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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
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. Without students, that’s what we’re all about. That’s what we’ve accomplished. 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 Students. That’s what we’re all about. Without students, that’s what we’re all about. Without students, that’s what we’ve accomplished. When one of them comes back and lets us know what they have accomplished, that’s the ultimate satisfaction,” 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 experiences in 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 during his state of the university address this fall.

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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.
F

For 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 building at that. The former

was a dilapidated building that had been empty for 37 years when it caught Leigh’s eye. This was some time during the years 1978 to 1982 while she was attending college at Black Hills State University. At the time, Leigh had no clue what she might do with the old stone building. All she knew was that someday, someday 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 1980s and the time Leigh first discovered it — and the year 2000 when Roma’s opened its doors — is a history well 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 know one thing. I did not want to go to college where my parents were teaching. Leigh recalls.

With a head for numbers and natural bookkeeping abilities, 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 explains. “It was my name on the window and I could see my restaurant.”

Back home visiting family at Christmas time 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 got very sound 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.

Putting her business acumen to good use, Leigh negotiated with the owner and made her dream a 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. It is 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 snooping 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, food bins, 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 ayxil of artwork discreetly 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 opens every morning and spends the rest of her time on the multiple management duties associated with the popular restaurant. She is quick to pass herself over when she discusses Roma’s success and popularity with patrons from all over the Black Hills. Roma’s fans will tell you the atmosphere is stunning, the food outstanding, and the service is over the top.

But Leigh refuses to take the credit. “I have to give a lot of credit to my staff,” Leigh insists. “I absolutely would not be where I am today without my staff.” She still has the first server she ever hired and says her employees stay with her an average of 2½ years — not bad in an industry known for its high turnover rate.

Now that Roma’s has passed its five-year mark, how does Leigh feel about her long-term relationship she’s had with the building she spotted over 20 years ago? She regrets that she takes no vacations, but plans to remedy that in the future when she achieves her 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 a dealers.

Leigh’s love affair with Spearfish canyon, the tomatoes she uses in her famous sauce, her passion for stress relief after a long day at work. “It was my name on the window and I could see my restaurant.”

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.

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

Subscriptions are available for $20 per year. Please send check or money order to: BHFM, PO 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 tugs on pink tights over an aging body, flaps a cotton shirt over his growing 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, laugh-out-loud schtick and uncommon bravado. The bravedo comes from being in the bull-ridding arena on the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association tour for more than 40 years.

Throughout the National Western Stock Show & Rodeo (in Denver, Colo.), he presents “Backstage With a Rodeo Clown,” a program geared to toddlers and school-age kids, three to seven times daily. The program is new to the 100-year-old stock show. In “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 some magic, comedy and farm animals, entertaining up to 300 youngsters on bleachers and hay bales in the tent.

After sharing lemonade from a wooden keg with the audience, Reichert puckishly pulled a dog out of his hat but his pants. He pulls a guinea pig from a French horn, to the delight of the children. “I thought it was very well done, and I liked the way he addressed the issues of education and not doing drugs,” said Jacqueline Brostrom, of Centennial, who was with her husband, Dave, and two grand-children, Quincy, 4, and Jade, 3.

At one point in the show, Reichert promised to share candy but instead pulled out yet another small animal. Quincy’s eyes grew wide at the surprise. Reproduced with permission from the Denver Post. Written by Dave Curtin. Originally published Jan. 12, 2006, in the Denver Post.

“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.”

Ebbert researches her way to an outdoor career

While growing up in Deadwood, Elaine Ebbert 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 vocation she wanted to pursue, but she enrolled as a commuter 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 in the records department at Rapid City Regional Hospital. It didn’t take her long to discover that this job wasn’t her calling. This realization prompted her to transfer within the hospital to the Cancer Registry department, where she worked nearly 20 years. Her work involved research of patients, their types of cancer, and what treatments were most successful. She found that she loved doing research. Her job also expanded as she became a consultant to other cancer registry programs and helped them prepare for accreditation.

Although Elaine enjoyed her job at the hospital, she was ready for a change and once again enrolled at BHSU. This time she knew what she wanted to do and was ready to put her experience in research to work with a degree. Her experience with data analysis and research gave Elaine the background that would prove to be useful as she pursued a biology degree and a career as a wildlife biologist.

“I returned to BH because I felt like I needed a change. I had always wanted a biology degree. I didn’t know that when I was younger, but as time went on, I began to realize that. I have always been an outdoors person and have friends who are wildlife biologists. I felt a real desire to achieve this goal,” Elaine said.

Elaine now works with the Nature Conservancy in Rapid City. The mission of the Nature Conservancy is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. The organization owns lands and works to preserve it in its natural state.

Her work with “Idea Wild,” a group that raised money to fund projects in Central and South America for biologists, introduced her to the Nature Conservancy in Rapid City. She began doing volunteer work for the Nature Conservancy, and after she received her degree she continued on a contract basis. She also coordinates education programs for schools and other groups.

While at BH, Elaine met Audrey and Mark Gabel, emeritus professors, who became mentors and eventually life-long friends.

"Mark and Audrey Gabel have been one of the best influences in my life. We have become close friends. They are the reason that I am able to do this job.”

Elaine 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 have 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

Continued on page 25
The 40s

The 50s
“Dick” Dull, 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.

Richard Greco, Class of ’64, Eureka, retired in 2004 after teaching, for 40 years. Some of the subjects he covered were biology, world history, Spanish, and geography. He was also the yearbook advisor. In 1983, he was named the S.D. Conservation Teacher of the Year.

The 70s
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 gallery in Hot Springs. The gallery features artwork, poems, and much more.

Clarence McGirt, Class of ’65, Arizona City, Ariz., recently retired after working for the Belle Fourche School District for 16 years and at Maricopa Community Colleges in Arizona for 16 years.


Dennis Schaar, Class of ’64, 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.

The 80s
Grace Rinnel, Class of ’81, Martin, Wyo., was named the S.D. House of Representatives and as a state senator for nearly 30 years.

Connie (Morrissey) Erickson, Class of ’89, 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 1995-96.

Aronelle Kelsey, Class of ’63, recently opened her own art gallery in Hot Springs. The gallery features artwork, poems, and much more.

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Grace Rinnel, Class of ’91, Martin, Wyo., was named the S.D. House of Representatives and as a state senator for nearly 30 years.

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Alumni News

Kudos & Announcements

English as a second language to refugees with Lutheran Social Services.

The 90s

Christopher Andre, Class of ’98, Mission, is in his eighth year of teaching for the Todd County School District. He and wife Jessie (Bordeaux), Class of ’97, have three daughters.

Dadra (Morris) Avery, Class of ’97, Spearfish, was recently named as a guidance counselor at Sturgis Brown High School.

Vanessa Bernstein, Class of ’92, Sioux Falls, Ga., completed her master’s degree in landscape architecture in 2005.

Kimberly (Burr) Bynote, Class of ’98, Omaha, Neb., is studying the effects of estrogen on breast cancer, thymus, and pituitary tissues at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She has also done some cloning.

Michele Carlin, Class of ’95, was honored as a Beta Sigma Phi Woman of the Year for her chapter. Michele lives in Rapid City with husband Joseph Carlin Jr., Class of ’91.

Billy Carrille, Class of ’95, Spearfish, is a special education teacher at Southeast Middle School in Rapid City. He previously taught physical education/health in Belle Fourche for nine years.

Wendi (French) Cooper, Class of ’98, Thornton, Colu., received her master’s in education from SDSU via the West Virginia University in August 2005. She has been employed by the state of South Dakota for six years.

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

Lycynnda (Creighton) Sanders, Class of ’97, Spearfish, was recently promoted to director of the Artemis 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 recently hired as First Sergeant in the 842nd Engineer Company of the South Dakota National Guard, under the leadership of Lt. Col. Angela King, Class of ’97, Spearfish, was recently named as the district supervisor for the BHSU cross country and track and field teams. This year, more $1,000 was raised, bringing the Alumni Mile endowment to over $17,000. Crystal Hostetter, a senior from Rapid City, was awarded the annual Alumni Mile scholarships.

Kudos & Announcements

Approximately 25 runners from across the U.S. participated in the 14th annual Black Hills State University Alumni Mile in January. The group gathered on Friday evening for a social event prior to Saturday’s morning 5K run. The money raised will benefit the Black Hills State University Alumni Association and the BHSU Athletics Department.

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Sean McGary, Class of ’97, Acworth, Ga., was recently named as the multi-year winner, third award, making him the APCA’s only multi-year winner.

Donna Millard, Class of ’98, Rapid City, was recently named as a guidance counselor at Sturgis Brown High School.

Alumni Mile scholarships.

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Sean McGary, Class of ’97, Acworth, Ga., was recently named as the multi-year winner, third award, making him the APCA’s only multi-year winner.

Donna Millard, Class of ’98, Rapid City, was recently named as a guidance counselor at Sturgis Brown High School.

Alumni Mile scholarships.

The 90s

Christopher Andre, Class of ’98, Mission, is in his eighth year of teaching for the Todd County School District. He and wife Jessie (Bordeaux), Class of ’97, have three daughters.

Dadra (Morris) Avery, Class of ’97, Spearfish, was recently named as a guidance counselor at Sturgis Brown High School.

Vanessa Bernstein, Class of ’92, Sioux Falls, Ga., completed her master’s degree in landscape architecture in 2005.

Kimberly (Burr) Bynote, Class of ’98, Omaha, Neb., is studying the effects of estrogen on breast cancer, thymus, and pituitary tissues at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She has also done some cloning.

Michele Carlin, Class of ’95, was honored as a Beta Sigma Phi Woman of the Year for her chapter. Michele lives in Rapid City with husband Joseph Carlin Jr., Class of ’91.

Billy Carrille, Class of ’95, Spearfish, is a special education teacher at Southeast Middle School in Rapid City. He previously taught physical education/health in Belle Fourche for nine years.

Wendi (French) Cooper, Class of ’98, Thornton, Colu., received her master’s in education from SDSU via the West Virginia University in August 2005. She has been employed by the state of South Dakota for six years.

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

Lycynnda (Creighton) Sanders, Class of ’97, Spearfish, was recently promoted to director of the Artemis 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 recently hired as First Sergeant in the 842nd Engineer Company of the South Dakota National Guard, under the leadership of Angela King, Class of ’97, Spearfish, was recently named as the district supervisor for the BHSU cross country and track and field teams. This year, more $1,000 was raised, bringing the Alumni Mile endowment to over $17,000. Crystal Hostetter, a senior from Rapid City, was awarded the annual Alumni Mile scholarships.
**Kudos & Announcements**

**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.

*Sturgis Williams Middle School*

*Mitch Jones*, Class of ’35, Spearfish, was recently named as a fifth-grade teacher at Whitewood Elementary School.

*Justin Kopp*, Class of ’01, 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 Kryzanowski**, 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 West Region S.D. Technology Education Association.

*Pat Morarity*, Class of ’03, joined the Lead-Deadwood High School staff in August 2005. He teaches social studies.

*Michael R. Odle*, Class of ’02, Redding, Calif., was named the public affairs officer of the 2.3-million-acre 2011 National Forest.

*Michael Jones*, Class of ’02, Spearfish, joined the Lead-Deadwood High School teaching staff in August 2005.

*Norma Walks*, Class of ’00, Tucson, Ariz., recently graduated from Minnesota Medical School. She is now in general surgery residency at the University of Arizona.

*Mary Olszewski-Linn*, Class of ’93, Spearfish, was recently named city editor for the Black Hills Pioneer.

*Jennifer (Wagner) Williams*, Class of ’02, 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 ’05, Littleton, Colo., has joined the Department of Defense Contract Audit Agency as a GS-9 auditor at their Lakewood, Colo., branch.

**Stacy Yost**, Class of ’99, Garry Valley, has received an early childhood special education teaching job at the Chamberlain School District.

*Christina Haines*, attended ’90-93, was recently named the NJCAA 2005 Administrator of the Year by the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletics Administrators. She is the athletic director for South Mountain Community College in Chandler, Ariz.

**Former Faculty & Staff**

*Merlyn and Shirley Aman* celebrated their fortieth wedding anniversary July 23, 2005.

*Jan Golliffer*, retired assistant professor and outdoor education coordinator at BHSU, was named the South Dakota Outstanding Environmental Educator for 2004 by the Environmental Education Council. She was also presented with an honorable mention award for the National Environmental Educator in June 2005.

**Crossing campus with the Crosswait family**

*Shannon Scott*, Class of ’94, Rapid City, and Chris VanDerVenter were married Oct. 22, 2005. She works at Arrowhead Country Club as an accountant.


*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.


*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 ’14, and Nick VanKley, Class of ’05, married June 19, 2005. Tina is a graduate student at Harvard University.

*Nick is a graduate student at Brandeis University. The couple lives in Boston.*

*Adelle Bellman*, Class of ’01, Berd, Minn., married Jonathan Kellymann June 11, 2005. Adelle is currently finishing a BS in graphics/web design at LSU.


*Former Faculty & Staff*
Candace Brunner, Class of ’05, and Alex Gustafson, Class of ’04, Spearfish, were married July 8, 2005. They work at Pioneer Bank and Trust.

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


Teresa Cooley, Class of ’03, married to William Notwood May 7, 2004. They live in Sioux Falls, where 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 DeSmot, 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 Jodson June 3, 2006. She is a special 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.


Elizabeth (Betsy) Holdhusen, Class of ’04, married Timothy Swans 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.


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

Mary Laudenschlager, Class of ’04, Rapid City, married Luke Baker Feb. 18, 2006. Mary is a teacher at West Middle School in Rapid City.


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


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

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

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


Amie Rosacker, Class of ’05, Yankton, and Michael Pollard were married June 11, 2005.

Michelle Sestasa, Class of ’00, married Jason Gloidt, Class of ’97, 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.

Nicole Weimer, Class of ’05, married Elliot Muser, Class of ’98, Sept. 24, 2005. They live in Whitewood. Nicole is an entertainment consultant, and Elliot is the owner/operator of Muser General Construction.

James Williams, Class of ’03, Spearfish, and Amanda Hardin, attending, will marry July 7, 2006. James works at Wal-Mart and Eagle Country. Amanda is majoring in elementary education at BHSU working at Premier BankCard.

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

Lila (DeMarrais), attended ’82/’83, and Steve Mehlhaff, Class of ’83, Rapid City, recently adopted a baby girl, Aleya Jane. Steve is general manager for QiDoba Mexican Grill, and Lila works for Senator John Thune—they have three other children, Arianne (17), Kalen (15), and Jordan (14).

Kelsey Kubiburt, Class of ’05, married Chad Schmidt June 11, 2004.

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Births

Houston. Tara stays with children.

Fred Jackson, Class of '98, and wife Jennifer, Holbrook, Ariz., announce the birth of their first child, Dakota Edward, born July 6, 2005. Fred was honored as the 2004-05 Holbrook School District Elementary Teacher of the Year.


Tommi Jo (Castell) Krautschun, Class of '98, and husband Bart, Spearfish, announce the birth of their third child, Lane Allen. He was born Sept 9, 2005. They have two brothers, Levi (3) and sister Mesa (2).

Patricia (Nickisch) LaMont, Class of '97, and husband Michael, Columbus, Ohio, announce the birth of their baby girl, Alyssa Grace, born May 9, 2005. She joins big sister Leah.

Chad Pierick, Class of '98, and wife, Tessa, Encampment, Wyo., announce the birth of their son, Caleb Eben, born April 18, 2005. Chad is an insourc inspec-

tor for the state of Wyoming.

Marcia (Metz) Sexton, Class of '97, and husband David, Baton Rouge, La., announce the birth of their baby boy, Robin Michael. He was born April 27, 2005. Marcia works for the Ramapo College of New Jersey.

Jennifer (Wales) Shell, Class of '98, and Tony Schwartz, Class of '97, Gering, Neb., announce the birth of their third child, Ashlyn Reese. She was born Aug. 31, 2005. Other children include Tori (6) and Trevor (2).

Natasha (Taylor) Starn, Class of '99, and husband Jayden, Dupree, announce the birth of their son, Haydon Lewis, who was born June 16, 2005. Natasha works for First Financial Bank.

Marianne (Palleria) Trandall, Class of '97, and husband Josh, Asuncion, Paraguay, announce the birth of their second child, Abigail. She joins a brother, Jackson (3). Marianne is nearly finished with her MSCI online degree from BHSU. Both Marianne and Josh are teachers at the American School of Asuncion in Paraguay.

Krisiti (Hansen) Turman, Class of '96, and her husband Chad, attended '96, Fort Pierre, announce the birth of their son, Ty David, who was born June 6, 2005. Krisiti is the director of the S.D. Office of Emergency Management.

Kalla (Travers) Vieth, Class of '98, and husband Paul, Mitchell, announce the birth of their son, Akes, who was born April 7, 2005. He was welcomed home by brother Adam (5).

Jensen (Morrison) Moore-Copple, Class of '99, and husband Matthew, Jefferson City, Mo., welcomed their first child, Jocelyn Angeline, Dec. 7, 2005. Jensen is employed by the University of Missouri School of Journalism.

The 00s

Dannielle (Hahn) Harding, Class of '04, and her husband, Douglas, Rapid City, announce the birth of their baby girl, Felicity Abigail, born June 24, 2005.

Martha (Griffith) Johnson, Class of '03, and husband Scott, Pierre, announce the birth of their baby girl, Morgan Lynne, born Sept. 28, 2005.

Hope (Hauber) Lyon, Class of '03, and her husband, Whitney, Gillette, Wyo., announce the birth of their son, Josiah James, who was born Nov. 10, 2005.

Melissa McGoe, Class of '02, and Dave Barth, Spearfish, announce the birth of their baby girl, Elkie Marie. She was born Aug. 18, 2005.

Jennifer (Pope) Renner, Class of '99, and husband Nate, Black Hawk, a baby boy, Chet Jacob, Sept 4, 2005. Jennifer works as a Mary Kay consultant.

Kyla (Habitaruth) Scott, Class of '05, and husband Justin, Douglas, Wyo., announce the birth of their second child, Jyllie Marie, born June 16, 2005. Kyla is a first-grade teacher at Douglas Primary School.

Stephanie (Trezoza) and Brett Theeler, both Class of '01, Dupont, Wash., announce the birth of their first child, Braden James, who was born Sept. 9, 2005. Brett recently received his doctor of medicine from the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences. He is a first-year neurology intern at Madigan Army Medical Center.

Jennifer (Hertleb) Vaughn, married in the '30s, Spearfish, passed away July 14, 2005. After receiving her teaching certificate, she taught at Ingersoll School. She then spent 35 years ranching with her husband, Roland, and raising their five children.

The 40s

Tessa Anderson-Voyles, Class of '03, and husband Cory, Belle Fourche, are the proud parents of Aden Alexander. He was born Sept. 23, 2005.

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

All issues are also available in PDF format on www.bhsu.edu/alumni-magazine.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 ‘Annie Tallent’ teachers.

Penny (Horman) O’Da, attended 69-77, 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.

Veula (Mollet) Shimp, Class of ’67, passed away Jan. 13, 2005. Veula 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 (Brief) Wallace, Class of ’64, Belle Fourche, passed away Nov. 26, 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, attended 72-74, Beauh. Wyo., passed away Oct. 28, 2005. She enjoyed gardening, doll collecting and quilt making in addition to spending time with her family.

Carol “Peb” 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 ’76, 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 BHSC for three years then began working at the Homestake Svonmll. He later worked at Pope and Talbot, where he worked until his death.

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

Merideth “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 Belle Fodicer at the Oglala Lakota College on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Karyl (Reman) King, Class of ’82, Flandreau, 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


Stephen Hopwood, 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 ’63, Lead, died Dec. 27, 2005. He spent a number of years working in institutional food services.

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

Chad 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 Myrst Group and Bob and Peta 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.

We’d like to know your news. Send address updates and news items to the Alumni Office so we can update your file. Also we appreciate help locating lost alumni. Check out the lost alumni list at <www.bhsu.edu/alumni/association.aspx>. If you, or someone you know, is on the list, please let us know where they are so we can update the file.

Former Faculty & Staff

Fred W.W. Anderson, emeritus faculty, Spearfish, passed away Nov. 16, 2005. Fred was a faculty member for 20 years and a dedicated member of the community of Spearfish.

Evelyn Elliott, Spearfish, passed away May 3, 2005. Evelyn came to Black Hills State in June 1945 as acting registrar and continued on as a business teacher. She retired in 1982 as professor emeritus in the division of business after serving at Black Hills State University for 37 years.
Davis contributes

Arthur 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 currently awarded for three years at $2,900 annually as long as the students maintain full-time status and meet grade-point average requirements. Each year, another student is added, so there are usually three students attending BHSU on a Clarkson scholarship.

Junes contribute additional scholarship money

Jerry and Carol Junek recently donated an additional $10,000 to the Betty and Jerry Junes 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.

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

Krautschun family donates funds

Harvey 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 to bring American Indian students to campus, provide educational equipment, fund seminars for students to learn about graduate school opportunities, conduct research projects in the area of Indian Studies and provide scholarships for American Indian students at BHSU.

Shipley donates to American Indian Studies program

Doris 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. Earnings from the fund are designated to bring American Indian speakers to campus, provide educational equipment, fund seminars for students to learn about graduate school opportunities, conduct research projects in the area of Indian Studies and provide scholarships for American Indian students at BHSU.

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 established in 1998. The gift will create an endowed scholarship fund for business students at the university.

Elliott, who taught business courses at BHSU for nearly 40 years before retiring in 1982, played a key role in the establishment of the business program at BHSU. During her professional career, she taught practically every business class offered at BHSU and even earned a master’s degree in business administration.

Scholarships created by the Elliott estate will provide $1,000 scholarships each semester for juniors, seniors, and community members.

Alberts donate $140,000 for football athlete 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 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.
Naming opportunities announced at BHSU

Black Hills State University recently announced that several naming opportunities are available in Clare and Joel 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 state, and houses including rehearsal rooms, soundproof practice room facilities, a piano lab, a recording lab, and students access to audio recording and electronic keyboarding labs.

According to Dr. Jonene Larsen, music professor and chair of the department of fine and applied arts, there are many reasons that students interested in music should consider attending BHSU, the primary reason being that the university offers an exceptional musical program that is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools 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 facilities,” Larsen says.

Larsen notes that students have a wide variety of performance opportunities, including music theater productions, small wind ensembles, a pop band, a jazz and choir, a and choral. BHSU hosts a regular series of student recitals and faculty concerts, and each performance is open outside the university. Students are invited to campus to provide concerts and master classes. During the summer, the Johannesburg Symphony Orchestra also provides an additional opportunity for students to perform in concert with professionals. BHSU music brings from the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City and other world-renowned opera companies to provide students with unique learning and performance opportunities.

“Music education graduates 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. This provides an opportunity for potential students and their families to become part of the history of our students for years to come.

Meeker noted that donors 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 at BHSU. 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 room or choir room for $100,000 each; classrooms for $50,000 each; a radio recording lab or electronic recording lab for $40,000 each; ensemble practice rooms for $35,000 each; sound studios for $25,000 each; piano labs for $20,000 each; and recital hall chairs for $100 each.

The recently established Linda Kay Williams Scholarship will support non-traditional female students pursuing a college degree at BHSU.

The scholarship, established by the family of Linda Kay (Hibbert) Williams, will be awarded annually. An endowment has also been established so this scholarship will continue in perpetuity.

Linda was working toward a degree in business through the Rapid City campus of Black Hills State University prior to being diagnosed with cancer in July of 2003. She passed away from complications related to lymphoma in August 2004. Her wish was that memorial money given in her name be used to help other women attain their goal of earning a college degree.

Family members who helped make this wish a reality include her two sons, Kristen and Trevor; her husband, Gene; her mother, Kathryn Hibbert; her brother, Dewayne Hibbert; and her sisters, Janet Ryan and Nancy Hibbert.

Earlier this year, Linda’s grandmother, Marie Steneall, passed away, and a portion of her memorial was also contributed to the Linda Kay Williams Scholarship Fund.

The Scholarship Committee has received a $500 scholarship at the BHSU Case Library for Western Historical Studies this summer. The scholarship was established by Linda’s family members including her sons, Kristen (left) and Trevor (right); and her husband, Gene. Linda was pursuing a business degree from BHSU prior to being diagnosed with cancer.

Every year, the phonathon utilizes its best asset — our students — to call upon alumni on behalf of Black Hills State University. Joel Stevenson was one of the student callers for the 2005 Schollar Dollars phonathon, which raised more than $74,000 in pledges. The majority of these dollars support the three colleges: Arts & Sciences, Business & Technology, and Education. The donations go directly to operate the phonathon.

Phonathon reaches a new record for $$$

Chicago and Northwestern (C&NW) narrow gauge lines through the Bald Mountain and Ruby Basin mining districts. Drawn by the railroad company in 1914, the map not only highlights the C&NW rail lines, but also the Burlington's major area mines.

"This is an invaluable piece for anyone interested in these historic mining regions," Wolff says. "Another fascinating map details the C&NW rail lines in Rapid City. Stretching for 12 feet, this map shows the main line, sidings and businesses served by the railroad. Among the written documents is the "Register of Engineers at Deadwood" from 1927-1938. This is a full record of daily train activity in Deadwood, listing what trains came to town to work on their project, or destination, the engines used, and the engineers and firemen involved, on a daily basis. From the pages of this register come the intimate details of railroading in Deadwood over a 31-year period.

The donor of this collection, Douda, has been studying Black Hills railroading for over 50 years. In the process he has collected a massive amount of primary documents about the area railways.

This donation is just one part of his collection. Douda has written two manuscripts on Black Hills railroads but has decided not to publish them at this time.

Instead, he is beginning to make his collection available to others.
K. 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.

Meyers, who has been a faculty member at BHSU since 1980, has published many articles and short stories, as well as four books that have earned him well-deserved national recognition.

Humble about 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? I’m not sure. It’s unknown and significant and kind of frightening. It’s a remarkable thing, and I know I will love to do it. I haven’t even imagined it. 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 classes including an advanced creative writing course, a literature of the American West course, an environment of life 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 discipilnes 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 Work of Wolves.

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 university 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 designation.

Usually the position is reserved for well-known writers who have achieved great writing status in the literary field. Meyers, who presents at many writing workshops and meetings throughout the year, sees this change as an opportunity to increase the time spent at these types of events. He recently made a class presentation at his alma mater, the University of Minnesota-Morris, and was also a keynote reader and presenter at the University of South Dakota. He also has plans to attend and present at numerous writing conferences throughout the country. In the last year he has made many presentations throughout South Dakota because his latest novel was chosen to receive the state’s One-Book designation as a refe- tured speaker at the Bookfest in Deadwood this fall. Meyers was also recently chosen as the number one choice to serve as a faculty working with master of fine arts students for Pacific Lutheran University.

Steve Meeker, vice president for institutional advancement at BHSU, returned fulltime to the advancement office in order to focus all of his efforts on his duties there. Since the fall of 2003, Meeker has also been serving as athletic director. Jhett Albers, associate athletic director, will take over as athletic director. Dr. Thomas Flickema, president of BHSU, announced the changes and praised both individuals for their dedication and hard work.

“This has been a marvelous job for us as athletic director,” Flickema stated. "He took over the athletic department at a time of uncertainty and confusion and created a positive environment and made a series of decisions that will have a profoundly positive effect on the long-range development of the program as well as underwrite student scholarships. That is what I’m committed to doing.”

According to Flickema, Meyers brought the athletic department through a difficult time, including a Title IX review, and now turns the position over to Albers who has shown strong leadership and decision-making skills.

Meeker says he is excited to once again focus all of his attention on leading campus fundraising efforts to raise money for academic scholarships and capital needs.

“It’s important to enhance our fundrais- ing efforts for the entire campus and I’m dedicated to doing that,” Meeker said. “As vice president of institutional advancement for Black Hills State University, I am entrusted with raising funds for BHSU to support building endeavors, acquire the latest equipment, fund endowed chairs, and more critically, underwrite student scholarships. That is what I’m committed to doing.”

Meeker will continue to serve as head volleyball coach and is looking forward to taking over the athletic director duties.

Ebbert research Continued from page 7

understand all of the great things that science professors are doing at BHSU.

Faculty are 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 they are doing.

She mentioned the volcano research by Dr. Steve Anderson, research by Dan Dunbar and the research conducted by UNF’s education department. She mentioned with the direction of Dr. Shane Savarv at a few examples. Elaine says the best part of her current career continues to be the research project.

In fact, the research that she did as an under- graduate with Audra Gabel, entering data, creating charts and graphs, and presentations, gave her the real world experience she needed for her current work as a researcher for the Nature Conservancy, Forest Service, National Turkey Federation, and many other organizations who hire her for special projects.

Elaine collaborated with her former professor to publish a book about mushrooms in the Black Hills. Elaine says the book is for mushroom and toadstool enthusiasts.

According to Elaine, whenever the Nature Conservancy does a conservation easement, they need to have an environment assessment and a mechanical survey of the land. These reports are done on property to determine if it has biological value before the Nature Conservancy enters into contracts for land purchases and easements.

Both Meeker and Albers are graduates of BHSU and have long-standing and exceptional records of exceptional performance and dedicated service to the university.

Meeker first began working at BHSU in 1986 as an admissions counselor. He was later named coordinator of enrollment management.

In 1990 he was named director of advancement and in 2001, he was promoted to his current position as vice president for institutional advancement. Meeker is a native South Dakotan who graduated from Briarglen High School in 1980 and BHSU in 1984.

Albers served as the head varsity volleyball coach at Spearfish High School prior to joining the coaching staff at BHSU in 1999. Albers earned a bachelor’s degree in 1987 and a master’s degree in 1991 from BHSU.

In 1999, the South Dakota Board of Regents made the announcement in November in a special session that significant reductions in tuition for out-of-state students would be made.

The new tuition rate, which is 150 percent of in-state tuition rates, will go into effect in the fall of 2012 for non-resident and non-South Dakota residents. Those students currently would pay the full non-resident tuition rate of $114.55 per credit hour. Enrollment is projected to increase by more than 5 percent to 11,495 per credit hour.

The new rate will reduce the cost of tuition for out-of-state students, but those students will still pay considerably more than in-state students. Those students currently would pay the full non-resident tuition rate of $114.55 per credit hour. Enrollment is projected to increase by more than 5 percent to 11,495 per credit hour.

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BHSU in the news

BHSU grant assists school districts meet mandate

BSHU, 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 its 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 aides 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. By June 2006, 100 percent must meet this requirement according to the NCLB Act.

This tri-state grant, from the U.S. Department of Education, is collaborative and each state will have a unique approach to provide training opportunities for paraeducators. The overall goal of this grant is to guarantee that participating paraeducators in these rural western states achieve the status of "highly qualified" through a number of activities.

Calhoon and Dr. Pat Simpson at BSHU are coordinating the efforts in South Dakota through a Rural Site-Bound Paraeducator Program recently established through the College of Education at Black Hills State University.

Through this grant, BSHU is working with school districts statewide to offer several options to help current paraeducators complete requirements to become "highly qualified" 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. BSHU currently collaborates with Northern State University to offer a para-professional program. Courses are offered on campus and through distance learning options.

BSHU 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. BSHU will contract with DIAL, an educational service organization that has already developed and provided this training, to provide these services.

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" through 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 Yellowjacket mascot as well as books by local authors. To view these and other items access the bookstore online from the Black Hills State University homepage or go directly to:

www.bshusubookstore.com
BHSU students in the news

BHSU student does groundbreaking research on squirrels

A Black Hills State University faculty member and student, in collaboration with the staff members of the U.S. Forest Service, are conducting groundbreaking research on the diets of flying squirrels in the Black Hills.

Callie Ackerman, a senior biology/environmental science major from Hulett, Wyo., spent a major part of the summer working on the research. Dr. Audrey Gabel, emeritus professor of biology at BHSU, and Elizabeth Kraeger, U.S. Forest Service, Spearfish ranger district, are co-principal investigators for the project. Dr. Mark Gabel, emeritus professor of biology at BHSU, and Scott Weins, from the U.S. Forest Service, are also participating in the research.

The research is being funded by the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. According to Audrey Gabel, it has been reported from research in the Pacific Northwest that flying squirrels include hypogeous (underground) fungi in their diet. These fungi, which are sometimes called truffles and false truffles, 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 research also documents the presence of hypogeous fungi in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

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.

BHSU students in the news

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 also. The BHSU record holder in the women’s indoor pentathlon has shown that she has this drive.

Surgical 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 women’s indoor pentathlon and was looking to improve on her mark at the 2005 conference championships. However, Bachand would suffer a catastrophic knee injury during an indoor track meet at the University of South Dakota in January 2005.

“I was running in the 800-meters,” said Bachand, “and I stepped on a girl after she cut in front of me. I suffered a hyper-extension and dislocation in my knee.”

The injury was extensive. Doctors were concerned about the damage done to Bachand’s knee and told her that she only had a slim chance of being able to run again.

“I was devastated,” remarked Bachand.

Less than two weeks after her injury, Bachand was under the knife to repair the damaged knee. After surgery, Bachand and her physical therapist focused on her strength and flexibility. During her rehab, 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. Not Bachand though. 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,” 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 delaying 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 Yellowjackets 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.

Black Hills Summer Institute of the Arts

June 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.
Sports

Track team competes at nationals

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

Amber Broden, 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, 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.

The women’s team also won their first-ever Dakota Athletic Conference Indoor Track and Field Championship this season.

Football team ends with a winning season

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.

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, but realized that Chadron State was not right for him. He took a year off to reevaluate his path and train for what he hoped would eventually be a shot at the big time.

In the fall of 2003, the possibility of going back to college and finishing his collegiate career became more and more of a reality for Alcorn. BHSU and the community of Spearfish, the Yellow Jacket football team earned the honor of displaying the coveted Homestake trophy after beating SDSU, Tech.

Alcorn keeps it simple and dreams big

God, 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 to play 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 All-DAC and All-American impressive stats. At 6’3” 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 2005, Alcorn competed in the inaugural Magnolia Gridiron All-Star Classic. He earned a spot in the All-Star Game by catching 43 passes for 689 yards and seven touchdowns during the regular season, leading the Yellow Jackets to a 7-3 record.

All of Spearfish and the surrounding area have encouraged Alcorn in his quest. “It feels so awesome to have the support of the community around me,” says Alcorn. “People that I have never met will come up to me and wish me luck.”

The one constant for Alcorn has been his family. Alcorn is married to his high school sweetheart, Jen. They have a son, Justus, and are now expecting the birth of their second child.

“We started dating during my sophomore year in high school. My family means so much to me,” says Alcorn. “However, not far behind his family, is football. He now knows that no matter what happens in his professional career, he will always be a Yellow Jacket and have loyal fans in Spearfish.”

“Playing as a professional football player is just truly awesome for me,” says Alcorn. “It feels so awesome to have the support of the community around me.”

Cross country teams place at national meet

The Yellow Jackets fell 53-52 to Minot State in the DACC Conference indoor track and field meet. The women finished the season way to end a roller-coaster season by losing 15-16 overall, but the men suffered five losses this season by losing 15-16 overall, but the men suffered five losses this season.

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Sports
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 1982. His undergraduate degree in history and education was earned at Hope College, Holland, Mich., in 1960.

After completing a teaching assistantship and his master’s degree in history, Flickema began his professional career at Northern State University in Aberdeen. He served as dean of summer sessions in Mexico and Guatemala, and ultimately, as director of Latin American sessions in Mexico and Guatemala, and there he served as director of summer courses at California State University-Fullerton. He accepted a history professorship at Ford Community College in Dearborn, Mich. Moving to the West Coast in 1966, Flickema began his professional career and his master’s degree in history, ultimately, as director of Latin American sessions in Mexico and Guatemala, and there he served as director of summer courses at California State University-Fullerton. He accepted a history professorship at Ford Community College in Dearborn, Mich.

Flickema came to BHSU in August 1994 when he was appointed to serve as interim president. He was named to the full-time position in February 1995 following a nationwide search. His 22-year tenure in the South Dakota public higher education system also includes serving as vice president for academic affairs at Northern State University in Aberdeen, North Dakota State University in Aberdeen, and vice president for academic affairs at Northern State University in Aberdeen from 1983 to 1994. Flickema is BHSU’s eighth president.

During retirement, Flickema is looking forward to having more control of his time and will spend more time golfing, gardening. He will continue to be involved in community organizations and professional development. He also said he’s interested in doing some research on the history of this area and may teach a history course or two.

The president and his wife, Judy, have three grown children, Patricia, Todd, and Jan, and seven grandchildren. 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 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 in 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 boasting 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 Tourism Research, 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 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 our region.”

Flickema’s vision for BHSU has included expanding 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 2002. The university also received positive accreditation approvals from several discipline-specific organizations.

The Black Hills 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 $862,000 in scholarships last year, compared to $95,000 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.
Another look

This view of Spearfish Falls awaits those who take the trail from Savoy in Spearfish Canyon.