385 or email Alumni Office.

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 Not Call Registry. We’ll be calling on you.

Apan’s study彩名前Koushun Teitoku, who is known for his great, great, great grandfather, Sitting Bull, one of the greatest and certainly the best known, of the Plains Indian chiefs.

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Andrea Farr receives Spirit of BH award

Andrea Farr, a senior music major from Colstrip, Mont., received the esteemed Spirit of BH award from the Black Hills State University Alumni Association. Farr, who graduated this spring, was recognized for her true dedication and her commitment to making the most of her college experience at BH.

Andrea Farr (right) is presented with the Spirit of BH award from the Black Hills State University Alumni Association by John Fidler, Class of ‘92, Spearfish, who was named April professional of the month at Premier BankCard.

Order BHSU merchandise online
The BHSU bookstore has items featuring the new Yellow Jacket mascot as well as books by local authors. To view these and other items access the bookstore online or go directly to <www.bhsusbookstore.com>.

In Memoriam

Grant Trotter of Rapid City died April 22, 2004. He graduated with a business degree in 1985. Grant’s professional life included being mayor of Edgemont; owning Trotter’s Hardware in Edgemont; serving as Public Relations Director of South Dakota Dairy Promotion Systems; Director of Development & Public Relations for the Diocese of Rapid City, Executive Director of the Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation, and Sales Representative for Merck Pharmaceutical Company.

Libby (Harva) Healey, Class of ‘92, died June 10, 2004. She obtained her teaching certificate from BHTC and had a 40-year career in education in Mound City and Fort Irwin, Calif., was recently promoted to the rank of major in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and was chosen as the assistant resident engineer at the National Training Center, where she has been for the past four years.

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Birth Announcements

**Engagements & Marriages**

The 80s


The 90s


Melinda Van De Walle, Class of ’97, Huron, married Gene Ellison in November 2003. She currently works at the Huron Public Library.

The 00s

Jessica Root, Class of ’01, and Robert Kuepper, Class of ’98, were married June 14.


Elizabeth Clanton, Class of ’01, and Micah Ollader, Chandler, Ariz., were married July 24. Clanton is a clinical care coordinator with the Southwest Network.


Lori Fuss, Class of ’04, Midland, married Tim Nomsen June 5, 2004. They are currently farming and ranching.


Tina James, Class of ’02, Webster, Texas, was married to Zach Bius in April 2004. She is currently attending school at the South Texas College of Law in Houston. She has one daughter, Savannah.

Antonia Kucera, Class of ’00, married Charles Lehmann June 5, 2004. She works at TDG Communications, an advertising agency in Deadwood. Charles is a student at BHSU.

Jodi Maxie, Class of ’01, and Benjamin Blake, Class of ’04, Belle Fourche, were married July 17 at the Spirit of the Hills Wildlife Sanctuary in Spearfish.

Lindsay Moser, Class of ’00, Basin, Wyo., married Shane Schaffner June 19, 2004. She is a second grade teacher.

Jackie Shavlik, Class of ’00, Evans, Colo., was married to Zach Boettel June 25, 2004. She is a first and second grade teacher at University Schools in Greeley, Colo.

Crystal Signman, Class of ’02, and Brandon Lowery, Class of ’03, were married July 10, 2004. Crystal works for Juffer, Inc., and Brandon is a teacher and coach at Wagner Community School. The couple lives in Wagner.


Chystal Stanbury, Class of ’03, and John Sheaff, Class of ’99, were married May 22, 2004. John is a high school football coach and Chrystal is pursuing a Ph.D. in chemistry at the University of Idaho. The couple resides in Moscow, Idaho.

Stephanie Sullivan, Class of ’00, married Michael Bietz June 19, 2004. She is currently working for the Great Lakes of South Dakota Association promoting regional tourism in central South Dakota.


Rhonda Vail, Class of ’00, Westminster, Colo., married Eric Fedness June 9, 2004. She is a business development manager for Viking Roofing, Inc., Broomfield, Colo., and owner/operator of Just Mail It, LLC.

Lacy Woodle, Class of ’03, Deadwood, married Nate Brown June 6, 2004. She is a middle school teacher in Lead. Nate attends BHSU.

Let us know what you are doing.

We’d like to know your news. Send 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>.

**Birth Announcements**

Shannon (Orth) Alcorn, Class of ’94, Spearfish, and her husband, Ryan, announce the birth of their daughter, Kiana Kate, born Feb. 12, 2004, weighing 9 lbs., 2 oz., and 21 inches.

Shannon currently works in the BHSU Institutional Advancement office.

Dael (Byers) Bennett, Class of ’92, Snohomish, Wash., her husband, Neil, and their son, Cole, welcomed a new member to their family March 1, 2004. Lucas Carner weighed 8 lbs., 1 oz., and was 20 inches.

Traci (Schenk) Dana, Class of ’98, and Jesse Dana, Class of ’97, Spearfish, announce the birth of their son, Cooper Michael, born March 3, 2004, weighing 8 lbs., 7 oz.

Kimberly (VanVictor) Dieball and Brent Dieball, both Class of ’99, Spearfish, announce the birth of their son, Camden Brent, born Feb. 17, 2004, weighing 9 lbs., 4 oz., and 22 1/2 inches.

Christina (Houghton) Marta, Class of ’97, Spearfish, and her husband, Shawn Marta, announce the birth of their daughter, Vivian LaNette, born Feb. 29, 2004.

Natalia (Cushman) Kucera, Class of ’01, married Michael Bietz June 19, 2004. She is currently working for the Great Lakes of South Dakota Association promoting regional tourism in central South Dakota.


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For updated class notes see www.bhsu.edu/alumni/classnotes
Stephanie Rissler-Christopherson, (right) a 1995 graduate of Black Hills State University, who is now a current affairs producer for South Dakota Public Broadcasting (SDPB), receives the 2004 Young Alumni Achievement Award from Dr. Thomas Flickema.

Rissler-Christopherson, who has been with SDPB for the past seven years, has been honored several times with nominations for regional Emmy Awards and gained national exposure when several of her broadcasts were picked up on C-Span. A former Gold Rush dance team member and campus radio personality, Rissler-Christopherson covers statewide political issues and other news for SDPB.

Rissler-Christopherson, who grew up in Casper, Wyo., was previously the northern hills correspondent for KOTA news in Rapid City.

Lowell Amiotte (right) received the inaugural Native American Alumni Award from Black Hills State University during the powwow held on campus this spring. Presenting the award are Lisa Bryan, (left) BHSU professor and former director of the Center of Indian Studies, and Leona White Hat, (center) assistant director for the center.

Amiotte served as the first director for what is now known as the Center for Indian Studies at BHSU from 1973 until 1983. Since then he has been associated with several Native American programs and regional universities including a four-year term as president of Oglala Lakota College in Kyle and director of the Native American education administration program at the University of South Dakota.

Brittany Knife, a sophomore from Howes, was presented the $500 Kevin Whirlwind Horse scholarship at the annual run this spring at BHSU. Kevin Whirlwind Horse Jr. and his grandmother, Mae Whirlwind Horse, presented the scholarship.

Knife, who graduated from Cheyenne-Eagle Butte High School in 2002, is majoring in business administration with a minor in American Indian Studies. At BHSU she is involved in the Lakota Omniciye Club, intramural basketball league, co-ed basketball league, and is currently in the co-ed softball intramural league.

The Kevin Whirlwind Horse Memorial Run/Walk is sponsored each year during the Lakota Omniciye spring powwow in memory of a former BHSU student who was killed in a car accident in 1984. Marla Herman, a fellow student and member of Lakota Omniciye, organized the first memorial run in the spring of 1985 and it has been held every year since. The run/walk serves to recognize the achievements of students like Kevin who are working to improve their campus, community, and world through the active pursuit of higher education. Each year one $500 scholarship is presented to an American Indian sophomore who demonstrates outstanding academic ability and leadership skills.
Katrina Jensen, (left) a senior chemistry major from Whitewood, and Daniel Miller, (right) a senior biology major from Parker, were recognized at the spring 2004 commencement ceremony for having the highest grade point averages. Jensen plans to attend the University of Utah in pursuit of a Ph.D. in chemistry. Miller, who attended BHSU on the Nelson Scholarship, was recently accepted into medical school at John Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md.

Kevin Costner, who became interested in the Black Hills area when he was filming Dances with Wolves and now has business interests in the area, lead a rally-time motorcycle ride from Sturgis to Tatanka this summer to help raise money for BHSU student scholarships. According to Steve Meeker, vice president of institutional advancement at BHSU, a portion of the money raised from the ride will be donated to support scholarships for students majoring in American Indian Studies or entrepreneurial studies as well as students who participate in the rodeo club.

Steve Meeker (right), vice president for institutional advancement at BHSU, and Dr. Thomas Flickema (left), president of BHSU, present Kevin Costner with a BHSU jacket in appreciation of his support of BHSU scholarships. A portion of the proceeds from the bike rally ride from Sturgis to Tatanka will benefit students scholarships at BHSU.

Gold Dust golf classic raises nearly $20,000 for athletic scholarships

The Yellow Jacket Foundation at Black Hills State University will have nearly $20,000 more in its scholarship fund thanks to the success of the 14th annual Gold Dust Yellow Jacket Golf Classic and Sports and Leisure Auction. According to Steve Meeker, vice president for institutional advancement and athletic director at BHSU, a record number of golfers, 129, participated in the tournament and the auction was a success as well.

The annual fundraiser, which is open to the public, featured an 18-hole golf tournament, a $250,000 shoot-out and a sports and leisure auction. Both events were designed to raise money to support Yellow Jacket athletics.

"I was extremely pleased to have so many golfers. I’d like to thank all of those who participated in this important fundraising event," Meeker said. "We also sincerely appreciate the ongoing support of the Gold Dust which sponsors the tournament as well as the many local businesses who contribute items for the auction. Their support has made this the great event it is." Plans are being made for 15th annual golf classic. For details call 642-6385.

Bogard scholarships are now funded

Dr. Bill Bogard, Black Hills State University professor emeritus, recently presented a check to the BHSU Foundation to fully fund a scholarship account in his name and in memory of his late wife, Nikki, who worked at the university for many years.

Bill, who retired from teaching in 1999 after nearly three decades, continues to teach Internet and correspondence courses for the university and donates a portion of his salary to the scholarship fund. The fund will provide two scholarships: a humanities scholarship in recognition of the many years Bill taught a variety of humanities courses; and an accounting scholarship in honor of Nikki’s devotion to her 25-year profession in the business office at BHSU.

Bill presented the check at the rose garden that was planted in memory of Nikki, who passed away in 1997 due to cancer. Friends and colleagues of Nikki planted the flowers and established the memorial to Nikki in the corner of the stairwell that leads to the campus.

Dr. Bill Bogard (left), professor emeritus, presents a check to Steve Meeker (right), vice president of institutional advancement, to fully fund the Bill and Nikki Bogard Scholarship Fund at Black Hills State University. Also present for the presentation at the Nikki Bogard rose garden memorial were Dr. Jay Bogard, the couple’s son; Sheila Aaker, coordinator of extended services, and Dr. Holly Downing, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Creating a legacy

We’re saving a seat for you The Clare and Josef Meier Hall chair campaign is ongoing and we’re saving a seat for you. By contributing a $300 donation, a brass plate on the chair will be engraved with the name or message from the donor. A limited number of recital hall chairs are still available.

Call 605-642-6446 or email <Terri.Wells@bhsu.edu> to name a chair.
Dr. Abdollah Farrokhí, professor of physical communication, started teaching at BHSU in 1986. He came to the United States in 1976 from Iran, where he taught at the largest national daily paper in Tehran. He received his master of science and Ph.D. in mass communication from Florida State University.

While at BHSU, Farrokhí has served on almost every faculty committee, including the faculty senate, and has participated in many faculty development workshops. Farrokhí especially enjoys research and served as chairman of the Faculty Research Committee for many years. In 2001, he was recognized for outstanding service to the College Media Association, an organization he has been active in. He has presented several research projects, reviewed manuscripts and served on the research committee board for the committee.

Farrokhí noted the huge changes in the mass communication department during his time at BHSU and said he expects the program to continue to grow.

“A retiree professor said he ‘isn’t going far’ and will use retirement to relax, enjoy time with his family and pursue business interests.

Retiring professors

Continued on page 26

Sandau retires in the spotlight

For the past 30 years, Al Sandau has been behind the scenes of every BHSU theatre production encouraging students, assisting with lighting, and teaching the finer points of set construction. Sandau moved to the front of the stage this spring when he received the Distinguished Faculty Award at BHSU and retired from teaching.

Sandau was chosen by his peers to receive this year’s Distinguished Faculty Award honoring Sandau for his excellence in teaching and many contributions to BHSU and the entire community.

“Mr. Al Sandau is synonymous with theatre on our Black Hills State University campus,” said Susan Hove-Pabst, one of several colleagues who wrote letters in support of the award designation.

John Kurle, an alumnus of Eureka High School, has joined the BHSU, was established when Joseph & Martha Nelson bequeathed nearly one million dollars to the university. The award is a...
Tricia Beringer, shown at the National Guard activation ceremony in March 2003, was one of six South Dakota college students who were presented South Dakota Regental Military Service Scholarship at the Independence Day celebration at Mount Rushmore National Monument. Tricia is a biology major at BHSU who has spent the last 16 months on active duty military service.

Tricia and most of the other members of the #42nd Engineering Company returned to Spearfish at the end of July. Shortly before being activated, she earned the honor of South Dakota Soldier of the Year after participating in competitions at the company, battalion and group levels.

Sheila Beringer, Tricia’s mother accepted the scholarship on her daughter’s behalf at the Mount Rushmore ceremony. Tricia, who plans on pursuing a career as a physician’s assistant, has two years of study left at BHSU, and then plans to attend graduate school.

BHSU in the news

Business program earns international accreditation

The business program at BHSU became a member of IACBE in 2001, conducted a self-study the following year, and hosted a visitation by evaluators in 2003. The accreditation will be in effect for 10 years. At that time the IACBE accreditation will coincide with the Higher Learning Commission accreditation review.

“This accreditation checks to see that we adhere to commonly accepted standards in business education,” Meek said. He noted that the evaluators cited BHSU’s outcomes assessment program, the students’ positive view of faculty classroom instruction and the excellent community and business involvement as strengths.

In addition to small college sizes, up-to-date equipment and highly qualified instructors, the College of Business and Technology at BHSU has the opportunity to work with community and industry leaders as part of their classroom experiences.

The accreditation recognizes the quality educational standards in the business program at BHSU.

Student soldier receives Regental military service scholarship

Tricia Beringer

T

BHSU students in the news

Music students will perform at Carnegie Hall

Dr. Gary Meek, retired dean of the College of Business and Technology, and Dr. Steve Andersen, assistant professor of business, accept a certificate of accreditation from the International Accreditation Council for Business Education (IACBE).

The accreditation recognizes the quality educational standards in the business program at BHSU.

BHSU students make up the majority of the employees at Tatanka, a new attraction located in the Northern Black Hills. The interpretative center, owned by Kevin Costner, is being managed by Lisa Bryan, the BHSU professor and former director of the Center for Indian Studies. Students who spent their summer learning and working at Tatanka include, standing, left to right, Corrie Claussen, Whitney Rencountre, Mandi Farles, Camille Morgan, Ashley Kerr, Lisa Bryan, Laura Bryan. Sitting, Heidi Krogman, Megan Fitzgerald, Joe Dickman, Chelsea Kujawa. Other BHSU students not pictured include Brian Kruckenberg, Ann Dickman, Cliff Bryan and Leona Dickman, Chelsea Kujawa. Other BHSU students not pictured include Briane Kruckenberg, Ann Dickman, Cliff Bryan and Leona Dickman, Chelsea Kujawa.
Jodi L. Neiffer, Class of 1999, was recently named director of alumni at Black Hills State University. Neiffer, who earned a business administration degree from BHSU, was most recently employed with the University of Wyoming School of Mines and Technology Foundation in Rapid City. Neiffer will be looking forward to working with alumni at her alma mater and as she begins in her new role.

"I was already working at a university and doing the similar duties that were requested. I only feel so lucky to have this opportunity," Neiffer said. "I hope to build on the relationships already in place with the alumni and also make new ones." She said she will also work to make the students aware of the Alumni Association and Foundation before they graduate and leave campus.

At BHSU, Neiffer will be responsible for working with alumni leaders, assisting with alumni-based fund-raising, developing an alumni communications plan, gathering and editing class notes, maintaining the alumni website and organizing annual reunions, alumni events, and regional alumni gatherings. She will also provide guidance and direction to the Alumni Board of Directors and work with students on homecoming activities.

Dr. Thomas Flickema, president of BHSU, expressed his congratulations to Farrington for this advancement. Said. "We are very excited to have him as a member of our team and I’m convinced alumni will feel the same when they meet him." Original training from Chamberlain. Her husband, Weston, Class of 2000, who is in the National Guard and recently served in Iraq, will be attending BHSU this fall in pursuit of an elementary education degree. The couple has a one year old daughter, Elle. Terri Wells, who joined the alumni staff in 1999, was recently named director of alumni at BHSU. She has who recently took on the additional duty of athletic director, remains vice president of institutional advancement and will continue to oversee the alumni and development offices.

Farrington named vice president of research for the Board of Regents.

Dr. Dan Farrington, who had been serving as vice president for academic affairs at Black Hills State University, was recently named interim vice president for academic affairs at Black Hills State University. Myers will replace Dr. Dan Farrington, who was just named interim vice president of research for the South Dakota Board of Regents.

Dr. Thomas Flickema, president of BHSU, said he is pleased that Myers, whom he described as a "strong and creative" leader, is ready to step into the leadership position in academic affairs. "We are delighted that a person with Dr. Myers' extensive educational administrative and leadership experience is willing to step into this important position," Flickema said. Myers, who has served as the dean of the College of Education at BHSU since 1997, said he is honored that he was asked to fill the interim position and looks forward to working with faculty, staff and students as vice president of academic affairs. Myers noted that he has enjoyed working with Farrington and plans to continue working on the initiatives Farrington established.

Prior to becoming dean of the College of Education at BHSU, Myers was director of the placement of student teachers for the university. Before joining the BHSU faculty, Myers served as state director of special education in Pierre and as director of special education in Sioux Falls. In his professional career includes elementary teaching, administration as an elementary and middle school principal and serving as a research assistant. Myers has received many awards for his contributions in education including the "Friend of Education" award and the "Excellence in Management and Innovation Award" from the governor's office.

Myers earned a doctorate in school administration from the University of South Dakota. He has a master's degree in school administration as well as a bachelor's degree in elementary and secondary education from Northern State University.

Farrington has a record of industrial research, developing patents and commercializing them, will lead a major statewide university research initiative for the South Dakota Board of Regents. For the past year, Farrington has served as interim vice president of research for the South Dakota Board of Regents. He brings to our campus a wealth of highly successful endeavors in the classroom and in academic administration as well as extensive involvement in the private sector," Flickema said. "We are delighted that a person with Myers' extensive educational administrative and leadership experience is willing to step into this important position," Flickema said. Myers, who has served as the dean of the College of Education at BHSU since 1997, said he is honored that he was asked to fill the interim position and looks forward to working with faculty, staff and students as vice president of academic affairs. Myers noted that he has enjoyed working with Farrington and plans to continue working on the initiatives Farrington established.

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Myers earned a doctorate in school administration from the University of South Dakota. He has a master's degree in school administration as well as a bachelor's degree in elementary and secondary education from Northern State University.
Several changes in the athletic department at Black Hills State University have been announced following a Title IX review by the South Dakota Board of Regents. The changes, which will be phased in during a three-year period, include adding two new women’s sports, adding assistant coaches for the women’s teams, hiring another athletic trainer, making changes to the football team, and adding more experience and development opportunities for women’s programs.

Steve Meeker, vice president for institutional advancement and athletic director at Black Hills State University, and Jeni Albers, assistant athletic director, recently announced the changes. According to Meeker, the university has established a three-year plan to address inequities in women’s athletics that were outlined following a comprehensive review of the athletic program at BHSU.

Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 is the landmark legislation that bars sex discrimination in schools both in academics and athletics. Since it was passed, Title IX has influenced athletic programs at the high school and college level.

Most of the changes in the BHSU plan deal with the unequal gender proportions in athletics as compared to the overall student population of competitors at BHSU. The student population at BHSU is currently 62 percent female, 38 percent male, while participation in athletics is 42 percent female and 58 percent male. While the number of sports offered to men and women at BHSU is the same, higher numbers of athletes participate in football and men’s cross country and track and field, accounting for a higher percentage of male athletes.

The goal of the three-year plan is to improve the d i s t r i b u t i o n between women and male athlete participation at BHSU.

The university is working to make changes that will maintain the high level of competitiveness of the BHSU athletic programs. In recent years, BHSU has competed at the national level in several sports and has maintained a high level of competitiveness at the Dakotah Athletic Conference (DAC-10).

“Title IX is a very critical piece of legislation,” Meeker noted. “We have to make sure that scholarships dollars, raised through fundraising efforts, will need to be increased.

For this fall, the first year of the three-year plan, include additional women’s assistant coaches, the purchase of more equipment for the tutition area, and the addition of another athletic trainer. Also the university will begin to manage the rosters of men’s sports. The football roster will be capped at 70 players and men’s basketball will be capped at 12 players. Men’s cross country and track and field rosters will be capped at 35 collectively.

By the end of the three-year time span, the number of women athletes will be increased in two ways: first by increasing the number of opportunities and competitions in sports currently offered; and second by adding two additional women’s sports. Golf is scheduled to be added as a varsity sport for women in the fall of 2005 and women’s soccer will be added in the fall of 2006. The university also has plans for facility improvements to increase the space allotted for women’s locker rooms, training areas and offices. A soccer field will also be added at BHSU.

Golf and soccer were chosen for several factors including the demand for the sport, competitive opportunities in our conference and region, and the cost of implementing them.

“We looked at a number of different sports,” Albers said. “We wanted to offer upcoming sports that students have shown an interest in. It’s also important to consider what sports high schools in the region are offering and what opportunities we will have for competition in our area.”

The university prepared the three-year Title IX plan following a review conducted at the request of the South Dakota Board of Regents. Cross country teams are working on Title IX compliance plans as well.

The cross country teams are looking at a rebuilding year following several years of unprecedented success. This season seems like we are rebuilding, however, we have some solid runners returning,” Scott Walkinshaw, BHSU head coach said. “Three of our best are: Luke Watkins who placed 44th last year as a sophomore, James Hansen 54th as a freshman and Zach Kintzley.”

He noted that they have several key recruits including John Williams who transferred from South Dakota State University where he ran 4:11 in the 1500m and Julian Loveless from Fargo who placed fifth his junior and senior years in the North Dakota state meet.

Key returning runners for the women include Crystal Hostetler, the first ever BHSU sophomore to earn All-American honors in cross country, Angi Axmann, Jamie Hahn and Cassie Knusten.

Football

John Scott, second-year football coach, knows the ‘honeymoon’ season is over and is now making preparations for higher achievements this year. In only one year of college head coaching, Scott did what many thought would never happen, bring a winning football record to BHSU.

According to Scott, discipline and consistency will be key aspects for improvement this season. The success lies in the hands of the returnees along with an impressive group of recruits.

“We are optimistic and at the same time very driven both as players and staff,” he added. “I know we have some good players coming back, we have some unanswered questions and we will still be young with only six seniors on the squad. I know on paper we are a better team than a year ago with the addition of a talented crop of recruits.

Volleyball

The BHSU volleyball team is returning a strong core of upperclassmen led by assistant coach Bobbi Mort and expect another successful season.

According to head coach Jett Albers, junior Sarah Lervick, who has provided a statistic boost this year, will also provide experience and they will look to sophomores Alyssa Boeding and Chelsey Mort to fill important roles this season.

“We will be young as far as experience and depth, but we have extremely talented and hard working players who will eventually develop into a very competitive team. Our goal is to get back to where we left off last season with a fourth or higher finish in the DAC-10 and a return trip to the Regional Football Tournament,” Albers said.

Teams look forward to successful seasons

Cross Country

The cross country teams are looking at a rebuilding year following several years of unprecedented success.

Ringing in the national champions

Five BHSU athletes, who won national championship titles at this spring’s NAIA indoor track competition, were presented rings at the athletic banquet.

“Last year several of these athletes were recognized and offered to men and women at BHSU is currently 62 percent female, 38 percent male, while participation in athletics is 42 percent female and 58 percent male. While the number of sports offered to men and women at BHSU is the same, higher numbers of athletes participate in football and men’s cross country and track and field, accounting for a higher percentage of male athletes.

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Ringing in the national champions

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Alumni Awards

T he BHSU Alumni Association will recognize five individuals for their service and achievements at a Swarm Day breakfast Saturday, Oct. 1 at 8:30 a.m. in the Jacket Legacy room of the David B. Miller Student Union.

The individuals being recognized are Gary Larson, Distinguished Alumni Award; Lynette Powell, Excellence in Education Award; Linda Jo Henry, Special Service Award; and Bruce Williams and Terry Ree, Special Achievement Awards.

Gary Larson, a 1972 graduate with a bachelor’s degree in business administration, will be presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award. He began his insurance career shortly after graduating from BHSU.

In 1973 he began as an agent at Kluthe and Lane Insurance Agency in Rapid City. Later, Gary and three partners formed Western Dakota Insurance, which has grown into one of the largest insurance agencies in western South Dakota.

Early in Gary’s career he obtained the professional and educational insurance designation of certified insurance counselor. He currently serves as president and general manager of the Rapid City agency as well as overseeing satellite insurance agencies in Sturgis and Spearfish.

Gary has served on the American State Bank board and is a past president of Arrowhead Country Club. He is active in the Cavalry Lutheran Church in Rapid City and is currently serving on the building fundraiser board. He has served on numerous advisory boards for insurance companies and on the Youth and Family Services and Black Hills Workshop advisory boards. He is also on the BHSU Foundation Board of Trustees.

A 24-year cancer survivor, Gary has been instrumental in raising funds and participating on the American Cancer Society Board of Directors, the American Cancer Society Relay for Life, and serves as co-chair of the annual American Cancer Society Golf Tournament.

Lynette Powell, a 1987 graduate with a bachelor’s degree in education and a master’s degree in educational administration, has been the elementary school principal with the Hot Springs School District for the last seven years receiving the Excellence in Education award.

Before serving in the Hot Springs school district, Lynette taught for five years in the Douglas School District and worked for five years at Rapid City area schools. Lynette has been a member of the West River Principal’s Association since 1997 and has served as both secretary-treasurer and as president for the organization. The South Dakota Association of Elementary Principals named her as rookie of the year in 1997 and in 1999, and in 2002 she was chosen as the association’s innovative leader of the year. She has been chair of the District Office Committee since 1999, is a founder and member of Hot Springs STA, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, and the International Reading Association.

Lynette has served the Hot Springs community by serving on the education committee for the Mammoth Site Board, as well as on the Hot Springs Summer Recreation Board.

Lynette has been awarded to students the Williams and Ree Scholarship was established in 1982 by a 1969 graduate with a bachelor’s degree in education, receiving the Special Service award. Linda taught history, geography and government classes in Lemmon for eight years before relocating to Spearfish. She earned a license as a real estate agent and in 1985 became an owner of Johnson Joy Real Estate.

During her real estate career, Linda has served in the capacity of secretary, treasurer, vice president and president of the Northern Black Hills Association of Realtors. She has served on various committees for the South Dakota Association of Realtors, including a six-year term on the South Dakota Realtors Professional Standards Committee.

Linda served on the Black Hills State University Alumni Board of Directors, as well as serving a term as president of the Alumni Board during the capital campaign for the Donald E. Young Sports and Fitness Center.

In addition, Linda has served on the Spearfish Chamber of Commerce, and has been President of both the Zonta Club and the Spearfish Economic Development Corporation.

Bruce Williams and Terry Ree, better known as Williams and Ree, will receive special achievement awards. Bruce and Terry attended the University in 1960-70 and began touring in 1971. That tour began a 33-year comedy career that is still going strong and in demand throughout the nation.

Williams and Ree have performed at such venues as the Comedy Store in Los Angeles and shared the stage with Garth Brooks, The Oak Ridge Boys and Randy Travis. They have made frequent appearances on The Nashville Network, on designated events for American Indian Casinos across the nation. In 2001 the band was chosen to be honored as membership was established and has been awarded to students interested in performing arts.

All Swarm Day events are open to the public and alumni as well as students are encouraged to attend. See the complete schedule of events on the back page.

For tickets to the Alumni Awards breakfast call 642-6446 or email TerriWells@bhsu.edu. Tickets for the Hall of Fame banquet are available at 642-6385 or email ChristinaCouch@bhsu.edu.
commercial paint and drywall company where he worked his way up to estimator and was eventually head of the paint company. In 1982, Jim decided to venture out on his own and opened his own paint company. After 20 years of running a successful company, Jim was ready to slow down a bit so he closed his business and went back to work for the company which gave him his start in the painting industry. He is currently superintendent for the paint department and oversees about 40 employees.

Lea Totton coached volleyball at BHSU from 1979 to 1986 and women’s track from 1979-1984. Her volleyball career record includes 280 wins and 70 losses. She coached 21 all-conference performers, six district performers, two conference champion teams and won the state championship in her first year. Her track teams set 46 school records, 29 of which were set in her first year coaching the sport, and won the first women’s track conference (SDIC) championship in the school’s history. Totton was a member of several championship teams at BHSU, and in 1983 the Yellow Jackets were the SDIC champions and district 12 runners-up in 1981. He was also all-SDIC first team in tennis, an SDIC medallist runner-up in 1980 and all-district in 1980. He averaged 76.86 for 18 holes of golf in 1983.

Scott Hazledine, who now lives in Plymouth, Minn., played golf at BHSU in the 80s. Scott was a district 12 medallist, was named all-SDIC and all-district in 1981 and was a member of the team that were SDIC champions and district 12 runners-up in 1981. He was also all-SDIC first team in tennis, an SDIC medallist runner-up in 1980 and all-district in 1980. He averaged 76.86 for 18 holes of golf in 1983.

Looking ahead

Swarm Week Sept. 27-Oct. 2

Monday, Sept. 27
Coronation, 7 p.m. at the Student Union

Tuesday, Sept. 28
Kiddie Carnival, 4-7 p.m. at the Student Union
Rec Sports Flag Football, 7 p.m. at Lyle Hare Stadium

Wednesday, Sept. 29
Swarm Day 5K Run/Walk, 5:30 p.m. at Lyle Hare Stadium
Spirit Night, 7 p.m. at the Donald E. Young Center

Thursday, Sept. 30
Hypnotist Jim Wand, 7 p.m. at the Student Union

Friday, Oct. 1
Disc Golf, 3:30 p.m. for students and 5 p.m. for the general public
Float preparation, 4 p.m. to midnight at the Donald E. Young Center
Hall of Fame Banquet, 6 p.m., Student Union

Saturday, Oct. 2
Alumni Awards Breakfast, 8:30 a.m., Parade, 10:30 a.m.
Football game, 1:30 p.m.

Roundball Reunion
Oct. 23
Young Center

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

Can you identify these people?

A favorite local group “The Back Porch Majority” entertained during Swarm Week in late 60s or early 70s. The group consisted of BHSU students including occasional performances by Gary Mule Deer. If you can verify the date of the photography or identify the people in this photograph, please let the Alumni Office know. BHSU is making plans for the annual homecoming celebration Oct. 2.

Do you have these copies?

Due to changing postal endorsements, anyone who recently changed their address may not have received their copies of the Alumni Magazine. We are unable to determine who received their copies and who didn’t. If you would like copies of the magazines shown, contact the Alumni Office at 605-642-6446 or alumni@bhsu.edu.

All issues are also available in PDF format on the BHSU website at www.bhsu.edu. Click on “alumni/friends” then “Alumni Association,” “Stay in Touch,” and “Alumni Bulletin.”

Calendar of Events
Another look

Trail leading to Roughlock Falls in Spearfish Canyon