



Fall 2010

# Alumni Magazine

Transforming Lives

# CHS



*John Johnson  
leaves global legacy at CHS*

## Also in this issue



BHSU  
researchers  
earn grants



Krautschuns  
honored with  
Difference  
Maker Award



Classnotes

# Student Organizations

**G**reetings to all Black Hills State University alumni. As one of 20,000 BHSU alumni, you are the University's largest and most influential constituency. As I visit with alumni across the state and nation, you often note that your involvement with student organizations was a life-defining experience that opened doors to opportunities throughout your career.

I'm impressed by your professional accomplishments and personal commitment to volunteerism. Today, BHSU students continue that tradition as they volunteer to serve in the community, region, and nation. Their energy, talent, and commitment is remarkable. BHSU currently has 77 student organizations, and students have the opportunity to be involved in these organizations from the day they first arrive on campus.

I would like to take a moment to thank all alumni and current students for your dedication and commitment to making the world a better place as members of student organizations. As alumni, I encourage you to continue to be involved with BHSU. You will be helping today's students become tomorrow's leaders.

Sincerely,  
President Kay Schallenkamp



Black Hills State University President Kay Schallenkamp and her husband, Dr. Ken Schallenkamp, are pictured with members of the Presidential Student Ambassadors, a student group that represents BHSU at campus and community events, helps keep alumni in touch with campus life, and makes students more aware of their future roles as alumni. Pictured left to right are: Sarah Thornberry, Veronica Begeman, President Kay Schallenkamp, Richard Fairhead, PJ Painter, Dr. Ken Schallenkamp, Joey Painter, and Alyssa Shoemaker.

## Black Hills State University Alumni Magazine Fall 2010

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](mailto:Alumni@BHSU.edu).

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or you may mail them to: BHSU, 1200 University, Unit 9506, Spearfish, S.D. 57799-9506

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## CREATING A GLOBAL LEGACY

As the leader of a company with more than 9,000 employees across the nation and world, John Johnson, a 1970 graduate of BHSU, grapples daily with global issues including how to feed the world's growing population and efficient energy utilization.

John is the chief executive officer (CEO) of CHS, an energy, grains, and foods cooperative. He's been with the company for 34 years and is planning to retire this year serving as CEO for the last 16 years. John says his background growing up in a rural area and his education at Black Hills State University provided a foundation that has served him well as he advanced to become the CEO of a Fortune 100 company that had sales of over \$25 billion last year.

John took the fast track literally and figuratively with his career.

"I graduated one weekend, got married the next weekend, and the following Monday I went to work," John recalls. "I didn't spend a lot of time thinking about what my future was. I just had to get to work and took the first opportunity."

Five years later, John knew he was ready for a change and was drawn to a career in agriculture. He signed on as a feed salesman even though he and his wife were a bit concerned about meeting living expenses on his commission.

From there his career quickly moved to the fast track as he accepted a position with GTA (a predecessor of CHS) and began

working in the cooperative world. His background in sales, his love of agriculture, and his excellent communication skills proved to be the right combination as he moved to the company's headquarters and began moving up the corporate ladder. It was quite a transition for a young man who had limited exposure to travel and international issues.

"When I graduated from college, I had never been in a town larger than Rapid City. All of sudden, a few years later, I'm CEO of a company that has a goal to be global," John says.

With John's leadership, CHS has moved extensively into the global markets, and he says he continues to be amazed at how interdependent business and finance issues are across the world.

"Coming out of the Midwest, with a domestic mindset, I've been surprised by how rapidly our lives have become global. There's nothing that happens today that isn't impacted by global events," John says.

It's that unpredictability and the never-ending challenge that has inspired John throughout his career.

"People who have flexibility and viability to manage those kinds of unforeseen events can be quite successful," John says. He certainly has proven that he has those qualities and has been able to overcome negative situations and turn challenges into opportunities along the way.

John, who grew up in the Spearfish area and spent a lot of time on his family's ranch, says the culture and learning environment at BHSU was a good fit for him. He majored in business with an economic minor and says professors from across the curriculum influenced him and his career.

"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 work with today," John says.

His early morning speech class helped him hone the communication skills that have been integral to his success. A class activity that required him to give 10-minute talks without having the topic ahead of time taught him to think on his feet. That's a skill that he's used and enhanced



**John Johnson**  
President and CEO of CHS



- A diversified energy, grains, and foods company committed to providing the essential resources that enrich lives around the world
- Owned by farmers, ranchers, and their member cooperatives across the United States
- Headquarters located near Minneapolis, Minn.
- \$25.7 billion in revenue in 2009
- Operates three segments: Energy, Ag Business, and Processing
- CHS supplies energy, crop nutrients, livestock feed, grain, food and food ingredients
- Provides business solutions, including insurance, financial and risk management services
- Operates petroleum refineries/pipelines and manufactures, markets and distributes Cenex® brand refined fuels, lubricants, propane and renewable energy products
- 350 retail operations in the U.S.
- The third largest grain marketer in the world



From left to right, Gary Anderson, vice president, CHS Grain Marketing; John Johnson, CHS president and CEO; and Mike Toelle, CHS board chairman, discuss grain issues with John Husk, CEO of Elburn Cooperative, during a tour of the cooperative's Illinois River terminal at Morris, Ill. These meetings allow CHS leaders the opportunity to visit with board members and learn more about local agriculture.

# Alumni Feature

*As John moves toward retirement he takes time to reflect on his career lessons. The following is an excerpt of a letter that he wrote for an issue of C Magazine, a magazine published bimonthly by CHS.*



Forty years ago this spring, I was launched into the “real world.”

Armed with a shiny new bachelor’s degree in business from Black Hills State University and soon to be married, I set off for my first job as a production supervisor for a telephone equipment manufacturing company that no longer exists.

Within a few years, I was fortunate to land a feed sales position for what ultimately became CHS and to have the privilege of working in a number of jobs within this system before becoming CEO.

All along the way, I learned quite a few lessons from making my own mistakes and from observing the skills of those I admired. Most of all, I learned about people. And while it may sound like a cliché, I came to realize early in my career — and I am more convinced each year — that people truly are the key to success for any organization.

The world has changed dramatically since I left college in Spearfish, S.D. We’re instantly aware of changes on the other side of the globe and must often respond in minutes. Communication means everything from a good old-fashioned cup of coffee with a customer at the local café to a monitor-to-monitor meeting by Skype with a Chinese grain buyer. Crop production technology advances daily, making knowledgeable advisors a must.

Graduation may be four decades behind me, but it’s easy to feel the same thrill and sense of possibility when I consider the opportunities ahead for current and future generations of CHS employees.

Handwritten signature of John J. Johnson

throughout his career. He’s now admired for his exceptional communication skills.

“One day I’ll be in Belle Fourche, Minot, or Billings talking to a group of farmers and ranchers; the next day I’ll be in New York City meeting with Wall Street bankers, the following week in Tokyo or China meeting with investors or customers. That activity in speech class taught me to think on my feet and respond to different kinds of audiences. It also gave me at least a footprint of what I was going to have to deal with,” John says.

John is humble about his accomplishments and expresses his appreciation of the CHS employees.

“In higher management jobs, you find out it’s not a one-man band. Yeah there’s someone in the corner office expected to guide the ship but the truth is you need a lot of good people. The key to success is to get the best people you can, give them the right kind of training and skill sets, and let them do their jobs,” John says. “There are 9,000 people getting up everyday doing the work, that’s what makes the company successful.”

Now, as he is moving toward retirement, he says it’s difficult to leave.

“It’s hard to leave when you know you’ve had such an impact on an organization. When I look at CHS, I see so much of my life. CHS has my name imprinted on it in so many places. My fingerprints and ideas are everywhere,” John says.

John is quick to point out that he feels fortunate to be blessed with a wife who is very understanding and supportive. The couple, who went to high school and college together, recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. They have two daughters and one son who all live in the Twin Cities region.

John’s positive attitude and desire to keep learning, created opportunities for him throughout his career and he says that’s an essential approach to any successful career.

“Get your education so you are prepared for your career, then choose an industry that matches your passion. Once you graduate, your learning starts again,” John says. “If you have the right attitude you can accomplish what you need to. Come in with right attitude, be patient and you will get to where you need to be.”

# Kudos & Announcements

**The 30s** Emma Willey, Class of '30, Roseburg, Ore., published *Inspirations and Reflections, 89 Years of Life and Love*, which contains poetry reflecting on her life as a mother and grandmother. Other books Emma has published include: *Beyond the Silent Prairie, A Love Story* and *Prairie Rattlers, Long Johns and Chokecherry Wine, Memoirs of the Silent Priarie*. She has also had 170 of her needlecraft designs published in about 30 magazines, pamphlets, and books.

**The 50s** Bill Anthony, Class of '59, Casper, Wyo., was recently presented with the Wyoming Superintendent's Award. Bill, a Wyoming Board of Education member, received the award for his cooperation, focused leadership, and unwavering commitment improving student skills during his tenure as board chairman and his membership on the board. Bill has a 36-year history in education as a teacher and administrator.

Everett Follette, Class of '55, Spearfish, and Joann Follette, co-owners of Ski Cross Country, were awarded with the First in Spearfish Hospitality (FISH) Award during the 91st annual Spearfish Chamber of Commerce Banquet awards presentation. Everett is a retired BHSU professor who taught science for 31 years. This award is given by the Spearfish Chamber to recognize a local business that has been gracious in providing hospitality.

**The 60s** Robert "Bob" Buck, Class of '61, Dodgeville, Wis., has been named a charter member of the Dodgeville High School Athletic Hall of Fame as a coach. This marks the fourth time Bob has been inducted into a Hall of Fame. In 1995, he was inducted into the Wisconsin Basketball Hall of Fame. In 1998, he was inducted into the BHSU Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame, and in 1999 he was inducted into the Wisconsin Football Hall of Fame.

Richard "Dick" Termes, Class of '64, Spearfish, artist/owner of the Termesphere Gallery, received the Micropolitan Award during the 91st annual Spearfish Chamber of Commerce Banquet awards presentation. The Micropolitan Award is given to a business that exemplifies and promotes the eclectic nature of Spearfish.

**The 70s** Mike Berg, Class of '72, Grand Forks, N.D., retired after 38 years of teaching physical education and social studies. He coached football for 35 years, track for 11 years, and basketball for seven. Mike will continue to do the color commentary on the radio for the University of North Dakota football broadcasts and remain as director of the Shrine Bowl.

Robert "Bob" Dorton, Class of '71, and wife Cozette "Cozy" (Johnson) Dorton, Class of '71 and '02, Custer, recently retired after 66 combined years of teaching. Robert spent 27 years teaching social studies at Custer Middle School and several years in Fairburn and Hermosa. Cozy taught for 39 years at Custer Elementary School, teaching third grade for 14 years and kindergarten for 25 years.

Elaine (Doll) Dunn, Class of '79, Spearfish, won the women's 70 years and over age division at the 31st annual Heart of the Hill 10.4-mile run.

Robert "Bob" Hellevang, Class of '79, Belle Fourche, was recently awarded the

## BHSU 50-Year Club inducts the Class of 1960



Graduates from the Class of 1960 gathered during the spring commencement ceremony and were inducted into the 50-Year-Club during a banquet hosted by the BHSU Alumni Association. All BHSU alumni who graduated 50 years ago or more were invited. Attending the banquet were: (standing left to right) Steve Gomez, Class of '55, Pierre; Virgil Buxcel, Class of '60, Yankton; Otis Eastman, Class of '58, Spearfish; Robert Julius, Class of '60, Sturgis; Phyllis (Krause) Eastman, Class of '58, Spearfish; Jack O'Connor, Class of '60, Custer; Bill Anthony, Class of '59, Casper, Wyo.; Keith Shostrom, Class of '57, Deadwood; Ed Furois, Class of '60, Spearfish; Clifford Kenoyer, Class of '56, Piedmont; Sandy Michelena, Class of '60, Sheridan, Wyo.; Del Harbaugh, Class of '57, Rapid City; Gerald Bruce, Class of '60, Spearfish; Charles Schad, Class of '56, Spearfish; (seated left to right) Mary Ann (Stephenson) Erickson, Class of '54, Spearfish; Sonya (Bell) Albers, Class of '56, Spearfish; Beverly (Olsen) Carr, Class of '55, Spearfish; JoAnn (Hanson) Durgin, Class of '60, Spearfish; and Mary (Smith) Furois, Class of '60, Spearfish.

## Kudos & Announcements

### Class of 1970 Reunion



Members from the Class of 1970 are invited back to campus Oct. 1-2 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of their graduation. The reunion will be held in conjunction with the 2010 Swarm Day festivities.

If you, or someone you know, has not received a registration packet, contact the Alumni Office at **605.642.6385** or email **Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu**.

South Dakota Industrial Technology Teacher of the Year Award. Bob teaches vocational and technical education programs at Belle Fourche High School and Belle Fourche Middle School.

**Coreen (Donnenwirth) Lerwick**, Class of '78, Spearfish, is celebrating 25 years as a State Farm Insurance agent.

**Tom Lyons**, Class of '70, Magnolia, Texas, and his wife Pam (Paulson), of Belle Fourche, recently made the humanitarian list of National Living Kidney Donors. Tom donated a kidney to his brother-in-law, Les Justice. Tom is currently involved in the oil and gas industry.

**Bill Slovek**, Class of '79, and **Pennie (Hamm) Slovek**, Class of '79, Philip, received the 2010 Black Hills Stock Show Stockman of the Year Award. They own Slovek Ranch.

**Anita (Barrett) Winter**, Class of '79, Rapid City, has been elected as the South Dakota state delegate to the National Association of School Psychologists.

**Paul Young**, Class of '78, Spearfish, won re-election for Ward II of the Spearfish City Council.

**The 80s** **Carolee (Jeffries) Buchanan**, Class of '83, Rapid City, is enjoying semi-retirement after a rewarding career in education. Her journey took her from South Dakota to New Mexico, California, Massachusetts, Wyoming, and back to South Dakota. She is now substitute teaching and enjoying golf, water exercising, and following the school careers of her eight grandchildren.

**Richard Bush**, Class of '85, Cheyenne, Wyo., was named managing partner of Hickey & Evans, a law firm in Cheyenne.

**Patsy Custis**, Class of '88, Spearfish, was hired as coordinator of faith formation at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

**Teresa "Tere" (Brechtel) Froelich**, Class of '89 and '01, Spearfish, has been selected as one of three Meade School District Teachers of the Year for 2010. Tere is a high school English teacher and serves as the district department chair for language arts at Sturgis Brown High School. She also advises the high school year book and school newspaper, is coordinator for the High Schools that Work program, is the senior class advisor, and serves as a member of the district Instructional Council.

**Carol (Baxter) Gee**, Class of '80, Stone Mountain, Ga., had her article "Surviving a Husband, Needing a Blender" appear in *Women's News and Narratives*, the newsletter

of the Women's Center at Emory University. Carol is an editor in the organization and management area in the Goizueta Business School. Carol's freelance writing appears frequently in numerous Emory periodicals.

**Becky (Peterson) Gropper**, Class of '80 and '86, Belle Fourche, was named Agent of the Month for January, February, and March 2010 in the Wyoming General Office of the New York

Life Insurance Company. Becky received the award in recognition of outstanding sales and exemplary client service and professionalism.

**Cotton Koch**, Class of '86, Madison, earned his doctorate in education. Cotton is currently the principal at Madison Middle School.

**Lila (DeMarrias) Mehlhaff**, Attended, Rapid City, was named chair of the Rapid City Chamber of Commerce Cultural Diversity Committee. Lila is CEO and publisher of *Native Legacy* magazine and is also a program assistant for the BHSU South Dakota Center for Enterprise Opportunity.

**David Nicholas**, Class of '89, Worland, Wyo., was hired as superintendent for the Washakie County School District. David had been serving in South Dakota's education system for 20 years as a coach

and teacher in Philip and as a principal and superintendent in Winner and Gregory.

**Greg Oleson**, Class of '87, Rapid City, earned his master's degree in public administration.

**Susan (Rosencranz) Proefrock**, Class of '87, Belle Fourche, was recently honored as the 2010 Outstanding South Dakota School Business Official by the state association of School Business Officials. This award recognizes a business official who makes strong contributions to their own school district, to their community, and to the state organization. Susan is employed with the Belle Fourche School District.

**Lorri Riley**, Class of '87, Spearfish, invented the OnZgo, a watertight and fire resistant container created to keep valued documents, photos and other meaningful items safe from harm during a potential natural disaster. Lorri came up with the idea after assisting displaced victims of Hurricane Katrina. She also had the assistance of Angie Albonico, of Rylo, Inc., and A Step Ahead, with developing the product.

**Rodger Slott**, Attended, Rapid City, was honored when his book *Carved High* won a bronze award in the Gift/Holiday/Specialty Book category during the 2010 PubWest Book Design Awards. *Carved High* is a Mount Rushmore History Association book about the architecture and landscape of the memorial. Rodger's photography was featured in the book. The

national design awards are presented by Publishers Association of the West and recognize superior design and outstanding production of books in 20 different categories.

**Karen Strain**, Class of '85, Rapid City, received the Golden Apple Award. Karen teaches language arts at Rapid City Stevens High School.

**Les Voorhis**, Attended, Belle Fourche, owner/photographer of Royal Time Images, Inc., and Focus West Gallery, was named a 2010 Dakota Rising Fellow. Dakota Rising is a program designed to spur a renaissance of South Dakota's rural economy.

**The Sarah (Fisher) Chase**, Class of '98, Greeley, Colo., earned her Ph.D. in higher education and student affairs leadership. Sarah was awarded the graduate dean's Citation in Excellence and also earned one of two outstanding dissertation awards.

**Robert Cook**, Class of '90, Summerset, was appointed by President Obama to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education. Robert, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, completed a term as president of the National Indian Education Association. He was the principal of Pine Ridge High School and assumed the position of managing director of Teach for America's National Native American Initiative. Robert will oversee three regions: South Dakota, New Mexico, and Hawaii.

**Garrick Cramer**, Class of '96, recently received the rank of major in the United States Army. Garrick is currently serving with the 173D Airborne Brigade Combat Team in the Logar Province of Afghanistan. This is his first tour to Afghanistan with two earlier tours in Iraq. He received his master's degree in disaster and emergency management from TUI International University.

**Eric Dearcorn**, Class of '95, Gillette, Wyo., has worked in law enforcement for 14 years as a police officer and Wyoming Highway Patrol Trooper. He is currently running for sheriff in Campbell County, Wyo.

**Richard Dodson**, Class of '91, Austin, Texas, was hired as the technical assistant for the local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for Austin Travis County Integral Care (ATCIC). Integral Care is a participant in the local Continuum of Care (CoC) for homelessness, a system the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development uses to distribute grant money for homeless shelters and other services.

**Jodi (Rembold) Garcia**, Class of '99, Spearfish, was honored by Junior Achievement (JA) Worldwide Headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colo., for her outstanding service and support to JA of the Northern Hills' economic education efforts. Jodi was presented with the JA Worldwide Bronze Leadership Award at the JA Northern Hills Board

## Marlatt recognized with the coveted Arch Coal Teacher Achievement Award



Marlatt

**Beth (Schuett) Marlatt**, Class of '81 and '98, was recognized with the 2010 Arch Coal Teacher Achievement Award. She was one of only 10 teachers in Wyoming to receive this recognition. She currently teaches fourth grade at Hulett Elementary in Hulett, Wyo.

Beth, a Spearfish resident, earned her bachelors and master's degrees at BHSU. She has taught and inspired students for nearly 28 years, receiving recognition for her excellent teaching skills numerous times.

Over the last seven years, her classes have researched, written, filmed, performed in, edited, and celebrated several local history movies that won Wyoming Historical Society awards. Beth also served as the designer and director for the Journey Thru Wyoming Project. In 2009, her class researched, wrote, and illustrated an alphabet book about the local Vore Buffalo Jump Site that won the National Book Challenge and Wyoming Historical Awards.

Beth views teaching as not just a job, but a privilege. "I love to see the transformation of my students from the beginning to the end of the year and sometimes even from minute-to-minute." She thinks that being a teacher is the best profession in world and still gets excited about each day ahead of her.

Each Arch Coal Teacher Achievement Award recipient receives a trophy, a classroom plaque, and a \$3,500 cash award. Nominations of the teachers are made by the public. The selection is made by a blue-ribbon panel of the teachers' peers, who are all former recipients of the Teacher Achievement Award.

The Arch Coal Foundation is a supporter of teacher-recognition programs in Wyoming, West Virginia, Utah, and Colorado, as well as a number of other education-related causes. Arch Coal, Inc., is the nation's second-largest coal producer.

## Cowden recognized for military aviation service

**Vi Cowden**, Class of '36, was one of the first women military pilots to serve in the United States Air Force. She was recognized last spring, among more than 200 other Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs), with the Congressional Gold Medal during a ceremony at the nation's Capitol.

WASPs didn't engage in active warfare, however, they were still essential in helping the U.S. military. Many of the WASPs that attended the event wore their World War II-era uniforms. House Speaker, Nancy Pelosi, was one of the presenters of the medal.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest recognition that Congress can award to a civilian or group of civilians. Deanie Parrish, associate director of Wings Across America, accepted the medal on behalf of the WASPs. Each WASP received a smaller version of the medal to keep. The original medal will be donated to the Smithsonian Institution for display.

Vi was inducted into the South Dakota Aviation Hall of Fame in 1994.



**Vi Cowden**, Class of '36, was recognized last spring, among more than 200 other Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs), with the Congressional Gold Medal during a ceremony at the nation's Capitol.

## Kudos & Announcements

Retreat. She serves as the program chair for Spearfish and has been an active volunteer in the classroom. Jodi is employed with PREMIER Bankcard in Spearfish.

**Travis Geppert**, Class of '95, Spearfish, was elected to represent Ward I on the Spearfish City Council.

**Fred Jackson**, Class of '98, Sioux Falls, teaches second grade at Laura B. Anderson Elementary School in Sioux Falls.

**Bruce Kessler**, Class of '97, Pierre, recently became the new owner of Gator's, a mall-based restaurant in Pierre.

**Susan (Gilje) Thommahlon**, Class of '96, Rapid City, received the Golden Apple Award. Susan teaches second grade at General Beadle Elementary School in Rapid City.

**Jared Vasquez**, Class of '97, Rapid City, was hired as the activities director at Rapid City Stevens High School.

**Frances "Fran" (Wagner) White**, Class of '99, Rapid City, has been named the South Dakota Financial Services Champion of the Year. The award comes from the U.S. Small Business Administration. Fran is a loan officer with Black Hills Community Economic Development, Inc.

**The 00s** **Jill Broecher**, Class of '09, Spearfish, has been hired as the marketing and public relations assistant for Visit Spearfish, Inc.

**Melinda "Mindy" (Gooddale) Capp**, Class of '02, Spearfish, was selected as the 2010 District Teacher of the Year. Mindy teaches seventh grade at Spearfish Middle School.

**Jennifer "Jen" Chrans**, Class of '00, Plano, Texas, was hired as project manager at Splash Media. Splash Media is a social media solutions company that offers a unique mix of services that include blending interactive digital marketing with video production.

**Lynette Daum**, Class of '03, Belle Fourche, was hired as the band director at Belle Fourche High School.

**Tina Froelich**, Class of '02 and '06, Rapid City, was hired as a staff auditor with Casey Peterson & Associates, LTD.

**Kayla Gallimore**, Class of '09, Pierre, was hired by the State of South Dakota as a senior chemist and the chemical terrorism coordinator for the Department of Health in Pierre. Kayla works in the environmental laboratory and performs a variety of tests on water samples.

**Monica Headlee**, Class of '02, Walnut Grove, Minn., has been selected as one of the semifinalists for the Minnesota Teacher of the Year Award. Monica currently teaches 11th-grade chemistry and coaches in Tracy, Minn.

**Michael "Mike" Jones**, Class of '05, Spearfish, was selected as one of three Meade School District Teachers of the Year for 2010. Mike is a fifth-grade teacher at Whitewood Elementary School. He is involved with the after-school reading program, the after-school chess club, and the native plants and rock garden. Mike also oversees the school D.A.R.E. program, implemented and serves as advisor to the student council, was responsible for bringing the mobile science lab to Whitewood Elementary, and developed the school's science fair program.

### Alumni gather for American Indian Awareness Week



The seventh annual American Indian alumni gathering took place this spring during American Indian Awareness Week, held in conjunction with the Lakota Omniciye Wacipi. Attending the gathering were: (standing, left to right) Maria Barrera, Attended, Rapid City; Lila (DeMarrias) Mehlhaff, Attended, Rapid City; Stewart Mehlhaff, Class of '83, Rapid City; Jessie (Taken Alive) Rencountre, Class of '04, Rapid City; Whitney Rencountre, Attended, Rapid City; Sandor Iron Rope, Class of '07, Spearfish; Murray Lee, current student, Rapid City; LaFawn Janis, Class of '04, Golden, Colo.; Urla (Charette) Marcus, Class of '99, director of the Center for American Indian Studies at BHSU, Spearfish; Tom Wheaton, Class of '87, director of Alumni Relations at BHSU, Spearfish; (seated, left to right) Rilea (Hutchins) Moyer, Class of '06, Spearfish; Glenda (Marshall) Nedved, Class '71, Spearfish; Monica (Garreau) Schmidt, Class '73, Rapid City; Jace DeCory, BHSU faculty, Spearfish; and Beverly (Shott) Running Bear, Class of '00, Rapid City. During the event, Monica (Garreau) Schmidt was named the BHSU Alumni Lakota Omniciye Educator of the Year.



**Haley Lux**, Class of '09, Fargo, N.D., was hired as a recruiter for the Midwest and Great Plains regions for Bank of the West.

**Angie (Nguyen) McDowell**, Class of '01 and '03, Greeley, Colo., was hired as assistant principal at East Memorial Elementary School in Greeley.

**Brant Miller**, Class of '01 and '04, Minneapolis, Minn., has been involved in many innovative learning programs, such as GoNorth!, an adventure learning program that consists of a team of educators, scientists, and explorers who dog sled to five circumpolar Arctic locations. He is pursuing his Ph.D. in the science education program at the University of Minnesota.

**Michael Nekuda**, Class of '08, Madison, was hired as the men's and women's head cross country coach and the head women's track coach at Dakota State University in Madison.

**Elizabeth "Libby" Nisley**, Class of '09, Belle Fourche, was recently hired by Halliburton (Baroid and Bentonite Performance Minerals) in Colony, Wyo. Libby works in the human resources department, handling the payroll and completing necessary paperwork for truckers to load and unload. She is also responsible for the variance reports, inventory, completing production, and railcar billing.

**Ashley (Cordell) Pearson**, Class of '03, Aladdin, Wyo., was promoted to assistant

vice president of Pioneer Bank & Trust. Ashley works in the Belle Fourche branch as a loan officer.

**Darcy (Reinicke) Sales**, Class of '03, Rapid City, was hired as the human resources manager at Prairie Berry Winery in Hill City.

**Daniel "Dan" Schlup**, Class of '01, Polk City, Iowa, is currently an administrator at Polk County Nursing and Rehab.

The following BHSU alumni were featured in the article "Our Teachers Making a Difference" that appeared in the *Black Hills Pioneer*: **Jennifer (Pickerd) Roberts**, Class of '98 and '06, Spearfish, teaches art at Belle Fourche High School; **Shelly (Brink) Mikkelsen**, Class of '96 and '06, Belle Fourche, teaches second grade at South Park Elementary in Belle Fourche; **Pam (Stratton) Smith**, Class of '88, Lead, is a math recovery teacher at Lead-Deadwood Elementary School; and **Rebecca (Thomas) Sukstorf**, Class of '83, Spearfish, is a sixth-grade teacher at Spearfish Middle School.

## Foster works to preserve American Indian history

**Mandy Foster**, Class of '07, is a cultural interpreter in the Education Department of the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

Mandy was born on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation and is Mnikowju Lakota on her mother's side of the family. She credits Jace DeCory, instructor of American Indian Studies at BHSU, for helping her to really understand her culture and what she wanted to do with her future. She made connections in her classes and began to understand more about American Indian cultures and wanted to share that knowledge.

Mandy began at the museum as an intern and was later hired full time doing a career that she loves.

She delivers hands-on orientations, programs, and tours. She also works with the Family Programs Unit in the Education Department developing training materials for activities offered throughout the year. Research is a constant aspect of her job in order to develop programs and her personal knowledge. Mandy says, "Working for the Smithsonian is really a privilege, there are so many opportunities to further your knowledge and to participate in a wide array of academia."

She works very hard at the museum to educate the public about indigenous people from across the Western Hemisphere. "The museum is a living cultural museum and doesn't just focus on the historical aspects of Native culture but includes who we are today. This is very important to me...that people realize Indian people are still here and we still have our culture, traditions, and language," notes Mandy.



**Mandy Foster, Class of '07**, discusses the gold exhibit at the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., where she works as a cultural interpreter.

## BHSU alumni appointed as area judges



**Donovan**

**Larry M. Donovan**, Attended, was appointed as a federal administrative law judge and office director for the Department of the Interior, Office of Hearings and Appeals in Rapid City.

Larry attended BHSU before enlisting in the Coast Guard where he flew search and rescue missions. He received his law degree from the University of Wyoming in 1981. As a federal administrative law judge, Larry will conduct hearings regarding property and money held in trusts for American Indian decedents. He will also manage the Rapid City field office and supervise staff, administer the office budget, and manage the document retention program.

**Walford "Wally" Eklund**, Class of '68, was appointed the 7th Judicial Circuit judge by South Dakota Governor Mike Rounds.

"I am pleased that Wally Eklund has agreed to become a circuit judge," Rounds said in a news release. "His many years of experience, as well as his demeanor, will serve the citizens well in western South Dakota."

Wally earned his bachelor's degree in business from BHSU and graduated from the University of South Dakota School of Law in 1971. He has been in private law practice since 1971, handling litigation in both the state and federal court systems.

The 7th Judicial Circuit includes Custer, Fall River, Pennington, and Shannon Counties.



**Eklund**

Photo courtesy of Rapid City Journal

## Engagements & Marriages

### The 80s

**Della Finn**, Class of '87, married Cyril Martinmaas April 17, 2010. Della is an account service representative for Wellmark BlueCross BlueShield. The couple lives in Rapid City.

**Cheryl Holmberg**, Class of '87, married Wes Bachman Aug. 7, 2010. Cheryl is employed with KDB Management in Sun Lakes, Ariz. The couple lives in Phoenix, Ariz.

### The 90s

**Rodney Bechtold**, Class of '93, married Shannon Locati July 11, 2009. Rodney is a financial representative with Modern

Woodmen of America. The couple lives in Spearfish.

**Jason Steinle**, Attended, married Amanda Hindman July 24, 2010. Jason is a chiropractor at his practice, Health and Harmony Chiropractic, in Evergreen, Colo.

**Julie Stewart**, Class of '93, married Greg Coffman July 3, 2010. Julie is vice president of business development with the Lincoln Property Company. The couple lives in Chicago.

### The 00s

**Rachel Eddy**, Class of '07, married **Cody Byrum**, Class of '04, Oct. 17, 2009. Rachel is a budget analyst with

the State of South Dakota. Cody is a deputy legislative director for the Governor's Office and is a 2nd Lt. in the South Dakota Army National Guard. The couple lives in Pierre.

**Kathryn Fauss**, Class of '07, married John Lynn, April 30, 2010. Kathryn is pursuing graduate studies at American Military University.

**Melissa Giggee**, Class of '07, married Casey Kistler July 18, 2010. Melissa is currently teaching extended-day kindergarten at Sturgis Elementary.

**Darwin Goodsell**, Class of '02, married Carla

De Bortoli, July 24, 2010. Darwin is employed at Kiewit Corporation in Omaha, Neb., as a senior project business manager.

**Kelli Kammerer**, Class of '03, married David Becker June 5, 2010. Kelli is employed with the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology.

**Jamie Kennedy**, Class of '04, married Kirsten William June 26, 2010. Jamie is currently working at Youth & Family Services and runs his own boot camp and personal training business.

**Jonas Lynch**, Class of '05, and Lauren Wells, got engaged Feb. 12, 2010.

Jonas operates a seed farm in the McLaughlin area.

**Stephanie Miles**, Class of '07, married Justin Crago June 29, 2007. Stephanie is a youth advocate at the YES House in Gillette, Wyo.

**Sheila Mortensen**, Class of '06, married Mike Morgan May 1, 2010. Sheila is employed by the Meade County School District.

**Nick Redden**, Class of '04, married, **Kari Pearson**, Attended, June 19, 2010. Nick is employed at Belle Fourche High School as a social science teacher, middle school football coach, and high school boy's basketball and track

## Runners raise money for scholarships during annual BHSU Alumni Mile



Runners from around the region gathered at the Donald E. Young Sports and Fitness Center to participate in the 18th annual BHSU Alumni Mile. This year over \$2,000 was raised for scholarships, bringing total contributions to the Alumni Mile Endowment to \$26,000. Lunch was sponsored by the Stadium Sports Grill, a local supporter of BHSU. Birch Haraden, senior elementary education major from Billings, Mont., and Wendy O'Lexey, senior special education major from Rock Springs, Wyo., were awarded the annual Alumni Mile Scholarships. Pictured at the Alumni Mile standing, left to right are: Dave Little, former BHSU track and field and cross country coach, Spearfish; Stephen Hayes, Class of '02, Belle Fourche; Dan Bergland, Class of '89, Beresford; Jack Kirtley, Class of '93, Idaho Falls, Idaho; Elaine Doll-Dunn, Class of '79, Spearfish; Phil Bjerneberg, Class of '86, Sioux Falls; Paul Herman, Class of '96, Johnston, Colo.; Fred Romkema, Spearfish; Darrell Stewart, Class of '93, Arvada, Colo.; Scott Kieper, Class of '95, Marina Del Ray, Calif.; Birch Haraden, BHSU student, Billings, Mont.; Zach Kintzley, Class of '07, Fort Collins, Colo.; Brent Stille, Class of '92, Sioux Falls; Jim Glazer, Class of '82, St. Paul, Minn.; Jim Moravec, Class of '79, Chico, Calif.; Brian Harms, Attended, Belle Fourche; James Hansen, Attended, Little Creek, Virginia.; Wendy O'Lexey, BHSU student, Rock Springs, Wyo.; John T. Williams, Class of '07, Spearfish; Brandon Bertram, Class of '07, Goodyear, Ariz.; Wesleigh Jastorff, Attended, Tea; Vailferree Brechtel, Class of '05, Spearfish; Luke Watkins, Class of '07, Rapid City; and Scott Walkinshaw, BHSU cross country coach.

coach. Kari works at Scissors 5th Avenue in Belle Fourche.

**Marissa Schott**, Class of '04, and Ermin "Spike" Husidic, announce their engagement. Marissa is employed as "Jayden McKay" at Hits 102.7 in Rapid City.

**Erin Talsma**, Class of '05, married Eric Smith April 24, 2010. Erin is employed at the Hilton Garden Inn in Frisco, Texas.

**Shawn "Butter" Travis**, Class of '05, married Katie Fitzgibbons, Sept. 3, 2010. Butter is a junior customer service analyst at Meta Payment Systems.

**The 10s** **Katharine "Katie" Campbell**, Class of '10, married **Cody Peterson**, Class of '10, Sept. 4, 2010. Cody is employed at Forest Products Distributors and Outdoor Elements Landscaping and Painting.

**Marcos Munoz**, Class of '10, married **Mary Beth Flanery**, Attending, June 5, 2010. Marcos is a project manager with Rangel Construction Company. Mary Beth is employed at Black Hills Federal Credit Union. The couple lives in Rapid City.

## Adams-Howard earns the BHSU Young Alumni Achievement Award

**Rachel Adams-Howard**, Class of '00, was presented with the BHSU Young Alumni Achievement Award at the 2010 Student Volunteer Awards Ceremony.

Rachel earned her bachelor's degree in mass communication. As a student, she was a member of University Programming (UP) Team, the Residence Hall Association (RHA), BHTV and KBHU radio; a photo editor for the *Today Newspaper*; and Pangburn Hall president. She also received the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award at the 2000 Student Volunteer Awards Ceremony.

Rachel has worked for various communication companies such as: KNBN television in Rapid City; Live Strong Orlando: The Lance Armstrong Foundation; and Fox Sports (Sun Sports/FSN Florida).

Within the past year, she created a web site for parents and teachers called Mamma Bookworm. Her site invites parents to explore, post book reviews, and learn from other parents about the genres of literature available for kids. Rachel also started Port St. John Pastries, a business where she creates custom cakes and treats for parties and special events.

The Young Alumni Achievement Award honors alumni who have attended BHSU within the last 10 years and have distinguished themselves with outstanding achievements, contributions, and service to society, the community, and BHSU.



Adams-Howard

## Painter is recognized with the Spirit of BH Award



Painter

**PJ Painter**, recent professional accountancy and business administration graduate from Buffalo, was presented with the 2010 Spirit of BH Award.

The award is given annually to a BHSU student who has made significant contributions that reflect favorably on the University as well as the community as a whole.

PJ successfully balanced academics, volunteerism, and extra-curricular activities while maintaining a 3.8 grade point average (GPA). His involvement on campus was varied. He spearheaded the return of the BHSU Rodeo Team and volunteered countless hours promoting the program through fundraising and meetings with BHSU administration and faculty.

PJ served as president of the BHSU Rodeo Team from 2006-2009 and took the lead in many community and campus events. He assisted in organizing fundraisers, such as golf tournaments, roping events, the Will Lantis Yellow Jacket Stampede, and the Cowboys and Candlelight Dinner and Auction.

In addition to his involvement in rodeo, PJ contributed many hours to the Volunteer Income Tax Association (VITA), the parade of lights, the Humane Society, and was a member of the BHSU Student Ambassadors. He served as president of the BHSU Pre-Law Association and was accepted into the University of South Dakota Law School; where he will continue his education this fall. While serving in the numerous roles mentioned, PJ also managed to make the BHSU Dean's List eight times.

"He was a leader and role model for underclassmen and was a positive spokesperson for the rodeo program. When looking for ways to improve or change the program, he always looked at the big picture and how changes would impact every member, not just himself. In addition, he researched many ways for the program to give back to the community and actively participated in those projects," stated Glen Lammers, BHSU rodeo coach.

Lammers and Dr. Ken Schallenkamp, associate professor of business at BHSU, nominated PJ for the Spirit of BH Award. PJ was the only recipient to receive two nominations.

## What have you been up to?

[www.BHSU.edu/Alumni](http://www.BHSU.edu/Alumni)

Did you finally get that promotion, have a baby, win an award or retire? Send us your news items and updates so we can keep your file up-to-date.

Include your graduation year, mailing address, phone number, email address, and spouse's name.

Is your spouse a BHSU graduate? Send us those updates too.

Check out the lost alumni list at [www.BHSU.edu/Alumni](http://www.BHSU.edu/Alumni). If you or someone you know is on the list, please send us current information.

You may email your updates to:  
Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu

call: 605-642-6385

or mail to: BHSU Alumni Magazine  
1200 University, Unit 9506  
Spearfish, SD 57799-9506

## Births

**The 90s** **Jodi (Alcorn) Addy**, Class of '99, and husband Dave, Brooklyn Park, Minn., had a boy, Mason David, May 12, 2010. He weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. and was 20 inches long. Jodi is a stay-at-home mom.

**Ara Baumkratz**, Class of '99, Rapid City, and the late Archie Eades had a girl, Maylie Layne, Dec. 31, 2009. She weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. and was 20 ½ inches long. Ara works for the Black Hills Badlands and Lakes Association.

**Jodi (Martin) Noll**, Class of '95, and husband Craig, Commerce City, Colo., had a boy, Graham Taylor, Dec. 8, 2009. He weighed 7 lbs. 12 oz. and was 20 ½ inches long. Jodi is an assistant director of operations for a financial planning association in Denver.

**Justin O'Neill**, Class of '99, and wife Licia, Hot Springs, had a boy, William Henry, Feb. 21, 2010. He weighed 8 lbs. 9 oz. and was 20 ½ inches long. Justin is an attorney in Hot Springs.

**The 00s** **Mackenzie (Ehly)**, Attended, and husband **Ryan Aalbu**, Class of '06, Belle Fourche, had a boy, Connor Paul, Sept. 30, 2009. He weighed 6 lbs. 9 oz. and was 19 inches long. Ryan and Mackenzie are employed with the Northern Hills Training Center in Spearfish.

**Alissa (McGee)**, Class of '00, and husband **Mitch Adams**, Class of '01, Spearfish, had a girl, Emilia "Millie" Feb. 20, 2010.

She weighed 6 lbs. 15 oz. and was 20 ½ inches long. Alissa is a library media specialist and Mitch is a physical science and physics teacher for the Meade County School District.

**Angie (Case) Black**, Class of '02, and husband Trent, Spearfish, had a girl, Demetria Faith, June 10, 2010. She weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz. and was 21 inches long. Angie is the director of sales at the Spearfish Holiday Inn & Convention Center.

**Lindsey (Hins) Brewer**, Class of '07, and husband Charles, Wessington, had a girl, Charleigh Rose, March 23, 2010. She weighed 6 lbs. 13 oz. and was 21 inches long. Lindsey is a mathematics teacher and technology integrationist at Huron High School.

**Lillian "Lily" (Van Vlack) Bruckner**, Class of '07, and husband Tyler, Rapid City, had a boy, Ethan John, Dec. 10, 2009. He weighed 5 lbs. 13 oz. and was 18 inches long. Lily earned her master of education in student affairs administration.

**Jennifer (Mahlen) Calderon**, Class of '08, and husband Alex, Piedmont, had a baby boy, Elias, Oct. 29, 2009. He weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. and was 19 ½ inches long.

**Karina (Bliss)**, Class of '02, and **Jeremy Hohn**, Class of '02, The Woodlands, Texas, had a boy, Mathias Edwin, Oct. 30, 2009. He weighed 8 lbs. 11 oz. Jeremy is a senior branch manager for Liberty Mutual Insurance.

**Sara (Schafer) Hornick**, Class of '07, and husband Chris, Rapid City, had a girl, Lucy Day, Dec. 22, 2009. She weighed 7 lbs. 12 oz. and was 19 ¾ inches long. Sara is the area coordinator for the United Way of the Black Hills.

**Jessica (Hughes)**, Class of '03, and husband **Matt Larson**, Class of '02, St. Cloud, Minn., had a boy, Jonas, June 28, 2010. He weighed 6 lbs. 9 oz. and was 18 ¾ inches long. Matt is a territory manager with Empi, a medical supply and equipment company.

**Jill (Sutter) Leonard**, Class of '01, and husband Jason, Belle Fourche, had a girl, Jordan Marie, May 21, 2010. She weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 21 ½ inches long. Jill is a staff accountant at JA Erickson & Company.

**Sarah (Veskma) Maney**, Class of '05, and husband Joseph, Harvard, Mass., had a boy, Liam Joseph, Jan. 20, 2010. He weighed 8 lbs. 15 oz. and was 22 inches long. Sarah is a stay-at-home mom.

**Patricia "Trish" (Richards)**, Class of '01, and husband **William "Billy" Marsh**, Class of '05, Castle Rock, Colo., had a girl, Elliette Marie, March 17, 2010. She weighed 8 lbs. 12 oz. and was 21 inches long.

**Beth (Bauld) Odenbach**, Class of '09, and husband Trent, Hermosa, had a boy, Harrison Douglas, June 25, 2010. He weighed 8 lbs. 2.6 oz. and was 21 inches long. Beth teaches at St. Thomas More in Rapid City.

**Olivia (Norlin) Rieger**, Class of '01, and husband Blake, Glendive, Mont., had twins, Teag Michael and Bodie John, Feb. 23, 2010. They were each 4 lbs. 10 oz. and 17 inches long. Olivia is the regional deputy public defender in the Office of the State Public Defender - Region 10 in Montana.

**Domico Rodriguez**, Class of '06, and wife Jamie, Rapid City, had a boy, Domico Jamir, May 28, 2010. He weighed 8 lbs. 4.5 oz. and was 20 inches long. Domico is the sports/events sales director for the Rapid City Convention & Visitors Bureau.

**Mallary (Allen)**, Attended, and husband **William "Doc" Stodden**, Class of '03, Carbondale, Ill., had a girl, Mica Jane, May 3, 2010. She weighed 5 lbs. 14 oz. and was 18 ¾ inches long. Doc is pursuing his Ph.D. while teaching political science at Southern Illinois University (SIU). Mallary is earning her master's degree in sociology from SIU.

**Molly (Dibble) Wartenbee**, Class of '04, and husband

Bill, Casper, Wyo., had a boy, Cooper Dean, Oct. 29, 2009. He weighed 9 lbs. 5 oz. and was 21 inches long. Molly is a sales administrator for Wyoming Machinery Company.

**Sara (Blakeman) Wenner**, Class of '06, and husband Justin, Olathe, Kan., had a boy, Landon Cody, April 29, 2010. He weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz. and was 20 ¼ inches long. Sara works at Fry Orthodontic Specialists as a receptionist.

**Amanda (Hardin)**, Attended, and husband **James Williams**, Class of '03, Spearfish, had a girl, Elin Maell, June 9, 2010. She weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz. and was 19 inches long. James is an advertising account executive for the *Rapid City Journal*.

**Jennifer (Wagner) Williams**, Class of '02, and husband William, Rapid City, had a baby girl, Josephine May, Aug. 16, 2009. She weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. and was 19 inches long. Jennifer is a law clerk for Justice Konenkamp.

### Show Yellow Jacket pride



Jackie (Shavlik) Grimm, Class of '00, teaches first and second grade at University Schools in Greeley, Colo. For college week at their school, her students made Yellow Jackets in art class and decorated the door with BHSU Yellow Jacket pride. They won first place in the door decorating contest.

## In Memory Of

### Dakota Territory/Spearfish Normal School 1883-1940

Dena (Krull) Cook, Class of '25, Spearfish  
 Laura B. (Gardner) Hodge, Attended, Belle Fourche  
 Mary L. (Blair) Jorenson, Attended, Sturgis  
 Kenneth "Ken" L. Kershner, Attended, Stevensville, Mont.  
 Rena (De Young) Nemeč, Attended, Presho  
 Helen M. (Meyer) O'Neill, Attended, Rapid City  
 Rodger H. Remschel, Attended, Rapid City  
 Margaret (May) Simons, Attended, Marcus  
 Mazy E. (Miller) Weiss, Attended, Maurine

### Black Hills Teachers College 1941-1963

Philip "Father Allen" C. Allen, Class of '60, Minneapolis, Minn.  
 Patricia "Patty" K. (Randall) Briggs, Attended, Winner  
 Eleanor (Ackerman) Burger, Class of '60, Centerville, Ohio  
 Thomas W. Carrico, Class of '57, Belvidere  
 Emma G. (Usher) Cortez, Class of '62, Hot Springs  
 George "Bob" R. Fleming, Class of '50, Cheyenne, Wyo.  
 Loretta J. (Davis) Fuller, Attended, Belle Fourche  
 Jerome "Jerry" A. Groeneveld, Class of '58, Klamath Falls, Ore.  
 C. Lorán Hills, Class of '50, Mitchell  
 Joanne A. (Voyles) Locke, Class of '58, Puyallup, Wash.  
 Ethel (Oitto) Lux, Class of '46, Saint Joseph, Mo.  
 Thomas "Tom" A. Matthews, Jr., Attended, Aberdeen  
 Doris M. (Johnson) McElfresh, Class of '46, Spearfish  
 Lois M. (Prince) McFarling, Attended, Pierre  
 Jerry L. Prazma, Attended, Peoria, Ariz.  
 Wayne R. Sauer, Class of '62, Custer  
 Helen M. (Homer) Seastrom, Class of '41, Coos Bay, Ore.  
 Harold R. Smith, Class of '60, Tucson, Ariz.  
 C. Robert "Bob" Todd, Class of '52, Harrison, Neb.

### Black Hills State College 1964-1988

Harry L. Adam, Class of '74, Aberdeen  
 Jean N. Anderson, Class of '68, Spearfish  
 Josephine N. (Hoppa) Artlip, Class of '70, Rapid City  
 Dorothy M. (Alexander) Ashley, Class of '64, Gillette, Wyo.  
 Gerald D. "Buzz" Bettelyoun, "Wanbli Tokahe," Class of '82, Rapid City  
 Robert A. "Bob" Cheskey, Class of '84, Sacramento, Calif.  
 Kathryn L. (O'Donnell) Damberger, Class of '69, Gillette, Wyo.  
 Judith "Judy" M. England, Attended, Pierre  
 James "Jim" Green, Class of '70, Lead  
 Rolland E. Hostler, Class of '71, Fort Pierre  
 Marjean M. (Votroubek) Huber, Class of '75, Bison  
 Marcia K. (Mollet) Jacobs, Class of '72, Albuquerque, N.M.  
 Leola (Scott) Kane, Class of '64, Rapid City  
 Rodney M. Larsen, Class of '74, Lead  
 Karen D. (Johnson) Lundberg, Class of '65, Moorhead, Minn.  
 Byron J. Miracle Jr., Class of '83, Robbins, Calif.  
 Thomas "Tom" J. Morris, Class of '67, Lead  
 Frances M. (Taylor) Olson, Class of '72, Newell  
 Gerald A. Quint, Class of '70, Belle Fourche  
 Donald R. Rathert, Class of '74, Rapid City  
 Patrick M. Ridge, Class of '72, Jeffersonville, Ind.  
 Mabelle L. (Cameron) Stadig, Class of '69, Rapid City  
 Terry A. Weisgram, Attended, Rapid City

### Black Hills State University 1989-Present

Christina "Christy" L. Caswell, Class of '07, Rapid City  
 Michael B. Swenson, Attended, Gillette, Wyo.  
 Chad M. Williams, Attended, Sioux Falls

### Former Faculty/Staff

Donna D. (Miller) Bucher, Aladdin, Wyo.  
 Edna V. (Vopat) Grieb, Class of '56, emeritus faculty, Spearfish

## Remembering Merlyn Aman... "don't let what you can't do interfere with what you can"



Aman

**Merlyn Aman**, who taught music at Black Hills State University for years, passed away March 4, 2010. He spent his life supporting students of all ages and was known for his positive attitude and kindness.

Many people in the community knew and loved Merlyn, including the musicians and athletes from BHSU that he and his wife, Shirley, often took under their wing.

Merlyn married Shirley Aug. 13, 1955. They moved to Illinois, where he taught and earned his master of music degree from Northwestern University. Returning to South Dakota, Merlyn began teaching in Belle Fourche, then Aberdeen, and later,

at BHSU. Merlyn and Shirley spent a few more years away from South Dakota when Merlyn was pursuing his doctorate of music at Arizona State University. Merlyn then returned to BHSU, where he taught students until his retirement, which was due to the impact of Guillain-Barre Syndrome, in 1978. Following four years of hospitalization and rehabilitation, Merlyn returned as part-time volunteer faculty at BHSU from 1982-1988.

Throughout his career, he composed numerous choral and vocal solo pieces. He was one of the founders of the Rapid City Children's Chorus. As a conductor and vocalist, Merlyn gave many guest appearances with a variety of choral and operatic organizations throughout the country.

Merlyn received much deserved recognition for his incredible efforts in music. Though his professional career and its ensuing awards and recognition did not define the man that Merlyn was, they spoke volumes about his commitment to excellence and the level of importance that music, teaching, and helping others played in his life.

Donations in Merlyn's memory are being accepted for two scholarship programs at BHSU - the Merlyn and Shirley Aman Music Scholarship and the general athletic scholarship fund. Contact Steve Meeker, vice president of University Advancement, at [Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu](mailto:Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu) or call 605-642-6385 for more information.

## Alumni will be honored during Swarm Week for their achievements

Black Hills State University will honor several alumni during the annual Alumni Awards Luncheon Friday, Oct. 1 at 12 noon in the Jacket Legacy Room of the David B. Miller Yellow Jacket Student Union. Marla (Hershey) Barnard will be honored with the Special Achievement Award; the Distinguished Alumnus Award will be presented to Dr. Forrest Brady; the Excellence in Education Award will be given to Dr. Tim Creal; and Ron Schuttler will be honored with the Special Service Award.

### **Marla (Hershey) Barnard,**

Class of '81, earned her bachelor's degree in speech communication with a minor in business. While at BHSU, she was a member of the cheerleading squad and created the dance/cheer group - the Golden Sting.

Marla is currently a senior vice president of Human Resources for Fiserv, a Fortune 500 company that delivers integrated solutions to help financial service institutions, insurers, health benefit administrators, and employers manage and profit from information.

During her career in public relations, she helped Duke Energy receive the Outstanding Corporate Citizen Award. While serving as vice president of Human Resources at Time Warner, the company was recognized as one of the best places to work in Houston for two consecutive years. One of the highlights of her career was throwing out the first pitch at a Houston Astros game.

Marla also has years of involvement with non-profit organizations. She is serving as president for Child Advocates and Business Volunteers for the Arts. She is also a board member for the Volunteer Center, United Way, ESCAPE Family Resources, Society for the Performing Arts, and ChildBuilders. She is a graduate of Leadership Houston, which is an organization recognizing and supporting Houston leaders. Marla also served on the BHSU Foundation Advisory Board from 1994 to 1997.

She is proud to have recently started a scholarship for BHSU business/human resources students. Marla and her husband, Rick, reside in Houston, Texas, with their son, Kyle, who is a junior in college.

**Dr. Forrest Brady,** Class of '72, received his bachelor's degree in history and math and went on to Creighton University Medical School, where he graduated in 1977

as a medical doctor. He completed his family practice residency in Sioux Falls and had a private family practice in Spearfish from 1980-86. He currently practices family medicine at the Regional Medical Clinic in Spearfish.

Forrest's leadership appointments include: Spearfish Regional Hospital Peer Review chairman, Spearfish Regional Hospital vice chief of staff, Spearfish Regional Hospital Medical Executive Committee, and Regional Health Physicians Management Committee.

He has been involved with various organizations including: Boy Scouts of America Troop 17, the Spearfish Rifle and Pistol Club, the National Wildlife Federation Leaders Club, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. He is a professional member of the American Medical Athletic Association.

Forrest enjoys outdoor sports, dog training, cooking, gardening, and reading. He, and his wife, Sharon, have two children, Rachel and Dan.

**Dr. Tim Creal,** Class of '78, earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics education from BHSU. He also has a master's degree in educational administration and specialist and doctorate degrees in education.

Tim began his career in education as a high school mathematics teacher and coach in the Faith School District. He then taught mathematics and coached football in Brookings, Ore.

He returned to South Dakota and spent the next 10 years teaching and coaching in New Underwood before taking over as superintendent, elementary principal, and special education director in 1992.

Tim is currently the superintendent for the Custer School District. He is also an adjunct professor for the South Dakota State University West River Graduate Center, where he earned the Teacher of the Year Award in 2000, 2006, 2007, and 2010. He was also awarded the South Dakota Superintendent of the Year Award in 2000.

Tim has a growing list of professional accomplishments including: president of the South Dakota School Superintendent's Association (1999); member of the American



Barnard



Brady



Creal



Schuttler

Association of School Administrators Systems Leadership Committee since 2003 and chair of the committee in 2006-2007; and involvement with the Gates Leadership Mentoring Project.

Tim and his wife, Darla, have one daughter, Leah. Tim and Darla reside in Custer.

**Ron Schuttler,** Class of '85, received his bachelor's degree in history and art from BHSU after first serving 22 years in the Navy. After graduating from Spearfish High School, he immediately enlisted in the Navy, training as a shipboard electrician. His service extended through the Vietnam War. Ron retired from the service in 1976 having attained the rank of Master Chief Petty Officer.

He moved back to Spearfish with his family and enrolled at BHSU as a non-traditional student under the GI bill. Shortly after earning his degree, Ron began working for the Black Hills Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He also directed the summer camp at Medicine Mountain Scout Ranch. In 2000, he retired to devote time to his volunteer activities.

Ron has volunteered with several organizations throughout his lifetime. He served on the BHSU Alumni Board of Directors for 23 years, acting as president in 1997 and 1998. Ron is an active member of the American Legion and is the commander of the Spearfish Veterans Honor Guard. He is active in the Knights of Columbus of St. Joseph Church in Spearfish. Ron is also involved with the crew members associations of the four ships on which he served, and belongs to the Great Northern Railway Historical Society.

Ron and his wife of 48 years, Eileen, reside in Spearfish. They have three sons, Jon, Bill, and David.

## BHSU Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame inductees announced

The Black Hills State University Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame will induct five individuals and two teams during the 2010 Swarm Day festivities. Lisa (Reynolds) Bomengen, Craig Crosswait, and Neil Grandbouche will be inducted as athletes. Kevin Williams will be inducted as a coach, and Scott Graslie will be inducted as this year's contributor. The 1980 men's cross country team and the 1963-64 wrestling team will also be inducted.



Bomengen



Crosswait



Grandbouche



Williams



Graslie

**Lisa (Reynolds) Bomengen**, Class of '00, will be inducted for her accomplishments in track and cross country:

- National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) cross country All-American (1998 and 1999)
- South Dakota Intercollegiate Conference (SDIC) cross country champion (1998 and 1999)
- Placed 23rd out of 344 runners at national meet (2000)
- Earned All-American honors in outdoor track (1999)
- South Dakota Sports Writers Collegiate Female Athlete of the Year (1999)

**Craig Crosswait**, Class of '81, will be inducted for his achievements in baseball and golf:

- All-District 12 First Team (1980)
- All-SDIC second baseman (1979 and 1980)
- District 12 baseball team champions (1979 and 1980)
- All-District Team in golf (1980)
- Second in the SDIC with a .419 batting average (1980)

**Neil Grandbouche**, Class of '79, will be inducted for his success in track, football, and basketball:

- SDIC championship mile-relay team member (1976-1979)
- Honorable Mention All-Conference in football (1977)
- First Team All-Conference in football as a defensive back (1978)
- First Team All-District as a defensive back (1978)
- SDIC champion in the 440 intermediate hurdles (1976)

**Kevin Williams**, Class of '76, will be inducted into the BHSU Hall of Fame for his successful coaching career. Kevin has coached for 34 years at Kelly Walsh High School in Casper, Wyo. His accomplishments include:

- Coached the girl's track team to three regional championships and 19 top four finishes at the state track meet (includes eight state champion runner up teams and one state championship)
- Wyoming Coaches Association Coach of the Year (eight times)
- National Federation of High School Sectional Coach of the Year
- Inducted into the Wyoming Coaches Association Hall of Fame (2003)
- Inducted into the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame (2010)

**Scott Graslie**, Class of '76, will be recognized for his strong support of BHSU athletics over the years. He has been on the Yellow Jacket Foundation Board of Directors since 1984 and has served as vice president and was treasurer for many years. Scott was also president of the Green and Gold Booster Club from 1982-1985.

He has also volunteered his time with BHSU golf tournaments for years - coordinating the putting contest and Deuce Pot, and has been a financial supporter of the Yellow Jackets since the early 1980s.



The 1980 men's cross country team won the SDIC championship with a near perfect 18 points, crushing the second place team by 67 points. This marked the eighth straight championship for BHSU. They later won their fourth straight District 12 title convincingly with 31 points, and finished 12th in the NAIA championships. Team members included: (front row, left to right) Jim Glazer, Dean Mahaffey, Todd Pomeroy, Randy Gregson, and Carlo Mileusnich; (back row, left to right) Ken Hunter, Curt Fiedler, Doug Knaub, Brent Kannas, and Coach Dave Little.



The 1963-64 wrestling team were SDIC champions, including six individual weight class champions. The University hosted the 1964 NAIA national wrestling championships - it was the first (and only) national event ever hosted in Spearfish. Team members included: (front row, left to right) Ron Fisher, Don Brech, Tom Sprigler, Richard Ebersprecher, Bill Buchholz, and Coach Tony Schavone; (back row, left to right) Jesse Hoesse, Tom Walters, John Mattson, James Moore, and Stewart Stites. Not pictured are: Tom Alsworth, Lionel Borgeaux, Jerry Christopherson, Chuck Hull, Frank Lawrence, Lorne Rogerson, Cecil Sallee, Tony Schunot, and Bill Tavegia.

# Creating a Legacy

## Krautschuns honored with the 2010 Difference Maker Award

**H**arvey Krautschun, Class of '72, and his wife, Joy (Proctor), Class of '73, were honored with the fourth annual Black Hills State University Difference Maker Award. The Difference Maker Award is given to a top BHSU donor of the given calendar year.

The Krautschuns announced in 2009 they were donating one million dollars to BHSU. In announcing the gift Harvey stated, "Joy and I are both proud alumni of BHSU. The education we received, the community of Spearfish, and the Black Hills area have given us far more than we ever dreamed. We felt it was time to start giving back."

Harvey is an insurance and planning specialist with Financial Benefits, Inc. He also served in the South Dakota Legislature for 12 years as a representative from District 31 and held the position of Speaker of the House his last term.

Joy was instrumental in starting and coaching the University's first varsity women's basketball team. She was also very active as a member of the Alumni Association board of directors for many years. Joy also served many years with the Spearfish Ambassadors.

The one million dollar deferred gift marked the third time the University has received a gift of this magnitude. Thanks a million Harvey and Joy!

**Joy (Proctor) Krautschun, Class of '73, and Harvey Krautschun, Class of '72, received the Difference Maker Award from BHSU. The Krautschuns have been enthusiastic contributors to BHSU for many years.**



## BHSU receives \$15,000 from Pioneer Bank and Trust and the Clarkson family



On behalf of Pioneer Bank and Trust and the Clarkson family, Jeb Clarkson (right), senior vice president and senior trust officer for Pioneer Bank and Trust, presents a \$15,000 check to Steve Meeker, vice president of University Advancement at Black Hills State University, to be used for scholarships for the 2010-2011 academic year.

## Thomas Family Endowment established

**L**ong-time Black Hills State University employee Eileen Thomas, senior secretary of the Career Center, and her husband, Marvin, recently established a scholarship endowment.



Eileen Thomas

With the assistance of John Griffin, hired by the BHSU Foundation to work with alumni, faculty, and staff to develop and review estate plans, the Eileen and Marvin established the Thomas Family Endowment. When funded, the endowment will designate 40 percent to cross country scholarships, 40 percent to rodeo scholarships, and 20 percent to the Career Service Act (CSA)/BHSU Family Scholarship Fund.

## Yordy earns the \$12,000 Joe and Elaine Floyd Scholarship



Yordy

**T**he Joe and Elaine Floyd Scholarship offered at Black Hills State University awarded \$12,000 to Shandel Yordy, a 2010 graduate of Bennett County High School.

Joe and Elaine Floyd have lived in South Dakota

throughout their lives, and Elaine attended BHSU in 1953 and later worked for the University. The Floyds established the scholarship for female students from South Dakota who have a farm/ranch background along with a strong desire to learn. The Floyd Scholarship is renewable for subsequent years at BHSU as long as the student is making satisfactory progress.

Yordy graduated high school in the top of her class and is a member of the National Honor Society and the Presidents Honor Roll. She also has an impressive record of community involvement and was very involved in rodeo and athletics during her high school career.

She is interested in science and health and aspires to become an optometrist.



## Alice Wiggins Dunn Endowment provides new Yellow Jacket sculpture

A new bronze sculpture of the Black Hills State University mascot, Sting, now adorns the front entrance to the Donald E. Young Sports and Fitness Center.



Tony Chytka, artist and 1977 graduate of BHSU, created a bronze sculpture of BHSU's mascot, Sting. The piece was made possible by the Alice Wiggins Dunn endowment within the BHSU Foundation.



There are a limited number of miniature bronze replicas that are available for purchase.

The sculpture, completed by local artist and 1977 art graduate Tony Chytka (Chytka Bronzes), was funded by the Alice Wiggins Dunn Endowment. Dunn, wife of nationally known artist Lyndle Dunn, left the BHSU Foundation \$200,000 in the early 90s. The donation was earmarked to purchase artwork for the campus or to support the library.

This is the third piece of artwork purchased by the gift. The other two pieces are a Termesphere by local artist, alumnus, and art instructor Dick Termes, and an original piece from local artist, former professor, and alumnus Dick Dubois. Both pieces are currently displayed in the BHSU library.

In addition to the \$200,000 gift, in 1968, the University library received Lyndle's studio materials and wildlife paintings, valued at \$211,000.

The Sting sculpture, which is made of bronze and sits on a steel base, took Chytka four months to create. According to Chytka, who is more of a contemporary western sculptor, "It was a nice change of pace from my usual type of work and was a lot of fun to make." Chytka, owner of Chytka Bronzes, added that it was a unique project for him since he is a BHSU alum.

A limited number of miniature Sting bronzes will be available for \$1,000 each. For information please contact Steve Meeker, vice president of University Advancement, at 605-642-6385 or email [Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu](mailto:Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu).

## Hansons establish athletic endowment

Black Hills State University supporters Myrle and Pam Hanson pledged \$60,000 to establish an endowment for athletic scholarships at the University.



Pam and Myrle Hanson

Myrle earned his degree from BHSU in 1953. His dad worked as the BHSU business manager for many years. Myrle and Pam retired in Spearfish in 1991.

The endowment, which will be named the Myrle and Pam Hanson Athletic Endowment, will be funded through their estate with a gift of \$60,000. Myrle and Pam updated their estate plan with the help of John Griffin, who was hired by the BHSU Foundation to provide assistance to alumni, faculty, and staff with estate planning and preparing planned gifts.

"Our family has a long history with BHSU and we wanted to do something to help support our students. We love athletics and the athletes are students first and participate because of their love of a sport," said Myrle. "The advancement staff did a terrific job helping us put together a comprehensive estate plan that allowed us to create this endowment. We could not be more pleased with the process and outcome."

## Plans are underway for a BHSU Alumni-Foundation Welcome Center

Black Hills State University is in the planning process of providing an Alumni-Foundation Welcome Center, 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 Alumni-Foundation Welcome Center will be the front door for the entire campus. In addition to alumni use, it will provide a space for community members to use, including space for dinner functions, exhibits, and other special events. There will also be an area provided for the daily operations of the Black Hills State University Advancement Office. The Center is estimated to be completed by Swarm Week 2011. To donate to the facility or for more information, contact Steve Meeker, vice president of University Advancement at BHSU, at [Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu](mailto:Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu) or call 605-642-6385. All donors will be recognized on the donor wall in addition to those who select naming opportunities.



BHSU Alumni-Foundation Welcome Center conceptual drawing

## BHSU in the news

### Black Hills State University researchers earn competitive grants

Researchers at Black Hills State University earned competitive state grant funds for additional research at the Sanford Lab in Lead and to advance research to improve aquaculture.

BHSU earned two of the seven grants awarded to South Dakota public university faculty. One of the BHSU grants is focused on developing a safe, effective, environmentally benign agent to control fungal infections in hatchery settings. The other BHSU research grant is for the analysis of drainage and service water in the Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory (DUSEL) at Homestake.

The funds will help advance the individual research projects while meeting the state's long-term goal of strengthening the capacity for research and technology development across the public university system.

This is the sixth consecutive year that the state has financially supported grant awards to build higher levels of competitive research at the six public universities. Gov. Mike Rounds' 2010 Initiative has placed a strong emphasis on the role university research plays in South Dakota's economic development.

Research funded at BHSU includes:  
**Dan Durben, Science** - "The Efficacy of Hops (*Humulus lupulus*) to Control *Saprolegnia* Fungal Infections on Salmonid Eggs" (Grant award: \$43,309; University match: \$64,984) - According to the grant proposal, there is a need for safer, effective antifungal compounds that will have no harmful effects on handlers, fish and their eggs, or the ecosystem. One promising natural alternative to chemical antifungal treatments is the hop plant, which exhibits strong antimicrobial

activity. The research will continue the development of a hop-based anti-fungal treatment for control of *Saprolegnia* on salmonid eggs. The primary objective of the research study is to develop a hop-based aquaculture application.

**David J. Bergmann, Science** - "Metagenomic Analysis of Drainage and Service Water in the Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory (DUSEL) at the Homestake Mine" (Grant award: \$80,200; University match: \$80,200) Other Investigators: Cynthia Anderson (BHSU), Garth Spellman (BHSU), and Sookie Bang (South Dakota School of Mines and Technology) - The drainage and service water in the Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory (DUSEL) site in the former Homestake Mine represents a unique environment. The research will sample and sequence DNA from the entire microbial community in drainage and service water at the DUSEL. The researchers will search for novel genes encoding lignocellulases (used for production of biofuels), enzymes for hydrocarbon catabolism and metal ion reduction (used in biological treatment of aquifers contaminated by hydrocarbons or heavy metals), and enzymes for antibiotic synthesis.



**BHSU researchers earned two competitive grants to fund additional research at the Sanford Lab in Lead and to advance research to improve aquaculture. One grant is focused on developing a safe, effective, environmentally benign agent to control fungal infections in hatchery settings. The other BHSU research grant is for the analysis of drainage and service water in the Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory (DUSEL) at Homestake.**

### 2009 BHSU graduates are finding jobs in their desired fields

A survey of 2009 Black Hills State University graduates revealed that respondents are finding employment in their desired location either before graduation or within a brief period of time following graduation.

"The survey confirms what we've been hearing from our graduates. The majority are securing employment either before they graduate or shortly after graduation," BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp says.

BHSU reached a record enrollment last year and has increased the number of graduates by 21 percent over the past five years. The areas of study at BHSU with the largest number of graduates are business, education, human services, and mass communication.

The majority of the respondents chose to live in South Dakota - 81 percent of all

employed graduates remain in state.

"While many of our graduates choose to remain in this area, this survey revealed that our graduates are finding employment in the geographic area they desire and are employed by a wide range of businesses and organizations," Schallenkamp says.

Of the graduates with a preference for a specific location, more than 80 percent found employment in their desired location, including several who are now employed internationally. Schallenkamp cited the example of a recent education graduate who landed her dream job teaching in Morocco.

Starting salaries included several graduates from the College of Business and Technology in the \$60,000-\$80,000 range.

"BHSU graduates are successfully securing employment in their chosen career fields even as the region and

nation continue to struggle with a weak economy," Arlene Holmes, director of the Career Center at BHSU, says.

Holmes noted that many graduates are in entry-level positions that offer great potential for advancement within the next few years.

The single largest sector employing the survey respondents was education, which employs 64 percent of the graduates who listed an employer. Other types of employment include retail, government, hospitality, human services, accounting, financial services, and real estate. Employers that were included were 43 school districts in South Dakota and a variety of businesses and organizations.

A survey of 2010 Black Hills State University graduates will be conducted this year.

# BHSU in the news

## BHSU now offers corporate communication and general studies degrees

The South Dakota Board of Regents (SDBOR) authorized Black Hills State University to offer a new bachelor's degree, general studies, and an additional major, corporate communication.

The corporate communication major, which combines the study of business and communication, is the only of its kind in South Dakota's public university system. The major is an excellent option for students who are planning a career in public relations, marketing, corporate advertising or communication, electronic media, event management, writing production and management, broadcast management, and technical communication.

"In today's business world, it is more important than ever to prepare effective communicators," said Kay Schallenkamp, BHSU president. "Students who pursue this major will develop and refine their oral, written, and visual communication skills while studying organizational and business communication within corporate structures."

Schallenkamp said the need for this major was demonstrated by student and business surveys and the growth of new careers in the communications field. Sixteen of 17 local businesses surveyed by BHSU said they would want to hire someone with a corporate communication degree.

The SD BOR also authorized BHSU to deliver its existing mass communication major, one of the fastest growing degrees, to students in Rapid City by offering it at

the University Center-Rapid City starting this fall. This move accommodates students who are unable, due to family or work commitments, to commute to Spearfish to complete the major.

BHSU will also begin offering a bachelor's degree in general studies this fall. The public university system in South Dakota developed the degree specifically for students who already have a significant number of college credits completed.

"BHSU is looking forward to offering the general studies degree because we know it's an excellent opportunity for people who have earned University credits but have not yet completed their degree. The degree provides a high level of flexibility which is vital for working adults seeking to complete their University degree," Schallenkamp said.

The general studies degree will be available to students on campus, at off-campus centers, and by distance delivery. It will also be available at Dakota State University, Northern State University, and the University of South Dakota.

In South Dakota, there are about 113,500 people who have begun college but did not earn a degree, according to Dr. Jack Warner, executive director and CEO for the SDBOR. Research by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education



**Black Hills State University will now offer two new degree options to its course listings. The South Dakota Board of Regents approved a new bachelor's degree, general studies, and an additional major, corporate communication.**

found that people in certain fields, especially nursing, engineering, and math or science, are more likely to stop out before completing a degree. Oftentimes, these people have already completed 90 or more credit hours of study, and need some flexibility to finish out a degree program.

Warner said it is one more important step the state is taking to increase the number of postsecondary graduates in South Dakota. "We know that there are many so-called 'ready adults' who have earned significant college credit but stopped out before completing their degree. This new degree option allows them to use credits they have already earned," he said.

## BHSU presents the fourth successful season of the Summer Stage



Black Hills State University presented the fourth season of the Summer Stage in July. The season kicked off with the Broadway hit comedy *The Philadelphia Story*, a classic comedy of manners which found that sometimes getting what you want means learning to let go. The musical fable *Disney's Geppetto and Son* featured a quirky Blue Fairy and a lively cast of eccentric characters. The season ended with the Pulitzer Prize winning comedy *Harvey*, which featured Elwood P. Dowd and his imaginary friend, Harvey, a six-and-a-half-foot tall rabbit. The cast included current BHSU students, BHSU alumni, regional community members and local children. The performances were under the direction of Bert Juhrend, BHSU assistant professor of theatre.

## BHSU faculty in the news

### BHSU history professor honored with the Distinguished Faculty Award

**D**r. David Wolff, professor of history at Black Hills State University, who is known for his extensive community service and exemplary classroom leadership, was selected to receive the prestigious 2010 Distinguished Faculty Award.

Wolff was chosen by his peers for this award because of his support of BHSU students, the University, and the surrounding community.

Since joining the BHSU faculty in 1998, Wolff has taught numerous history courses, including History of the Black Hills and History of South Dakota. According to one of the nominators, "David is an inspiring teacher. His students rave about his classes, especially those dealing with the history of the Black Hills and South Dakota."

Wolff's passion for history led him to become involved in historical societies and associations including: the Adams Museum and Historic House Board of Directors, South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees, South Dakota State Railroad Museum Board of Directors, Mining

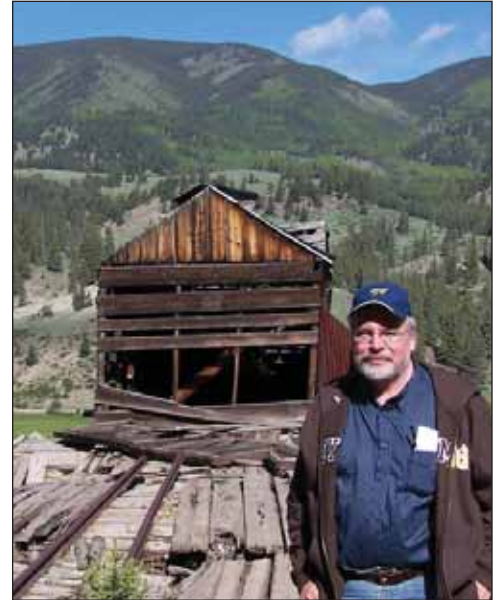
History Association, and Lawrence County Historical Society Board of Directors.

Wolff also gives presentations in the community on a wide variety of topics related to the area's history, including topics discussed in his recently published book, *Seth Bullock: Black Hills Lawman*.

Wolff has published numerous articles and reviews and even appeared in HBO's hit series "Deadwood" during an interview on "The Real Deadwood" discussing Deadwood's history.

In recognition of his contributions to the University and the community, Wolff has been co-recipient of the BHSU "Community Service Award," was named BHSU Student Senate Outstanding Faculty Member; and was presented with the Mining History Association's Clark Spence Award for his book *Industrializing the Rockies*.

Wolff received bachelor's degrees in pharmacy and history from the University of Wyoming, as well as a master's degree in history. He received his doctoral degree in history from Arizona State University.



Dr. David Wolff, professor of history at BHSU, was honored with the 2010 Distinguished Faculty Award. Wolff has taught numerous history courses at BHSU and in the community with a special emphasis on the history of mining in the Black Hills.

### Sago and Cerney publish their second book together



Roberta Sago (right), special collections librarian and archivist for the Leland D. Case Library at BHSU, and Janice "Jan" (Brozik) Cerney (middle), Class of '70, Philip, sign a copy of their newest book, *Black Hills Gold Rush Towns*, for Wally Slatterly. The book takes a look at mining towns that once flourished in the Black Hills area. This is the second time the two have published a book together. In 2007, they published *Spearfish*, which documented the historical past of the Spearfish area.

### Fuller receives recognition for MERLOT contributions

Dr. Dorothy Fuller (right), associate professor of education at BHSU, and Gabe Mydland, assistant professor at Dakota State University, accept the Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (MERLOT) 2010 Editorial Board House Cup. The House Cup is awarded to the editorial board that makes the highest level of contributions in an academic year. Fuller and Mydland were among the teacher education editorial board which received the award this year. MERLOT is an international initiative enabling faculty to integrate technology into higher education. It consists of an online community of faculty and institutions that collaborate to increase the quantity of high-quality, web-based, interactive teaching and learning materials.



# BHSU students in the news

## BHSU students gain knowledge and experience through internships

As Black Hills State University students return to campus for the Fall 2010 semester, many are bringing new insights and experiences gained from their summer internships and fellowships.

"BHSU places an emphasis on experiential learning. Internships and fellowships are an excellent way for our students to advance their educational career," BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp says. "These learning opportunities combined with our innovative academic programs and our dynamic learning community are leading to unprecedented success for our graduates."

Last summer one of our students had the honor of being selected for a unique study program that included research time at the Gran Sasso Lab in Italy as well as at Princeton University. Other internship opportunities include local and regional companies such as: Ketel Thorstensen, Robert Sharp & Associates, Jewel Cave National Park, Rapid City Regional Hospital, Black Hills Children's Home, Judicial Circuit Court,

and, Rapid City Council, as well as with national and international companies including Best Buy, Disney World, and Vibewire in Australia.

This summer, Katrina Salitros, a BHSU mass communication student from Vermillion, landed an internship at the Home Shopping Network (HSN) near Tampa, Fla. Salitros says the HSN internship has been a rewarding experience. As the on-air associate producer and backstage coordinator, she has had the opportunity to choose the areas of specialty that interested her the most.

"I chose to study producing, stage managing, set styling, and visual backstage coordination. I was able to shadow the make-up/salon for a few days to see what they have to do to make the guests and hosts look fabulous," Salitros says. "The Home Shopping Network is a great way to get your foot in the door when it comes to live television and media in general."

She added that the internship opened her eyes to many opportunities. Her HSN

supervisor praised her for her dedication.

"Katrina has been doing a spectacular job with the program," Christopher Novak says. "She has applied her time to strengthen her talents for the real world."



**Katrina Salitros, mass communication major from Vermillion, landed an internship with the Home Shopping Network (HSN) near Tampa, Fla.**

## Recipients of the 2010 Vucurevich Presidential Scholarship announced

Black Hills State University has named Grace Hoffman, elementary and special education major from Gary; and Joshua Harris, biology major from Sturgis, as the John T. Vucurevich Presidential Scholars for the 2010-11 academic school year.



**Hoffman**



**Harris**

BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp expressed her thanks to the John T. Vucurevich Foundation and noted that the recipients are among the best and brightest at BHSU. The award is offered to students entering their junior year; each recipient will receive an award of \$6,250 to cover tuition and fees.

Hoffman plans to become a certified elementary and special education teacher after graduating from BHSU. She looks forward to a career helping students and feels it will be a very rewarding experience. "Being a teacher

does not feel like a task, but a passion," said Hoffman.

This summer Hoffman traveled to Nepal to help teach English to elementary school students. She has also volunteered her time for numerous projects including: a Red Cross blood drive; the Hurricane Katrina Relief Project; a YouthWorks mission trip to Mississippi; and a mission trip to Managua, Nicaragua.

Hoffman is a member of the BHSU Teammates, a group that mentors local students, and is involved with Campus Ventures. She also made the Dean's List at BHSU. In 2008 she was honored with a South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship and was a recipient of the TEACH Grant Award.

Harris plans to attend medical school after graduating from BHSU. He would like to stay in South Dakota after he has completed his education and become a family practitioner.

Currently, Harris is in the process of becoming a volunteer at the Veterans Administration Hospital at Fort Meade, where he will gain experience in a hospital setting and an understanding of what a career as a physician will be like.

Harris helped plan a campus-wide cooking competition at BHSU and organized Heels Up for Haiti, a 5K run/walk event to raise money for victims of the Haiti earthquake. He also took part in a Proyecto Abrigo mission trip to Juarez, Mexico, in 2006 and 2008.

He was chosen as a South Dakota Regents Scholar and a South Dakota State Scholar in 2008 and has made the Dean's List at BHSU the past two years.

These students earned scholarships made possible thanks to the generosity of the John T. Vucurevich Foundation. The late philanthropist grew up in Lead, where he learned the value of hard work, telling the truth, the need for sound spiritual values, and the importance of helping those persons less fortunate. He felt that community service was very important, serving in both the South Dakota House of Representatives and Senate and as an active supporter of higher education. He was a successful banker, and his success allowed him to create the John T. Vucurevich Foundation to carry out his goal "to make a piece of the world a brighter place."

## Sports

### BHSU accepted for NCAA Division II candidacy

**B**lack Hills State University's application into the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II was accepted by the NCAA membership committee this summer.

"This is a great day for Yellow Jacket athletics," BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp said at the press conference. Schallenkamp and Jhett Albers, BHSU athletic director, thanked alumni, boosters, and foundation board members for their on-going support of Yellow Jacket athletics and noted the high level of enthusiasm of Yellow Jacket fans and athletes as the University prepares for this change.

"A lot of time and discussion went into this decision. After talking with our student-athletes, alumni, donors, and the administration, it became clear that pursuing (NCAA) Division II was the right choice for the future of Yellow Jacket athletics," said Albers.

Albers stated, "This is the first step in our transition to NCAA Division II. Our athletic program will begin the first year of the candidacy period effective with the 2010-2011 season. The NCAA will assess our program and determine our readiness. Over the course of the following year we will move into a provisional period as an NCAA member; if all falls into place, we expect membership in 2012-2013."

During the transition process, BHSU will be pursuing membership in a conference.

"We are exploring our options for conference membership. We have already been in contact with the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) and the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC). We have notified each that we are interested in the possibility of joining their conferences," said Albers.

BHSU is currently a member of the Dakota Athletic Conference (DAC) and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). The application to be considered for NCAA Division II was submitted earlier this year.



**BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp thanked supporters during the press conference held to announce that the University's application into NCAA Division II was accepted.**

### 1970 Football Team Reunion

The 1970 football team, considered to be one of the finest football teams to compete for BHSU, will gather to celebrate their 40-year anniversary during the 2010 Swarm Week festivities.

For more information on this gathering, please contact BHSU alumnus Ken Richardt at (847) 872-3657.



### Yellow Jacket student-athletes earn national recognition

#### 2009-2010 NAIA Scholar-Athletes

- Jenna Bolstad, basketball
- Danielle Briere, softball
- Mandy Brumfield, basketball and volleyball
- Erin Curran, cross country
- Kalin Engle, volleyball
- Kristin Engle, volleyball
- Brittany Fuhrman, basketball
- Kayla Haines, volleyball
- Birch Haraden, cross country
- Katelynn Lamb, basketball and golf
- Neil Long, cross country
- Mark Mazza, cross country
- Wendy O'Lexey, cross country
- Janna Schriber, basketball
- Tiffany Thomas, basketball
- Josh Wood, football

#### 2009-2010 NAIA All-Americans

- Cain Atkinson, basketball (Honorable Mention)
- Jason Boeding, indoor and outdoor track and field
- Cody Bordewyk, outdoor track and field
- Erin Curran, cross country
- Kristin Engle, volleyball (First Team)
- Luke Enos, basketball (First Team)
- Birch Haraden, outdoor track and field
- Shannon Hellman, outdoor track and field
- Lisa Koch, indoor track and field
- Katelynn Lamb, basketball (First Team)
- Jed Morgan, outdoor track and field
- Wendy O'Lexey, cross country, indoor and outdoor track and field



Cheer on the Yellow Jackets this season. Visit [www.BHSU.edu/Athletics](http://www.BHSU.edu/Athletics) to view the 2010-2011 sports schedule.

# Sports

## BHSU names a full-time athletic director and three new coaches

Several changes have been announced for leadership positions in the Black Hills State University Athletic Department.

After 11 years as head volleyball coach, Jhett Albers has moved from coaching and accepted the position of full-time athletic director at BHSU.

Since Albers' arrival at BHSU in 1999, the volleyball program has shown continued improvement. In the past two years, Albers led the team to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) National Tournament. Albers also took the role of part-time director of Athletics in January 2006. Since then, he has overseen the entire BHSU athletic program. Most recently, Albers coordinated the University's NCAA Division II application process.

"I feel extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to coach the volleyball team the past 11 years," said Albers. "I am excited for the future of Black Hills State athletics and am looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead as the director."

Jennifer Weitzel will assume the role of interim volleyball head coach during the 2010 season. Former two-time All-American middle hitter Kristin Engle will also join the volleyball staff as assistant coach alongside Weitzel.

Weitzel played volleyball for BHSU before serving the past three years as assistant coach under Albers.

"I will continue to build on the successful program that Coach Albers has established. I am excited and extremely honored to have the opportunity to take over this program. We have a group of well-rounded student-athletes who not only are exceptionally talented on the court, but also understand the value of their education," said Weitzel.

Engle graduated from BHSU this May with a bachelor's degree in physical education and exercise science and a minor in comprehensive K-12 health education and athletic coaching. She was a standout athlete at the net for the Yellow Jackets the past five years. She also has experience as a personal trainer, volleyball camp director, athletic trainer, and conditioning program coordinator.

Taking over as head men's basketball coach is Bradd Schafer, who was previously the assistant men's basketball coach for Black Hills State University.



Albers



Weitzel



Engle



Schafer

Schafer has been known for his steady leadership while serving the past four years as assistant men's basketball coach for the Yellow Jackets, under the direction of Paul Sather, who resigned recently to take the head coaching position at Northern State University.

"I have had the chance to work with and watch Bradd as an assistant coach for four years," Albers says. "He has the qualifications and the leadership skills to be a successful head coach, and the team fully supports him."

"I am excited and honored to be chosen as the men's basketball coach at Black Hills State University. I will continue to build a program that alumni, donors, and fans can be proud of. I ask that everyone continue to support the outstanding student-athletes on our team and in the entire Yellow Jacket athletic program," Schafer says.

## Swarm Days 2010 Buzzin' on the Beach



### Monday, September 27

- 1-5 p.m. - Luau

### Wednesday, September 29

- 4 p.m. - Kiddie Carnival

### Thursday, September 30

- 7 p.m. - Coronation

### Friday, October 1

- 12 noon - Alumni Awards Luncheon\*
- TBA - Float Prep
- 5 p.m. - Class of '70 Reunion
- 6:30 p.m. - Hall of Fame Banquet\*
- 7 p.m. - Spirit Night/Volleyball Game

### Saturday, October 2

- 10 a.m. - Parade
- 11:15 a.m. - Tailgate Social, featuring Kory & the Fireflies
- 1 p.m. - Swarm Day Football Game
- 5:30 p.m. - Class of '70 Reunion Reception
- 7 p.m. - Swarm Day Volleyball Game

### Sunday, October 3

- Yellow Jacket 5K & 10K Run/Walk

For a complete list of events and locations visit [www.BHSU.edu/SwarmDays](http://www.BHSU.edu/SwarmDays).

\* Tickets for the Alumni Awards Luncheon and the Hall of Fame Banquet must be purchased in advance. They will not be sold at the door. Please call 605.642.6385 to purchase tickets or for more information.

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# Looking ahead

## Swarm Week

September 27 - October 2

## Alumni Art Show

September 28 - October 22

## Class of 1970 Reunion

October 1 and 2

## Commencement

December 18

## Alumni Mile

January 29

## BHSU Events

[www.BHSU.edu/Events](http://www.BHSU.edu/Events)

## Athletic Events

[www.BHSU.edu/Athletics](http://www.BHSU.edu/Athletics)



A 1955 BHSU performance of *The Torchbearers*.

# Looking back

## Props and Liners 2011 Reunion

In the fall of 2011 Props and Liners, an honorary dramatic society and the oldest active student organization on campus, will celebrate its 90th anniversary. Plans are underway for a reunion. All students and staff who participated in any BHSU production and/or musical are invited to attend. More information on this reunion will be available in the Spring 2011 issue of the BHSU Alumni Magazine.