President Flickema retires

Also in this issue

Schallenkamp named future BHSU president
Kamstra creates Italian dining experience
Rodeo clown is serious about education
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Photos from alumni gatherings
The 12 years I have spent at Black Hills State University have been the most satisfying years of my professional career. I thank the Board of Regents for extending me the privilege of serving as the president of this vibrant and growing university. In that role I have had the chance to work with remarkably talented faculty and staff. They have proven themselves to be individuals dedicated to providing our students with the finest possible education, support, and guidance. I have also had the pleasure of working with alumni, community members, and friends of BHSU who have done so much to make this university successful.

Indeed, our success at BHSU has been driven by the efforts of countless people who had a vision of what this university could become. To all those people I extend my thanks for their dedication and contributions. Judy and I also say thank you to the university community, to the people of Spearfish and the Black Hills, and to those across the state who have made us feel so much at home. Because of all of you, we have chosen to stay in Spearfish for our retirement and to continue our support for Black Hills State University.

Dr. Thomas Flickema
BHSU President

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President Flickema leaves a legacy at BHSU

Dr. Thomas Flickema, who is retiring from his position as president of BHSU this summer, says his 45-year career in higher education is the result of some sound advice from his father many years ago. "My father said 'whatever you do, have a job that you want to do. You spend so many hours at work. Do something that gives you a sense of satisfaction.' I've had the opportunity to earn that sense of satisfaction in my career," Flickema says.

As a faculty member and administrator in higher education for more than four decades, including 12 years as president at BHSU, Flickema has had many opportunities to make a positive difference in the lives of students, faculty and staff members as well as the community as a whole. For Flickema it all comes down to what the students accomplish.

"Students. That's what we're all about. When one of them comes back and lets us know what they have accomplished, that's the ultimate satisfaction," Flickema says.

Flickema, who has served as BHSU president since 1994, will retire July 1. Flickema served as the eighth president at BHSU. Under Flickema’s leadership, BHSU has established itself as the third largest university in South Dakota and a leader in liberal arts education. Flickema believes the university is poised for unprecedented success in the future. Flickema began his career as a history professor and his tenure at BHSU will go down in history as a time of profound accomplishments and great change and improvement for the university. Thirty years ago Flickema was a tenured full professor enjoying teaching and research with no intention of going into administration. He accepted his election as chair of the history department at California State University, Fullerton, as a temporary assignment, little realizing it would lead to a successful and influential career in administration.

At BHSU, Flickema will be remembered for his far-reaching vision for the university and many accomplishments as he led the university through a number of changes and enhancements. Looking back, Flickema says his greatest pride is in the improvement of instruction on campus.

"The driving force in an academic institution is the faculty, and Black Hills State is fortunate in that our faculty are extremely talented, dedicated and hardworking," Flickema says. Faculty research and publications, as well as performance activities, have increased dramatically in the last 10 years. Flickema notes that faculty use of instructional technology has also seen major changes and improvements in that time period.

Flickema has always maintained that the cornerstone of academic achievement rests upon the strength of the faculty and the diversity of the curriculum, and he has worked to ensure that BHSU has the best of both. Through the years the number of faculty members with the highest available degrees in their fields has increased from 53 percent to more than 77 percent.

"The greatest strength is the people on campus. The Black Hills State University faculty and staff provide the best possible education and services to our students and to the community beyond the campus. These years have been the most satisfying and fulfilling professional experience of my life and I value the rich associations I have had with all of you and thank you for all that you have contributed," Flickema said during his state of the university address this fall.

Under Flickema’s watch, outside funding for the university has grown exponentially. He noted that the university will receive more than $4 million in grant funding this year, an dramatic increase from the $75,000 received in 1995. He noted that grants have brought more than $1 million worth of equipment to campus which brings valuable equipment to our campus which provides enhanced learning opportunities for students. Many of these grants have provided much needed equipment for teaching and training.

The university has placed a growing emphasis on research and development. Faculty research has increased dramatically.

"I'm going to walk out of here missing a lot of things.
I will miss the day-to-day interaction with talented, creative, dedicated people.
At the same time I'm going to walk out of here feeling good about what we've accomplished."

Schallenkamp chosen to lead BHSU

Dr. Kay Schallenkamp, president of Emporia State University at Emporia, Kan., will become the ninth president of Black Hills State University, the South Dakota Board of Regents announced this spring.

Schallenkamp has served as president at Emporia State since 1997. Prior to that, she was provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and provost at Chadron (Neb.) State College. She began her higher education experience in South Dakota as an undergraduate student at Northern State University. She later returned to Northern to begin her academic career, starting as an instructor of communication disorders in 1973 and ending her tenure there as dean of graduate studies and research in 1988.

Throughout her career, Schallenkamp has been professionally active at the state and national level. She currently serves on the board of directors for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education, and The Renaissance Group. She chairs the board of directors of The National Teachers Hall of Fame and has served as chair of the Presidents Council of the NCAA Division II. Additionally, she has been active in the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and the North Central Association’s Higher Learning Commission.

Schallenkamp holds three degrees in communication disorders: a B.S. from Northern State University, a M.A. from the University of South Dakota, and a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado. She and her husband, Ken, have two grown daughters.

Continued on page 32
F
or Spearfish businesswoman and chef Leigh Kamstra, Class of 92, it all started when she fell in love with a building.

And it wasn't just any old building that had caught Leigh's eye. This was something very special. In fact, she was already thinking about it some time during the years 1978 to 1982 while she was attending college at Black Hills State University. At that time, Leigh had no clue what she might do with the old stone building. All she knew was that someday somehow she and this particular building would forge a relationship.

That relationship eventually became Roma's on the corner of Fifth Street and Illinois in downtown Spearfish. But what happened between the early 80s when Leigh first discovered it - and the year 2000 when Roma's opened its doors - is a history worth revisiting.

The second youngest of six children, Leigh grew up in Brookings, where her parents were both professors at South Dakota State University. With a family cabin on Nemo road and grandmother in Sturgis, Leigh considered the Black Hills her second home - which is why she chose BHSU for college.

"I knew one thing. I did not want to go to college where my parents were teaching," Leigh recalls. "I had a head for numbers and natural bookkeeping abilities, so she got her degree in business with a minor in computer science. After graduation, she spent 10 years in the banking industry - three years in California and another seven years in Denver.

And then came the fateful day in 1994 when Leigh was sitting on the couch watching television after a stressful day at the office and saw a commercial for a culinary arts degree program offered through the Colorado Institute of Art. "It was like a light went off in my head," Leigh says. "I had always loved to cook, though I was never very good at it. I used cooking and baking for stress relief after a long day at work."

It may have been slightly out of character for the always businesswoman to make the spontaneous decision to chuck her successful business career to become a chef, but once Leigh had set her mind to it, she did not look back.

The 18-month culinary arts program was intense, Leigh says, and out of a class of 125 students, only 42 graduated. But she loved every moment of it. She also excelled at it - finishing first in her class of 1997. She graduated with a 4.0 grade point average, three gold medals and two silvers.

While in school, Leigh heard what would become her special culinary magic sauces. She also secured a special wine and spirits certification, which means she pairs different wines with multi-course meals.

Although she didn't know it at the time, her skill with sauces would become the impetus behind the name Roma's (after the tomatoes she uses in her marinara sauces) and the wine and spirits certification would become the force behind Roma's Wine Dinner served monthly from October through April, where she treats lucky patrons to a four-course dinner that includes the sauces made by Leigh herself and paired with carefully selected wines.

After graduation, Leigh started her cooking career in Colorado. For a time, she was happy working in head chef positions at upscale restaurants in Boulder and Cherry Creek. But then she became frustrated with the trend she was seeing. "They were downgrading the quality of the food while they were raising the prices," she explains. "It was my name on the food, and I was not happy about it." So back home visiting family at Christmastime in Spearfish, Leigh happened upon her favorite building - still there and still empty. But this time, there was a "for sale or lease" sign in the window. For Leigh, this was another sign. "It is not very crazy," Leigh explains, "but I looked in the window and I could see my restaurant.""Even more interesting was discovering that the building's owner was only 10 minutes away from her home in Denver. Another sign."

Putting her business acumen to good use, Leigh negotiated with the owner and their shared vision for making a dream reality even though she couldn't afford to buy the building. She hired local contractors and started refurbishing the building in earnest in March 2000. In a three-month whirlwind of activity, renovations were completed and Leigh opened Roma's on July 1.

Among the multiple challenges the old building presented, there was no electricity or water to the building. They stripped paint to reveal beautiful fir woodwork. A good friend and photo stylist from Denver accompanied her on snoopings tours of upscale restaurants which eventually resulted in the stunning, eclectic interior design that makes up Roma's atmosphere.

There is an interesting clash of old and new at Roma's, where some of the original features of the building - like stained glass, painted plaster walls, and counter tops and wooden showcases are juxtaposed with modern touches like metal sculpture and plaster busts. The colors are vivid and inviting.

For artwork to adorn Roma's walls, Leigh momentarily shut off the creative, culinary side of her brain and let her business brain take over. "Spearfish is a big arts community, and I decided to develop a rotating art gallery on my wall. Local artists get a place to display their work, and I get top-notch art for my walls that changes every month," Leigh explains. She does not charge artists a commission and keeps a pictorial of artwork discretely hidden behind the counter in case a patron is interested in buying.

For the first two years in business, Leigh never left Roma's kitchen. She never hired and says her biggest mistake was hiring a pastry chef. "I have to give a lot of credit to my staff," Leigh says. "I absolutely would not be where I am today without my staff."

"I live and breathe this place," Leigh says. "It is both a blessing and a curse, but my blood pressure is the lowest it has been in years."

She regrets that she takes no vacations, but plans to remedy that in the future when she achieves her next dream of buying a Harley. Right now she is learning to ride a borrowed Harley belonging to a friend who refuses to sell it to Leigh. "I finally have been able to get my hands on it!"

Clevan Leigh's history of getting what she sets her mind to, is suspect we'll see her cruising Spearfish Canyon on her Harley some time soon.

This article reprinted with permission from Black Hills Faces Magazine, a quarterly publication that features stories of people from the Black Hills.

Subscriptions are available for $20 per year. Please send check or money order to: BLACK HILLS WALL, P.O. Box 956, Rapid City, SD 57709.
Rodeo clown teaches the importance of education

Duan Reichert, Class of ’72, gets ready for work in the mornings sitting on a hay bale in a dirt-floor tent. He tegs on pink tights over an aging body, flaps a cardboard wig over his graying hair, runs a can of gold spray paint over his cowboy boots and tops the ensemble off with a pink cowboy hat.

Reichert is a rodeo clown, cowboy protector and bull fighter rolled into a bundle of funny clothes, laughter and some magic, comedy and farm animals, entertaining up to 300 audience members daily. Reichert said he has never been in the bull ring, simply that it forms me. It’s like a split personality,” he said. “When I walk into the arena, I become a totally different person.”

Reichert has performed at the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association tour for more than 40 years.

“Walt Disney said if you can dream it, you can do it, and I can attest to that - I’ve been living my dream for 40 years.” Reichert said before the 20-minute performance.

The opportunity to spend days outdoors doing this type of research is what led Elaine Ebert to return to BHSU to earn a biology degree. Elaine now works for the Nature Conservancy in Rapid City.

He tug on the makeup, it transforms me. It’s like a split personality,” he said. “When I walk into the arena, I become a totally different person.”

He took speec classes in college to help overcome his shyness, and he earned a degree in elementary education from Black Hills State University in Spearfish. Reichert said before the 20-minute performance.

“I’m proud to be a rodeo clown, a cowboy protector and bull fighter rolled into a bundle of funny clothes, laughter and magic, comedy and farm animals,” Reichert said.

Throughout the nation in the National Western Stock Show & Rodeo (in Denver, Colo.), he’s presented “Backstage With a Rodeo Clown,” a program geared to toddlers and school-age kids, three to seven years old. The program is new to the 100-year-old stock show.

“Backstage,” Reichert describes the life and dangers of being a clown - he has broken his foot and each finger and once required 25 stitches to his face. He throws in a broken side mirror from a pickup truck to help him dab on a colorful makeup stored in a videocassette case.

Children pour into the tent, and soon he is introducing his purple-headed stick horse “that I don’t have to water or feed.” He pulls a rabbit out of his hat but his pants. He pulls a guinea pig from a French horn, to the delight of the children.

“Tought it was very well done, and I liked the way he addressed the issues of education and not doing drugs,” said Jacqueline Brestrom, of Conifer, who was with her husband, Dave, and two grandchildren, Quincy, 4, and Jade, 3.

At one point in the show, Reichert promised to share candy but instead pulled out yet another small animal - a guinea pig.

Quincy’s eyes grew wide at the surprise.

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The opportunity to spend days outdoors doing this type of research is what led Elaine Ebert to return to BHSU to earn a biology degree. Elaine now works for the Nature Conservancy in Rapid City.

Elaine Ebert researches her way to an outdoor career

While growing up in Deadwood, Elaine Ebert liked being outdoors as much as possible. Today, Elaine’s career as a wildlife biologist keeps her outdoors. Elaine had dreamed of this type of a career for years, and after several other endeavors, she took the first step in making that dream come true when she enrolled at BHSU to study biology.

“I have always been an outdoors person. I was the kind of kid that my mother couldn’t get to stay in the house. I didn’t know how to cook like my sister I could have cared less,” Elaine says.

like many young people, Elaine wasn’t sure what education she wanted to pursue, but she enrolled as a commuting student at BHSU and earned a secretarial degree in 1970. She later continued her education in the secretarial field with coursework in medical transcription in California.

When she moved back to Rapid City, she was hired as a medical transcriptionist at BHSU and earned a secretarial degree in 1970. She later continued her education in the secretarial field with coursework in medical transcription in California.

She then began helping the Gabels with research projects and says it was a meaningful learning experience for her.

“I wish that every student majoring in science could experience having the Gabels as a professors,” Elaine said. “They are incredible. Their enthusiasm is just contagious.”

Elaine has high praise for all of her science professors at BHSU and says she sometimes encounters people who don’t

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Elaine Ebert researches her way to an outdoor career

W
The 40s

The 50s
“Dick” Redlich, Class of ’58, Spearfish, recently celebrated his 90th birthday! An open house was held in his honor at the BHSU Ruddell Gallery July 31, 2005.

The 60s
James Dunn, Class of ’60, Lead, was recently inducted into the Deadwood Hall of Fame. James, a longtime supporter of Deadwood, served in the S.D. House of Representatives and as a state senator for nearly 30 years.

Connie (Morrissey) Erickson, Class of ’69, Tucson, Ariz., was also the yearbook advisor. In 1983, he was named the S.D. Conservation Teacher of the Year.

Dennis Howell, Class of ’67, Wheatland, Wyo., was recognized in the “Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers” for 2005. He is an art instructor at Hot Springs. The gallery features artwork, poems, and much more.

Robert J. Julius, Class of ’66, Sturgis, is in his 40th year as a sports-caster on both TV and radio. He received the 2004-05 S.D. Basketball Coaches Association “Friend of Basketball” Award. He previously received this award in 1993-94.

Kudos & Announcements
Class of ’70 football team meets at BH
A group of former BHSU football players that were part of the 1970 Yellowjacket team that held the record as the most successful football team for 35 years, gathered at Black Hills State University Ruddell Gallery July 31, 2005.

The 70s
The Cathy (Birkeland) Class of ’70, Belle Fourche, and her husband, Bob, pitched in at the Ruddell Gallery as they worked to promote books and speaking engagements about her life.

Robin I. (Vanvactor) Henrikson, Class of ’74, Rapid City, was named the 2005-06 "Teacher of the Year" for the North Middle School, where she has taught for 15 years.

Robert ‘Bo’ Knapp, Class of ’77, Spearfish, recently received the Spearfish Economic Development Corporation’s "Excellence for his strong community support and dedication to economic development." He is the president of the S.D. Basketball Profeers, Class of ’87, Spearfish, recently started Speaking Enterprises to promote books and speaking engagements about her life.

Ernie Nauman, Class of ’77, Spearfish, recently received the creamy overalls, overalls, and "Volunteer of the Year" for his work with overalls, overalls.

Leandro, Calif., was formally sworn in as a 4th Circuit Court judge in Belle Fourche and built a new office there.

Bob DeMersman, Mayor of ’70, Rapid City, received the 2004 S.D. Tech Outstanding Public Service Award, which holds the record as the most successful football team for 35 years, gathered at "Dick" Erickson nearly 30 years.

The 80s
The Richard Anderson, Class of ’82, Lead, was named the 2005-06 "Teacher of the Year" for the Belle Fourche School District for 16 years and at Maritona Community Colleges in Arizona for 16 years.

Roger Merriman, Class of ’82, Deadwood, works for Seaton Publishing, parent company of the Black Hills Pioneer, as publisher of their newest paper, Rapid City Weekly News.

Dennis Schaar, Class of ’84, Rapid City, is serving his third term as an elder at the Westminster Presbyterian Church. Since retiring in 2001 from his job as a United Airlines captain, Dennis has been traveling and doing community work.

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Clarence McGirr, Class of ’62, Lead, was formally sworn into the Deadwood Hall of Fame. James, a long-time supporter of Deadwood, served in the S.D. House of Representatives and as a state senator for nearly 30 years.

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Dorothy Quaal, Class of '95, Sturgis, works for the Black Hills Veterans Administration (VA) in the VA Health Care System at Fort Meade.

Lindycnda (Creighton) Sanders, Class of '97, Spearfish, was recently promoted to director of the Artesian House, a shelter for battered women and children and victims of sexual assault. She has been working with the program for seven years.

Troy Stende, Class of '98, Rapid City, has been nominated twice for Teacher of the Year and has received the Golden Apple Award for his work as a literacy teacher.

Donald Weiland, Class of '96, Custer, was elected the Spearfish Fire Chief. Doug has served as a biology teacher at Spearfish High School for many years.

Previously winning in '02 and '04. He works with his wife, Karin (Malkowski) Stende, Class of '99, who recently graduated from Kennesaw State University with a master of science in conflict management (MSCM) and was named Outstanding Graduate Student for the MSCM program. Troy and Karin recently adopted a son, Elijah Umoro, who was born Jan. 10, 2005.

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Kudos & Announcements

Alumni News

Make plans now to attend the baseball reunion at BHSU

June 23-24

Spearfish

Events include: Campus tour, social and picnic as well as a golf tournament.

Call 642-6464 or email JodiNeiffer@bhsu.edu for details.

Sturgis Williams Middle School

Michael Jones, Class of ’35, Spearfish, was recently hired as a fifth-grade teacher at Whitehaven Elementary School.

Justin Kopp, Class of ’71, Billings, Mont., will receive his master of science in mental health and rehabilitation from Montana State University in May 2006. He is also pursuing a Ph.D. in interdisciplinary studies with an emphasis on multicultural issues.

Kenneth Krzyzanowski, Class of ‘00, Rapid City, was recently elected president of the South Dakota Technology Education Association and was a nominee for Teacher of the Year award from the Region S.D. Technology Education Association.

Pat Moriarty, Class of ’73, joined the Lead-Deadwood High School staff in August 2005. He teaches social studies.

Michael R. Odle, Class of ’32, Redding, Calif., was named the public affairs officer of the 2.3 million-acre STEN (Sierra Trinity National Forest).

Michael joined the STEN staff in June 2003 after receiving his master’s degree from the University of Sydney, Australia.

Anya Olverson-Linn, Class of ’32, Sturgis, was named a Ten Outstanding Young Award recipient by the S.D. Jaycees. Anya and husband Derrick Linn, Class of ’92, own and operate the Sturgis Dance Studio.

Dan Patterson, Class of ’32, Spearfish, coordinates hundreds of audio blogs, manages two bands from San Francisco, and produces three podcasts.

Shaun Reinhardt, Class of ’93, Casper, Wyo., graduated in May 2005 with a degree in accounting. He was admitted to practice in Colorado and Wyoming in October 2005.

Kyle Smith, Class of ’02, Rapid City, recently joined the First Western Bank team as a loan officer.

Mikayla (Tetetaul) Graisie, Class of ’92, Spearfish, joined the Lead-Deadwood High School teaching staff in August 2005.

Norma Walls, Class of ’89, Tucson, Ariz., recently graduated from Minnesota Medical School. She is now in general surgery residency at the University of Arizona.

Mark Watson, Class of ’32, Spearfish, was recently named city editor for the Black Hills Pioneer.

Jennifer (Wagner) Williams, Class of ‘92, Pierre, is working as a law clerk for the South Dakota Supreme Court. She recently moved to Pierre with husband William Williams Jr.

David Worthington, Class of ’93, Littleton, Colo., has joined the Department of Defense Contract Audit Agency as a GS-9 auditor at their Las Vegas, Colo., branch.

Stacey Yost, Class of ’93, Gunn Valley, has received an early childhood special education teaching certificate in the Chamberlain School District.

Christina Haines, attended ‘80-’83, was recently named the NJCAA 2005 Administrator of the Year by the National Association of Women Athletics Administrators. She is the athletic director for South Mountain Community College in Chandler, Ariz.

Kudos & Announcements

The baseball reunion for the Class of ’03 after receiving an early childhood special education teaching certificate in the Chamberlain School District.

Tina Farmar, Class of ’99, Midlothian, Va., married Bill Clarke in August 2005. She is an elementary teacher with the Chesterfield County School District. She is the athletic director for South Mountain Community College in Chandler, Ariz.

Kelly Trenary, Class of ’83, New Underwood, married Judy Bowman Nov. 18, 2005. Kelly is a corrections officer.

The 70s

Shannon Scott, Class of ’94, Rapid City, and Chris Vande/Venter were married Oct. 22, 2005. She works as a registered dental assistant for the Arrowhead Country Club as an accountant.

Sona Starkey, Class of ’99, Spearfish, married Craig O’Connell Sept. 17, 2005. She is an advertising representative at the Black Hills Pioneer.

John Stelljes, Class of ’98, Milwaukee, Wis., and Angela Mickelson were married April 23, 2005. John is a theology graduate student at Martin Luther College.

Michelle Thomas, Class of ’97, Omaha, Neb., married Brian Smith Jan. 22, 2005.

The 80s

Jeremy Stelljes, Class of ‘01, Rapid City, married Heather Carpenter Oct. 8, 2005. Jeremy is a compensation and benefits analyst at Rapid City Regional Hospital.

Tina Beguin, Class of ’94, and Nick VanKley, Class of ’05, married June 18, 2005. Tina is a graduate student at Harvard University.

Engagements & Marriages

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The baseball reunion for the Class of ’03 after receiving an early childhood special education teaching certificate in the Chamberlain School District.

Tina Farmar, Class of ’99, Midlothian, Va., married Bill Clarke in August 2005. She is an elementary teacher with the Chesterfield County School District. She is the athletic director for South Mountain Community College in Chandler, Ariz.

Kelly Trenary, Class of ’83, New Underwood, married Judy Bowman Nov. 18, 2005. Kelly is a corrections officer.

The 70s

Shannon Scott, Class of ’94, Rapid City, and Chris Vande/Venter were married Oct. 22, 2005. She works as a registered dental assistant for the Arrowhead Country Club as an accountant.

Sona Starkey, Class of ’99, Spearfish, married Craig O’Connell Sept. 17, 2005. She is an advertising representative at the Black Hills Pioneer.

John Stelljes, Class of ’98, Milwaukee, Wis., and Angela Mickelson were married April 23, 2005. John is a theology graduate student at Martin Luther College.

Michelle Thomas, Class of ’97, Omaha, Neb., married Brian Smith Jan. 22, 2005.

The 80s

Jeremy Stelljes, Class of ‘01, Rapid City, married Heather Carpenter Oct. 8, 2005. Jeremy is a compensation and benefits analyst at Rapid City Regional Hospital.

Tina Beguin, Class of ’94, and Nick VanKley, Class of ’05, married June 18, 2005. Tina is a graduate student at Harvard University.

Engagements & Marriages

Jan Golliher, assistant professor in social work, directs hundreds of audio blogs, manages two bands from San Francisco, and produces three podcasts.

Shaun Reinhardt, Class of ’93, Casper, Wyo., graduated in May 2005 with a degree in accounting. He was admitted to practice in Colorado and Wyoming in October 2005.

Kyle Smith, Class of ’02, Rapid City, recently joined the First Western Bank team as a loan officer.

Mikayla (Tetetaul) Graisie, Class of ’92, Spearfish, joined the Lead-Deadwood High School teaching staff in August 2005.

Norma Walls, Class of ’89, Tucson, Ariz., recently graduated from Minnesota Medical School. She is now in general surgery residency at the University of Arizona.

Mark Watson, Class of ’32, Spearfish, was recently named city editor for the Black Hills Pioneer.

Jennifer (Wagner) Williams, Class of ‘92, Pierre, is working as a law clerk for the South Dakota Supreme Court. She recently moved to Pierre with husband William Williams Jr.

David Worthington, Class of ’93, Littleton, Colo., has joined the Department of Defense Contract Audit Agency as a GS-9 auditor at their Las Vegas, Colo., branch.
Candace Brunner
Class of ’05, and Alex Gustafson, Class of ’04, Spearfish, were married July 8, 2005. He works at Pioneer Bank and Trust.

Kimberly Buck
Class of ’03, Rapid City, was married Mike Van Loon Sept. 24, 2005. Kimberly is pursuing a master’s in education at USD.

Erin Carr

Teresa Cooley
Class of ’93, Rapid City, married William Notwood May 7, 2004. They live in Sioux Falls. Teresa works as a benefits specialist in the Department of Social Services.

Sara Cox
Class of ’01, and James Connolly will marry June 24, 2006. Sara is a designer in Tampa, Fla.

Amber DeSmet
Class of ’05, Rapid City, married Richard Hudson May 21, 2005. Amber is a microbiologist for Environmental Laboratories.

Wendy Emerson
Class of ’02, Nenana, Alaska, will marry Leif Jacobsen June 3, 2006. She is an education teacher and coach.

Melody Gossard
Class of ’03, married Matt Larson Oct. 29, 2005. She is a benefits specialist with the Department of Social Services. The couple lives in Caputa.

Carol Halter
Class of ’00, Rapid City, and Adam Waider were married Oct. 8, 2005. They are both elementary teachers.

Katie Holberg

Elizabeth (Betsy) Holdhusen
Class of ’04, married Timothy Starns March 18, 2006. They live in Prescott, Ariz., where Betsy works as an assistant professional and merchandising manager for Prescott Lakes Golf and Country Club.

Kelsey Huiburt

Michelle Janish
Class of ’03, Spearfish, married Jeremy Tracy, attended Sept. 24, 2005. Michelle works in the Graphics and Media Department at BHSU. Jeremy works at Beek’s Nursery.

Jason Knapp
Class of ’00, Pierre, will marry Stephanie Fiedt, June 24, 2006. Jason is an environmental engineer with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Mary Laudenschlagar
Class of ’04, Rapid City, married Luke Baker Feb. 16, 2006. Mary is a teacher at West Middle School in Rapid City.

Hope Hauber

Brandy Miller
Class of ’03, married Kyle Vavrauskas, Spearfish, Aug. 26, 2005. She is a special education teacher with Region Three Development Services.

Erika Miller

Abby Osberg
Class of ’04, Brandon, married Chad Schmidt June 11, 2004.

Nicki Orford
Class of ’02, Rapid City, married Doug Kroeger Sept. 24, 2005. She is a school-age coordinator for Youth and Family Services.

Brandon Pieper
Class of ’04, Lincoln, Neb., will marry Afton Olson July 15, 2006. He is a second-year dental student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Jason Spence
Class of ’00, Pierre, will marry Ashley施行, June 24, 2006. Jason is an environmental engineer with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Mary Spendeler

Trish Richards

Amy Rosacker
Class of ’05, Yankton, and Michael Pallad were married June 11, 2005.

Michelle Stenssaas
Class of ’00, married Jason Glodt, Class of ’07, Pierre, July 3, 2005. Michelle works with the Stanley County School District as a middle school language arts teacher. Jason is a senior advisor to Governor Rounds in Pierre.

Catherine (Holland) Hafner
Class of ’73, and husband Eric, Camas, Wash., are proud new grandparents of a baby girl, Sophia Elizabeth, born July 2005.

Lila (DeMariais),
attended ’82/’83, and Steve Melhaff,
Class of ’83, Rapid City, recently adopted a baby girl, Ayla. Stew is general manager for Qdoba Mexican Grill, and Lila works for Senator John Thune. They have three other children, Arianne (17), Kalen (15), and Jordan (14).

The 70s

The 80s

The 90s

Julie (Raaz)
Chapman, Class of ’94, and husband Eric, Billings, Mont., announce the birth of their first child, Cody Patrick, who was born Sept. 1, 2005. Julie works as an account manager for AZ & Company.

Travis Geppert,
Class of ’95, and his wife, DeVin, Spearfish, announce the birth of daughter Morgan Mae, born June 10, 2005. They join Devon (8) and Madelyn (4). Travis was named the October 2005 Sparsich Chamber of Commerce Ambassador of the Month. He has been an insurance agent at Western Dakota Insurers the past eight years.

Nicole (Tomes) Halligan,

Tara (Pietz)
Class of ’98, and James Harmon,
Class of ’97, Sugar Land, Texas, announce the birth of their fourth child, Wyatt Samuel, born Sept. 13, 2005. He joins Colton (7), Katie (5), and Cassidy (3). James teaches coaches and is working on his master’s degree in education from the University of Texas.

Members of the BHSU men’s alumni team were, front row, left to right, Mark Gould, Mark Nore, Chris Rozell, James Mortenson, and Eldon Marshall; and back row, left to right, Aaron Valentine, Eric Thomas, Tony Schwartz, Brad Maslan, Devin Gonzalez, and Bryan Heck.
This document contains a variety of content, including obituaries, births, and alumni news. Here is a structured representation of the information:

### Obituaries

1. **George Cheshire**
   - The North Dakota Bank.
   - He was also a full-time supporter of the S.D. Hospice.

2. **Charles Swanson**
   - The Minnesota Bank.
   - Born April 8, 1929, in Worthing, S.D., passed away July 14, 2005.
   - He was a long-time supporter of the community.

3. **Malcolm Allen**
   - The Nebraska Bank.
   - He was a high school teacher.

4. **Charles Swanson**
   - The Nebraska Bank.
   - He was a longtime supporter of the community.

5. **Maxine Saab**
   - The North Dakota Bank.
   - He was a longtime supporter of the community.

6. **Malcolm Allen**
   - The Nebraska Bank.
   - He was a high school teacher.

### Births

1. **Christina (Gallasch)**
   - The North Dakota Bank.

2. **Kenna Moore**
   - The Nebraska Bank.

3. **Vanessa Moore**
   - The Nebraska Bank.

4. **Jason Moore**
   - The Nebraska Bank.

5. **Miranda Moore**
   - The Nebraska Bank.

6. **Katie Moore**
   - The Nebraska Bank.

7. **Kyle Moore**
   - The Nebraska Bank.

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    - The Nebraska Bank.

For updated classnotes see www.bhsu.edu/classmates+news.aspx
for one year teaching in Geneva, N.Y. She was recognized for her dedication to education by being named one of South Dakota’s “Anne Talbert” teachers.

Penny (Horman) O’Daa, attended '69-71, Spearfish, passed away Sept. 5, 2005. She worked at Pioneer Bank and Trust in the operations department, a position she held for 20 years.

John D. Samuelson, Class of '67, Rapid City, died Nov. 29, 2005. John worked in various positions until he joined his family’s company, Highland Beverage, becoming a partner in 1973. He was later part-owner of the Rapid City Thrillers. John served on the BHSU Foundation Board in addition to various community organizations.

Veila (Mollet) Shimp, Class of '67, passed away Jan. 13, 2005. Veila taught high school vocal music in Belle Fourche for over 30 years. She was also an avid supporter of the BHSU Music Department.

V. Eileen (Lambert) Stoddard, Class of '64, Mountain Home, Idaho, died Nov. 5, 2005. She taught school in S.D. for 17 years and in Idaho for 23 years. She was also taught Sunday school for 23 years. After retiring, she was a volunteer at Elmore Memorial Hospital.

Katherine (Briel) Wallace, Class of '64, Belle Fourche, passed away Nov. 28, 2005. She taught at various South Dakota schools and served in many community organizations.

The 70s

Florence Bailey, Class of '72, Rapid City, passed away Dec. 29, 2005. She taught for 35 years, 26 of them in Rapid City.

Dakota Lorraine (Threadgold) Hildebrandt-Nelson, Class of '73, Sturgis, passed away April 26, 2005. After retiring from teaching after 25 years, Dakota worked at Wall Drug.


Mary Katherine (Lewton) Island, Class of '77, Rapid City, passed away Oct. 28, 2005. She enjoyed gardening, doll collecting and quilt making in addition to spending time with her family.

Carol “Pohi” Justus, Class of '78, Martin, passed away July 19, 2005. Carol was a teacher for 30 years at the Little Wound School.

Viola (Bright) Mackrell, Class of ’76, Sturgis, passed away Sept. 16, 2005.

Pietro Anthony “Pete” Mazzio, Class of 78, Rapid City, passed away Jan. 23, 2006. He worked in the U.S. Labor Department and Rapid City Regional Hospital in addition to serving 22 years in the U.S. Air Force.


Donald Miles, attended '73-'70, Spearfish, passed away Sept. 12, 2005. He attended BHSU for three years then began working at the Homestake Supermill. He later worked at Pope and Talbot, where he worked until his death.

Carol Ann Nighter, Class of '77, Rapid City, died Nov. 9, 2005. After college she worked for IBM.

Meredith “Dolly” (Kurth) Peterson, Class of '72, Spearfish, died Jan. 2, 2006. She taught second grade for a few years in Moorcroft, Wyo. She also enjoyed sewing and reading.

Mildred “Midge” (Meyer) Vance, Class of ’74, Spearfish, died Dec. 27, 2005. After receiving her masters from BHSU, she taught at Deadwood Elementary until she retired in 1985.

The 80s

Calvin Jumping Bull, Class of '80, Oglala, passed away at age 75. He served for 21 years as a respected Lakota Elders, Adelaide at the Oglala Lakota College on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Karyl (Reman) King, Class of '82, Fairbanks, passed away July 28, 2005. Upon graduation she became an art director for a silk screening business.

Gregory Schumacher, Class of '84, Hot Springs, passed away Jan. 6, 2006. He was a member of the ROTC and was commissioned as a U.S. Army officer upon graduation from BHSU.

The 90s

Grodzinski, Class of '91, Las Cruces, N.M., died July 7, 2005. He served in the Marines and the Air Force, serving tours in Southeast Asia, Italy and the U.S. He then worked for Rapid City before retiring in 2001.

Steven Hopkins, Class of '95, Rapid City, passed away Nov. 19, 2005. He worked in the oil fields in Wyoming and as a heavy equipment operator in Lead.

Communications.

Norman C. “Sonny” McNall, Class of '93, Lead, died Dec. 27, 2005. He spent a number of years working in institutional food sales.

Rhonda Lynn (Parsons) Thompson, Class of '90, New Underwood, passed away Aug. 11, 2005. She worked as a kitchen manager, co-owner of the Lester Inn steakhouse, dietary manager, and Pampered Chef consultant.

The 00s

Charity Saathoff, Class of '00, Sydney, Australia, died Oct. 30, 2005. She moved to Wollongong, Australia, in 2004 to complete her master’s degree in strategic human resource management. She worked for the Mynt Group and Bob and Pete's 100% Yum.

Richard Wagner, Class of ’03, Belle Fourche, died Oct. 19, 2005. He worked in the oil fields in Wyoming and as a heavy equipment operator in Lead.

Keen was recognized for her dedication to education by being named one of South Dakota’s “Anne Talbert” teachers.
A

borah Davis, Rapid City, recently
donated an additional $10,000 to the
E.W. and H.W. Clarkson scholarship
fund.

The latest donation brings the total
Clarkson fund to $192,500. Interest from this
fund is used to provide Clarkson Scholarships
for BHSU students. The scholarships are cur-
cently awarded for three years at $2,900 an-
nually as long as the students maintain full-time
status and meet grade-point average require-
ments. Each year, another student is added,
so there are usually three students attending
BHSU on a Clarkson scholarship.

Shipley donates to American Indian
Studies program

D

ora Shipley, Class of ’65, Spearfish, recently donated
$7,000, which will be used to create the Shipley Family Fund
Scholarship.

These funds will be used to support
American Indian Studies at BHSU. Awards from the fund are designed to bring American Indian speakers to
 campus, provide educational equip-
ment, fund seminars for students to learn about graduate school opportuni-
ties, conduct research projects in the area of Indian Studies and provide scholar-
ships for American Indian students at
BHSU.

Krautschun family donates funds

H

arvey and Joy Krautschun, Spearfish, recently donated $5,000 to the Joy Proctor Krautschun Scholarship Fund at BHSU.

This scholarship fund was originally set up in 1999 by June and the late T.H. Proctor, who donated $100,000 via a charitable
remainder trust. Interest from the deferred
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trust. Interest from the deferred
trust. Interest from the deferred
interest will support $1,000 scholarships each semester for jur-

for athletic scholarships at BHSU since 1999.

The company's total donation amounts to $120,000.

Dr. Thomas Flickema, president of
BHSU, and Myles Kennedy, president
of the Yellow Jacket Foundation,
accept a $100,000 donation from
Premier Bankcard representatives
from Premier Bankcard, BHSU.

First Premier Bank, were also on
duty for the presentation.

Darcy Emme, directing officer, col-lections; Jerry Krambeck, facilities
manager at Premier Bankcard and
Myles Kennedy, president of
the Yellow Jacket Foundation.

Premier Bankcard and First Premier
Bank recently pledged an additional
$120,000 donation for football
scholarships at BHSU. With this pledge, the company's total
donation amounts to $120,000.

The five-year pledge of $20,000 per
year will provide academic and athletic
scholarships for BHSU students.

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Representatives from Premier Bankcard include Miles Beacorn, president and CEO of
"Creating a legacy"

Recent donations create more scholarships

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Representatives from Premier Bankcard include Miles Beacorn, president and CEO of
Premier Bankcard; Monte Bertsch,
directing officer, customer service;
Amy Lee, human resources officer; Darcy Emme, directing officer, col-
lections; Jerry Krambeck, facilities
manager at Premier Bankcard and
Myles Kennedy, president of
the Yellow Jacket Foundation.

First Premier Bank, were also on
duty for the presentation.

Creating a legacy

Davis contributes

J

erry and Carol Junek recently donated an additional $10,000 to the Betty and Jerry
Junek scholarship fund. The Juneks, longtime supporters of the university, established
the scholarship in 1997, and it currently has a balance of $20,625. Interest from this
fund is used for athletic scholarships.

Jerry has lived in Spearfish since 1931 when he moved here with his family from eastern
South Dakota at the age of 11. He attended Black Hills Teachers College from 1938-
40. Jerry was active in many student activities, played basketball and participated in cho-

cos while attending BHSU. Jerry took the Civil Pilot Training course while attending

BHSU, which was useful when he joined the Army Air Force in 1942. Jerry received the
BHSU Presidential Award and is an honorary member of the Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame.

Jerry and Carol (Davis) were married in December 1957 after both had lost long-
ses. Carol graduated as a cadet nurse from the Presentation School of Nursing in
1947. She spent most of her professional life working as a librarian, first at the Sturgis
Public Library and later as the reference librarian at the Health Sciences Library at Rapid
City Regional Hospital. In 1974, Carol was honored as the Librarian of the Year by the
South Dakota Library Association, and in 1997, the association presented her with the
Distinguished Service Award. Jerry and Carol Junek were chosen as Swarm Day parade
marshals this year to recognize their longstanding support of the university and
community.

Elliott estate creates business scholarships

The estate of Evelyn Elliott, a former business instructor at Black Hills State
University, recently contributed $77,890 from a charitable remainder trust estab-
lished in 1998. The gift will create an endowed scholarship fund for business stu-
dents at the university.

Elliott, who taught business courses at BHSU for nearly 40 years before retiring in 1982,
donated funds to support business programs at BHSU. During her professional career, she taught practically every business class offered at BHSU and even
Elliott was instrumental in the development of the business program at BHSU during
the 1960s. She has served as chair of the BHSU Business Services Management
program, which is currently accredited by the National Association for Business
Programs (NABP). The BHSU business program, which was recently
accredited by the Institutional Assembly for Collegiate Business
Education (IACBE), has nearly 800 students enrolled, making it one of the
dargest university business programs in the state.

Elliott began painting when she retired and developed an artistic talent for creating
paintings depicting scenes of the Black Hills region. Her artwork is featured throughout
the halls of Meier Hall and the campus of BHSU.

Elliott’s paintings are displayed in the third-floor hallway on the campus of BHSU.
She was born Nov. 25, 1916, in Fredonia, Minn.

Alberts donate $140,000 for
football athletic scholarships

Bob and Linda Albert, (center) present a $28,000 check to Yellow
Jacket Foundation president Myles Kennedy (left) and Steve
Meeker (right), vice president of institutional advancement. This
is the first installment of their $140,000 pledge for football
scholarships. Prior to this gift, the Alberts contributed more than $25,000
for athletic scholarships at BHSU since 1999.
This naming effort will be dedicated to the region, in honor of their financial support. BHSU is offering donors the opportunity to make a lasting impact on the university. "Black Hills State University recently announced that several naming opportunities are available in Clare and Josef Meier Hall for donors who wish to make a lasting impact on the university. Following a nationwide fundraising trend of naming buildings in honor of donors, BHSU is offering donors the opportunity to name a room in Meier Hall, including the recital hall, which is recognized as the finest facility of its kind in the region, in honor of their financial support of the university. Money raised through this naming effort will be dedicated to creating scholarships for music students. Meier Hall, a state-of-the-art music and classroom building, was added to the BHSU campus two years ago. The building includes a magnificent recital hall, offers music students some of the best practice and performance halls in the region. The building includes rehearsal rooms, sound-proof practice room facilities, a piano lab, sound studio, classrooms, and a recording and electronic keyboarding lab.

According to Dr. Janeen Larsen, music professor and chair of the department of music, "BHSU music students have the opportunity to participate in classes with low numbers of students and have access to individual mentoring by experienced, highly educated faculty members. The music building is brand new, with a beautiful and elegant recital hall; spacious ensemble rehearsal rooms; and sound proof, attractive practice room facilities," Larsen says. Larsen notes that students have a wide variety of performance opportunities, including music theater productions, small wind ensembles, a concert band, a pep band, a large chorus, a jazz choir and a chamber orchestra. BHSU hosts a regular series of student recitals and faculty concerts, and each year performances outside the university are invited to campus to provide concerts and master classes. During the summer, the Johannesburg Symphony Orchestra and many other major ensembles bring in faculty from the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City and other well-known opera centers to provide students with unique learning and performance opportunities.

"The best musicians graduate are teaching music in public schools in South Dakota, Wyoming, Minnesota, Colorado, Arizona, California, and elsewhere," Larsen says. She adds that others have chosen careers as private piano or voice teachers while other graduates have joined military bands or are involved in music-related businesses. Some students have used their music degree as a springboard to other fields such as law or computer science. Many students combine a music minor with another major, such as English, math, business, or elementary education.

According to Steve Meeker, vice president for institutional advancement at BHSU, naming opportunities have gained popularity in recent years. "Black Hills State University must do all we can to raise scholarship funds for future students. One approach that is being used successfully by our peers is to offer naming opportunities for new facilities," Meeker said. "An investment in Black Hills State University is truly an investment in the future, providing significant benefits for students for many years to come. "Naturally, people can use this opportunity to memorialize, honor or remember a friend, colleague, mentor, family member or themselves. "It’s an opportunity to fulfill a dream, to remember a loved one or simply to leave a personal legacy to our university. These gifts are an investment in the future of Black Hills State," Meeker said.

Naming opportunities in Meier Hall include the following: the recital hall for $250,000; the band hall or choir room for $100,000 each; classrooms for $50,000 each; audio recording lab or electronic recording lab for $40,000 each; ensemble practice rooms for $35,000 each; private lessons for $25,000 each; sound studios for $25,000 each; piano labs for $20,000 each; and recital hall chairs for $300 each.

Every year, the phonathon utilizes our best students to call upon alumni on behalf of Black Hills State University. Jothie Stevenson was one of the student callers for the 2005 Scholar Dollars phonathon, which raised more than $74,000 in pledges. The phonathon is a year-round educational experience.
BHSU people in the news
Meyers named writer-in-residence

Kent Meyers, BHSU English professor and accomplished author, has been named a Writer-in-Residence at the university, Dr. Thomas Flickema, president of BHSU, recently announced.

"We recognize that the Writer-in-Residence designation will reduce Meyers' teaching load that will allow him time to conduct research, including reading 40-50 books and traveling to Germany, needed to write his latest novel, The World of Wolves." Dr. Flickema said.

Although writer-in-residence programs are fairly common at other universities in the nation, Meyers’ designation as Writer-in-Residence at BHSU is the first of its kind at the institution and unique in many ways. According to Dr. Dean Myers, vice president of academic affairs at BHSU, it’s quite unusual for an author who has been teaching at a university for many years to receive such a designation.

Usually the position is reserved for well-known writers who have achieved great writing status in the literary field.

Meyers, who has been working on several new writing projects including another novel, says he is uncertain what the future holds but is confident that this designation will create positive opportunities in the future.

"This will open all sorts of doors for me. What are the possibilities?" he says. It’s unlikely highly significant and kind of frightening. It’s a remarkable thing, and I’ll end up wanting to write a book I haven’t even imagined yet. It will make a big difference in how much I can write and what I can write. It will give me the opportunity to explore possibilities," Meyers says.

He notes that once the position takes shape, it will offer increased opportunities to write and be available to assist aspiring student writers in their projects. He says that it may also offer an opportunity to extend the writing program on campus as well as opportunities for writing workshops in the region, state and nation.

On a practical level, the designation means a different day-to-day schedule which will allow the research and writing time necessary to complete additional projects. Meyers has mixed feelings about the fact that the designation will decrease the amount of time he spends in the classroom, but is looking forward to committing more time to writing projects. He is an excellent teacher as evidenced by the fact that he has been chosen as distinguished faculty member by both the faculty senate and the student senate.

"I like to teach. It’s always been my career. But once you start to write and do it well, you find your energy from writing," Meyers says. Meyers will continue to teach several writing courses including an advanced creative writing course, a literature of the American West course, an environment and literature course and a composition course, on a rotating schedule.

A devoted writer for 25 years, Meyers writes daily for three hours before coming to campus. He disciplines himself to write at least two pages every day whether he feels like writing or not. However, finding time for research has been difficult and Meyers is looking forward to a reduced class load that will allow him time to conduct research needed for future writing projects. He noted that a recent sabbatical leave allowed him time to conduct research, including reading 40-50 books and traveling to Germany, needed to write his latest novel, The World of Wolves.

Steve Meeker, vice president for institutional advancement at BHSU, recently announced that no one in the entire area has. Some people just don’t realize what an incredible program there is at Black Hills State. It’s amazing to me what we have.

He says that he was working on some great things. BHSU has things that no one in the entire area has. Some people just don’t realize what an incredible program there is at Black Hills State. It’s amazing to me what we have.

Meyers, who has been teaching at BHSU since 1980, has published many articles and short stories, as well as four books that have earned him well-deserved national recognition. Humbled by his achievements, Meyers is honored by the Writer-in-Residence designation. The designation will reduce Meyers’ teaching load and provide him with additional writing opportunities as well as more time to do research and present at writing conferences and workshops in the state and nation.

Meyers, a dedicated writer who is working on several new writing projects including another novel, says he is uncertain what the future holds but is confident that this designation will create positive opportunities in the future.

"This will open all sorts of doors for me. What are the possibilities?" he says. It’s unlikely highly significant and kind of frightening. It’s a remarkable thing, and I’ll end up wanting to write a book I haven’t even imagined yet. It will make a big difference in how much I can write and what I can write. It will give me the opportunity to explore possibilities," Meyers says.

He notes that once the position takes shape, it will offer increased opportunities to write and be available to assist aspiring student writers in their projects. He says that it may also offer an opportunity to extend the writing program on campus as well as opportunities for writing workshops in the region, state and nation.

On a practical level, the designation means a different day-to-day schedule which will allow the research and writing time necessary to complete additional projects. Meyers has mixed feelings about the fact that the designation will decrease the amount of time he spends in the classroom, but is looking forward to committing more time to writing projects. He is an excellent teacher as evidenced by the fact that he has been chosen as distinguished faculty member by both the faculty senate and the student senate.

"I like to teach. It’s always been my career. But once you start to write and do it well, you find your energy from writing," Meyers says. Meyers will continue to teach several writing courses including an advanced creative writing course, a literature of the American West course, an environment and literature course and a composition course, on a rotating schedule.

A devoted writer for 25 years, Meyers writes daily for three hours before coming to campus. He disciplines himself to write at least two pages every day whether he feels like writing or not. However, finding time for research has been difficult and Meyers is looking forward to a reduced class load that will allow him time to conduct research needed for future writing projects. He noted that a recent sabbatical leave allowed him time to conduct research, including reading 40-50 books and traveling to Germany, needed to write his latest novel, The World of Wolves.

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Meyers, who has been teaching at BHSU since 1980, has published many articles and short stories, as well as four books that have earned him well-deserved national recognition. Humbled by his achievements, Meyers is honored by the Writer-in-Residence designation. The designation will reduce Meyers’ teaching load and provide him with additional writing opportunities as well as more time to do research and present at writing conferences and workshops in the state and nation.

Meyers, a dedicated writer who is working on several new writing projects including another novel, says he is uncertain what the future holds but is confident that this designation will create positive opportunities in the future.

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BHSU people in the news

Bukralia named director of the library

Rajee Bukralia has been named director of the E.Y. Berry Library at BHSU. Bukralia has served as systems librarian since 2002. Bukralia, who has a strong information technology background as well as extensive library experience, has several goals for the library including improving the collections and enhancing and promoting the special collections area.

Bukralia noted that in recent years the BHSU library instituted some rather unorthodox changes including the establishment of a coffee shop in the library, offering checkout of laptop computers, and providing other services. Those changes have resulted in an increase in the number of students who use the library at a time when many libraries are seeing a decline in their numbers.

Bukralia says collection development is one of his priorities and he plans to use technological means, along with personal feedback from faculty and students, to determine the most effective and useful ways to improve the collections.

Bukralia plans a strong effort to preserve and catalog the special collections in the library. In the past three years, Bukralia has spearheaded many technological changes at the library that has set a stage for the university to provide enhanced services for students as well as faculty and staff.

Previously, Bukralia served as a business and technology consultant for business promotion, e-commerce, enterprise resource planning and management information systems. Bukralia earned a master of science degree in information systems from Dakota State University. He has a book publishing post graduate degree from the University of Delhi in India as well as a bachelor of science degree with majors in chemistry, botany and zoology.

BHSU in the news

BHSU grant assists school districts meet mandate

BHSU, along with Montana State University-Billings and Casper College, received a three-year $1.5 million grant for a joint effort to address a requirement under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act that all instructional staff meet “highly qualified” criteria by the end of the 2005-06 school year.

School districts in South Dakota and neighboring states are facing a looming deadline to address this requirement. Most rural school districts in western South Dakota, as well as in neighboring states, have severe budget constraints and do not have resources to support the required education and training for para-professional staff, according to Dr. David Calhoon, chair of the department of education.

Paraeducators, commonly known as teacher’s aide and teacher’s assistants, are in great demand. However, they are not well paid and generally cannot afford to further their formal education. Calhoon notes that paraeducators are the lowest paid individuals charged with helping to educate children. He adds that the number of paraeducators has grown at a significant rate in the last decade.

Data from the January 2005 South Dakota Department of Education Consolidated Performance Report indicates that during the 2003-04 school year, only 59 percent of paraprofessionals met the “highly qualified” requirement.

The BHSU paraeducator program staff members have set the stage for the “highly qualified” requirement. By the end of the 2005-06 school year, the grant money is being used for tuition support for paraeducators to enroll in classes that will put them on the path to reaching the “highly qualified” criteria.

Paraeducators can meet the legislative criteria by earning 48 hours toward a degree in education.

Paraeducators in South Dakota and surrounding states are generally site-bound, and the distance from their home and workplace to a university makes it difficult to take traditional on-campus classes. BHSU currently collaborates with Northern State University to offer a para-professional program. Courses are offered on campus and through distance learning options.

BHSU is also organizing workshops to help the paraprofessionals prepare to take and pass the national Praxis exam by the 2006 deadline, which is another way to reach the “highly qualified” status set by the national legislation. BHSU will contract with DIAL, an educational service organization that has already developed and provided this training, to provide these sessions.

The paraeducator program staff members will also work to establish academic credit for paraeducator experience through the development of modules to demonstrate content knowledge.

Simpson has already begun to recruit paraeducators in school districts throughout the state who wish to become “highly qualified.” The two-year degree option. She will also work with school districts to develop ongoing plans for training, recruitment and retention of paraeducators.

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 from the BHSU homepage or go directly to www.bhsubookstore.com.
A BHSU student does groundbreaking research on squirrels in their diet. These fungi, which are hypogeous (underground) fungi in the Pacific Northwest that flying squirrels eat, are much smaller than the species which are highly valued for eating. The BHSU research is the first documentation of the presence of hypogeous fungi in scat (excrement) from flying squirrels captured in the Black Hills. The study included digging and recovering fruiting bodies (sporocarps) of the fungi. Ackerman, who is also active on the track team at BHSU, says the research opportunity taught her many things. She says one of the most important things she learned while working on this project is how the research process really works.

I've always been interested in working in the outdoors and like to work with mammals so this research project was perfect for me,” Ackerman said.

At the encouragement of her professors, Ackerman is making plans to attend graduate school after she graduates from BHSU in May. “I'm from a ranch, and I always liked learning about plants and animals. I've just kept building on that interest while in college,” Ackerman says. She's considering a career in research.

Bachand has the drive for success

Drive. Some people have it, others don't. Drive is what pushes an athlete to continually strive to better themselves. Those student-athletes that compete in track and field are driven to perform not only for their teammates and coaches, but for themselves as well. The BHSU record holder in the women’s indoor pentathlon has shown that she has this drive.

Sturgis native Jenna Bachand was en route to becoming one of the best all around athletes in the history of Black Hills State. As a sophomore, Bachand had already set the school record in the process. "I'm from a ranch, and I always liked learning about plants and animals. I've just kept building on that interest while in college," Ackerman says. She's considering a career in research.

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Bachand was not progressing as quickly as she should have been. The decision was made to undergo another surgery to manipulate her knee into the right position. Surgeons removed scar tissue that had built up in her knee during the healing from her original surgery. Some might have been discouraged by all of these setbacks and given up. But Bachand wouldn’t give up. She was driven to overcome this injury.

"The physical therapist told me that my injury was one of the five most intense therapies that he ever had to work on,” she said. Bachand. “He said that he dreaded coming to see me because it was so hard.”

Bachand pushed on. She continued through her rehab, and over time, was able to pedal a bike. Then she was able to jog. And after defying the odds, she was able to run again.

"I was scared,” said Bachand. “Originally I was going to wait until the outdoor track season to get back competing because the turns on the indoor track are so tight. After talking with my physical therapist, we decided that I was ready to try it.”

So she did. Bachand competed for the Yellow Jackets for the first time in December 2005, less than a year after suffering her devastating injury.

However, the story doesn’t end there. For most people, the success of rehabbing a potentially career-ending injury would be enough. Not for Bachand. Less than three months after competing for the first time since her injury, Bachand would win the Dakota Athletic Conference women’s indoor pentathlon and set a new Black Hills State school record in the process.

The research also documents the presence of hypogeous fungi in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

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Black Hills Summer Institute of the Arts
J une 11-24, 2006

This program offers the highest level of artistic training and performance experience. This unique program of study, performance and personal growth takes place in the inspirational setting of the Black Hills of South Dakota. Participants in the program are urged to stretch creative potential with an emphasis on individual expression.

For details call
Kay Kerney at 642-6420.
Track team competes at nationals

The men’s and women’s indoor track and field teams had a successful season this spring, which culminated in a national meet competition with six members winning All-Americans for the women’s team.

Amber Broderson, a freshman from Wolsey, earned All-American honors at the national meet with a fourth-place finish in the shot put competition. The women’s 3,200-meter relay also earned a fourth-place finish. Members of the 3,200-meter relay were Jamie Hahn, Crystal Hostetter, Liz Woodruff, and Wesleigh Jastorff. The women’s distance medley relay team from BHSU finished fifth. This was the fifth time in years that the BHSU women’s DMR finished in the top six in the nation and were named All-Americans. Members of the medley team were Liz Woodruff, Callie Ackerman, Wesleigh Jastorff, and Crystal Hostetter.

Hostetter, a BHSU senior from Thermopolis, Wyo., finished eighth with a time of 5:06.11, just two seconds from the sixth-place runner. Freshman Kerry Washburn finished 12th in the women’s 5,000-meter run. A total of 14 men’s and women’s indoor track athletes competed at the national meet. Women’s team also won their first-ever Dakoda Athletic Conference Indoor Track and Field Championship this season.

Alcorn keeps it simple and dreams big

G ood, family and football. It’s pretty simple to me. Black Hills State senior Zach Alcorn has his priorities set in life and he is on the brink of making his dreams of playing football professionally a reality.

“I have wanted this since I was a little boy,” says Alcorn. “It feels awesome for me to finally have a chance to achieve my dream.”

During his past two seasons at BHSU, Alcorn has posted impressive stats. At 6’6” and 250 pounds, his measurements are that of the prototypical tight end. His 40-yard dash time ranks among the best in the nation for tight ends. His credentials are impeccable. He earned first-team NAIA All-American honors in 2003 among numerous other top awards.

“In high school I was told that I had the potential to be pretty good,” says Alcorn. “It just happened that the ball bounced my way a couple of times and I got a shot to keep going.”

Alcorn started out his college career at Chadron State College in his hometown of Chadron, Neb. Before long, Alcorn realized that Chadron State was not right for him. He took a year off to work out and train for what he hoped would eventually be a shot at the big time.

The Jackets had another eight selections for the second team in running back James Bemis, forward Levi Memmer, forward Scott Ferguson and forward Wesleigh Jastorff. The Yellow Jacket football program finished the year with a 7-3 record, one of the best seasons the team has had in 30 years. The Jackets, under the direction of head coach John Scott, placed third in the tough Dakota Athletic Conference (DAC) and was ranked 24th in the final NAIA football rankings.

The 2005 season got off to a rough start, after losing to Dickinson State in a non-conference game and falling to Valley City in the DAC opener. In the next four games the Jackets came back with four wins. A highlight of the season was the fact that the Yellow Jackets defeated three tough North Dakota teams with impressive wins against Dickinson State, the University of Mary and Minot State.

Sports

Cross country teams place at national meet

The Yellow Jacket women’s cross country team takes fourth place at national meet.

Senior Zach Kintzle finished his 2005 year in third place. Kintzley struggled with numerous injuries this season.

The women’s team finished in second place and the men earned an eighth place finish at nationals. The Yellow Jackets also finished third in the combined title race and also had two runners earn All-American honors.

Freshman Kerry Washburn and redshirt freshman Wesleigh Jastorff also qualified for the award by finishing in the top 30.

After an impressive top-20 finish at the NAIA meet in 2004, senior Zach Kintzley finished in 2005 in third place. Kintzley struggled with numerous injuries this season.

BB teams miss national tourney by one point

Both the men’s and women’s basketball teams at Black Hills State University ended their seasons just one point from the national tournament.

The Lady Jacks fell 53-52 to Minot State in the DAC Championship game Feb. 27 in Minot, N.D. It was a heartbreaking start to the season for the Lady Jacks. The women finished the season way to end a roller-coaster year. Overall, the team suffered five losses this season by three points or less. The Lady Jacks will lose two seniors, center Becca Walters and guard Jill Thomas.

Under first-year head coach, Paul Sather, the men’s basketball team ended a tremendous season with a devastating one-point loss. Under Sather’s leadership, the team finished third in the Dakoda Athletic Conference championship, 68-66, at Mayville State on Saturday. The men’s basketball team finished the season with a 17-15 record, including 10-10 DAC record. Six seasons will leave the team including, 17-14 (10-4 DAC) record. Six seasons will leave the team with our coach, head coach Paul Sather, the men’s basketball team finished the season with a 17-15 record, including 1-15 overall, but the team suffered five losses this season by three points or less. The Lady Jacks will lose two seniors, center Becca Walters and guard Jill Thomas.

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Alcorn named softballs coach at Black Hills State

A my Gurney, an assistant softball coach at Northern State University in Aberdeen (NSU), has been named head coach for the Aberdeen Parks and Recreation program and has served in the role since 2004. Prior to her coaching experience she was a pitcher for the NSU Wolves where she was a four-year starter with 113 career victories.

Gurney has been an assistant coach at Northern since 2004. Prior to her coaching experience she was a pitcher for the NSU Wolves softball team from 1999-2003. Gurney also served as head softball coach for the Aberdeen Parks and Recreation program and has served as a volunteer softball coach and pitching clinic director at Yankton. She has been involved in head coaching and professional activities including the South Dakota Coaching Association, South Dakota Education Association and Kappa Mu Epsilon.

Gurney is currently a counseling center intern and disability services graduate assistant at NSU. She previously served as a substitute math teacher and resident life program coordinator in Aberdeen.

Originally from Yankton, Gurney graduated from Yankton High School in 1997. Gurney had a bachelor’s degree in education with a coaching minor in 2003. She will finish her master’s degree in education, guidance and counseling this spring.

In a written coaching philosophy, Gurney says she believes coaching is a matter of creating an environment of expectations and trust expected. The women’s team finished in second place and the men earned an eighth place finish at nationals. The Yellow Jackets also finished third in the combined title race and also had two runners earn All-American honors.

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**Looking ahead**

Commemoration

May 13

50-year class reunion

Old Baldy Golf Classic

June 3-5

Saratoga, Wyo.

Black Hills Summer Institute of the Arts

June 11-24

Baseball Reunion

June 23-24

Gold Dust Yellow Jacket Golf Classic

June 24

Spearfish Country Club

Gold Dust Yellow Jacket Auction

Sept. 8

Spearfish Pavilion

Homecoming Week

Sept. 17-23

BHSU vs. Dickinson State

BHSU events

For a complete list of events at BHSU, see www.bhsu.edu:8085/oncampus or choose About BHSU then Calendars from the BHSU home page

www.bhsu.edu

For athletic information see

www.bhsu.edu/bh/athletics/

Black Hills State University Alumni Magazine Page 33

**Dr. Thomas Flickema**

A Michigan native, Flickema received a Ph.D. from Wayne State University in Detroit, Mich., in history with a political science minor. He earned a master's degree in history at WSU in 1962. His undergraduate degree was in history and education, and he was admitted to the Hope College, Holland, Mich., in 1960.

After completing a teaching internship and his master's degree in history, Flickema began his professional career in 1966 as a history professor at California State University-Fullerton. There he served as director of summer sessions in Mexico and Guatemala, and ultimately, as director of Latin American studies and regional affairs. The university has also added several centers including the Center for the Advancement of Math and Science Education, the Center for Conservation of Biological Resources, the Center for Business and Entrepreneurship and the Center for Indian Studies. These centers provide a link to the community with services, assistance and development.

Flickema says that BHSU has taken in community and regional affairs. The university has also greatly enhanced economic and educational outreach activities through the addition of several centers including the Center for the Advancement of Math and Science Education, the Center for Conservation of Biological Resources, the Center for Business and Entrepreneurship and the Center for Indian Studies. These centers provide a link to the community with services, assistance and development.

Flickema says that BHSU is taking a lead role in the development of the educational outreach component of the DUSEL Lab at Homestake. Members of the faculty are highly involved with Black Hills Vision, a regional economic development group seeking to add new dimensions to the economy through technology. In addition, the university has several ongoing projects in conjunction with the governor's 2010 initiative to promote economic development in the state.

“The role that BHSU will play in all of these important endeavors is important,” Flickema says. “We need to be proactive. There is much we can do. This is a forward-moving institution that makes a profound impact on the community and outlying region.”

Flickema’s vision for BHSU has expanded the reach of the university by increasing the number and types of courses offered in the surrounding area. BHSU now offers classes at several sites in the Rapid City region and also makes classes available at other locations and through distance learning options. BHSU now has a full-time presence in Rapid City at the Higher Education Center – West River to assist residents in that area with higher educational needs and goals.

Flickema led the university through a successful national accreditation visit from the Higher Learning Commission in 2012. The university also received positive accreditation approvals from several discipline-specific organizations.

The BHSU Foundation and the Yellow Jacket Foundation have seen huge increases in the last decade. The assets of the foundations now total more than $8.5 million. The scholarship programs administered by the BHSU Foundations have grown dramatically, and BHSU was able to award more than 66,000 in scholarships last year, compared to $150,000 when Flickema arrived at BHSU in 1994.

“The greatest strength of this campus is the people. Through the years I’ve learned to rely on people around me,” Flickema says. He noted that because of limited finances, people often get the job done with extra effort and creative thinking - something that happens every day across the BHSU campus.

“I have people coming to me all the time with good ideas. What I do as president is encourage people to make their ideas a reality and make suggestions on how their ideas fit together in the big picture to improve our campus. My job is to coordinate and help make things happen,” Flickema says.

During Flickema’s tenure at BHSU, “One of the best ways to keep enthusiasm in the field is to do research in the field. Our faculty are doing that. Research doesn’t take away from teaching, it adds another dimension. I take great pride in our faculty research,” Flickema says. He adds that faculty are also committed to providing opportunities for under-graduate research to students. He values undergraduate research and has encouraged more undergraduates to pursue graduate school.

“It’s important to get the students to see the bigger picture. A lot of times they don’t see their own potential,” Flickema says.

Perhaps the most noticeable change is the transformation of the campus with ongoing landscaping and building improvements, and most recently, the addition of Clare and Josef Meier Hall, a magnificent music and classroom building located in the center of campus.

“The physical changes are supplementary to what is going on inside the university. It’s important to provide the facilities needed. Overall, we’ve tried to make facility improvements that enhance the campus and create a learning atmosphere so people feel good about being here,” Flickema says.

Clare and Josef Meier Hall is an excellent example of facility improvement. The magnificent music and classroom building boasts the finest recital hall and music practice facilities in the region and is the site of the annual internationally-known Black Hills Summer Institute of the Arts.

Flickema stressed the growing role that BHSU has taken in community and regional affairs. The university has also greatly enhanced economic and educational outreach activities through the addition of several centers including the Center for the Advancement of Math and Science Education, the Center for Conservation of Biological Resources, the Center for Business and Entrepreneurship and the Center for Indian Studies. These centers provide a link to the community with services, assistance and development.

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Flickema is taking a lead role in the development of the educational outreach component of the DUSEL Lab at Homestake. Members of the faculty are highly involved with Black Hills Vision, a regional economic development group seeking to add new dimensions to the economy through technology. In addition, the university has several ongoing projects in conjunction with the governor’s 2010 initiative to promote economic development in the state.

“The role that BHSU will play in all of these important endeavors is important,” Flickema says. “We need to be proactive. There is much we can do. This is a forward-moving institution that makes a profound impact on the community and outlying region.”

Flickema’s vision for BHSU has expanded the reach of the university by increasing the number and types of courses offered in the surrounding area. BHSU now offers classes at several sites in the Rapid City region and also makes classes available at other locations and through distance learning options. BHSU now has a full-time presence in Rapid City at the Higher Education Center – West River to assist residents in that area with higher educational needs and goals.

Flickema led the university through a successful national accreditation visit from the Higher Learning Commission in 2012. The university also received positive accreditation approvals from several discipline-specific organizations.

The BHSU Foundation and the Yellow Jacket Foundation have seen huge increases in the last decade. The assets of the foundations now total more than $8.5 million. The scholarship programs administered by the BHSU Foundations have grown dramatically, and BHSU was able to award more than 66,000 in scholarships last year, compared to $150,000 when Flickema arrived at BHSU in 1994.

“The greatest strength of this campus is the people. Through the years I’ve learned to rely on people around me,” Flickema says. He noted that because of limited finances, people often get the job done with extra effort and creative thinking - something that happens every day across the BHSU campus.

“I have people coming to me all the time with good ideas. What I do as president is encourage people to make their ideas a reality and make suggestions on how their ideas fit together in the big picture to improve our campus. My job is to coordinate and help make things happen,” Flickema says.
This view of Spearfish Falls awaits those who take the trail from Savoy in Spearfish Canyon.