BHSU receives prestigious Christa McAuliffe Award

Highlights from Swarm Week

Keegan receives national teaching award

Brian Shaw | Class of '04
Strongman wins world title with strength of character
National Recognition

The Black Hills State University vision statement, set forth by our Strategic Planning Committee, states that “BHSU will be recognized as an innovative, high-quality University in the Black Hills region, the state, the nation, and the world.”

The key word (as emphasized above) is recognized. There is no doubt that BHSU is an innovative, high-quality University. The accomplishments of our alumni, as well as the faculty, staff, and students, speak highly of our rigorous academic programs and dynamic learning community. As alumni you have experienced the dynamic learning community that permeates our campus and extends beyond through outreach initiatives.

We are increasingly earning recognition for our accomplishments. Just this year the University was honored to receive the Christa McAuliffe Award for Excellence in Teacher Education (see page 17). The University also met all six standards and exceeded two standards set by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education receiving high accolades from the accrediting agency. Details about faculty and staff accomplishments are included in the University News section (see pages 18-20).

Our alumni are continually earning recognition for their pursuits. I treasure meeting with alumni and hearing their personal success stories. Every story is unique but the overarching theme is the transformational power of the educational experience at Black Hills State University.

I know BHSU transforms lives through innovative, high-quality academic programs and a dynamic learning community. Our goal is to ensure BHSU earns recognition for all of its accomplishments. Please continue to share your stories with us.

BHSU was presented with the national Christa McAuliffe Award for Excellence in Teacher Education. Dr. June Apaza (left), director of Center for Advancement of Math and Science Education, BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp, and Dr. Ben Sayler, director of Education and Outreach at Sanford Underground Laboratory at Homestake, accepted the award on behalf of BHSU.

Black Hills State University Alumni Magazine
Spring 2012

The Alumni Magazine is published twice a year by the Black Hills State University Alumni Association for alumni and friends of BHSU. Your comments are welcome. Email us at Alumni@BHSU.edu.

Please email updates and address corrections to: Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu or mail them to: BHSU, 1200 University Unit 9506, Spearfish SD 57799-9506

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Kristen Kilmer, Class of ’99
Michelle Tracy, Class of ‘03

16,312 copies were printed at a cost of 52.9 cents each.
A new world record has been set by the World’s Strongest Man, Brian Shaw. The competition has been held in locations around the world. Brian began competing in international competitions, winning numerous strongman contests, including back-to-back Strongman Super Series World Championships. He qualified for his first World’s Strongest Man competition in 2008. A year later he placed third in the World’s Strongest Man competition; the following year he placed second; and in 2011 he officially became the World’s Strongest Man. That victory has given Brian even more drive to keep winning. "I want to be considered as one of the strongest men to ever walk on this planet, and I have to keep winning to prove that to everyone."

Although Brian famously won his first strongman competition with no formal training, it didn’t come easy. There wasn’t a lot of money for him in the beginning, and he had to overcome many obstacles to get where he is today. He started out making most of his own training equipment so he could practice for the contest events – something he still does today.

“I am very detailed with my training. I always try to duplicate the equipment that I will use in the contests so that I can train with it and get a good idea of how it will feel during the actual competition. In order to do that I either go buy what I need or have a local metal fabricator make special pieces to train with,” said Brian. He has even personally developed atlas stone sleeves that can be purchased on his website www.shawstrength.com.

Brian Shaw, Class of 2004, is dominating the strongman world and building a successful business, creating training products, and booking appearances across the country. After going undefeated in every strongman competition he entered in 2011, Brian claimed the ultimate title of World’s Strongest Man in September.

For over 30 years, the strongest men on the planet have come together in a series of unique and amazing tests of strength to determine the World’s Strongest Man. The competition has been held in locations around the world.

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Brian grew up in Ft. Lupton, Colo., watching strongman competitions on television, but didn’t think about it becoming a reality for him until he started getting serious about weight training in high school and at BHSU. After playing Yellow Jacket basketball and earning his wellness management degree, Brian decided he could make it to the World’s Strongest Man competition. He'd always been strong and competitive so he entered his first contest in 2005, with no formal training, and went pro in only seven months.

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Brian has made his love for strength training into a profession and has transformed his career into a full-time professional strongman. He sells Shaw Strength merchandise on his website, offers training advice, and makes appearances at special events.

Dr. Robert Schurrer, professor of exercise science, was Brian’s advisor and professor at BHSU. “Brian took what he learned at BHSU and worked very hard these past years to become the best in the world. He knew what he wanted to do, and by becoming the best he is able to do this full time as his profession,” said Schurrer.

Brian’s dedication to the sport is obvious by the transformation he made to his body since he began his career. When he graduated from BHSU, Brian was 6’8” and 280 pounds - now he’s 420 pounds. He builds his training schedule during the week around four main training days. Depending on the contest, he may add extra sessions on the events in which he will be competing, using a mix of regular strength training exercises along with strongman training.

He works with a nutritionist who develops his food plans for each competition. He normally eats seven meals a day with a specific mix of lean proteins, carbohydrates, and fats equaling about 8,000 calories. Brian says on an average day he eats over three pounds (cooked weight) of meat, up to 14 eggs, and lots of carbohydrates, fruits, and vegetables.

Brian’s favorite strongman event is the atlas stones, which has been regarded by many to be the signature event of the World’s Strongest Man competition. The contest includes five round stones of increasing weights between 250 and 475 pounds. The athlete picks up the lightest stone first and places it onto the highest platform and continues until all five have been put on the platforms or until time has run out. The winner is the athlete who places the most stones onto the platforms in the quickest time.

Brian won the 2011 King of Stones title by completing the event with a time of 22.36 seconds. He holds several other world records in the event including the heaviest atlas stone ever lifted, which was 558 pounds. He also holds world records in the strongman deadlift.

With a demanding schedule that takes him around the world, Brian still makes time for his fans. His Facebook page has many loyal followers who describe him as an excellent athlete and humble person. His fans say how polite and kind he is at competitions and how grateful they are that he takes time to meet them.

Brian is thankful for his supporters over the years. “It wasn’t an easy road but it makes me appreciate everything more now,” he said. His fans mean the world to him, and he hopes he can keep the title in the United States for quite some time.
Kudos & Announcements

The 60s
Gary Andersen, Class of ’68, and Sharon Linzander.
Andersen, Class of ’67, Spearfish, celebrated 40 years as successful business owners of Taco John’s in Spearfish.

Doris J. Bauernfeind
Koskela, Attended, Fullerton, Neb., retired from Fullerton Public School after 27 years as a paraprofessional in reading, math, and special education.

Ralph Koskela,
Class of ’67, Fullerton, Neb., retired from Fullerton Public School after 42 years of teaching biology, physiology, and health.

George M. Martin,
Class of ’69, Spearfish, retired after 24 years as the superintendent of the Spearfish City for the City of Spearfish.

Santiago “Sandy” Michelen,
Class of ’60, Sheridan, Wyo., was awarded the first 50-year Coaching Service Award by the Wyoming Coaches Association.

Kenneth “Kenny” Miller,
Attended, Deadwood, will be inducted into the South Dakota Rock and Roll Music Association’s Hall of Fame this spring.

Richard “Dick” Termes,
Class of ’64, Spearfish, was invited to be the keynote speaker at the California Art Education Association’s state conference in Bakersfield, Calif. He also spoke at a national math conference in Lexington, Ky. Dick is world renowned for his Termespheres, painted spheres that depict places, scenes or ideas in the complete visual field.

Harry Wingerd,
Attended, St. Paul, Minn., coached the Hi-Tower 14-year-old baseball team to the Babe Ruth World Series. Only 10 teams from around the country participate in the Babe Ruth World Series.

The 70s
Lucille “Luci” (Kovacevich) Basker,
Class of ’73, Colorado Springs, Colo., was named by the National Association of Professional Women as their 2010-2011 Professional Woman of the Year. Luci is the senior software manager for Boeing on the Global Positioning System (GPS) Program. The National Association of Professional Women is a 200,000-member organization devoted to fostering professional and personal success in its members.

Beth (Schmidt) Benning,
Class of ’73, Spearfish, was elected to the South Dakota Community Foundation Board of Directors. Beth will serve a three-year term.

Claudia Little,
Class of ’78, Spearfish, published, Who’s On Guard, which tells the story of her five-year-old son who had a close encounter with a black bear while camping in the Grand Teton National Park in the 70s. This is Claudia’s third children’s book.

Ron G. Meeker,
Class of ’71, Cody, Wyo., was appointed to the West Park Hospital Board in Cody. Ron is the owner of Meeker Insurance Agency.

Julie (Stradinger) Risty,
Attended, Sioux Falls, was elected president of the South Dakota Association of Counties, which represents county auditors, treasurers, and registers of deeds. Julie is currently the Minnehaha County register of deeds.

Roger Tellinghuisen,
Class of ’75, Rapid City,

Alumni Association hosts reunion for debate/forensics team members

The BHSU Alumni Association hosted a reunion for current and former members of the BHSU debate/forensics team in conjunction with Swarm Week 2011. Guests were treated to a social and banquet. Attending the reunion were (l to r): Bill May, Class of ’83; Alan Aker, Class of ’85; Brittnye Seltz, current student; Rebecca Piroutek, current student; Tod Christensen, Attended; Melissa Rogers, current student; Marjo (Christensen) Peters, Class of ’74 and ’02; Colin Hanzlik, Class of ’88; Craig Christensen, Class of ’68; Art Prosper, former director of forensics; Norma T. Walks, Class of ’00; Ryan Clark, current director of forensics; Nicole Faas, current student; Charles Follette, Class of ’66 and former director of forensics; Jay Page, current student; Bill Schulz, Class of ’77 and former director of forensics; and Rick Boyd, former assistant coach of forensics. Not pictured: Robert MacKrell, Class of ’59.
was elected president of the South Dakota Trial Lawyers Association. Roger recently joined the Rapid City law firm of DeMersseman, Jensen, Tellinghuisen, Stanton, and Huffman.

Vanessa (Colby) Ward, Class of ’78, Grand Island, Neb., retired after 33 years as a resource teacher at Northwest High School in Grand Island.

Kenneth Wetz, Class of ’70, and Donna Wetz, Attended, received the Distinguished Service Award from the Butte-Lawrence County Fair. Kenneth has served as the Sheep Show superintendent for many years, and the couple has helped with various activities for over 50 years to make the fair a successful family event.

The 80s

Phil Bjorneberg, Class of ’86, Sioux Falls, received his 25-year Coaching Service Award. Phil is the head coach of the Parker High School boy’s cross country team. He led the team to the State B Cross Country Meet last fall where they were state champions for the second consecutive year.

Lori (Fisher) Caldwell, Class of ’87, Spearfish, was named an owner/broker associate with the Real Estate Center in Spearfish. Lori also sells insurance.

Carl Christensen, Class of ’83 and ’88, Northglenn, Colo., was promoted to Education and Development Manager in the Western Service Center for Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association – College Retirement Equities Fund (TIAA-CREF) in Denver. He also successfully completed the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) General Securities Principal Exam.

Chris Eastman, Class of ’85, Idaho Falls, Idaho, won the 2011 Rocky Mountain Section Professional Golf Association (PGA) Championship. With the victory, he qualified for the 2011 Callaway Golf PGA Assistant National Championship. Chris is a PGA assistant professional at Sand Creek Golf Course.

Becky (Peterson) Gropper, Class of ’80 and ’86, Belle Fourche, has been named a member of the 2011 Executive Council of New York Life Insurance Company. Members of the executive council are among the most successful of New York Life’s licensed agents. Becky is a New York Life agent in Belle Fourche.

Christina “Chris” Haines, Class of ’85, Chandler, Ariz., was named dean of Student Affairs at Phoenix College.

Pat Jones, Class of ’85, Highmore, was hired as the high school principal at Crow Creek Tribal School in Stephan.

Brad Peters, Class of ’82, Dell Rapids, was hired as high school principal and athletic director at St. Mary Catholic School.

Dale Pine, Class of ’82, Pine Ridge, received his 25-year Coaching Service Award at the South Dakota Track and Field Meet in Sioux Falls.

The 90s

Dwight D. Badgett, Class of ’93, Mount Airy, N.C., serves as the senior-enlisted advisor to the Joint Task Force North commander for all matters pertaining to the unit’s enlisted active-duty and reserve-component soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, coast guardsmen, and their families. Dwight currently holds the rank of Air Force Command Chief Master Sergeant.

Richard Bender, Class of ’98, Goshen, Ind., earned his master of arts in technology education from Ball State University. Richard continues to teach technology education at Westview Junior/Senior High School in Northern Indiana.

Matt Burgess, Class of ’94, Cheyenne, Wyo., is the market president for American National Bank - Cheyenne Main Branch.

Betsy (Loup) Burtzlaff, Class of ’91 and ’10, Whitewood, has accepted the position as the Butte-Lawrence County 4-H advisor.

Elizabeth “Lisa” (Spriger) Condon, Class of ’92 and ’10, Laurel, Mont., received the Teacher of the Year Award from the Montana Council on Economic Education. Lisa is a business and marketing instructor at Laurel High School.

Robert Fyles, Class of ’97, Aurora, Colo., is the deputy sheriff for the Adams County Sheriff’s Office.

Sherry (Fiedler) Hanson, Class of ’98, Spearfish, was promoted to business office director for the David M. Dorsett and Belle Fourche healthcare centers. She has been employed with the company since January 2009.

Moon (Jarvis) Hemeyer, Class of ’99, Spearfish, earned her transitional doctorate in physical therapy from the University of St. Augustine. Moon is currently a physical therapist at Lead-Deadwood Regional Hospital.

Stephanie “Steph” Hewitt, Class of ’95, Fort Collins, Colo., was named president of the Colorado Criminal Defense Bar, which is the state wide organization for criminal defense attorneys. Stephanie operates her own criminal defense practice.

Jensen “Jen” (Morris) Moore, Class of ’99, Morgantown, W. Va., was awarded with the 2010 Golden Quill for outstanding teaching at the P.I. Reed School of Journalism. Jen is currently an assistant professor of strategic communication for the P.I. Reed School of Journalism at West Virginia University.

Mike Seppala, Class of ’93, Pueblo, Colo., was named president and chief executive officer for the Pueblo Bank and Trust Company.

The 00s

Kenneth Cummings, Class of ’05, Spearfish, was named Employee of the Year by the South Dakota Department of Corrections Parole Services. Kenneth is a parole agent.

Megan Fiala, Class of ’09, Rapid City, was recently hired by Robert Sharp & Associates as a staff videographer.

Dan Hodges, Class of ’03, Spearfish, was named general manager of the Best Western Black Hills Lodge in Spearfish.

Jeremy Hohn, Class of ’02, Flower Mound, Texas, was promoted to area manager for Personal Marketing with Liberty Mutual Insurance.

Jill Kary, Class of ’09, Spearfish, is the director of catering for Aviands Food Services at BHSU.

Alexis Khan, Class of ’05, Northville, Mich., was named the 2011 recipient of the Michigan Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion Commander’s 80 Percent Extension Award. This prestigious award is presented to the top National Guard career counselors in the state. Alexis currently holds the rank of Staff Sergeant.

Kelly Kirk, Class of ’08, Spearfish, was named the residence hall director for Thomas Hall at BHSU.
Travis Lantis, Class of '00, Spearfish, was appointed to the State of South Dakota Office of Aeronautics. Travis has over 5,000 hours as a pilot and is a member of the Lawrence County Airport Board, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, and the South Dakota Pilots Association.

Harley Lux, Class of '06, Box Elder, was hired by the Hot Springs City Council as the finance officer and city administrator.

Theresa Mutter, Class of '06, Costa Rica, is the brand communications manager with Costa Rica Outward Bound. She is responsible for designing all marketing materials and implementing organizational communication strategies. Theresa is also earning her certificate in international migration studies at Georgetown University. She was invited to take the competitive exam for the United Nations Young Professionals Programme and hopes to launch her career as an international civil servant.

Michael Nekuda, Class of '08, Dickinson, N.D., is the head cross country coach and assistant track coach at Dickinson State University.

Mike Odle, Class of '02, Washington, D.C., was a guest speaker at Colorado Technical University in Sioux Falls for the Call to Serve program. The Call to Serve Speakers Bureau is a dynamic, diverse group of federal employees who educate audiences about the federal workforce and inspire a new generation to serve. Mike is the legislative affairs specialist for the U.S. Forest Service and oversees political appointee confirmations and legislative and congressional issues for the Alaska Region.

Wendy Schamber, Class of '00 and '05, Lead, published Does Waiting Tables Make You Weak?: Character Building Through Service Positions. The book examines real-life stories and the way people both in and out of service positions react to various situations. Wendy currently teaches math in the Lead School District.

Josh Smith, Class of '04, Oxford, Mich., earned his master's degree in nurse anesthesia from the University of Michigan. Josh accepted a position at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, where he will provide various anesthesia services.

Kyle Smith, Class of '02, Spearfish, joined First Interstate Bank in Belle Fourche as vice president and commercial/agriculture loan officer.

Brandy (Miller) Vavruska, Class of '03, Spearfish, was named the 2011 South Dakota Outstanding Educator for Environmental Education by the South Dakota Project Learning Tree (PLT). Last June she traveled to Montgomery, Texas, to receive her honors. Brandy is a kindergarten teacher at West Elementary.
Becca Walters, Class of '06, Misenheimer, N.C., was hired as an assistant coach at Pfeiffer University.

Luke Enos, Attended, Ganaaway, Ireland, has joined the Moycullen Basketball Team in Galway, Ireland. Moycullen is part of the Irish Super League.

Dillon Julius, Class of '10, Spearfish, opened Base Camp Adventure Sports, an outdoor specialty retailer that offers clothing and equipment for hiking, camping, backpacking, trail running, rock climbing, and snowshoeing.

Katelyn “Katie” Legerski, Class of '11, Spearfish, has been hired as the community media coordinator at Prairie Hills Transit.

Will Malde, Class of '11, Spearfish, was hired as an admissions counselor at BHSU.

Brendyn Medina, Class of '10, Custer, is working for KEVN Black Hills FOX as a news reporter.

Clara McKee, Class of '10, Lecerne, Colo., is a flight attendant for Frontier Airlines. She is based out of Denver.

Crystal Savage, Class of '11, Murray, Ky., is currently in graduate school at Murray State University (MSU). She is also a residence director at MSU.

Megan Schackow, Class of '10, Santa Fe, N.M., interned at the Jon G. Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, Ill., where she worked with Pacific white-sided dolphins and Beluga whales.

Tessa Thomas, Class of '11, Rapid City, has been hired by KEVN Black Hills FOX as a news reporter.

Last fall, a number of BHSU alumni were inducted into the inaugural Sturgis Brown High School Athletic Hall of Fame. This class of inductees included two athletes: Dale Hardy, Class of '48, and Don McVay, Attended, and two coaches/administrators: Larry Burditt, Class of '65, and the late Buell Woodle, Class of '29.

Several BHSU alumni were recognized by the Rapid City Public School Foundation as Teachers of Distinction: Shelley (Loefer) Branch, Class of '81, fourth-grade teacher at Knollwood Heights Elementary School; Joan Davis, Class of '81, fourth-grade teacher at Corral Drive Elementary School; Cynthia “Cindy” (Spero) Redetzke, Class of '86, kindergarten teacher at Wilson Elementary School; Kellie (Hamm) Weisgram, Class of '83, math teacher leader at South Park Elementary School; and Tanya (Colombe) Addison, Class of '08, science/social science teacher at North Middle School.

BHSU graduate discovers familiar faces thousands of miles from home

Bailee Clarkson, Class of ’11, discovered some familiar faces while student teaching abroad in Ennis, Ireland last fall.

When Bailee arrived in Ireland she posted her status on Facebook to let her family and friends know she had arrived safely. A few hours later she had a message from recent BHSU graduates Luke Enos, Attended, and his wife, Jenny (Pochop) Enos (middle), Class of ’11. Luke is currently playing basketball for Moycullen, a village outside of Galway, Ireland. It turned out the couple was living only about an hour from where Bailee was studying. The friends met in Galway and made plans to spend the Thanksgiving holiday together. Bailee was excited to see familiar faces since she left her family and her fiancé after getting engaged only a few weeks before she left for Ireland.

Bailee completed her student teaching at Doora NS, a small country school outside of Ennis with only four classrooms. The classrooms were multiage with four teachers and four special needs assistants. She worked with third through sixth grade students and learned a great deal about the culture and the Irish language. Bailee graduated from BHSU in December with an elementary teaching degree and hopes to stay in the area and teach.

Former KBHU-FM DJs work together again

It has been 27 years since Rick Dail, Class of ’86; Jim Kallas, Attended; and Lorene (Meland) Masters, Class of ’85, worked together at KBHU-FM, the BHSU campus radio station. The three BHSU alumni are currently together again working for Duhamel Broadcasting.

Rick and Lorene are doing the morning show for Q92.3, a classic hits radio station. Rick is also the program director at the station.

Jim is on air for the Eagle Country Wake-Up morning show on 95.9; he has been on the radio in the Black Hills for over 30 years. Jim is also the program director for all Duhamel FM stations.
Melissa D. Anderson, Attended, married Merlin Whitney July 4, 2010. Melissa is earning her master’s degree in psychology from Grand Canyon University. She is also a stay-at-home-mom.


Chris Gehner, Class of ’95, married Simone Flint May 28, 2011. Chris has been employed by Caterpillar since 1997 and is currently the marketing manager for the Underground Mining Division based in Burnie, Tasmania, Australia. The couple resides in Cooeetas, Australia.


Carlene Schlup, Class of ’92, married John Burke July 24, 2011. Carlene is a fourth-grade teacher with the Spearfish School District. The couple lives in Spearfish.

Amanda Anker, Class of ’03, married Kane Diers Oct. 8, 2011. Amanda works as a service coordinator at Black Hills Workshop in Rapid City.

Melissa Baldwin, Class of ’09, will marry Charles “Chas” Douvier July 23, 2012, in Key West, Fla. Melissa is currently working at San Diego Hospice and the Institute for Palliative Medicine as a bereavement counselor.

Brooke Bellet, Class of ’09, married Chad Anderson Sept. 3, 2011. Brooke is the billing administrator for TWL Supplies in Spearfish. The couple lives in Deadwood.

Samantha Bollwerk, Class of ’09, married Mark Slocum, Class of ’09, July 9, 2011. Samantha is employed with the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology at the Devereaux Library. Mark is employed with the Journey Museum in Rapid City.

Joshua “Josh” Feeley, Class of ’02, married Miriam Fellows June 2, 2011. Josh is currently employed with Chevron Mining as a heavy equipment operator.

Jodi Hill, Class of ’03, married Jason Howley June 10, 2011. Jodi is a teller and personal banker at ANB Bank in Gillette, Wyo., where the couple resides.


Andrew Hook, Class of ’07 and ’09, married Amy Wood Oct. 8, 2011. Andrew is currently employed at Consumer Credit Counseling Services of the Black Hills in Rapid City.

Sarah Kingrey, Class of ’09, will marry Dustin Becher July 14, 2012. Sarah owns Peaceful Healing Therapeutic Massage in Rapid City.


Amber Riggins, Class of ’06, married Jacob Cornella Sept. 10, 2011. Amber works as a human resources generalist at Black Hills State University Alumni Magazine Page 7
Tara Weldon, Class of ’09, married Kyle Kaiser Sept. 10, 2011. Tara currently works at the Northern Hills Training Center in Spearfish.

Jenny Sandmeier, Class of ’04, married Josh Schweppke Aug. 6, 2011. Jenny is a third-grade teacher at St. Elizabeth Seton in Rapid City.

Amanda Skinner, Class of ’09, married Joel Whelchel Oct. 8, 2011. Amanda is earning her master’s degree in counseling and human resources. She works for Northern Hills Alcohol and Drug Services in Spearfish as a chemical dependency counselor.

Byrum named to Prairie Business 40 Under 40

Cody Byrum, Class of ’04, was one of 40 young professionals selected by Prairie Business magazine for their fourth annual 40-Under-40 listing.

The selection of young business leaders from Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota were nominated by Prairie Business readers for the impact they make in their communities and the important part they play helping business communities throughout the region grow. The diverse group includes business leaders in technology, higher education, finance, art, government, oil, engineering, and marketing, among others.

Cody is the Deputy Commissioner for the South Dakota Governor’s Office of Economic Development (GOED) in Pierre. He is responsible for the management of the GOED and its staff and takes a lead role in project management. He previously served as Deputy Legislative Director for the South Dakota Governor’s Office and as a policy analyst for the Governor’s Office.

Cody and his wife, Rachel, who graduated with a degree in accounting from BHSU in 2007, live in Pierre. Rachel is employed as a budget analyst with the South Dakota Bureau of Finance and Management.

Sharon receives national leadership award

Sharon House, Class of ’71, was one of 10 who were nationally recognized with the 2010 Great Women of Gaming Proven Leader Award by Casino Enterprise Management magazine.

Candidates for the award are nominated by their bosses, co-workers, and peers. The awards are broken down into two categories: Proven Leaders and Rising Stars. To qualify as a Proven Leader, individuals must have worked in the gaming industry for a minimum of 10 years, have been in their current position for at least one year, and hold a position of director of higher. Candidates must also demonstrate exceptional achievement in at least three of the following areas: 1) the ability to go above and beyond job responsibilities; 2) commitment to their company and co-workers; 3) contributions to the industry as a whole; 4) commitment to mentoring; and 5) a strong overall life balance.

Sharon always wanted to become an attorney and work for her tribe. After receiving her undergraduate degree at BHSU, she went on to law school at the University of Wisconsin and was admitted to practice law in 1984 in the state of Wisconsin and the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals in 1985.

She currently provides legal services for a number of tribal gaming commissions. She has worked in tribal jurisdictions within Washington, Idaho, Kansas, Wisconsin, California, and South Dakota. In addition she has served as assistant to the chairman of the National Indian Gaming Association, Rick Hill, for over six years and has been involved in negotiating four tribal/state gambling compacts pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

According to Casino Enterprise Management magazine, there are numerous examples of work she has done to advance the industry. She served as an attorney for the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin—her own tribe—for approximately 20 years, specializing in Indian law, gaming, regulation, corporations, financing, and more. In one of her many nomination letters it says of Sharon, “despite her many achievements, she has remained a humble person, always putting a strong emphasis on family and community. That is why she is so well loved by her people at home and by Indian people throughout the U.S. For these reasons, she richly deserves to be recognized as a Great Woman of Gaming.”
**Births**

**The 90s**

Nannette (Gibson) Kalman, Class of '97 and '03, and husband Serkan, Philadelphia, Pa., had a baby girl, Allyse Sena, Dec. 21, 2011. She weighed 7 lbs. 1 oz. and was 17.6 in. long.

Melissa (Braegger), Class of '02, and Mark Nore, Class of '99, Belle Fourche, had a baby girl, Berklee Class of '99, Belle Fourche, of '02, and school in Belle Fourche.

Melissa teaches at the alternative high school at BHSU. Melissa teaches at the alternative high school.

**The 00s**

Angie (Prostrollo) Bahr, Class of '03, and husband Nick, Madison, had a baby boy, Jazper Pasco, Sept. 23, 2011. He weighed 7 lbs. 9 oz. and was 20½ in. long. Angie is an office manager at Madison Arborcare.

Michelle (Mahlen) Chuplis, Class of '04 and '08, and husband Justin, Faith, had a baby boy, Keegan James, June 10, 2011. He weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. He joins Liam Jacob, who was born May 20, 2009. Michelle is a special educator in the Takini School District.

Melissa (Byrne) Currier, Class of '04, and husband Michael, Spearfish, had a baby girl, Clara Anne, Jan. 14, 2011. She weighed 5 lbs. 12 oz. and was 18½ in. long. Melissa is a part-time chef and stay-at-home mom.

Emily (Boyden), Class of '05, and Kristopher "Kris" Custer, Attended, Black Earth, Wis., had a baby boy, Reid Joseph, Nov. 13, 2011. He weighed 9 lbs. 6 oz. and was 21 in. long. Emily is working for Roche Nimblegen, and Kris is a construction manager for Raymond Management Company.

Danielle (Gomez), Class of '09, and Brooks Walker, Class of '07, Spearfish, had a baby boy, Hadley Jay, Nov. 17, 2010. He weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz. He was 20½ in. long. Danielle is the human resource director at The Lodge in Deadwood.

Brooks is a poker room supervisor and dealer for the Silverado Franklin Hotel and Gaming Resort.

**The 10s**

Melissa (Hampton), Class of '10, and Tyrell Ehnes, Class of '10, Spearfish, had a baby girl, Hudsynn Vida, Aug. 21, 2011. She weighed 6 lbs. and was 19 in. long. Melissa and Tyrell are co-owners of the new Dolce Vino Lounge in Spearfish. Tyrell also owns his own construction business that handles painting, building, and repairing homes in the Black Hills area.

Danielle (Mahlen) Harding, Class of '04, and husband Douglas, Rapid City, had a baby boy, Xavier Ward, April 7, 2011. He weighed 6 lbs. 2 oz. and was 17½ in. long. Danielle is a special education teacher at North Middle School in Rapid City.

Megan (Martin), Class of '05, and Bryan Linn, Class of '06, Sioux Falls, had a baby boy, Trey Douglas, Jan. 24, 2011. He weighed 7 lbs. 12 oz. and was 21 in. long. Megan works in the Human Resources Department at Midland National Life Insurance Company. Bryan is the network administrator at Colman-Egan School.

Leroy Lockwood, Class of '05, and wife Jackie, Black Hawk, had a...
baby boy, Tristen Trey John, July 26, 2011. He weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz. and was 19 in. long. Leroy is employed with Rapid City Regional Hospital and the South Dakota Army National Guard as a sleep technician.

Jammie (McKey) Prager, Class of ’01, and husband Ryan, Ladera Ranch, Calif., had a baby girl, Sydney Madison, Nov. 29, 2011. She weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz. and was 19.5 in. long.

Shawn “Butter” Travis, Class of ’05, and wife Katie, Sioux Falls, had a baby girl, Lucy Ann, Nov. 17, 2011. She weighed 7 lbs. 6 oz. and was 21 in. long. Butter is a junior customer service analyst at Meta Payment Systems.

Amanda (Willert), Class of ’10, and Steve Otto, Class of ’07, Basin, Wyo., had a baby girl, Lilliann Renee, June 5, 2011. She weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 19 1/2 in. long. Amanda works for Children Resource Center. Steve is an electrician for the Wyoming Department of Transportation.

Jennifer (Wagner) Williams, Class of ’02, and husband William, Rapid City, had a baby boy, Eric Anthony, Oct. 12, 2011. He weighed 9.2 lbs. and was 20½ in. long. Jennifer is a law clerk for Justice Konenkamp (South Dakota Supreme Court).

Graham’s Lion of War novels will be produced into a major motion picture

Cliff Graham, Class of ’06, will have his Lion of War novel series, which includes, Day of War and Covenant of War, produced into a series of major motion pictures.

The series was discovered by filmmaker David L. Cunningham (The Path to 9/11) and producer Grant Curtis (Spiderman, Spiderman 2, Spiderman 3, Oz: The Great and Powerful). Curtis and Cunningham formed the production company, GiantKiller Pictures, and will bring the series to the big screen as a major motion picture franchise.

Seeing that many knew little about the Bible, Cliff and several of his friends came up with the idea of creating exciting stories based on the adventures of a band of warriors known as the Mighty Men, a disgruntled army of mercenaries and outcasts forged into an elite fighting force by a young warlord named David, who would one day be king of Israel.

Cliff graduated from BHSU with a major in political science and minor in military science, and did his graduate studies at Liberty Theological Seminary. He is an officer in the United States Army National Guard and a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom. He currently serves part-time in the Chaplain Corps. When Cliff is not writing, he enjoys the outdoors and speaks at conferences and churches about King David and his warriors.

Keegan receives prestigious teaching award

Nicole (Fellows) Keegan, Class of ’05, a seventh-grade science and social studies teacher at Dakota Middle School in Rapid City received the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award for excellence in teaching.

The award was presented to Nicole during a surprise assembly at her school by the state Secretary of Education, Melody Schopp, along with Dakota Middle School students and faculty and various education dignitaries, which included a congratulations video from Gov. Dennis Daugaard.

Nicole was just one of 13 teachers who received the award this year, which included a $25,000 cash prize to be used at the recipient’s discretion. She has been at the school for 11 years and also coaches volleyball, basketball, weight training, and track and field. She also serves as a mentor for new staff, is a member of the Dakota Leadership Team, is the chair of the science department, and presents at staff development meetings as well as at several state- and national-level conferences.

According to the Milken Foundation, Nicole develops relationships with students and works with them as a class, in small groups and individually. She employs modeling and strong questioning to engage her kids. She holds reading and writing workshops and invites parents to her class eight times a year to view their children’s written work and hear them read.

Launched by education reform leader Lowell Milken to celebrate, elevate and activate exemplary K-12 educators, the Awards program showcases in a very public way that greatness in education must be recognized and rewarded. Unlike most teacher awards, this program has no formal nomination or application process. Every participating state’s department of education appoints an independent blue ribbon committee to recommend candidates according to strict criteria, with final selections made by the Milken Family Foundation.
In Memory

Dakota Territory/Spearfish Normal School
1883-1940
Virginia (Peterson) Jardee, Attended, Spearfish
Frances E. (Mead) Lovelace, Attended, Centralia, Wash.
Walter J. Tetraullt, Attended, Spearfish
Gertrude “Trudy” A. (Johnson) Trask, Attended, Custer

Black Hills Teachers College
1941-1963
Faye L. (Lebert) Beck, Attended, Colton
Regina R. (Wagener) Conrath, Class of ’54 and ’63, Rapid City
Marilyn (King) England, Attended, Pierre
Frances M. (Husaboe) Hanson, Class of ’48, Rapid City
Daryl L. Heil, Class of ’59, Deadwood
Stephen “Steve” J. Jeffords, Attended, Kadoka
Edna R. (Juker) Kohler, Class of ’42, Kenmore, Wash.
Bonnie J. (Howie) McAtee, Class of ’54, Casper, Wyo.
Shirley (Schweigerdt) Moore, Class of ’63, Rapid City
Gerald “Jerry” L. Morris, Class of ’61, North Platte, Neb.
Berniece J. (Sedwick) Odson, Attended, Sioux Falls
Marion K. (Malcolm) Olson, Class of ’46 and ’53, Santa Maria, Calif.
Robert “Bob” A. Pearsall Sr., Class of ’58, Lacey, Wash.
Dolores K. (Fisher) Rankin, Attended, Spearfish
William “Bill” L. Robbins, Attended, Hill City
Nelda E. (Estabrook) Rose, Class of ’61, Sturgis
Hilma S. (Balo) Saari, Class of ’42, Beulah, Wyo.
Leo A. Stangle, Attended, Scenic
Thelma (Eggen) Travis, Class of ’55, Pierre
Donald “Digger” L. Welland, Class of ’52, Rapid City
Clar (Peterson) Yarger, Class of ’61, Rapid City

Black Hills State College
1964-1988
Oline E. (Mysse) Appeltoft, Class of ’84, Aberdeen
Barbara N. Beauvais, Attended, Omaha, Neb.
Susan A. Brink, Class of ’85, Lake Katrine, N.Y.
Dale J. Brownell, Class of ’79, Spearfish
Margurite M. (Hoffman) Anderson Bucholz, Class of ’72, Martin
Barbara A. (Belmont) Dailey, Class of ’72, Belle Fourche
Bonnie L. (Kelley) Dardis, Class of ’72, Spearfish
Anthony Davis, Class of ’76, Marty
Shirley A. (Stewart) Donahue, Class of ’68, Spearfish
Sylvia L. Draine, Class of ’65, Sundance, Wyo.
Georgine I. ESSERT, Class of ’72, Rapid City
Edith J. “Edie” (Scott) Gebauer, Class of ’84, De Witt, Iowa
Katherine J. (Gehrt) Hamilton, Class of ’75, Hay Springs, Neb.
Gregory D. Hanson, Attended, Veblen
Rita R. (Rice) Hobart, Class of ’88, Rapid City
Karna A. (Larson) Kasch, Class of ’66, Madison
Corrine (Skye) Kills Pretty Enemy, Class of ’76, Alexandria, Va.
Melvina C. (Keffer) Lambert, Class of ’66, Pompano Beach, Fla.
Steven C. Lester, Class of ’73, Rapid City
Collin “Cowboy” S. MacCarty, Class of ’65 and ’72, Homer, Ala.

Remembering Dr. Audrey Gabel
Written by Brad Schneck, BHSU mass communication student

Dr. Audrey Gail Coxbill Gabel, 71, Spearfish, longtime BHSU professor, died Tuesday, July 5, 2011, of Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease.

When Dr. Gabel moved to the Black Hills in 1985, she had just received her Ph.D. from Iowa State University. Her passion for mycology, the study of fungi, helped attract her to Western South Dakota. However, as her husband Dr. Mark Gabel explains, “I kind of hope I had some influence, since I was already here.” The couple met in graduate school and married the same year.

That year marked a more than 26-year relationship with the Black Hills which resulted in numerous publications, books, and research projects. Her passion for the study of different fungus in the hills and plains aided in her collection of over 4,000 individual samples that are now housed in the BHSU Herbarium. Those samples fulfill nearly all of the state records for fungal species in South Dakota, bestowing BHSU with a priceless mycological collection. Her passion for research continued on after her retirement from BHSU in 2002.

Even though she was an accomplished mycologist, it was teaching her students at BHSU that really drove her. When asked about her passion for teaching, her husband responded, “She would have liked to be remembered as someone who had high standards, and tried to impart those to her students.” This is evident in the numerous research projects and books that she co-authored with her pupils. The most notable of these is Mushrooms and Other Fungi of the Black Hills, which she co-authored with one of her students, Elaine Ebbert.

Dr. Gabel was a dedicated educator and biologist who spent countless hours enjoying and studying the Black Hills. Although she was no longer a professor at BHSU for the last years of her life, she continued to enrich the lives of its students and faculty.
Reunions at BHSU

Plan now to connect with former friends and classmates.

50-Year Club Reunion | May 4-5, 2012
Members from the Class of 1962 are invited to a gathering to celebrate their induction into the 50-Year Club at BHSU. Each year, classmates from the 50-year class return to campus to celebrate the anniversary of their graduation. Members from prior graduating classes are also invited to attend a banquet in honor of the Class of 1962.

Class of 1972 Reunion | June 29-30, 2012
The BHSU Alumni Association invites members from the Class of 1972 to celebrate their 40th anniversary of graduating from BHSU. A registration letter will be mailed out in early May.

Athletic Reunion | Swarm Day - Sept. 22, 2012
Join us as we celebrate our move to National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II. We’re inviting back our former student-athletes from yesteryear. If you participated in any athletic sport at BHSU, this reunion is for you. Former current coaches and student managers are also invited. Registration information will be mailed out in July.

For more information about these reunions or to receive a registration and information packet, contact Tom Wheaton at 605.642.6385 or email Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu.

Embrace the Past

We are asking you to “Embrace the Past” and help us build the Alumni-Foundation Welcome Center. You can show your lasting support for this project by buying an engraved brick to be displayed in the entryway. You may purchase one 4”x 8” brick with up to three lines (17 characters) per line or an 8”x 8” brick with up to three lines (20 characters per line). Your donation will help construct the Alumni-Foundation Welcome Center.

Visit www.BHSU.edu/BrickCampaign to place your order.

Contact Steve Meeker at 605.642.6385 or email Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu for more information.
1. Swarm Spirit was the theme for this year's homecoming celebration. Yellow Jacket fans showed their love for BHSU during the week by dressing in green and gold as well as attending the many events focused around school spirit.

2. Dave Little and his wife, Claudia, Class of '78, were the parade marshals for the Swarm Day parade. Dave, who served as a coach and athletic director at BHSU for more than three decades, and Claudia, a former Spearfish elementary teacher, have played an active role in Swarm Day celebrations for many years.

3. The BHSU Math Assistance Center won best overall float with their “Fear the Sting not Math” float.

4. Evan Brindley and Rhea Richards were crowned Swarm King and Queen.

5. The Kiddie Carnival, which is sponsored each year by the BHSU Reading Council, invited Yellow Jacket fans of all ages to campus for face painting and interactive games and projects.

6. The first annual Downtown Block Party and Lunch, sponsored by the Spearfish Downtown Business Association, was a great way to show Swarm Spirit. BHSU student Max Temple and the Broken Soul band provided musical entertainment while students were treated to lunch and received samples and special offers from local businesses.
Highlights from Swarm Week 2011

Alumni Award Recipients
Four BHSU alumni were honored for their successes during the annual Alumni Awards Luncheon, which was held during Swarm Week. Those honored this year include (l to r): Darla J. (Talty) Crown, Special Achievement Award; Dr. Barry L. Jankord, Excellence in Education Award; George C. Rinker, Ph.D., Special Service Award; and Charles (Chuck) V. Sederstrom, Jr., Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Hall of Fame Inductees
The 1998-99 men’s basketball team (left) was one of two teams inducted into the Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame during Swarm Week. Members who attended the ceremony included (l to r): Ryan Larson, Derrick Lockman, Coach Mike Olson, Brad Massman, Brant Miller, Trent Traphagen, and Travis Traphagen.

The 1973 men’s golf team (bottom left) was also inducted into the Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame. Team members attending the ceremony were (l to r): Ron Meeker, Coach Gene Schlekeway, Doug Murphey, and Doug Graslie.

Individuals inducted for their athletic accomplishments while playing for the Yellow Jackets were: Jesse Dana, basketball; Traci (Schenk) Dana, basketball; Cori (Ringwood) Engelhardt, basketball; and Travis Thorn, football and track. Mike Olson was inducted for his success as the head men’s basketball coach for nine seasons at BHSU.
Creating a Legacy

Kelli Clarkson Memorial Scholarship established for photography students

The Clarkson family recently donated $10,000 to establish the Kelli Clarkson Memorial Scholarship Fund at Black Hills State University. The Clarkson family recently donated $10,000 to establish the Kelli Clarkson Memorial Scholarship Fund at BHSU. Pictured (l to r) are: Steve Babllitt, professor of photography at BHSU; Cathy Bennett, Kelli’s sister; Shelby Cihak, Kelli’s niece and senior secretary for the College of Liberal Arts at BHSU; and Steve Meeker, vice president of University Advancement at BHSU.

Kelli was born March 4, 1953, and grew up on a farm east of Belle Fourche. She graduated from Belle Fourche High School in 1971 and married Alan Crago that summer. She worked for the Posy Palace in Belle Fourche and various flower shops in Spearfish and Boulder, Colo. An extremely gifted artist, Kelli created art using as many different mediums as her imagination could conjure. These included painting, photography, floral arrangement, jewelry, pottery, textiles, interior design, and gourmet cooking. According to Cathy Bennett, Kelli’s sister, it was truly a delight to see her many creations. Kelli also had a wanderlust from an early age, and life’s travels took her many places including Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Egypt, Tobago, Ethiopia, and many, many points in between. Kelli was diagnosed with cancer in February 2010.

The scholarship is designated for a sophomore, junior, or senior majoring in mass communication with an emphasis in photography. For information about establishing a scholarship at BHSU, contact Steve Meeker, vice president of University Advancement at BHSU, at (605) 642-6228 or Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu.

Alberts establish athletic scholarship endowment

Arthur “Lee” Albert, Class of ’48, and his wife, Quindred, Class of ’75, donated $20,000 to establish an athletic scholarship endowment at Black Hills State University. Lee played basketball for BHSU in the 1940s and was on the 1946-47 team that won the South Dakota Intercollegiate Conference and the Montana-Dakota Conference with a 13-7 record.

Lee graduated from BHSU with a biology degree and is a retired school administrator. Quindred earned her elementary education degree and is a retired K-8 school teacher. The couple currently lives in Newcastle, Wyo.

Williams and Ree performance raises over $7,000 for scholarships

Nearly 400 people were in attendance when Williams and Ree returned to their alma mater for a concert performance that raised over $7,000 for scholarships. Taking the stage with the legendary Williams and Ree duo were Dennis Van Vactor and Kenny Putnam. Williams and Ree have been performing their unique comedy and music shows for more than 40 years. They met in 1968 while attending BHSU, where they began playing together in a band and often filled time between their songs with their unique brand of humor. After realizing that the humor became a bigger draw than the music, the comedy team was born.

Arthur “Lee” Albert, Class of ’48, and his wife, Quindred, Class of ’75, donated $20,000 to establish an athletic scholarship endowment at Black Hills State University. Lee played basketball for BHSU in the 1940s and was on the 1946-47 team that won the South Dakota Intercollegiate Conference and the Montana-Dakota Conference with a 13-7 record.

Lee graduated from BHSU with a biology degree and is a retired school administrator. Quindred earned her elementary education degree and is a retired K-8 school teacher. The couple currently lives in Newcastle, Wyo.
The Johnnie and Shirley Johnson Family Foundation have pledged $250,000 for Black Hills State University business scholarships and to help with the construction of the BHSU Alumni-Foundation Welcome Center.

Construction plans are underway for an Alumni-Foundation Welcome Center at BHSU, which will not only support the University’s financial development; it will also strengthen relationships with alumni and provide ongoing communication to increase the visibility of BHSU.

The Johnson’s have established that $150,000 of their pledge will help with the construction of the Center. This donation gives an extraordinary jump-start to the project. The entertainment room of the Alumni-Foundation Welcome Center will be named in their honor.

Johnnie, who is a 1970 business graduate of BHSU, retired two years ago as the chief executive officer (CEO) of CHS, an energy, grains, and foods cooperative. He had been with the company for 34 years. He says his education at BHSU provided a foundation that has served him well as he advanced to become the CEO of a Fortune 100 company. “My business classes set the tone for me. My business degree was a great background that I’ve relied on to understand the complex financial matters I worked with at CHS,” said Johnnie.

There are several other naming opportunities within the Center that are still available, including the naming of the building. First Interstate Bank recently donated $30,000 to name the conference room and Mick Dana, Class of ’69, and his wife, JoConda, Class of ’92, and family, Spearfish, donated $25,000 to name the gardens.

To donate to the facility or for more information contact Steve Meeker, vice president of University Advancement at BHSU, at (605) 642-6385 or email Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu.

Pioneer Bank & Trust and Clarkson family pledge $50,000 to BHSU

Pioneer Bank & Trust and the F.L. Clarkson Family Foundation recently pledged an additional $50,000 to the Clarkson Family Scholarship Fund at Black Hills State University. With this gift the fund is approaching nearly $500,000. Scholarships are awarded annually to BHSU students from Buffalo, Sturgis, Belle Fourche, Spearfish, and Rapid City. Presenting the check to Steve Meeker (second from right), vice president of University Advancement at BHSU, is (l to r): Bailee Clarkson, Class of ’11; Jeb Clarkson, vice president and senior trust officer at Pioneer Bank and Trust; and Maureen Clarkson, Class of ’84.

Gear, gifts, and much more!

Check out what the BHSU Bookstore has to offer:

Nike | Under Armour | DAKINE | Skullcandy | Large selection of art supplies

The Bookstore now carries bareMinerals makeup products!
Black Hills State University was presented with the national Christa McAuliffe Award for Excellence in Teacher Education. The award, presented by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), recognizes excellence and innovation in teacher education programs. This prestigious award is designed to advance the field of teacher education by identifying promising practices and critical issues related to measuring the impact of programs on teacher candidate knowledge and the impact of these teachers on pupil learning.

BHSU was chosen this year for its contributions within an outstanding professional development program called Project PRIME (Promoting Reflective Inquiry in Mathematics Education). Working closely with Rapid City Area Schools (RCAS) and other program partners, BHSU has had a profound impact on the teaching and learning of elementary mathematics in South Dakota.

Project PRIME is a grant-funded initiative that has been in place since 2002. In late 2001, the National Science Foundation (NSF) called for school districts, universities, and other community agencies to join together in partnership to improve math and science education. PRIME was among the very first cohort of NSF awardees in this prestigious and now decade-long funding competition. The partnership consists of Rapid City Area Schools, the Center for the Advancement of Mathematics and Science Education (CAMSE) at BHSU, Inverness Research Associates, and Technology and Innovation in Education (TIE). The grant, entitled Promoting Reflective Inquiry in Mathematics Education (PRIME), is a professional development initiative designed to improve student achievement in mathematics for one large school district in South Dakota. The original funding for PRIME was five years, but supplemental funding from NSF has allowed the work to continue. The project is now funded through the end of the 2011-2012 school year according to June Apaza, director of CAMSE.

BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp expressed her delight and gratitude when she received news of the award. “This national recognition is a tribute to the faculty, staff, and students involved, to the innovations in teacher education that have resulted, and to the partnership with the Rapid City School District and TIE that has made it possible,” Schallenkamp says. “Just one award is given each year and Black Hills State University, in recognition of its role within the partnership, was selected for the 2011 award. It is truly an honor for all involved.”

Ben Sayler, director of Education and Outreach at the Sanford Underground Research Facility, serves as principal investigator for the grant and member of the project’s director team. “The McAuliffe Award is a testament to vision, leadership, and sustained commitment across the partner institutions,” Sayler said. “From day one, at the highest administrative levels and throughout the workforce of each institution, there has been deep dedication to enhance student learning in mathematics.”

The project’s director team includes Susie Roth, Deann Kertzman, and Sharon Rendon, as representatives of RCAS; Apaza and Sayler represent BHSU; and James Parry and Maggie Austin represent TIE. Inverness Research serves as external evaluator.

In a letter explaining why BHSU was chosen to receive the award, Cindy Ross noted that BHSU was selected in part for the advancements the University has instituted in its teacher preparation program in the last decade. These additions include a new math specialization to the master’s program as well as innovative professional development formats for in-service teachers that have continued and expanded in depth and breadth and include a follow-up or follow-along format.

“More impressive, however, are the gains in P-12 learning outcomes as a result of the collaborative project PRIME,” Ross wrote. “The PRIME program provides a stellar example of quality, effective teacher preparation.”

The national award, created in 1987, was named in honor of the first teacher in space, Christa McAuliffe, who died in the 1986 Challenger disaster. McAuliffe received her bachelor’s degree from Framingham State College (Mass.) and her master’s degree from Bowie State University (Md.), both AASCU member institutions.
BHSU in the news

BHSU is a top college for Native Americans

Black Hills State University has been named one of the “Top 200 Colleges for Native Americans” by the editors of Winds of Change magazine. According to the article, the listing “reflects where American Indians are going to school in significant numbers and where the community, Native programs, and support are strong enough that students stay to enjoy college and graduate.” Winds of Change is the official publication of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES).

With 5.4 percent of the total student body, BHSU has the highest percentage of American Indian students of all of the South Dakota Board of Regents institutions. The number of American Indian students has grown significantly in recent years. In the fall 2010 semester, 255 American Indian students were enrolled at BHSU, which was a 75 percent increase over 2009 and more than double the 2005 enrollment of this population.

A primary resource for students at BHSU is the Center for American Indian Studies, which was established by an act of the South Dakota Legislature in 1974. The Center provides academic, cultural, and social support for Native students at BHSU and also administers the academic major and minor in American Indian Studies.

BHSU partners in $3 million science grant

Black Hills State University is a partner in a $3 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) that will put BHSU at the forefront of innovation in science education on a national level.

Dr. Rodney Custer, provost and vice president for academic affairs at BHSU, is the principal investigator and leader of the five-year project that will address some of the challenges the nation faces in science education.

Custer notes that the timing for this project is impeccable since the National Research Council just released a major report entitled “Conceptual Framework for New Science Education Standards,” which includes elements of engineering and design. This framework will guide the development of science education standards for the schools. This is one of the first projects of this type to be funded by the NSF.

“The grant will give us the chance to influence science education on a national level, and will help us better understand how design and engineering activities can help students better learn science,” Custer says. “This grant will put the national spotlight on us and will help position BHSU in an important visible leadership role in science education.”

BHSU will be a partner with Purdue and several other universities from across the nation on this grant-funded project. Custer says the grant will create unique opportunities for BHSU science education faculty as well as for the Center for the Advancement of Math and Science Education (CAMSE) at BHSU.

The five-year grant project will address the challenges of science education by examining the viability of an engineering concept based approach to teacher professional development within life science and physical science.

Groups of teachers from the life and physical science areas will participate in summer institutes and school-year experiences with students. This will include exploring new ways of teaching science using engineering concepts, and curriculum revision, and new ways of engaging students with science through the use of authentic, real-world activities.

BHSU is recognized as patriotic employer

Black Hills State University earned two awards recognizing the University as a patriotic employer. The University received recognition for the ongoing support of the men and women in the National Guard and Reserve. In addition, this fall BHSU was named to the 2012 list of Military Friendly Schools by G.I. Jobs. Accepting the awards are (l to r): Nancy Grassel, director of Human Resources; BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp; Kim Nida, assistant director of Student Financial Services; and Mike McNeil, disability services liaison for the Student Success Center.

American Indian Awareness Week

April 10-15 | BHSU Campus

American Indian Awareness Week
Mending the Sacred Hoop: A Circle of Unity

April 13 Wacipi | Young Center, 7 p.m.
14 Wacipi | Young Center, 12 p.m. & 7 p.m.
15 Wacipi | Young Center, 12 p.m.

Join us...everyone is welcome!

Visit www.BHSU.edu/Powwow for more information and a detailed list of events.

American Indian Awareness Week is sponsored by the SD Humanities Council.
BHSU faculty in the news

**McCart earns “Young Scholar” award**

Chris McCart, assistant professor and coordinator of the outdoor education program at Black Hills State University, was awarded a “Young Scholar” award from the Association for Moral Education. The scholarship assisted with her expenses to travel and present at the 2011 Association for Moral Education International Research Conference in Nanjing, China.


“One of the best parts was being able to visit with researchers in this field of study from all over the world – it really expanded my thinking,” McCart said.

In 2008, McCart was awarded an Archibald Bush Leadership Fellowship and a two-year leave of absence to begin work on her doctorate degree. She has worked with the outdoor education program at BHSU since 2004.

**BHSU meets and exceeds accreditation standards for teacher preparation programs**

Black Hills State University has earned continuing accreditation for its teacher preparation program following an extensive review by the premier national teacher education accrediting agency, the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). BHSU earned the accreditation by meeting and exceeding the standards.

BHSU, which has a legacy of preparing exceptional educators throughout its 128 years, has been continuously accredited by NCATE since the agency’s inception in 1954. BHSU was one of the founding members of NCATE.

BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp says the high praise in the accreditation report is a testament to the high-quality, innovative academic programs and the dedicated faculty and staff members at BHSU.

“Our accreditation report notes that BHSU meets and exceeds all standards set by the accreditation agency. Achieving this high honor truly demonstrates that the outstanding teacher preparation program at BHSU is accomplishing its goals and preparing exceptional teachers,” Schallenkamp says. “I’m very proud of the faculty, staff, and students.”

Pat Simpson, dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences at BHSU, noted that the four-year process included effort from many committed partners.

**BHSU history education graduate**

James Stith works with Sturgis Brown High School students during his student teaching experience. BHSU, one of the founding members of NCATE, has a legacy of preparing exceptional educators.

“This was truly a collaborative effort. Without our committed partners, the accreditation would not have moved forward. We are fortunate to have ongoing successful partnerships with local school districts, the South Dakota Department of Education, students, University administration, faculty, and staff.”

Simpson added that it is rare to exceed the six standards areas (candidate knowledge and skills, assessment systems, field experiences, diversity, faculty qualifications, and governance) and not have any items noted for improvement.

**BHSU faculty and staff are recognized in the region, state, nation, and world**

- **Sandy Klarenbeek**, assistant professor of education, has been appointed to the American School Health Association National Advocacy Committee.
- **Dr. Aris Karagiorgakis**, assistant professor of psychology, and co-principal investigator **Kara Graveman**, director of Action for the Betterment of the Community, were recently awarded a five-year $125,000 per year federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration grant to study substance abuse among youth in the Sturgis community. Graveman is a recent BHSU graduate.
- **Steve Babbitt**, professor of photography, and **Lynn Thorpe**, adjunct art instructor, were recently honored by the South Dakota Arts Council (SDAC). Babbitt and Thorpe each received a $5,000 Fellowship Award from the SDAC. These prestigious awards are given to recognize excellence in past artistic achievement and to encourage future artistic growth.
- **Dr. David Wolff**, professor of history, had an article published in the 18th Annual Mining History Journal, titled “Saving a Boomtown: The Reinvention of Deadwood.” In this piece, Wolff looks at the critical decade of the 1880s when Deadwood could have died and how local entrepreneurs, led by Seth Bullock, James K.P. Miller, and Harris Franklin, fought to restore the town’s economic vitality.
BHSU students in the news

BHSU students nominated for prestigious acting competition

Four Black Hills State University students were nominated for the Irene Ryan Acting Competition for their acting performances at BHSU. The competition was held during the Kennedy Center-American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF).

Theo Schmidt, speech communication major from Hot Springs, and Max Downs, speech communication major from Rapid City, were nominated for their performances in the production of Almost, Maine. Ann Thompson, mass communication major from Spearfish, and Hannah Kloiber, speech communication and business administration major from Parker, Colo., were nominated for their performances in True Magic. The students were chosen by an outside respondent who came to the productions as well as by the director of the shows.

According to Pam Wegner, professor of speech and theatre at BHSU, the Irene Ryan Acting Competition is one of the largest acting competitions for college students in the country. Two students are nominated from every production that is entered in the KCACTF regional competition. More than 300 students entered the regional competition last year.

The nominees performed a memorized scene with a partner in front of a panel of judges at the regional festival that was held in Ames, Iowa, this January. A small number of performers were selected as semi-finalists, where they had to perform two additional memorized scenes in front of a larger panel of judges. Downs has been chosen as a semi-finalist for two consecutive years.

Faculty, students, and alumnus investigate American Indian medicinal plants to fight antibiotic resistant microbes and malaria

Four Black Hills State University students and a recent BHSU graduate are working with Dr. John Dixson, assistant professor of chemistry, on two biomedical research projects to address the ever-growing problem of antibiotic resistant microbes and drug resistant malaria. Antibiotic resistance is a major concern in the United States and Europe, while malaria is a major health concern in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

BHSU students, Jason Nies, integrative genomics graduate student from Spearfish; Chris White, biology and chemistry major from Rapid City; Gina Geffre, biology major from Pierre; Kevin Ellis, chemistry major from Oglala; BHSU alum Jay Jacobs, integrative genomics graduate student from Spearfish, and Dixson are investigating medicinal plants that American Indians used to treat a variety of diseases as sources of new, natural products to treat antibiotic resistant diseases and malaria.

According to Dixson, malaria is estimated to cause nearly 2.7 million deaths worldwide each year, and there are 300 to 500 million new malaria cases reported annually. In the sub-Saharan Africa region 90 percent of the malaria deaths are in children that are less than five years old. The need for a new anti-malarial medicine is more critical than ever since the last line of defense in the treatment of malaria, Artemisinin, is beginning to show resistance in Cambodia and Thailand.

Dr. Dennis Kyle, a world-renowned expert on malaria at the University of South Florida’s School of Public Health, assisted the BHSU research team in culturing the malaria-causing parasite, Plasmodium falciparum. The infected red blood cells were treated with 12 extracts from different sages commonly found in western South Dakota. Four extracts were identified with anti-malarial properties and are being purified to identify the molecules responsible for the anti-malarial activity.

The second area of research the team is working on is aimed at the discovery of new chemistry with antibiotic activity, which focuses on three plants: white sage, yucca, and bee balm. The white sage project has identified a new class of chemistry with antibiotic activity against multidrug resistant organisms (MDRO) such as Staphlococcus aureus. Research continues on this compound to further characterize its antibiotic properties, as well as to understand the potency of this compound by determining the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC). Research on the yucca and bee balm plants is not as advanced; however they both have shown interesting activity against resistant microorganisms. The BHSU research team is currently working to identify the antibiotic activity compounds in those plants.

Dr. John Dixson (far right), assistant professor of chemistry at BHSU, works with Jason Nies (left), integrative genomics graduate student from Spearfish; Chris White, biology and chemistry major from Rapid City; and Gina Geffre, biology major from Pierre, investigating medicinal plants that American Indians used to treat a variety of diseases as sources of new, natural products to treat antibiotic resistant diseases and malaria. Kevin Ellis, chemistry major from Oglala, and BHSU alum Jay Jacobs, integrative genomics graduate from Spearfish, are also collaborating on the research project.
Sports

Collins named BHSU assistant athletic director of external operations

Tim Collins has been selected as the assistant athletic director for external operations at Black Hills State University.

Collins, who is currently assistant men’s basketball coach for BHSU, will assume his new duties full time when the 2012 basketball season is completed.

This is his second year as assistant coach at BHSU. He also serves as the advisor for the Student-Athlete Advisory Council and assists with athletic development initiatives.

Collins has been involved with

BHSU continues transition into Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference

Black Hills State University was approved to move into Candidacy Year Two status for National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II membership.

The Yellow Jackets are one of eight schools that have moved into Year Two candidacy. Other institutions advancing are California Baptist University, Lindenwood University, Malone University, McKendree University, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Ursuline College, and Walsh University.

BHSU will join the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) in 2012-13. The Yellow Jackets joined the RMAC as an associate member in softball.

The RMAC is an NCAA Division II conference with 14 member institutions: Colorado (Adams State College, Colorado Christian University, Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University-Pueblo, Fort Lewis College, Colorado Mesa University, Metropolitan State College of Denver, Regis University, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Western State College); Nebraska (Chadron State College, University of Nebraska at Kearney); and New Mexico (New Mexico Highlands University, Western New Mexico University). Nebraska-Kearney is moving to the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) and will end their RMAC membership after the 2011-12.

This spring BHSU is scheduled for an on-site visit with the NCAA Division II membership committee as part of their evaluation to be considered to move into Year Three, the provisional year of NCAA Division II.

Yellow Jacket basketball standout accepts professional contract

Black Hills State University basketball standout Luke Enos has joined the Moycullen Basketball Team in Ireland. The team is part of the Irish Super League.

Former BHSU basketball standout Luke Enos has joined the Moycullen Basketball Team in Ireland. The team is part of the Irish Super League.
The new head football coach at Black Hills State University is John Reiners. He has spent the last three seasons as the offensive coordinator and the recruiting coordinator at BHSU.

“Coach Reiners has the characteristics that we look for in a head coach. He has a wealth of experience, is familiar with our systems, and has worked closely with our student-athletes, said Jhett Albers, athletic director at BHSU.”

“In the time I have been at BHSU the foundation has been set for this program to be competitive at the NCAA Division II level. I have spent the last 18 seasons as an assistant coach and the experiences I have gained have prepared me for this position,” Reiners said.

Reiners comes to BHSU after spending 15 seasons as a running back, wide receiver, and tight end coach for Chadron State College (CSC). Reiners was also the head track and field coach for 12 seasons at CSC. Reiners replaces former head football coach Jay Long, who accepted a head coaching position at Chadron State University.
Looking ahead

Student Volunteer Awards Celebration
April 14

Lakota Omniciye Wacipi (Powwow)
April 13-15

Class of ’62 Reunion
and 50-Year Club Reunion
May 4-5

Commencement
May 5

Yellow Jacket/Old Baldy
Golf Tournament (Saratoga, Wyo.)
June 8-10

Stadium Sports Grill/Yellow Jacket
Golf Classic and Auction
June 30

Class of ’72 Reunion
June 29-30

BHSU presents the Summer Stage
July 2012 - www.BHSU.edu/Theatre

Swarm Week
Sept. 17 - 22

BHSU Events
www.BHSU.edu/Events

Athletic Events
www.BHSUAthletics.com

Looking back

The baseball program was initiated in 1948 under the direction of Cliff Papik, whose tenure spanned over 30 years at BHSU. During his career as head baseball coach, he compiled a 326-179 record, won eight conference titles, and produced five National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) All-Americans. In 1978 the baseball diamond (above) was dedicated as Clifford G. Papik Field. The baseball program ended at BHSU in 1982.

Athletic Reunion
Swarm Day | September 22
Make plans to come back to campus for the BHSU Athletic Reunion. If you participated in any athletic sport at BHSU, this reunion is for you. Former and current coaches and student managers are also invited. See page 12 for more information.