



Fall 2011

# Alumni Magazine

*Transforming Lives*



*Elaine &  
Joe Floyd*

*Giving wings to  
future generations*

## Also in this issue



May earns  
prestigious  
internship



Addys establish  
estate gift for  
scholarships



Theeler  
honored with  
Young Alumni  
Achievement  
Award

# Celebrating Successes

**G**reetings to all BHSU alumni. One of my greatest joys as president is meeting and visiting with the impressive BHSU students and alumni.

Our students tell us their educational experience at BHSU often leads them to unforeseen opportunities and opens up possibilities they hadn't even considered. This is certainly true for one of our esteemed Gates Scholarship winners, Mary Jo May, who was honored to have her summer internship project chosen to be displayed at the Smithsonian Institute. See details of her project on page 20.

Likewise our alumni continue to be recognized nationally for their efforts and accomplishments. It is so heartening to meet our remarkable alumni and hear their inspiring stories. This spring I had the opportunity to present Brett Theeler with the 2011 Young Alumni Award honoring him for his extraordinary accomplishments as a neuro-oncology fellow. Brett is an example to the outstanding educational experiences offered at BHSU. Read his story on page 3.

Another highlight for me is meeting with people who have taken the time to reflect on how BHSU has impacted their life and are looking for ways to pay it forward by contributing to scholarship programs and other financial needs of the University. Joe and Elaine Floyd, a wonderful couple who are dedicated to supporting educational endeavors, are an excellent example. See details on page 2.

BHSU truly does transform lives, and I'm honored to be a part of that transition. It's gratifying to know that BHSU provides a strong foundation and a stimulating catalyst to lifelong successes. Please continue to send us your updates. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,  
President Kay Schallenkamp



The Black Hills State University Alumni Association presented the 2011 Young Alumni Achievement Award to Captain Brett Theeler, M.D., Class of 2001, during the Student Volunteer Awards Celebration. Left to right are: Tom Wheaton, director of Alumni Relations at BHSU; Brett; BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp; and Bill Collins, president of the BHSU Alumni Association.

## Black Hills State University Alumni Magazine Fall 2011

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).

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

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## Inspiring Future Generations

Joe and Elaine Floyd provide opportunities for students of all ages.



Just as a butterfly emerges from its cocoon and spreads its wings to fly, Joe and Elaine Floyd's generous commitment to education has encouraged many students to undergo a complete metamorphosis giving them 'wings' to succeed in life.

"We've always believed that education is the most important thing you can give a kid, including our own children," Elaine says. They have dedicated their time to ensuring students will have access to educational opportunities. Their first priority was to encourage and support their six children and their grandchildren.

"We encouraged all of our kids to get an education, and now we're encouraging the grandkids to reach their educational goals," Elaine says noting with pride that one grandchild is even earning a Ph.D. this year.

This couple's tremendous appreciation of the importance of education has extended beyond their own family and led to a continuing commitment to finding ways to encourage students of all ages to advance their education. Joe and Elaine provide financial support for many educational programs including three concurrent full-ride scholarships at BHSU, a highly successful high school completion GED program in the Sioux Falls area, and admission for elementary and middle school students to the Sertoma Butterfly House, as well as scholarships at several other universities in the region.

A chance visit to the Butterfly House at the suggestion of a friend turned into an opportunity to transform the lives of children when Joe and Elaine saw a need and took immediate action to ensure school children from the region would have the opportunity to visit the unique educational center.

"When we visited, I said to myself 'Where are the children. This is a wonderful educational experience that school children should see,'" Joe says. He and Elaine met with staff members and came up with a plan to pay the admission costs for all school children within the 50-mile region. Thousands of elementary



Joe and Elaine Floyd, who now live in Harrisburg, enjoy getting to know the students who earn their scholarships. This spring, along with their granddaughter, they met with the three BHSU students, all from a rural West River area that show exceptional potential for academic success, that are currently receiving a full tuition and fee scholarship thanks to the couple's generosity. The students are (l to r): Shandel Yordy, sophomore biology major from Martin; Joey Painter, junior business administration major from Buffalo; and Katie Doll, from Prairie City who will receive the award this fall when she begins at BHSU.

students have visited and will continue to visit the Butterfly House thanks to Joe and Elaine's support.

Joe and Elaine Floyd's visionary outlook and generous support of students of all ages encourages all children to expand their potential through education, positively impacting their lives and giving 'wings' to our future leaders.

## Sailing, socializing, supporting...get to know Joe and Elaine

Joe and Elaine Floyd are both originally from South Dakota; Elaine grew up in the rural West River region near Lantry while Joe was born and raised in the urban area of Sioux Falls.



Elaine attended Black Hills Teachers College, spent time as a teacher in a one room school in her hometown region, was a recruiter for BHSU, and also worked with Joe in the cable television industry.

Joe, the son of one of the original founding partners of Midcontinent Theatre Company and KELO-TV, earned his college degree in engineering and worked in the cable television industry. He was instrumental in guiding the construction and purchase of cable systems in South Dakota, North Dakota, Nebraska and Western Minnesota.

Employment took them out of state, and they have fond memories of their time living in Washington, D.C., and in the Minneapolis area. They eventually moved to Sioux Falls where Joe served as executive vice president of KELO-LAND Television. Although Elaine officially retired, she continued as Joe's "special assistant" and as a tireless ambassador of the company. In retirement, they have made a commitment to making a positive difference to the community.

This delightful, humble couple, who are in their mid-70s, lead an active life and show little indication of slowing down. Whether they are sailing at Lake Superior, rock hunting, socializing with friends and family, participating in one of their many philanthropic initiatives, or restoring an entire line of Ford cars from the 30s, they are the epitome of living life to the fullest.

# EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

Brett Theeler, BHSU Nelson scholar, continues success to become first active-duty neuro-oncologist in U.S. Army.

Captain Brett Theeler, M.D., Class of 2001, came to Black Hills State University as the very first recipient of the prestigious Joseph F. and Martha P. Nelson Scholarship for outstanding science and mathematics majors. He walked through the doors of his first classes at BHSU setting high expectations for himself to prove he was worthy of being a Nelson scholar, and today, he is going above and beyond those expectations.

Brett is currently a clinical neuro-oncology fellow at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. Following completion of the fellowship, he will resume serving in the United States Army as the first and only active-duty neuro-oncologist.

He spends his days learning to care for patients with brain tumors while trying to discover ways to improve the understanding and treatment of the tumors. He wakes up every morning anxious to get to the hospital and get started on his work.

Brett says that being able to do this work for the past year has been a defining moment in his career, as he has always been enthralled by the functions and connectivity of the nervous system. He can remember spending hours in the BHSU library reading neuroscience books to learn even more about the brain and how it worked. That fascination has never left him.

Dr. Charles Lamb, professor of biology at BHSU, was a mentor for Brett. Brett was fascinated by the research he conducted with Dr. Lamb, who is also a neuroscientist, and appreciated Dr. Lamb's interest in his life and career goals from the day he walked on campus.

"Dr. Lamb is a neuroscientist, and I am a neurologist so the impact he has had on my life and career is obvious. My



Dr. Lamb and Brett conducting research at BHSU in 1999

first neuroscience research was in his laboratory. His door was always open, and you could ask questions about anything - neuroanatomy, physiology, or even fly fishing. That type of mentorship increases interest, motivation, and satisfaction," said Brett.

A member of the Student Ambassadors and the Health Science Student Organization (HSSO), Brett himself was considered a mentor by his fellow students. He was a science, chemistry, and math tutor, as well as a mentor for elementary students.

As successful on the basketball court as he was with his academic achievements, Brett served as the captain of the basketball team and was named co-MVP. He was a member of the South Dakota Intercollegiate Conference (SDIC) All-Conference basketball team and was named to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Academic All-American basketball team. He was also elected by his peers as the 1999 Swarm Days Homecoming King.

Last spring Brett was awarded the Young Alumni Achievement Award, which is given to honor an alumnus who has attended BHSU within the last 10 years and has distinguished him or herself with outstanding achievements, contributions, and service to society, the community, and the University.

"Brett was the student we all dream about as educators. He knew what he wanted and was willing to work as hard as was necessary to accomplish his goals." - Dr. Charles Lamb

Dr. Lamb, who still keeps in contact with Brett, speaks highly of him as a former student and of his current success. "Brett Theeler is an excellent example of the great students we have in our science programs at BHSU. While at BHSU, he maintained excellent grades in a tough pre-medical curriculum and was active in a number of extracurricular activities. Brett was the student we all dream about as educators. He knew what he wanted and was willing to work as hard as was necessary to accomplish his goals. His successes after graduating from BHSU reflect on the type of person Brett is and on what BHSU has to offer students," says Lamb.

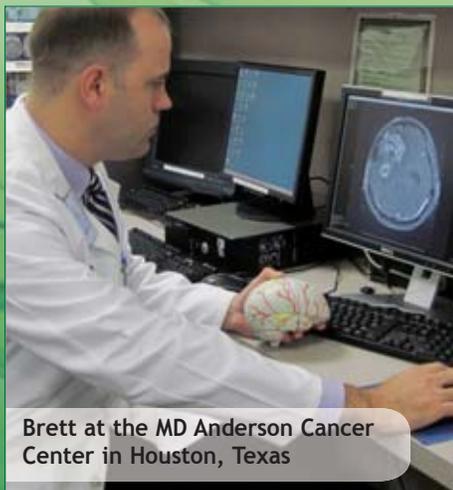
Brett advises current BHSU students to take all they can from their University experience. "Spend extra time on your work, visit often with your professors, or take some extra classes outside your comfort zone. The dividends will not be obvious at first, but 10 years after graduating from BHSU I can clearly follow the path my career has taken back to my days on the BHSU campus," said Brett.

He says that he felt extremely prepared for graduate school after his experiences at BHSU. "It is hard to describe adequately how the academic environment at BHSU helped me meet and exceed my expectations," notes Brett.

Brett is grateful to the Nelson family for providing a scholarship that helped him focus his attention on his academic experience. He feels BHSU alumni should support their alma mater to help support future students and their endeavors.

In his recent visit back to campus to accept his Young Alumni Achievement Award, Brett had the opportunity to tour campus, the newly remodeled Student Union, and the new Life Sciences Laboratory. He says, "BHSU now has a campus environment unrivaled by the other South Dakota universities. As alumni we need to wear our green and gold with pride and help spread the word about our alma mater. Go Jackets!"

Brett met his wife, Stephanie (Trezona), Class of '01, while at BHSU. The couple have two children, Braden and Allison.



Brett at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas



# Kudos & Announcements

**The 50s** Earl Gray, Class of '59, Sundance, Wyo., was named the 2010 Outstanding Citizen of the Year by the Sundance Chamber of Commerce.

**The 60s** Dennis Schaar, Class of '64, Rapid City, recently retired as a transportation security officer with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Prior to his work with the TSA, Dennis had a 35-year career as an airline pilot.

**The 70s** Janice "Jan" (Brozik) Cerney, Class of '70, Philip, recently co-authored a book with Roberta Sago, special collections librarian and archivist for the Leland D. Case Library at BHSU. "Black Hills National Forest: Harney Peak and the Historic Fire Lookout Towers," explores the history of the fire lookout towers located throughout the Black Hills National Forest. This is their third book; previous works include "Spearfish" and "Black Hills Gold Rush Towns."

**Steve Harding**, Class of '76, Pierre, recently began his second five-year term as a city commissioner in Pierre. Steve currently serves on the library board, the ambulance committee, and the 911 committee. Steve works for the Governor's Office of Economic Development and is

retired from the South Dakota Army National Guard after 34 years of service, achieving the rank of colonel.

**Deborah "Deb" (Hilden) Jensen**, Class of '76, Nemo, has been named Teacher of the Year by the Lead-Deadwood School District. Deb has served 34 years in the Lead-Deadwood School District with the last 28 in her current capacity as

a kindergarten instructor. She spent the first six years as a special education teacher.

**Coreen (Donnenwirth) Lerwick**, Class of '78, Spearfish, was named the 2011 Business Associate of the Year by the Spearfish American Women's Association. Coreen is an agent with State Farm Insurance.

**The 80s** Carla "C.B." Alexander, Class of '84, Fort Meade, recently became a Fellow for the American College of Healthcare Executives, the nation's leading professional society for healthcare leaders. This status represents achievement of the highest standard. Carla is currently a health systems specialist

with the Department of Veterans Affairs Black Hills Health Care System.

**Phil Bjerneberg**, Class of '86, Sioux Falls, head coach of the Parker High School boy's cross country team, led his team to the State B cross country tournament last fall where they were crowned state champions.

## Class of 1961 gets inducted into the 50-Year Club



Graduates from the Class of 1961 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 prior to 1961 were also invited. Attending the banquet were third row, standing (l to r): Delbert Blume, Class of '61, Buffalo; Terry Egge, Class of '61, Rapid City; Keith Shostrom, Class of '57, Deadwood; Ernest "Butch" Parkinson, Class of '61 Irene; Otis Eastman, Class of '58, Spearfish; Roger G. Bell, Class of '61, Spearfish; Melvin Harter, Class of '61, Witten; second row, standing (l to r): Maurine (Bregle) Fowler, Class of '61, Belle Fourche; Steve Gomez, Class of '55, Pierre; Charles M. Schad, Class of '56 and '60, Spearfish; Clifford Kenoyer, Class of '56, Piedmont; Phyllis (Krause) Eastman, Class of '58, Spearfish; Diana (Babb) Glover, Class of '61, Rapid City; Marguerite (Mickelson) Kleven, Class of '54, Sturgis; first row, seated (l to r): Linda (Novotny) Hughes, Class of '61, Spearfish; Darlene (Gray) Kutzler, Class of '61, Huron; Carole Fitzgerald, Class of '61, Albany, Calif.; JoAnn (Hanson) Durgin, Class of '60, Spearfish; Mary Ann (Stephenson) Erickson, Class of '54, Spearfish; and Beverly (Olsen) Carr, Class of '55, Spearfish.

## Kudos & Announcements

**Joe Gutierrez**, Class of '89, Sturgis, was named the commander of the Western South Dakota Juvenile Services Center in Rapid City.

**Melody (Wacker) Schopp**, Attended, Meadow, was appointed the South Dakota Secretary of Education by Gov. Dennis Daugaard. Melody had been the Interim Secretary since January and was previously the Deputy Education Secretary.

**Robert "Bob" Speirs**, Class of '89 and '02, Spearfish, was recently named a three-diamond coach by the National Forensic League. Bob received the honor for points accumulated over the course of his 20-year speech and debate coaching career at Spearfish High School.

**The Yvonne Ficek**,  
**90s** Class of '91,  
Spearfish, and  
Gene Ficek, owners of

Gene's Lock Shop, were awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award during the Spearfish Chamber of Commerce Banquet Awards Ceremony.

**Jennifer (Poppe) Haven**, Class of '94, Wabasso, Minn., earned her masters of science in education degree from Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall. Jennifer continues to teach special education in Wabasso.

**Larry Haven**, Class of '95, Wabasso, Minn., completed an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) education course and is now a licensed and nationally registered Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for the state of Minnesota and a member of the Wabasso Ambulance Association. Larry works at Jonti-Craft, makers of early wood furniture.

**Tina Heinbaugh**, Attended, Rapid City, was named the Arrowhead Country Club golf professional. Tina fast-tracked her way into the Professional Golf Association (PGA) by completing three levels of professional development in six months, something that usually takes several years. Prior to this position at Arrowhead, she worked at the Desert Mountain Golf Complex in Scottsdale, Ariz.

**John Lopez**, Class of '97, Lemmon, was the cover/feature story in the spring 2011 issue of *Black Hills Faces*.

**Sandy (Jones) Massey**, Class of '96, Rapid City, was appointed to serve as U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem's (R-SD) West River constituent services representative in Rapid City. Sandy has worked for John Thune as a constituent service representative and field

representative since 1998. She is taking a leave of absence from Thune's office to assist with opening and training staff for Rep. Noem's Rapid City office.

**Marvin "Marv" Mirich**, Class of '93, Pine Bluffs, Wyo., was hired as the head football coach at Burns High School in Burns, Wyo. Marv was previously an assistant coach.

**Barbara (Hayden) O'Malley**, Class of '90, Akron, Ohio, was named associate vice president and chief communications officer at Webster University. She will oversee the implementation of strategies to support the university's Vision 2020 strategic goal.

**The Tricia Beringer**,  
**00s** Class of '06,  
Spearfish,  
joined the staff  
at the Medical Arts Clinic  
in Rapid City. Tricia is a

physician's assistant.

**Jason Brengle**, Class of '00, Moose, Wyo., received his master's degree in rangeland ecosystem science from Colorado State University. Jason is currently employed as a biologist for the National Park Service at Grand Teton National Park.

**Lindsay Bruckner**, Class of '07, Fort Pierre, is a services and aging residents coordinator for the South Dakota Housing Development Authority in Pierre. She provides service coordination to elderly residents in 12 apartment buildings across central South Dakota.

**Barbara "Barbie" (Boyd) Donat**, Class of '03 and '08, Spearfish, was recently named the 2011 Woman of the Year by the Spearfish American Business Women's Association. Barbie owns and operates Mediation Matters in Spearfish.

**Tiffanie Gebhart**, Class of '08, Huron, became a Huron Chamber Ambassador and a graduate of Leadership Huron; a nine-month program offered through the Huron Chamber to strengthen leadership skills and increase knowledge about Huron. Tiffanie is currently a marketing coordinator for M-O Federal Credit Union in Huron and serves as vice president of the South Dakota Central Chapter of Credit Unions.

### Lakota Omniciye honors an outstanding educator

Jesse (Jay) Taken Alive, Attended, McLaughlin, was honored by the Black Hills State University student organization Lakota Omniciye during the annual Lakota Omniciye Wacipi (powwow) last spring. Jay was honored with the Outstanding Indian Educator Award for his leadership in his community and his support of higher education and BHSU. He has been the Lakota Omniciye Wacipi spiritual advisor for the past two years. As spiritual advisor, he blesses the arena and students before and after the Wacipi. He also chooses an individual to offer a prayer before every grand entry and is available for prayer requests such as child or veteran blessing or if an eagle feather falls off during a dance. Lakota Omniciye students look up to Jay and enjoy his presentations revolving around Lakota leadership and spirituality.



**James “Nick” Gottlob**, Class of ‘00, Spearfish, was named South Dakota Middle School Principal of the Year by the South Dakota Association of Secondary Principals. Nick is currently the Lead-Deadwood Middle/High School principal.

**Joshua Hall**, Class of ‘01 and ‘04, Sioux Falls, completed his first year as a school administrator in Sioux Falls. Joshua is the principal of the Middle School Immersion Center for Sioux Falls (a school for kids in their first two years of being in the U.S.) and is the assistant principal of Axtell Park Middle School.

**Lacey Haughian**, Class of ‘08, Terry, Mont., finished her third season of professional basketball in Germany playing for the Leipzig Eagles. This past season, she averaged 13 points, seven rebounds and one blocked shot per game. Lacey plans to return to Germany next season for her fourth season.

**Michael Hollinger**, Class of ‘08, Humboldt, Neb., earned his master of letters in Shakespeare and performance from Mary Baldwin College.

**Roy Lloyd**, Class of ‘00, Green River, Wyo., received the 20 Under 40 Award from the *Casper Star Tribune*. The award recognizes leaders and business people in Wyoming under the age of 40. In October, he was named the Individual Leader of the Year for

Sweetwater County by the Sweetwater Business Leadership Network. Since 1997, Roy has worked with individuals that have brain injuries and cognitive disabilities. Currently he serves as the program coordinator for the Rock Springs branch of NOWCAP Services.

**Jamie Richey**, Class of ‘09, Spearfish, recently started her new position as the public relations and marketing specialist at Regional Health in Rapid City.

**Melanie (Griswold) Ruby**, Class of ‘01, Idaho Falls, Idaho, earned certification as a Professional in Human Resources (PHR). An applicant must pass a comprehensive examination and demonstrate a strong background of professional human resource experience. Melanie is currently a human resources specialist for North Wind.

**Cassie Schaeffer**, Class of ‘09, Avoca, Minn., was recently chosen by the South Dakota State Parks as a youth ambassador to help engage youth and promote healthy lifestyles while raising awareness of state parks in South Dakota. Cassie will be attending park programs, special events, and sport shows as well as writing articles and visiting with children across the state.

**Dominick Vergara**, Class of ‘08, Severance, Colo.,

was named the 2011 Graduate Student of the Year for the College of Allied Health at Montana State University-Billings.

**Michelle Wenzel**, Class of ‘01, Spearfish, was recently promoted to the position of assistant finance officer for the City of Spearfish.

**The Sarah O’Donnell, Class of ‘11, Spearfish**, was hired as an art instructor at Sturgis Brown High School.

Alumni named by *Black Hills Woman Magazine* to the 25 Most Fabulous Women of 2011: **Shari (Stader) Bradstream**, Class of ‘04, Box Elder; **Elaine (Doll) Dunn**, Class of ‘79, Spearfish; and **Jennifer (Wagner) Williams**, Class of ‘02, Rapid City.

Alumni featured in the *Black Hills Pioneer* “Our Teachers Making a Difference” article: **Roxi (Hanson) Dobesh**, Class of ‘84, Spearfish, teaches second grade at West Elementary School; **Colleen (Foods) Hardesty**, Class of ‘91 and ‘06, Belle Fourche, teaches second grade at South Park Elementary School; and **Sandra “Sandy” (Sears) Nichols**, Class of ‘02, Spearfish, teaches third grade at East Elementary School.

Alumni recognized as the “20 to watch under 40” by the *Black Hills Pioneer*: **Travis Geppert**, Class of ‘95, Spearfish, commercial

lines territory manager for Indiana Insurance; **Kelsie (Hoffman) Darling**, Class of ‘07 and ‘08, Whitewood, owner of Quik Signs; **Cassie (Kimball) Mason**, Class of ‘06, Belle Fourche, community match specialist for Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Black Hills; **Rory Maynard**, Class of ‘06, Lead, co-owner and operator of Edge Sports and co-owner of the Golden Hills Resort in Lead; and **Chris Roberts**, Class of ‘07, Deadwood, commercial and personal lines insurance agent for First Western Insurance.

Alumni honored for service by the Meade School District include: (retirees) **Pat (Meirose) Fischer**, Class of ‘99, Sturgis Williams Middle School (SWMS), eight years in education; **Linda (Campbell) Hampton**, Class of ‘69 & ‘02, SWMS, 38 years in education, 24 years with Meade Schools; **Susan (Johnson) Heibult**, Class of ‘75, Sturgis Elementary, 29 years in education; **James Heinert**, Class of ‘71, 39 years in education, 10 years as superintendent with Meade Schools; **Mary (Neiber) Larscheid-Christensen**, Class of ‘73, SWMS, 38 years in education, 36 years with Meade Schools; **Kay (Nachtigall) Overland**, Class of ‘71, Enning School, 25 years in education; **Sheila (Miller) Powell**, Class of ‘76, SWMS, 31 years in education, 19 years with Meade Schools;

**June (Crist) Reilly**, Class of ‘87, Whitewood School counselor, 17 years in education, 13 with Meade Schools; and **Virginia (Eneboe) Schmunk**, Class of ‘75, SWMS, 30 years in education, 20 with Meade Schools. Employees honored for their years of service include: **Jennifer “Kamette” (Peters) Keffeler**, Class of ‘96, (15 yrs.); **Margaret McDowell**, Class of ‘80 (30 yrs.); **Roxanne Murphy**, Class of ‘97 (20 yrs.); **Becky (Brohl) Rost**, Class of ‘00 (20 yrs.); **Virginia (Eneboe) Schmunk**, Class of ‘75 (20 yrs.); **Kathy Seymour**, Class of ‘82 and ‘02 (20 yrs.); **Kellie (Marr) Thomas**, Class of ‘85 (15 yrs.); **Donna Trigg**, Class of ‘88 (20 yrs.); and **Lora Wilson**, Class of ‘81 (20 yrs.). The Meade School District Teachers of the Year are: **Cheri (Espinoza) Isaacson**, Class of ‘10, third grade teacher at Sturgis Elementary School and **Jen (Urbaniak) Monahan**, Class of ‘00, first grade teacher at Piedmont Elementary. **Guyla (Edwards) Ness**, Class of ‘82, reading and assessment coordinator for Meade Schools was recognized as the employee of the year.

## Engagements & Marriages

**The 90s** **Chad Ireland**, Attended, married **Trisha Martin** May 21, 2011. Chad works for Ireland Brothers. The couple resides in Martin.

**The 00s** **Tara Brodkorb**, Class of '04, married **Charlie Okerson** May 2, 2011. Tara is the district manager for Rolette County Soil Conservation District in Rolla, N.D.

**Trisha Davis**, Class of '04, married **David Raml**, Class of '04, June 11, 2011. Trisha is involved

in school counseling and David is in sales.

**Amber Faiman**, Class of '07, will marry **Zachary Roduner**, Class of '07, Sept. 10, 2011. Amber earned her master's degree in clinical counseling from the University of Northern Colorado. Zachary is currently employed at the Black Hills Children's Home.

**Lucy Jandt**, Class of '03, married **Chris Naescher** May 6, 2011. Lucy currently works at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center.

**Jill Mustard**, Class of '02, married **Oscar P. Lopez** Feb. 11, 2011. Jill is an English teacher. The couple resides in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

**Anita Nielsen**, Class of '01, married **Michael Levi** June 25, 2011. Anita is a high school/middle school Spanish teacher in Douglas, Wyo., where the couple lives.

**Beth Steinhauer**, Class of '07, married **Don Doten**, Class of '01, April 30, 2011. Beth is a public affairs specialist with the Black Hills National Forest Service. Don is employed as a

firefighter with the Black Hills National Forest Service in Sundance, Wyo.

**Jennifer Stovall**, Class of '01, married **Brad Slater** Dec. 27, 2010. The couple resides in Rapid City.

**Julie Todd**, Class of '09, married **Mark Foster** Aug. 6, 2010. Julie is employed with the Todd County School District as a multi-grade teacher. The couple lives in Valentine, Neb.

**Leslie Weber**, Class of '06, married **RJ Rylance** June 25, 2011. Leslie teaches at South Middle

School in Rapid City.

**The 10s** **Zachary Burke**, Class of '10, married **Jamie Kimball**, July 30, 2011.

**Amanda Ellingson**, Class of '10, will marry **Jordan Bauer**, Class of '09 and '11, July 14, 2012. Amanda will teach third grade at Stagebarn Elementary School in Piedmont this fall. Jordan is the assistant women's basketball coach, assistant golf coach, director of recreational sports, and admissions representative at BHSU.

## BHSU alumni and friends gather in Arizona



More than 60 BHSU alumni, family, and friends gathered last spring in Phoenix, Ariz. to attend the Arizona Diamondbacks vs. Chicago Cubs game at Chase Field. BHSU alumnus Scott Bohall (far left) was introduced as the BHSU Arizona chapter president during a pre-game social. Those present at the gathering were: Bohall, Attended, Glendale, Ariz.; Steve Meeker, Class of '84, Spearfish; Jonas Hensiak, Class of '93 and '96, Scottsdale, Ariz.; Kristin (Isensee) Marshall, Class of '81, Tempe, Ariz.; Jane (Scott) Bertram, Class of '86, Scottsdale; Jim R. Anderson, Class of '83 and '85, Phoenix, Ariz.; Keith Campbell, Class of '60, Mesa, Ariz.; Betty (Young) Peace, Class of '69, Sun City, Ariz.; Don Berner, Class of '91, Apache Junction, Ariz.; Tabatha "Tabi" (Brazelton) Berner, Class of '93, Apache Junction; Marlene (Maggrett) Walz, Class of '00, Surprise, Ariz.; Clea Rich, Class of '91, Phoenix; Marvin Mutchler, Class '84, Cave Creek, Ariz.; Teka (Pauley) Mutchler, Class of '93, Cave Creek; Hildebrand Brunssen, Class of '70, Kingman, Ariz.; Gerald "Jerry" Trier, Class of '61, Goodyear, Ariz.; Evalynn "Lynn" (Rail) Denzin, Class of '71, Peoria, Ariz.; Kim (Hanks) Statler, Class of '01, Superior, Ariz.; Karen Trump, Goodyear; Clifford Trump, former BHSU President, Goodyear; Cheryl (Holmberg) Bachman, Class of '87, Phoenix; Mark Engelhardt, Attended, Litchfield Park, Ariz.; Tom Trump, Class of '93, Goodyear; James Cairo, Class of '71, Phoenix; Brandon Bertram, Class of '07, Goodyear; and Dan Iversen, Class of '79, Apache Junction. Photograph by Tom Wheaton, Class of '87, Spearfish.

**Darcy Lenz**, Class of '10, married Josh Croell, July 17, 2010. Darcy is a kindergarten teacher in the Campbell County School District. The couple resides in Gillette, Wyo.

**Elizabeth Martinson**, Class of '10, will marry **Daniel Jensen**, Class of '10, Aug. 27, 2011. Elizabeth is currently a microbiology quality control analyst for Lifecore Biomedical in Chaska, Minn. Daniel is currently enrolled in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

**Megan Merchen**, Class of '11, married **Jess Weaver**, Class of '09, June 18, 2011. Megan will teach kindergarten at Black Hills Christian Academy in Spearfish this fall. Jess is a CPA for Ketel Thorstenson in Spearfish.

**Melanie Mundt**, Class of '10, will marry **Matthew Luebeck**, Class of '11, Oct. 1, 2011. Melanie is currently attending graduate school through South Dakota State University (SDSU) in Rapid City.

## *Savage recognized with Spirit of BH Award*

The Black Hills State University Alumni Association presented the Spirit of BH Award to Crystal Savage, recent history and mass communication graduate from Stillman Valley, Ill., at the 2011 Student Volunteer Awards Celebration.

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

Crystal successfully balanced academics with volunteer activities and participation in extracurricular activities while maintaining an outstanding grade point average.

She was very active in residence life at BHSU and held many leadership roles on campus. She was president of her residence hall community council and served two years as a resident assistant. She also served on the Residence Hall Association (RHA), was a New Student Days leader, served as the Humbert Residence Hall vice president and was later named president.

Crystal planned numerous activities for the residents of Humbert Hall, including Uplifting Valentine Making Night, Spa and Self-Defense Night, and Girls Night In. She also organized and ran the Halloween Safe House, an event for children in the community to come to campus and have a fun and safe alternative Halloween.

In addition to her extensive involvement with the RHA, she also served as president of the Shutterbuzz Photography Club. As president, she organized the Empty Bowls silent auction, where she sold her first photography print, and raised over \$800 for charity. Savage has provided countless hours of service to the Spearfish community including her work with the Northern Hills Humane Society. She took photographs of the new animals up for adoption in the shelter and posted them on the Humane Society's website along with a description about each.

Crystal was elected by her peers for the title of 2010 Swarm Days Homecoming Queen. During the 2009 Student Volunteer Awards Celebration, she received the Vice President for Student Life Rising Star Award. She was also selected as the first recipient of the Robert J. Courtney Student Leadership Award from the South Dakota College Personnel Association.



Savage

## *Faber creates innovative life-changing programs*



Faber

**D.C. Faber**, Class of '86, is the chief executive officer (CEO) of faber groupsynergy™, a consulting firm dedicated to strengthening group dynamics in an honest and productive way. He is also the creator of the Faber Post Trauma Model (FPTM), a ground-breaking assessment as to how and why soldiers are "different" after war. The FPTM has also proven to effectively guide others who have experienced trauma toward understanding and healing.

His diverse career paths and life experiences helped set in motion these two innovative programs which have helped countless individuals and groups alike, and are the direct result of D.C.'s many years of leading, following, and practical experience.

D.C. earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from BHSU. Now a retired Major, he served a combined 20 years in the United States Army and Wyoming Army National Guard. Active duty was spent in Germany and Korea, and he received the Bronze Star and Combat Action Badge for his service in Afghanistan. D.C. has also served as an assistant professor of military science at the University of Wyoming and has counseled thousands of young people in their life and career decisions.

He has been a house-parent at the Cathedral Home for Children in Laramie, Wyo., and was a community service officer with the Laramie Police Department. In 1995, D.C. began his career with the Laramie Fire Department where he held the positions of firefighter, equipment operator, line company officer, deputy fire marshal, and instructor for the Front Range Fire Consortium. He retired from the Laramie Fire Department in 2010.

He recently founded Fire Fighters for Veterans and Families, a grassroots organization devoted to working with veterans and their families through discussion and community service.

## What have you been up to?

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

Did you get a promotion, get married, 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) and choose **Services**. 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** **Stephanie (Harr) Adams**, Class of '97, and husband Michael, Spearfish, had a baby boy, Carter Michael, Oct. 5, 2010. He weighed 9 lbs. 11 oz. and was 21 ½ in. long. Stephanie is the owner of Two Wheeler Dealer.

**Traci (Schenk)**, Class of '98, and husband **Jesse Dana**, Class of '97, Spearfish, had a baby boy, Kanon, April 14, 2011. He weighed 8 lbs. 8 oz. and was 19 ¾ in. long. Traci is a stay-at-home mom.

Jesse is an orthodontist with Meyer & Dana Orthodontics.

**The 00s** **Courtney (Vandel)**, Class of '10, and husband **Curtis Birkley**, Class of '08, Torrington, Wyo., had a baby girl, Averay Eleanor, Aug. 16, 2010. She weighed 7 lbs. 11 oz. and was 20 in. long. Courtney is an administrative assistant with Fisher & Weisshaar, Accounting. Curtis is an educational assistant at Saint Joseph's Children's Home.

**Michelle (Donlan)**, Class of '05, and husband **William "Bill" Blewett**, Class of '05, Sioux Falls, had a baby girl, Jillian Ruth, Oct. 17, 2010. She weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz. and was 20 ½ in. long. Michelle is the assistant to the Chief Executive Officer at Health Management Partners, Inc.; Bill is a lawyer with Meierhenry Sargent Law Firm.

**Stephanie "Steph" (Miles) Crago**, Class of '07, and husband Justin, Gillette, Wyo., had a baby girl, Remi Helene,

Feb. 5, 2011. She weighed 7 lbs. 11.9 oz. and was 20 in. long. Steph is a youth advocate for the YES House.

**Betsy (Ferguson) Cushing**, Class of '03, and husband Shawn, Pine Bluffs, Wyo., had a baby girl, Amy Angelina, Oct. 24, 2010. She weighed 6 lbs. 13 oz. and was 19 in. long. Betsy is a special education assistant at Pine Bluffs High School.

**Kelsie (Hoffman)**, Class of '07 & '08, and husband **Shawn Darling**,

Class of '04, Whitewood, had a baby boy, Huxley Matthew, March 29, 2011. He weighed 8 lbs. 1 oz. and was 22 in. long. Kelsie is the owner of Quik Signs. Shawn is the owner of Recreation Station and recently opened a new business, OutletPontoons.com.

**Emily Gagner**, Class of '02, Dallas, Ore., had a baby boy, Henry James, Dec. 11, 2010. He weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 19 ¾ in. long. Emily is the city recorder for Dallas.

## Record number participate in 19th Annual BHSU Alumni Mile



A record number of runners from across the region gathered at the Donald E. Young Sports and Fitness Center for the 19th annual BHSU Alumni Mile. This year over \$1,700 was raised for scholarships, bringing total contributions to the Alumni Mile Endowment to \$26,576. Lunch was sponsored by the Stadium Sports Grill. Leigh Anne Whiteside, junior exercise science major from Loveland, Colo. and KC Fiedler, senior physical education and industrial technology major from George, Iowa, were awarded the annual scholarships. Alumni and friends at the event are standing (l to r): Jim Glazer, Class of '82, St. Paul, Minn.; Phil Bjerneberg, Class of '86, Sioux Falls; Rob Welo, Class of '92, Aurora, Colo.; Jylann Soulek, Class of '92, Fullerton, Neb.; Dan Brelje, Class of '09, Chisago City, Minn.; Jaime Adams, Class of '09, Omaha, Neb.; Jesse Vrooman, Class of '09, Miller; Alicia Verhulst, Class of '09, Vermillion; Stephen Hayes, Class of '02, Belle Fourche; Scott Bohall, Attended, Glendale, Ariz.; Birch Haraden, Class of '10, Spearfish; Brent Stille, Class of '92, Sioux Falls; Nikki (Underwood) McDaniel, Class of '03, Rapid City; Lori (Mahaffey) Osman, Attended, Casper, Wyo.; Patrick Lewellen, Class of '01, Spearfish; Claude McBroom, Class of '94, Rapid City; James E. Hansen, Class of '10, San Diego, Calif.; John T. Williams, Class of '07, Spearfish; Luke Watkins, Class of '07, Rapid City; Tim Bishop, Class of '03, Spearfish; Ryan Phillips, Attended, Sturgis; Brian Harms, Attended, Belle Fourche; and Dave Little, former BHSU track and field and cross country coach, Spearfish; kneeling (l to r): Elaine Doll-Dunn, Class of '79 and former BHSU women's cross country and track and field coach, Spearfish; Jack Kirtley, Class of '93, Idaho Falls, Idaho; Whiteside; Paul Herrold, Class of '10, Spearfish; Jeremy Miller, current student, Spearfish; John Antar, Class of '10, Box Elder; Fiedler; Mark Mazza, Class of '10, Spearfish; Wesleigh Jastorff, Attended, Spearfish; Monica (Headlee) Dorn, Class of '02, Walnut Grove, Minn.; Ashley (Cordell) Pearson, Class of '03, Aladdin, Wyo.; Jamie (Hahn) VanDeest, Class of '06, Spearfish; seated (l to r): Mike McDaniel, Class of '03, Rapid City; and Dan Bergland, Class of '89, Beresford.

**April (Herman) Johnson**, Class of '04, and husband Pat, Spearfish, had a baby boy, Hunter Dean, April 27, 2011. He weighed 7 lbs. and was 19 in. long. April is a massage therapist and owner of Paradise Massage.

**Jamie (Olinger)**, Class of '03, and husband **Scott Guffey**, Class of '98, had a baby girl, Harper Graese, March 28, 2011. She weighed 7 lbs 9 oz. and was 20 in. long. Jamie is employed at Pennington County Health and Human Services and Scott is the Weed and Pest director for Pennington County.

**Jackie (Shavlik) Grim**, Class of '00, and husband Virgil, Greeley, Colo., had a baby girl, Allison Kay, Feb. 22, 2011. She weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz. and was 21 in. long. Jackie teaches first and second grade at University Schools in Greeley.

**Martin Lemke**, Class of '05, and wife Stefanie, West Saint Paul, Minn., had a baby boy, Royce Willis, Aug. 25, 2010. He weighed 8 lbs. 11 oz. Martin is an industrial designer with Quality Manufacturing.

**Julia (Doyle)**, Class of '09, and husband **Dillon Lermeney**, Attended, Reva, had a baby boy, Griffin Edward, June 1, 2010. He weighed 8 lbs. 11 oz. and was 19 in. long. Dillon

is a rancher at Lermeney Ranch.

**Ryan Schrock**, Class of '05, and wife Nicole, Gillette, Wyo., had a baby boy, Trajan Jewel, Dec. 18, 2010. He weighed 8 lbs. 15 oz. and was 19 in. long. Ryan is currently employed at Campbell County Memorial Hospital as a physical therapist.

**Alexia "Lexi" (Steffes) Schudt**, Class of '04, and husband Jason, Spearfish, had a baby girl, Aubrey Jo, Jan. 3, 2011. She weighed 5 lbs. 4 oz. and was 18 in. long. Lexi is a stay-at-home mom.

**Anne (Koenig)**, Class of '06, and husband **Garrett Stevens**, Class of '05, Spearfish, had a baby boy, Anthony Jake, April 29, 2011. He weighed 8 lbs. 2 oz. and was 20 in. long. Anne is senior computer support specialist and Garrett is a systems software specialist. Both are employed at BHSU.

**The 10s** **Stacy (Anderson) Wood**, Class of '10, and husband Kael, Douglas, Wyo., had a baby girl, Wesley Olivia, March 7, 2011. She weighed 7 lbs. 3 oz. and was 21 in. long. Stacy is a social worker for the State of Wyoming Department of Family Services.

## *BHSU education graduate successfully balances his love of teaching and performing*

**Dan Sherrill**, Class of '01, is currently a physical education teacher at West Elementary School in Wheatland, Wyo., and has also been a musician most of his life. With his mother being a music teacher and musician and his father a teacher and coach, his parents were clearly an influence on his career path.

Dan has had an exciting year with his release of his first solo album, *D'Milestone* and earning his master's degree in physical education pedagogy from Minnesota State University-Mankato.

Among earning his bachelor's degree in education while at BHSU, he also studied vocal and instrumental music and was involved in the Concert Choir, the Jazz Ensemble, and the Black Hills Gold Singers. Dan was also a member of the Mighty Moose Band with BHSU alumni, Tony Speiser, Class of '02; Jacques Daniel, Class of '02; Jared Jankord, Class of '02; and Nick Brandriet, Class of '06, who played around the region, including the annual BHSU Festival on the Green and the Deadwood Jam.

After graduating Dan relocated to Wheatland, where he began teaching physical education and adapted physical education. Now in his ninth year of teaching he credits Besty Silva, associate professor of education at BHSU, for preparing him so well for his teaching profession. "I can't speak highly enough of Betsy Silva and her passion for teaching and preparing future educators. She has been a major influence in my teaching," said Dan. He also speaks very fondly of Randy Royer, professor of music at BHSU, and associate professor emeritus, Steve Parker for being such an influence on his musical career.

Dan and his wife, Teresa (Fried), Class of '00, have two children, Abby (7) and Samuel (4). Some may say the Sherrills lead a crazy life with Dan averaging over 100 performances per year all while maintaining a successful teaching career, but they love it and wouldn't have it any other way.

His music is available for download on iTunes or see him live at BHSU Sunday, Aug. 28 when he returns to campus for his second performance during Green and Gold Days.



**Dan Sherrill, Class of '01, released his first solo album, *D'Milestone*, and recently completed his master's degree in physical education pedagogy.**

## *Johnson elected to head of Board of Regents*



**Johnson**

**Kathryn Johnson**, Class of '75, who has been a member of the South Dakota Board of Regents since 2005, has been elected as the board's new president.

Kathryn currently lives in Hill City and owns Johnson Environmental Concepts of Rapid City, a scientific consulting business. She earned her bachelor's degree in chemistry from BHSU, her master's degree in chemistry from Iowa State University, and her doctorate in geology from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology.

She was appointed to the Congressional Commission on the Advancement of Women and Minorities in Science, Engineering, and Technology and is a member of the National Research Council Committee on Women in Science & Engineering.

Kathryn was greatly involved in the recent statewide effort to upgrade science and research laboratories at all Regental Universities.

## In Memory of

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

Margaret (DeYoung) Crawford, Attended, Pratt, Kan.  
Kathryn (Wilkes) Duffin, Attended, Las Vegas, Nev.  
Iva M. (McGregor) Engelhardt, Attended, Rapid City  
Della F. (Brownfield) Foreman, Attended, Billings, Mont.

### Black Hills Teachers College 1941-1963

Janet R. (Kaiser) Ayres, Class of '63, Sioux Falls  
George "Bill" W. Bartholomew, Attended, Pierre  
Mildred E. (Goehring) Dutro, Attended, Delmont  
Dorothy "Dot" L. (Horton) Edwards, Attended, Sturgis  
Paul E. Fugier, Class of '61, Buffalo Gap  
Peter J. Hasenmueller, Jr., Class of '53 and '63, Hayward, Calif.  
George "Gerry" G. Hoggatt, Class of '54, Waukesha, Wis.  
Lester W. Holben, Attended, Spearfish  
Wilbert Janis, Attended, Pine Ridge  
Clarence E. Miles, Class of '48, Spearfish  
Carty J. Monahan, Class of '62, Fort Atkinson, Wis.  
Flossie (Knapp) Newman, Class of '63, Rapid City  
Robert L. Noeller, Attended, Diamondhead, Miss.  
Richard W. O'Banion, Attended, Kennewick, Wash.  
Nora M. (Matter) Ostby, Attended, Apache Junction, Ariz.  
Lawrence J. Sanger, Class of '57, Spring City, Utah  
Robert J. Schmidt, Attended, Marion  
Thelma J. (Fosheim) Schofield, Attended, Philip  
Iva C. (Davis) Skoglund, Attended, Springfield, Mo.  
Minnie E. (Paananen) Stanley, Class of '61 and '69, Deadwood  
Arlue (Nix) Thomas, Attended, Sioux Falls

### Black Hills State College 1964-1988

Gilbert C. Agneaux, Attended, LaPlant  
David "Dave" J. Allison, Attended, Waynesville, N.C.  
Jeffrey O. Beckel, Class of '75, Aberdeen  
Candy L. (Plumb) Benning, Attended, Ilwaco, Wash.  
Jauane J. (Kurtz) Bleau, Class of '70, Carmichael, Calif.  
Richard A. Chaloupka, Attended, Anchorage, Alaska  
Ann F. Christensen, Class of '70, Sioux Falls  
Anne R. (Ziolkowski) Christensen, Attended, Crazy Horse  
Kenneth S. Cloud, Attended, Helena, Mont.  
Frank "Bud/Buddy" A. Curnow, Sr., Class of '86, Spearfish  
Randall "Randy" S. Engebretson, Attended, Bakersfield, Calif.  
Kathleen A. (Helms) Gifford, Attended, Webster  
Laura E. (Pittman) Howie, Class of '70, Rapid City  
Dennis D. Hubbard, Attended, Chamberlain  
Mildred F. (Cole) Kokesh, Attended, Spearfish  
Debra "Debbie" R. (Palmer) Morris, Class of '84, Rapid City  
Gary L. Olson, Class of '66, Glendive, Mont.

Lynn M. (Roe) Patton, Class of '76, Martin  
Marvin A. Palmer, Class of '67, Murdo  
Rose I. (Kroft) Sears, Class of '72, Fox Island, Wash.  
Gerald J. Stedillie, Class of '73, Belle Fourche  
Charles A. Talley, Attended, Akron, Ohio  
Jerome "Jerry" C. Vaad, Class of '65, Oacoma  
Vicki S. (Kolb) Young, Class of '79, Dupree

### Black Hills State University 1989-Present

Sabrina J. Anderson-Curry, Attended, Livingston, Wyo.  
Karilyn "KC" Cottingham, Attending, Spearfish  
Martin L. Jolley, Class of '90, Black Hawk  
Richard S. Keim, Attending, Spearfish  
Oswald F. Knight III, Class of '91, Bumpass, Va.  
Travis S. McDonnell, Class of '95, Quinn  
Neil J. Swanson, Attended, Rapid City

### Former Faculty/Staff

David L. Hess, Greenwood, S.C.  
Charles Portz, Williamstown, Mass.  
Elda M. (Patterson) Shuck, Spearfish  
Robert V. "Bob" Tegeler, Spearfish

**Violet "Vi" C. (Thurn) Cowden**, Class of '36, Seal Beach, Calif., passed away April 10, 2011, at the age of 94. Vi was one of the first women military pilots to serve in the U.S. Air Force. She was a member of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs) and flew some of the country's most sophisticated planes.



Cowden

Born in a sod house in Bowdle, she made her way to Spearfish and earned her teaching certificate from BHSU, then called Spearfish Normal School, and taught first grade while taking flying lessons at the local airfield. She knew immediately she found her calling. After becoming a licensed pilot, she was accepted as a WASP and began her career in aviation, flying until she was in her 90s. Vi was inducted into the South Dakota Aviation Hall of Fame in 1994 and in 2010, she was awarded with the Congressional Gold Medal.

During each of the stages of her life, Vi inspired others with her energy, love of life and never-ending desire to live life to the fullest. First, as a devoted young college student and a teacher in the classroom, she inspired students and colleagues as she made time to learn to fly while she was teaching and inspiring future pilots. Later, she served as a source of inspiration as a mother, wife, friend, and grandmother who traveled the world several times and found adventures wherever she went.

**Louise M. (Kasson) Smock**, Class of '59 and '60 and BHSU emeritus faculty, Spearfish, passed away Feb. 11, 2011.



Smock

After graduating from high school, Louise worked as a secretary at Fort Riley (Kansas) Army Post and danced with United Service Organization (USO) shows at that time. She married Lt. Richard T. Smock at Fort Riley. The couple had one child, Elizabeth-Marie Hoodie Smock. When Richard was killed in 1951, during the Korean Conflict, Louise moved to Spearfish, where her parents were living.

She attended BHSU and earned her bachelor's degree in speech and theatre arts in 1959 and in 1960 graduated with a bachelor's degree in education. As a student, she was active in theatre, cheerleading and dancing.

Louise joined the BHSU faculty in 1959 and retired in 1992. She loved teaching and during this time she earned her master's degree at the University of Arizona. She taught in a variety of disciplines including: business, English, and physical education (dance, swimming, and elementary techniques).

In 1996 she was inducted into the Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame and has received the BHSU Distinguished Faculty Award, the Special Service Award, and the Excellence in Education Award. In addition to being an avid supporter of BHSU, Louise was very involved in the community as well.

Donations in Louise's memory are being accepted for the Louise Smock Scholarship Fund for physical education majors. Contact Steve Meeker, vice president of University Advancement, at 605-642-6385 or email [Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu](mailto:Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu) for more information.

## Romkema and Kamstra receive honors from the Small Business Administration

**Dr. Priscilla Romkema**, Class of '78 and dean of the College of Business at BHSU, and **Leigh Kamstra**, Class of '82 and chef/owner of Roma's Ristorante, were honored by the South Dakota Small Business Administration (SBA) with statewide awards.



Romkema

Priscilla was named the Women in Business Champion of the Year, a distinction that is presented to someone who has fulfilled a commitment to the advancement of women's business ownership.

Leigh was named the 2011 Small Business Person of the Year. As South Dakota's top small business person, she competed against entrepreneurs from across the nation for the title of National Small Business Person of the Year and earned second runner-up.



Kamstra

Priscilla earned her degree from BHSU in instrumental music and later earned her master's degree in business education and her doctorate in education from the University of Wyoming. She joined the BHSU faculty in 1997. Priscilla is known for her strong support of faculty members in their continual efforts to be actively engaged in entrepreneurial applied research, publications, and presentations.

Leigh, who is originally from Brookings, earned her BHSU degree in business administration. After a 10-year career in the banking industry, she decided to attend the Culinary Institute of America in Denver. She returned to the home of her alma mater to establish her restaurant, Roma's Ristorante.

Her business draws patrons from all over the Black Hills and across the region. Roma's has earned a reputation for an exceptional atmosphere along with outstanding food and service.

## Thorp honored with prestigious national award

**Deb Thorp**, Class of '99 and '02, was one of only 85 teachers nationwide to be honored by President Barack Obama with the prestigious Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

Deb, a sixth-grade science teacher at Lead-Deadwood Middle School, is highly distinguished by students and staff for her completely hands-on approach to science.

In addition to her award, Deb received a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation to be used at her discretion and an expense-paid trip



**Deb Thorp, Class of '99 and '02, was honored by President Barack Obama with the prestigious Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Deb, a Lead-Deadwood Middle School sixth-grade science teacher, was nominated for the award by principal Nick Gottlob (right), Class of '00. (Photo courtesy of the Black Hills Pioneer.)**

to Washington, D.C., for several days of professional development opportunities and recognition activities, including a number of interactions with senior members of the Administration and members of Congress.

PAEMST is the nation's highest recognition of K-12 mathematics and science teachers for outstanding teaching in the United States. Teachers are nominated by their colleagues for their contributions in the classroom and in their profession. Awardees serve as models for inspiration to their communities and leaders in the improvement of mathematics and science education.

Deb was nominated for the award by Lead-Deadwood High School principal Nick Gottlob, Class of '00, and a teaching colleague from Rapid City.

## Four honorees will be recognized during Swarm Week festivities

Black Hills State University will honor several outstanding alumni during the annual Alumni Awards Luncheon held on campus during Swarm Week. Charles (Chuck) V. Sederstrom will be honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award; the Excellence in Education Award will be presented to Dr. Barry L. Jankord; Darla J. (Talty) Crown will be recognized with the Special Achievement Award; and Dr. George C. Rinker, Ph.D. will be honored with the Special Service Award.

**Charles (Chuck) V. Sederstrom** studied at BHSU and ultimately received his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of South Dakota. In 1968 he began practicing law in Omaha, Neb., with Donald H. Erickson; and subsequently began the law firm of Erickson and Sederstrom. Chuck's area of specialization has been in corporate law with a particular reference on health law. He is currently General Counsel to Alegent Health, which is the largest nongovernmental employer in the state of Nebraska, as well as the largest hospital in the state.

Chuck has been active in Masonic bodies over the course of 25 years. He is currently a member of the Scottish Rite, the York Rite, and Tangier Shrine, where he has been a member of the Royal Order of Jesters since 1985 and served as its director in 1998.

Over the course of the past 20 years, he has been very involved with the Salvation Army. He served on the local Omaha Board and for over 10 years has served on the National Board of the Salvation Army. In addition, he was former chairman of the Combined Health Agencies of America.

Chuck is also a very active member and leader in many legal and civic organizations, including American Diabetes Association, American Lung Association, Arthritis Foundation, Boy Scouts of America, Combined Health Agencies Drive of Nebraska, Goodwill Industries, United Way, Rotary International, Chamber of Commerce, and the Omaha Home for Boys. Chuck was President of the Omaha Bar Association from 1984-85.

**Dr. Barry L. Jankord**, Class of '82, graduated with honors from BHSU and earned his bachelor's degree in social science and athletic coaching. While at BHSU Barry was the student government vice president, Swarm Days chair, and a reserve quarterback for the Yellow Jackets. He went on to study honors philosophy and graduate theology from Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. and earned his master's degree in

educational administration and his doctorate degree in educational leadership from the University of Wyoming.

Barry began his career in education at Sublette County School District in Big Piney, Wyo., as a middle school social studies teacher. He also coached seventh-grade football and eighth-grade girls basketball.

He began working for the Campbell County School District (CCSD) in Gillette, Wyo., in 1990. From 1990-93 he served part-time as the associate principal and part-time as the ninth-grade social studies teacher at Sage Valley Junior High School (SVJHS). From 1993-97 he was the associate principal and activities director at SVJHS. He and fellow BHSU graduate Cliff Hill, Class of '81, helped double the intramural and interscholastic activity participation for Gillette's junior high students in the mid-90s. In 1997, he started work as an elementary principal, serving Meadowlark and Rawhide Schools until 2002.

Barry currently serves as the principal for Meadowlark Elementary School, where he provides educational leadership for a school of 330 students. He is also the director of the CCSD Title III and English as a Second Language (ESL) Program. As the director he oversees the staffing and professional development of K-12 English Language Learner (ELL) programs.

He has furthered his educational career by participating in numerous teaching and administrative training courses. Barry has also been invited to present at various education conferences and he currently serves on the BHSU College of Education Advisory Board.

**Command Chief Warrant Officer Darla J. (Talty) Crown**, Class of '80, enlisted in the United States Army, Women's Army Corp, in 1973 after graduating from Wall High School. Upon her honorable discharge from active duty, she immediately joined the South Dakota Army National Guard. She earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education from BHSU and began teaching math and science at the junior high level. After receiving her master's degree in education and science, she worked as a counselor, sales and marketing professional, and development officer.

Last spring the South Dakota National Guard welcomed Darla as the first female Chief Warrant Officer during a ceremony



Sederstrom



Jankord



Crown



Rinker

honoring the transfer of authority. Darla oversees Warrant Officer career development, recruiting, morale, education, promotions, and retention.

Unique assignments in her career have included: being assigned as a personnel officer in a field artillery brigade, instructing leadership and land navigation for the Officer Candidate School, and serving as a Casualty Notification Officer. In addition to her active duty time from 1973-76, she also served on active duty during Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Darla was named the Girl Scouts "Woman of Distinction" and received the Rapid City Chamber ATHENA Award, for her contributions to the support and development of women in leadership roles.

**Dr. George C. Rinker, Ph.D.** is known for his dedication to the BHSU science program. After being retired for 16 years from the University of South Dakota (USD) as an anatomy professor and associate dean he came to BHSU to volunteer his experience and expertise as a lab assistant.

It was the quality of the program and a chance to get involved once again in a vocation that he loved that brought him to BHSU.

He began aiding in anatomy, mammalogy, and ecology labs over 10 years ago at BHSU and has helped mentor and prepare over 95 students for graduate school. RaeAnn Mettler, a biology graduate who also earned her master's degree in integrative genomics at BHSU, had the opportunity to work with him and is now in a Ph.D. program at the University of Freiburg, Germany. Many BHSU science students and faculty have been impressed with him through the years and his dedication to assist them when necessary.

George earned his bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Kansas and his doctorate in anatomy from the University of Michigan, where he was an assistant professor for 12 years.

In 1962, he began teaching anatomy at the University of South Dakota (USD) and retired with professor emeritus status in 1984.

## 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 2011 Swarm Day festivities. Jesse Dana, Traci (Schenk) Dana, Cori (Ringwood) Engelhardt, and Travis Thorn will be inducted as athletes and Mike Olson will be inducted as a coach. The 1998-99 men's basketball team and the 1973 golf team will also be inducted.

**Jesse Dana**, Class of '97, will be inducted for his accomplishments in basketball:

- 1,812 points scored in a career
- National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Honorable Mention All-American (1997)
- NAIA All-American Scholar Athlete (1996 and 1997)
- All-Conference performer (1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97)
- BHSU men's basketball All-Century Selection

**Traci (Schenk) Dana**, Class of '98, will be inducted for her achievements in basketball:

- 348 career assists
- 163 career steals
- All-Conference selection (1996-97)
- Starting point guard on National Champion Runner-Up team (1996-97)
- Holder of 5 BHSU records (most assists in one game and in one season, highest average of assists and steals per game, and most steals in one season)

**Cori (Ringwood) Engelhardt**, Class of '98, will be inducted for her success in basketball:

- Hustle Award at the NAIA National Tournament (1996-97)
- BHSU record for single-game steals – 9 (tied with one other)
- Career three point field goal percentage – 42.6%
- Shot 80% (4-5) from three point range at national tournament in Southern Oregon
- Second Team All-SDIC (1996-97)

**Travis Thorn**, Attended, will be inducted for his accomplishments in football and track:

- BHSU record for receiving yards in one game – 224
- BHSU record in 100-meter dash – 10.83
- BHSU record in long jump – 24'9 ½ "
- NAIA Honorable Mention All-American in football (1992)
- NAIA All-American in track and field

**Mike Olson**, men's basketball coach for nine seasons at BHSU will be inducted for helping make the decade of the 90s the most successful period of basketball at BHSU. His teams had a 179-90 won-loss record, captured the South Dakota-Iowa Conference title four times, and made four NAIA Division II national tournament appearances.



Dana



Dana



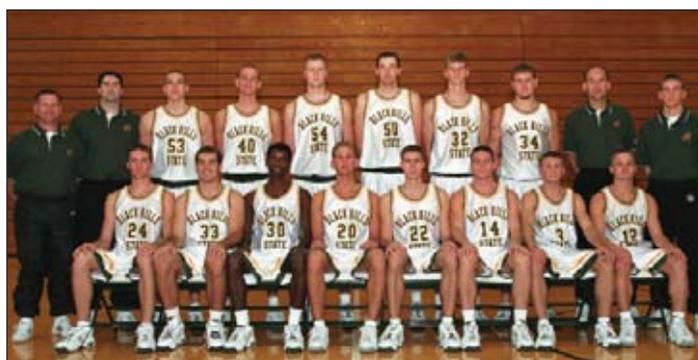
Engelhardt



Thorn



Olson



The 1998-99 men's basketball team was considered by many to be one of the most exciting teams to play at BHSU. Members of the team include back row (l to r): Tony Silva, trainer; Mark Swasey, assistant coach; Brant Miller, Trent Traphagen, Brad Massman, Derrick Lockman, Lee Severyn, Brain Fennema, Mike Olson, head coach; Ryan Larsen, student assistant. Front row (l to r): Justin Koehler, Brett Theeler, Steve Afa, Travis Traphagen, Mike Smith, Buster Vincent, Nate Vogel, and Josh McNames.



The 1973 golf team won the SDIC championship following their most successful season ever. Coach Gene Schlekeway's team edged South Dakota School of Mines and Technology by three strokes to capture the conference title. Members of the team are (l to r): Doug Murphey, Terry Prusha, Doug Graslie, Tom Townsend, Kirk Van De Walle, and Gene Schlekeway, coach. Not pictured are: Jack Babb, Tom Hendricks, Ron Meeker, and Bob Worth.

# Creating a Legacy

## 1883 Donor Recognition Dinner honors outstanding BHSU supporters

The Black Hills State University Foundation held its fifth annual 1883 Donor Recognition Dinner to honor those who have played a major role in funding the various scholarships, capital projects, development funds, and other initiatives at BHSU.

Those honored included 68 donors that have contributed \$50,000 or more in their lifetime(s) and 80 donors who contributed \$1,883 or more in 2010. The 1883 Giving Club was named in honor of the University's founding in 1883. Donors included alumni, corporations, foundations, organizations and friends of the University. This year's theme for the dinner was Thank You for Making a Difference 24 Hours a Day, 7 Days a Week, and 365 Days a Year.

The event included a social that featured musical entertainment by BHSU students and a donor recognition ceremony that honored all donors including the Green and Gold Booster of the Year Award and the Difference Maker Award. This year the Green and Gold Booster of the Year Award and Difference Maker Award went to Dana,

LaDawn, Alana and Dan Dykhouse.

In 2010, the Dykhouse family announced they were donating \$1 million to BHSU. In announcing the gift Dana Dykhouse, who is a prominent Sioux Falls businessman and president and chief executive officer of First PREMIER Bank, said that his family wants other student-athletes to have access to the same experiences and opportunities his daughter, Alana, has received as a student and a basketball player at BHSU. The Dykhouse Family has a long association with South Dakota's universities. Dana and LaDawn are both 1979 graduates of South Dakota State University (SDSU). Dana has held leadership positions on several councils for SDSU and currently serves on the Yellow Jacket Foundation Board of Directors at BHSU. Dana and LaDawn's son, Dan, is also a graduate of SDSU, and their daughter, Alana, graduated from BHSU in May with her elementary education degree. The



BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp (second from left) honors the Dykhouse family with the Green and Gold Booster of the Year Award and the Difference Maker Award. Alana, LaDawn, and Dana were recognized during the fifth annual 1883 Donor Recognition Dinner at Black Hills State University.

\$1 million gift marked only the fifth time the University has received a gift of this magnitude and is the first cash gift of \$1 million, meaning BHSU students are seeing an immediate benefit of the gift.

## Sandra and Tad Addy establish estate gift for academic scholarships

Steve Meeker, vice president for University Advancement at Black Hills State University, announced that alumnae Sandra (Turney) Addy and her husband, Tad, have included BHSU in their estate plan for a major gift to establish two endowments that will support scholarships in music and education.

"We believe that it is vital to support excellence in undergraduate education in South Dakota," said Sandra. "A planned gift is a great way to accomplish our goal while keeping our assets available in case they are needed during our lifetimes."

One half of the gift will establish an endowment for scholarships to recognize academic excellence in the music program at BHSU. This gift was inspired by Sandra's current service on the board of the Johanna Meier Opera Theatre Institute. "I am deeply impressed by the accomplishments and dedication to students of Dean Holly Downing and Professor Janeen Larson at BHSU," said Sandra. "Furthermore, the influence of retired international opera star Johanna Meier on the BHSU music program bodes well for future excellence in that area."

"We like the idea of investing in an academic area where there is potential for a bright future at BHSU," added Tad.

The other half of the gift will establish an endowment in a traditional

area of strength at BHSU, education. The scholarships will recognize academic distinction in education and will honor the memory of Sandra's mother, father, and brother. Sandra's mother, Marie (Reetz) Turney (1906-1988), attended Spearfish Normal School (now BHSU) in 1928 and taught for many years in one-room rural schools in Tripp and Gregory Counties in South Dakota. Her father, Dello Halsted Turney (1905-1997), and her brother, Samuel Reetz Turney (1949-1986), were South Dakota farmers.

Sandra received her teaching certificate from BHSU in 1956. Her first year of teaching took place in a one-room rural school in Tripp County. She went on to earn three degrees in education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: a B.S. in 1963, an M.S. in 1967, and a Ph.D. in 1974. She taught for several years in elementary schools in Ohio and Illinois. From 1983 to 1998 she served as coordinator of Alumni Affairs within the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering



Sandra and Tad Addy

at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Alva L. (Tad) Addy graduated in 1958 with a B. S. degree with high honors in mechanical engineering from South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. He earned a M.S. degree in 1960 from the University of Cincinnati under the auspices of the General Electric Company Honors Program. In 1963 he received a Ph.D. degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He joined the mechanical engineering faculty at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1963 and served as head of the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering from 1986 until his retirement in 1998.

"Both of us were helped by scholarships and fellowships throughout our academic studies," said Tad. "Our university degrees opened many doors that enabled us to lead interesting, challenging, and rewarding lives. We believe that our planned gift to BHSU will someday help many other young people to enjoy equally rewarding opportunities."

For information on establishing a scholarship endowment at BHSU or to execute a planned gift for a future endowment, email Meeker at [Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu](mailto:Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu) or contact him at (605) 642-6385.

## Crosswait family honored as the 2011 BHSU Legacy Family

The descendants of Robert L. and Elizabeth Crosswait were honored as the 2011 Black Hills State University Legacy Family. The award was presented by BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp and Steve Meeker, vice president of University Advancement.

Robert L. and Elizabeth moved their family to the Black Hills in 1942. Robert was an educator and administrator for 38 years in schools across South Dakota. Several of his children followed him into education and two began their careers at BHSU. Dr. B.N. "Bill" Crosswait and Dr. Charles "Bruce" Crosswait earned their degrees in

1950 at BHSU, where Bill had an 18-year career as an education professor.

After his discharge from the Army Air Corps, Bill earned his degree in secondary education with an emphasis in math and science. He took his first teaching job in Lemmon and continued to teach while earning his master and doctorate degrees from the University of South Dakota. He and his family returned to the Black Hills in 1966 when Bill became superintendent of the Spearfish School District. He later joined the BHSU faculty two and taught education classes and supervised student teachers until his retirement.

Bruce followed his older brother to BHSU after his discharge from the Marine Corps at the end of World War II. He earned his education degree and accepted his first job teaching chemistry and math at Bennett County High School in Martin. Bruce earned his masters degree from the University of Wyoming and his doctorate from Kansas University.

The Legacy Family Award honors families who have a tradition of attending BHSU. To nominate a deserving family, contact Tom Wheaton, director of Alumni Relations at BHSU, at 642-6385 or email Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu.



Those attending the BHSU Legacy Family Ceremony included front row (l to r): Hailey Crosswait, future Yellow Jacket; Danica Crosswait, future Yellow Jacket; Tate Crosswait, future Yellow Jacket; Dr. Bill Crosswait, Class of '50, Spearfish; and Rachel Crosswait, future Yellow Jacket; back row (l to r): David Degen, Class of '78, Spearfish; Anne (Crosswait) Degen, Class of '76, Spearfish; Ben Crosswait, Spearfish; Mark Crosswait, Rapid City; Connie (Crosswait) Hubbard, Class of '06, Spearfish; Jonathan Crosswait, Class of '09 and '10, Rapid City; Courtney (Cullum) Crosswait, Class of '08, Rapid City; Dr. Bob Crosswait, Class of '78, Spearfish; Helen (Moorhouse) Crosswait, Attended, Spearfish; Charlene (Vondra) Crosswait, Attended, Spearfish; Todd Hubbard, Spearfish; Toby Hubbard, Spearfish; Elizabeth Hubbard, Spearfish; Bethany Crosswait, Spearfish; Mary (Pardon) Crosswait, Attended, Spearfish; Kim (Mickelson) Crosswait, Class of '94, Spearfish; and Craig Crosswait, Class of '81, Spearfish. Not pictured: Dr. Charles "Bruce" Crosswait, Class of '50, and Katherine Degen, Attended.

## John T. Vucurevich scholars named at Black Hills State University

Black Hills State University honored students who received scholarships from the John T. Vucurevich Foundation.

Joshua Harris, sophomore biology major from Sturgis, and Grace Hoffman, junior elementary education major from Gary, were honored as John T. Vucurevich Presidential Scholars. These recipients are nominated by faculty and staff. They each received a scholarship of \$6,250.

Those receiving a John T. Vucurevich Math, Science, and Special Education Scholarship include: Mariah Asheim, freshman from Hill City; Michelle Barman, junior from Frankfort; Renee Bolie, senior from Colome; Berlynn Browning, freshman

from Belle Fourche; Alex Cameron, sophomore from White River; Mandi Decker, sophomore from Frankfort; Trisha DeVries, sophomore from Kadoka; Hayley Handcock, junior from Onida; Loreena Haynes, freshman from Martin; Chad Hofkamp, freshman from Rapid City; Tyler Jensen, freshman from Whitewood; Ashton Keck, freshman from Custer; Cheyann Kessler, freshman from Sisseton; Joshua Kirchner, senior from Lennox; Nicholas Olson, sophomore from Spearfish; Candace Patmore, sophomore from Colome; Carly Schmidt, freshman from Spearfish; Taylor Shoemaker, sophomore from Faith; Elizabeth Strong, junior from Rapid City; and Thomas Tieszen, senior from Spearfish.

Recipients received \$2,000 to assist with tuition and fees.

These scholarships were 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, the need for keeping sound spiritual values, and the importance of helping those persons less fortunate. He felt that community service was very important and served in both the South Dakota House of Representatives and Senate and was also an active supporter of higher education. His success as a banker allowed him to create the Foundation to carry out his goal "to make a piece of the world a brighter place."

## BHSU in the news

### Black Hills State University selects Dr. Rodney Custer as new provost

**D**r. Rodney Custer has been selected to fill the provost position at Black Hills State University. Custer is currently associate vice president for research, graduate studies, and international education at Illinois State University (ISU) in Normal, Ill.

As associate vice president at ISU, Custer is known for his commitment to teamwork and collaboration and his energetic, positive approach.

"I am pleased to announce that Dr. Rodney Custer has accepted the provost position," BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp says. "His professional leadership and service combined with his diverse educational background and exceptional achievements in higher education and in the community will certainly benefit Black Hills State University."

Custer says he is looking forward to his role as provost and vice president of Academic Affairs at BHSU. A first-generation college graduate who grew up on a farm in rural northwest Kansas, Custer's background, experiences, and philosophies will be valuable for BHSU. His educational background, which includes degrees in education, the humanities and

social sciences as well as a doctorate in education, combined with his successful higher education experience and achievements will create a synergistic foundation for academic leadership at Black Hills State University.

"My philosophy, values, and vision for higher education align with the mission and goals of BHSU," Custer says. "The University's emphasis on innovation, student-centeredness, educational excellence, integrity, inclusiveness and scholarship is congruent with my experience and personal values. It is clear that Black Hills State University is positioned to build on its strong reputation for high-quality education and involvement within the wider region. I am delighted to have this opportunity to join the administration at BHSU."

Custer has a broad range of higher education leadership experience, including working with students, faculty, deans, and chairs, and upper administration as well as working with community leaders and governmental officials. Over the past 20 years, he has been involved at the national and international levels on a variety of



Custer

projects focused on STEM education. This work has included standards and policy development for technology and science education, accreditation guideline development and implementation, and professional development for secondary level STEM education. He has received federal funding for a number of curriculum and professional development projects, primarily through the National Science Foundation, and has authored a number of articles, books and book chapters.

In his current role as associate vice president, he facilitated the development of a number of innovative campus- and community-wide initiatives including the development of a business incubator, a Center for Renewable Energy, an integrated-systems robotics laboratory, a community-wide wellness coalition. He also supervised the Center for Mathematics, Science and Technology. He enjoys teaching and has remained active in the classroom throughout his entire administrative career.

In addition to his five years as associate vice president, Custer served nine years as a chairperson at ISU. Prior to that he was a professor and program leader in the technology and educational department of the University of Missouri-Columbia.

### Over 400 graduates honored during University's 161st commencement



There were over 400 Black Hills State University graduates recognized during the 161st commencement ceremony last spring. The University continued the tradition of leading the commencement processional with the University mace. The mace, which was first introduced during the spring 2009 commencement, was commissioned during BHSU's Quasquicentennial year. A symbol of the University's academic leadership, the mace was carried by Dr. David Wolff, the Distinguished Faculty Member for 2010. Wolff also delivered the commencement address. He spoke of the way BHSU transforms lives and read some of the transformations the graduates underwent while at BHSU. Dr. Kathryn Johnson, president of the South Dakota Board of Regents, gave a greeting from the Regents. Dr. Kristi Pearce, interim provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, presented

the graduates; and BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp, assisted by April Meeker, registrar, presented the diplomas. Bill Collins, president of the BHSU Alumni Association, welcomed the new graduates into the Alumni Association.

To view Class of 2011 photos or to read Wolff's commencement address visit [www.BHSU.edu/Class2011](http://www.BHSU.edu/Class2011).



# BHSU in the news

## Gates Millennium Scholarship recipients honored at BHSU

**B**lack Hills State University held a reception to honor the prestigious Gates Millennium Scholarship (GMS) recipients, established by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Each of the recipients completed an extensive and highly competitive process to qualify for the scholarship. Recipients are chosen for their academic achievement, community service, and leadership ability.

Those receiving the scholarship were: Nicole Blakey, sophomore psychology major from Martin; Kaitlyn Dupris, senior business administration major from Cherry Creek; Gunner Krogman, freshman business administration and physical education major from Mission; Marci Lamont, sophomore business administration major from Martin; Kristen Lawrence, sophomore math education major from Timber Lake; Mary Jo May, senior social science major from Kyle; Jordan Murray, junior history major from Dupree; Dallas Nelson, senior American Indian Studies and sociology major from Pine Ridge; Kaylynn Two Bulls, junior human services major from Pine Ridge; and Sasha White, junior music major

from Kyle.

A reception was held for the students, who expressed their sincere appreciation for the program and gave an overview of their educational and career plans. BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp along with faculty members congratulated the scholarship recipients for their achievements.

The GMS, established in 1999, was initially funded by a \$1 billion grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The GMS is renewable for recipients who maintain satisfactory academic progress. The award provides leadership programs with distinctive personal, academic, and professional growth opportunities. Gates Millennium Scholars may also be awarded graduate school



**Black Hills State University recently held a reception to honor the prestigious Gates Millennium Scholarship recipients, established by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Those recipients present include: left to right, Sasha White, junior music major from Kyle; Mary Jo May, senior social science major from Martin; Kristen Lawrence, sophomore math education major from Timber Lake; and Jordan Murray, junior history from Dupree.**

funding for continuing their education in the areas of computer science, education, engineering, library science, mathematics, public health or science.

## BHSU faculty and student authors paper that was chosen as one of best in nation

**A**natural history paper authored by Black Hills State University faculty and a BHSU student was highlighted in an issue of the scientific journal, *Western North American Naturalist* as one of four outstanding natural history papers for 2009.

"Grass Rhizosheaths: Associated Bacterial Communities and Potential for Nitrogen Fixation" was written by, Dr. David Bergmann, assistant professor of biology; Dr. Mike Zehfus, professor of chemistry; the late Linda Zierer, who was pursuing a biology degree at BHSU, Dr. Brian Smith, professor of biology; and Dr. Mark Gabel, director of the herbarium.

The paper describes the study of the rhizosheath, a dense cylinder of soil particles adhering to roots of grasses from sand dunes in northwestern South Dakota. The authors discovered that some of the bacteria inhabiting the rhizosheath are capable of nitrogen fixation, thus potentially providing an advantage for the plants in the nutrient poor soils of the sand dune areas.

The journal wrote the awards were to "celebrate...achievements in creative and meaningful research, insightful interpretation, and articulate writing."



**BHSU faculty (left to right) are: Dr. Mike Zehfus, professor of chemistry; Dr. David Bergmann, assistant professor of biology; Dr. Mark Gabel, director of the herbarium; and Dr. Brian Smith, professor of biology; authored a paper that was recognized in an issue of the scientific journal, *Western North American Naturalist* as one of the best in the nation.**

## Time is right for a business incubator

**A** recent needs assessment has determined the time is right for a business incubator on the Black Hills State University campus.

Business Cluster Development (BCD) of Menlo Park, Calif., which conducted the needs assessment, concluded in their report that "the opportunity for business incubation in the Spearfish area is clear and the community is committed and supportive of an incubation program."

BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp says, "A business incubator on the BHSU campus that is accessible to the Northern Hills Community will engage the community, faculty and students in a tangible way, providing experiential learning opportunities and creating jobs that help to diversify our economy. It is additionally one way in which we can position our region to capture business opportunities that may arise in support of the development of the DUSEL"

## BHSU faculty in the news

### Psychology professor recognized with 2011 Distinguished Faculty Award

**D**r. James Hess, professor of psychology at Black Hills State University, was honored with the 2011 Distinguished Faculty Award. He was recognized for being a leader on campus through his dedication to and support of his students, his colleagues, and the University.

Hess, who was selected by his peers to receive the award, was surprised during class with the news. According to Hess, he was extremely honored to receive this award especially since becoming a professor was not his intention. When he was first given the opportunity to teach over 30 years ago, he found that he enjoyed making a difference in the lives of students. He also practiced as a counseling psychologist for years, before deciding to focus more of his energy on teaching.

Hess's classes are preferred by many students for his real-world experiences in clinical and counseling psychology. He is sought as an advisor by psychology students and often provides advising for students while they are actively enrolled at BHSU and long after they have graduated. Recently, a graduate asked for Hess's assistance in finding an internship opportunity - something with which her graduate program was not helping. Another BHSU graduate (from over a decade ago) recently called seeking his professional



**BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp (far right) and Nancy Grassel, director of Human Resources at BHSU, recognize Dr. James Hess, professor of psychology at BHSU, with the 2011 Distinguished Faculty Award. He was honored at the annual Employee Awards Reception.**

advice. "It's those moments that tell me I still make a difference, as long as I have that feeling I will be actively involved in teaching," said Hess.

Not only does Hess demonstrate dedication to his students, he is also an avid supporter of the University in many ways. He established the Lois Watts Psychology Scholarship, in honor of his grandmother, and recently pledged an additional \$50,000 bringing the value of the endowment which provides scholarships to BHSU psychology students to \$100,000.

"I gave the contribution because I believe strongly in something my grandmother taught me as a small child.

We all need to give more than we take and this donation was a part of my commitment to honor her message," said Hess. He is working on growing the endowment so it can continue to help students even after Hess is retired from the University.

Hess received his bachelor's degree in psychology, as well as his master's degree in counseling and his doctorate in counseling psychology, from Oklahoma State University. He has been a member of the BHSU faculty since 1983. At that time he was the only faculty member in the Psychology Department. His primary focus includes personality theory, clinical psychology, contemporary

human behavior, psychological testing, abnormal psychology, and internship supervision.

The BHSU Distinguished Faculty Award is presented each spring to encourage and reward outstanding teaching and professional dedication by faculty members at BHSU. The recipient is formally recognized during the spring commencement ceremony and is invited to deliver a keynote address at the following year's commencement ceremony. In addition, the recipient receives a monetary award for personal and professional growth.

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

- **Amy Fuqua**, associate professor of humanities, and **Vincent King**, professor of humanities, were invited to be reviewers for the *National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) Proceedings*.

- **David Scarborough**, associate professor of human resource management, co-authored a paper, "SAS Base(R) Implementation of Information Theoretic Feature Selection for Neural Networks," that was selected to be presented at the 2011 SAS Global Forum.

- **Don Altmyer**, professor of business, and **Sheng Yang**, associate professor of business, had their paper, "The Comparative Effectiveness of Web-Based and Classroom Instruction: Student Demographics vs. Learning Outcomes," published in the December 2010 edition of

*Studies in Learning, Evaluation, Innovation and Development*.

- **Andy Johnson**, associate director of the Center for the Advancement of Math and Science Education, presented results of his project, "Radiation By Inquiry" at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, N.Y.

- The BHSU Mathematics Department received a \$6,000 grant from the Dolciani Mathematics Enrichment Grants Program for the formation of the Black Hills Math Circle (BHMC). **Parthasarathi Nag**, associate professor of mathematics, and **Michael Barrus**, assistant professor of mathematics, serve as the co-principal investigators of the grant and co-directors of the BHMC.

- A photograph by **Steve Babbitt**, professor of photography, was featured in *Discover* magazine. The photograph, published in a two-page spread of the April 2011 issue of *Discover*, was taken in the Davis Cavern of the Sanford Lab.

- **Christian Nsiah**, associate professor of economics, had a paper he co-authored, "The Impact of Governance on Economic Growth in Africa," accepted for publication in the *Journal of Developing Areas*.

- **Rajeev Bukralia**, dean of Educational Outreach, has been appointed commissioner in the Learning, Instruction, and Technology Commission of the University Professional and Continuing Education Association (UPCEA).

# BHSU students in the news

## May earns prestigious internship and displays exhibit at Smithsonian

**B**lack Hills State University student Mary Jo May, senior social science education major from Kyle, earned the opportunity of a lifetime through the prestigious Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS) program. The internship led to the creation of an exhibit that was displayed at the Smithsonian



**BHSU student Mary Jo May, senior social science education major from Kyle, participated in the prestigious Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS) program. She worked at the Department of Veterans Affairs and created an exhibit as a result of her research which was displayed at the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of the American Indian.**

Institute's National Museum of the American Indian.

May was one of only three students from South Dakota and 100 students nationwide selected for the program. She took several courses at American University in Washington, D.C., and worked in Historic Preservation at the Department of Veterans Affairs. Several of her courses focused on Native American public policy concerns. Her housing, courses, and meals were all paid for as part of the program and she received a stipend for her internship work.

The WINS program offers qualified students of sovereign American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian nations the opportunity to build leadership skills while living, studying, and interning in Washington, D.C., gaining professional, real-world work experience.

During her internship, May conducted research at the Library of Congress, the National Archives, the Women's Memorial Archives, and many other museums in the area. Through her research, she wrote articles on topics such as Native American women veterans, Native American Medal of Honor recipients, and Native American scouts.

When her internship concluded, she was asked by her supervisor at the Department of Veterans Affairs to accept a paid position to continue her work when she returned home. She accepted the offer and continued working from home in

Spearfish through December. As a result of her research, an exhibit was developed and displayed at the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of the American Indian. Of the participating interns, hers was the only one selected for display at the Smithsonian.

The Gates Scholar noted how grateful she was for the experience and how much she learned from it. "Overall, the internship was an amazing opportunity that opened my eyes to so much that I did not know. I learned a lot about other Native American tribes in all parts of the country," said May.

She was awarded the Gates Millennium Scholarship during her senior year at Bennett County High School. This prestigious scholarship allowed her to attend BHSU to further her education and meet her goal of becoming a teacher. The Gates Scholarship is the nation's largest minority scholarship program and is funded by a \$1.6 billion grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Recipients are chosen through a highly competitive process for their academic achievement, community service, and leadership ability.

May was recognized by the South Dakota Legislature for her accomplishments in the WINS program and for the selection of her work to be displayed at the Smithsonian. She plans to graduate from BHSU in December 2011 and is eager to get into the classroom and begin teaching and sharing her passion for American history.

## BHSU students are transforming their lives and making headlines

- BHSU senior physical education majors **Russell Reed**, from Rapid City; **Shannon Hellman**, from Rapid City; and **Kalin Engle**, from Newcastle, Wyo., received the Outstanding Major of the Year Award by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE).

- **Cody Geffre**, senior chemistry and biology major from Pierre, was one of 15 South Dakota college and university students to display his research at a Pierre Poster Session at the South Dakota State Capitol.

- **Tyler Prue**, sophomore business administration major from Pierre, is the recipient of the 2011 Kevin Whirlwind

Horse Memorial Scholarship. Each year the scholarship is presented to a BHSU American Indian sophomore who demonstrates outstanding academic ability and leadership skills.

- Twenty-two **BHSU photography students** were chosen as finalists in the 31st Annual College Photographers Competition by *Photographer's Forum* magazine. **Rebecca Gage**, sophomore mass communication major from Sisseton, earned an honorable mention for her rodeo photo.

- Winners of 13th Annual Black Hills Research Symposium were: **William Rob Casey**, junior mass communication major from Hill City and **Clinton Lurz**,

senior business administration major from Spearfish, who tied for best undergraduate poster presentation; **Lindsay Stephens**, senior English major from Spearfish, best undergraduate oral presentation; and **Jay L. Jacobs**, integrative genomics graduate student from Deadwood, best graduate student presentation.

- The *Jacket Journal*, BHSU's student newspaper, earned a first place with special merit award in the 2011 American Scholastic Press Association's annual newspaper competition. This is the third consecutive year the newspaper won first place, and the first year the newspaper earned special merit.

## Sports

### BHSU to join Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference in 2012-13

**B**lack Hills State University will join the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) in 2012-13.

"We are extremely pleased with the opportunity to bring in BHSU as a full member of the RMAC," said Dr. Jim Fries, chair of the RMAC President's Council. "They are an excellent fit in our conference both academically and athletically."

"The RMAC is one of the primary reasons we chose to move to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II," said BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp. "The institutions in the conference are very similar to BHSU and we welcome the athletic competitiveness in the league. This is great news for students, fans, and alumni. Joining the RMAC will create extraordinary opportunities for our scholar-athletes and build exceptional recognition for the University."

The Yellow Jackets will also join the RMAC next year as an associate member in softball. With the addition of BHSU and Colorado Christian, starting softball next season, the RMAC will have 14 softball playing institutions in 2012.

"The RMAC is excited to include BHSU as a member," said RMAC Commissioner Joel Smith. "They have a first class institution and athletic program that aligns well with our other members."

BHSU is in the first year of NCAA Division II candidacy membership. The

Yellow Jackets will enter NCAA Division II candidacy membership next year, and will be an NCAA Division II provisional member in 2012-13. Upon becoming a full NCAA member in 2013-14, BHSU will then be eligible for all NCAA and conference championships.

The RMAC is an NCAA Division II conference with 14 member institutions in Colorado (Adams State College, Colorado Christian University, Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University-Pueblo, Fort Lewis College, Mesa State College, Metropolitan State College of Denver, Regis University, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Western State College), Nebraska (Chadron State College, University of Nebraska at Kearney), and New Mexico (New Mexico



**Black Hills State University will become a member of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) in 2012-13. The RMAC is a National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II conference with 14 member institutions. Left to right are: Joel Smith, RMAC commissioner; BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp; Jhett Albers, director of Athletics at BHSU; and Jim Fries, chair of the RMAC President's Council.**

Highlands University, Western New Mexico University). Nebraska-Kearney, which is moving to the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA), will end their last year as an RMAC member in 2011-12.

The RMAC has won 77 national championships, including 45 NCAA titles.

# Got Spirit? Swarm Days 2011



#### Tuesday, September 6

- 1-5 p.m. | Green and Gold Carnival
- 7 p.m. | Coronation

#### Wednesday, September 7

- 4 p.m. | Kiddie Carnival

#### Friday, September 9

- 12 noon | Alumni Awards Luncheon\*
- 5 p.m. | Float Prep
- 5 p.m. | Forensics/Debate Reunion Social
- 6 p.m. | Forensics/Debate Reunion Banquet
- 6:30 p.m. | Hall of Fame Banquet\*

#### Saturday, September 10

- 10 a.m. | Parade
- 11:15 a.m. | Tailgate Social
- 1 p.m. | Swarm Day Football Game
- 5 p.m. | Props and Liners Reunion Social
- 6 p.m. | Props and Liners Reunion Banquet

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.

## Sports

### Nichols named new head volleyball coach for the Yellow Jackets

**B**lack Hills State University welcomes Sally Nichols as head volleyball coach. "Nichols will be an outstanding addition to the BHSU volleyball program," said Jhett Albers, director of Athletics at BHSU. "She has a positive attitude and brings a lot of experience."

"BHSU offers my family and I immense opportunities. We love the area and we are eager to engrain ourselves in the community," said Nichols.

Nichols previously served as the head coach at Natrona High School in Casper, Wyo. In her first year at Natrona, she led her team to a 30-5 record and the 4A Wyoming State Championship. In 2008, Nichols' squad posted a 29-5 record and was the state

runner-up. During the 2009 season, Natrona went 31-10 and placed fourth at the state tournament. During her tenure at Natrona, Nichols earned numerous awards and honors including the 4A West Regional Coach of the Year, 4A State Coach of the Year, and she was selected to coach the 4A North All-Star team.

Prior to joining Natrona's coaching staff, Nichols was a graduate assistant coach at Montana State-Billings. She assisted the head coach with the recruiting for the volleyball program in Billings and assisted with strength and conditioning. Nichols also served previously as the head coach at Hill-Murray High School in St. Paul, Minn. In this role, she oversaw over 60 athletes

in six levels of volleyball from the middle school to the high school varsity level. Nichols was honored with the Conference Coach of the Year as well as Section Coach of the Year while at Hill-Murray.

Nichols, a native of Lusk, Wyo., received her bachelor's of science degree in environmental science from Rocky Mountain College in 2001. She earned her master's degree in sports management from Montana State-Billings in 2004.

"I am very excited to be a part of the journey into Division II," said Nichols. "There is a great group of returning players and recruits coming on board. I just cannot wait to get started."

### BHSU inducts members into Rodeo Hall of Fame

**B**lack Hills State University honored five Rodeo Hall of Fame inductees during the recent Cowboys and Candlelight Dinner held in conjunction with the Will Lantis Yellow Jacket Stampede.

Dick Cummings, Mary Ellen Lantis, the late Will Lantis, Shari Simmons Johnson, and Tom Miller were honored as the inaugural inductees for the 2011 BHSU Rodeo Hall of Fame.

Cummings grew up on a ranch near Devil's Tower, Wyo. He served as advisor and coach to the BHSU Rodeo Club from 1965 to 1986.

Today's rodeo program at BHSU would not be possible without Will and Mary Ellen Lantis. Will, who was inducted posthumously, once met with a prospective rodeo student and discussed his dreams of having an active rodeo program again at BHSU. Will and Mary Ellen agreed to allow rodeo students to use their indoor facility for practice and horse boarding throughout the academic year. The couple created an invaluable opportunity for student-athletes by allowing them the use of their facility, by helping to create a scholarship fund, and by supporting the team in fundraising endeavors.

Simmons Johnson graduated from BHSU with a degree in elementary education in 1984. In 1981 and 1984 she was crowned the goat tying national champion at the College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR).

Miller attend BHSU from 1968-1971. He qualified for the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) finals four times and was a two-time All-Around National Champion. In 1970 and in 1971 Miller won the bareback riding, saddlebronc riding and all around titles at the CNFR. He went on to the professional rodeo circuit and qualified for the National Finals Rodeo (NFR) six times.



Black Hills State University honored rodeo hall of fame inductees during the Cowboys and Candlelight Dinner held in conjunction with the Will Lantis Yellow Jacket Stampede. Left to right: Mary Ellen Lantis, Dick Cummings, Shari Simmons Johnson, and Tom Miller were honored as the inaugural inductees for the 2011 BHSU Rodeo Hall of Fame.

### Alumni Gridiron Gathering raises over \$15,000 for football scholarships



Over 115 Black Hills State University football alumni and friends gathered on campus this spring for the second annual Gridiron Gathering. The gathering included a campus tour, the annual spring football scrimmage and barbeque, and concluded in Deadwood with an evening social and program. The event raised over \$15,000 for the Campaign 250 Endowment. For information on the campaign contact Jade Temple, assistant director of Athletics, at 642-6630 or email [Jade.Temple@BHSU.edu](mailto:Jade.Temple@BHSU.edu).

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# Looking ahead

**Swarm Week**  
Sept. 6 - Sept. 10

**Alumni Art Show**  
Sept. 1 - Sept. 23

**Commencement**  
Dec. 17

**Alumni Mile**  
Jan. 28

**Athletic Events**  
[BHSUAthletics.com](http://BHSUAthletics.com)

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



# Looking back

## Got Spirit?

There's no doubt that these cheerleaders from BHSU's past (70s, 80s, and 90s) had Swarm spirit. Join us for Swarm Week Sept. 6 - 10, 2011, and show your BHSU pride. Return to campus for the annual parade and tailgate social and cheer for the Yellow Jackets during the homecoming football game!

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